

# **FOREST AND WILDLIFE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

**SUBJECT : GEOGRAPHY**

**CHAPTER NUMBER: 02**

**CHAPTER NAME : FOREST AND WILDLIFE**

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**CHANGING YOUR TOMORROW**

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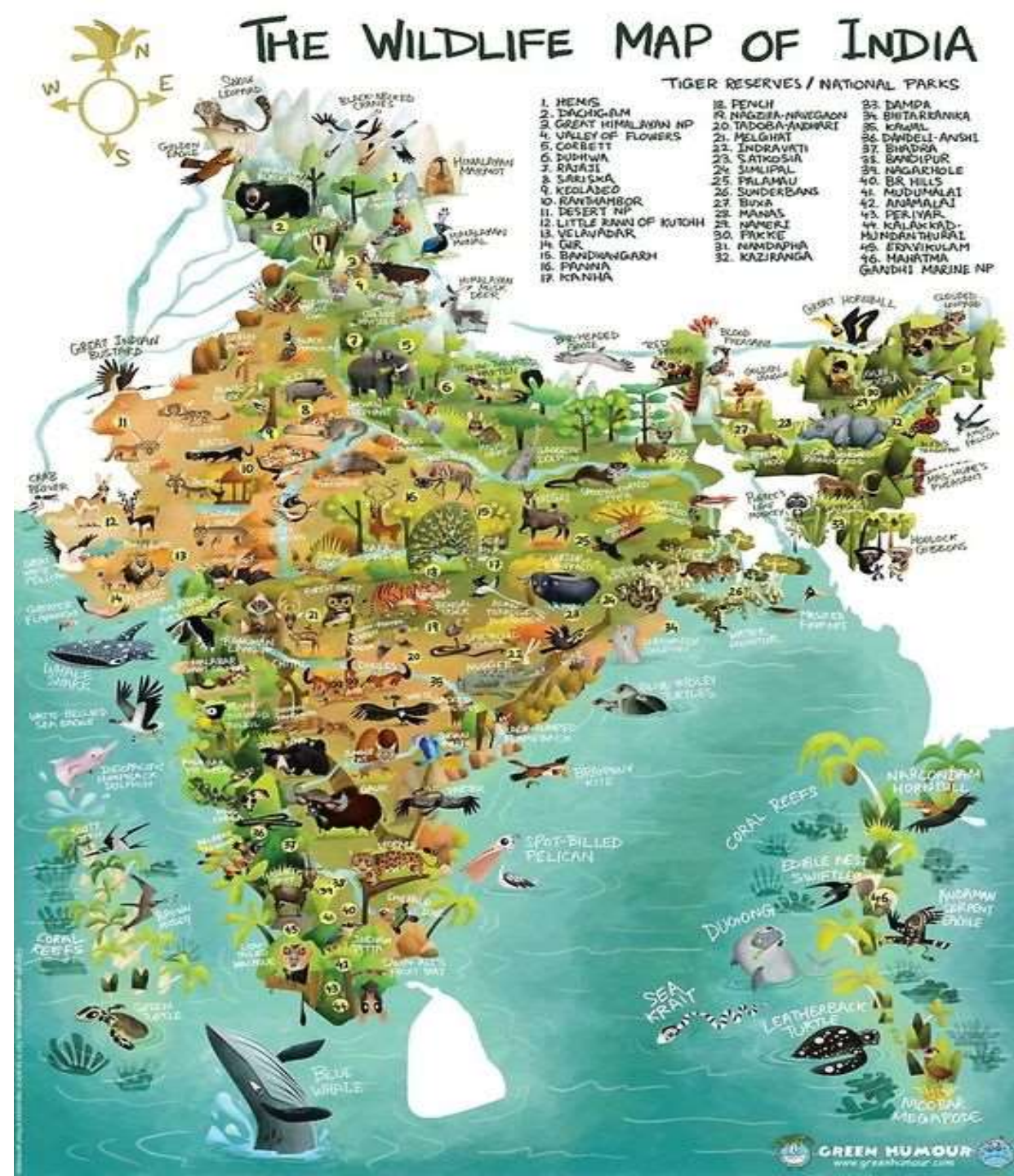
# CONTENTS

1. Biodiversity or Biological diversity
2. Classification of Biodiversity (IUCN)
3. Conservation of Forest and Wildlife in India
4. Community and Conservation

**TO BE ASSESSED ONLY IN PERIODIC TEST**

# BIODIVERSITY IN INDIA

- India is very rich in biological diversity.
- India has nearly 8% of the total number of species found in the world (1.6million).
- About 81,000 species of fauna [animals] and 47,000 species of flora [plants] are found in India.
- About 15,000 flowering species are endemic (indigenous) to India.
- India is famous for rhino, elephant, tiger, lion, monkey, snakes, peacock etc.



