



Surroundings of Pau Brasil National Park and Veracel Station

Completion Workshop – Co-chairs' Summary Report

October 7, 2024, in person

Introduction

The Land Use Dialogue (LUD) is an initiative aimed at engaging multiple stakeholders to gather knowledge and lead processes that enable responsible businesses, improve governance and promote inclusive development in relevant landscapes.

The Land Use Dialogue has already held several editions around the world, including in Brazil, Ghana, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania. In Brazil, it was held in 2016 in the Alto Vale do Itajaí region, in the state of Santa Catarina, with six initiatives currently underway in the country.

The Dialogue phase comprises three stages of the initiative as a whole:

- Scope Dialogue;
- Field Dialogues and
- Completion 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.

The landscape chosen for the Land Use Dialogue in Bahia comprises the Buffer Zone (ZA, in the Portuguese acronym) of the Pau Brasil National Park, an area totaling 71,205 hectares, which together with the Veracel Station and its surroundings, covers an area of key importance for the connectivity of large remnants of Atlantic Forest in the municipalities of Porto Seguro and Santa Cruz Cabrália, including the Pau Brasil National Park (19,000 ha), the Veracel Station Private Natural Heritage Reserve (6,069 ha) and other Private Natural Heritage Reserves (RPPN, in the Portuguese acronym), in addition to rural properties' Permanent Preservation Areas (PPAs) and Legal Reserves

(LRs). The landscape is within the scope of the Mosaic of Conservation Units of the Extreme South of Bahia (MAPES, in the Portuguese acronym), and the Central Atlantic Forest Corridor, recognized as one of the richest regions on the planet in terms of biodiversity¹.

The main challenge in the area highlighted above is to reconcile productive practices in the agricultural and forestry sectors with the expectations of local communities, who wish to live in environments with high environmental quality, free from air, water, soil and food contamination by pesticides. Another critical challenge is to increase the use of nature-based solutions by rural producers and companies, aiming to increase the properties' forest cover with native species, and thus adapt production systems to climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, expanding landscape connectivity and promoting the conservation of biodiversity in the Pau Brasil National Park (PARNA), RPPNs and other important areas for the protection and recovery of the Atlantic Forest.



Figure 1: Shows the region of the Parna Pau Brasil x Veracel Station Ecological Corridor planned in this Completion Workshop.

Overview of the main results of the previous stages of LUD Bahia

The first meeting of the Land Use Dialogue in Bahia – [the Scope Dialogue](#) – was attended by representatives of companies, civil society organizations, communities, indigenous peoples, government agencies and educational and research institutions, and its main objectives included:

1. Gather information on points of convergence and collaboration (synergies) between sectors and land uses in the landscape, as well as breaking points/disagreements between stakeholders;
2. Identify priorities for creating sustainable landscapes;
3. Identify other key stakeholders whose participation in the Land Use Dialogue platform is important.

¹ Pinto, L.P. O Corredor Central da Mata Atlântica: avanços na visão e na escala de conservação da biodiversidade no bioma. IN: Lamas, I.R., Crepaldi, M.O. and Mesquita, C.A.B (orgs.). Uma rede no corredor: memórias da Rede de Gestores das Unidades de Conservação do Corredor Central da Mata Atlântica. Belo Horizonte: Conservation International, 2015. 156p.

Based on this scope dialogue, two priority challenges were defined:

1. Reconciling production and conservation in the context of agriculture and tree plantations. Environmentally appropriate production must be encouraged and enabled, with support from Technical Assistance and Rural Extension (ATER, in the Portuguese acronym). Particular attention should be given to the maintenance of water resources and native forest cover, as well as the promotion and facilitation of the commercial chain for agroecological products, and promotion of alternatives and benefits of reducing the use of pesticides;
2. Understand and systematize the positive and negative impacts of practices carried out in the context of the landscape, in the medium and long term. Measuring and highlighting impacts through monitoring and coordinated actions is essential.

In the second stage, during the Field Dialogue, visits were carried out to validate the priority challenges related to the landscape. As a main result, participants built a common vision of a sustainable and prosperous landscape for a 10-year timeframe:

LANDSCAPE VISION

“In 10 years, we expect to see conservation units connected with the flow of fauna and flora, including areas for the conservation of native vegetation and sustainable production, with all landowners engaged in the formation of the corridor coexisting peacefully.”

