

Land Use Dialogue Pampa, Rio Grande do Sul

Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Scope Dialogue stage

January 18 - 19, online

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Introduction

The Brazilian Forests Dialogue (*Diálogo Florestal*) is a pioneering and independent initiative that facilitates interaction between representatives of companies, industry associations, civil society organizations, community groups, indigenous peoples, class associations and education, research and extension institutions. It brings together around 240 organizations in seven regional Forest Forums.

The Rio Grande do Sul Forest Forum was created in October 2007 and has addressed topics such as ecological-economic zoning, the relationship between forestry and multiple uses of water, protected areas (Atlantic Forest and Pampa biomes) and compensatory measures related to large-scale forestry enterprises in the state, in addition to the implementation of the Rural Environmental Registry (CAR, acronym in Portuguese), dispersion of pine trees and environmental monitoring. However, the Forum has been inactive since 2017.

Key regions were defined as focus of the initiative during the planning of the Land Use Dialogues in Brazil, with the Pampa biome among them. The Brazilian Forests Dialogue has initiated the articulation and organization of the Land Use Dialogue in the Pampa, together with local leaders who formed the initiative's advisory group².

Holding the Land Use Dialogue in a strategic region makes it possible to assess critical issues in an integrated manner. The state of Rio Grande do Sul, due to aspects related to the Pampa biome and its relationship with agrosilvopastoral activities, could be the right environment for the establishment of an open dialogue. Additionally, the landscape approach is an important tool to combine production and conservation. Please refer to the [concept note](#) prepared to guide the initiative.

The first stage of the Land Use Dialogue - Scope Dialogue - was carried out as an online meeting, on January 18 - 19, 2023, with the participation of representatives from the productive sector, civil society, government agencies and education and research institutions.

The main challenges related to this biome were discussed during the meeting, leading to the definition of the landscape that will be the focus of the initiative's following stages, which involve the conduction of field dialogues. The main information available, ongoing projects and

¹ Representatives of the Advisory Group. Fernanda Rodrigues is the national coordinator of the Brazilian Forests Dialogue; she facilitated and drafted the first version of this document. Eduardo Vélez participated in the event and reviewed this document; Lucilene Jacoboski also reviewed the present document.

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information gaps were also discussed. At the end of the second morning, discussions focused on whether there is a dialogue-based way forward for stakeholders to make meaningful progress towards a common vision of the landscape.

About the Land Use Dialogue

The [Land Use Dialogue \(LUD\)](#) is an initiative that allows the participation of multiple stakeholders, with the purpose of gathering knowledge and leading processes that pave the way for responsible businesses, improve the governance of territories and promote inclusive development in relevant landscapes.

Several editions of the Land Use Dialogue have already taken place around the world, including in Ghana, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania. In Brazil, the first Land Use Dialogue was held in 2016 and 2017 in the Alto Vale do Itajaí region, in Santa Catarina. In 2019, the LUD took place at the Belém Endemism Area; in 2020, in the state of Bahia and in 2021, in the state of São Paulo. In 2022, new landscape stages were carried out in Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais and Bahia.

The Land Use Dialogue comprises three main stages, as described below:

- Identification of fracture lines in forest policy;
- Search for consensus on how to resolve or accommodate differences;
- Action focused on smoothing out differences and promotion of sustainability.

The initiative comprises three stages:

- Scope Dialogue;
- Field Dialogue;
- Conclusion Workshop.

The main expected results include:

- Construction of an environment for dialogue between local leaders;
- Promotion of multi-stakeholder engagement, including decision makers;
- Creation of an environment conducive to the creation and/or promotion of platforms led by local actors (forums, alliances, coalitions, etc.); and
- Impact on local and regional public policies.