- At least 10 per cent of India's recorded wild flora and 20 per cent of its mammals are on the threatened list.

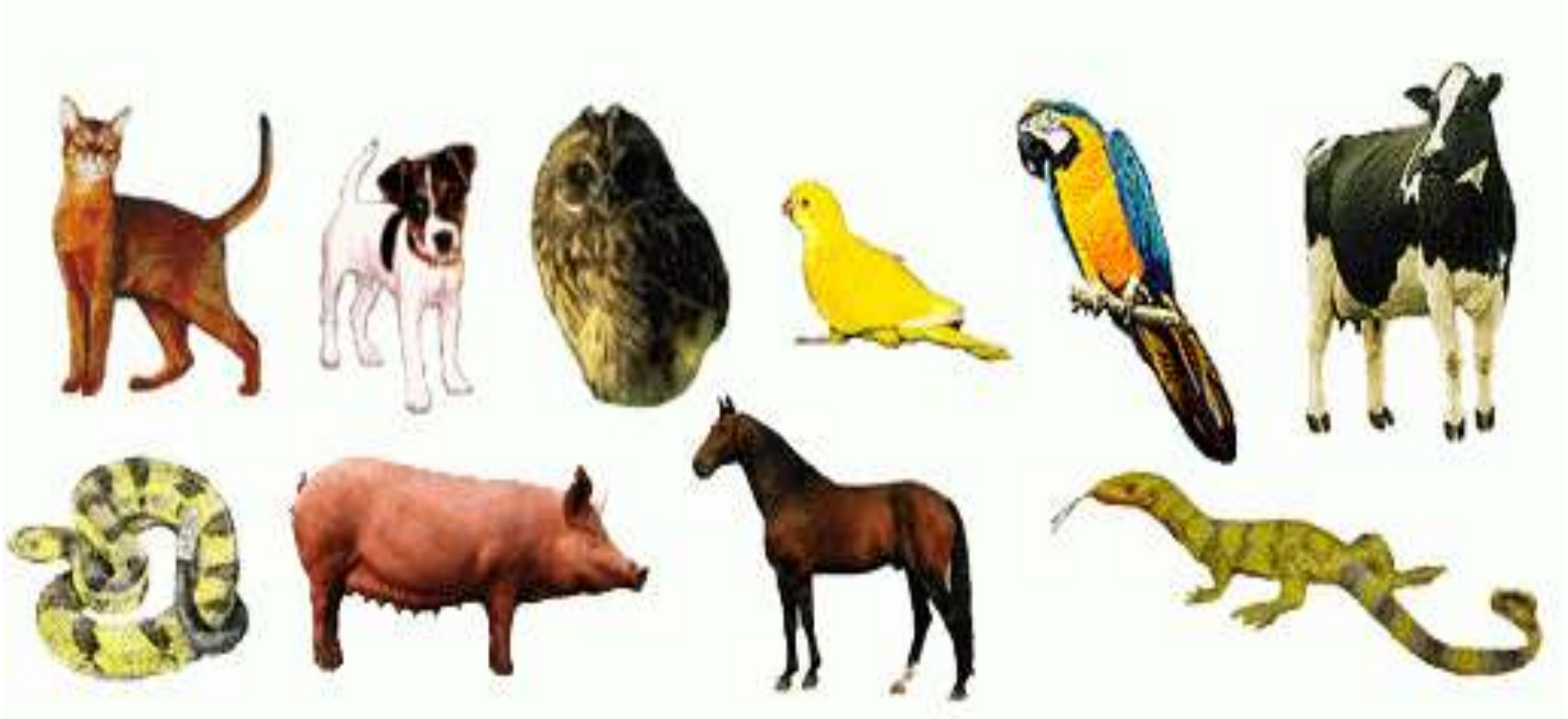
**No one can say how many species may have already been lost. Today, we only talk of the larger and more visible animals and plants that have become extinct but what about smaller animals like insects and plants?**



# CLASSIFICATION OF SPECIES

- The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- **Headquarters:** Gland, Switzerland
- **CEO:** Bruno Oberle (Swiss Biologist and Environmental Scientist)  
(13 JULY 2020- continuing)
- **Founder:** Julian Huxley
- **Founded:** 5 October 1948, France
- The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) has classified plants and animals in order of existence.

- **Normal Species:** This includes species whose population levels are considered to be normal for their survival, such as cattle, sal, pine, rodents, etc. They are thus, called the normal species.



- **Endangered Species:** This includes species which are in danger of extinction, hence called the endangered species. For example, black buck, crocodile, Indian wild ass etc.





