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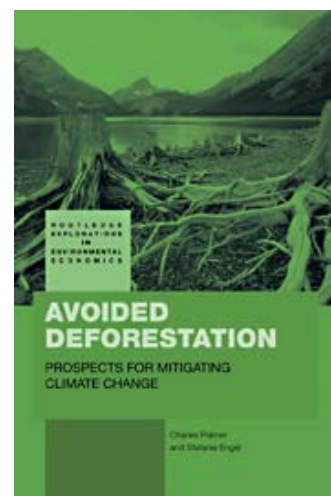
Avoided Deforestation

Prospects for Mitigating Climate Change

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Avoided deforestation can be characterized as the use of financial incentives to reduce rates of deforestation and forest degradation, with much of the focus on forests in tropical countries.



April 2009: 258pp / HB: 978-0-415-44712-6: ~~£85.00~~ £68.00 ~~€94.00~~ €75.00

While avoided deforestation, as a policy issue, is not new, the current debate in academic and policy circles on including it in future climate change mitigation strategies such as the Clean Development Mechanism is gathering pace – and this debate is only likely to intensify as negotiations continue over what should be included in the successor agreement to the Kyoto Protocol, which is set to expire in 2012.

Up until now, however, the debate in terms of the scientific and economic implications of avoided deforestation has not been brought together. This book aims to bring together important research findings in the area along with their policy implications, whilst linking avoided deforestation to political economy as well as to the latest developments in environmental and natural resource economics.

Contents: 1. Introduction: reducing CO₂ emissions through avoided deforestation? **Part 1: The Cost Effectiveness of Avoiding Deforestation** 2. The costs of avoided deforestation as a climate change mitigation option 3. Economics of avoiding deforestation 4. Assessing the economic potential for reducing deforestation in developing countries **Part 2: Policy and institutional barriers to avoided deforestation** 5. International policy and institutional barriers to reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation in developing countries 6. Reducing carbon emissions by slowing deforestation: REDD initiatives in Brazil 7. Choosing avoided deforestation baselines in the context of government failure: the case of Indonesia's plantations policy 8. Will credits from avoided deforestation in developing countries jeopardize the balance of the carbon market? **Part 3: Insights for Effective and Efficient Avoided Deforestation Policy** 9. Leakage from avoided deforestation compensation policy: concepts, empirical evidence, and corrective policy options 10. A scalable approach for setting avoided deforestation baselines 11. Human choices and policies' impacts on ecosystem services: improving evaluations of payment and park effects on conservation and carbon 12. Increasing the efficiency of forest conservation: the case of payments for environmental services in Costa Rica 13. The Role of Risk in Targeting Payments for Environmental Services 14. Prospects for Mitigating Climate Change Through avoided deforestation: conclusions and outlook.

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