Objectives

The first meeting of the Land Use Dialogue in the Pampa was the Scope Dialogue, with the following main objectives:

1. Create a space of trust and establish channels of dialogue to discuss the landscape challenges and land use practices that are appropriate to the region.
2. Identify key areas of agreement and disagreement (fracture lines) between stakeholders;
3. Determine the scale of the landscape;
4. Identify possible information gaps;

5. Identify actors who need to be present on the Land Use Dialogue platform;
6. Identify the region selected for priority actions and the paths towards a sustainable landscape;
7. Determine if there is a dialogue-based path forward for stakeholders to make meaningful progress towards a common vision on land use.

Methodology

Using the [The Forests Dialogue](#) operating principles and the methodology available in the [LUD Guide](#), meetings were held over two mornings, and included group work and discussions in plenary. The event began with a brief presentation on the Brazilian Forests Dialogue, on the Land Use Dialogue and also on the content of the concept note.

The main results are outlined below.

Main challenges

A discussion was conducted in two groups and guided by the following question: *“Considering environmental, social and economic aspects, what are the main challenges in the context of the Pampa?”*

Subsequently, the following challenges were consolidated in plenary (in no order of relevance):

- Assign value to environmental assets in such a way that the opportunity value is sufficient to avoid conversion. PES payments for sustainable livestock farming in native Pampa grasslands / Benefits for Pampa conservation efforts.
- Assign value to Pampa cattle and sheep production.
- Assign value to the bioeconomy. Products and by-products (wool, milk, meat...): labels of origin, quality, sustainable origin, designation, etc. / Assign value to sustainable production chains in the Pampa.
- Harmonize the understanding of applicable legislation to support compliance with the environmental legislation in force / Implementation of the Forest Code and CAR, particularly Legal Reserves.
- Effective regularization and protection of traditional territories.
- Adoption of inspection actions by the competent bodies, focused on the illegal suppression of native grasslands.
- Improve technical support.
- Resume programs of the Ministry of Regional Development / Interior of Routes and Hubs.
- Improve the livestock production chain, providing greater stability, especially to slaughterhouses. Decrease the number of intermediaries. Public policies. Guaranteed buyers.
- Improvement of land use and occupation planning in the biome (forestry zoning).
- Improve and implement economic-ecological zoning.
- Discuss expansion of the forestry sector, considering zoning and conservation criteria.
- Participation of different Pampa social actors in the construction of public policies and strategic projects with the government. Include people in the construction of the Pampa biome landscape.

- Promotion of sustainable tourism as a tool for assigning value to the traditional territories of the Pampa biome.
- Development of actions to strengthen the autonomy of communities in terms of the sustainability of their territories.
- Improvement of water quality, reservation and availability/water management/understand existing projects.
- Improvement of the restoration production chain, restoration techniques and restoration monitoring in the Pampa biome.
- Strengthen the restoration production chain in the Pampa biome (consider Local Productive Arrangements).
- Seek dialogue with the agribusiness sector, especially soy and rice producers.
- Implementation of public communication policies on native grasslands / Propose actions for dissemination and environmental education on the Pampa biome and its relevance.
- Integrate dialogue with other collectives.

Subsequently, an exercise was carried out to prioritize the challenges, resulting in the following ranking (in order of relevance):

1. Harmonize the understanding of the **applicable legislation** to support compliance with the environmental legislation in force/Implementation of the Forest Code and CAR, particularly Legal Reserves;
2. **Assign value to environmental assets** in such a way that the opportunity value is sufficient to avoid conversion. PES payments for sustainable livestock farming in native Pampa grasslands /Benefits for Pampa conservation efforts;
3. **Assign value to the bioeconomy.** Products and by-products (wool, milk, meat, honey, tourism, fruits...): labels of origin, quality, sustainable origin, designation, etc. / Assign value to sustainable production chains in the Pampa;
4. Assign value to the **sustainable livestock chain** in the Pampa;
5. Discuss **expansion of the forestry sector**, considering zoning and conservation criteria.

The importance of **restoration** was also highlighted in the context of the ranked challenges.

Priority landscape

Following the discussion of challenges and possible priority landscapes, the Serra do Sudeste region was defined by consensus as the priority landscape in the context of the Pampa.