Indian vulture



Red panda



Olive ridley turtles



*Oplismenus thwaitesii*



*Gymnostachyum febrifugum*



*Impatiens sivarajanii*



# Endangered Species



Ganges River Dolphin



Amur Tiger



Royal Bengal Tiger



Black-footed Ferret



Blue Whale



Blue Fin Tuna

- **Vulnerable Species:** This includes species whose population has declined to levels from where it is likely to move into the endangered category in the near future. For examples, blue sheep, Asiatic elephant, Gangetic dolphin, etc.

### Vulnerable species



Dugong



Great White Shark



Red Panda



Whale shark



Polar Bear



Irrawaddy Dolphin



- **Rare Species:** This includes species with a small population. They might move into the endangered or vulnerable category if right measures aren't taken. For example, Himalayan brown bear, wild Asiatic buffalo, desert fox, and hornbill, etc.



- **Extinct Species:** This includes species which are not found after searches of known or likely areas where they may occur. For example, the Asiatic cheetah, pink head duck etc.



- **Endemic Species:** This includes species which are only found in some particular areas that are usually isolated by natural or geographical barriers. For example, Andaman Teal, Nicobar pigeon, Andaman wild pig, Mithun in Arunachal Pradesh.

## Endemic species in India



Tiger



Dhole (Indian wild dog)



Snow leopard is an endangered species found along the Himalayas



Golden Langur



Black Buck



Asiatic lion

# Critically endangered species



AMUR LEOPARD



HAWKSBILL TURTLE



LEATHERBACK TURTLE



Cross river gorilla



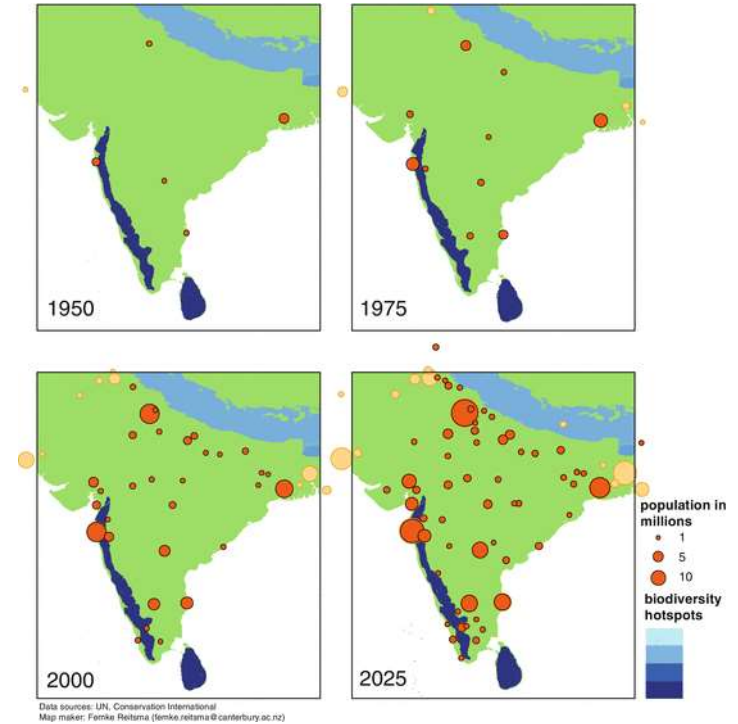
Sumatran Tiger



Javan Rhino

# REASONS FOR A DECLINE IN INDIA'S BIODIVERSITY

- Over-exploitation
- Forest fires
- Hunting
- Habitat destruction
- Poisoning
- Poaching
- Environmental Pollution



# CAUSES OF DEPLETION OF THE FLORA AND FAUNA

- Shifting cultivation
- Deforestation, illegal cutting of trees, and forest fire.
- Construction of dam, road, railways in the forest.
- Pollution and global warming leading to climatic change.
- Increasing human population pressure on the forest resources.(Over-population)
- Mining
- Large-scale development projects
- Grazing and fuel-wood collection



# Home Assignment

1. What do you understand by the terms critical species. Give example.
2. What is IUCN?
3. Why do we need international organizations to come up for ecological reconstruction?

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# Recapitulation

## EXERCISE QUESTIONS

# QUESTIONS

- 1. Multiple choice questions.

(i) Which of these statements is not a valid reason for the depletion of flora and fauna?

(a) Agricultural expansion. (b) Large scale developmental projects. (c) Grazing and fuel wood collection. (d) Rapid industrialization and urbanization.

(ii) Which of the following conservation strategies do not directly involve community participation?

