

Sustainable forestry development through livelihood enhancement of fringe forest dwellers: A case of Gujarat, India



Population pressure leading to de-forestation

- National Forest Policy of India, 1988 targets at least 33% of land under forests against 21% (69 M.ha.-FSI, 2009) currently
- 41% of the country's forest cover has been degraded.
- Gujarat had a forest cover of 9.73 % in 2005-06



Endangered Asiatic Lion under pressure

The Problem
Dwindling forest cover; man-animal conflict; erratic rainfall

The Project
Protection and sustainable harvesting of forest resources by forest dwellers

The Impact
Increase in forest cover & prosperity for fringe forest dwellers

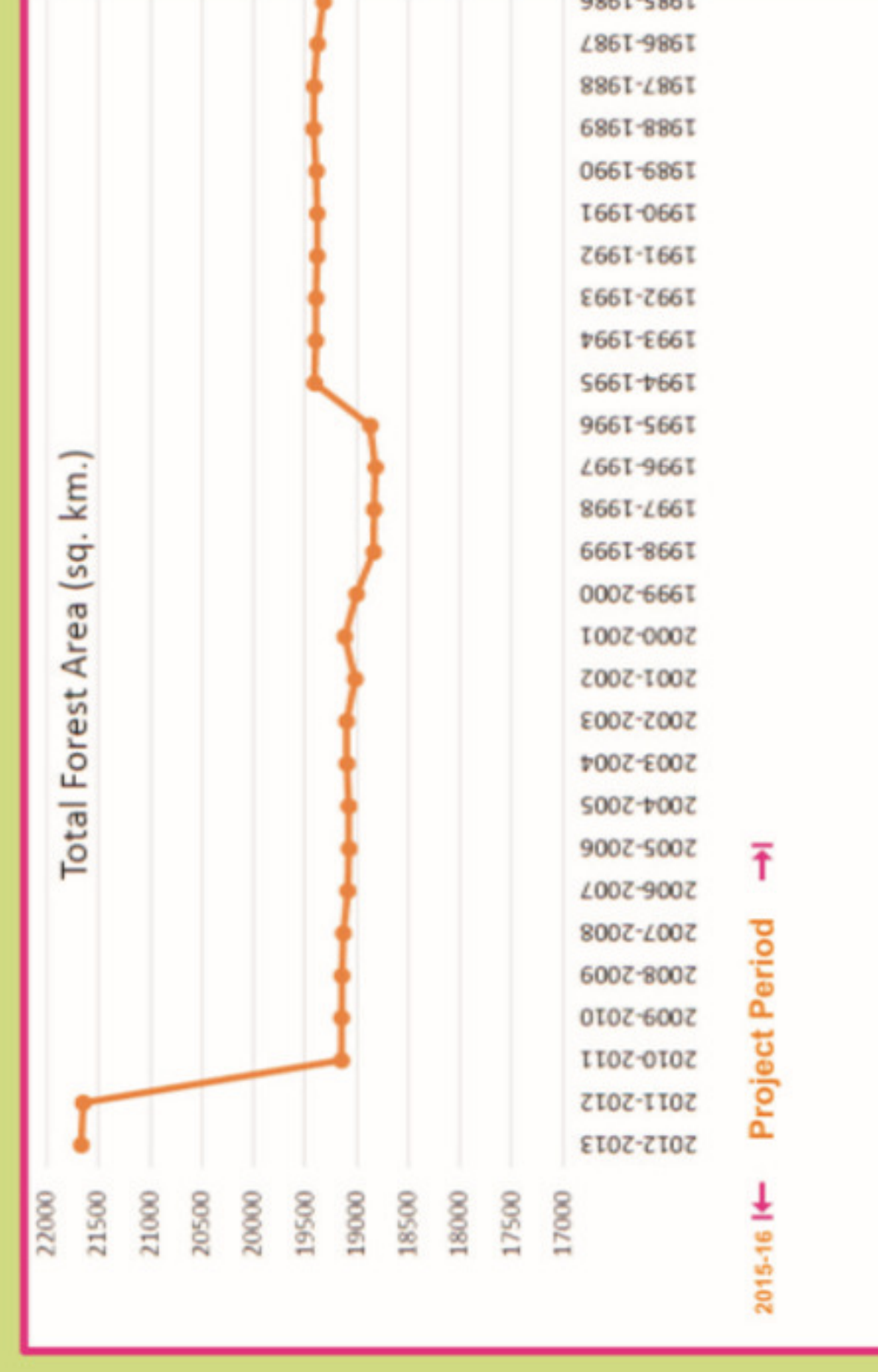


A tribal woman going for selling dried flowers of *Madhuca longifolia*

GFDP: Achievements

- ✓ Afforestation: 0.14 million ha.
- ✓ Wildlife conservation: 7 protected areas
- ✓ Bio-diversity hot spots: 6 sites
- ✓ Eco-tourism: 3 sites
- ✓ People's Organizations:
 - 14200 committees
 - 3100 Self Help Groups (SHGs)
- ✓ Marketing support to 5 clusters
- ✓ Forest research: 16 Papers

Focus on community participation and livelihood enhancement leads to sustainable forest conservation.



Forest cover increases from 9.73% (of total area) in 2005-06 to 11.05% (21,664 sq.km.) in 2012-13