Participants thought of relevant actions that could make this landscape vision a reality, and ranked the top three actions. Also at this stage, possible sources of financing were identified. The [co-chairs' summary report for the Field Dialogue](#) can be accessed on the Forests Dialogue website.

Completion Workshop

The priority actions below, selected and ranked in the previous stage (Field Dialogue), were revised to ensure that the future landscape vision above becomes a reality:

- 1) Encourage the implementation of an environmental education program in the ecological corridor area.
- 2) Promote the restoration chain and its benefits, including via Payment for Environmental Services (PES), carbon and training.
- 3) Landowner engagement in all processes (training).

After compiling the experiences acquired in the previous stages, the final stage is focused on generating the results defined by the participants and outlining paths for advancement in the landscape.



Group work

Group 1

Priority Action 1: Encourage the implementation of an environmental education program in the ecological corridor area.

What positive things are already being done in the context of strategic priority action 1 to support the achievement of the landscape vision?

- Various actions of the Southern Bahia Environmental Fund (FASB, in the Portuguese acronym).
- Institutions with educational activities (donation of seedlings, activities conducted in schools, training and qualification of nurserymen and seed collectors).
- In the corridor area, 10 ha of PPA were restored by the Defense, Preservation and Sustainability Movement (MDPS, in the Portuguese acronym), but part of the work was lost after the floods in the Buranhém River in 2021 and 2022. However, several awareness-raising and capacity building actions were carried out in the communities.
- Municipal Environmental Education Program in urban and rural municipal schools: 108 visits to Conservation Units, with more than 2,000 participating students.
- Construction and implementation of a protocol for Visits with Educational Purposes (VOE, in the Portuguese acronym) at PARNA Pau Brasil.
- Execution of actions of the Political-Pedagogical Project mediated by Environmental Education (PPPEA, in the Portuguese acronym) of PARNA Pau Brasil, fostering critical environmental education actions.
- Public Use Activities of PARNA Pau Brasil as a vector for expanding the importance of the Conservation Unit in the landscape. E.g. long-distance trail.
- Projects aimed at the Buffer Zone of PARNA Pau Brasil, such as fire management (State Plan for Integrated Fire Management – PEMIF, in the Portuguese acronym).
- Tree planting in urban areas and schools of the municipality, with more than 300 trees planted.
- Environmental extension projects (training of environmental agents), carried out by the Federal University of Southern Bahia (UFSB, in the Portuguese acronym) and Symbiosis.
- Preservation and restoration of springs and Rio do Brasil RPPN.
- Restoration and planting actions carried out in schools in the Imbiriba and Coqueiro Alto villages, equipping them to act as multipliers.
- ICMBio's hiring of temporary territory servers, encouraging the mobilization of individuals who live in the landscape.
- Environmental education actions by the Environmental Protection Police Independent Company (CIPPA, in the Portuguese acronym), including school visits, trails, environmental education brochures, ecological rappelling and inspection. Patrols in indigenous villages, starting with the Jaqueira village.

- Definition of a corridor connecting the Rio do Brasil RPPN and the Wildlife Refuge (REVIS, in the Portuguese acronym).
- Visits to the Veracel RPPN, from schools and communities in the territory (bird watching, research, partnerships, bird festival).
- World Cleanup Day expanded beyond beaches. E.g. Central de Arraial Park and Vale Verde.

Group 2

Priority Action 2: Promote the restoration chain and its benefits, including via Payment for Environmental Services (PES), carbon and training.

What positive things are already being done in the context of strategic priority action 2 to support the achievement of the landscape vision?

- Conservation International (CI) has recently approved a Carbon project for the Abrolhos territory.
- Strong action focused on restoration in the territory.
- Initiative by the Institute of Environment and Water Resources (INEMA, in the Portuguese acronym)/State Secretariat of Environment (SEMA, in the Portuguese acronym) focused on equipping municipalities to create their own PES laws and decrees.
- Numerous training sessions on PES offered after the elaboration of the Municipal Plans for the Atlantic Forest.
- The Institute for Ecological Research (IPÊ, in the Portuguese acronym) also offered a course on the Carbon market and other professional qualification courses related to the restoration chain.

