



## 1. Global Biodiversity Framework Fund

Topic: Environment and Ecology



**In News:** Global Environment Facility's (GEF) governing board has approved plans to establish Global Biodiversity Framework Fund.

### More on the Topic

- New fund is intended to finance the implementation of the **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework** adopted in December 2022.
- The proposed fund allocations are as follows:
- 20 per cent will go to **Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLC)**. This is an aspirational goal.
- **25 per cent will go to GEF agencies** and must be enforced.
- GBFF will draw in capital from **governments, private sector, and philanthropic organisations** and will focus on eight thematic Action Areas namely Biodiversity conservation, restoration, land/sea-use and spatial planning, etc.
- GBFF acknowledges the important roles and contributions of indigenous peoples as custodians of biodiversity and in the conservation, restoration and sustainable use.

### Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF):

- Through Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), countries agreed to protect **30 percent of the planet by 2030**.
- The countries pledged to achieve **23 targets to reverse ecosystem degradation** under four overarching goals for the survival of the natural world.
- Under the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), countries also agreed to reduce harmful government subsidies worth 500 billion dollars annually, while vowing to **identify subsidies that are harmful to biodiversity by 2025**.

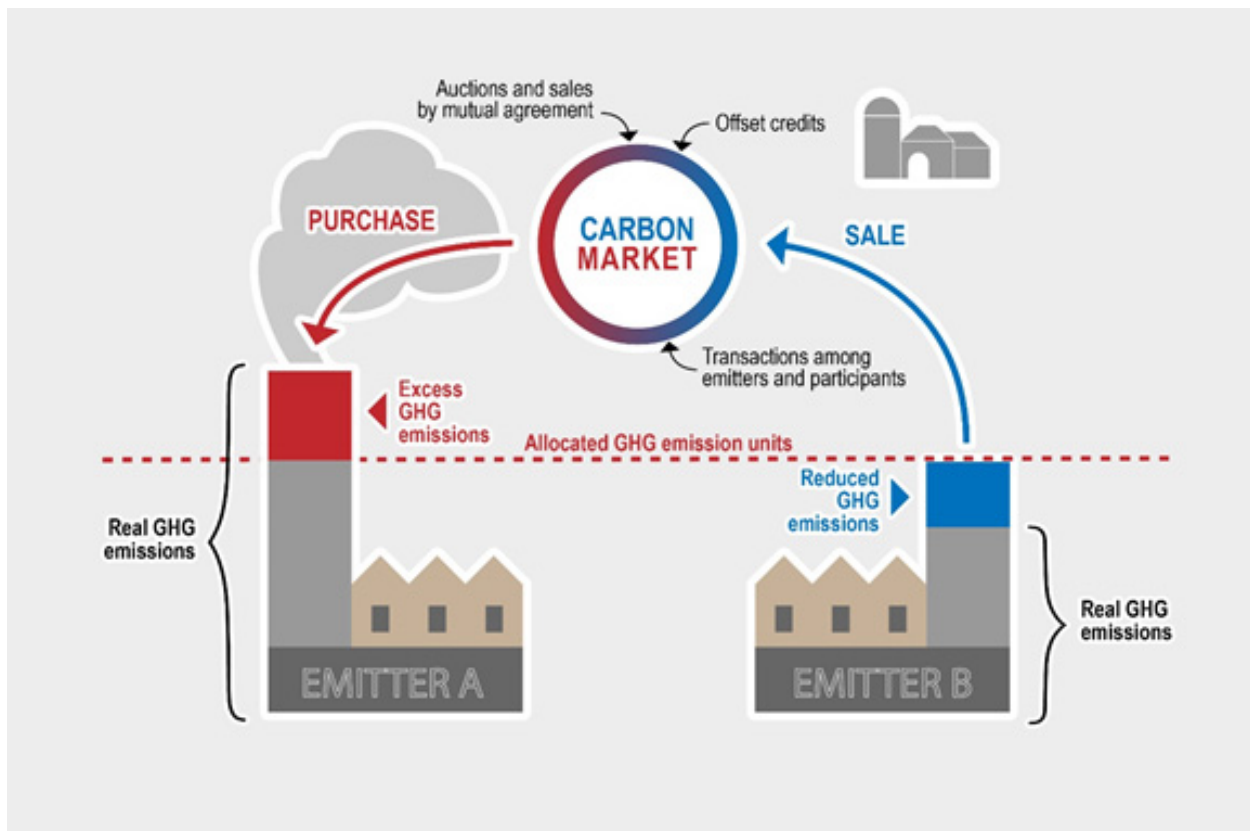
- Its other targets include reducing the use of pesticides by half and **raising annual international financial flows from developed to developing countries to at least 20 billion dollars by 2025**, and to at least 30 billion dollars by 2030.

**Global Environment Facility's (GEF):**

- The Global Environment Facility (GEF or the Facility) was established in the **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD or World Bank)** as a **pilot program** in order to assist in the protection of the global environment and promote thereby environmentally sound and sustainable economic development.
- It was established by resolution of the Executive Directors of the World Bank and related interagency arrangements between the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**, the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**, and the **World Bank**.
- It is based in **Washington DC, United States**.