Main information available

The table below shows the main information available (documents / studies / publications / projects) and their location/scope:

Relevant information available (documents / studies / publications) / ongoing projects	Location / Scope
MapBiomass land use and coverage maps	entire region
Priority Areas for Conservation - MMA	entire region
River Basin Plans (check which)	
Forestry zoning	
Wind power zoning	
Diagnostics of the Ecological-Economic Zoning for the state of RS	entire region
RS cartographic base	entire region
Territorial Action Plan in the Campanha Sul and Serra do Sudeste regions	https://sema.rs.gov.br/sema-lanca-plano-de-acao-territorial-nas-regioes-da-campanha-sul-e-serra-do-sudeste
Open Letter to the RS Society for the Protection of the Pampa - Guidelines and Actions for the Sustainable Use and Conservation of the Biome (<i>Coalizão pelo Pampa</i>)	https://www.mprs.mp.br/media/areas/imprensa/arquivos/08_2022_carta_aberta_coalizacao_pampa.pdf
Conservation of species-rich subtropical grasslands: traditional management vs. legal conservation requirements in primary and secondary grasslands	https://www.researchgate.net/publication/340064995_Conservation_of_species-rich_subtropical_grasslands_traditional_management_vs_legal_conservation_requirements_in_primary_and_secondary_grasslands
Project to encourage conservation management in native grasslands of the Pampa biome	https://www.sema.rs.gov.br/lancados-projetos-eolicos-que-incentivam-a-conservacao-da-biodiversidade
RS Pampa Honey Route	All municipalities in the RS Pampa with stagnant income. http://portalrotas.avaliacao.org.br/rota/rota-do-mel/polo/polo-do-mel-do-pampa-gaucho/8
Evolution and Differentiation of Agricultural Systems in Encruzilhada do Sul - RS: the contrast between small and large rural producers in the occupation of the same space	Encruzilhada do Sul municipality
Decree for the creation of the Podocarpus State Park	State Protected Area (Encruzilhada do Sul)

Degraded Area Recovery Project (PRAD) (Forestry (acacia, pine, eucalyptus - Pampa))	PE Podocarpus CMPC/SEMA
State Program for the Control of Invasive Exotic Species - Invasoras RS, established through Ordinance SEMA/FEPAM No. 14 as of May 14, 2018	Sema/RS
Ageflor Yearbook with data on forestry in the state of RS	

Possible information gaps

The following were listed as possible information gaps, particularly related to the priority challenges:

- CAR, PPA and declared legal reserves
- Land tenure situation
- Areas subject to restoration
- Restoration strategies and techniques (there are no large-scale experiences)
- Restoration indicators and monitoring
- Identification and location of actors in the restoration production chain
- Local economic flows of the different production chains (production, jobs, etc.)
- Control methods for invasive exotic species

Is there a way forward based on dialogue?

Considering the priority challenges and the scale of the landscape, discussions were held on whether there is a way forward based on dialogue to face these challenges. The response was positive, albeit with the caveats indicated below:

- Currently there is no dialogue, but it can be built;
- The majority of problems arise from the lack of dialogue;
- Engagement has been historically difficult;
- It is necessary to build relationships of trust and communicate what is being done with clarity.

Stakeholders and how best to engage them

Considering the priority challenges and the intended objectives, the following parties were listed as key stakeholders whose engagement should be sought:

- FARSUL
- Rural unions (Sindimadeira, ...)
- State Government's Agricultural Department
- Emater
- FEPAM
- FAMURS (Encruzilhada municipality)
- Municipal governments
- SEMA (Podocarpus state park manager) – Campos do Sul label
- State Government's Science and Technology Innovation Department
- State Government's Tourism Department
- Carne Premium Gaúcha label

- COMUD
- Cooperatives
- AZONASUL
- Lagoa dos Patos and Camaquã River Basin Committees
- Coalizão pelo Pampa
- Rede Sul de Restauração
- Regional Development Ministry
- Alianza del Pastizal
- PAT (Territorial Action Plan for Serra do Sudeste and Campanha)
- UFRGS
- Agaflo (small and medium producers)
- Embrapa Pelotas – Clima Temperatura
- Embrapa Bagé
- Local and traditional communities
- Operational Support Center for the Environment – Public Prosecutor’s Office (MP)
- Forest Service – Ministry of the Environment (MMA).

