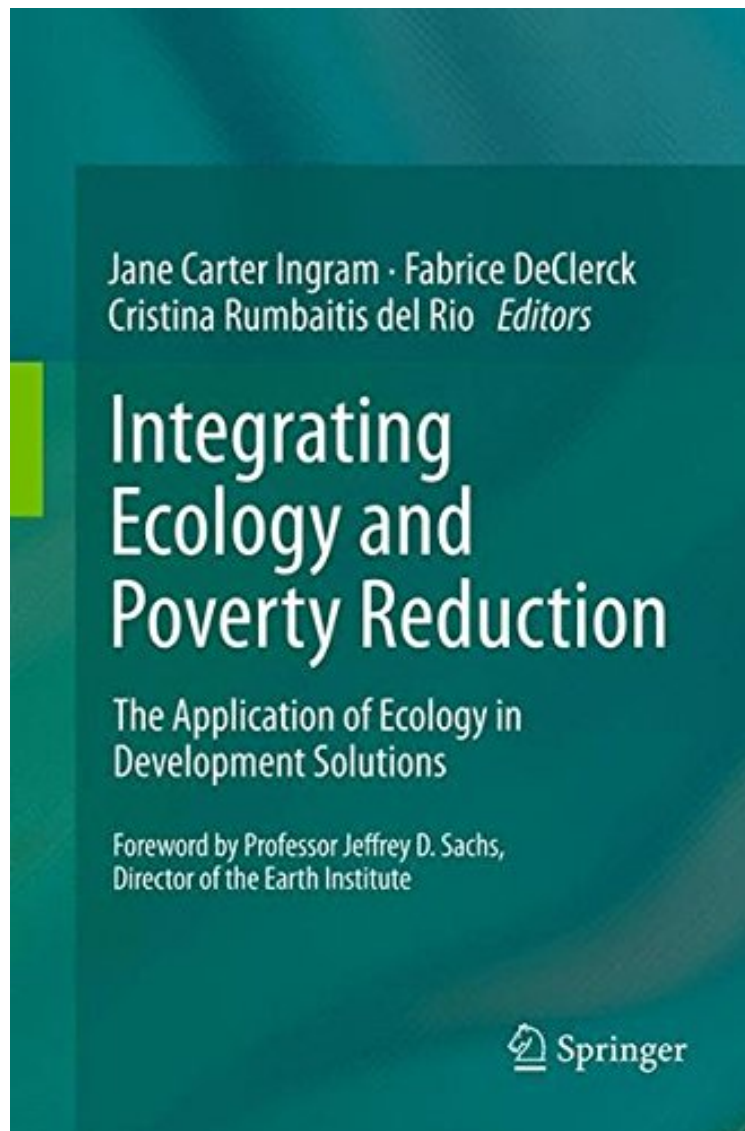


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# Integrating Ecology and Poverty Reduction: The Application of Ecology in Development Solutions

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## Ecology and Poverty Reduction: The Application of Ecology in Development Solutions:

The second volume of this series, *Integrating Ecology into Global Poverty Reduction Efforts: Opportunities and Solutions*, builds upon the first volume, *Integrating Ecology into Global Poverty Reduction Efforts: The Ecological Dimensions to Poverty*, by exploring the way in which ecological science and tools can be applied to address major development challenges associated with rural poverty. In volume 2, we explore how ecological principles and practices can be integrated, conceptually and practically, into social, economic, and political norms and processes to positively influence poverty and the environment upon which humans depend. Specifically, these chapters explore how ecological science, approaches and considerations can be leveraged to enhance the positive impacts of education, gender relations, demographics, markets and governance on poverty reduction. As the final chapter on *The future and evolving role of ecological science* points out, sustainable development must be built upon an ecological foundation if it is to be realized. The chapters in this volume illustrate how traditional paradigms and forces guiding development can be steered along more sustainable trajectories by utilizing ecological science to inform project planning, policy development, market development and decision making.

From the Back Cover *Integrating Ecology and Poverty Reduction* offers a timely assessment of the current and potential role of ecological science and tools for contributing to poverty reduction. The chapters in the first volume, *Ecological Dimensions*, address the ecological aspects of major development challenges and the contributions of ecological science to solving these problems. In the second volume, *Application of Ecology in Development Solutions*, authors address the roles and limitations of ecological science in creating long-term sustainable solutions to some of those problems and the social, economic and governance factors that mediate the implementation of these solutions. *Integrating Ecology and Poverty Reduction* is designed to illustrate the opportunities for ecological science to contribute to international development challenges and solutions; to foster new ways of thinking about the relationships between humans and the ecosystems in which they live; and to explore the tradeoffs and advantages in using an ecological approach to addressing poverty in a world of increasing population, high rates of poverty and continued ecological degradation. The issues addressed and explored by experts in ecology and international development fields will be especially relevant for students and professionals interested in the intersection of poverty reduction and environmental sustainability.

About the Editors J. Carter Ingram is the lead of the Ecosystem Services and Payments for Ecosystem Services group at the Wildlife Conservation Society in New York, NY. Fabrice DeClerck is a professor of community and landscape ecology at CATIE in Costa Rica. Cristina Rumbaitis del Rio is an Associate Director at the Rockefeller Foundation in New York, NY.

About the Author The three editors of this volume, Jane Carter Ingram, Fabrice DeClerck, and Cristina Rumbaitis del Rio, have collaborated on multiple projects addressing the role of ecology in poverty reduction and began working together at the Earth Institute of Columbia University. Their educational and professional backgrounds in ecology, geography, and sustainable development have served as the inspiration for this book and their professional pursuits. The editors hope that the issues presented and explored in this volume will serve to encourage ecological scientists and practitioners in international development fields to collaborate together to identify creative, sustainable and viable solutions to challenges preventing poverty alleviation around the world. J. Carter Ingram is the lead of the Ecosystem Services and Payments for Ecosystem Services group at the Wildlife Conservation Society in New York, NY. Cristina Rumbaitis del Rio is an Associate Director at the Rockefeller Foundation in New York, NY (USA). Fabrice DeClerck is a professor of community and landscape ecology at CATIE in Costa Rica.