



Land Use Dialogue – Espírito Santo

Scoping Dialogue - Co-chair summary

June 30, 2022

In Person – Rancho do Osmar

*Co-chairs
(Representatives present during the scoping dialogue)*

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Introduction

The Espírito Santo Forest Forum is a permanent space for discussion about forests, of consultative and deliberative nature, created in 2008, with operations throughout the state of Espírito Santo. It is represented by 20 institutions, and aims to be a democratic space for reflection, dialogue and articulation to promote synergies and inspire transformations in the relationship between forest production, ecosystem conservation and community participation. The Espírito Santo Forest Forum decided to hold a LUD in the landscape called "Conceição and Jabuti river basins", after a process of internal discussion and having elaborated three proposals. Holding the Land Use Dialogue in a "key" region of the Forum's area of action makes it possible to discuss critical themes in an integrated way in one event.

The region chosen for the Land Use Dialogue is the region of Guarapari. The region's characteristics are summarized in this document and in more details in a previously shared document, the [concept note](#). It is a region of great relevance, for its scenic beauty and for being a source of water for the public supply of the municipality of Guarapari, ES. In the context of this region, during the scoping dialogue meeting the priority landscapes were defined to be the focus of the Land Use Dialogue.

The main challenge in the landscape in question is to create dialogue channels to discuss land use practices that are appropriate to the characteristics of the region, respecting cultural values, conservation of local species, and maintenance of the recharge areas of the Conceição and Jabuti rivers.

At the same time, establishing these dialogue channels is justified in view of the challenges that have been preliminarily raised, such as possible deforestation, illegal subdivision with soil and water pollution from domestic effluents and water insecurity for public supply, among others. Furthermore, the landscape has touristic potential due to its scenic beauty.

For the context presented above, the area described was chosen as a case study for the first Land Use Dialogue in Espírito Santo. Held in Guarapari on June 30, 2022, the first stage had the participation of representatives from the productive sector and rural producers, civil society organizations, government agencies, and educational and research institutions.

The Forest Forum of Espírito Santo, CEDAGRO and the Associação Força Verde (Green Force Association) are, with the support of the Brazilian Forest Dialogue and The Forest Dialogue (TFD), the promoters of the Land Use Dialogue in the region of Guarapari, Espírito Santo.

About the Land Use Dialogue

The [Land Use Dialogue is a platform](#) with multi-stakeholder participation, with the aim of collecting knowledge and leading processes that influence responsible business, improve governance of territories and promote the inclusive development in relevant landscapes.

The Land Use Dialogue has already had several editions around the world, as in Brazil, Gana, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania. In Brazil, it was held in 2016 in the region of Alto Vale do Itajaí, in the state of Santa Catarina and in the Endemism Center of Belém.

In the Dialogue phase, there are three initiative stages as a whole:

- Scoping Dialogue;
- Field Dialogues and
- Conclusion Workshop.

Then main expected results include:

- Building of a reliability environment among local leaders;
- Promoting engagement of multiple stakeholders, including decision makers;
- Creating an environment favorable to the creation and/or development of platforms led by local actors (forums, alliances, coalition, etc.) and
- Having an impact on local and regional public policies.

Context of the municipality where the LUD will be developed

Guarapari has a population of 128,500 inhabitants (IBGE 2021). In the summer, the population of the city increases by more than 100% due to tourism. It has a territorial extension of 589,825 km², and the soil is largely used for the development of agricultural activities.

A study developed by Cedagro (2015) indicates that there are more than 4,000 ha of permanent preservation area (Áreas de Preservação Permanente-APP, in portuguese) to be restored in the municipality, a considerable liability that corresponds to approximately 7.7% of its total area.

The hydrographic region called Guarapari is composed of a group of adjacent watersheds. Preliminarily, the territory delimited to be the object of this first stage of LUD comprises the geographical limits of the watersheds of the Conceição and Jabuti rivers, in the municipality of Guarapari, ES, which total approximately 13,000 ha.

Environmental characterization of the LUD landscape

The region where the landscape is located belongs to the Mata Atlântica domain, which in turn is part of the Tropical Forest biome. This landscape is inserted in the phyto-ecological domain of the dense ombrophilous forest.

Through Law No. 90/2016, the municipality of Guarapari, ES instituted the Municipal Master Plan, a basic instrument of development policy and territorial planning. The referred Law provides that the development policy aims to promote the access of citizens to the common goods of its territory and the right to the City. In the "Permanent Protection Areas and Environmental Protection Zones", there are rules regarding the alternative use of the soil, as well as limits for the development of economic activities. A significant portion of the landscape is classified as being hilly. This is a relevant condition when it comes to appropriate land use, since this can cause further erosion. The annual rainfall is approximately 1,500 mm, with 2 to 3 months of dry period concentrated in the winter.

