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Important points before planting trees in Afghanistan

Clarify about
country conditions:

- forests
- climate
- precipitation



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Important points before planting Trees in Afghanistan (con)

- Afghanistan is a mountainous country
- Enormous micro climate changes in Afghanistan
- Precipitation differs according to elevation
 - * Less rain fall in the lower areas
 - * More rain fall in the higher areas

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Important points to know before planting Trees in Afghanistan (con)

- Temperature differs according to elevation
 - * Warm in the low or flat areas
 - * Cold in the higher areas
- Forests are located in the stages

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Important points to know before planting Trees in Afghanistan (con)

- Topography varies throughout the country, as well as the climate regime

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Important points to know before planting Trees in Afghanistan (con)

- The maximum height of Koh-e-Baba is 5140m.
- Nuristan mountains are 6300m high.

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Important points to know before planting Trees in Afghanistan (con)

- Wakhan valley of Pamir is 7500m high.
- The minimum elevation of the country is 300m above sea level.
- Precipitation varies across Afghanistan from 100mm to 400mm per year.

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Important points to know before planting Trees in Afghanistan (con)

- The Indian Ocean monsoon season lasts from July to September and is very important for the eastern, northeastern and southeastern regions of the country.

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Important points to know before planting Trees in Afghanistan (con)

- Different topography takes monsoon rains in the east and southeast (Kunar, Nuristan, Nangarhar, Laghman, Paktia, Paktica, Khost and some part of the northern Hindukhsh) up to 2000-5000m above sea level.
- That's the reason why conifer forests grow naturally there.
- Mountains and valleys are naturally suitable for forests.

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Important points to know before planting Trees in Afghanistan (con)

- The Hindukush are the biggest and highest mountains in the country. They are located east to west (very important fact for forests and ranges).
- Elevations of ranges are from 300m -6000m above sea level or even higher.

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Important points to know before planting Trees in Afghanistan (con)

- Desserts in the south and south west of the country are on 300m – 1000m above sea level. Marco desert is the biggest, joined by Loot desert in the south.
- These deserts plus others cover most of the country.
- Varying topographies and elevations in the country bring about different plant ecosystems.



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Important points to know before planting Trees in Afghanistan (con)

- A classification of the ecosystem has been done based on topography, climate and vegetation stages.
- Two ranges were identified: 1- scrub forests, 2- collective of trees stages.

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Important points to know before planting Trees in Afghanistan (con)

After understanding all the mentioned, we can say:

- What we can plant or (what to plant).
- Who can plant what or (who can plant).
- Where we can plant what or (where to plant).



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Why to plant trees?

- People plant trees for a variety of reasons:
 - * Fruits/ nuts - for their consumption and merchandise.
 - * Wood for construction poles and other wood uses.
 - * To control desertification and wind breaks.
 - * For greenery, beautification, picnic areas and shade.

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Why to plant trees? (con)

- * To control soil erosion and stabilizing hillsides.
- * For preventing land slides and avalanches.
- * To provide medicines (medicinal plants).
- * To get fuel wood for heating and cooking

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Why to plant trees? (con)

- Fuel wood.



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Why to plant trees?

- To protect the environment and wildlife.
- For several industrial purposes of wood.
- There are many more reasons to plant trees!



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Where to plant trees, who will plant them and maintain them?

There are many types of places where people can plant trees:

- Home compounds.
- Private land and agricultural lands.
- Hill sides.
- Marginal lands.
- River sides (riparian areas).



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Where to plant trees, and who will plant and maintain them? (con)

- In deforested areas.
- In decertified areas.
- On road sides.



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Where to plant trees, and who will plant and maintain them? (con)

- In mosques and shrines.
- Close to factories and industries.
- In public parks and green areas.
- In school yards and university parks.



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Where to plant Trees, and who will plant and maintain them? (con)

- In clinics and hospitals.
- On governmental land and army bases.
- In official areas, buildings and airports.
- In other public locations.



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Where to plant Trees, and who will Plant and Maintain them? (con)

Who plants trees:

- Governmental and non-governmental organizations.
- School students.
- Families and women.



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Where to plant trees, who will plant and maintain them? (con)

- Local communities.
- Local farmers and land owners.
- Paid workers (cash component).

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Where to plant trees, who will plant and maintain them (con)

After understanding all the mentioned, we can say:

- What we can plant or (what to plant).
- Who can plant what or (who can plant).
- Where we can plant what or (where to plant).



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What to plant?

Selection of what to plant depends on our idea to accomplish by what we want by planting trees, and what type of species are available:

The planting material can be:

- * Seeds.
- * Seedlings.
- * Saplings.
- * Cuttings.



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What to plant? (con)

The planting material can be:

- Seeds are used to grow seedlings in nurseries, and may also be used in direct seeding at planting sites.
- Seeds can be planted in containers or poly bags for seedlings production.
- Seeds can be grown in nurseries and later planted as bear root seedlings.

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Steps for selecting what to plant?

- Survey, what is available?
- Why we want to plant trees and where you want to plant them?
- Who will be planting the trees?
- Be sure for protection of the trees!
- Select the type of planting material (seeds, seedlings, saplings or cuttings), site, logistics of planting (to have transportation for the material, water, and tools) and protection of plants.

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Steps for selecting what to plant? (con)

- Plan with nurseries according to where and why to plant trees. When trees are ready to be planted the purpose and place should be determined.
- Work with private nurseries so that they can provide some of the planting materials. This is to enhance local economy.

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Planning for Reforestation

When planning for reforestation check on the availability of the main resources you need:

- People
 - *Public
 - *Private

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Planning for Reforestation (con)

- Planting material
 - * Public sources (government)
 - * Private sources (community and private nurseries)
- Consider payment for
 - * people
 - * planting material
 - * logistic (transport and other)

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Planning for Reforestation (con)

- Needs and knowledge
 - * About species
 - * About planting material
 - * About how to organize and supervise people for effective tree planting and maintenance

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Planning for Reforestation (con)

Phases of Reforestation

1. Preparation

- * Selection of species
- * Training of the working team
- * Timing of what will take place where and when
- * Preparation of planting sites
- * Have materials to keep roots of saplings moist
- * Water and tools ready for planting

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Planning for Reforestation (con)

2. Planting of saplings

- * Root off or collecting of planting material
- * Transport of planting material and people
- * Planting and watering
- * Monitoring and check that the trees are planted correctly

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Planning for Reforestation (con)

3. Maintenance

- * Watering
- * Protection
- * Monitoring for survival, if necessary
replacement of some trees

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Thank you