(a) Joint forest management (c) Chipko Movement (b) Beej Bachao Andolan (d) Demarcation of Wildlife sanctuaries

2. Answer the following questions in about 30 words.

(i) What is biodiversity? Why is biodiversity important for human lives?

(ii) How have human activities affected the depletion of flora and fauna? Explain.

3. Answer the following questions in about 120 words.

(i) Describe how communities have conserved and protected forests and wildlife in India?

(ii) Write a note on good practices towards conserving forest and wildlife.

# Home Assignment

- Why it becomes important to involve local community in any conservation programme. Illustrate with the help of example.

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## Role of Community

- Community or local people live in the forest. Forest is home of many traditional people.
- In Rajasthan, local people came forward to stop mining activities to protect Sariska Tiger Reserve.
- People of Alwar District of Rajasthan have declared 1200 hectares of land as 'Bhairodev Dakav' Sanctuary in which they don't allow hunting.
- In Jharkhand, Munda tribe worship Mahua and Kadamb trees and they protect them from cutting.
- Famous Chipko Movement in Himalaya was started by local community only.

# CHIPKO MOVEMENT

Chipko Movement was the movement that was launched by the people of the Himalayas as their fight against deforestation. In this movement, people stood hugging the trees, hence it gets the name, 'Chipko' Movement.



# 'BEEJ BACHAO ANDOLAN

- The '**Beej Bachao Andolan**' [BBA], begun in the late 1980s, is twenty five year old, led by farmer and social activist **Vijay Jardhari**.
- The **Andolan** started in the village Jardhargaon of district Tehri, Uttaranchal, famous for its unique movement to save the traditional seeds of the hills.



Vijay Jardhari with his Seeds



## BEEJ BACHAO ANDOLAN





- Founder, [Vandana Shiva](#), an environmental activist, physicist, and author.
- Navdanya began in 1984 as a program of the Research Foundation for science, Technology and Ecology (RFSTE).
- "Navdanya" means "nine crops" that represent India's collective source of food security.



# Home Assignment

- Why it becomes important to involve local community in any conservation programme. Illustrate with the help of example.
- Discuss role of community on conservation



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# Conservation of Forest and Wildlife in India

- The Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act came into action in the year 1972.
- Deforestation should be totally stopped.
- People started movement against tree cutting such as ‘Chipko Movement’.
- Mass media, e.g. TV, radio, newspapers etc., should be used for creating awareness.
- Implementation [Indian Wildlife [Protection] Act – 1972] of strict laws against illegal cutting of trees, hunting and poaching.
- Various projects like Project Tiger; Project Rhino etc.

Conservation of Wildlife :- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jufnzNXCJT8>



Forest <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dWJVVHIE9S8>

## PROJECT TIGER

- Tiger is one of the most important species among fauna. It was estimated that population of tigers has decreased rapidly in the last one hundred years.
- Major reasons identified behind depletion of tiger were hunting and poaching, deforestation, depletion of prey etc. Project Tiger was started in 1973 to protect them from extinction.
- There are 27 tiger reserves in India. Project Tiger has successfully improved the condition. Population of tigers increased from 1800 to about 3600 in the last 30 years.



# PROJECT RHINO

- One horned rhino are poached for their horns.
- **Translocations** are the backbone of the IRV 2020 program.
- **Manas National Park** was selected as the first site for translocation of rhinos.
- Ten rhinos have been released into Manas since 2008. Ten more rhinos will be moved from **Kaziranga National Park** before the end of the year.
- The vision of this program is to increase the total rhino population.

# PROJECT ELEPHANT 1992

## ELEPHANT CORRIDORS





## Save the Indian Bustards Campaign

The Indian Bustard (*Ardeotis nigriceps*) is a critically endangered species found in the semi arid grassland habitat in India. Due to industrialiation and encroachment, its habitat is being lost at a rapid rate. As a result, the species is on the verge of extinction with only 300-odd birds surviving in India. Out of these, only around 30 individuals are found in Kutch.

log on to [www.corbettfoundation.org](http://www.corbettfoundation.org) to know more



# Conservation of forests

- Forests can be conserved by
- Afforestation – planting of more trees
- Preventing or reducing deforestation
- By setting up wildlife sanctuaries, national parks, biosphere reserves etc.
- Undertaking social forestry programs like Van Mahotsav, Chipko movement for planting and protecting trees on a large scale.



# Govt role in conservation of wildlife



Wildlife protection act 1972

Project tiger 1972-73

Forest protection act 1980-88

Anti poaching agencies

State wildlife dept

State forest dept

Ministry of environment and forest

Army (IF APPLICABLE)

Police

Border security force

Coast guards

Wildlife conservation society



# Home Assignment

- Find out various plan adopted by Indian Government to protect biodiversity.