Group 3

Priority Action 3: Landowner engagement in all processes (training).

What positive things are already being done in the context of strategic priority action 3 to support the achievement of the landscape vision?

- ICMBio: Preparation of the Integrated Fire Use Management Plan with the Santa Maria and Irmã Dulce Settlements.
- Defense, Preservation and Sustainability Movement (MDPS): - Participation in general and regular meetings of rural producers' councils and associations to foster engagement and prospect degraded areas for ecological restoration. - Network capacity and seed collection (indigenous territories).
- CIPPA: has been promoting environmental monitoring in the areas surrounding the park.
- Natureza Bela Environmental Group: Restoration on indigenous land and with rural landowners, with the use of Agroforestry Systems around Parna Pau Brasil;
- Beatriz Lisboa's master's thesis on the profile of landowners in Parna Pau Brasil's Buffer Zone:

what landowners produce, and how they occupy their area.

- ICMBio is currently revising the Management Plan - land use standards in the buffer zone.

Action Plan

The priority actions aim to create an ecological corridor that integrates environmental conservation with sustainable development and valorization of local communities. Therefore, partnerships and support from institutions will be essential for the success of these initiatives. With this in mind, the Workshop participants created an action plan that describes what needs to be done, who is in charge and the required resources/sources of financing.

Priority action 1: Encourage the implementation of an environmental education program in the ecological corridor area.			
What to do	How to do it	Who is in charge	Financing Sources
Increase the scope of actions in schools further away from the headquarters and that are involved with the landscape (E.g. Pé do Monte, Boca da Mata) **	Ensure structure, Actions	UFSB, SEDUC, FUNAI	FASB, Various notices, FMMA
Expand the connection of partners and institutions (E.g. Support from institutions such as FASB, UFSB and CI)	Network action	SEDUC, SEMAS, Sports Secretariat	
Training of educators/staff of institutions in methodologies involving physical activities in nature to increase reach. Use PARNA Pau Brasil, the Station and CIPA areas	Expanded training	Environmental legal department, Public Prosecutor's Office	
Regularize and access the municipal environmental fund	Legal regularization. Amounts, who has access? Clarify what can be supported by the fund. It may be a source of support for activities	ICMBio, PARNA Pau Brasil	
Seminar on the resumption of PPPEA (actions) with social participation (Include information on what is already being done)	Hold the seminar	ICMBio, Futuri Travel Agency	ICMBio

Expand educational trails for tourism and birdwatching. Include cycling tourism as a tool to prevent illegal logging	Reach out to the Tourism Secretariat Reach out to the City Council	ICMBio, Futuri Travel Agency	
Effective teaching actions in the school curriculum **	Schools include in the curriculum	Secretariat of Education	
Intentionality and priority of EE actions for the ecological corridor and alignment of continuity of actions based on community demands (include indigenous communities, farmers and rural landowners)	Focus on the corridor	Actors who participate in the agenda	
Expand World Cleanup Day	Agenda adopted in schools and shared responsibility. Continuous action	Transport, bus, school	Environmental Compensation Funds
Environmental agenda for EE action, aiming to organize EE spaces, connect partners and share responsibilities	Creation of an itinerant environmental agenda	Secretariat of the Environment	
Communicate the completion of actions			
Priority Action 2: Promote the restoration chain and its benefits, including via Payment for Environmental Services - PES, carbon and training.			
Quality information to clarify the benefits, commitments and risks of the Carbon project	Creation and implementation of the plan. Reach and engagement on social and traditional media	NGOs, Institutes, Forests Dialogue and Forest Forum	
Ensure that financial resources reach producers and smallholders	Establish clear contracts for the parties (draft contract in the Pact format? / terms that must be included in contracts)	Funders, Producers' associations, Trade unions	

