



# **JOURNAL OF WILDLIFE SCIENCE**

India's Beacon of Open  
Knowledge: Bridging Continents,  
Igniting Conservation Dialogues in  
the Global South

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# JWLS

**Unveiling a Beacon of Knowledge: Journal of Wildlife Science**

## ILLUMINATING PATHS OF CONSERVATION THROUGH SHARED WISDOM

**India's Global Stance: G20 Presidency and Commitment to Sustainability**

In recent times, India has ascended as a formidable representative of the Global South on the international stage, under the visionary leadership of our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. This prestigious stance was further cemented with India's presidency at the G20 summit, where the profound theme of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth · One Family · One Future" was spotlighted.

Derived from the ancient Sanskrit text of the Maha Upanishad, this theme underscores the intrinsic value of all life forms – be it human, animal, plant, or microorganisms – and their interconnectedness on planet Earth and beyond into the vast cosmos. Moreover, the theme introduces LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment), advocating for environmentally sustainable and responsible choices at both personal and national levels, propelling globally transformative actions towards a cleaner, greener, and bluer future.

With the G20 summit under India's presidency, the spotlight was firmly on sustainability and environmental conservation. A pivotal discussion centred around the crucial role of knowledge sharing in nurturing a sustainable future, particularly in the realm of environmental conservation.



## INTERDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH, CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

**India's Biodiversity: A Reservoir of Natural Wealth**

India, a land of astounding biodiversity, stands as a testament to the natural wealth residing in the Global South. Recognized as one of the 17 megadiverse countries globally, India occupies a mere 2.4% of the world's land area while cradling around 17% of the global human populace. Despite this compact geographical footprint, the country is a domicile to an astounding 7-8% of the world's recorded species, encompassing over 45,000 plant species and 91,000 animal species. The variety of ecosystems ranging from the towering Himalayas in the north, the dense forests of the Western Ghats, the expansive Thar Desert in the west, to the lush mangroves of the Sundarbans in the east, further accentuates India's ecological diversity. This rich biodiversity is not just a source of national pride but a crucial reservoir of genetic material that holds immense potential for sustainable development, scientific research, and conservation efforts.



**भारतीय वन्यजीव संस्थान  
Wildlife Institute of India**



**DIAMOND  
OPEN  
ACCESS**



### Bridging Knowledge Gaps: Navigating the Challenges of Access

However, the path of conservation is often hindered by communication gaps and restricted access to crucial scientific knowledge. This is a common scenario, particularly in the Global South, where resources are scarce, and the dissemination of knowledge is often bottlenecked by financial constraints. In a world where scientific journals operate under various models, some demand a subscription fee from the readers while others require a publication fee from the researchers, thus impeding the free flow of information. This financial barrier is a hefty one, especially for the individuals and institutions in the Global South, striving to make a difference in the realms of ecology, conservation, and biodiversity.

### The Wildlife Institute of India's Initiative: A Diamond Open Access Journal

Recognizing this critical gap and in line with the global vision articulated in the G20 theme, the Wildlife Institute of India, under the aegis of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, is spearheading the initiative to launch a Diamond Open Access Journal dedicated to wildlife research, conservation and management. Diamond Open Access signifies a publishing model where both reading and publishing articles are free, removing financial barriers for both readers and authors. This journal not only embodies the spirit of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" by fostering a free and open dissemination of rigorous scientific knowledge across geographical and financial barriers but also represents a monumental stride towards uniting a global community with the shared goal of conservation.

The Journal of Wildlife Science (JWLS) aims to break the shackles of traditional publishing models by ensuring that the knowledge generated, especially from the Global South, is freely available to everyone, everywhere. This initiative aligns seamlessly with the broader vision of the G20 summit, promoting sustainability and environmental conservation through shared knowledge.



## WILDLIFE INSTITUTE OF INDIA - BRIDGING KNOWLEDGE GAPS, FOSTERING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

### Beyond a Journal: Building Bridges Among Global Conservationists

The Wildlife Institute of India's Journal of Wildlife Science is more than just a platform for scholarly articles; it's a bridge connecting the global community of wildlife conservationists, researchers, managers and curious minds. It's a beacon illuminating the path of knowledge-driven conservation efforts, not just in India but across the Global South and beyond.

As India reaches out to the world especially the Global South with this pioneering initiative, we invite you to be a part of this monumental journey towards a sustainable and knowledge-driven future. Through this journal, let's unite in our quest for understanding and conserving the natural world that cradles us all.



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*Interdisciplinary Journal of  
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