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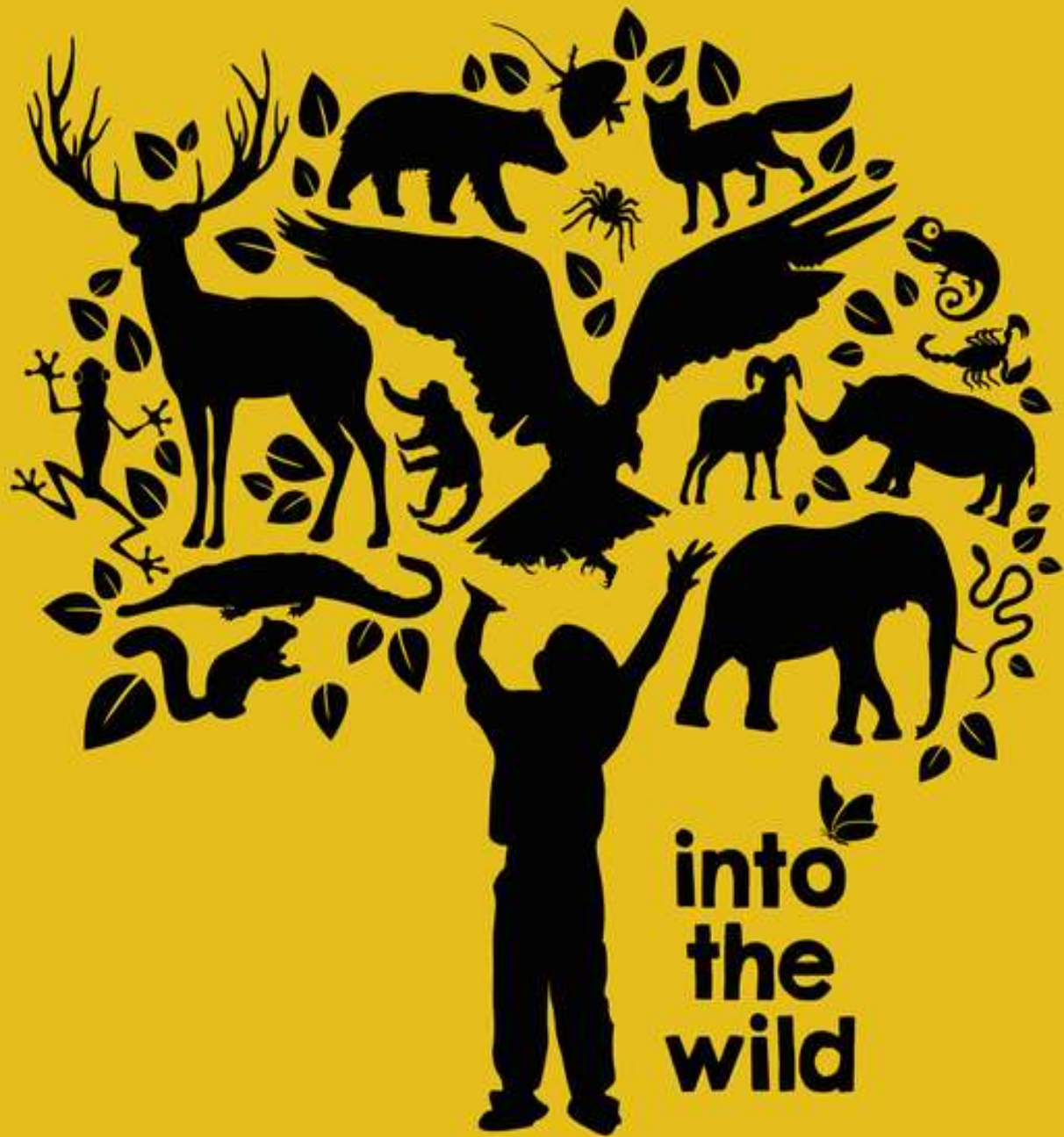
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**FOREST AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES**