Reach out/hold meetings with new mayors and councilors to advance the discussion and approval of PES laws	Meetings, Create an agenda, Regulate the environmental fund (Law from the Michel Temer administration)	Forest Forum (talk to MP Porto Seguro)	Embasa CBM
Work with INEMA to validate CEFIR and generate PRAD Note: INEMA does not validate CEFIR	Establish validation legislation. System improvement. ToR for legal reserve management	SEMA / INEMA	
Reach out to Symbiosis to promote/donate forest species with high potential for restoration projects, aiming to save for future use.	Clarify the importance of adding additional income to the property within the restored area	Symbiosis	
Creation of RPPN by large companies in the region of the large remaining forest fragments in the territory	Dialogue with companies (AAVC)	Forest Forum	
Implement community-based tourism + Implement regenerative tourism	Dialogue with the municipal government: Tourism Secretariat, Create programs, Dialogue with tourism companies, Long-distance trails, Promotion, Strengthen associations, Work with tour operators	FASB, Forest Forum, APRUNVE, Future, Other communities, Tour operators	
Support for smallholders for production/restoration through AFS and guarantee of acquisition by the hotel sector (e.g. Club Med)	Dialogue with the municipal government /SEMMA. Dialogue with the hotel sector. PAA. PNAE	SEBRAE, SENAR, UFSB, MDPS, FFBA	
Understand how PMMAs are being implemented, especially in the context of PES/carbon	Workshop with involved/interested institutions, Create a questionnaire	Municipal Council, SEMMA, MP, FFBA and institutions involved	
Identify diversified funding sources for PES (Include companies and other sources)	Workshop with involved/interested institutions Create a questionnaire	Municipal Council, SEMMA, MP, FFBA and institutions involved, EMBASA	

Connect restoration supply and demand /restoration chain in the landscape	Capacity building for collectors, botanists, etc. Articulation and strengthening of networks with those involved	FASB, FFBA, Primaflora, Natureza Bela, MDPS, Arboretum	
Priority Action 3: Landowner engagement in all processes (training).			
Hold events and participate in agricultural fairs and events with rural landowners - remove “prejudices” to obtain broader information. (Forest code, carbon, ecological corridors...) **	Hold an event connecting actions 1, 6 and 11	Arboretum (dialogue), FFBA and UFSB (structure)	
Improve communication with landowners - (Events, workshops). Example: “Momento Veracel” - Local educational actions and workshops	Annual fair in Porto Seguro. Identify and understand the profile of small and large producers. How to structure a dialogue that includes producers’ interests? Create specific communication for the event. Production of educational material: folders, booklets, social media	FFBA, ICMBio, Associations’ leaders, Municipality, SENAR, SEBRAE	Sponsorship - companies and municipality
Meeting of collective leaders, with visits to communities (ICMBio / Forum) – Continuous mobilization (Work plan)	Projects: bring actors together through collective construction	ICMBio and FFBA	
Propose a label for agricultural production in the region: “Amigo do Parque”	Create the protocol with criteria to validate. Check existing labels	UFSB, ICMBio, E.g. Povos da Mata Network. SEBRAE	
Producers need more detailed information (Values, resources invested, knowledge of the process, what are the advantages for producers?)	Professional training and qualification courses. Brochures, informational material for rural producers	ELTI/IPÊ, SENAR?, Symbiosis, Arboretum	

Rural Technical Assistance - Continuous	Articulation of trade unions	Rural Producers Unions/SENAR, SDR - ATER notices (CAR)	
Results of research conducted in agricultural areas and disseminate this information to producers	Identify research in the region	UFSB, IFBA, SENAR, Embrapa, ADAB, ABAF	
Incentives for smallholders to produce and sell at organic fairs	Reactivate and strengthen the Povos da Mata Network	SEBRAE, Veracel, municipal government and Secretariat of Agriculture, Instituto Terra Mãe	
Showcase more success stories on results produced by restoration involving water quality and quantity	Travel and excursions, e.g. FASB	ELTI, IPÊ, FASB	

List of Acronyms

AAVC - Áreas de Alto Valor de Conservação: High Conservation Value Areas (HCVAs)

APRUNVE - Associação de Produtores Rurais Unidos Venceremos

ATER - Assistência Técnica e Extensão Rural: Technical Assistance and Rural Extension (ATER)

CAR - Cadastro Ambiental Rural: Rural Environmental Registry (CAR)

CBM - Corpo de Bombeiro Militar: Military Fire Brigade

CEFIR - Cadastro Estadual Florestal de Imóveis Rurais: State Environmental Rural Land Registry (CEFIR)

