Why Indian cities should adopt Tech to grow Urban Forests
21 November 2020

Google launched an AI-based tool to find out the tree canopy coverage across neighbourhoods in a city that will help make informed data-driven decisions on where to plant trees and take action accordingly.

Along with collecting aerial imagery-based data from Google Maps and Google Earth, the tool also considers other factors like heat risk, population density, land use, and neighbourhood boundary data. These data allow it to make a more holistic decision on where tree plantation in the urban areas is needed the most.

The tool which was launched on Wednesday piloted the project in the city of Los Angeles. This tool is a part of Google's Environmental Insights Explorer (EIE) whose goal is to make the process of setting an emission baseline and identify reduction opportunities. People living in or working in a city can fill out a form to request EIE to help you take action.

Technology Has Been Used Before For Tree Plantation

Technology has been used before for tree plantation across the world in urban, rural, as well as forest areas.

Just a day before Google's tool was published, American Forests, a conservation organisation collaborated with Microsoft to launch a tool to calculate the "tree equity score" for city neighbourhoods. This tool as well considers factors like climate, demography, and socio-economic data along with canopy cover to calculate the score.

Source: https://analyticsindiamag.com/why-indian-cities-should-adopt-tech-to-grow-urban-forests/