

# How Does Reforestation Help the Environment?

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Guest post by Mircea Giurca

## Climate change and reforestation

[Global reforestation](#) is an important environmental issue of growing concern. International programs like the United Nations Initiative for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation ([UN-REDD](#)) are key for implementing global programs for reducing [deforestation](#), emissions through [reforestation](#) and [aforestation](#) projects.

Efforts to restore and establish global forest coverage have many benefits on a chemical, social and biological level.

Planting new trees can help to [reduce the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub>](#) in the atmosphere. Greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide and methane significantly contribute to a changing climate. Forest are an effective, natural carbon sink, soaking up much of the carbon emitted from burning fossil fuels. Reversing global deforestation is a key element of an effective mitigation strategy to fight global warming.

## **The many benefits of reforestation**

**Protecting species:** In addition to the climate benefits, reforestation has the potential to preserve endangered species. A recovering forest restores habitat loss and degradation, leading threats to species health.

**Erosion and watersheds:**[Deforestation](#) damages and destroys habitats through [erosion](#). Forest restoration can reverse the damage done by erosion. Regional watersheds, a vital resource for human development, [adversely impacted by deforestation](#) can be brought back to health through reforestation.

We can reverse the damage done, but only if we act.

The benefits of reforestation - and avoiding deforestation in the first place - are clear. Forests help to fight against global climate change and help restore endangered species from extinction. It will also enable humans to better address world hunger issues as well as issues dealing with water usage and availability. Anyone wanting to learn more about reforestation can take the time to [find our more](#) about this important environmental and social issue or contact their local agricultural offices to learn what can be done on a more local level.

You can get started with some basic [deforestation facts](#). Everyone can make a difference in the environment. Reforestation is an easy and excellent place to begin to change the world.

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