LIVELIHOODS, HEALTH, AND SUSTAINABILITY IN THE POST PANDEMIC RECOVERY: A CRITICAL PERSPECTIVE IN CONTEXT OF KAILASH SACRED LANDSCAPE- INDIA.

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Current COVID-19 pandemic has destructive impact on health and livelihoods worldwide

Continuous waves of the pandemic had more severe impact on the disadvantaged people and marginalized communities

The outbreak of the pandemic has revealed the lack of preparedness towards crisis management

This unpreparedness not only applies to the management of pandemics but also to the prevention of the irrevocable consequences of other shocks like climate change.
- Climate change is the greatest global threat to health in 21st century
- Need to improve resilience of societies both to health crisis and environmental changes
- Imperative to place health and sustainability at the heart of economy
Triple crisis of the economy, health and climate change in context of Kailash Sacred Landscape-India

- As many as 4.74 million people perished due to COVID-19 in India in 2020 and 2021 (WHO). The figure, disputed by India, is nearly ten times the country’s official data.
- Covid also cut short the upward mobility of millions of households in India
Growing inequality in India and the pandemic
Differentiated impact of COVID-19
Economy contracted significantly i.e. clear K-shaped movement of income
Way Forward

- India is witnessing a triple crisis of economy, health and climate change
- An inclusive, sustainable and equitable recovery is the only way to deal with the triple crisis
- A green fiscal response focusing on various sectors and incorporating redistributive elements in economic policy may take the said triple crisis head on
Escalation of ecological restoration in tandem with building climate justice and livelihoods requires a well calibrated action plan.

Ecological restoration should be more holistic.

Good consideration must be given to avoid monoculture plantations, which have very less benefits ecological commons, and damaged biodiversity, soil and water resources, and livelihoods.
- Planting trees without addressing the social and economic drivers causing it will not mitigate climate change, rather may shift ecosystem destruction elsewhere.

- Inclusivity in ecological rebuilding by serving local needs for ecosystem goods and services should be prioritized.

- Holistic and integrated approaches need to be taken up in order to deal with external shocks (pandemic/climate change).
THANK YOU