INTRODUCTION

Ecosystem refers to all interactions between biotic and abiotic factors in a particular area. Protecting ecosystems refers to the action of protecting, preserving, and, if possible, restoring ecosystems from the harmful effects of human activity. Due to the pressures of overconsumption, population growth and technology, our ecosystem is being degraded, sometimes permanently. This has been recognized, and governments have begun placing restraints on activities that cause environmental degradation. Since the 1960s, environmental movements have created more awareness of the multiple environmental problems. A series of global efforts have been undertaken internationally for protection of the environment. Hence, environmental protection has become not only local, regional, or national importance but also a global concern.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Ecosystem protection is the conservation and management of natural ecosystems to maintain their integrity, functions, and services for human well-being and biodiversity. Ecosystem services are the benefits that people obtain from ecosystems, such as food, water, climate regulation, recreation, and cultural values. Ecosystem protection aims to balance the trade-offs between ecosystem services and disservices, and to enhance the resilience and sustainability of ecosystems in the face of global change.

A recent systematic review by Marcos et al. <u>2021</u> analyzed the knowledge status of the expected ecosystem services and societal benefits of MPAs, and discussed the challenges and opportunities for their assessment and valuation. The authors found that most studies focused on the supply and regulation services of MPAs, such as biomass, diversity, productivity, and trophic interactions, while the cultural and supporting services, such as aesthetic, spiritual, and educational values, were less studied.

A recent study by Khan et al. 2022 explored the ecosystem services and future dimension of freshwater ecosystems, which are among the most threatened and degraded ecosystems in the world. The authors reviewed the literature on the classification, assessment, and valuation of freshwater ecosystem services, and discussed the drivers, pressures, and impacts of global change on freshwater ecosystems. The authors also proposed some strategies and actions for the conservation and restoration of freshwater ecosystems, such as the implementation of integrated water resources management, the adoption of nature-based solutions, the promotion of stakeholder engagement, and the enhancement of adaptive capacity and innovation.

These studies illustrate the current state of the art and the future directions of ecosystem protection research, which is a complex and interdisciplinary field that requires the integration of natural and social sciences, as well as the collaboration of multiple actors and sectors. Ecosystem protection is not only a scientific endeavor, but also a moral and ethical responsibility, as it affects the well-being and survival of humans and other living beings on the planet.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

HTML

HTML, or Hypertext Markup Language, is the standard markup language used to create and structure content on the World Wide Web. It's the foundation of most web pages and is essential for building and displaying web content, including text, images, links, forms, and multimedia. Web browsers

interpret HTML code to render web pages, displaying the content in a visually appealing and user-friendly format.

CSS

CSS, or Cascading Style Sheets, is a stylesheet language used for describing the presentation and formatting of HTML (Hypertext Markup Language) documents, including web pages. CSS allows web developers to control the layout, design, and visual styling of web content, separate from the actual content itself. It plays a pivotal role in enhancing the appearance and user experience of websites.

The website was first designed on paper keeping in mind the interactivity of the website, expectations and our skill level. CSS is used extensively to make the website eye-catching and systematic. The background image was taken from Pinterest and "background-cover" property was used to cover the whole page. Linear black color gradient was added to make the text more visible without making the image less bright. A linkdin and Instagram button were added for the visitors to follow us. A contact button was also made for those who want to volunteer in protecting our ecosystem. Navigation menu was made in the header of all the pages for easy traversal of the different pages of the website.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Financing Biodiversity and Ecosystems Conservation in India: This paper analyzes the fund flows for biodiversity and ecosystem (BE) conservation in India from various sources, such as budgetary, external, and corporate. It estimates that states in India spend between 1.93 and 3.19 percent of their total expenditure towards BE conservation. It also identifies some knowledge gaps and policy challenges, such as the lack of alignment between conservation programs and national biodiversity targets, and the absence of a mechanism for measuring conservation outcomes. It suggests some ways to address these issues, such as improving the tracking and reporting of conservation finance, mainstreaming biodiversity into sectoral policies and plans, and enhancing the participation and coordination of stakeholders¹.

Ecosystem restoration: India holds great promise during the UN Decade: This commentary highlights the importance and potential of ecosystem restoration in India, especially in the context of the post-COVID recovery and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030). It argues that ecosystem restoration can provide multiple benefits for human well-being, such as food security, climate resilience, health, and livelihoods. It also emphasizes the need for involving all stakeholders, especially local communities and indigenous peoples, in the planning and implementation of restoration activities. It cites some examples of successful restoration initiatives in India, such as the restoration of mangroves, wetlands, and forests².

Overcoming Challenges to Mainstreaming Ecosystem Restoration: This article discusses some of the barriers and opportunities for scaling up ecosystem restoration across the world, based on the UN guide for the Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. It identifies some of the common challenges, such as the lack of awareness, political will, and funding, the trade-offs and conflicts between different land uses and interests, and the technical and institutional gaps and constraints. It also suggests some of the possible solutions, such as raising public awareness and education, creating enabling policies and incentives, mobilizing

and diversifying financial resources, building partnerships and networks, and applying adaptive and participatory approaches³.

The purpose of the website:

- 1. Raising awareness and education on the importance and benefits of ecosystems and their services and disservices for human well-being and biodiversity.
- 2. Supporting policy and decision making on the conservation and management of ecosystems and their services and disservices.
- 3. Promoting innovation and collaboration on the restoration and enhancement of ecosystems and their services and disservices.

The website also has an option for those who want to volunteer. Suitable quotes in the website will help in changing the mindset of people toward the ecosystem. The front page was beautifully made so that the website could draw more attention and gain popularity which will ultimately help in our mission. Navigation bar made it easier for people to go through all pages of the website in a systematic order. The overall build was working and visually good and looks unique.

CONCLUSION

Ecosystem protection is a vital and urgent issue that requires the integration of natural and social sciences, as well as the collaboration of multiple actors and sectors. It also faces several challenges, such as the lack of awareness, appreciation, and valuation of ecosystems and their services and disservices, the lack of adequate and effective policies, incentives, and institutions for ecosystem governance, and the lack of comprehensive and reliable data and information on ecosystems and their services and disservices. However, there are also many opportunities and solutions for overcoming these challenges, such as increasing the public awareness and education on ecosystem protection, creating enabling policies and incentives that support and reward ecosystem protection, building partnerships and networks that facilitate and enhance the collaboration and communication among different actors and sectors, and developing and applying innovative tools and methods for the assessment and valuation of ecosystems and their services and disservices. By addressing these challenges and opportunities, we can achieve the vision and goals of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030), and ensure the well-being and survival of humans and other living beings on the planet.

REFERENCES

The following sources were used to add information to the website:

- 1.www.epa.gov
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- 3. www.un.org
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