

**National Workshops on ITTO Guidelines for the Restoration,  
Management and Rehabilitation of Degraded and Secondary Tropical  
Forests**

**Campeche – Mexico  
6 – 10 of March 2006**

**Georgetown – Guyana  
13 – 17 March 2006**

**El Petén – Guatemala  
20 – 24 March 2006**

**Workshops Report  
IUCN**

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**April 2006**

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## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Report summarizes the main methodology and outcomes from the three Latin American workshops on the ITTO Guidelines in Restoration, Management and Rehabilitation of degraded and secondary tropical forests. Workshops were developed in Mexico, Guyana and Guatemala in 3 consecutive weeks.

In any of these three countries the approach of Forest Landscape Restoration FLR was known not applied, and in most of the cases participants were not familiar with the ITTO Guidelines. One important suggestion that came out from the workshops was that calling "Manual" the latest FLR publication by ITTO and IUCN, generated some reactions among participants due to the way information is presented along the document; therefore starting from the second workshop the document was presented as a "Reader".

On the other hand, participants found the Guidelines and the Reader very useful for increasing knowledge and for disseminating information, but still all three countries agreed on the need for developing specific guidelines for implementing FLR activities in the ground. Also, in some cases the need for developing smaller and easier versions for different target groups was also identified. Feedback on the Guidelines and the Reader was concentrated on including recommendations for overcoming the need of economic resources at the beginning of any restoration project, on including terms of reference for the elaboration of FLR projects and specifically on the Reader, participants recommended the incorporation of a section explaining how to use the document.

Participants also detected some inconsistency regarding the concepts presented in the Guidelines and the concept of FLR; specifically for the Mexican case, participants also shown their discomfort regarding the terminology used in translations of some terminology: restoration, management, and rehabilitation. Therefore the discussion of concepts previous the preparation of each national / local –based guideline was clearly demanded from participants. Nevertheless, the approach was totally accepted by forest professionals, practitioners, researchers and scientific. There was a clear recognition on the importance of secondary and degraded forests.

The workshops were seen as the first step of a broader process for presenting and implementing FLR in the countries. This suggests that for its implementation, there is a need for further platforms for promoting the exchange of information and internalization of the FLR approach and its characteristics. Support on the implementation of FLR activities was also identified, as well as the need to prepare professionals in this subject.

The most difficult task for participants was to visualize a landscape, but besides that, almost all FLR characteristics were understood and interiorized by all participants. The FLR approach was accepted among forest authorities, forest professionals, practitioners, researchers and scientific.

## 2. BACKGROUND

The ITTO *Guidelines for the Restoration, Management and Rehabilitation of Degraded and Secondary Tropical Forests* were published in 2002, after their approval by the ITTO's Council. Consistent with this Decision, six sub-regional workshops were organized in the three tropical regions, involving the participation of all ITTO producer member countries in order to promote the understanding of the Guidelines, provide feedback and encourage further regional or country level initiatives in this area.

In November 2003, the Council approved the ITTO Biennial Work Program for the years 2004-2005. This work program prescribed two specific actions in connection with the Guidelines: (i) the organization of 9 national workshops to further promote the implementation of the Guidelines, and (ii) the development, in close collaboration with other organizations, of technical manuals on forest landscape restoration.

Within this context, a Reader on forest landscape restoration was developed in collaboration with several institutions including IUCN, CIFOR, WWF International, Intercooperation (Switzerland) and the University of Queensland (Australia). The "Reader", titled *Restoring Forest Landscapes: an Introduction to the Art and Science of Forest Landscape Restoration*, deals with specific aspects related to forest landscape restoration in a user-friendly manner and is illustrated with examples.

On the other hand, with support of IUCN and Intercooperation, ITTO develops 9 national workshops for further support the dissemination of the Guidelines, the Reader and the concept of FLR. In Latin America, 3 workshops were developed in March with that aim: Mexico, Guyana and Guatemala. This document present the main techniques applied for the development of the events, as well as the main results of them.