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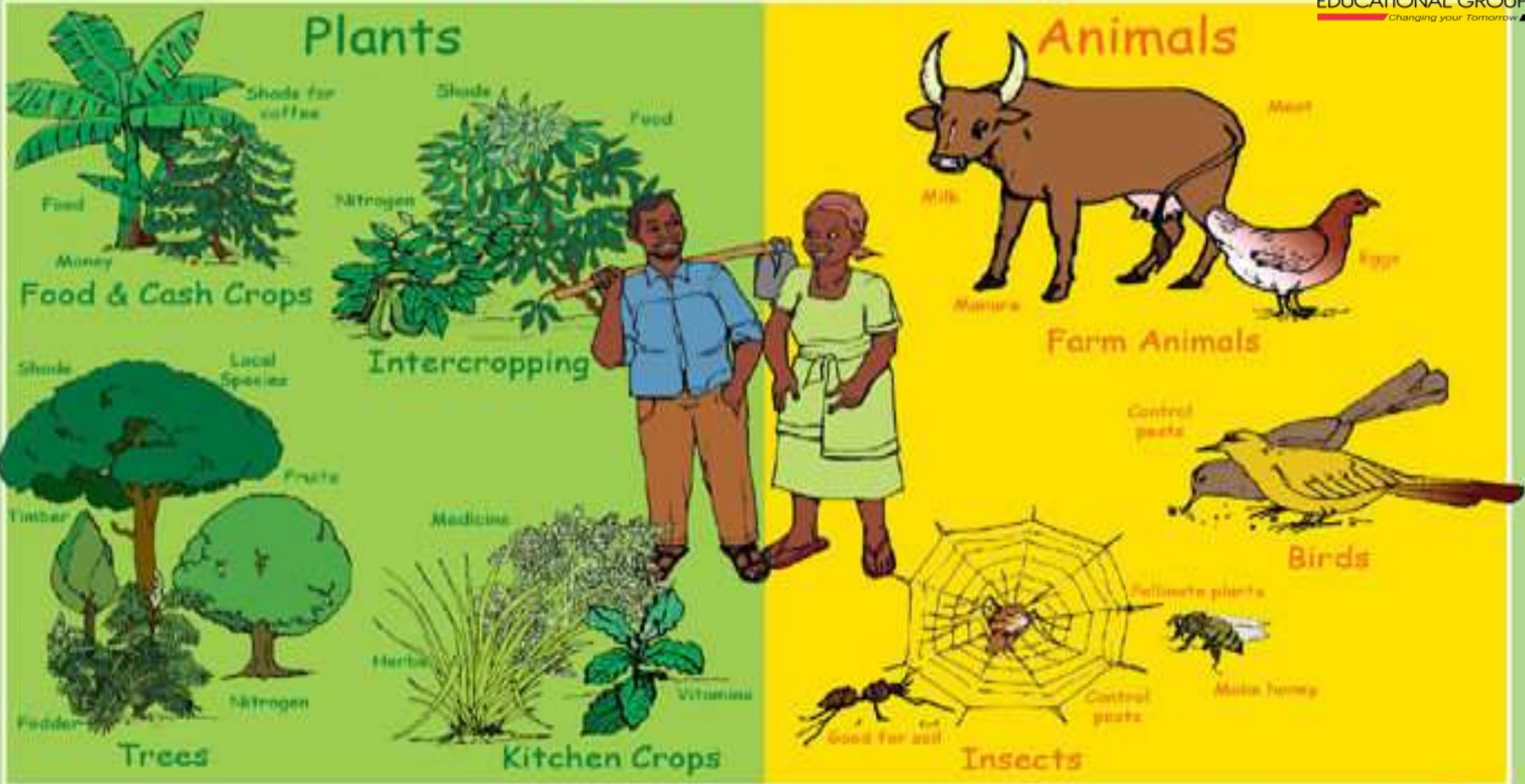
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WE SHARE THIS PLANET WITH MILLIONS OF OTHER LIVING BEINGS, starting from micro-organisms and bacteria, lichens to banyan trees, elephants and blue whales. This entire habitat that we live in has immense **BIODIVERSITY.**

