

WRITINGS OF THE DIALOGUE



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RESULTS BEYOND DIALOGUE





THE BRAZILIAN FORESTS DIALOGUE

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WRITINGS OF THE DIALOGUE – VOLUME 2 – ENGLISH

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THE FORESTS DIALOGUE: PLANTING
SEEDS FOR THE FUTURE.



FOREWORD

The conservation and restoration of natural environments have been a considerable challenge in Brazil and worldwide. Although there is still a long way to go and much work to be done, several initiatives involving governments and society try to face this challenge and offer different opportunities to successfully achieve the so dreamed sustainable development.

The Forests Dialogue is one of these initiatives. An unprecedented movement that brings together forest-based companies and socio-environmental organizations, in order to discuss common issues and implement joint actions in favor of the quality of life and environmental, social and economic sustainability.

Based on principles such as integration, transparency, trust, non-exclusion, proactiveness, respect for diversity and commitment, The Forests Dialogue is a privileged space to achieve concrete results in the field and, on a large scale, for the conservation of natural resources, as well as to try to advocate environmental public policies.

The publication “Results beyond Dialogue” introduces some of these results. It shows the progress already made by the National Forum and the seven Regional Forums, operating since 2005. It embodies the guidelines, agreements, manifestoes and documents which are discussed, negotiated and approved in the Forests Dialogue spaces. It lists significant complementary actions and experiences, conducted by participating organizations of the Dialogue, that are also added to its goals.

The publication also points out the guidelines for future actions of the Brazilian Forests Dialogue, which has among its priority topics the conservation and the forestry issues, tree farming programs, climate change and forests, and an important debate on forests as a development vector in the country.

In addition, the Forests Dialogue also intends to be an inspiration for new partnerships and projects that can contribute to the improvement of the relationship between society and natural resources.

Miriam Prochnow

Executive Secretary of the
Brazilian Forests Dialogue

INTRODUCTION

A TOOL AT THE SERVICE OF CONSERVATION ON PRIVATE LANDS

CARLOS ALBERTO BERNARDO MESQUITA¹

The challenges to protect the remaining biodiversity of the Atlantic Forest and to restore the ecological connectivity of fragments in some priority areas – such as Serra do Mar and Atlantic Forest Central Biodiversity Corridors – are enormous and imply difficulties proportional to the size and importance of the region. The estimate is that over 80% of forest remnants of the biome are located on private lands.

Hence, it is clear and primordial that the organizations engaged in the fight for the preservation of the Atlantic Forest develop, appropriate, try and prioritize strategies to promote the direct involvement of the private sector, represented either by large companies or small farmers, in the efforts for protection and restoration of the native forest cover in the biome.

These actions are fundamental to ensure sustainable development in the region, as far as they promote the protection and restoration of natural resources essential to the sustainable development and improvement of the quality of life of human populations, such as water, soils and the biodiversity itself.

The Convention on Biological Diversity, of which Brazil is a signatory, indicates the creation of protected areas on private lands as one of the priority strategies to reverse the process of environmental degradation and biodiversity loss on the planet. Projects aimed at planning for environmental protection on a large scale, such as ecological corridors, suggest strategies for conservation on private lands as one of the essential tools to promote re-connectivity between the remnants.

According to the dictionary, the word *dialogue* is defined as “a conversation between two or more people; conversation, discussion or exchange of ideas, opinions, concepts for the purpose of solving problems, understanding and meeting in harmony; a political discussion between representatives of two groups or nations. Communication”. This definition embodies two basic premises. The first one is that there must be differences between ideas, opinions and concepts for a dialogue to occur, that is to say, when all parties share the same ideas or have the same views and concepts there is no dialogue, only a consensus. The second makes clear that dialogues are made “for solving problems”. That is to say, when there is not a problem there is no need for a dialogue. Since the decade of 1960, thus almost 50 years ago, Brazil is a place for the implementation of large homogeneous plantations of tree species, mainly Eucalyptus and Pine, to provide raw material for pulp and paper, packaging, fiberboard and furniture industries, and



¹Forest Engineer, Director of the IBio (BioAtlântica Institute), member of the Coordination Council of The Brazilian Forests Dialogue.



TALKING ABOUT REALITY AND PROPOSING CONCRETE ACTIONS FOR THE INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY IS ONE OF THE GOALS OF THE FORESTS DIALOGUE.

to be used as a source of energy in different economic activities, particularly in steelmaking.

Originally encouraged by generous tax incentives, and subsequently fueled by the significant technological advance and the increasing market demand, Brazilian forestry has expanded and consolidated, and has been experiencing, at the beginning of the XXI century, a new time of solid expansion, bringing in its wake the socio-environmental impacts inherent to any economic activity based on the implementation of large-scale monocultures and exportation of semi-elaborated products.

Even considering that forestry currently occupies less than 6 million hectares, or 0.7% of the Brazilian territory, its effects on the economy, culture, and especially on the landscape of the regions where it is concentrated, are clear and fairly well studied.

Given this reality and the clear understanding that forestry is rapidly expanding in the country, how should

the environmentalist movement behave? Furthermore, from the companies, knowing that the awareness on the socio-environmental problems has never been higher, supported by an environmental law ranked among the most modern in the world and an increasingly demanding market, including in terms of precautions to the impacts resulting from the adopted production model and the principles of environmental responsibility, how should they act?

Environmentalists and forest-based companies enact a conflicting relationship, and it is not possible to be different since they defend interests and have worldviews which are often irreconcilable. However, with the improvement and dissemination of knowledge accelerated by globalization – not only the finances, but also the ability of social mobilization – it becomes obvious, or rather necessary, the creation of spaces for dialogue. After the unspoken conclusion that the socioeconomic development cannot dispense forestry products, and assuming that such products cannot

INTRODUCTION

be obtained by illegal means, without environmental control or social participation, the proactive dialogue option presents itself as one of the alternatives for dealing with this matter.

Bet on the possibility to identify common agendas in pursuit of collective and participatory construction of viable alternatives, means breaking paradigms and overcoming myths among environmentalists, as much as businessmen and sector professionals. Perhaps the strongest myth to overcome is the idea that to establish a dialogue it is necessary to put aside our own thoughts and concepts. This is utterly false, as taught us by the dictionary.

The other issue concerns the supposed effect that the opening of qualified spaces for dialogue would have on the image and reputation of the companies. One of the main reasons presented by those who question initiatives such as The Forests Dialogue is that these spaces serve to “clean up the image of the companies that participate in them”, since this “opening” would allow companies to pose as socially and environmentally correct. This assertion infers that the environmentalists who take part in these dialogues “automatically become hostages or supporters of the companies”.

However, if the question is based precisely on the fact that these companies cannot be considered socially and environmentally correct for simply participating in

dialogues with environmentalists, how is it possible to accuse the participating organizations of co-optation? In an open, independent, transparent and constructive dialogue, if we cannot accept that one side – companies – proclaims itself as “clean and purified” by simply being a little more open to dialogue, then why should we accuse the other side – the environmentalists – of being “dirty and contaminated”?

Another paradigm that needs to be overthrown is that the only valid space for discussing the conflicts between environmentalists and companies are the public licensing hearings. It is undeniable the importance of this space, which should be better and more frequently utilized. However, it is necessary to recognize that this is a space where conflicts of interest must be disclosed and valued under the mediation of the government, which has the prerogative of the licensing, command and control of economic activities.

In dialogue processes without the mediation of the government, despite the existence and recognition of conflicts, what is sought is the identification of points in common, proposals and projects that harmonize interests and actions. Is it difficult? Undoubtedly! However, the results achieved and the path covered so far by The Forests Dialogue demonstrate unequivocally that it is worth facing this challenge.

By no means, the strategy of the dialogue can be accused of emptying the other forms of fighting for the environment. Nevertheless, even not being a consensus, neither among the companies nor the environmentalists, The Forests Dialogue represents a new front of action, complementary to the traditional public campaigns, whether of denouncements of corporate abuses, or of advertising and marketing for them. Accustomed to only meeting in the battlefield, these sectors gradually build a new way of relating to each other.

Following clear principles – including the absolute transparency, independence and respect between the parties – by adopting methods and techniques suitable for alternative dispute resolutions, The Forests Dialogue brings in a new moment and establishes itself as a model to be adopted by other sectors of the national economy, many of which the most striking and far more conflictive than forestry.

The Brazilian Forests Dialogue files



THE DIALOGUE BETS ON IDENTIFYING COMMON AGENDAS BETWEEN THE THIRD SECTOR AND THE FORESTRY COMPANIES.



SEEKING SOLUTIONS
TO THE BIODIVERSITY
CONSERVATION IS ONE
OF THE GOALS OF THE
FORESTS DIALOGUE.

CHAPTER 1

A SUCCESSFUL INITIATIVE – THE FORESTS DIALOGUE IN BRAZIL

Five years ago began, in Brazil, an initiative to create a new way of dialogue between historically antagonistic sectors in the country: forest-based industry and nonprofit organizations.

During this period, it was possible to demonstrate that it is feasible to build a common agenda between these sectors, through clear principles such as transparency, independence and mutual respect, using appropriate methods and techniques for alternative dispute resolutions. Thus, it has managed to promote effective actions associated to forests production, broaden the scale of efforts for conservation and restoration of the environment and, at the same time, generate benefits to society in general.

The Forests Dialogue is an independent initiative that facilitates the interaction between representatives from forest-based companies and socio-environmental organizations. Established in Brazil in 2005, it is part of The Forests Dialogue, a group of international forums that brings together, since 1997, the sectors involved in key issues for the sustainable forest management and restoration of threatened ecosystems. Created to promote understanding and collaboration between these groups worldwide, this experience was conceived by organizations like The World Bank, The World Resources Institute (WRI) and The World Business Council for Sustainable Development.

In Brazil, the initiative congregates the leading forestry sector industries and non-governmental environmental organizations. It initially focused on the Atlantic Forest, one of the most biodiverse and threatened biomes on the planet, but later expanded to include the Pampa and Cerrado biomes, regions where the activity has been booming.

The large homogeneous plantations of exotic trees, especially Eucalyptus and Pine, arrived in Brazil over 50 years ago and spread throughout the country, mainly in the Atlantic Forest region. Originating respectively from Australia and different parts of America, the

Caribbean and Asia, these species have adapted and have been adapted to the conditions of the biome in Southern, Southeastern and Northeastern Brazil. They were originally brought to serve as railway sleepers, but today they are raw materials for a broad spectrum of industries such as pulp, paper, furniture parts, cleaning products, food, beverages and steel.

Currently, forestry occupies 0.7% of the Brazilian territory, an area equal to 11 times the Distrito Federal. For its size, it is a sector of undeniable economic importance, with recognized impacts on landscapes and ecosystems. It is estimated that, within ten years, more than 30% of the homogeneous plantations that supply the pulp and paper companies will be located in rural properties not owned by the companies themselves.

Over these years, in order to provide for this scenario, the companies have committed to passing on to tree farmers the guidelines and best socio-environmental practices jointly built by experts from nonprofit organizations and companies. This commitment is already practiced in the South and Extreme South of Bahia, the main forestry pole for pulp and paper in the country, and is being implemented in Parana and Santa Catarina, representing a breakthrough in terms of preservation of remnants and formation of ecological corridors.

This is only an example of the activities that are being carried out in the seven regional forums created by the Brazilian Forests Dialogue (South and Extreme South of Bahia, Rio Grande do Sul, São Paulo, Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais, Fluminense and Paraná and Santa Catarina). There are also other important agreements being implemented, such as the withdrawal of forest plantations from urban centers in Bahia, and guidelines for suitability of rural properties in Rio de Janeiro.

Pilot projects involving encouragement to the creation of ecological corridors, protected areas and incentive to other forest-based productive chains are also on the agenda of regional forums. In addition, a geo-referenced database of projects related to the Dialogue is being developed along the lines of the GeoAtlântica, a free platform for data integration in the Atlantic Forest biome and its coastal systems, which is already available on the Internet, and contains data and maps of companies in the states of Bahia, Espírito Santo and Rio de Janeiro.

All these proposals are in line with the priority themes defined in common agreement among the participants of The Brazilian Forests Dialogue. They are the tree farming programs, as a development and environmental conservation vector; the territorial planning, as an opportunity to agree land use and occupation on the landscape scale; the relationship between planted

forests, water and biodiversity; and the private protected areas, as an essential factor for the conservation.

One of the main goals of this initiative is to maintain and consolidate a space for proactive dialogue between the nonprofit sector and the forest-based companies, but also generate tangible large-scale field results for the conservation of natural resources. The group intends to propose and influence the adoption of public policies that promote the protection and sustainability of natural resources. In addition, the improved relations between the companies and the surrounding communities are an essential and recurring theme within the forums.

The Brazilian Forests Dialogue is composed by a National Forum, a Coordination Council, an Executive Secretariat and seven regional forums.



Photos: The Brazilian Forests Dialogue file.

ONE OF THE GOALS OF THE FORESTS DIALOGUE IS TO MAINTAIN AND CONSOLIDATE SPACES FOR PROACTIVE DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE THIRD SECTOR AND THE FOREST-BASED COMPANIES.

CHAPTER 2

ADVANCEMENTS – REGIONAL FORUMS COMMAND EFFECTIVE ACTIONS

One of the main strategies of The Brazilian Forests Dialogue, in its first five years of operation, was the broadening and consolidation of the seven Regional Forums that, in addition to promote the debate, seek to achieve the cooperation between socio-environmental organizations and the forest-based sector in each region.

The first one to be created was the South and Extreme South of Bahia Forests Forum, which began operating practically with The Brazilian Forests Dialogue, later in 2005. After that, it was created, in 2007, the Rio Grande do Sul Forests Forum, and, in 2008, there came the São Paulo, Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro and Paraná and Santa Catarina Forests Forums.

Each Regional Forum has a specific agenda for discussion, taking into account local peculiarities

and needs. Nevertheless, there are common themes in their agendas, such as public policies, landscape planning, territorial planning, tree farming programs and the involvement of other segments in the debates.

Although being in different stages, the regional forums show concrete results, such as holding thematic seminars, setting guidelines for the tree farming programs and forestry environmental zoning, as well as publishing documents and manifestoes and planning pilot projects in all regions.



MEETING OF THE SOUTH AND EXTREME SOUTH OF BAHIA FORESTS FORUM HELD IN TEIXEIRA DE FREITAS.

SOUTH AND EXTREME SOUTH OF BAHIA

The first one created, in 2005, the South and Extreme South of Bahia Forests Forum has the development of guidelines for the tree farming programs from the participating companies as one of its greatest contributions. Subsequently also adopted by the National Forum, these guidelines serve as reference for the others regional forums. The compliance with these guidelines by tree farmers and companies that operate in the region was assessed by an independent audit, concluded in 2010.

