Pakistan to host World Environment Day 2021

World Environment Day is celebrated every year on June 5, to remind humans that they are not alone on this planet.

There is a huge biological ecosystem that exists and human beings survive because of that.

World Environment Day is observed by United Nations to encourage worldwide awareness and work towards improving the environment.

Every year responsibility is given to a country to host the event and provide a platform to discuss Sustainable Development Goals.

Additionally, the day is celebrated by millions of people and organizations across the globe to share their experiences, challenges, and solutions.

Over 150 countries participate each year under the aegis of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Last year, World [Environment Day](https://www.unep-wcmc.org/news/colombia-highlights-the-importance-of-biocultural-diversity)was hosted by Colombia in partnership with Germany. Conservation of biodiversity was the theme of the 2020 event.

This year the baton is passed to the South Asian country Pakistan to host World Environment Day 2021. The theme for this year will be **ecosystem restoration,**with a special focus on creating a good relationship with nature.

This year’s event will also mark the launch of the [UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030](http://www.decadeonrestoration.org/). In the next 10 years, the United Nations with the support of countries, partners, and people want to focus on preventing and reversing the loss of degraded natural ecosystems to fight the impacts of climate change.

The end of this decade is also the deadline for the Sustainable Development Goals and the timeline that scientists identified as significant to evade the consequences of climate change.

**Why will Pakistan host World Environment Day?**

In 2014, the government of Pakistan started massive afforestation drive through a [“Billion Tree Tsunami](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/07/pakistan-s-billion-tree-tsunami-is-astonishing/).” The ambitious project included restoring mangroves, increasing forest cover, and planting trees in urban settings.

Recently, Pakistan launched a new platform called the “[Ecosystem Restoration Fund](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/02/pakistan-green-recovery/)” to create green jobs, support nature-based solutions to fight climate change and promote biodiversity conservation.

Here is a detailed [report](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/02/pakistan-green-recovery/) from the World Economic Forum (WEF) highlighting Pakistan’s plans for green recovery.

In the Global Climate Risk Index [annual report 2020](https://www.germanwatch.org/sites/germanwatch.org/files/20-2-01e%20Global%20Climate%20Risk%20Index%202020_14.pdf), Pakistan was placed at the fifth spot on the list of countries most affected by climate change between 1999 to 2018. As per the report, Pakistan endured economic losses worth $3.8 billion.

Climate change and the melting glaciers of the Himalayas pose a huge risk of extreme weather events like draughts, rainfall, and flooding in Pakistan. The report mentions that more than 150 such events occurred in the country from 1999 to 2018.

In the list of the 10 countries most affected from 1999 to 2018 from Germanwatch, publishers of Climate Risk Index - 7 countries belong to Asia, and 3 are from Caribbean islands.

Assigning the responsibility of hosting World Environment Day to Pakistan will usher in renewed focus and attention towards the environment in the country.

**Conclusion**

World Environment Day is a once-a-year activity, however, it doesn’t mean that we should only pay attention to the environment on that one day. Irrespective of the day, organization, event, country, theme — preserving nature is our responsibility.

1. Bring a change in your lifestyle. See how we can live better with nature, and make little alterations in our day-to-day life.
2. Educate other people. This is not a fight we can win alone; even if we are able to create awareness for a small minority of people, it can create a world of difference.
3. Create awareness among the younger generation, tell them aspects about nature and the significance of birds, animals, insects, ecology, etc.
4. Watch movies and documentaries that speak on this subject.
5. In the end, respect Biodiversity & nature. Biodiversity plays an important role in offering ecological services that make life livable on Earth. Each species, no matter how big or small, has a mind-boggling impact on the ecosystem.