### **3. OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS**

The workshops aimed for the following specific objectives:

- To gain a shared understanding of the state of forests in the three countries and to introduce key concepts of FLR;
- To understand the current status of FLR in the three countries, the constraints faced by key stakeholders in applying FLR and what their needs are;
- Introduce the ITTO Restoration Guidelines and the ITTO/IUCN Manual/Reader on FLR;
- Increase understanding of FLR by participating in a field trip;
- Provide feedback on ITTO guidelines and manual and formulating ideas for practical-level FLR implementation in the three countries;
- Prepare an Action Plan for RLF implementation in the three countries.

The main expected outcomes were established as:

1. A validated analysis of forest landscape degradation in the specific national context based on the background information provided by the host countries during the workshop preparatory process;
2. Participants understand the concept of forest landscape restoration;
3. A deeper understanding of the various components of forest landscape restoration, which will be gained during a field trip;
4. A review of the need to develop national/context-specific field guides and technical manuals on forest landscape restoration or components thereof, and development of the structure, content and format of such guides and manuals;
5. Feedback on the content of the ITTO Guidelines and the reader;
6. Discussion on the assistance expected from ITTO for the development of field guides and manuals;
7. Development of basic skills among participants in the formulation of project proposals in forest landscape restoration, and discussion on further assistance expected from ITTO in this field.

## 4. DEVELOPMENT OF THE WORKSHOPS

The workshops were developed in three consecutive weeks, as follows:

- i) Mexico, March 6 – 10
- ii) Guyana, March 13 – 17
- iii) Guatemala, March 20 – 24

The events were structured as learning workshops and the methodology used was a combination among presentations, working groups and a field trip that allowed participants to identify how the theory could be applied in reality. The event was adjusted for five days, saving day three for the field trip. Agenda was considered a living document, since the national and international facilitators reviewed it every day, making adjustments as necessary. Nevertheless, important changes were consulted with the national focal point of the Forest Authority.

An explanation of the agenda is presented hereafter:

**Day One** was divided in four sections: i) Opening Ceremony; ii) Introduction to the workshop; iii) Review of the International, national and local situation of forests: Presentations and working groups; and iv) Introduction to the concept of FLR.

For the first working group of the event, and the only one of the day, questions aimed to fulfill the objective of the day, focused on having a common understanding on the state of forest in a national context:

1. What are the main problems that the forest sector faces in your country?
2. What are the main causes of the identified problems?
3. What are the main solutions for overcoming those problems?

Objectives for **Day Two** were concentrated on understanding the current status of FLR in every country as a first step for discussing its future implementation; also activities during the day were concentrated on gaining understanding of the ITTO Guidelines and the Reader, as to discuss and conclude regarding the utility of both documents to support the implementation of FLR in each country. For this, activities during the day were divided into two parts: i) FLR in the country: presentations and working groups; and ii) The ITTO Guidelines and the Reader on FLR: presentations and working groups.

During this day countries had the opportunity to present and exchange information and experiences on national forest restoration or secondary forest management, aiming to identify if among known experiences, some characteristics of FLR had been implemented. For supporting the discussion among participants, questions for the morning working groups were:

- Discuss if the group knows experiences in forest restoration, management or rehabilitation;
- Based on your experience, discuss if the FLR approach has been already implemented in your country?
- Which are the characteristics of the FLR approach that are more developed in the implementation of restoration activities in your country?
- Which are the major opportunities of FLR in your country?
- What are the main challenges for implementing FLR in your country?
- Which are the main needs for implementing FLR in your country?
- Who are the key stakeholders for FLR implementation in your country?

For the evening, working groups were asked to review the content of the ITTO guidelines and the Manual / Reader on FLR. For the Latin American case, it was clear that participants needed guiding questions for ensuring the expected outcomes from this session, thus for each country the national and international facilitators prepare such questions.

**Day Three** was dedicated to the field trip. In any of the three countries where the workshops took place in Latin America, the framework of Forest Landscaper Restoration was known neither applied as such. Therefore, the visits during the field trip were not on FLR experiences, but on some restoration or management experiences of degraded and secondary forest in each location. Even this was thought as a threat for the development of the event, it turned out to be one of the major opportunities to:

- Evaluate the potentiality for implementing the approach in each of the countries in the future,
- Evaluate the utility of the Guidelines and the Reader, and
- Assess the successful of the workshop as a learning event.

