Boosting synergies and managing trade-offs in food systems
Sustainable management of commons to boost synergies: A case study on India

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Spatial distribution and correlations

Share of total common land area in district land area

Share of schedule tribe population in district population

Percentage of households in a district using firewood for cooking

Multidimensional poverty indices across districts

India Protected Areas

Legend:
- State Boundary
- Wildlife Sanctuaries
- National Parks
- Conservation Reserves
- Commons

Data Source: Census of India, 2011 & Wildlife Institute of India/WRI

Not to Scale
Not for Sale

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:
Leverage points for strengthening synergies between livelihoods, food systems, biodiversity, and climate agendas

1. Strengthening governance
   • Work towards a rights-based management system that fosters community ownership.
   • Seek equitable environmental governance through collaboration with the government, and with local communities.
   • Strengthen communities’ capacity to manage and restore commons

2. Making the economic case for investing in commons – Values of ecosystem services provided by commons
   • Why valuation?
     – The contribution of commons to people and economy are rarely estimated in economic terms
     – Understanding of economic value of these benefits will help to develop policies to better support their management and allocate resources to protect them
     – Shape narrative and mindset

3. Leveraging financing on biodiversity, carbon sequestration, and development
Economic value of commons

Important contributor of provisioning ecosystem services (Food, Water, Fisheries, Honey, Fuelwood, Fodder), worth USD 43 billion, annually in India.

Commons in India have an estimated value of USD 90 billion annually.

In India, commons contribute ~5% to GDP as compared to 15% by agriculture sector.

There is need to include commons as a part of global food systems.
Thank you.