



## Living Planet Report 2022

**For Prelims:** Living Planet Report 2022, WWF, Living Planet Index (LPI), Mangroves, Sunderbans, Migration, Climate Change, Biodiversity.

**For Mains:** Biodiversity Loss, Related Threats.

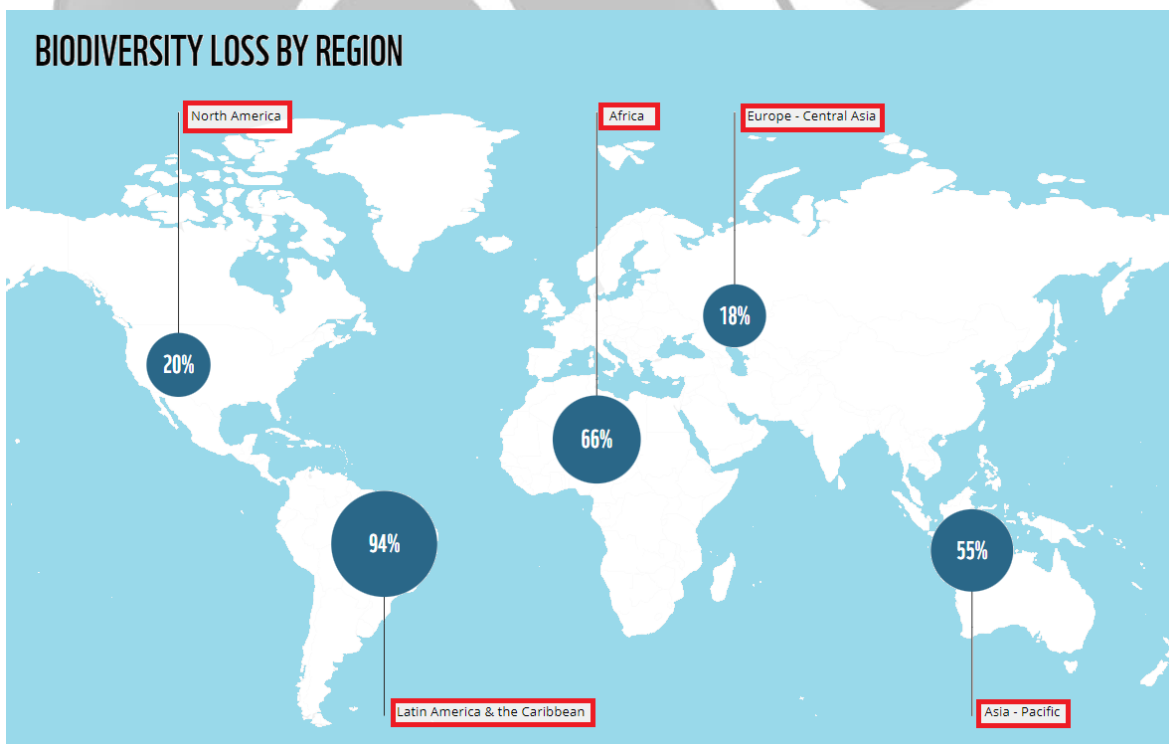
### Why in News?

There has been a **69% decline in the wildlife populations of mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and fish**, across the globe in the last 50 years, according to the [Living Planet Report 2022](#) by [World Wide Fund for Nature \(WWF\)](#).

- This report is **released every two years**.

### What are the Key Findings of the Report?

- **Region-wise Decline in Wildlife Populations:**
  - The **highest decline** in the wildlife populations (**94%**) was in the **Latin America and the Caribbean region**.
  - **Africa** recorded a **66% fall** in its wildlife populations from 1970-2018 whereas the **Asia-Pacific** recorded a **decline of 55%**.



- **Decline in Freshwater Species:**
  - **Freshwater Species** populations globally **reduced by 83%**.
    - **Habitat loss and barriers to [migration](#) routes were responsible** for about half of the threats to monitored migratory fish species.
- **Collapsing Vertebrate Wildlife Populations:**
  - **Living Planet Index (LPI)** showed that **vertebrate wildlife populations are collapsing** at a particularly staggering rate in **tropical regions of the world**.
    - Featuring about **32,000 populations of 5,230 species across the world**, LPI is a measure of the state of the world's biological diversity based on **population trends of vertebrate species from terrestrial, freshwater and marine habitats**.
- **Mangrove Degradation:**
  - **Mangroves** continue to be **lost to [aquaculture](#), agriculture and coastal development at a rate of 0.13% per year**.
    - Many mangroves are also **degraded by overexploitation and pollution**, alongside **natural stressors such as storms and coastal erosion**.
  - Around **137 square kilometres of the [Sundarbans](#) mangrove forest in India and Bangladesh has been eroded** since 1985, **reducing land and ecosystem services for many of the 10 million people who live there**.
- **Key Threats to Biodiversity:**
  - WWF identified six key threats to biodiversity to highlight **'threat hotspots' for terrestrial vertebrates**:
    - **[Agriculture](#)**
    - **Hunting**
    - **Logging**
    - **[Pollution](#)**
    - **[Invasive Species](#)**
    - **[Climate Change](#)**

## What is World Wildlife Fund for Nature?

- It is the world's **leading conservation organization** and works in more than 100 countries.
- It was established in 1961 and is headquartered at Gland, Switzerland.
- Its **mission is to conserve nature** and reduce the most pressing threats to the diversity of life on Earth.
- WWF collaborates at every level with people around the world to develop and deliver innovative solutions that protect communities, wildlife, and the places in which they live.

## What are the Recommendations of the Report?

- The planet is experiencing **double emergencies of human-induced climate change and [biodiversity loss](#)**, threatening the well-being of current and future generations. Biodiversity loss and climate crisis should be dealt with as **one instead of two different issues as they are intertwined**.
- A nature-positive future needs **transformative, game-changing shifts in how we produce, how we consume, how we govern and what we finance**.
- An **all-inclusive collective approach towards a more sustainable path** must be adopted. It will ensure that the costs and benefits from our actions are socially just and equitably shared.

**[Source: DTE](#)**

