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## **NEW METHODOLOGY FOR ESTABLISHING THE OPTIMAL REUSE ALTERNATIVE OF DEGRADED LANDS**

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### **Abstract**

Ecological restoration and reuse of degraded lands must contribute to the region's sustainable development. Therefore, in order to determine the post degradation land destination, a number of opportunities and restrictions should be taken into account. For this reason, it is necessary to develop a methodology for establishing the optimal reuse alternative, which should be based on scientific principles, without neglecting economic issues and those related to population requirements. For this purpose the paper is focused on several aspects regarding the restrictions that must be considered in the decision-making process, related to the attraction or dislike of the territory for different ecological restoration options (regional climate, regional topography, ecosystems and land uses, environmental risks, quality indicators of the land etc.). Thus, we developed a methodology for determining the optimal type of land rehabilitation that takes into account a number of factors and indicators and can be applied in all situations, regardless of the form or level of degradation.

*Keywords:* degraded lands, ecological restoration, indicators, land reuse, methodology

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