



Large-scale Forest Restoration (The Earthscan Forest Library)

By David Lamb

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Landscapes are being degraded and simplified across the globe. This book explores how forest restoration might be carried out to increase landscape heterogeneity, improve ecological functioning and restore ecosystem services in such landscapes. It focuses on large, landscape-scale reforestation because that is the scale at which restoration is needed if many of the problems that have now developed are to be addressed. It also shows how large-scale forest restoration might improve human livelihoods as well as improve conservation outcomes.

A number of governments have undertaken national reforestation programs in recent years; some have been more successful than others. The author reviews these to explore what type of reforestation should be used, where this should be carried out and how much should be done. For example, are the traditional industrial forms of reforestation necessarily the best to use in all situations? How can forest restoration be reconciled with the need for food security? And, are there spatial thresholds that must be exceeded to generate economic and environmental benefits? The book also examines the policy and institutional settings needed to encourage large-scale reforestation. This includes a discussion of the place for incentives to encourage landholders to undertake particular types of reforestation and to reforest particular locations. It also considers forms of governance that are likely to lead to an equitable sharing of the costs and benefits of forest restoration.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Covering plantation forestry, natural forest regrowth, and ecological restoration of degraded forests, Dr. Lamb explains how to achieve effective, large-scale reforestation or restoration in tropical and extra-tropical regions alike. This book comes at just the right time, and is based on a lifetime of experience and reflection. Don't miss it." – *James Aronson, Restoration Ecologist, CEFE / CNRS, France, and Missouri Botanical Garden*

"Large-scale forest restoration is needed globally to improve human livelihoods and ecological functioning. David Lamb uses his wealth of experience to explore the socioeconomic, legal, and historic context of the challenge. Authoritative case studies illustrate the complexity of restoration in practice." – *John A. Stanturf, Senior Research Ecologist, US Forest Service, USA*

"David Lamb has thought deeply about large-scale forest restoration, and provides us with carefully researched insights on where and how to go about it. His analysis is informed by lessons learned from around the world over the past 100 years. This book is immensely informative and timely – a valuable resource as we mobilize our collective efforts to restore millions of hectares of deforested and degraded land to benefit people and the planet." – *Robert Winterbottom, Senior Fellow, Restoration Initiative, World Resources Institute, USA*

"Lamb (ecological consultant; formerly, Univ. of Queensland, Australia) provides an excellent review of current knowledge on forest restoration and rehabilitation... The book is well written, and prescriptions are supported with ample citations... Well-chosen and numerous case studies provide examples of successes and challenges to different reforestation approaches, offered at all scales ranging from trees to landscapes. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates and above." – *CHOICE, A. L. Mayer, Michigan Technological University*

"Lamb undertook an ambitious task and putting our specific criticisms aside, this book represents an important step forward in thinking about large-scale forest restoration. It is not a definitive manual on implementation, nor a comprehensive analysis of socioeconomic issues. Instead, it strikes a middle ground that may serve as a useful overview and starting point for forestry and restoration students and practitioners." – *Restoration Ecology*

"This book is a valuable resource to support efforts to restore vast deforested and degraded land." – *Conservation Biology, Tibor Standovár, Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary*

"This is not a 'how-to' book detailing techniques for onground forest restoration, but rather it is a convincing statement on the need for large-scale restoration, and an instructive compilation of case studies illustrating what is possible to date."

David Freudenberger, Australian National University, Ecological Management and Restoration

About the Author

David Lamb taught forest ecology at the University of Queensland, Australia, for 30 years and has since

undertaken consultancy work on forest restoration for a range of international organisations and aid agencies, including the World Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ). He is a member of the Commission on Ecosystem Management of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Users Review

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