

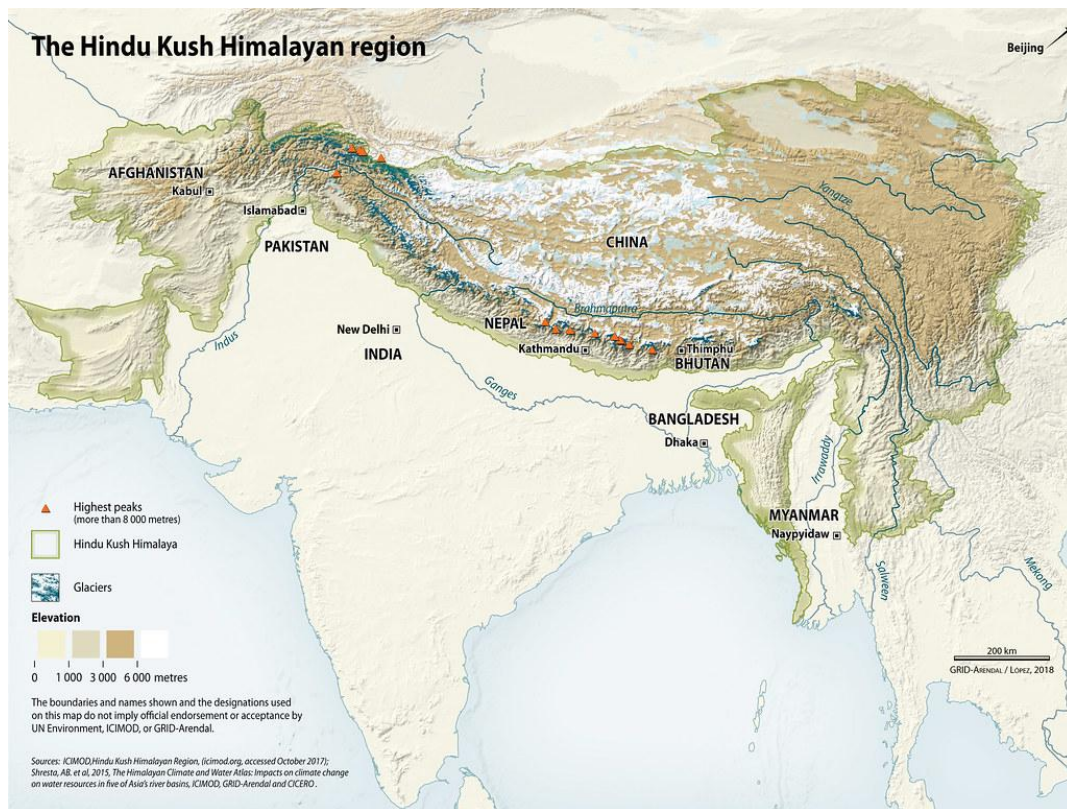


Accelerating Global Glaciers Loss

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On the **first World Day for Glaciers (21st March 2025)**, the United Nations (UN) **World Water Development (WWD) Report 2025** revealed that [glacier](#) retreat in the **Hindu Kush Himalayas (HKH)** accelerated by **65% between 2011 and 2020**.

- **Key Findings of UN WWD Report 2025:** HKH glaciers may **lose 30-50% of their volume by 2100** if global temperatures rise by **1.5°C-2°C**, and nearly **45%** (from 2020 levels) **if it exceeds 2°C**.
 - Mountain glaciers worldwide could lose **26-41%** of their total mass by **2100**, affecting **1.1 billion people** in high-altitude regions.
 - [Glacial Lake Outburst Floods \(GLOFs\)](#) are **increasing**, causing **flash floods and landslides**.
 - They have **caused over 12,000 deaths globally in the past 200 years**, and the risk **of GLOFs may triple by 2100**.
- **World Day for Glaciers:** The UN has declared **2025 as the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation (IYGP)**.
 - It will also mark the beginning of the **Decade of Action on Cryospheric Science (2025-2034)**, aimed at strengthening glacier conservation efforts.
- **Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH):** The [HKH](#), known as the "**Water Tower of Asia**," stretches across **8 countries, including India**, and encompasses **four global biodiversity hotspots** — Himalaya, Indo-Burma, Southwest China, and Central Asia.



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