As a mobilization strategy in the engagement of new organizations and groups, the following suggestions were raised:

- Clearly express the objectives;
- Share this summary;
- Provide examples of results achieved with other initiatives.

Possible locations for field dialogues

A brainstorming exercise was carried out in plenary, resulting in the indication of possible locations for the next stage in the process: the field dialogues. The following locations were mentioned as potential areas where the identified priority challenges can be addressed:

- Encruzilhada do Sul (restoration area within the Podocarpus State Park)
- Piratini
- Pedras Altas
- Pinheiro Machado
- Caçapava do Sul
- Santana da Boa Vista
- Alianza del Pastizal sustainable livestock production area
- Areas covered by CMPC forest plantations, where management practices involving forest plantations combined with other ecosystem services, such as beekeeping (honey production areas) can be verified
- Field dialogues not only conducted at large forestry properties, but also at small properties.

As next steps, the advisory group will hold meetings and define the number and locations for the conduction of field dialogues.

Scope dialogue overview

Participants summarized in a few words their general impressions of the scope dialogue meeting:

- Learning opportunity;
- Very valid, but needs to attract more participants;
- Valid initiative; it is important to find new paths;
- Interesting, it's time to act and converge interests;
- Need to focus on achievable scale;
- Despite the large number and representativeness of people who were invited, more work needs to be done on engagement to actually translate into participation.

Next steps

The following next steps were outlined:

- Draft the Co-Chairs' Summary Report (this document), describing the meeting and the main discussions and results obtained so far, including the key issues identified and the guidelines for a path forward based on dialogue, enabling significant progress towards a common vision on land use;
- Define territories for the conduction of field dialogues;
- Sensitize, raise awareness and mobilize identified stakeholders;
- Carry out the field dialogues.

Meeting Agenda

January 18, 2023

09:00 am Introduction to the Land Use Dialogue – Fernanda Rodrigues.

09:25 am Presentation of concept note – Eduardo Vélez.

09:40 am Group discussions: stakeholder perspectives on key challenges / fracture lines.

10:20 am Feedback on group discussions

10:50 am Coffee break

11:05 am Ranking of identified challenges

11:25 am Landscape Scale

11:50 am Closing of 1st day

January 19, 2023

9:00 am Summary of previous day's discussions

9:10 am Group discussions. Guiding questions:

- What is the available information / ongoing projects in the defined landscape?
- What are the information gaps?

Plenary for consolidation.

10:10 am Feedback on group discussions.

10:40 am Coffee break

10:50 am Plenary: Considering the priority challenges and the landscape scale, is there a dialogue-based path forward to address the priority challenges? Who else should be involved and how best to engage stakeholders?

11:20 am Next steps: possible locations for field dialogues and action plan

11:50 am Closing of the event: sharing of impressions

Fernanda Rodrigues, national executive coordinator of the Brazilian Forests Dialogue, was responsible for facilitating the meeting and drafting the first version of the summary for review and approval by the co-leaderships.

List of Participants

The participants listed below did not necessarily express, during the meeting, the vision and position of the organizations with which they are connected.

Name	Organization
Alexandre Scheifler	Rural producers' union (FETAG)
Andres Delgado Canedo	UNIPAMPA - São Gabriel Campus
Cristina Grabher	SEMA / RS
Eduardo Vélez	ILEX Consultoria Científica
Fabio Torchelsen	Campo & Mato
Fernanda Rodrigues	Brazilian Forests Dialogue
João Larocca	Austroflora
Jorge Heineck	Ageflor
Kathia Vasconcelos Monteiro	Instituto Augusto Carneiro
Nathalia Chaves Cardoso	CMPC Brasil / Ageflor
Rafaelo Balbinot	UFSM
Rosane Nauderer	