Participants were organized for the field trip in groups for discussing and analyzing the following general questions:

- Draw and describe the visited landscape and its individual land-use components
- Identify the key stakeholders in the landscape
- Identify the causes (direct and underlying) that have driven forest degradation
- What do you think the landscape will look like (a) 5 years from now and (b) 20 years from now, and why?
- Discuss and agree on an objective for a FLR initiative
- Under that objective, what site-level interventions do you think can be made to improve the overall situation in the landscape?
- How can the format / presentation of the reader / manual can be improved for fostering its use?

Other specific questions were prepared for each country, which will be presented in the following section of the document.

**Day Four** was dedicated basically to share results from the field trip, to identify and provide feedback on the ITTO Guidelines and on the Reader and to analyze what else is needed for the implementation of FLR in each country. For this, presentations in plenary and work in groups were planned for the entire day. This was considered the hardest day of the event according to participants, due to the extension of the work in groups. The general questions given to the groups were divided in four tasks:

Task 1: Develop a country-specific FLR Manual that can really help the practical implementation & scale-up of FLR in your country

- Does the Reader and the Guidelines provide enough information for implementing FLR in your country?
- If not, what is missing? (consider that you are evaluating a tool)
- Do you consider necessary the development of national / local tool (as a guideline or manual) for implementing activities in FLR in your country?
- If so, define the objective of such tool
- What should the list of contents look like?
- What should it contain?
- Format (size, language, mix of text-diagrams, etc?)

Task 2: Brainstorm ideas for potential FLR projects in your country. Prioritize 3 ideas and prepare concepts to present plenary. Discuss:

- Title of proposed project
- What is the specific problem that FLR will address?
- What are the objectives of your project (not more than 3)
- Strategy (how will you attain these objectives?)

Task 3: What are the top 5 things that you think need to be done next to promote FLR implementation in your country?

Task 4: What support is needed from ITTO and IUCN to help FLR implementation in your country, particularly for the development of further field guides/manuals?

**Day Five** was dedicated to discuss and agree on a Draft of an Action Plan for implementing FLR in each country, as well as to identify the next steps forward. Also, during this day, if participants were interested and if the time was available, the international facilitator presented the formulation process of ITTO projects.

For developing the Action Plan, participants were asked to perform the following activities:

- i) identification of main strategic lines
- ii) identification of specific actions for each of the defined strategic lines
- iii) prioritize actions.

For the first part -identification of main strategic lines, participants worked in pairs, presenting and holding in cards their proposals. Facilitators grouped similar proposals for presenting no more than 8 strategic lines to the plenary so participants could consider this information for the next task. Afterward, participants were asked to identify clear actions for each strategic area, also by working in pairs. The methodology used was the same as for the identification of the strategic line –cards to be held on the wall of the plenary room. Finally, participants received 20 sticky labels to choose and mark the actions that they considered as the most important. After this, facilitators reviewed the proposal, and organized the information according to participant's suggestions.

## 5. MAIN OUTCOMES BY COUNTRY

This section presents the main results of the three workshops and the main results from the working groups.

### CAMPECHE – MEXICO

The workshop took place from the 6-10 of March 2006 in the city of Campeche, State of Campeche – Mexico, at the Hotel Baluarte.

#### DAY ONE

##### OPENING CEREMONY

The Opening Ceremony took place in the morning of the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2006 and was presided over the following authorities:

- Ing. Librado Martínez: National Manager for Forest Development, National Forestry Commission. CONAFOR.
- Ing. Santiago Pinzón Lizárraga: Manager of the XII Region, Yucatan Peninsula. CONAFOR.
- Ing. Luis Macías Romo: National Director of the Reforestation National Program. CONAFOR.
- Ing. Jorge García Lanz: Forest Director of the SDR. State Government of Campeche.
- Ing. Jorge Malleux: ITTO Regional Officer for Latin America and Caribbean.
- M.S. Consuelo Espinosa. International Facilitator - IUCN.
- Ing. Rafael Contreras. National Facilitator

The National Government welcomed the participants and encouraged them for delivering outcomes that could benefit the country in what comes to forest restoration. The ITTO representative mentioned the process that ITTO has been developing in presenting the Guidelines for Restoration,

Management and Rehabilitation of Secondary and Degraded Topical Forest and highlighted the importance of the event on analyzing that tool. The International Facilitator pointed out the importance of the secondary and degraded forests and highlighted the importance of the workshop for analyzing two main instruments available for promoting the implementation of FLR: the ITTO Guidelines and the Reader.

