



Aravali Green Wall Project

Why in News?

At a [United Nations](#) climate event held as part of [the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification Data \(UNCCD\) CoP16](#), India highlighted its ambitious '[Aravali Green Wall](#)' project, emphasizing the importance of adopting innovative approaches to restore degraded forest lands on a global scale.

Key Points

- **About the Aravali Green Wall Project Presentation:**
 - Inspired by [Africa's Great Green Wall initiative](#), the Aravali Green Wall project aims to:
 - Restore over **1.1 million hectares of degraded landscapes** by 2027.
 - Focus on [afforestation](#) with native species, soil health improvement, and [groundwater replenishment](#).
 - Develop an "ecological wall" to mitigate urban heat islands and act as a carbon sink for NCR.
- **Significance of the Aravali Hills:**
 - The Aravali range acts as a natural barrier preventing the eastward spread of the [Thar Desert](#).
 - It serves as a "repository of unique flora and fauna" but is facing severe challenges, including [land degradation and desertification](#), [encroachment](#), [mining](#), and [urbanisation](#).
- **Need for Restoration:**
 - Urgent action is required to address these threats and reverse the degradation.
 - The restoration effort involves **collaboration among Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan, and Gujarat**.
- **Implementation Strategy:**
 - **State governments will plant millions of native trees and shrubs** and promote [soil conservation](#).
 - The **first phase in Haryana will involve the revival of 66 water bodies** in key districts, including Gurgaon, Faridabad, and Bhiwani.
 - Haryana's plan covers the restoration of 35,000 hectares, with 18,000 hectares in Gurgaon alone.
- **Global Appeal and Vision:**
 - **Global partnerships** involving governments, international organisations, and private entities are called to **support the initiative with technical and financial resources**.
 - The project **aims to serve as a "blueprint" for global efforts** to restore degraded landscapes.
- **Innovative Approaches:**
 - The project incorporates **nature-based solutions**, focusing on afforestation with indigenous species, Soil health and moisture rejuvenation, Community participation in conservation.

Aravali Mountain Range



- The Aravallis, is the **oldest fold mountains on Earth**. Geological studies indicate that it is three billion years old.
- It spans over **800 km from Gujarat to Delhi** (through Rajasthan and Haryana).
- The **highest peak** in the Aravalli Range is **Guru Peak on Mount Abu**.
- **Influences Climate:**
 - The Aravallis have an impact upon the climate of northwest India and beyond.
 - During monsoons, the mountain range gently guides the monsoon clouds eastwards towards Shimla and Nainital, thus **helping nurture the sub-Himalayan rivers and feeding the north Indian plains**.
 - During the winter months, it **shields the fertile alluvial river valleys of the Indus and Ganga** from the harsh **cold westerly winds blowing in from Central Asia**.