CI - Conservação Internacional: Conservation International (CI)

CIPPA - Companhia Independente de Polícia de Proteção Ambiental: Environmental Protection Police Independent Compan

EA - Educação Ambiental: Environmental Education (EE)

ELTI - Environmental Leadership Training Initiative da Yale School of the Environment

Embasa - Empresa Baiana de Águas e Saneamento: Bahia Water and Sanitation Company

FASB - Fundo Ambiental Sul Baiano: Southern Bahia Environmental Fund (FASB)

FFBA - Fórum Florestal da Bahia: Bahia Forest Forum

FMMA - Fundo Municipal do Meio Ambiente: Municipal Environmental Fund

FUNAI - Fundação Nacional dos Povos Indígenas: Brazilian National Foundation of Indigenous Peoples

ICMBio - Instituto Chico Mendes de Conservação da Biodiversidade: Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation

INEMA - Instituto do Meio Ambiente e Recursos Hídricos: Institute for Environment and Water Resources

IPÊ - Instituto de Pesquisas Ecológicas: Institute for Ecological Research (IPÊ)

MDPS - Movimento de Defesa, Preservação e Sustentabilidade

MP - Ministério Público: Public Prosecutor's Office

Natureza Bela - Grupo Ambiental Natureza Bela

ONG - Organização Não Governamental: Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)

PAA - Programa de Aquisição de Alimentos: Brazilian Food Acquisition Program

PARNA- Parque Nacional: National Park

PMMA - Plano Municipal de Conservação e Recuperação da Mata Atlântica: Municipal Plan for the Conservation and Restoration of the Atlantic Forest

PNAE - Programa Nacional de Alimentação Escolar: National School Feeding Program

PPPEA - Projeto Político-Pedagógico mediado pela Educação Ambiental: Political-Pedagogical Project mediated by Environmental Education

PRAD - Plano de Recuperação de Áreas Degradadas: Degraded Area Recovery Plan

RPPN - Reserva Particular do Patrimônio Natural: Private Natural Heritage Reserve

SAF - Sistema Agroflorestal: Agroforestry System (AFS)

SDR - Secretaria Estadual de Desenvolvimento Rural: Secretariat for Rural Development of Bahia State

SEBRAE - Serviço Brasileiro de Apoio às Micro e Pequenas Empresas: Brazilian Micro and Small Business Support Service

SEDUC - Secretaria de Estado de Educação: State Secretariat of Education

SEMA - Secretaria Estadual de Meio Ambiente: State Secretariat of Environment

SEMMA - Secretaria de Municipal de Meio Ambiente: Municipal Secretariat of Environment

SENAR - Serviço Nacional de Aprendizagem Rural: National Rural Learning Service

TdR - Termo de Referência: Term of Reference

UFSB - Universidade Federal do Sul da Bahia: Federal University of Southern Bahia

NEXT STEPS

- Ensure that the restoration needed to create the corridor is included in the workshop report;
- Prepare the workshop report;
- Involve/engage the interested and affected parties mentioned in the actions;
- Define indicators for the defined actions;
- Verify the status of the official creation of the corridor in the municipality (Corridor);
- Hold annual monitoring seminars;
- FFBA is the agent responsible for monitoring.

Workshop Agenda

October 7

13:30 Welcome, introductions and presentation on the Bahia Forest Forum and Forests Dialogue - Erica Munaro and Fernanda Rodrigues.

14:10 Presentation on the background of LUD, national and international perspective - Fernanda Rodrigues.

- landscape vision
- defined priority actions

14:40 Group discussion

- What positive actions are already being taken in the context of the priority strategic actions?
- What else needs to be done to make these actions and the landscape vision a reality?

15:40 Coffee break

16:00 Presentation by discussion groups

17:20 First day closing

October 8

09:00 Summary of previous day - Marco Aurélio

09:10 Action plan (responsibilities and resources) - Fernanda Rodrigues and Erica Munaro

- Definition of strategies

10:40 Coffee break

11:10 How to monitor progress?

11:40 Closing

General coordination and facilitation carried out by Erica Munaro with support from Fernanda Rodrigues.

Financial Support:

