

NEW PUBLICATION SHOWS HOW FORESTS CAN LEAD THE WAY IN TACKLING GLOBAL HUNGER

The twin challenges of tackling hunger and poor nutrition, and addressing pressures on the world's forests, have never been more critical. In this timely new book a stellar line-up of authors show the vital synergies between forest ecosystems and food security, and how a people-centred, landscape-approach can harness these for the benefit of all.

-Professor Melissa Leach, Director, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex and Co-Chair, Future Earth Science Committee

Forests and Food: Addressing Hunger and Nutrition Across Sustainable Landscapes is a new publication that will be launched in December at the Global Landscapes Forum 2015, which is being held alongside the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference in Paris. *Forests and Food* is a radically accessible resource, free to read, download and reuse under a Creative Commons Open Access license.

Forests have huge potential to reduce global hunger and malnutrition. This book provides the evidence and insights necessary for harnessing that power. Based on the <u>International Union of Forest Research Organizations</u> (IUFRO) Global Forest Expert Panel report on <u>Forest and Food Security</u>, this title is designed to help global decision-makers in the effort to meet necessary aspects of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Of particular relevance and urgency are the improvement of nutrition, the realisation of food security and the eradication of hunger while promoting, sustaining and restoring the use of terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems. This volume is essential reading for researchers, students, NGOs, governments and anyone interested in the future of our environment.

As population estimates for 2050 reach over 9 billion, issues of food security and nutrition have been dominating academic and policy debates. A total of 805 million people are undernourished worldwide and malnutrition affects nearly every country on the planet. Despite impressive productivity increases, there is growing evidence that conventional agricultural strategies fall short of eliminating global hunger, as well as having long-term ecological consequences. Forests can play an important role in complementing agricultural production to address ambitious global goals for reducing hunger and achieving food

security and improved nutrition. Forests and trees can be managed to provide better and more nutritionally-balanced diets, offer greater control over food inputs, and deliver ecosystem services for crop production. *Forests and Food* provides important information about the potential of forests, explores the roles of integrated landscape management, and examines the governance approaches that are required for the equitable delivery of benefits.

The editors of *Forests and Food*—Bhaskar Vira, Christoph Wildburger, and Stephanie Mansourian—chose to publish in Open Access so that their work could reach the largest number of readers possible. Free to read and download online <u>here</u>, the book is also available in interactive e-book and inexpensive paperback and hardback editions.

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Edited by Bhaskar Vira, Christoph Wildburger and Stephanie Mansourian

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