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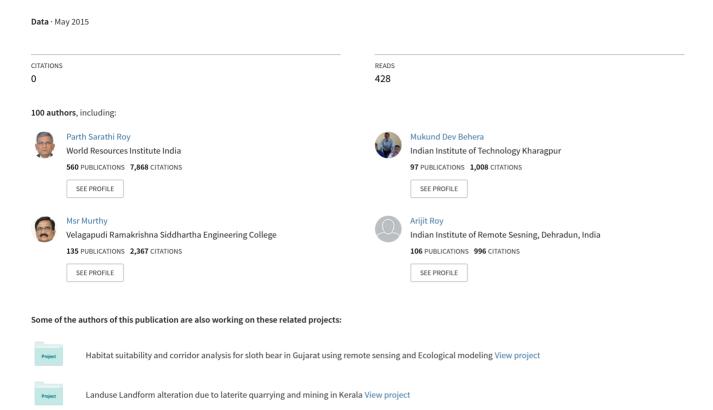
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Table S1. Classification scheme for vegetation type mapping in India (Adapted from Anon., 2009)

Class description			Champion and Seth (1968) class with codes
Level-I	**Level-II**	**Level-III**	
Natural/semi-natural areas			
	Mixed formations		
		Evergreen	Tropical Wet Evergreen Forest (1)
		Giant evergreen	Giant Evergreen Forest (1A/C1)
		Andaman evergreen	Andamans Tropical Evergreen Forest (1A/C2)
		Southern hilltop	Southern Hilltop Tropical Evergreen Forest (1A/C3)
		Secondary evergreen	
		Subtropical broadleaved hill forest	Subtropical Broadleaved Hill Forests (8)
		Subtropical dry evergreen	Subtropical Dry Evergreen Forests (10)
		Montane wet temperate	Montane Wet Temperate Forests (11)
		Himalayan moist temperate	Himalayan Moist Temperate Forests (12)
		Himalayan dry temperate	Himalayan Dry Temperate Forests (13)
		Sub-alpine	Sub-Alpine Forests (14)
		Semi-evergreen	Tropical Semi-Evergreen Forests (2)
		Moist deciduous	Tropical Moist Deciduous Forests (3)
		Sal mixed moist deciduous	Moist Teak-Bearing Forests (3B/C1)
		Teak mixed moist deciduous	Very Moist Sal-Bearing Forests (3C/C1)
		Dry deciduous	Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests (5)
		Sal mixed dry deciduous	Dry Sal-Bearing Forests (5B/C1)
		Teak mixed dry deciduous	Dry Teak Bearing Forests (5A/C1)
		Thorn forest	Tropical Thorn Forests (6)
	Gregarious formations		
		Sal	Moist Sal Bearing Forests (3C/C2)
		Teak	Dry Teak Bearing Forests (5A/C1)
		Dipterocarpus	
		Mesua	*Mesua* Forest (1B/C2B)
		Bamboo	Wet Bamboo Brakes (2/E2), Moist Bamboo Brakes (2/E3), Secondary Moist Bamboo Brakes (2/2S1)
		Pine	Subtropical Pine Forests (9), Siwalik Chir Pine Forest (9/C1a), Himalayan Chir Pine Forest (9/C1b), Western High-Level Dry Blue Pine (13/1S3)
		Fir	Fir Forest (14/C1a)
		Spruce	

Class description			Champion and Seth (1968) class with codes
Level-I	**Level-II**	**Level-III**	
		Oak	Montane Bamboo Brakes (12/DS1)
		Deodar	Moist Deodar Forest (*Cedrus*) (12/C1c)
		Hardwickia	*Hardwickia* Forest (5/E4)
		Red sanders	Dry Red Sanders Bearing Forest (5A/C2)
		Cleistanthus	
		Boswellia	*Boswellia* Forest (5/E2)
		Acacia nilotica (*babul*)	*Babul* Forest (5/E3)
		Butea	*Butea*Forest (5/E5)
		Aegle	*Aegle*Forest (5/E6)
		Acacia catechu (*khair*)	*Khair-Sissu* Forest (5/1S2)
		Anogeissus pendula (*kardhai*)	*Anogeissuspendula* Forest (5/E1)
		Acacia senegal	*Acacia Senegal* Forest (6/E2)
		Cypress	*Cypress* Forest (12/E1)
		Alder	Alder Forest (12/1S1)
		Rhododendron	Dwarf *Rhododendron* Scrub (15/C2/E1)
		Padauk	
		Lagerstroemia	
		Hollock (*Terminalia myriocarpa*)	
	Locale-specific formations		
		Mangrove	Tidal Swamp Forests (4B), Mangrove Forest (4B/TS2)
		Avicennia	
		Bruguiera	
		Excoecaria	
		Heritiera	
		Lumnitzera	
		Mangrove scrub	Mangrove Scrub (4B/TS1)
		Phoenix (palm swamp)	Palm Swamp (4B/TS4/E1)
		Rhizophora	
		Xylocarpus-Rhizophora	
		Littoral forest\beach forest	Littoral Forest (4A)
		Freshwater swamp forest	Tropical Freshwater Swamp Forests (4C)
		Lowland swamp forest	Tropical Seasonal Swamp Forests (4D)
		Myristica swamp	*Myristica* Swamp Forest (4C/FS1)
		Syzygium swamp	*Syzygium cumini* Swamp Low Forest (4D/SS3)
		Shola	Southern Subtropical Broadleaved Hill Forests (8A)

Class description			Champion and Seth (1968) class with codes
Level-I	**Level-II**	**Level-III**	
		Riverine	Tropical Riparian Fringing Forests (4E)
		Dry evergreen	Tropical Dry Evergreen Forests (7)
		Ravine	Ravine Thorn Forest (6B/C2)
		Sacred groves	
	Forest plantation		
		Sal	
		Teak	
		Eucalyptus	
		Acacia	
		Pine	
		Casuarina	
		Cashew nut	
		Padauk	
		Red oil palm	
		Cryptomeria	
		Alnus	
		Mixed plantation	
	Degradational formations		
		Degraded forest	
		Shifting cultivation	
		Shifting cultivation (abandoned *jhum*)	
		Shifting cultivation (current *jhum*)	
		Degraded mangrove	
	Woodland		
		Tree savannah	Low Alluvial Savannah Woodland (*Salmalia-Albizzia*) (3/1S1),Dry Savannah Forest (5/DS2)
		Shrub savannah	Dry Savannah Forest (5/DS2)
Scrub			
	Scrub/shrub land		
		Open scrub	
		Dry evergreen scrub	
		Dry deciduous scrub	Dry Deciduous Scrub Forest (5/DS1)
		Ziziphus	Southern Thorn Scrub (6A/DS1)
		Euphorbia scrub	*Euphorbia* Scrub (6/E1)
		Moist alpine scrub	Moist Alpine Scrub (15)
		Dry alpine scrub	Dry Alpine Scrub (16)
		Prosopis scrub	

Class description			Champion and Seth (1968) class with codes
Level-I	**Level-II**	**Level-III**	
		Salvadora	*Salvadora* Scrub (6/E4)
		Hippophae	*Hippophae- Myricaria*Scrub (13/1S1)
		Desert dune scrub	Desert Dune Scrub (6/1S1)
Grasslands			
		Wet grasslands (upland grasslands)	Southern Montane Wet Grassland (11A/C1/DS2)
		Riverine (lowland grasslands)	
		Moist alpine pasture	Alpine Pastures (15/C3)
		Dry alpine pasture	Alpine Pastures (15/C3)
		Saline grassland	Saline/Alkaline Scrub Savannah (5/E8)
		Dry grassland	Dry Grassland (5/DS4)
		Man-made grassland	
		Swampy grassland	
Cultivated/managed areas/Others			
	Orchards		
		Tea	
		Coffee	
		Areca nut	
		Coconut	
		Rubber	
		Citrus	
	Agriculture		
	Long fallow/barren land		
	Water body		
	Wetland		
	Settlement		
	Reject class		

Table S2. Translation between the classes in the Vegetation type map of India and GlobCover map (Class codes are given in Table 2)

Class codes according to Vegetation type map of India	GlobCover class code	Vegetation classes of GlobCover map *w.r.t* India
90, 124 ,128 ,133 , 150 ,151, 153, 154, 157, 158, 160, 163, 30,40,46,47, 48,49, 53, 54,55, 58, 67, 71, 73, 75, 94,96,101,102	30	Mosaic Vegetation (grassland, shrub land, forest) (50-70%) / Cropland (20-50%)
11,12,14,15,16,17,18,19,22,24,36,38,44,81,84,85,87	40	Closed to open broadleaved evergreen or semi-deciduous forest
23,25,26,27,28,37,82,115	50	Closed broadleaved deciduous forest
21,31,32,41,42,45,63	70	Closed needleleaved evergreen forest
29 ,120, 121, 122, 123, 125, 126, 127, 129, 131, 132	110	Mosaic Forest-Shrubland/Grassland
29 ,106, 107,108, 109 ,120, 121, 122, 123, 125, 126, 127, 129, 131, 132	130	Closed to open shrubland
135,136,137, 138, 139, 141, 143, 144, 145, 147, 148	140	Closed to open grassland
66, 72, 74, 76, 77, 78, 80, 86	160	Closed to open broadleaved forest regularly flooded (fresh-brackish water)

***The description of Indian class codes are mentioned in table1 1a & b