## **INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL AND LOCAL SITUATION OF FORESTS**

Three presentations were made in this session:

- i) The international state of forests, by the International Facilitator;
- ii) The national situation of forests, the causes and tendency of deforestation, and the national reforestation program, by the National Director of the Reforestation National Program;
- iii) The situation of the tropical forests in Mexico, focusing its attention in the Yucatan Peninsula, by the National Facilitator.

For the specific case of Mexico, this set of presentations did not provided a lot of insights to participants, due to the common understanding on the state of the forest in the Mexican tropics and its main tendencies. Thus, this part of the event did not contribute much to the discussion in plenary and it was mentioned in the daily evaluation, that it would have been better to use this time of the event in other thematic discussions.

For enhancing the importance of the outcomes obtained this day, facilitators decided to use it as inputs for working groups on day two and four, which worked out quite good and decrease the discomfort of participants. Also, the international facilitator consulted other countries if the agenda should be adjusted to this observation made by the Mexican participants, but no change was made in this regard since the discussion on the national state of forests was considered necessary for Guyana and Guatemala.

### **Presentation on the state of the forests in Mexico:**

The main conclusions of this session were:

- The total area covered by forests in Mexico is estimated in 54.205 millions of hectares (28.9% of the total surface);
- The biggest extensions of forests in Mexico are in hands of ejidos. Ejido is a recognized type of land property managed by a defined group of people (communities), who take decisions over the management and use of their forest and the lands they own;
- Deforestation is decreasing: during the period 1990-2000 it was estimated in 401 thousand hectares; for the period 2000-2005 this rate was estimated in 314 thousand; the projection for the year 2005 is 234 thousand;
- 17% of the forests are within Protected Areas;
- The reforestation goal for the year 2006 is 240 thousand, which implies that Mexico will reach an equilibrium point between deforestation and reforestation this year.
- Among the causes of degradation and deforestation the following were identified: livestock, hurricanes, oil activity, and urban growth
- Mexico has "Rules of Unique Operation" that can be applied for all forest ecosystems.

## **PRESENTATION OF FLR CONCEPT**

Main conclusions from the discussion that took place after this presentation are:

- Consider wetlands as ecosystems that can benefit from FLR concepts;
- Land use planning is important for FLR
- The concept of FLR is constructed over the base of the concept of sustainable development
- Implementers on FLR are different actors, at different levels and from different sectors

- Negotiation at a landscape level could be complicated, just as land use decisions at that same level

## **MAIN OUTCOMES FROM THE WORKING GROUPS**

The main outcomes of the working groups are presented in this section.

### **Main forest problems at the Mexican topics**

- Deforestation and loss of biodiversity, fragmentation and degradation of forests
- Change of land use and abandoned lands
- Lack of organization among forest owners and producers
- Loss of soil quality
- Low production
- Over-exploitation
- Lack of economic resources
- Lack of management plans and of techniques
- Irregular appropriation of lands
- Forest fires
- Lack of forest law enforcement
- Lack of ecological criteria for decision making
- Limited technology for the establishment of commercial plantations

### **Main causes of national forest problems**

- Lack of recognition regarding the value of forests
- Lack of a "forest culture"
- Incipient legal framework
- Inadequate forest public policies for Mexican tropics
- Lack of articulation among public policies
- Low participation in the formulation of forest policies
- Corruption
- Lack of geographical information in a better scale
- Low profitability of forest activities and high costs of technical services
- Inadequate use of fire
- Agricultural policies
- Nomad agriculture and extensive livestock activity
- High impact tourism
- Poverty
- Demographic pressure
- Climate Phenomenon
- Market adverse conditions

### **Main Solutions to forest national problems**

- Technical training for increasing production levels, for adequate use of fire, for ensure the sustainable use of forests and for improve the organization among institution of the sector;
- Educational campaigns
- Promote the exchange of experiences already developed and dissemination of studies
- Apply and fulfill land management plans
- Prepare plans for reducing vulnerability
- Identification of new and innovative productive alternatives for communities that live in and near the forests
- Development of forest alternatives in the long and short run
- Investment in the development of forest plans;
- Subsidies for forest technical services
- Apply Norms according to the needs of the sector
- Forest law enforcement / improve normative framework
- Creation of chains of production
- Ensure land tenure
- Up date plans of land use
- Promote the participation of actors when planning the land use options on a landscape.

