

BECOMING AN ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION CAMP



ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION CAMPS WANTS TO HELP RESTORE DEGRADED LAND ON A PLANETARY SCALE

We want to bring ordinary people, experts and skilled labour to ecosystem restoration projects around the world. We envision Ecosystem Restoration Camps to be the places where an infrastructure is in place for people to travel to and contribute to an ecosystem restoration plan. Ecosystem Restoration Camps can be initiated, developed and operated by any person, group of people, organisation, or other institution that wants to restore degraded land.

If you want to establish an ecosystem restoration camp at your project, you can join Ecosystem Restoration Camps.

We will be happy to help you think through your plan, and help you in establishing and operationalising the needed infrastructure. We will also help you in obtaining volunteers and other visitors to your camp.

Finally we will be more than happy to support you in developing a scientifically sound and effective ecosystem restoration plan.



KEY REQUIREMENTS FOR BECOMING A CAMP

1. You need to be in or near degraded land, and have the intent to restore that degraded land. **You must have the intent to restore a large area of land that could be outside your own land (beyond your fence) by involving others in your area (community, other farmers, etc).**



2. You need to have an **ecosystem restoration plan in place.** If you do not have such a plan, Ecosystem Restoration Camps can help you find the expertise needed to develop a plan.



3. You need to have infrastructure in place, or a solid plan (that includes the necessary means) to develop such infrastructure.



This infrastructure should at least include:

- A centre where people can meet, receive instruction and knowledge
- Somewhere where communal meals can be prepared
- Showers and toilets

4. **The needed infrastructure must be legal** (in other words, you must have permission from the legal authorities in that area to have an infrastructure in place)



5. You must be allowed to work on the land you aim to restore. **Permission by landowners or traditional users of the land must be acquired.** Restoration must be legally permitted.



6. **It must be safe for people to travel to your site and stay at your site.** This includes a solid plan for dealing with a medical emergency.



7. You must be able to pay for the building and/or upkeep of this infrastructure, the tools needed for ecosystem restoration, and the plants and/or seeds needed for restoration. **If you do not have adequate finance, Ecosystem Restoration Camps may be able to help. You can also develop revenue-generating business models that help you pay for the restoration project.** See the ERC website for some ideas.



8. **You must be willing to document your work, communicate about your work (successes and failures) and share your knowledge with the outside world.**



WHAT CAN THE ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION CAMPS MOVEMENT DO FOR YOU?

1. We can connect you to a group of experts that can help you understand the most efficient strategies to restore degraded land in your area, realise your camp infrastructure and work with volunteers. We could for example supply you with someone who can help design your camp or design your restoration plan (we will have to charge a fee for this, to cover costs for these individuals)



2. We will connect you to an international audience of people who are willing to spend time at your project and help you realise your goals. These may be long-term campers or short term campers who will be there for a certain period of time when your need for help is greatest.



3. We will place your project on our website. You can put vacancies on your page where you ask for volunteers, visitors or expert help. If you give courses at your site, you can advertise those here. ERC has thousands of people who are interested to help you. They visit our pages to see where they can go and what they can contribute.



4. ERC will communicate to the outside world about your project via social media and other media-channels.



5. We will connect you to the other Ecosystem Restoration Camps. With this connection you can learn from the other camps on how they deal with whatever issue you may be confronted with. You might also be able to trade goods and services with camps such as tools, seeds, tree-saplings, etc.



6. We will help you develop business models that sustain your project.



7. If resources at ERC allow, we will help you fund aspects of your project.



If you are willing to set up a camp, we can sign a Memorandum of Understanding that will delineate what we will do for you and how you will contribute to the movement. After the signing of this MoU, we will move forward and start to work with you!

Take part in the Restoration of the Earth. Join Ecosystem Restoration Camps.