The South and Extreme South of Bahia Forests Forum also prioritizes two other themes: territorial planning and independent monitoring of socio-environmental impacts from forestry. Among the results of these actions, two significant agreements were obtained. The first, that deals with the route of the barges, was signed between fishermen of RESEX (Extractive Reserve) Corumbau and Veracel (a pulp & paper industry).¹ The second one was established between communities and companies, determining the recede distance of forest plantations from urban centers.² The agreement provides for a withdrawal of plantations on company-owned lands of 300 meters from urban centers and seats of municipalities, measured from the boundaries of urban expansion areas defined until August 2009, by the IBGE³ or the existing municipal master plan.

This Regional Forum is also interested in the creation of ecological corridors, through the integration of planning and actions and projects of organizations and companies, the management of eucalyptus plantations in buffer zones around fully protected areas and within Environmental Protection Areas (APAs), and the development and strengthening of local productive arrangements for the restoration of the Atlantic Forest, income generation, and viability of small community-based businesses⁴.

RIO GRANDE DO SUL

Established in 2007, the Rio Grande do Sul Forests Forum has as its main challenge to discuss the expansion of forestry in the Pampa biome, under rules and zoning that comply with the law and promote biodiversity conservation. Its priority theme is the issue of the relation between water and planted forests, as well as the discussion on the creation of protected areas in the Pampa.

This biome, which occupies 2% of the Brazilian territory and 63% of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, still has little presence in the conservation agenda and environmental law, which does not offer to the prairies the same treatment as to the forest formations. However, data from the Census of Agriculture estimated a loss of 3 million hectares from 1970 to 1996 (25% of the area), average 137.000 ha/year.

Currently, the estimated loss is greater than 200.000 hectares/year. There remains 42% of the Pampa in a reasonable state of conservation, and only 3.2% of its territory is within protected areas.

One of the challenges of this Forests Forum is to influence the government to create protected areas or to invest the environmental compensation resources from forestry⁵ in the existing ones.

¹ See page 23

² See page 23

³ Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística (The Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics)

⁴ See page 46

⁵ See page 51



SÃO PAULO

Operating since 2008, the São Paulo Forests Forum has elected as its priority themes: landscape planning, socio-environmental management and forest partnerships, and has created a specific working group for each one. For instance, the Landscape Planning Working Group is consolidating the analysis of priority areas for the implementation of joint environmental and social actions.

The São Paulo Forests Forum has also set guidelines for tree farming programs, and is defining socio-environmental guidelines that will serve as a groundwork for partnership projects of the companies.

In December 2008, the São Paulo Forum chose to prioritize the work of the “Paraíba Valley Corridor” project (Corredor do Vale do Paraíba), and is currently detailing the activities to be developed or supported.⁶ The main goal of this multi-institutional project is to restore 150,000 hectares of forests in the Paraíba Valley within 10 years, being 115,000 of them intended for the restoration of the Atlantic Forest and 35,000 of production forests for income generation. A priority action area of the São Paulo Forests Forum within the corridor will be the Mantiqueira Mountains.

The Forum will also operate in the Upper Paranapanema region, where it will prioritize the Santo Inácio River Basin.

Ana Cetina Tiburcio



MEETING OF THE SÃO PAULO FORESTS FORUM, HELD IN SÃO LUIZ DO PARAITINGA.



Miriam Prochnow

FIELD VISIT TO THE ESPÍRITO SANTO FORESTS FORUM, IN SANTA TERESA.

ESPÍRITO SANTO

The Espírito Santo Forests Forum held its first meeting in September 2008. At that time, it was established that one of the chief themes in the State would be the actions of tree farming programs by the companies. To this end, the Forum will start a land use diagnosis aimed at checking how are the eucalyptus plantations, to what purpose they are planted and how tree farming programs fit this reality. The focus is on two communities in the municipality of Santa Teresa: Aparecidinha and Valsugana Velha.

This pilot project⁷ will also propose diversification of activities on rural properties, as a way to stimulate sustainable development. Alternatively, environmental services, not only of water resources, but of biodiversity and soil conservation will be considered, as well. Another proposal is the creation of a group to assist in the development of a Municipal Plan for the Conservation and Restoration of the Atlantic Forest in Santa Teresa.

The second priority theme of the Espírito Santo Forests Forum is the creation of ecological corridors. In particular, it must be considered the ongoing initiatives on the connection, through the formation of corridors, of areas with natives remnants owned by Fibria and Suzano, in the Northern State.

⁶See page 50

⁷See page 49



**MINAS GERAIS FORESTS FORUM
HELD IN BELO HORIZONTE.**

MINAS GERAIS

The Minas Gerais Forests Forum was established in 2008, and its goal is to promote the coordination between environmental NGOs and companies whose purpose is to eliminate the use of native charcoal – one of the major causes of degradation of the Cerrado (savanna) in the State – and to take actions to conserve biodiversity. The expected result is that forest plantations be allies in the protection of biodiversity in the State of Minas Gerais.

So far, the main document produced by the Forum was the Manifesto in Support of the Production and Use of Planted Forests,⁸ intending to build a common vision between these sectors, leading to economically feasible actions and increasing the range of efforts to conserve the natural environment, generating tangible benefits to the participants of the Dialogue and to society in general.

The Forum has also been working in the exchange of information on socio-environmental actions of companies and indicators used for monitoring. The next step is to hold a seminar on the best practices in this area, besides improving the basis of technical and spatial operation of Forum members to identify opportunities for joint action in the field.

⁸ See page 25

⁹ See page 32

RIO DE JANEIRO

In operation since 2008, the Rio de Janeiro Forests Forum was created in anticipation of the impending expansion of forestry in the State. It has been a privileged forum for the exchange of information between the private initiative, public sector, academy and civil society. Among its results, there is already a State Decree⁹ that regulates forestry in small and medium-sized properties, in the State of Rio de Janeiro, passed after a one-year campaign promoted by this Forum.

The Rio de Janeiro Forests Forum currently works to support the State government in establishing a program on environmental suitability of rural properties. Among its priority issues are the production of seeds and a forest market, the increase of agility, efficiency and decentralization in the licensing process, incentives to credit, tree farming and environmental services, besides the strengthening of the environmental legislation and education.

With only 30,000 hectares of forest plantations, Rio de Janeiro does not produce enough wood to meet the demand of the State, which imports more than 90% of its consumption. Although modest, but in full development, forestry in Rio de Janeiro can become a reference for the establishment of planted and native forests mosaics. The expectation is on account of the potential use of the forest-based industry as a tool for promoting the creation of ecological corridors between the Atlantic Forest remnants.



**MEETING OF THE RIO DE JANEIRO FORESTS
FORUM IN THE CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO.**



PARANÁ AND SANTA CATARINA FORESTS FORUM VISITING AN ECOLOGICAL PATH IN CAÇADOR (SC).

PARANÁ E SANTA CATARINA

The first meeting of the Paraná and Santa Catarina Forests Forum took place in July 2008. Two groups were formed to work on the following priorities: Tree Farming Program and Landscape Planning.

To date, there were held seven general meetings of the Forum. Some results of these meetings are the establishment of guidelines for tree farming programs, which are being incorporated by the participating companies, and the creation of a database – under preparation – aiming to serve as a source of information on the participants of the Forum, as well as the basis for the achievement of joint projects of landscape planning, restoration and socio-environmental actions.

The Landscape Planning Working Group started with the primary goal of developing a pilot project. A priority area was selected for the development of projects that apply the guidelines established by the Dialogue.¹⁰

Among the challenges listed by the Paraná and Santa Catarina Forests Forum, there was highlighted the need to disseminate to companies and farmers that do not take part in this group, the importance of following the current environmental rules for the planting of exotics, including principles of sustainability in their plantations, and considering the landscape planning. There was also underscored the need to maintain the existing forest remnants, creating strategies and developing mechanisms to help in reducing deforestation, specially the remnants of Araucaria forests, where the main cause of deforestation is linked to the conversion of natural areas by small and average independent landowners.

Another concern is to bring the discussions held at the Forum for society in general, and discuss the demands of the population, trying to incorporate into the Forum a Socio-Environmental Working Group, which is in the maturing process.

¹⁰ See page 47

CHAPTER 3

RESULTS OF THE DIALOGUE – AGREEMENTS, MANIFESTOES, DOCUMENTS AND GUIDELINES

AGREEMENTS IN BAHIA

Some of the main fruits of the South and Extreme South of Bahia Forests Forum are the agreements signed or under consideration, which are changing the way companies relate to the region and its dwellers. Thus, the most advanced process is the agreement on “Withdrawal of Plantations from Urban Centers” and the “Cacao-Cabruca” one. Besides, agreements on the “Route of the Barges” and “Forestry in the buffer zones of Protected Areas” are also in the process of building.

The agreement on the Withdrawal of Plantations from Urban Centers began to be discussed when Veracel was questioned about the proximity of plantations in relation to villages, districts or structures for public use. “Our immediate reaction was: We would lose planted area!”, says Eliana Anjos, the company’s Manager of Sustainability. “The next moment, however, we realized that there was an excellent opportunity to develop social entrepreneurship, food production and multiple land use projects, with a partnership that would set people in the country, and, additionally, these people would be sharing

material values and development with us, which could result in the perception that the company’s business has also a part developed with and by them”, she adds.

According to Eliana, the agreement was settled and adopted through dialogue in the South and Extreme South of Bahia Forests Forum. As a result, in January 2010, Veracel Celulose, the municipal government of Santa Cruz Cabrália and the Residents Association of Ponto Central and Surrounding Areas signed an agreement to carry out the Agrovida Project. The proposal is to include 30 families from the community of Ponto Central and surrounding areas in a public private partnership model that ensures access to land and resources to the sustainable food production. “A legitimate demand fell in our lap and, if well developed, it will bring about the famous, sought after and hard to practice ‘win-win’ situation”, she considers.

“The Forum is helping our community a lot, because there was no dialogue with the company that operates in our area before,” says Silvanaide Porto Santos, President of the Associação de Mulheres Artesãs de Ponto Central – A.M.A. (Ponto Central’s Artisan Women Association), in Santa Cruz Cabrália. “The eucalyptus trees were planted too close to the community and, through the Regional Forum, it was

THE FIRST AGREEMENTS OF THE BRAZILIAN FORESTS DIALOGUE IN BAHIA.



Miriam Prochnow

SEE FULL TEXT CACAO CABRUCUA AGREEMENT

Pulp companies shall not set up eucalyptus plantations or purchase planted timber, whether on their own properties or on the others, in areas currently occupied, or that were occupied in 1993, by a crop model known as cacao cabruca (cacao planted in the shadow of native trees instead of underbrush) in municipalities of Southern Bahia.



Miriam Prochnow

AGREEMENT PROTECTS CACAO CABRUCÁ CROP.

decided to withdraw the plantation areas from the village and occupy the free areas with family farming”, she adds.

The Agrovida Project was conceived by Veracel as a solution to the receded areas of eucalyptus plantations nearby communities, creating opportunities for income generation. With the signing of the Agreement, the company handed an area of 64 hectares located in the neighbourhood of the urban core of the community, on a gratuitous loan regime for three years, with the possibility of renewal. Because the commitment is of exclusive use for food production, Veracel also provides farmers with technical knowledge acquired over a three-year experience of companion planting of eucalyptus trees with other agricultural crops through the Agroforestry System (SAS).

The local government of Santa Cruz Cabrália, through its Secretariat of Agriculture, provides technical

assistance to farmers, by giving seeds for planting and supporting contacts with companies of the region for the commercialization of surplus food produced. In April 2010, the Bank of the Northeast of Brazil joined the partnership to secure funding for small rural producers of the Project.

The Manager of Sustainability at Veracel says the experience has not been easy. “There are many bureaucratic hurdles and, in some cases, they are big, which requires patience and persistence. But we believe that together – company and community – we will overcome the obstacles and develop this initiative to be replicable”.

In February 2009, the Bahia Forum also signed the Cacao Cabrúca Agreement, whereby the pulp companies compromise neither to plant nor to buy planted timber in cultivation areas for cacao cabrúca.

Oscar Artaza



PAU BRASIL NATIONAL PARK.

Buffer Zones of Protected Areas and Route of the Barges

Still within this Forests Forum, there were specific agreements for a differed management in the buffer zones of protected areas (UCs), between Veracel and the Pau Brasil National Park and between Fibria and the Descobrimento National Park. "We are in the process of transforming these agreements in general guidelines that can be used by all companies, not only in the vicinity of Protected Areas, but in the surrounding areas of high aggregate value for conservation, landscape, history, culture, etc.", explains Oscar Artaza, Executive Secretary of the Bahia Forum.

Eliane Anjos tells that the premises of forestry in the buffer zones of Protected Areas arose from the operational need of Veracel regarding the plantation management in the buffer area of the Pau Brasil National Park. "Several meetings were held, and again there was the opportunity to develop something new, taking into account different aspects and giving the participants a chance to standardize and expand their knowledges, paradigms and beliefs. Once established the agreement between the company



Miriam Prochnow

FISHERMEN AND COMPANIES SET OUT AN AGREEMENT ON THE BARGES.

SEE FULL TEXT

AGREEMENT ON WITHDRAWAL FROM URBAN CENTERS

1- Plantations on company-owned lands shall be retreated 300 meters from urban centers and seats of municipalities, measured from the boundaries of urban expansion areas established in August 2009, by IBGE or the existing municipal master plan.

2- For new planting areas, they must be immediately complied with the agreed withdrawals; in areas of old plantations, the retreats of 300 meters shall be evaluated on a case by case basis, together with the local communities, and accomplished in the logging season.



3- Use and occupation of the receded areas shall be subject of a specific plan, drawn up with democratic and participatory planning methodology, enabling the local community to take part in decisions and deliberations about the social or community use of the land, besides preventing encroachments.

4- The districts of Helvécia, in the municipality of Nova Viçosa, and Ponto Central, in Santa Cruz Cabralia, shall be subject of pilot experiments in participatory planning discussed in this Agreement.

5- There shall be a minimum term of one year before the cutting, to start the development of the participatory planning on land use and occupation in the withdrawn areas.

6- There shall not be promoted new plantings within the withdrawal limits agreed upon, and there are no restrictions on old tree farming contracts.

7- The companies shall present mapping of all incidence cases of this agreement before the next meeting of the Forum. (Aracruz, Suzano and Veracel).

8- The companies responsible for the pilot experiments shall send methodology to the plenary e-mailing group for debate in the Territorial Planning Working Group.

PLANTATIONS SHALL BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE VILLAGES.

and representatives of the Park, the outcome of the process was submitted to the South and Extreme South of Bahia Forests Forum and resulted in a referential framework to deal with areas in buffer zones. The obtained gains were allocated to the environment, society and the company.”

