Online Course

Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics

April 24 to June 9, 2017

Duration: 6 weeks
English Language

An online course organized by:
The Environmental Leadership and Training Initiative (ELTI), Yale University, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies & the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

This course is being offered exclusively for World Bank personnel
About the Course

Participants are invited to explore the social, economic, biological, and policy processes that shape forest landscape restoration (FLR) in tropical regions. During the course, participants will learn how FLR opportunities can be identified, analyzed and prioritized, using the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM), as well as discuss strategies to unlock finance and scale up FLR.

The course is designed for a diverse audience, including forest management professionals, agricultural specialists, rural development experts, environmental policy-makers, mid-career environmental practitioners, extension officers, or other types of professionals from diverse institutions (government, NGO, donor agencies, private sector) involved in natural resource management, land-use decision-making, forest landscape restoration, and landscape restoration finance and investment.

This is a unique opportunity to connect with forest landscape restoration leaders and practitioners, interact with Yale faculty, and learn about an issue of immense importance for the restoration and sustainability of tropical forest landscapes and human well-being. Participants will learn about the following aspects:

- Technical aspects of forest landscape restoration in different biophysical and social contexts
- Social, financial, and political catalysts and challenges
- Protocols for monitoring and evaluating restoration for diverse objectives
- ROAM and associated tools for FLR practitioners and policy-makers
The course is divided into six modules, each lasting one week. Each module includes videos, readings, resources, discussions, and assignments, completed at the learner’s own pace. In addition, participants will meet once a week with Yale professors, IUCN staff and Members, guest experts, and other course participants during live online discussions.

Week 1  Ecology, disturbance, and regeneration potential in tropical forest landscapes
Week 2  The Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM)
Week 3  Sociopolitical and cultural aspects of FLR
Week 4  Effective FLR practices and strategies
Week 5  FLR for production purposes
Week 6  Scaling up and Monitoring of FLR

This course will be delivered by ELTI Staff Facilitators and Lead Professor:

Mark S. Ashton, Ph.D.
Morris K. Jesup Professor of Silviculture and Forest Ecology and Director of School Forests, Yale University, School of Forestry & Environmental Studies.

Dr. Mark Ashton has over 30 years of experience researching and teaching about the biological and physical processes governing the regeneration of natural forests and on the creation of their agroforestry analogs. In particular, he seeks a better understanding of regeneration establishment among assemblages of closely related trees. His long-term research concentrates on tropical and temperate forests of the Asian and American realms. The results of his research have been applied to the development and testing of silvicultural techniques for restoration of degraded lands and for the management of natural forests for a variety of timber and nontimber products.

Additional live discussion sections with other Yale faculty, in addition to World Bank and IUCN staff and invited guest experts.
Course Features

Access ELTI & IUCN resources and expertise
ELTI specializes in developing and delivering high-quality training experiences for environmental leaders in the tropics. Course participants are presented with key concepts through professionally developed materials designed by Yale University faculty, ELTI staff members, IUCN staff and its Members, and international partners. These materials employ a variety of teaching tools, including interactive presentations, pre-recorded video lectures, and diverse readings.

Access international experts and experience
This course has a strong emphasis on providing participants with diverse international perspectives, which are presented through case studies and on-the-ground examples.

Receive customized instruction and personal attention
Courses provide the opportunity for live discussions with guest experts, personalized feedback, and relating homework assignments to the individual needs and interests of the participants.

Interact with a diverse community of participants
By participating in the online course, participants provide peer-to-peer feedback, work in national and regional virtual teams, become part of a “community of learners” during and after the course, and benefit from the diverse experiences of environmental practitioners worldwide.

Develop practical skills
The homework assignments during the course are designed to help participants build practical skillsets. Participants will have the opportunity to work on their own project throughout the course, to create tangible products that are of direct use for their work in FLR.

For more information, please contact:
Karin Bucht, ELTI Online Training Program Associate: Karin.Bucht@yale.edu

About ELTI
ELTI is an initiative of Yale University’s School of Forestry and Environmental Studies that supports the efforts of people to design and implement an array of land-use practices and initiatives that conserve and restore tropical forests and native tree cover in human-dominated landscapes that are rich in biodiversity. ELTI takes a unique approach to capacity building for conservation and restoration by mentoring people who manage or influence these landscapes in Tropical Asia and the Neotropics. http://elti.yale.edu

About IUCN
IUCN is a membership Union composed of both government and civil society organizations. It harnesses the experience, resources and reach of its 1,300 Member organizations and the input of some 15,000 experts. IUCN is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it.