

The concept of India as a mega diversity nation was put forward in early 1988, and for a nation to be declared as a mega diversity nation it must possess atleast 5000 endemic plants .The mega-diversity concept is based on the following four principles

Every nation's biodiversity is significantly important to that nations survival and must be a central component of any national or regional development policy.

Biodiversity is unevenly distributed, greater variation lies in the tropical region than in other regions. Many of the wealthiest and most diversified countries are under severe threat to biodiversity loss. To succeed maximum effect with limited resources, concentration should be on those countries rich in diversity and contains endemics and severely threatened species.

There are 17 mega-diverse nations in the world.