Forest Landscape Restoration: Potentials, Requirements and Challenges for Asia and the Pacific

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Content

1. **The Context of FLR**

2. **The Concept of FLR**

3. **Potentials of FLR**

4. **FLR Requirements**

5. **Major Implementation Challenges**

The Context of FLR

300M ha potential area in **Asia for mosaic-type landscape restoration**
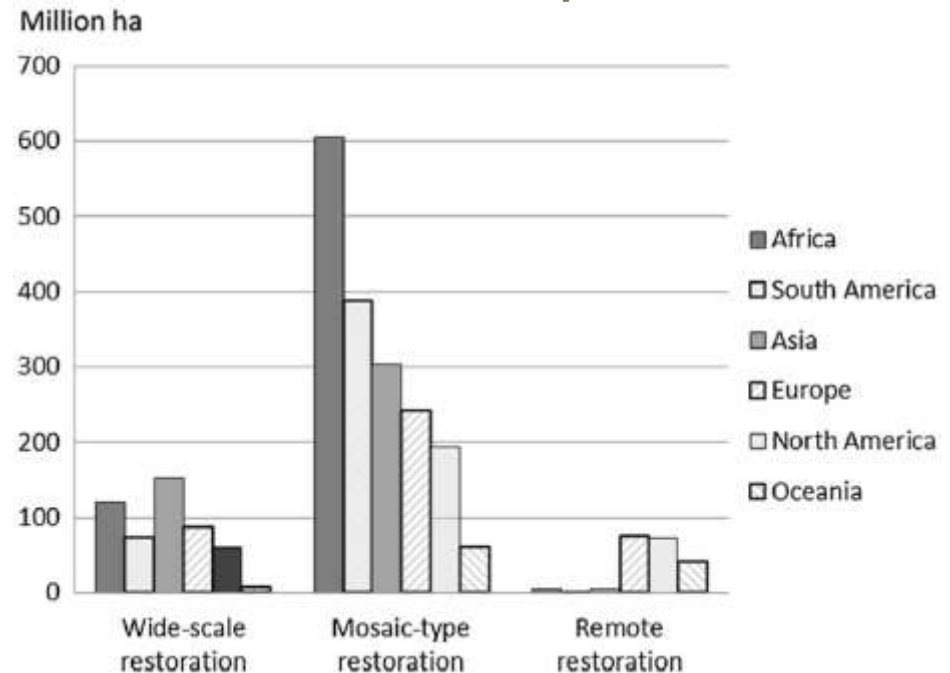
- **2 billion ha of forests globally need restoration and the future need will increase (**Stanturf et al. 2014)

- **Available areas mostly suitable for mosaic-type landscape restoration with moderate human pressure (bet. 10 & 100 people/km^2)**

Source: Minnemayer et al. 2011

The Concept of FLR

- **FLR is a long-term process of regaining ecological integrity and enhancing human well-being in degraded and deforested lands** (IUCN, 2014).

- **a co-management approach that developed in response to large-scale restoration and reforestation programs undertaken by public agencies that provided few local benefits, but generated much ill will from forest-dependent communities who felt excluded from the management process** (Barr and Sayer, 2012; Boedhihartono and Sayer, 2012).

The Concept of FLR

- **FLR includes the following principles** (IUCN, 2014)**:**

    - **restoring a balanced and agreed upon package of forest functions;**

    - **active engagement, collaboration and negotiation among stakeholders;**

    - **working across an entire landscape; and**

    - **learning and adapting over time).**

Potentials of FLR

- **FLR provides a framework for integrating agricultural and environmental policies, beyond the conservation/production dualistic perspective that has predominated in the past** (Chazdon, et al. 2015)**.**

- **Successful FLR reverses environmental degradation, strengthens the resilience of landscapes, secures forest-based livelihoods, and optimizes ecosystem goods and services to meet the changing needs of society** (IUCN and WRI 2014)**.**

- **FLR can potentially reverse the trend of tropical deforestation in the Asia Pacific and other regions.**

FLR Requirements

- **Local stakeholders are actively engaged in decision making, collaboration, and implementation.**

- **Whole landscapes are restored so that trade-offs among conflicting interests can be made and minimized within a wider context.**

- **Landscapes are restored and managed to provide for an agreed, balanced combination of ecosystem goods and services.**

- **A wide range of restoration strategies are considered, from managed natural regeneration to tree planting.**

- **Continuous monitoring, learning, and adaptation are central.**
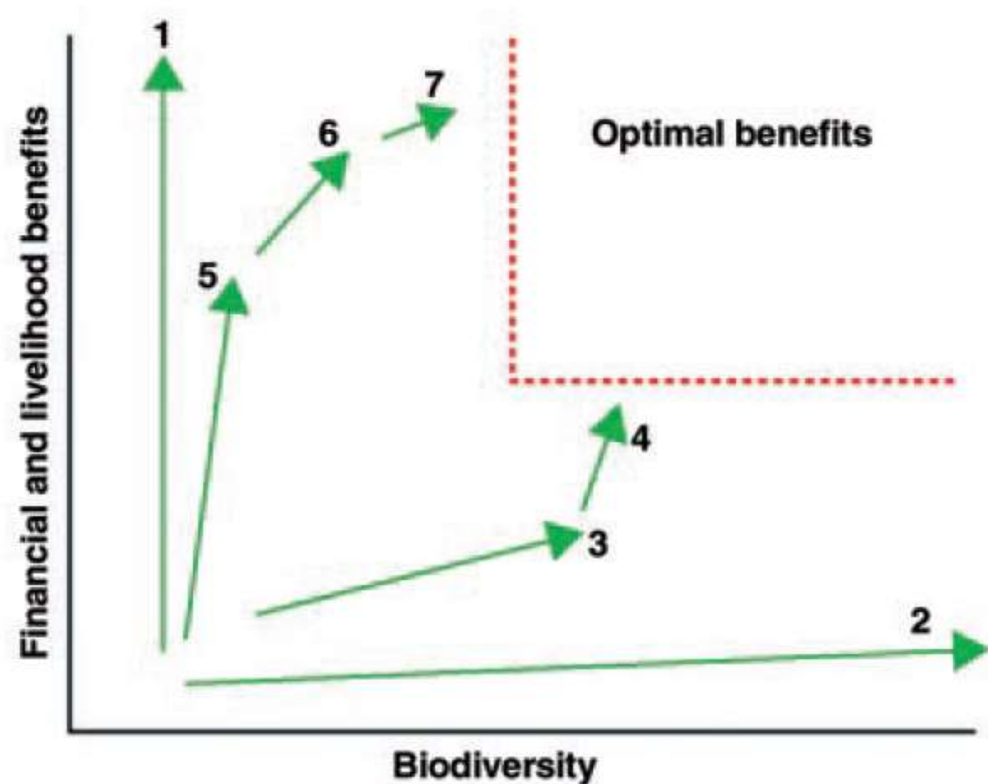
Source: WRI, 2014

Major Implementation Challenges

- **Knowledge base for implementing large-scale FLR needs further development** (Chazdon et al. 2015)

- **Complexities of tenure** (Lamb et al. 2005; Stanturf et al. 2014)

- **Lack of social capital and supportive institutions to initiate and sustain restoration efforts** (Stanturf et al. 2014)

- **Need to rely upon an integrative, adaptive approach given the uncertainty of changes in climate as well as social priorities** (Stanturf et al. 2015)

Overarching Challenge

- **Balancing the tradeoffs between financial and livelihood benefits and biodiversity across the landscape to achieve optimal benefits that satisfy the present and future needs of various stakeholders**

Source: Lamb et al. 2005

Thank you very much for listening!

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