## DAY TWO

At the evening of Day One, the ITTO Regional Officer for Latin America and the Caribbean recommended to concentrate activities in the workshop for the presentation and analysis of the ITTO Guidelines. The suggestion then was supported by the national government as to have a better introduction on this tool to participants. Thus presentations for Day Two were adjusted to this request, as well as questions for the working groups that took place in the afternoon.

### FLR IN THE TROPICAL FORESTS IN MEXICO

Four presentations were made in this section:

- i) Management of secondary forests by a representative of the National Forestry Commission CONAFOR
- ii) Forest restoration experiences in the Yucatan Peninsula, by the national facilitator
- iii) Forest Hydrological Programs in Mexico, by the program leader, and
- iv) Secondary forest restoration through traditional forest Mayan techniques, by representative of a local NGO.

The main conclusions of this section were:

- There are examples of FLR in the Mexican Tropics, but they have not been developed in an integral manner.
- Traditional indigenous management is an example of RPF in Mexico
- National experiences have not been assessed as to analyze their real impact on forest restoration
- There is a need to review concepts and translations used in the documents presented
- There is a need to review the role of forest plantation on FLR strategies
- There is a need to build consensus among community members regarding what FLR aims and what kind of activities can be developed.

### THE ITTO GUIDELINES

Two presentations were made in this section: the first one on the guidelines, its objectives and structure; and the second one on the Reader on FLR. Presentation on the Guidelines included a presentation on the objectives and the principles that it includes.

Each working group in this session had to analyze a different part of the Guidelines, and specific questions for the working groups were prepared:

1. Review the objectives – principles – recommended actions from the Guidelines designated to your group
2. Review the summary of problems, opportunities and challenges of FLR in Mexico;
3. Discuss if the Guidelines are useful for coping with the identified problems and for taking advantage of identified opportunities?
4. What is missing?

Group 1 had to analyze Objectives I – IV; Group 2 from V – VII and Group 3 Objective VIII.

### MAIN OUTCOMES FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

#### FLR in the Mexican Tropic

- There are more experiences in forest conservation than in restoration;
- Most forest restoration activities are concentrated in forest plantations;

- Ancestral groups had implemented FLR;
- Bio-energy plantations should be considered as part of local interventions under specific FLR projects;
- It is necessary to explore and evaluate the feasibility of FLR projects;
- There is a lack of legal framework for the implementation of FLR;
- Scientifics recommend that the concept of landscape should include the concept of geology, and landscapes should be divided in geomorphologic unities.

### **Challenges**

- Elaborate a Strategic or Action Plan
- Capacity building for implementing the Action Plan
- Adequate national legal framework for fostering forest restoration;
- Law enforcement for ensuring the appropriate implementation of FLR;
- Policy instruments for FLR
- Recognize traditional experiences in forest management and restoration
- Create a forest trust fund
- Foster articulation among actors and inter-institutional coordination
- Ensure the equitable participation of actors;
- Support the organization of producers so they can take fully advantage of FLR
- Identify markets for forest goods and services

### **Main actors in FLR**

- Land owners
- Governmental authorities
- Field promoters, suppliers of technical forest services
- Research institutions
- Industry sector
- Traders
- Transportation sector
- Financial agencies

### **Main Opportunities for FLR in the tropics**

- Large extension of secondary forests and degraded forestlands in the Mexican tropics
- Interest in commercial plantations
- Real restoration demands
- Support from authorities
- The existence of a technical and scientific base for programs

### **Needs**

- Coordination among institutions
- Research
- Participation
- Dissemination of knowledge to the productive sector
- Legal framework for FLR

### **The Guidelines**

- Guidelines are a complete document when presenting the set of recommended actions;
- Guidelines surpass the national considerations for restoring forestlands
- The guidelines present concepts that are not aligned with the concept of FLR (example: restoration), thus require revision.