# What is biodiversity?



# Flora and Fauna

**Flora**

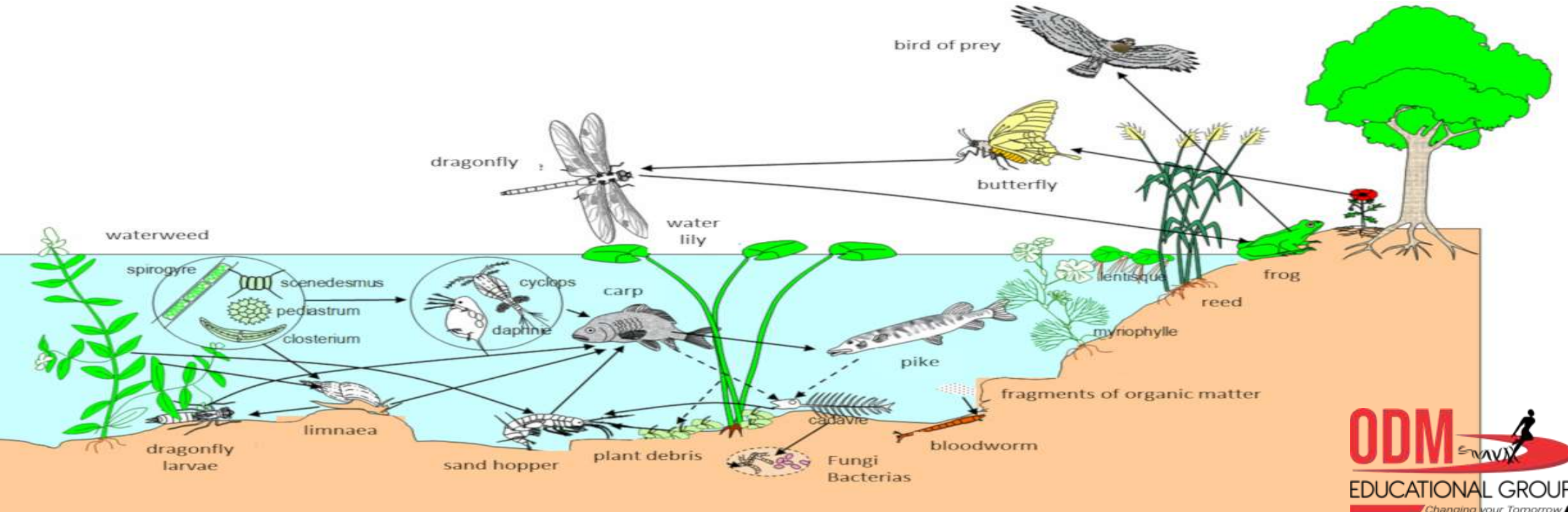
Plant species found in a particular area



Animal species found in a particular area



- We humans along with all living organisms form a **complex web** of ecological system in which we are only a part and very much dependent on this system for our own existence.
- The plants, animals and micro-organisms **re-create** the quality of the air we breathe, the water we drink and the soil that produces our food without which we cannot survive.
- Forests play a key role in the **ecological system** as these are also the primary producers on which all other living beings depend.