There is also in advanced stage of negotiation an agreement for the route on the coast of the Extreme South of Bahia of the barges that carry pulp to the Port of Aracruz in Espírito Santo for Veracel, in response to demands by fishing colonies and local fishermen associations to the Forests Forum. “The fishermen requested the removal of the route for considering that it

was affecting the artisan fishing, but when we informed that this could cause problems for whales, corals, turtles and other animals, they also realized that the discussion could not be restricted to the company and fishermen, and others should be included”, Eliane remarks.

Negotiations began in November 2009, as a result of the meeting of the South and Extreme South of Bahia Forests Forum. Thereafter, several meetings were held with fishermen associations and colonies of the region, RESEX Corumbau, IBAMA (Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Resources), ICMBio (Instituto Chico Mendes), Instituto Baleia Jubarte-IBJ (Humpback Whale Institute), South and Extreme



THE DIALOGUE SEEKS AGREEMENTS TO MINIMIZE THE IMPACT OF MONOCULTURE.

South of Bahia Forests Forum, the Captaincy of Ports of Porto Seguro, Veracel and Norsul (the company responsible for the maritime transport), considering the arguments and seeking agreement and approval from each institution or legitimate representative. “As an immediate result, the company changed the route that was originally eight miles far from the coast to 10 miles, but there are ongoing joint studies and projects with the local fishermen to improve the situation”, explains the Manager of Sustainability at Veracel.

Veracel will assume the financial burden of this change, but now it has the support of the interested parts to validate the most appropriate route of the barges. The Belmonte Marine Terminal (TMB), owned by Veracel, was built with the goal of using a sustainable alternative, besides reducing costs in the outflow of production.

Through it, over one million tons/year of pulp are transported per 600 km, from Belmonte (Bahia) to the city of Aracruz (Espírito Santo). Each trip by barge represents the reduction of 384 truck journeys on BR-101 Highway. Less truck traffic on roads and less carbon emissions into the atmosphere, in the evaluation of the company.

MANIFESTO IN MINAS GERAIS

The first concrete action of the Minas Gerais Forests Forum was the Manifesto in Support of the Production and Use of Planted Forests, with Environmental, Social and Economic Responsibility. According to Dalce Ricas, Executive Superintendent at AMDA (Associação Mineira de Defesa do Ambiente), the document bears the main

philosophical foundation of the Forum, which is “the belief of the two combined sectors – environmental NGOs and companies – towards the economic and social importance of the plantations and their potential as allies in protecting biodiversity and water”.

Released in December 2009, the Manifesto expresses the opinion of the group, and was drawn from meetings held to discuss proposals and technical, political, economic and strategic considerations. For Paulo Henrique de Souza Dantas, Industrial and Forest Environment Coordinator at Cenibra (Celulose Nipo-Brasileira S.A.), the result is a document “devoid of ideologies, which objectively approaches the primary aspects related to the contribution of the planted forests sector to meet the society’s demand for timber products and environmental services. It also identifies the need for improving the legal, institutional and

political framework, which leads to the adoption of sustainable practices by those companies that failed to reach the level of excellence that characterizes the sector in Minas Gerais”.

“This is the first time that forestry companies and environmental NGOs manifest themselves together on an activity that, despite its importance, is still viewed with fear and prejudice by various sectors of society”, says Dalce. Therefore, she believes the Manifesto is a key document for the work of the Forum, which has as one of its premises the dissemination of correct information about plantations and environmental protection. “The Manifesto represents a positioning, before the society, of a vision that is being built by the participants of the Minas Gerais Forests Forum, and demonstrates the levels of maturity and professionalism that permeate the activities of the Forum,” adds Dantas.

SEE FULL TEXT

MANIFESTO IN SUPPORT OF THE PRODUCTION AND USE OF PLANTED FORESTS, WITH ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESPONSIBILITY

The Minas Gerais Forests Forum, member of the National Forests Dialogue, is an initiative that brings together forest-based companies and environmental organizations, intending to build a common vision between these sectors, leading to economically feasible actions and increasing the range of efforts to conserve the natural environment, hence generating tangible benefits to the participants of the Dialogue and to society in general.

The cultivation of planted forests in Brazil, especially in the State of Minas Gerais, represents the basis of various productive chains and has significant representativeness in the economy, comprising mainly iron and steel, pulp and paper, metal sheet, furniture parts and other wood products industries. Forest-based activities account for 4% of GDP and 8% of Brazilian exports, creating more than 4.7 million direct and indirect jobs, which demonstrates a high capacity to generate social and economic development.

The cultivation of planted forests also has a strong relationship with the national energy matrix. Firewood

and charcoal consumption represents 33% of the energy matrix of Minas Gerais and 12% of the Brazilian matrix, similar to the use of hydropower and the different uses of sugar cane energy, which respectively represent 14.9% and 15.9% of the national matrix. All of this highlights the role of planted forests in mitigating climate change.

The soil and climate conditions in Brazil favor the cultivation of planted forests and contribute to the development of different sectors of the economy. The country has large availability of underused and degraded land, which may be consigned to expand the plantations without deforestation. Allied to these conditions, the research and development activities conducted by various companies and universities have endowed the country with the most advanced wood production technology, with highly productive clones that enable further reduce the demanded area and the use of other natural resources.

It should also be noted that, within the best practices developed by companies in the sector, there are organized actions to protect biodiversity, through the preservation of

SEE FULL TEXT • CONTINUING

native forest habitats, either as protected areas recognized by the government or part of plantation mosaics areas.

Despite these advantages, Brazil and other developing countries have experienced growing shortage of wood from planted forests, evidencing the scarcity of renewable and sustainable sources. Apart from the obvious economic losses, the continuing deficit of wood from planted forests, known as “forestry blackout”, further aggravates the socio-environmental situation in the country, as far as this shortage can result in:

1. Increasing pressure through deforestation of native forests, causing emissions of greenhouse gases, harming biodiversity and creating perverse incentives for illegal and inefficient practices of charring.
2. Increasing emissions of greenhouse gases, caused by the growing participation of fossil fuels in the Brazilian energy matrix, such as coal and oil byproducts, which could be complementarily replaced by the use of renewable biomass originating in wood from planted forests, such as in heating boilers processes, electric power generation in biomass-fueled thermal power plants, and especially in the use of clean coal in steelmaking.

However, the lack of sustainable practices for timber production and use in Minas Gerais, Brazil and several countries has generated serious negative socio-environmental impacts at the local, regional and global levels, particularly with regard to the deforestation of native forests. In addition to tangible damages to the environment and society, unsustainable practices also contribute to damage the image of the sector, which is aggravated by the lack of a systematic dialogue between companies and other civil society actors. Nevertheless, Brazilian society has developed, for a long time now, several socio-environmental criteria, even by means of the applicable legislation, which allow the timber production and consumption to occur in a sustainable way, in different scales.

There are already many good examples in which the positive results are significantly highlighted, and the negative ones are properly mitigated. This becomes even more evident when comparing the activity to other sectors

or to the use of fossil energy sources. Therefore, it is essential to the debate on the sustainability of the sector to be increased, and evolves in a balanced way, having specific and widely discussed criteria as reference.

If, on the one hand, civil society has a duty to criticize corporate conducts that disregard the principle of accountability, it is also important to recognize the environmental, social and economic relevance of forest plantations and those cases in which the best practices prevail. In a democratic context, one cannot let the image of those who seek the responsible development path be damaged by those who are not guided by these values. In this regard, the greatest risk of omission is to discourage the necessary changes in the patterns of production and use, further hampering the adoption of the best practices in environmental, social and economic development.

In this context, and seeking to guide the evolution of the debate on the responsibility in the production and use of forest products, the Minas Gerais Forests Forum comes publicly to:

1. Express its support and commitment to the best practices in forest planting, in their different scales, which include compliance with the current legislation, management and mitigation of impacts on biodiversity and water resources, establishment or maintenance of native forests corridors interspersed with homogeneous stands, transparency of information and participatory engagement of the companies with the local communities.

2. Recognize that overcoming the challenges faced by the sector, the feasibility and dissemination of best practices in planted forests cultivation and the achievement of potential benefits associated with the use of planted-forest biomass as a source of clean energy, depend significantly on the implementation of the following measures, which we support:

- Restraint, through legal and market mechanisms, of production and use of wood and charcoal deriving from native forests that contribute to environmental degradation;
- Improvement of the regulatory framework and

SEE FULL TEXT • CONTINUING

development of public policies and assessment mechanisms of forestry activities, consistent with the treatment given to other socioeconomic practices that depend on the land use, such as various crops, agro-energy and the agriculture;

- Reformulation and expansion of public and private mechanisms for tree farming programs and funding, intending to facilitate and increase credit supply in accordance with the long-term dynamics, characteristic of responsible forestry undertaking for both planted and native forests;
- Incentive to the use of the Clean Development Mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol, and other carbon market instruments, as an additional source of resources to encourage the use of renewable wood and charcoal, deriving from planted forests, such as biofuels capable of replacing fossil or non-renewable sources of energy in steelmaking, as well as to implement measures to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases over the various forest-based productive chains, in an integrated way with public policies for funding to the sector;
- Inclusion of forest plantations as a source of solid (firewood and charcoal), liquid (tar) and gaseous (biogas) biofuels in public policies for energy, climate change, biodiversity, agrarian and industrial development, and in the institutional agenda of the Presidency of the Republic;
- Promotion of the involvement of organized civil society bodies, representatives of small forest producers, industry sectors and government in an honest, open and proactive dialogue for economically viable, socially equitable and environmentally balanced solutions for the future of the forest plantations in Brazil, as a renewable source of raw materials and energy;
- Dissemination of proper socio-environmental management mechanisms for forest planting activities, promoting awareness of all actors involved in the productive chain, including the different types of consumers;
- Incentive to environmental certification initiatives, as a management tool for the implementation

of continuous improvement of the social, environmental and economic conditions of forestry undertaking in Brazil, and as a valuation tool of sustainability criteria by the various consumers involved in the productive chains;

- Compliance with the current forest legislation, at the federal and state levels, especially with regard to the maintenance of the parameters and fundamental aspects concerning the currently effective permanent preservation areas (APPs) and legal reserve, devices that eventually may be better regulated to facilitate their understanding and application, ensuring the non-reduction of the environmental services they provide to society;
- Concepts of currently effective permanent preservation area (APP) and legal reserve, permission for the use of APPs in low environmental impact activities, and their addition to the legal reserve area of small properties, principles that eventually may be better regulated to facilitate their understanding and application, without changing fundamental aspects of these areas or reducing the environmental benefits they provide to society.

3. Emphasize the importance of the Minas Gerais Forests Forum as a space for the development, maintenance and consolidation of a proactive dialogue to generate positive results in the implementation of environmentally, socially and economically responsible forest plantations.

Belo Horizonte, December 3, 2009.

Associação Mineira de Defesa Ambiente - Amda; Associação Mineira de Silvicultura - AMS; Conservação Internacional - CI; Fundação Biodiversitas; Instituto Bioatlântica; Instituto Hóu; Valor Natural; Movimento Pró Rio Todos os Santos e Mucuri; Plantar S/A; Siderpa LTDA.; Arcelor Mittal Florestas; Siderúrgica Alterosa S/A; Celulose Nipo-Brasileira S/A - Cenibra.

DOCUMENT AND DECREE IN RIO DE JANEIRO

The work of the Rio de Janeiro Forests Forum is based on guidelines established in the document “Guidelines for the Preparation of a Program on Environmental Suitability of Rural Properties in Rio de Janeiro”. From this document, it works to support the state government in establishing this program.

Among the results of the Rio de Janeiro Forum, there is also the State Decree that regulates forestry in small and medium-sized properties in the State, passed after one year of the campaign promoted by this Forum.



Thadeu Melo

MEETING OF THE RIO DE JANEIRO FORESTS FORUM.

SEE FULL TEXT

GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF A PROGRAM ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUITABILITY OF RURAL PROPERTIES IN RIO DE JANEIRO

Organized as one of the seven permanent regional forums of The Forests Dialogue for the Atlantic Forest and the Pampa, the Rio de Janeiro Forests Forum has as its primary purpose the integration of efforts and the identification of common agendas between companies, environmental organizations, rural producers and public managers.

The expected result is the improvement and development of forest activities and business on a sustainable basis, promoting employment, income and foreign currency generation, coupled with the conservation and restoration of the Atlantic Forest and associated ecosystem services in the State of Rio de Janeiro.

The Forum is coordinated by the BioAtlântica Institute (IBio), Associação Profissional dos Engenheiros Florestais do Rio de Janeiro (APEFERJ), Aracruz Celulose, the Industry Federation (FIRJAN) and the Agriculture Federation (FAERJ), under the supervision and support of the Executive Secretariat and the Coordination Council of the Brazilian Forests Dialogue.

Among the priority themes chosen by the participants of the Forum for its work and influence, the environmental suitability of rural properties was considered fundamental to the development of sustainable businesses in the State. From the discussions and work dynamics carried out in three meetings (March 25, 2009, in Itaperuna;

May 20, 2009, in Nova Friburgo; August 26, 2009, in the City of Rio de Janeiro), also including the contribution of professionals and institutions in the interval between meetings, there were defined the guidelines for a large-scale environmental suitability program in the state of Rio de Janeiro, presented in this document.

As potential vectors to catalyze environmental suitability actions on rural properties (notarization and recovery of Legal Reserves-RL / protection and restoration of Permanent Preservation Areas – APP), the participants of the Forum have identified the local governments, commercial forestry and tax incentives.

To facilitate the understanding and implementation of the guidelines presented here, they were organized in four groups, being the first one related to the general guidelines, and the other ones to specific guidelines for each of the indicated potential vectors.

1. General Guidelines

1. The competent environmental agency must exert efforts to make available to landowners and local governments a high resolution digital surface, as well as remote sensing imagery and orthophotos, if available, to optimize and facilitate the allocation and demarcation processes of protected areas in rural properties, especially the

SEE FULL TEXT • CONTINUING

Permanent Preservation Areas, taking into account neighboring fragments and landscape connectivity.

2. The competent environmental agency must prepare and make available, directly or through a georeferenced database already available on the web, a georeferenced cadastre of Legal Reserves already registered.

3. The competent environmental agency must have clear and transparent procedures for the recognition and notarization of Legal Reserves, providing also the procedures for recognition of Forest Easement and Legal Reserve Quotas.

4. The state and local government agencies must hire forest engineers or forest and agronomists/ agricultural experts, directly or through agreements and technical cooperation terms, to work in the areas of rural extension and forest technical assistance.

5. To simplify at the most, within the limits required by law and legal security of the properties, the necessary requirements and methodologies to perform surveying and topographic services, allowing the use of GPS navigation systems.

6. To value and respect the capacity and discernment of the professional who assumes the Technical Responsibility for the measurement, allocation and demarcation of the Legal Reserve and Permanent Preservation Areas, once he/she may be liable, including by law, if any errors are found in his/her work.