### **What is missing from the guidelines?**

- A section explaining how to use this guidelines
- Include a section on how to cope with the need of economic resources at the beginning of any restoration project;
- Broader promotion of livestock - agro-pastoral systems
- FLR fundraising mechanisms
- How to build the support from authorities

## **DAY THREE**

Three ejidos were visited during the field trip: Ejido Tikinmul, Ejido Bonfil and Ejido Arellano. Besides the general questions, some specific ones were prepared for this field trip:

- How would you manage trade-offs, keeping the principle of double-filter in mind?
- How can you guarantee an adaptive management in your project?
- Was it useful to review the reader for this practical exercise?
- How can the format of the Reader be improved for facilitate its utility?

We visited three examples on how communities deal with forests degradation. The first case was a plantation of "cedro" which is supported by the national program of reforestation; the second one was an agro-forestry project using a combination of cedro and mahogany with "yuca" a tuber used in this part of the country to feed animals. The third was a degraded forest which was being improved by agro-forestry systems as well.

## **MAIN OUTCOMES FROM THE WORKING GROUPS**

Not all participants reviewed the Reader, and this was clearly reflected in the dynamic each group followed for answering the questions given. In one of the groups discussion were concentrated in the feasibility of implementing FLR in the Mexican tropics and they exchanged ideas on how the main characteristics of FLR could be materialized in projects. During the discussion they recognized the need to re-define some concepts before analyzing what kind of activities can be developed as FLR in Mexico. Participants also pointed out that the terminology used in English does not necessarily has the same meaning once translated into Spanish.

The second group decided to give some time for the revision of the Reader in order to guide their answers, taking a lot of advantage of the information presented in the document. The third group did not follow the instructions given and presented the potentialities for using cedro in the three locations visited. However, it is clear that most of the participants could not visualize FLR as a broader approach than the one offered by plantations.

### **Causes of Degradation:**

Conversations with main actors in the field trip allowed participants to realize that when the ejidos were formed, forests were already degraded. Thus, any activity developed in these lands accompanied the regeneration of natural secondary forests. However, due to the lack of technical assessment, most forest faced a high level of human intervention, diminishing its quality. It was also mentioned that the support given by the government created a "protective pattern" among landowners and producers, creating a perverse incentive for the development of any forest activity in ejidos.

### **Suggestions for the Reader / Manual:**

- Include local experiences
- Adapt it to the Mexican tropic conditions
- Include term of reference for the elaboration of FLR projects
- Prepare a shorter version

## DAY FOUR

For the working groups that were developed during this day, the following questions were also included:

- What do you think are the main differences between the Guidelines and the Reader
- Was the definition of FLR useful for restoring, managing and rehabilitating secondary and degraded forests in the Mexican tropics?

## MAIN OUTCOMES FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

### Feedback on the Reader

- The Reader is a compilation of cases and methodologies applicable for restoration, but with not connection between section. It is not articulated with a logical sequence.
- The Reader needs to be more schematic and to use a more friendly language.
- It should include terms of reference for developing FLR projects.

### Is the definition of FLR useful for restoration activities in the Mexican tropics?

Yes, because:

- FLR is recognized as a process focused on the recuperation of forests integrity, considering also human wellbeing.
- It can allow the production of goods and services, the improvement of yield and economic benefits.
- Mosaic with different components.

### Need for a specific local tools for implementing FLR

All three groups agreed on the need for a specific national / local Guideline, but the objectives and target groups were different for each case: i) capacity building of different stakeholders for promote FLR implementation; ii) a quick guideline for using the Reader and the Guidelines, iii) a Guideline for developing a strategy.

### Objectives and structure of this tool

A National Guideline	Quick Guideline	A Guideline for developing a strategy
<b>OBJECTIVE</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Influence landowners with concrete national examples on FLR;</li> <li>• Facilitate the implementation of actions and/or strategies for restoration and rehabilitation of secondary and degraded forestlands</li> </ul>	Through simple steps show to practitioners an adequate and expedite application of the Reader and ITTO Guidelines	To develop strategies and action lines in FLR based on particularities of the Mexican region
<b>PROPOSAL FOR STRUCTURE</b>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction and background;</li> <li>2. Objectives</li> <li>3. Good and services that forests provides</li> <li>4. Concepts: FLR,</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction (Objectives, importance and definitions)</li> <li>2. Background (ITTO Guidelines and Reader)</li> <li>3. How to use this guideline</li> <li>3.1 Environmental and socioeconomic diagnosis</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction</li> <li>2. Background</li> <li>3. Objectives</li> <li>4. Current state of forest degradation in Mexico               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Primary forest</li> <li>- Secondary forest</li> <li>- Degraded forestlands</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

