

Mainstreaming Native Species-based Forest Restoration: A Synthesis- The Need to Change MAPs

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Common Themes

- Products of basic and applied research
- Wide spectrum of experiences from the works of Dr. Ashton, Dr. Fujiwara, Dr. Elliot, Dr. Milan, Dr. Hall, Dr. Hau and Dr. Mercado/Edralin.
- We now have a better understanding of how a forest can be restored and the challenges that remain to be addressed
- Time and Patience
 - If it wasn't started years ago, there is no "now" picture to show the successes

Common Themes

- Use basic ecological principles in forest restoration
- Understanding and incorporating functional and structural elements of ecological principles in designing forest restoration projects
- Role of people in ensuring sustainability

Common Themes

- Dr Ashton and Dr. Elliot summarized studies and experiences on forest degradation and restoration and provided complementary theoretical frameworks
- Not all natural forests are the same but follow the same functional and structural ecological principles and processes
- Not all degraded forests are the same as they undergo various stages of degradation

Common Themes

- Dr. Fujiwara and Dr. Hau presented various approaches used and lessons learned in forest restoration in urban landscapes
- Dr. Milan, Dr. Hall and Dr. Mercado/Edralin presented various approaches used and lessons learned in forest restoration in rural/forest landscapes

Changing MAPs in Forest Restoration

- Mindsets
- Attitudes
- Practices

Changing MAPs in Forest Restoration

- It is not enough to have the mindset to use native species to restore forests, although it is a necessary component
- Not all natural forests are the same but follow the same functional and structural principles and processes
- Not all degraded forests are the same as they undergo various stages of degradation
- Restoring forests depends on a lot of factors, particularly site stabilization

- For lay people, planting trees is a symbol of taking action for protecting the environment
- Usually, they are in urban areas
- They do not have the luxury to travel to far away forest areas (or former forest areas)

- Experiences from Japan and Hongkong provide models by which urban areas become centers of forest restoration
- Experiences from Thailand, Panama, Visayas and Mindanao in the Philippines provide models by which science-based and people-oriented forest restoration programs can be designed

Lessons Learned in Forest Restoration

There is no one size fits all solution

It should be based on ecology, biogeography, evolution

People's participation is key for sustainability

Knowing the soil quality should be part of the equation right at the beginning

Stabilization/Prevent Soil Erosion

Use of Native-species should be the default mode

- Sourcing of planting materials remains a problem and working with horticulturists to speed up propagation of planting materials is increasingly necessary
- Forest restoration efforts, particularly in urban areas, would require working with non-traditional partners, e.g., Landscape Architects, Urban and Regional Planners, Engineers and allied profession

A vigorous program for the *rebirth* of Tropical Rainforests in the world through

- native-species forest restoration
- based on sound functional and structural ecological principles
- Undertaken by stakeholders behaving like stockholders

Forests will not be restored without
biologists and forest scientists,

Neither will forests be restored
without biologists and forest
scientists!

The struggle to use native species-based forest restoration into the mainstream agenda of society is not going to be easy...

No single individual or institution will be able to make this struggle successful...

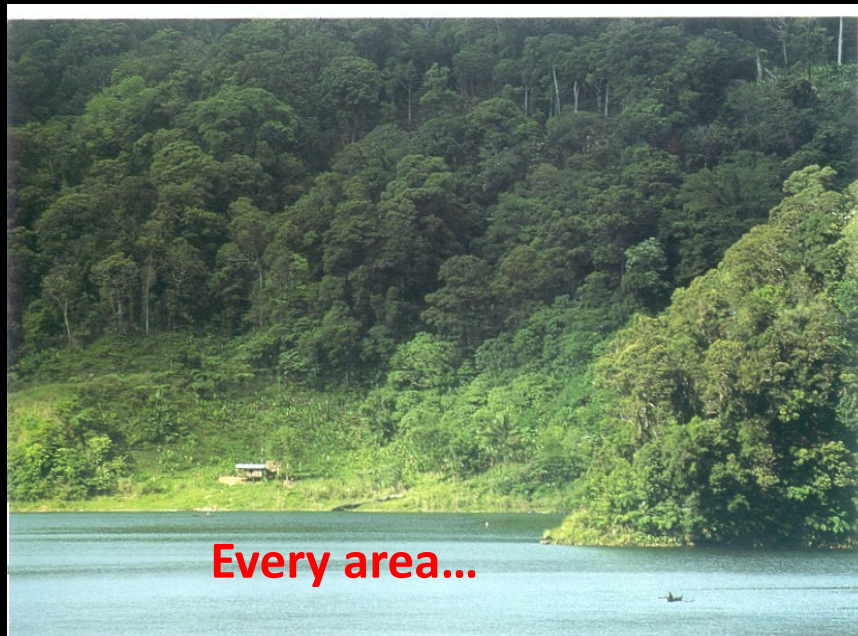


Every Action...

(PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE PHOTOS)



Every second...



Every area...

**In our fight for a rebirth
of tropical forests by
restoring forests,
Everything counts!**



Do one brave thing today!
Restore forests, save humanity!!!
Are you ready to do that one brave thing today?



Remember
Change MAPs
Restore Forests!