Land use in the landscape is predominantly carried out for agricultural activities, such as coffee, pasture, among others. The tourist potential of the region is widely recognized by the residents and the population of the municipality and the metropolitan region of Vitória as a whole. At the same time the landscape is exploited by an intense informal real estate activity, through illegal land parcelling, below the minimum fraction established by law. There are reports from residents that these subdivisions occur frequently. In the landscape of interest there are no established protected areas (called conservation units in Brazil), although in Guarapari there are such protected spaces that should be considered in planning, in view of the possibility of formation and ecological corridors.

Economic and social aspects

The Gross Domestic Product per capita in 2019 in the municipality of Guarapari, ES, according to the (IBGE), was R\$18,600.78. At work, the average wage of formal workers was 1.9 minimum wages, with 25,323 people employed, which represents 20.3% of the population in the year 2019. The proportion of the population with low income is significant.

Agriculture, commerce and services are the main productive activities of the municipality. In the landscape of interest, farming, tourism, and a significant portion of leisure activities stand out.

The residents of the region corresponding to the Conceição River watershed have different levels of education. A study developed by the Ecological Association FORÇA VERDE identified that more than 60% of them do not have a complete high school education and a small part, complete college education, including post-graduates.

Objectives

The first meeting of the Land Use Dialogue in Espírito Santo was a scoping meeting (Scoping Dialogue), which had as main objectives:

1. Create dialogue channels to discuss land use practices in the landscape;

2. Determine the scale of the landscape;
3. Identify who else needs to be present on the Land Use Dialogue platform;
4. Gather information on points of convergence and collaboration (synergies) between sectors and land uses in the landscape, and on points of disagreement / fracture lines between stakeholders;
5. Possible information gaps;
6. Identify priorities for a sustainable landscape, including priority areas for resource investment, and priority actions in the defined focus region;
7. Determine whether a dialogue-based pathway exists for stakeholders to make significant progress toward achieving a shared vision on land use.

Methodology

Using the operating principles of a Land Use Dialogue, the scoping dialogue was held on June 30 and featured group work and plenary discussions. The main results are presented below.

Positive points / good land use practices in the region

The following main opportunities/positive points, and aspects that can be improved, were mentioned:

Sustainable development

- Sustainable exploitation of the landscape (forest, water resource, tourism, sports, etc.)
- Strengthening entrepreneurship / income generation
- Employment opportunity
- Payment for environmental services (Reflorestar Program, CESAN, city hall): create fund for landscape environmental restoration/regularization
- Reflorestar Program - SEAMA
- Cooperative actions among entrepreneurs
- Environmental education

Water

- Possibility of reducing water insecurity
- Flow regularization (actions)
- Involvement of AGERH (Water Resources Agency)

Restoration

- Restoration of priority areas

Engagement

- Engagement with local population and other stakeholders
- Involve local population in productive activities / local fruit market

Tourism

- Better understand the tourism potential
- Tourism and Economic Diagnosis (ADERES + FORCE GREEN).

- Existing tourism equipment / structure (vocation)
- Improve the landscaping of the horseshoe route roads
- Tourist and road signaling
- Training and qualification of local labor force
- Strong tourist potentiality
- Proximity between sea and mountains
- Diversity of attractions
- Strong gastronomy
- Exuberant natural environment

Main Challenges

A discussion was conducted with the guiding question: "What needs to be improved? What are the main challenges in the region?" after the discussion in groups, the challenges were consolidated in plenary, being the following (numbered in random order):

1. Disordered land occupation / Create conditions for orderly land parcelling / Reduced land parcelling / Disordered occupation
2. Sewage and wastewater disposal / Domestic sewage in the river / Cleaning of rivers
3. Loss of water quantity and quality / Increase water availability / Infiltration and reservoirs / Irregular water flow with floods and droughts
4. Non-compliance with environmental legislation / Illegal deforestation / Inadequate enforcement
5. Lack of government incentives for environmental practices / Environmental education
6. Convergence of stakeholders in the landscape - tourism producer, business / Engagement of local residents
7. Rural insecurity
8. Lack of scenic landscaping along roads
9. Lack of union among public authorities, businessmen, and communities
10. Improvement and expansion of lodging services

The following were defined as priority challenges by the group:

- Disordered occupation of the territory / Create conditions for orderly land parcelling / Reduced land parcelling / Disordered occupation
- Sewage and wastewater disposal / Domestic sewage in the river / Cleaning of rivers
- Loss of water quantity and quality / Increase water availability / Infiltration and reserves / Irregular water flow with floods and droughts

Priority Landscape

The scale of the LUD's focus landscape was discussed. There was talk about the interest of other communities from the Jucu River Basin in LUD and the possibility of focusing even more, on the Ferradura Route (Boa Esperança, Buenos Aires and São João do Jabuti communities) and/or on the Cachoeirinha community which is inside the Basin (execution of the construction of a road on the bank of the Conceição River and studies of the possibilities of dam construction). After discussion, the group opted to continue to focus on the **Conceição and Jabuti River Basins**.

Possible Information Gaps

- Lack of information by the local community about environmental aspects. The information exists, but needs to be shared.
- Lack of information for those coming from the outside: they think that everything is Buenos Aires. It is necessary to work on spreading the word about what the communities really are, it is important to rescue the history of the region.
- Lack of a demonstrative map for the region, but a guide map is being prepared to guide tourism in the region, covering Cachoeirinha, going through Buenos Aires, with 42 registered enterprises.
- Think about instituting a social network for the Rota da Ferradura, which contemplates tourism, rural tourism and agrotourism, agricultural production, culture, traditions, religion, among others.
- Lack a visual identity for the Rota da Ferradura and region.
- Cesan does water analysis, has information about water quality at the water catchment points.

How to better engage stakeholders

The plenary reported that there is a dialogue-based path to address the challenges.

a) Who else needs to be present on the Land Use Dialogue platform?

- Social leadership and community association
- Rural producers
- Sommerfruit
- Municipal government
- Basin Committee
- Idaf and Incaper
- Agerh
- Academia
- Farmers (others)
- Religious leaders

b) How best to engage stakeholders?

- Make clear the objectives of the initiative - put sub-title, and the mode of convocation to make the invitation clearer and more attractive.
- Communicate that this is not a party political initiative, make it clear that it is a political, social, and environmental action.
- Make it clear that it is not enforcement, but environmental education and monitoring

- Expose that the LUD is for the collective good and of the landscape
- Opportunity for PES on the properties
- Individual meetings
- Raising awareness via residents of the territory

Possible locations for the field dialogues

- Rota da Ferradura: tourism landmarks
- Water recharge area - Cachoeirinha community
- Water catchment points
- Limão Stream spring
- Degraded areas
- Reflorestar priority areas

Next Steps

The following next steps were suggested:

- Prepare a document of the co-leaders (this document), containing a summary of the meeting and the main discussions and results achieved so far, including the key issues identified and guidelines for a dialogue-based pathway to make significant progress towards achieving a common vision on land use;
- Define territories for conducting field dialogue;
- Determine a funding structure to fund upcoming initiatives;
- Sensitize, raise awareness and mobilize identified stakeholders;
- Conduct field dialogues.

Meeting Agenda

09h00: Welcome and introductions

09h15: Presentation of the forest dialogue, forest forum capixaba and land use dialogue

09h30: Presentation of the concept note

09h40: Formation of the discussion groups: perspectives of the interested and affected parties

09h55: Group discussions

10h35: Break

10h50: Plenary: Discussion on content presented by each Group and definition of landscape scale

11h35: What are the possible information gaps?

11h55: Plenary: Discussion on content presented by each Group and definition of landscape scale

12h25: Plenary: Stakeholder engagement

12h45: Next Steps, Closure

Support



The meeting was facilitated by Fernanda Rodrigues (Brazilian Forests Dialogue) and Frederico Raposo (CEDAGRO, Espírito Santo Forest Forum).

Lista of Participants

Name	Organization
Frederico Pereira Pinto	SEAMA - REFLORESTAR
Alcenir Rocha	Força Verde
Altamir Rodrigues Xavier Junior	VXPRIMER GASTRONOMIA
Celso Maioli Jr.	Força Verde
Elton Ferreira Da Cruz	Força Verde
Fernanda Rodrigues	Diálogo Florestal
Frederico Raposo	Cedagro
Gilmar Dadalto	Cedagro
Ismael Rodrigues de Oliveira Santos	Topo do céu
José Cirillo	Sitiantes de Boa Esperança
Lara Gomes Reis Costa	Restaurante do Ademir
Lucia Novaes	Federação de moradores de Guarapari
Mauro Dalmazo Machado	Cesan

Valquíria Sotele Vailante Simões	Rancho do Osmar
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Photographic register

