

## Renewable Resources: Forest

### Forest- Definition

A large area dominated by trees comprising of a wide variety of flora and fauna.

One-third of the earth's surface is covered by forest.

### Types of forest- three types

The Tropical	Temperate	Boreal forest( taiga)
Stable temperature with heavy rain fall	Moderate temperature and Fertile land	Moist/cold weather
High species diversity	Large number of trees with many common animals	Dominated by evergreen conifers and animals with a capacity to withstand long period of cold climate
Found in South east Asia, Africa and South America	Found in north east Asia , Europe and North America	Seen in Alaska, Canada, Scandinavia and Siberia

### Importance and Functions of Forest

1. Functions as the lungs of Earth- cleanses atmosphere by absorbing gases like Carbon Dioxide and produces Oxygen
2. Controls pollution
3. Prevents soil erosion
4. Home for several species
5. Maintains ecological balance
6. Life sustenance
7. Protects environment
8. Conserves water
9. Store house of resources like wood, honey, medicines that have economic importance as well
10. Facilitates research also

### Exploitation of forest will result in:

1. Desertification: Conversion of fertile land into deserts
2. Climate Change
3. Loss of habitat for various species which destroys ecological balance
4. Soil erosion
5. Natural Calamities like draught and Flood