7. To consider the rules, guidelines and definitions established by Normative Instructions 4 and 5, of September 8, 2009, both from the Ministry of Environment, that regulate the technical and methodological procedures for the use of vegetation of the Legal Reserve (RL) under sustainable management, and for restoration and recovery of APP and RL, respectively.

8. To support the proposed method of calculating a Legal Reserve, forwarded by the Fórum Permanente de Desenvolvimento Estratégico (Permanent Forum on Strategic Development) of Rio de Janeiro.

** Details of the Guideline 8: the Legal Reserve must be calculated on the total area of the property

discounting the APP area. For example, in a property with a total area of 100 (one hundred) hectares and 10 (ten) hectares of APP, the calculation of the Legal Reserve area would consider the percentage of 20% over 90 (ninety) hectares, which is thus 18 hectares.

2. Local governments

The Rio de Janeiro Forests Forum believes that local governments – which have actively participated in the meetings, especially those held in the countryside – may perform a key role in promoting and supporting the environmental suitability of rural properties located within their territory.

It also understands that the moment is particularly right for this initiative, especially given the advances and opportunities brought by the Green-ICMS (Tax on Circulation of Merchandise and Services) and the Atlantic Forest Law, which provides consolidation of an Atlantic Forest Restoration Fund supported by municipal plans of environmental conservation and recovery.

In the creation of the guidelines listed below, it was also taken into account the role of local governments along the river basin committees, and the possibility of organizing themselves into intermunicipal consortia to address the issue of protection of ecosystem services provided by forests – particularly water supply, soil protection, carbon storage and sequestration, climate amelioration and protection of natural landscapes.

The implementation of programs related to compensation measures and payment for environmental services must become clear incentives to the protection of forest remnants and the restoration of critically deforested areas, as shown by the fourth set of guidelines in this document.

Local governments, in so far as they are structured, trained and properly oriented – from technical, political and fiscal points of view – distinguish themselves among the government agencies with more influence upon the challenge of regularizing and environmentally suiting the agricultural and forestry production.

The central point of these guidelines is to recommend that the municipal secretariats of Environment and Agriculture include a properly trained multidisciplinary team, aiming to prepare local governments for licensing low-impact

SEE FULL TEXT • CONTINUING

projects for the State, receive Green-ICMS and support the establishment of Municipal Councils of Environment.

In order to do this, there are opportunities of support and resources from state and federal governments. These opportunities can proliferate with the creation of the Municipal Fund for the Environment, the municipal plan of environmental conservation and recovery (Article 38 of the Law 11.428/2006 – The Atlantic Forest Law) and other environmental management frameworks (Municipal Council, Municipal Forest Corps, etc.).

Guidelines:

- 1.** To implement a specific program on successful examples of pro-active municipal environmental management, to be disseminated to the local governments. There were identified the cases of the municipalities of Rio Claro and Resende, within the State of Rio de Janeiro, besides other programs, such as the Produtores de Água do Espírito Santo (water producers of Espírito Santo), the municipality of Extrema (MG) and the Amavi (Association of Municipalities of the Upper Itajaí River Valley) in Santa Catarina.
- 2.** To promote, in those municipalities that already have a Municipal Secretariat for the Environment, the creation of the Municipal Council of Environment with parity composition and deliberative character. To strengthen the environmental agency where it be an undersecretariat, a department or even a section, endowing it with the required structure and staff, and extending its position in the municipal organization chart, whenever possible. To create technical positions within the secretariats, consonant with the necessary qualifications for the proper execution of their assignments, including the establishment of the Municipal Forest Corps.
- 3.** To give guidance for the creation of the Municipal Fund for the Environment, demonstrating to the mayors the advantages and opportunities for the allocation of additional resources deriving from the Green-ICMS to the Fund.
- 4.** To strengthen and support training programs and activities for the staff of municipal secretariats of the Environment and Agriculture, in partnership with the Ministry of Environment, enabling them to

operate directly on the promoting actions for the environmental suitability along with the landowners, and on the guidance about their legal obligations regarding the notarization of Legal Reserve and protection/recovery of the Permanent Preservation Areas of their properties.

- 5.** To check on the situation of the environmental and agricultural policy (Municipal Law) in the municipality.
- 6.** To guide and qualify the members of the existing Municipal Councils.
- 7.** To promote coordination and cooperation between municipalities, by means of associated projects, commissions and committees and regional associations of mayors.
- 8.** To develop partnership agreements with private bodies to hold training courses for experts of producer associations, rural labor unions and agricultural cooperatives.
- 9.** To strengthen partnerships between local governments and the Programa Rio Rural of the State Secretariat of Agriculture.
- 10.** To involve municipal bodies – such as ANAMMA and AMERJ – in the strategies for implementation of the guidelines presented here.

It is worth remembering that the mere notarization of a Legal Reserve does not accredit the producer to receive benefits such as the Ecological ICMS. However, it is noteworthy the possibility of superposing a RPPN (Private Reserve of Natural Heritage) to the Legal Reserve. Thus, and depending on some advances in legislation and the Ecological ICMS State Program, qualifying these reserves to receive such benefit.

Moreover, the protected area under Legal Reserves should be seen as a further requisite among the evaluation criteria for the environmental quality of the municipalities, to calculate the index that defines the Ecological ICMS transfers.

3. Commercial forestry

The Rio de Janeiro Forests Forum understands that commercial forestry has considerable potential to serve as

SEE FULL TEXT • CONTINUING

an inducer and promoter of the environmental suitability on rural properties, insofar as:

- 1.** For the forestry licensing, it is required to restore from 12% to 16% of the Permanent Preservation Areas, besides notarizing the Legal Reserve, hence promoting environmental benefits for the production, the property and the region.
- 2.** Programs to promote commercial forestry may include, among the benefits for the landowners, technical guidance and funding for the allocation, demarcation and notarization of the Legal Reserve.
- 3.** Allows the producer to access information on procedures for requesting licensing from the environmental agency, and clarifications on environmental law, investment income and farming techniques, through lecture series.
- 4.** Can subsidize, at least in part, forest restoration costs, when necessary, by means of technical guidance and donation of raw materials (seedlings, for instance) through public or private tree farming programs.
- 5.** Enables the producer to access credit lines and facilitated funding for forestry projects.
- 6.** Promotes the use of agroforestry production systems.

4. Tax incentives and public policies

The participants of the Rio de Janeiro Forests Forum understand as tax incentives the payment for environmental services programs, credits, funds and other sources of resources. The Forum also realizes that the obligatoriness of environmental suitability of rural properties, established by the Federal Law, can become an opportunity for promoting sustainable businesses in rural areas, including the opening of possibilities in the environmental services market.

Since the access to several rural credit lines already requires from the landowner the environmental suitability of the property, and the State of Rio de Janeiro profile shows small properties, the Forum identifies, in these characteristics, two strengths between tax incentives and guidelines for environmental suitability.

Hence, the participants of the Rio de Janeiro Forests

Forum propose the following guidelines:

- 1.** Creation and structuring of the State Forest Fund, whereas the state government received permission from the Legislative Assembly to create this fund, by the State Law 3.532, of January 9, 2001. It will be necessary, however, that the regulation of this law provides and ensures the allocation of resources of this fund to finance suitability and environmental recovery activities in rural properties. An alternative, or a complementary action to the creation of this fund, would be the establishment of a specific mechanism within the FECAM (State Fund for Environmental Conservation) for the environmental suitability of rural production in the State, on a large scale, especially considering that most of the properties have less than 400 hectares.
- 2.** Preparation of a draft model of a municipal ordinance to allocate a portion of the ICMS transfers, regarding the Ecological ICMS, directly to the Municipal Fund for the Environment, including the provision for application of these resources into environmental suitability actions on rural properties.
- 3.** Utilization of the experiences of the PNF (National Forest Program) and the PENSAP (National Forestry Plan for Native Species and Agroforestry Systems), including diagnosis carried out in the North and Northeast regions, as models for the creation of a state forest program.
- 4.** Further analysis of opportunities for funding agricultural, forestry and environmental (including forest restoration) activities, currently offered by the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES), identifying those that would support, directly or indirectly, the environmental suitability of rural production in the State.
- 5.** Involvement of the river basin committees in the debate and construction of the state program for environmental suitability, proposing the allocation of specific resources to environmental suitability, forest restoration and payment for environmental services programs.
- 6.** Creation of a pilot-area (municipality, river basin, or group of municipalities or river basins) for the joint use of resources from the Ecological ICMS and/or the payment for the use of water in environmental suitability.

THE FORESTRY PRODUCTION
SCALE WAS GOVERNED BY
DECREE IN RIO DE JANEIRO.



SEE FULL TEXT

DECREE NO. 41.968 OF JULY 29, 2009.

REGULATES THE LAW NO. 5.067, OF 9 JULY, 2007, WITH REGARD TO COMMERCIAL FORESTRY ENTERPRISES, DEFINED AS SMALL AND MEDIUM-SCALE, IN THE STATE OF RIO DE JANEIRO.

THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF RIO DE JANEIRO, in the exercise of its constitutional and legal attributions, and in view of the continuing process No. E-07/500297/2009,

CONSIDERING:

- the need to regulate the Commercial Forestry activity in the STATE OF RIO DE JANEIRO,
- the need to specify the procedures to regulate the licensing of forestry enterprises already established in the State, as well as those to be established,
- the provisions of the State Law No. 5.067, of July 9, 2007, that establishes the general guidelines for the licensing of the Commercial Forestry activity statewide, and
- that it falls to the Executive Power to regulate the matter, in accordance with Article 20 of the State Law No. 5.067, of July 09, 2007,

DECREES:

Article 1 – This Decree regulates the State Law No. 5.067, of July 09, 2007, with regard to the commercial forestry in the State of Rio de Janeiro for enterprises as so defined as of small and medium-scale, establishing the criteria to be observed for the implementation of the activity.

Article 2 – Commercial forestry projects with the purpose of timber and non-timber production shall be disciplined in accordance with the disposed in this Decree, as well as other complementary principles.

Sole Paragraph – The projects referred to in the *caput* of this article shall be preferably implemented in altered, underutilized or abandoned agricultural areas, located outside the Permanent Preservation Areas, Legal Reserves and areas of Atlantic Forest remnants, as defined by the current legislation.

Article 3 – For the purposes of this Decree, the following definitions shall apply to:

I – Commercial forestry: implementing, managing and harvesting activities of forest stands, aiming at the good use and rational maintenance of the forest assets in view of the economic, ecological, scientific, social interest and the market demand;

II – Notice of Implementation of Forestry: administrative procedure by which small-scale producers declare, to the competent environmental agency, the beginning and/or the continuity of the commercial forestry activity;

III – Simplified Environmental Licensing: administrative procedure by which the environmental agency licenses, in a single stage, the localization, implementation and management of the commercial forestry activity, considering the legal and regulatory dispositions and the technical principles applicable to the case, culminating, after completing the procedure, with the issuance or refusal of the Simplified Environmental Licensing (LAS);

IV – Sustainable Forest Management: management of the forest stand to achieve economic, social and environmental benefits, respecting the mechanisms for the sustainability of the ecosystem under management, and considering, cumulatively or alternatively, the use of timber species, multiple non-timber products and byproducts, as well as the use of other forest goods and services;

V – Sustainable Forest Management Plan: basic technical document, consisted of annual operational plans, that contains guidelines and procedures for the management of the forest stand, in order to obtain economic, social and environmental benefits, observing the definition of Sustainable Forest Management;

VI – Competent Environmental Agency: direct or indirect Public Administration entity, component of the Environment National System (SISNAMA), responsible for the execution of the Environmental Policy within its sphere of competence, aiming at the protection and improvement of the environmental quality, as well as the sustainable development;

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VII – Small-Scale Enterprise: the one with planting areas framed in the Notice of Implementation of Forestry category, depending on the hydrographic region, according to the parameters defined in Article 10 of the Law 5.067/2007 and reproduced in Article 12 of this Decree;

VIII – Medium-Scale Enterprise: the one with planting areas framed in the Simplified Environmental Licensing category, depending on the hydrographic region, according to the parameters defined in Article 10 of the Law 5.067/2007 and reproduced in Article 12 of this Decree, until the limit of 200 (two hundred) hectares;

IX – Environmental Studies: are all and any studies regarding the environmental aspects related to localization, installation, operation and expansion of an activity or enterprise, presented as subsidy in the analysis of the required license, such as environmental report, environmental control plan and project, preliminary report, environmental diagnosis, management plan, plan for recovery of degraded area and preliminary risk analysis.

CHAPTER I

COMMERCIAL FORESTRY LICENSING

Article 4 – The commercial forestry, an activity that uses natural resources, shall depend on previous environmental licensing, without prejudice to any other licenses required by law.

§ 1 – The enterprises framed as of Notice of Implementation of Forestry are exempt from the environmental licensing procedures described in the *caput* of this article.

§ 2 – Are subject to the Simplified Environmental Licensing the medium-scale commercial forestry enterprises.

Article 5 – The environmental licensing procedure of the commercial forestry activity shall be of the competence of the state environmental agency, except in the cases of delegation to municipal agency or body constituent of the SISNAMA, under the specific state legislation..

Article 6 – The applicant for an environmental license must submit a document from the local government, stating that the activity complies with the applicable land use and occupation laws.

Article 7 – Projects in surrounding areas under the same ownership shall be classified according to the total of the areas, and not for each individualized area.

Article 8 – The commercial forestry projects liable to simplified environmental licensing, shall present a technical supervisor, duly qualified by CREA/RJ.

Article 9 – Applications for environmental licensing of commercial forestry enterprises shall be registered in the seat of the state environmental agency, or in its regional superintendencies, observing the parameters established by law and accompanied by the appropriate documentation, especially from the local government stating the compliance of the activity with the land use and occupation laws.

§ 1 – The applicant of enterprise framed as of Notice of Implementation of Forestry shall submit only the Form of Annex I to this Decree, duly completed and signed by the entrepreneur.

§ 2 – The applicant for Simplified Environmental Licensing shall submit the Form of Annex I, followed by the documents provided for in Annex II to this Decree.

§ 3 – Simplified Environmental Licensing projects may be submitted by the applicant at the offices of the Technical Assistance and Rural Extension Company of the State of Rio de Janeiro S.A. - EMATER-RIO, and at the State Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Fishery and Food Supply - SEAPPA, which shall immediately forward the incoming documents to the seat of the competent environmental agency, or the Regional Superintendencies, for evaluation and the necessary procedures, under the *caput* of this Article.

Article 10 – The state environmental agency shall have a maximum period of 90 (ninety) days, from the registering of the application to its issuance or refusal, to analyze the request for Simplified Environmental Licensing and may, at any time, request documents, information or formulate additional requirements, in view of the peculiarities of the activity at the local and regional levels.

SEE FULL TEXT • CONTINUING

§ 1 – The date of receipt by the state environmental agency of the necessary documents (containing the stamp, date and signature of the officer who received them), for the establishment of the administrative procedure shall be the starting date for the fulfillment of the period prescribed in the *caput* of this Article;

§ 2 – The period prescribed in the *caput* of this Article shall be suspended at every notification issued by the state environmental agency to the entrepreneur, until he/she provides the effective fulfillment of the formulated demands;

Article 11 – The validity of each Simplified Environmental Licensing shall be of a minimum of 5 (five) years, and a maximum of 10 (ten) years, as specified in the respective document, taking into account the project accomplishment schedules, the proposed constraints and the environmental characteristics of the enterprise and the area for the implementation of the activity.

§ 1 – In the renewal of the license, the competent environmental agency can, through motivated decision, increase or decrease its validity period, within the limits established in the *caput* of this Article.

§ 2 – Renewal of the license shall be required at least 120 (one hundred and twenty) days in advance from the end of its validity period, fixed in the respective license, and it shall automatically be extended until the definite manifestation of the competent environmental agency.

§ 3 – Forest plantations with a longer growth cycle, framed in the commercial forestry, shall have their licenses renewed, without cost and in an expeditious way, since proved the correct execution of the project implementation by means of technical reports.

CHAPTER II**THE SIZE OF THE ACTIVITY AND THE ESTABLISHED PARAMETERS****IN THE COMMERCIAL FORESTRY LICENSING BASED ON HYDROGRAPHIC REGIONS**

Article 12 – Commercial forestry licensing shall conform to the parameters defined in this Decree, according to

the hydrographic regions (RH) instituted by the Water Resources State Council:

I – RH-I, it shall not be allowed new commercial forestry projects in this region;

II – RH-II, notice of implementation for areas up to 20 ha, and simplified licensing – from 20 ha;

III – RH-III, notice of implementation for areas up to 50 ha, and simplified licensing – from 50 ha;

IV – RH-IV, notice of implementation for areas up to 10 ha and from 10 ha to 50 ha, depending on the altitude, and simplified licensing – from 10 ha.

V – RH-V, notice of implementation for areas up to 15 ha, and simplified licensing – from 15 ha;

VI – RH-VI, notice of implementation for areas up to 15 ha, and simplified licensing – from 15 ha;

VII – RH-VII, notice of implementation for areas up to 15 ha and from 15 ha to 50 ha, depending on the altitude, and simplified licensing – from 15 ha;

VIII – RH-VIII, notice of implementation for areas up to 20 ha, and simplified licensing – from 20 ha;

IX – RH-IX, notice of implementation for areas up to 50 ha, and simplified licensing – from 50 ha;

X – RH-X, notice of implementation for areas up to 50 ha, and simplified licensing – from 50 ha.

Article 13 – For the Hydrographic Regions (RH) IV and VII, the Notice of Implementation of Forestry and the Simplified Environmental Licensing shall be valid instruments in the combination of the altitude with the size of the forestry project area.

I – RH IV – Piabanha Hydrographic Region – Notice of Implementation of Forestry up to 800 meters altitude, with maximum area of 50 ha; above 800 meters shall be subject to Simplified Environmental Licensing, with maximum area of 10 ha.

II – RH VII – Dois Rios Hydrographic Region – Notice of Implementation of Forestry up to 800 meters altitude, with maximum area of 50 ha; above 800 meters shall be subject to Simplified Environmental Licensing, with maximum area of 15 ha.

SEE FULL TEXT • CONTINUING

CHAPTER III

NOTICE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMERCIAL FORESTRY ACTIVITY

Article 14 – For the implementation of the commercial forestry project of small-scale enterprises, upon prior Notice of Implementation of Forestry, the applicant shall submit the Form – Annex I completed and registered at the Seat or the Regional Superintendencies of the competent environmental agency or forward it electronically.

§ 1 – The application form for Notice of Implementation of Forestry shall be available at the website of the state environmental agency, and may be sent via Internet, delivered directly to the seat of the agency or its regional superintendencies;

§ 2 – The Notice of Implementation of Forestry may be submitted by the applicant at the offices of the Technical Assistance and Rural Extension Company of the State of Rio de Janeiro S.A. - EMATER-RIO, and at the State Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Fishery and Food Supply - SEAPPA, which shall immediately forward the incoming documents to the seat of the competent environmental agency or the Regional Superintendencies, for evaluation and the necessary procedures, under the *caput* of this Article.

§ 3 – The framing of the enterprise in Notice of Implementation of Forestry does not exempt the applicant from meeting the legal requirements that address the Permanent Preservation Areas and Legal Reserve.

Article 15 – Applications for Notice of Implementation of Forestry are of declaratory nature and do not generate any payment of fees.

Article 16 – The project framed in the Notice of Implementation of Forestry can be inspected by the competent environmental agency, at any time, for evaluation and verification of its conformity to the current law.

CHAPTER IV

THE MEDIUM-SCALE COMMERCIAL FORESTRY ENTERPRISES

Article 17 – The medium-scale projects liable to the

Simplified Environmental Licensing shall be accompanied by the Forest Management Plan observing, at least, the following technical principles:

- I** – characterization of the property;
- II** – schematic map of the property including permanent preservation area, legal reserve, hydrography, georeferenced project area and access statements;
- III** – Table of coordinates of the georeferenced project area;
- IV** – cutting plan containing species planted, spacing, stock, cutting/harvesting cycle, period/time of harvest and harvesting system;
- V** – silvicultural treatments, renovation of stand, if existing, and dwell time of plantations.

Article 18 – Georeferenced areas, for purposes of this Decree, may be obtained with the use of portable Global Positioning System – GPS navigation devices.

CHAPTER V

THE CONSTRAINTS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMERCIAL FORESTRY PROJECTS

Article 19 – The commercial forestry activity can only be implemented provided the following restrictions are met:

- I** – Use and occupation of areas devoid of native vegetation, since they have not suffered suppression for this purpose;
- II** – Be out of permanent preservation areas, as defined by law;
- III** – Be out of legal reserve areas;
- IV** – The planted areas shall be distant, at least, two kilometers (2 km) from the urban perimeter of the seat of the municipality with a population exceeding one hundred thousand (100,000) inhabitants, and six hundred meters (600 m) from the urban perimeter of the small towns, villages and other municipalities;

CHAPTER VI

PROTECTED AREAS OF NEW ENTERPRISES

Article 20 – In the implementation of small and medium-

SEE FULL TEXT • CONTINUING

scales commercial forestry, as well as in family-based rural properties, the permanent preservation areas shall be fully recovered as established in the current law, respecting the following criteria:

I – As a requirement for the implementation of commercial forestry, the landowner or possessor is bound to recover at least twelve percent (12%) of the area corresponding to the project in the Médio Paraíba do Sul (RH – III), Baixo Paraíba do Sul (RH – IX) and Itabapoana (RH – X) regions; and

II – As a requirement for the implementation of commercial forestry, the landowner or possessor is bound to recover at least sixteen percent (16%) of the area corresponding to the project in the Guandu (RH – II), Piabanha (RH – IV), Guanabara Bay (RH – V), Lagos and São João Basin (RH – VI), Dois Rios (RH – VII) and Macaé and Ostras (RH – VIII) regions.

§ 1 – The competent environmental agency shall set, in the scope of the licensing, all deadlines for the recovery of the areas under the *caput* of this Article.

§ 2 – The State shall promote, through the creation of forest nurseries, the supply of Atlantic Forest seedlings to foster the reforestation with native species, as provided in Article 9 of the Law No. 5.067/2007, in its Sole Paragraph.

CHAPTER VII**FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

Article 21 – The state environmental agency may sign a technical cooperation agreement with EMATERRIO and Municipal Governments to conduct inspections of the commercial forestry enterprises to be licensed, in order to obtain agility in the appraisal of projects.

Sole Paragraph – For the *caput* of this Article, the experts of the convened institution responsible for the inspection of the project cannot take part in its development/implementation.

Article 22 – The commercial forestry enterprises implemented prior to the State Law No. 5.067 of July 9, 2007, shall conform to the criteria established in this

Decree, from the date of its publication, in accordance with the following:

I – The projects framed in the Notice of Implementation of Forestry criteria shall have a period of 180 (one hundred eighty) days to file the aforesaid notification in the competent environmental agency.

II – The projects framed in the Simplified Environmental Licensing criteria shall have a period of 360 (three hundred and sixty) days to file the application for Licensing in the competent environmental agency.

Article 23 – The competent environmental agency shall publish the internal procedures necessary for compliance with the provisions of this Decree, in a maximum period of 90 (ninety) days after the date of its publication.

Article 24 – Non-compliance with the provisions of this Decree, as well as the State Law No. 5.067 of July 9, 2007, among others, shall subject transgressors to the penalties and sanctions provided in the State Law No. 3.467/2000.

Article 25 – This Decree shall enter into force upon its publication, revoking all contrary provisions.

Rio de Janeiro, July 29, 2009.
SÉRGIO CABRAL

GUIDELINES FOR TREE FARMING PROGRAMS IN BAHIA, PARANÁ AND SANTA CATARINA

One of the greatest contributions of the South and Extreme South of Bahia Forests Forum is the development of guidelines for the tree farming programs from the participating companies. Through them, the companies assumed the responsibility to ensure that the tree farmers also comply with the environmental laws and other jointly established principles.

The compliance with these guidelines by tree farmers and companies that operate in the region was assessed by an independent audit, concluded in 2010. The audit report can be accessed at <http://www.dialogoflorestal.org.br/forum-florestaldo-sul-e-extremo-sul-da-bahia/fomento-florestal/>.

Subsequently also adopted by the National Forum, these guidelines serve as reference for the other regional forums, such as the Paraná and Santa Catarina.

From the tree farming agreement established by the Bahia Regional Forum, the Paraná and Santa Catarina Forests Forum has also developed his own, with few changes, seeking to adapt the program to the local context. “The tree farming program has a very social nature in our region, where the commitment percentage to supply wood for the sponsoring company is much lower than that prevailing in other regions. Moreover, we work with a large number of tree farmers”, explains Ivone Satsuki Namikawa Fier, Forest Sustainability Manager at Klabin.

From the beginning of the Klabin’s Forestry Incentive Program (tree farming program) to the end of December 2009, there have been distributed 166 million seedlings



Miriam Prochnow



Miriam Prochnow

TREE FARMING PROPERTY IN BAHIA, THE GOAL IS TO DIVERSIFY.

in the two states, benefiting 18,000 tree farmers in 79 municipalities, resulting in 94,000 hectares of cultivated forests. To access the benefit, the applicant must comply with the environmental and labor laws. All participating companies of the Paraná and Santa Catarina Forests Forum have committed to implementing the established guidelines, taking as starting point a wide dissemination to the tree farmers.

Klabin, for instance, has published a folder on its tree farming program, with one page containing the guidelines. “Klabin’s Forestry Incentive Program (tree farming program) was adopted in 1984, and it is mandatory, in its contracts, the compliance with the items of the environmental and labor laws. Now, with the Forest Dialogue Guidelines, new items were added, such as the monitoring to be done”, says Ivone. According to her, many of the tree farmers sponsored by the company already comply with the guidelines, for these are part of

the contract items of the lines of credit from PRONAF (National Program to Strengthen Family Agriculture) and Propflora (Tree Planting and Forests Restoration Program). “For the other sponsored tree farmers, prior to the establishment of these measures, there will be used the wide dissemination of guidelines policy”, she adds.

The companies Rigesa and Adami have also published folders related to their Cooperative Forest Management Program (tree farming program), containing a specific page with the Guidelines for Tree Farming Programs.

The expectation of the Regional Forum is that the dissemination and implementation of the guidelines can improve the conservation and restoration of regional ecosystem processes, with the establishment of essential biodiversity corridors, and increase incomes in rural areas, by planting forests in idle and marginal areas of properties.

SEE FULL TEXT

TREE FARMING AGREEMENT OF THE SOUTH AND EXTREME SOUTH OF BAHIA FORESTS FORUM

- 1.** To adopt, in the new contracts and renewal of existing contracts, a classification system of land use of properties, making sure that areas classified, in the base year of 1996, as of primary and secondary vegetation in intermediate and advanced stages of regeneration, shall not be objects of tree farming contracts between companies and landowners.
- 2.** In the renewal of contracts, in finding deforestation within the property during the term of the contract, the renewal shall provide the compensation/restoration of the areas as a condition, without prejudice to other contractual penalty sanctions and current legislation.
- 3.** New plantings in the buffer zone of Integral Protection Areas and within Environmental Protection Areas, after approval of the responsible agency and in the absence of provision in their respective Management Plans, shall follow the guidelines and best practices agreed in the scope of this forum.
- 4.** To require, at the time of contracting and in the renewal of contracts, the compliance with the legislation on legal reserves in the rural property, advising landowners on the allocation and notarization of the Legal Reserve (RL) and its respective recovery plan, where applicable, giving priority to the connectivity and formation of forest corridors.
- 5.** To seek the integration of the strategies adopted by companies for the promotion of sustainable practices – including information on production techniques, diversification of land use, biodiversity conservation, the Atlantic Forest Central Corridor and other relevant issues, also seeking to integrate the participation of environmentalist organizations, farmers' associations and forest service providers in these strategies.
- 6.** To incorporate the best agricultural and environmental practices in the economic relation with forest and rural producers, with a view to the sustainable use of natural resources such as soil, water resources and local biodiversity. To use tools such as brochures, technical meetings, technical visits, others deemed suitable for this purpose.
- 7.** To monitor compliance with the environmental constraints applied to Tree Farming Programs in Bahia.
- 8.** To create mechanisms to promote forest certification to the participants in the Tree Farming Programs.
- 9.** To support activities and training and strengthening programs for the municipal agencies responsible for the licensing of forest enterprises.
- 10.** To seek, together with environmental organizations, incentive mechanisms for the recovery of degraded areas – especially the Permanent Preservation Areas-APP and Legal Reserve-RL – agreed and validated by this Forum.

SEE FULL TEXT

GUIDELINES FOR TREE FARMING PROGRAMS IN PARANÁ AND SANTA CATARINA

- 1-** To adopt, in the new contracts and renewal of existing contracts, a classification system of land use of properties, making sure that areas classified, in the base year of 1996, as of primary and secondary vegetation in intermediate and advanced stages of regeneration, shall not be objects of tree farming contracts between companies and landowners.
- 2-** In finding deforestation within the property during the term of the contract, the tree farmer shall present, at the time of its renewal, a compensation/restoration planting for the deforested areas, dutifully approved by the environmental agency.
- 3-** New plantings in the buffer zone of Integral Protection

SEE FULL TEXT • CONTINUING

Areas shall follow the current legislation, and the best practices agreed in the scope of this forum.

4- At the time of contracting and in the renewal of contracts, the compliance with the legislation on legal reserves in the rural property shall be encouraged, advising landowners on the allocation of the Legal Reserve (RL), and its respective recovery plan, where applicable, giving priority to the connectivity and formation of forest corridors.

5- To seek the integration of the strategies adopted by companies for the promotion of sustainable practices – including information on production techniques, biodiversity conservation, water resources and other relevant issues –, also seeking to integrate the participation of environmentalist organizations, farmers' associations and forest service providers in these strategies.

6- To monitor compliance with the guidelines for Tree Farming Programs in the States of Paraná and Santa Catarina.

7- To incorporate the best agricultural and environmental practices in the economic relation with forest and rural producers, with a view to the multiple and sustainable use of natural resources such as soil, water resources and local biodiversity, seeking new incentives for their implementation. To use tools such as brochures, technical meetings, visits and others deemed suitable for this purpose.

8- To encourage forest certification to the participants in the Tree Farming Programs.

9- To seek, together with environmental organizations, educational and research institutions and government agencies, incentive mechanisms for the recovery of degraded areas – especially APPs and RL – agreed and validated by this Forum.

TESTIMONY**PRACTICAL RESULT OF THE GUIDELINES FOR TREE FARMING PROGRAMS**

In 1986, when I bought this small farm, which I named Corumbau, it had a large native forest area that had already suffered exploitation of fine woods. At the time, I ended up converting only a fraction, with the permission of IBAMA, to introduce livestock activities.

Despite that deforestation in 1986, I have always taken care of water sources not to dry up the water of the property. I also have always taken care of the rest of the forest. Today, I have much more than the 20% Legal Reserve required by law and a highly productive area: I plant papaya, banana, coffee and I have a eucalyptus plantation.

Whenever I can, I tell this to my friends and neighbors. Some of them have already started to preserve and restore



Christine Dragisic

TREE FARMING PROGRAM BENEFITS GOOD PRODUCERS.

their areas. This means that it is already possible to see some changes in the region. Today, we can see toucans again, a bird species I really like. The animals are coming back, showing that we are on the right track.” José Nivaldo Pienizoli, tree farmer sponsored by Veracel, in the municipality of Itabela (BA).

TERM OF COMMITMENT IN PIAUÍ

The National Forests Dialogue has helped to articulate a series of meetings between Suzano and non-governmental organizations of Piauí concerned with the starting of the company's operations in the State, with the establishment of plantations and the opening of a plant in the Grande Teresina, a region with 16 municipalities. From these meetings, in order to avoid conflicts, a joint term of commitment containing eleven guidelines aiming at the occupation planning of areas for forestry purposes was signed by REAPI (the Environmental Network of Piauí) and Suzano.

"Our expectations are the best possible ones. We expect the company to operate respecting the environment, traditional peoples living in the surroundings of the project, and rural workers, coconut forests, the Atlantic Forest, in fact, we expect it to be an example of sustainability", said Tânia Maria dos Santos Martins, from Reapi.

Two points claimed by Reapi are still under discussion and shall be agreed by the first half of 2011. One of them is that the wood from deforestation must be destined for pottery and brickworks and local bakeries. The NGO also wants to routinely collect water from the effluent of the industry and send it to be analyzed in São Paulo, to further comparison with the analysis made by Suzano.

"This initiative is a commitment of Suzano, not only with the NGOs but the society of Piauí, and a result of an important agreement between the private sector and NGOs generated through dialogue. From this initiative, there may be born the Piauí Forests Dialogue, which is also a goal of both parties. This increasingly shows the importance of the dialogue, and that only through it we will be able to advance in the understanding and solutions to promote better socio-environmental results", said Alexandre Di Ciero, of the Sustainability Executive Management at Suzano.



Miriam Prochnow

MEETING BETWEEN SUZANO, THE ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK OF PIAUÍ AND THE ATLANTIC FOREST NGO NETWORK, IN TERESINA (PI).

SEE FULL TEXT

TERM OF COMMITMENT

Term of Commitment, agreed between Reapi and Suzano Papel e Celulose S.A., aiming at the occupation planning of areas for forestry in the reforestation modality.

Reapi, NGO – Non-Governmental Organisation of the State of Piauí, established in November 13, 2009, being a non-profit legal entity under private law, directed towards the public interest, constituted for an indefinite term, with its headquarters at Av. Presidente Kennedy, 4156, District of Socopo, CEP 64052-800, in the city of Teresina, Piauí, herein represented by Tânia Maria Martins Santos, Brazilian, hereinafter named COMPROMISED, and the incorporated juridical person Suzano Papel e Celulose S.A., with headquarters at Av. Professor Magalhães Neto, 1572, 2nd floor, rooms 206/208, in the city of Salvador, Bahia, CNPJ/MF under no. 16.404.287/0001-55, and an office in the city of Teresina – PI, at Av. Nossa Senhora de Fátima, 1557, Fátima, CEP 64048-180, CNPJ/MF under no. 16.404.287/0170-40, legitimately represented here by its assignee, Flávia Vianna Geromini, hereinafter named COMPROMISER, DECIDE to agree with this TERM OF COMMITMENT, under the following conditions, which shall complement the Environmental Impact Study of the Compromised, targeting the occupation planning of areas for forestry, and the register of the understanding between both parties through the Forests Dialogue, and aiming at better socio-environmental results, committing to:

First Clause – Conduct geosounding studies to identify the position of the groundwater table in each municipality comprised in the Middle Parnaíba Basin and in the project of the company, as foreseen in Resolution CONAMA 001/86.

Second Clause – Comply with the Atlantic Forest Law on the EIA/RIMA (environmental impact report).

Third Clause – Promote programs related to Family Agriculture, with a view to a worthy food security.

Fourth Clause – Protect the Coconut Forests, in accordance with the current laws and the incentive to job and income generation from extractive activities.

Fifth Clause – Protect the springs, rivers, streams, ponds, permanent preservation areas (APPs) and legal reserves, according to the environmental legislation.

Sixth Clause – Ensure the passage easement to pedestrians, vehicles and motorcycles in rural areas.

Seventh Clause – Carry out a mapping of tubular wells, gullies and artesian wells.

Eighth Clause – Recovery and/or restore native forests in areas of biological importance within the region of the project.

Ninth Clause – Provide Environmental Education to the involved communities, through lectures, workshops, distribution of seedlings and printed educational materials, videos, radio spot, among other means of communication to address environmental preservation.

Clause Ten – Carry out a pluviometric analysis of the regions of the project.

Clause Eleven – Support the creation of protected areas in the State.

Therefore, for being so certain and fair agreed, the committed parties sign this instrument in 3 (three) copies of equal content and form, before the 2(two) undersigned witnesses, in order to produce its legal and juridical effects.

Teresina, September 27, 2010.

INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION

An important initiative of the Brazilian Forests Dialogue was its participation in the thirteenth edition of the World Forestry Congress, from October 18 to 23, 2009, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. With more than 6,000 participants, the event was organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO) and the Argentine Government, under the theme “Forests in development: a vital balance”.

The Forests Dialogue organized a **side event**, on October 21, attended by 100 participants from various countries. At the time, Miriam Prochnow, Executive Secretary of the Dialogue, João Carlos Augusti, from Fibria, and Beto Mesquita from IBio (BioAtlântica Institute), both members of the Brazilian Dialogue Coordination Council talked about the principles, paths and prospects of the initiative, as well as the vision of the companies and environmental organizations on the subject.

During the debate with the participants, it became clear that the initiative of the Forests Dialogue should be an example to other sectors, such as agriculture and energy. The participants also underscored that the members of the Forests Dialogue must have, in their actions, increasing concern with activities for climate change mitigation in the long term.

NATIONAL PUBLICATION

Released in June 2010, the publication “Plantation Forestry and Water: science, dogmas, challenges”, by Walter de Paula Lima, Professor at Department of Forest Sciences of Luiz de Queiroz College of Agriculture (ESALQ/USP), is the first volume of the Writings of the Dialogue series, which intends to introduce the Forests Dialogue’s contributions to the debate and the conservation of biodiversity.

“The publication seeks to aggregate systematic knowledge about the relation between water resources, native vegetation and forest-based monocultures, didactically explaining the scientific basis on the different dynamics of each context”, explains Miriam Prochnow, Executive Secretary of the Brazilian Forests Dialogue. One of the most controversial points between the business sector and the environmental sector that

Giovana Baggio



THE FORESTS DIALOGUE SIDE EVENT AT THE WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS IN BUENOS AIRES.

the study attempts to clarify is whether, after all, the homogeneous tree plantations such as eucalyptus and pine are harmful to water resources.

“From the standpoint of science, the cumulative results of numerous research studies show that there is not necessarily any antagonism between one thing and another”, summarizes the Professor, author of the study. The analysis made by Walter de Paula Lima also shows that “the high productivity of these plantations is closely related to water consumption, which immediately requires that management planning takes into account this evidence, definitively incorporating the goals of water conservation in order to avoid conflicts.”

The study shows that each river basin has its own dynamics, and the availability of water is not only a matter of land use, but a number of factors including rainfalls and the management applied to plantations, homogeneous or not. Neither it is only a matter of management, for depending on water conditions in the area, sometimes not even intensive forest restoration with native species is worthwhile.



The publication is available for download at <http://www.dialogoflorestal.org.br>.

The print version can be requested by email to: secretariaexecutiva@dialogoflorestal.org.br.

SUPPORT FOREST
RESTORATION PROJECTS IS ON
THE AGENDA OF THE BRAZILIAN
FORESTS DIALOGUE.

Ángelo Lorenzetti



CHAPTER 4

CHALLENGES – ONGOING PROJECTS

ON LINE DATABASE

National Forests Dialogue

By means of a partnership between The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and IBio (BioAtlântica Institute), there was submitted, and is currently at the fundraising stage, a project for the creation of a database on geographic information for the Forests Dialogue. “The goal is to compile data from all regional forums in a single place and serve as a showcase for the forestry sector, through an online and georeferenced database on plantations, native forests, socio-environmental projects, fires, plagues, species, etc.”, explained Giovana Baggio, project coordinator.

According to Giovana, the project is based on the GeoAtlântica experience: launched in 2009, in Bahia, it is already gathering information from companies and NGOs and producing common data banks in the diverse regions of the Dialogue, aiming at the execution of joint projects. “To date, besides those involved in the GeoAtlântica, Paraná and Santa Catarina already have maps and have started the development of a pilot project, and São Paulo has begun to create a database. The idea is to include that project in this third phase of the Forests Dialogue”, she said.

The GeoAtlântica (www.bioatlantica.org.br/geoatlantica/) is a free platform for integration of georeferenced data in the Atlantic Forest biome and its coastal systems. The tool organizes information by areas of scope, allowing the conservation of natural resources with knowledge, governance and responsible economic development.

The mission of this platform is to provide georeferenced information to support decision making by society. Being self-explanatory, the system also serves to education, research and dissemination of knowledge in the Atlantic Forest.



GEOATLÂNTICA WEBPAGE.

Its constantly expanding database is powered by registered partners, among which are already some of the leading research institutions, companies, government agencies and socio-environmental organizations acting in the Atlantic Forest and its associated ecosystems.

Launched in July 2009, with over 50 public and private sources, the GeoAtlântica is administered by IBio (BioAtlântica Institute) and has the support of Conservation International, Petrobrás and The Nature Conservancy. It has scope in the States of Bahia, Espírito Santo and Rio de Janeiro.

FOREST-BASED PRODUCTIVE CHAINS

South and Extreme South of Bahia Forests Forum

The cutting of native species, including those of the Monte Pascoal and Descobrimento (Discovery) National Parks, as well as several other ecologically significant forest fragments in the South of Bahia, has been occurring up to

INITIATIVES SEEK TO CHANGE FOREST-BASED PRODUCTIVE CHAINS.



Photos: Oscar Artaza

the present day in a worrying pace. The lack of inspection, insufficient job offers and a strong buyer's market feed the craft activity and turn it into one of those responsible for the current deforestation in the region.

Through initiatives from affiliates of the South and Extreme South of Bahia Forests Forum, one seeks to change the forest-based productive chains, encouraging craftsmen to replace native wood by eucalyptus in the manufacture of wooden pieces. Currently, there are two ongoing projects to this purpose: the Artesão Legal (Legal Craftsman) and the Formas da Natureza (Forms of the Nature) projects.

The most advanced one is the Formas da Natureza, which has already conducted an economic and financial feasibility study on the replacement of native wood by eucalyptus. In its current phase, the project has started the socialization process among the craftsmen and a training on design of portfolio for new products.

The Formas da Natureza project is supported by the three companies operating in the region (Fibria, Suzano and Veracel), and its purpose is to encourage, through qualification, training and marketing processes, the

replacement of native wood by eucalyptus in the manufacture of handicrafts. At present, six communities of artisans are being involved in the project, which is a partnership between the Pataxó Crafts Cooperative of Coroa Vermelha and a consulting firm in environment (Oscar Artaza-ME).

In addition, the project is forming a partnership with the Santa Cruz State University, through the Department of Engineering, with the purpose of cooperating with the improvement of the processing, drying and treatment processes of Eucalyptus wood, in order to make this raw material more accessible and affordable for the artisans. Currently, the wood necessary for the project is being purchased from the Lyptus company, which has also been supporting the project in several ways.

DESIGNING LANDSCAPES

Paraná and Santa Catarina Forests Forum

Named "Designing Landscapes with the Forests Dialogue – Conservation and Restoration of the Atlantic Forest in

Paraná and Santa Catarina”, this pilot project has as its main objective to promote the integration of conservation and restoration of the Atlantic Forest remnants, by helping in the development of public policies, landscape planning, environmental education, and promotion of environmental services in the area of scope of the Paraná and Santa Catarina Forum, involving the local community, regional administrations, governmental and civil society organizations and forest companies.

The project shall include 11 municipalities of Santa Catarina, of the West (Passos Maia and Ponte Serrada), North (Itaiópolis, Santa Teresa, Bela Vista do Toldo, Três Barras, Canoinhas, Papanduva), Mountainous (Santa Cecília) and Itajaí Valley (Rio do Campo, Vitor Meireles) mesoregions, and a municipality located in the South-Central mesoregion of Paraná (Palmas).

These municipalities were selected during the meetings of the Forum and observed the following criteria: Permanent Preservation Areas (APPs) existing in the municipality and waiting to be restored, areas of the forestry sector and NGO activities in these municipalities, relevant forest remnants and deforestation rate according to data from 2008, SOS Mata Atlântica/Inpe¹, and native priority areas indicated by Probio² in 2006.

The actions of the project are directed to different thematic lines, involving the recovery of degraded areas; forest easement; payment for environmental services, and public policies. The pilot project is being written in conjunction with four NGOs participants of the Forum – Apremavi (Association for the Preservation of the Environment and Life), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), SPVS (Society for Wildlife Research and Environmental Education) and Mater Natura Institute for Environmental Studies – and has the support of the other participants of the Forum and the Conservation International, through the Sustainable Mosaics Project.³

Currently, the technical proposal of this pilot project is being refined, and potential funding sources to carry out the implementation of the activities are being analyzed. Besides, there are under consideration – and will be subsequently visited – civil society and governmental organizations located in the region covered by the proposal, identified as potential project partners.

THEMATIC SEMINAR

Paraná and Santa Catarina Forests Forum

The need to make public the issues discussed in the Paraná and Santa Catarina Forum, and disseminate them to companies and farmers that are not part of this collective, the importance of following the current environmental rules for the planting of exotics, including principles of sustainability in their plantations, and the landscape planning motivated the “Regional Seminar on Conservation and Restoration of the Atlantic Forest”, held on September 16, 2010, in Canoinhas (SC).

The event was attended by approximately 80 people, including students, experts and rural extension workers, secretaries of agriculture, representatives of NGOs, the third sector and rural unions.



Miriam Prochnow

PARANÁ AND SANTA CATARINA FORESTS FORUM
DISCUSSING THE AREA OF THE PILOT PROJECT.

¹Atlas of the Atlantic Forest remnants, 2005-2008 (SOS Mata Atlântica Foundation / National Institute for Space Research-INPE).

²Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity Project (Probio), of the Ministry of Environment.

³See page 55.



Miriam Prochnow

INFORMATION ON THE ATLANTIC FOREST IS PASSED ON THROUGH SEMINARS.

During the seminar, a number of lectures addressed topics such as the Forests Dialogue and the Atlantic Forest Restoration Pact⁴ as essential tools for integration between NGOs, companies, governments and research institutions in the conservation and restoration of the Atlantic Forest; forest legislation and the relation between the planting of exotic forests and the water balance of river basins; practicable modalities of payment for environmental services (PSA) such as forest easement and the Ecological ICMS; and the importance of forest certification: steps and criteria to be followed.

According to Josinei Antonio Tissi, an Engineer Agronomist from Monte Castelo (SC), “the seminar was extremely important, as lecturers with extensive experience and didactics passed on great value information on the

environmental area, and the information gathered in the meeting may be passed on to rural producers, helping in the maintenance of APP and legal reserve area. It also enabled contact making and exchange of ideas with participants from various technical areas”.

MAPPING OF PLANTING AREAS

Espírito Santo Forests Forum

Biodiversity conservation and territorial planning are the issues addressed by the Espírito Santo Forests Forum. Environmental organizations from the municipality of

⁴See page 58.

Santa Teresa, focusing on these topics, requested a survey on the forestry areas located in its territory.

The first step to start this pilot project was a visit to the municipality, in May 2009, in order to know the properties sponsored for eucalyptus cultivation and others recovered by the Civil Society of Volunteer Firefighters of Santa Teresa. The tree farming program of Fibria in the municipality encompasses 48 contracts signed with landowners, with eucalyptus plantation areas covering an average of 26 hectares, totaling 430 hectares planted.

The visit also enabled the visualization of several areas with eucalyptus plantations carried out by non-sponsored landowners, suggesting a forestry expansion scenario, which may be being implemented without proper technical and environmental rules.

The second step will be the mapping of sponsored and non-sponsored planting areas, jointly developed by IPEMA (Instituto de Pesquisas da Mata Atlântica – Institute for Research of the Atlantic Forest) and IBio (BioAtlântica Institute), including information provided by Fibria. With this activity, the Espírito Santo Forests Forum intends to contribute with information on the forestry situation in Santa Teresa, which could be used by municipal managers and experts.

According to the Secretary of the Environment of Santa Teresa, Magaly Broseghini, “the Dialogue is being very important to our region, especially because of the mapping of eucalyptus plantation areas, which will allow the forestry zoning, monitoring and directing in the municipality, in order to prevent other agricultural crops, the tourism development and the landscape of the region from being negatively affected”.

The municipality of Santa Teresa, located in the Central Mesoregion of the State of Espírito Santo, is marked by the Italian colonization, with an estimated population of 20,742 inhabitants in 2009. The first Italian immigrants arrived in the region in 1875, and the other streams of immigration, mainly formed by German, Swiss and Polish people, occurred in 1877.

Santa Teresa has one of the richest biodiversity in numbers of species in the world and is surrounded by mountains, with approximately 40% of its 694,532 km² occupied by the Atlantic Forest. The municipality is the hometown of Augusto Ruschi, one of the icons of the environment protection, and the location of the Professor Mello Leitão Biology Museum, which is a reference in researches related to the Atlantic Forest.

ECOLOGICAL CORRIDORS

São Paulo Forests Forum

The São Paulo Forests Forum has decided to act on pilot projects geared towards the creation of ecological corridors in the basins of the Paraíba do Sul and Upper Paranapanema rivers. The idea is to identify areas to be restored and priority areas for conservation, besides identifying existing studies to enhance the ongoing actions in these regions.

In the Paraíba Valley region, areas of Mantiqueira and São Luiz do Paraitinga Mountains and surroundings have been addressed to be studied. “Actions were prioritized in São Luiz do Paraitinga and surrounding area, since there is a high concentration of eucalyptus plantations in these regions, and three participating companies of the Forum are active and are already investing in environmental projects in the region”, said Marcos Fernandes da Costa, Executive Secretary of the São Paulo Forests Forum.



VISITS TO GET TO KNOW A PROPERTY IN SANTA TERESA.



Miriam Prochnow

THE CREATION OF ECOLOGICAL CORRIDORS IS THE PRIORITY OF THE SÃO PAULO FORESTS FORUM.

Within the Paraíba Valley, the Mantiqueira Mountains region has been considered as a priority area for action. “The group discusses socio-environmental actions that generate income for landowners and that are aligned with the actions of the Ecological Corridor of the Paraíba Valley Association project”, asserts Flávio Ojidos, an environmental law lawyer.

The main goal of the Ecological Corridor of the Paraíba Valley project – a partnership between various institutions such as Fibria, Ethos Institute, Tomie Otahke Institute, Oikos, SOS Mata Atlântica Foundation, among others – is to restore 150,000 hectares of forests in 10 years, being 115,000 of them intended for the recovery of the Atlantic Forest, and 35,000 of production forests for income generation. Fibria has already conducted, using data from the Forestal Institute, a mapping of the best sites for connectivity between native fragments in the region to serve as a basis for prioritizing efforts and sites to take actions.

In the Upper Paranapanema region, the Forum has decided to take action in the Santo Inácio River Basin and the surrounding area of the Carlos Botelho State Park. Possible actions, such as protection and management of endangered species, improvements in management with an environmental focus and formation of corridors are being studied for these areas.

PROTECTED AREAS

Rio Grande do Sul Forests Forum

The Rio Grande do Sul Forests Forum has defined as a priority the discussion on compensatory measures from the companies, and their focus on the creation or establishment of Protected Areas in the Pampa. According to Kathia Vasconcellos, from the Atlantic Forest NGO Network, the companies want to discuss

with the society the use of environmental compensation funds, and to ensure they will be effectively invested in the biodiversity conservation in the biome.

Therein, the three forest-based companies of the region – CMPC Celulose Riograndense, Fibria and Stora Enso – have presented, in March 2010, a diagnosis of Protected Areas (UC) in their operating areas, addressing the use of environmental compensation funds, whose value defined by the licensing agency is 0.6% of the cost to implement expansion projects or companies, with the entrepreneur determining what Protected Area will benefit from the resources.

The Forestry Environmental Zoning (ZAS) in the State of Rio Grande do Sul has established homogeneous landscape units in terms of fauna, flora and altimetry, named Natural Landscape Units (UPN), and has indicated that gaps in representativeness per UPN must be considered in the State System of Protected Areas. From there, it estimates that the ideal is to favor each UPN with the environmental compensation without diluting the investment in several areas, which would be of little effectiveness.

CMPC Celulose Riograndense has hired a team to diagnose important areas within its expansion program

in four river basins (Low Jacuí, Santa Maria, Camaquã and Vacacaí-Mirim), covering the Central Depression and the Southeast Mountain physiographic regions and part of the coast of Rio Grande do Sul. In these regions, the estimated biodiversity is over 3 thousand plant species, 385 species of birds and 90 of mammals.

The objective of the study has been to indicate which Protected Areas will be benefited or which areas are most suitable for the creation of new protected areas, with the characterization and mapping of the areas and the indication of their current land situation and conservation status.

There are four protected areas in the operating area of the company – the Camaquã, Podocarpus and Delta do Jacuí State Parks, and the Delta do Jacuí Environmental Protection Area (APA) –, as well as other areas of environmental interest for conservation, such as Butiazais de Tapes, Guaritas de Caçapava, Minas do Camaquã, Pedra do Segredo, Rincão do Inferno and Boa Vista do Lajeado Vermelho. From these, only the Delta do Jacuí State Park is implemented.

The CMPC study indicates the priority in the use of the resources in the Camaquã (municipalities of Camaquã and São Lourenço do Sul) and Podocarpus (Encruzilhada do Sul) State Parks, still not implemented. The study also shows a consensus on the importance of creating Protected Areas in the Southeast Mountain physiographic region, including native grassland areas, particularly in the Garitas (Caçapava do Sul) region and in the Boa Vista do Lajeado Vermelho region (Santana da Boa Vista).

The environmental compensation proposal of Fibria has as its database the Environmental Impact Study and Report (EIA/RIMA) on the forest implementation, created in 2006 and subsequently improved, covering 5 million hectares in two river basins – Jaguarão and Piratini-São Gonçalo-Mangueira – where 200 farms of the company are located, with 55,000 ha of plantations in a total area of 110,000 hectares.

The studies have identified significant aspects of conservation in their operating area, such as rural physiognomy or field/forest mosaic, predominant livestock management, existence of wetlands and concentration of habitat to shelter the flora and



Miriam Prochnow

A STUDY HAS INDICATED PRIORITY PROTECTED AREAS TO RECEIVE ENVIRONMENTAL COMPENSATION FUNDS.



Miriam Prochnow

COMPANIES WANT FUNDS TO BE USED TO CREATE AND IMPLEMENT PROTECTED AREAS.

fauna threatened with extinction. In this region, located in the Extreme South of the State, there is not a single Protected Area of Integral Protection effectively implemented among the existing ones: Taim Ecological Station, Mato Grande Biological Reserve (Rebio), Camaquã State Park, Farroupilhas Municipal Park; RPPNs (Private Natural Heritage Reserves) Curupira, Pontal da Barra, Estância Santa Rita, Minas do Paredão and Torrinhas.

Two areas have been indicated by Fibria for environmental compensation: the Torrinhas RPPN and the Mato Grande Rebio. The Torrinhas farm has 160 ha of representative area of rupestrian fields of the Southeast Mountain, where the company has developed a monitoring and vegetation recovery program.

Regarding the Mato Grande Rebio, the procedures for the donation from Fibria to the State, of 2,000 hectares

to implement the Protected Area, are following the legal channels. The studies also suggest the creation of the Coxilha das Pedras Altas Environmental Protection Area (APA), in a region where there are studies on developments such as aeolic parks and roads.

Studies carried out by Stora Enso, a company located at the western limits of the State, suggest environmental compensation in the Espinilho State Park, the Ibirapuitã APA and the São Donato Biological Reserve (Rebio), the latter with a State-appointed manager. In general, the Protected Areas of the region are also proclaimed and not implemented areas.

Stora Enso has a position similar to that of other companies, in order to focus the allocation of funds seeking greater effectiveness in their use, and demonstrates interest in keeping the management effort on the areas susceptible to the environmental compensation.

CHAPTER 5

ADDITIONAL INITIATIVES – EXPERIENCES THAT ADD TO THE GOALS OF THE FORESTS DIALOGUE

Besides the actions directly connected to the Forests Dialogue, there are some ongoing initiatives that count on the participation of members of the Dialogue, and share the same goal of ensuring protection and restoration of biodiversity and natural resources, having the productive sector as an ally and a transformation co-agent.

LEGAL WOODS PROGRAM

Paraná/Santa Catarina

The Legal Woods Program is a partnership between the Association for the Preservation of the Environment and Life (Apremavi) and Klabin S/A, whose goal is to

develop a program of conservation, environmental education and tree farming to help preserve and restore the native forest remnants, improve the quality of life of the population and minimize forest production impacts, taking into account the planning of properties and landscapes. The idea is to help farmers get higher income from the land already in use, so they do not need



Apremavi files

THE LEGAL WOODS PROGRAM ALSO DEVELOPS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ACTIVITIES.



VISITS TO THE PROPERTIES.

cutting the forest remnants of the properties to expand their production, besides not planting exotic species (reforestation) in Permanent Preservation Areas (APPs).

In Santa Catarina, the program shows promising results. In the first year, there were only 11 landowners involved, but that number had risen to 255 producers in late 2009. Since the beginning of the program, approximately 440,000 seedlings of native species have been donated to the involved landowners, municipalities, schools and people interested in planting native trees. In Paraná, the program has began in April 2008, and within a year of activities it had already involved 212 landowners and distributed 79,000 seedlings of native species.

Through the program, there are disseminated and implemented sustainable development actions, such as recovery of permanent preservation areas and legal reserves; forestry with native and exotic trees; agroforestry systems; build-up of secondary forests; organic agriculture; ecotourism and conservation of natural heritage. The project has edited a number of materials used for environmental education, training and information, which can be downloaded at: www.apremavi.org.br/matas-legais/publicacoes-matas-legais/.

The experts of the Program visit the properties and conduct seminars and itinerant meetings. An example are the meetings with rural producers in the Upper Itajaí Valley. One of the difficulties in working with farmers was to get them together. An adopted strategy was to hold

meetings in the homes of the farmers and community halls in the municipalities. Approximately 15 meetings were held since early 2010.

The experts of Klabin and Apremavi speak about the guidelines of the Legal Woods Program, and what can be observed, in general, is that the tree farmers won over in these meetings have a better understanding of the environmental criteria established by the forest law.

An example is the farmer Paulo da Silva, from the municipality of Rio do Campo: he produces rice, tobacco and has some milk cows. He planted eucalyptus to diversify his production and plans to plant native trees to restore degraded areas of the property.

SUSTAINABLE MOSAICS INITIATIVE

Bahia/Espírito Santo

The Sustainable Production and Biodiversity Conservation in Forest Mosaics initiative, known as The Sustainable Forest Mosaics Initiative was set up in 2007, in a partnership with Kimberly-Clark Corporation, Conservation International and the BioAtlântica Institute to develop the concept of creating sustainable mosaics at the landscape scale. Shortly after, The Nature Conservancy and the companies Suzano Papel e Celulose, Veracel Celulose and Fibria joined the initiative. It is a movement of organizations with the common goal of seeking the sustainability of forest landscapes in regions where the forest industry has a significant presence, and an initial period of five years of operation.

The initiative, which operates in collaboration with the Forests Dialogue and the South and Extreme South of Bahia Forests Forum, encompasses three different scales: local, regional and global. Its design is based on an ongoing work in one region of Brazil, while seeking to expand this model to the rest of the Atlantic Forest and other regions of the world, where forest plantations constitute an essential part of the landscape. The Forest Mosaics start from a landscape-level approach based on science, aimed at obtaining results in an area large enough to benefit a wide array of species and ecosystems.