# Stakeholders of Forests



People who live in & around forests



The Forest Department



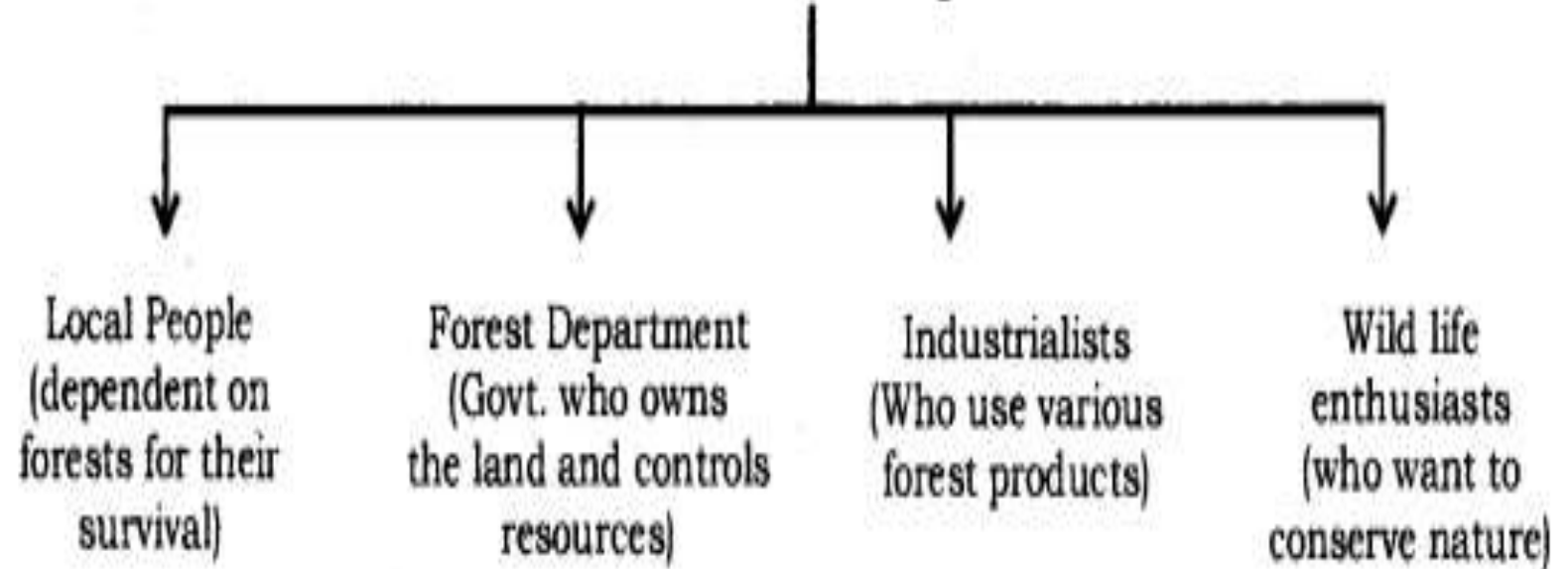
The Industrialists



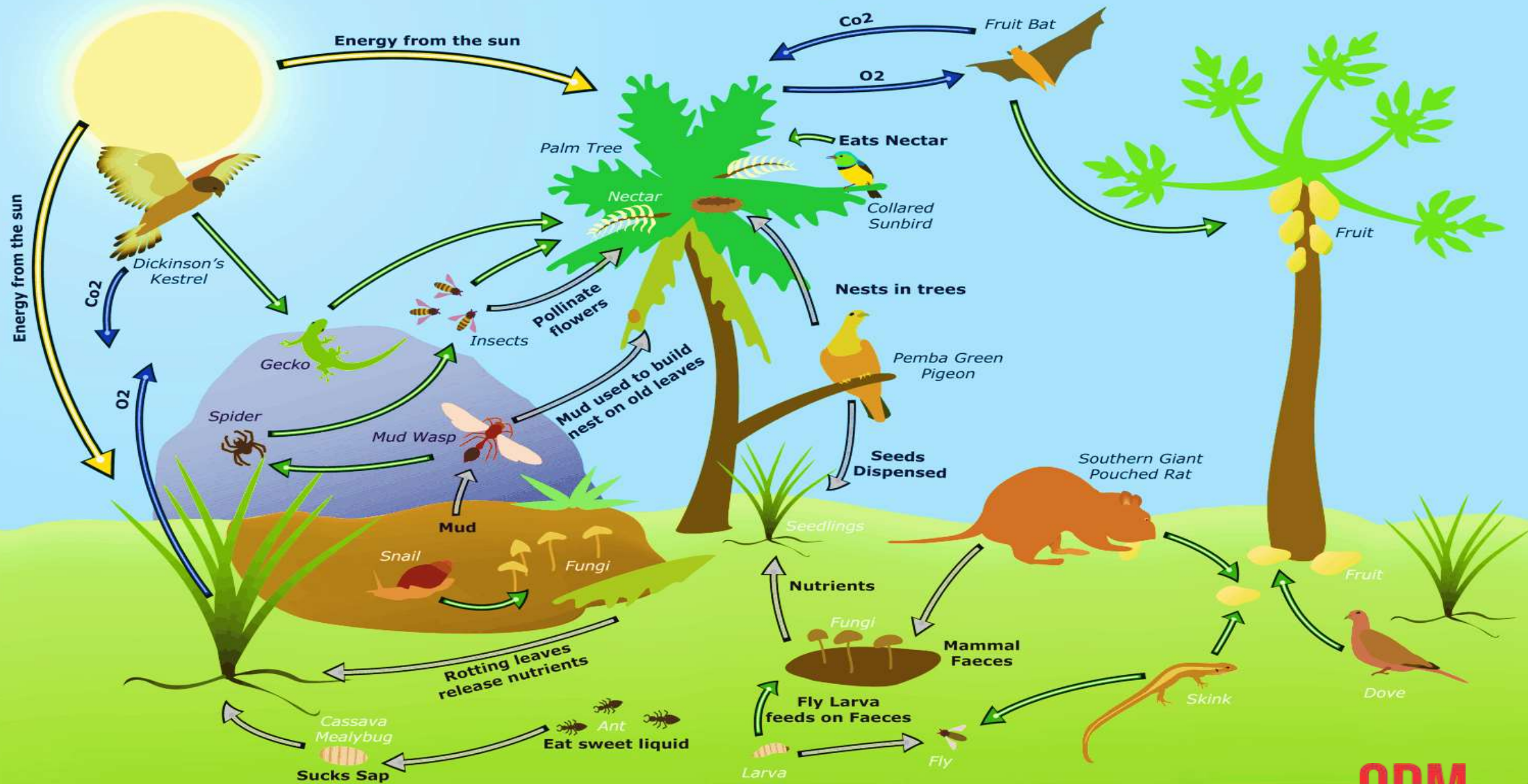
Wildlife & Nature Enthusiasts

Biodiversity or Biological Diversity is immensely rich in wildlife and cultivated species, diverse in form and function but closely integrated in a system through multiple network of interdependencies.

## Stakeholders : Their dependence on forests



# Biodiversity Web



# ACTIVITY :-

- Draw a POSTER in your copy showing the harmonious relationship between human beings and nature.



# Home Assignment

1. What is biodiversity?
2. Explain the importance of biodiversity in environment.
3. Who all are the stakeholders of biodiversity?



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