

# **Analysis of changes in the status of forest in Nepal over the last 25 years**

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## **Abstract**

Forests constitute one of the important resources for all countries. For a country like Nepal where people still depend on forests for the fodder for the cattle and fuel for the cooking, its importance cannot be overemphasized. Like many other developing countries Nepal also suffers from the loss of forests. However, exact quantification of the loss is missing, which results partly from the violent insurgency ongoing in the country. In this study, we calculate the area of forestland in Nepal at different points in time during the last 25 years and combine the results with those of other studies carried out in the past. It allows us to understand the rate of decline of forest in Nepal over these years and the impact of insurgency on forests. To achieve this, time series NDVI and temperature datasets of NOAA/AVHRR and MODIS are being used. Calculation of area is based upon the fusion of DEM-Classified Satellite Imagery. In the analysis, we are also using cluster computer to speed up computations.