It is organized into three components that reflect the different scales of activity:

Bahia and Espírito Santo: Forest mosaics integrated in the “Mesopotamia of Biodiversity”

Based on the previous work of the main forest-based companies in the region between the Doce and Jequitinhonha rivers (region dubbed the “Mesopotamia of Biodiversity” by the project partners), in the Atlantic Forest Central Corridor, including the Extreme South of Bahia and North of Espírito Santo, this component seeks to increase the effectiveness of the efforts to conserve biodiversity in forest plantation mosaics inserted in the corridor.

The project aims to integrate the planning and implementation of activities related to land use and conservation performed by the three pulp and paper companies (e.g., forest restoration planning, monitoring of the biodiversity, etc.); support the incorporation of conservation elements into tree farming programs; and, facilitate the creation and management of private reserves.

Atlantic Forest: Planning corridors in forest production landscapes in the biome

Drawing on the experiences of the Forests Dialogue, its members and the pioneering work in Bahia and Espírito Santo, this component seeks to extend the practice of creating sustainable forest mosaics in conservation corridors over the Atlantic Forest.

Global: Replication of the Sustainable Forest Mosaics

From the lessons learned in the Atlantic Forest – particularly in the “Mesopotamia of Biodiversity” region – and using strategies backed up by the ecological science and economics to ensure the conservation of biodiversity, this component is intended for information management to support land use and conservation planning in key areas of forest plantations. It also aims to disseminate lessons learned in Brazil and to promote exchange visits between decision-makers from the most important areas of forest plantations in the world. The planning of the pilot project of the Paraná and Santa Catarina Forum was supported by this initiative.

GOALS

The Sustainable Forest Mosaics Initiative has established an ambitious set of goals, which serve as a reference for monitoring its progress and impact. Among the expected results are:

- 250,000 hectares (ha) of natural ecosystems protected on lands of forest-based companies in the “Mesopotamia”, and forest restoration activities implemented to enhance the Atlantic Forest Central Corridor (CCMA).
- 4,000 ha of new Private Natural Heritage Reserves (RPPNs) formally established on lands owned by forest-based companies in the “Mesopotamia” region, and more than 13,000 ha of private reserves of companies in the sector using tools designed to increase the effectiveness of the management along the CCMA.
- Additional 400,000 ha of natural ecosystems of the

Atlantic Forest owned by forest-based companies or their tree farmers under protection or restoration.

- At least 3,000 ha of new RPPNs established and under effective management in the Atlantic Forest.
- Models of payment for environmental services to promote conservation in forest plantations areas, in the Atlantic Forest, developed.
- 8 (eight) large international companies in the sector engaged in the land use planning, aimed at the implementation of biodiversity friendly practices.
- 200,000 ha of biodiversity priority areas in forest landscapes under management identified for conservation around the world.
- At least 20% of new forest plantations/managed forests owned by the participating companies set aside for conservation purposes.

THE ATLANTIC FOREST RESTORATION PACT

National

The Atlantic Forest Restoration Pact is a movement organized by the Brazilian society, open to all institutions willing to support or take part in forest restoration efforts. The goal is to drive public and private institutions, governments, companies and landowners to integrate their efforts and resources on generating results in biodiversity restoration and conservation. The aim of the Pact is to enable the restoration of 15 million hectares of forests by the year 2050, within the Atlantic Forest biome.

It assumes that forest restoration is essential to help the forest recover from degradation and ensure the survival of all living organisms, including human beings. Although there are several restoration initiatives on the Atlantic Forest, the participants of the Pact believe that only a large-scale multi-sectoral campaign will allow the restoration of a significant portion of the most threatened biome in Brazil.

POTENTIAL AREA FOR RESTORATION

(IN HECTARES)

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| PARANÁ | 2,5 MILLION |
| RIO GRANDE DO SUL | 890 THOUSAND |
| SANTA CATARINA | 1,4 MILLION |
| MATO GROSSO DO SUL | 186 THOUSAND |
| ESPÍRITO SANTO | 1 MILLION |
| MINAS GERAIS | 5,6 MILLION |
| RIO DE JANEIRO | 940 THOUSAND |
| SÃO PAULO | 2 MILLION |
| ALAGOAS | 300 THOUSAND |
| BAHIA | 2,1 MILLION |
| PERNAMBUCO | 395 THOUSAND |
| TOTAL | 17,4 MILLION |

* There are unmapped areas in this first edition, because of the changing in the official Biome Limit during the mapping process, or the lack of data on the defined working scale.



Maria Luiza S. Francisco

THE PACT AIMS TO RESTORE
15 MILLION HECTARES BY 2050.

To facilitate this joint effort, experts from some of the major environmental organizations of the Atlantic Forest have convened and identified 17 million hectares of degraded areas with high potential for restoration of the vegetation cover.

In this assessment, there have been identified and mapped permanent preservation areas without native vegetation cover (riparian and hilltop forests, areas with slopes above 45°); degraded areas with low agricultural suitability and/or high forest suitability (abandoned grassland areas); and deforested areas that can be used for legal reserve compensation.

The group has also pointed out the following criteria for prioritizing these potential areas: areas close to protected areas; areas that promote connectivity between existing remnants; areas favorable to the implementation of payment for environmental services initiatives; and areas with self-restoration potential (resilience).

From this assessment, there has been created the Atlantic Forest Restoration Pact, whose mission is to integrate efforts and multiply opportunities to restore these potential areas, that together are equivalent to three times the territory of the State of Rio de Janeiro.

Besides the environmental institutions and governments, the companies and landowners are considered vital to the success of the actions of the Pact. First, because most of the areas identified as of

high potential for restoration are located in private, not public, areas. Secondly, because it is of interest to landowners that had wrongly clearcut their forests in the past to conform to the requirements of the Brazilian Forest Code, which establishes the respect for the vegetation in permanent preservation areas (APP) and legal reserve areas (RL).

The participation in the Pact is voluntary and can be performed by signing the Declaration of Adherence attached to the "Protocol of the Atlantic Forest Restoration Pact". Available on the initiative website (www.pactomataatlantica.org.br), this document details the purpose, strategies and system of management and governance of the movement.

In its implementation phase, the Steering Committee is formed by the following bodies: Golden Lion Tamarin Association (Associação Mico-Leão Dourado), Association for the Protection of the Northeast Atlantic Forest (Associação para a Proteção da Mata Atlântica do Nordeste - Amane), Conservation International (CI), SOS Mata Atlântica Foundation, Instituto Água Boa, Institute Friends of the Atlantic Forest Biosphere Reserve (IA-RBMA), BioAtlântica Institute (IBio), The Living Forest Institute, Earth Institute for Environmental Protection (Instituto Terra de Proteção Ambiental), Laboratory of Ecology and Forest Restoration (LERF), Atlantic Forest NGO Network (RMA), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), State Governments and companies.

SEVERAL PROJECTS SEEK
THE CONSERVATION AND
RESTORATION OF THE
ATLANTIC FOREST.

CHAPTER 6

THIRD PHASE – WHAT FUTURE DO WE WANT FOR THE FORESTS DIALOGUE IN BRAZIL?

Held between August 25 and 27, 2010, at the Forest Experiment Center of SOS Mata Atlântica, in Itu (São Paulo), the 7th National Forests Dialogue Meeting was the first gathering opportunity for members of the regional forums to exchange experiences and review the strategic objectives of the movement.

From its results, the third phase of the Forests Dialogue starts with more solid foundations, ongoing experiences and concrete results.

One of the main signs of this maturity in the relations between companies and environmental organizations is an indication that the participants intend to conduct a joint assessment for the Brazilian Forest Code revision. “By complying with the Forest Code, respecting the permanent preservation areas and legal reserves, the forest-based companies set the example that it is possible

to reconcile economic development and conservation of natural resources”, says Carlos Alberto Mesquita, Executive Director of the BioAtlântica Institute.

To come to this assessment, a working group concluded, in March 2011, a consensus proposal on the premise that the Forest Code needs to be updated, including advancing in mechanisms for the promotion of protection and development. The idea is to change from the “deforestation is not necessary” concept to “deforestation is bad news” and “restoration is necessary”.



Ángelo Lorenzetti

DURING THE MEETING IN ITU, THE PRIORITIES FOR THE THIRD PHASE OF THE FORESTS DIALOGUE WERE DISCUSSED.



Miriam Prochnow

LANDSCAPE PLANNING IS AMONG THE PRIORITIES FOR THE THIRD PHASE OF THE FORESTS DIALOGUE.

According to Mesquita, issues such as climate change and environmental services currently request a proactive approach and an understanding vision of forest as a vector of development. “We need a balance between command instruments-control and incentives-compensations. The revision should also not reward transgressors and disrepute those who comply with the law”.

The planning of the 3rd Phase of the Forests Dialogue has also set its new priorities of strategies:¹

PRIORITY THEMES

Conservation and Forestry

1. Mosaics and ecological corridors
2. Restoration
3. Landscape planning
 - Environmental legislation

Forest Code

1. Ecological ICMS and Payment for Environmental Services (PSA)
2. Ecological and Economic Zoning (ZEE)
 - Forests as a vector of development
 - Forests and climate change
 - Tree farming programs

Strategic Actions

- To deepen communication between the Forests Dialogue and the Regional Forums
- To promote exchange of experiences among the Forums
- To strengthen the Regional Forums
- To expand the Regional Forums to other States
- To increase fundraising
- To disseminate the Forests Dialogue in the media
- To involve other representatives of civil society
- To hold thematic seminars
- To promote exchange with other industry forums
- To discuss and propose public policies
- To maintain dialogue with the academic sector
- To maintain dialogue with the Government

¹To be validated by the Council and Steering Committee of The Forests Dialogue.

THE FUTURE OF THE DIALOGUE ACCORDING TO SOME OF ITS MEMBERS:

“ The future of the Dialogue is linked to its goals. On the side of the participating NGOs: to be able to increase the biodiversity protection through proper implementation and management of forest plantations and natural areas protected by the companies; to completely block the replacement of native vegetation with plantations, and help the forestry sector to consolidate a real image of socio-environmental responsibility. On the side of the companies: to show to society that plantations are critical to the economy of the country and people’s daily lives, and contribute to the protection of biodiversity. I make this distinction for ‘educational purposes’, because these goals are or should be for both sides. For the entities, because their members are consumers and, directly or indirectly, depend on that economic activity. For the companies, because they are also responsible for protecting life and water. ”

MARIA DALCE RICAS

Executive Superintendent of Amda
(Associação Mineira de Defesa do Ambiente)

“ I hope people realize that there are serious people behind legal entities (companies or NGOs) doing the right thing and wanting to improve the social and environmental issues of this country. I hope that the Forests Dialogue will be a positive example to be followed by other business sectors and NGOs. I hope that barriers will be broken, and everyone realizes that it is necessary to dialogue, talk, eye-to-eye contact, trust, risk, assume errors and work together. When human beings discover the power of the dialogue, there will be no more violence, social and environmental problems. The Brazilian Forests Dialogue heads in this direction. ”

KATHIA VASCONCELLOS

Atlantic Forest NGO Network

“ The Forests Dialogue is a concrete experience in exchanging ideas, understandings and transformations in the social and environmental aspects of the partner companies and institutions. The effectiveness of this initiative is also reflected by the interest of other sectors and countries in applying this instrument. I underscore one of the actions within the Dialogue, as a beneficial strategy for forest plantations: the formation of ecological corridors and forest mosaics combining native areas and monocultures. ”

JOÃO CARLOS AUGUSTI

Forest Environmental Manager
at Fibria Celulose

“ The Forests Dialogue represents a unique opportunity to promote the conservation and restoration of important ecosystems in Brazil, by means of a discussion and a joint effort of organizations in the business, environmental and social context. We hope to consolidate the pilot projects that are being regionally implemented by the Regional Forums, and will strengthen the ties between the Brazilian forestry sector and the social and environmental initiatives, through concrete actions of ecosystems restoration and establishment of important biodiversity corridors. ”

JOSÉ TOTTI

Forestry Director at Klabin

“ We believe that the role of the Forests Dialogue in the years to come should focus on four aspects: 1 – support the coordination between the Regional Forums and municipal, state and federal governments, aiming at the development of public policies to strengthen the forestry chain; 2 – a more active role in the Regional Forums and statewide (in the States where there are no forums in operation), for the resolution of environmental conflicts involving the plantations and/or installation of equipments and factories of the sector; 3 – in-depth debate on the land model; 4 – communication and appropriate dissemination of the results of the Regional Forums, through continuous updating of the website and other means. ”

OSCAR ARTAZA

Executive Secretary of the South and Extreme South of Bahia Forests Forum.

“ The Forests Dialogue has become a practical example of how to reconcile apparently divergent interests of NGOs and companies in order to conserve the natural vegetation remnants in Brazil. This example is beginning to permeate not only the forestry sector but also various sectors of agribusiness. We believe this initiative will give more and more fruits in order to positively influence society in the alignment of production according to the conservation of natural resources, and establish joint field projects which serve as ‘evidence’ that the Dialogue is much more than a debate of ideas, it is a balance to be sought by all sectors. ”

GIOVANA BAGGIO DE BRUNS

Private Land Conservation Coordinator for The Nature Conservancy

“ May the Forests Dialogue remain solid, representing an integration space between the sectors involved, being able to bring concrete results in the social, environmental and economic areas, through unity and effort of all who are part of this initiative. It is expected to see the involvement of civil society, by means of the participation of different representations through the Regional Forums, and that the Dialogue continues to be challenging to jointly seek the establishment of conservation strategies, noting the different realities and viewpoints, hence bringing benefits to all dwellers set in the Atlantic Forest and in other biomes that are part of the Dialogue. ”

EDILAINE DICK

Projects Coordinator at Apremavi – Association for the Preservation of the Environment and Life

“ Perhaps the expansion and consolidation of regional partnerships will be the main goals of the Forests Dialogue for the next year. According to a strategy already set in the first moments of the initiative, the creation of the Regional Forums is understood as a basic condition for the success of the Dialogue, since it contemplates and allows local actors to incorporate into the discussions and proposals the social, environmental and economic peculiarities from the different regions of Brazil. As important results of the Regional Forums, there are expected to occur improvements in initiatives for the conservation and recovery of regional biomes and ecosystems, through the implementation of pilot projects, funding for forest restoration and publication of scientific and technical information. It is expected thereby to strengthen the Brazilian forestry sector by recognizing its value to the national economy, and by its actions compatible with the conservation of biodiversity in large private protected areas. ”

PAULO HENRIQUE DE SOUZA DANTAS

Industrial and Forest Environment Coordinator, Department of Environment and Quality of Cenibra (Japan-Brazil Paper and Pulp Inc.)

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