Source: Indian Express

## 1. Power Ministry - Domestic Carbon Market Framework



Topic: Environment and Ecology



**In News:** The Power Ministry has notified the domestic carbon market framework.

**More on the Topic:**

- **The Energy Conservation (Amendment) Act, 2022** provides for carbon trading scheme, obligations framework for new fossil energy or feedstock, and brings in large buildings under energy conservation and sustainable building code.

**Highlights from the Notification:**

- Government will set up an **Indian Carbon Market Governing Board** with the secretary for the ministry of environment, forest and climate change as its chairperson for direct oversight of its administrative and regulatory functioning of the market.
- **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)** would be the administrator for carbon market and set targets for reduction in emissions, issue carbon credit certificates and accredit carbon verification agencies.
- **Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC)** will be regulator for all trading activities.
- **Grid Controller of India** will be the registry of ICM.

**About Carbon Markets:**

- Carbon markets are trading systems in which **carbon credits are sold and bought**. Companies or individuals can use carbon markets to compensate for their greenhouse gas emissions by purchasing carbon credits from entities that remove or reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **One tradable carbon credit equals one tonne of carbon dioxide or the equivalent amount of a different greenhouse gas reduced**, sequestered or avoided.
- When a credit is used to reduce, sequester, or avoid emissions, it becomes an offset and is no longer tradable.

**Source: IE**

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### 3.India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway

Topic: International Relations



**In News:** Almost 70 per cent of the construction work on the ambitious India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway (IMTTH) has been completed.

#### More on the Topic:

- India, Thailand, and Myanmar are constructing a 1360-kilometre-long motorway that will connect the country to Southeast Asia by land and strengthen commerce, business, health, education, and tourism relations between the three countries.
- The highway is **aimed at connecting Kolkata to Bangkok via Myanmar**, is set to significantly boost regional connectivity and cooperation.
- It has been established under the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) initiative.

Source: Hindu



## 4.eSARAS Mobile App

**Topic: Environment and Ecology**



**In News:** The Deendayal Antyodaya Yojna, part of the National Rural Livelihoods Mission, also known as DAY-NRLM, has launched the eSARAS mobile app to offer better marketing support to products made by women in self-help groups (SHGs).

### More on the Topic:

- This eSARAS mobile app initiative was conceptualised by **DAY-NRLM and the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD)** with the aim to promote and market authentic **handicrafts and handlooms**.
- It is an online platform for buying handicrafts and handloom items made by rural women registered with Self Help Groups.
- This online platform showcases the products made by self-managed Self Help Groups (SHGs) and federated institutions.
- The artisans get remunerated fairly with no middlemen to manipulate prices.

**Source: Indian Express**

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## 5. Gutti Koya Tribes



### Topic: Culture

**In News:** Gutti Koyas, also known as Gotti or Gotte Koyas, are an Adivasi tribe of Chhattisgarh, who fled to Andhra Pradesh to avoid being forcibly taken to government-run camps or having their youth made to join Salwa Judum.

### More on the Topic:

- Gutti Koyas are not considered tribals in Telangana. This means they are not eligible for any social welfare programmes.
- Salwa Judum was a militia that was mobilised and deployed as part of **counterinsurgency operations in Chhattisgarh**, aimed at countering Naxalite activities in the region.
- They practiced 'podu' or shifting cultivation, and then shifted to paddy and cash crops from dryland agriculture.
- The Guttikoyas held ST status in Chattisgarh but they were not granted ST status in their migrated states such as Telangana.
- They earn a living through animal husbandry and minor forest produce.

**Source: Business Standard**



## 6. Bonalu Festival

Topic: Art and Culture



**In News:** Banal festival was celebrated in Golconda Fort.

### More on the Topic:

- It is a traditional Hindu festival centered on the Goddess Mahakali from Telangana.
- The festival is also considered a thanksgiving to the Goddess for fulfillment of vows.
- The word “Bonalu” is derived from the Telugu word “Bhojanalu,” which means “feast” or “meal.”
- Bonalu involves worship of Kali in her various forms such Mysamma, Pochamma, Yellamma, Dokkamma, Pedamma, Poleramma, Ankamma, Maremma, Nookamma etc.

**Source:** Business Standard

## 7. Pangong Tso Lake



### Topic: Environment and Ecology

**In News:** India and China are ramping up construction at Pangong Tao Lake.

#### More on the Topic:

- Pangong Tso is an **endorheic saline lake spanning eastern Ladakh and West Tibet.**
- It has a **land-locked basin** separated from the Indus River basin by a small elevated ridge.
- It is divided into five sublakes, called **Pangong Tso, Tso Nyak, Rum Tso (twin lakes) and Nyak Tso.**
- The lake, a glacial melt, has mountain spurs of the Chang Chenmo range jutting down, referred to as fingers.
- Pangong Lake is a **disputed territory between India and china** where the **Line of Actual Control passes through the lake.**
- The Western end is **disputed between India and Pakistan.**





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- Pangong has a unique feature, it changes its color from blue to green to even grey at times.

**Source: Business Standard**

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