management, restoration, rehabilitation, etc 5. Main Actors 6. Restoration National Plan and Restoration Strategies 7. Recommended actions, assessment of rural participation, land planning, agro-forest systems, integral farms, and integral management of biodiversity.	3.2 Technical procedures 3.3 Identification, application and assessment of techniques 3.5 Diagram 4. Annexes Annex 1. Eco-regional maps of the Mexican tropics Annex 2. Techniques and procedures Annex 3. List of Species Annex 4. Examples of the application on the guidelines Annex 5. Glossary	5. Diagnosis of the current state of forest degradation at: regional, local and farm level 6. FLR National Strategies and action lines - Primary forest - Secondary forest - Degraded forestlands 7. Monitoring and evaluation
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### **Format**

- Graphs, diagrams and tables
- Pictures and images
- Caricatures
- Maps
- Illustrations
- Hard coverage
- Separate chapters by different paper color
- Use recycled paper

### **FLR Projects**

The groups discussed 9 potential projects on FLR, but only six were locally specific:

Specific:

1. FLR in the high jungle
2. FLR in the medium jungle
3. FLR in mangroves
4. FLR in 3 communities located in the southern area of the Calakmul Biosphere
5. Implementation of FLR in the buffer zone of the Centla wetland
6. Implementation and evaluation of FLR in 4 different regions of the Mexican tropic

Not specific:

7. Regional studies for ecological and land planning.
8. Program for adaptive management for FLR
9. Strategic program for FLR in the Mexican tropical forests

These last ones are not included in the following analysis due to the lack of incidence on the results of the other groups.

### **Main problems and objectives of the projects identify**

After the presentation of working groups in this section, the facilitators confirmed the perception that the concept of FLR was not clear for all participants, and that work in groups did not cope with the misunderstanding participants had. RLF was seen as an instrument to reduce deforestation and not that much as an instrument for improving the quality of forests and the functionality of forest ecosystems. Nevertheless, there was a group of participants that got the message and could contribute with new ideas during plenary.

When analyzing this problem in Plenary, suggestion from participants were concentrated on the proposal to develop a set of pilot projects in different parts of the Mexican Tropics for gathering lessons learned that could support a national process of capacity building on the topic. It was also proposed that the development of these pilot experiences could provide the needed information for the development of a national guideline in FLR.

The following table presents the problems and objectives for the identified projects:

<b>Project</b>	<b>Problem</b>	<b>Objective</b>
FLR in the high jungle	Deforestation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply FLR methods and techniques;</li> <li>• Evaluate the application of those techniques</li> </ul>
FLR in the medium jungle		
FLR in mangroves		
FLR in 3 communities located in the southwestern area of the Calakmul Biosphere	Loss of forest genetic resources due to selective logging and high demographic pressure	Restoration and management of degraded and secondary forests in three selected Ejidos.
Implementation of FLR in the buffer zone of the Centla wetlands	Deforestation, biodiversity loss, illegal logging, induced fires for the extraction of species and expansion of livestock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide population with forest productive alternatives as permanent economic sources;</li> <li>• Diminish the rates of deforestation</li> <li>• Avoid or reduce the number of induced forest fires</li> <li>• Reduce the expansion of the agriculture frontier</li> </ul>
Implementation and evaluation of FLR in 4 different regions of the Mexican tropic	The feasibility and efficiency of implementing FLR in Mexico is still unknown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine the feasibility of implementing FLR in different conditions of the Mexican tropic landscape</li> <li>• Adequate such approach for a broader implementation in Mexico</li> <li>• Design a methodology for the implementation of FLR in the Mexican context</li> </ul>

#### **Main actions for the implementation of FLR in Mexico**

- Increase awareness among landowners and producers
- Promote and implement any strategic program on FLR in the Mexican tropics
- Inter-institutional call for the implementation of the national strategic program in FLR
- Include FLR in the rural and forestry development state agendas
- Develop national guidelines, reviewed by national experts
- Diffusion of FLR through regional workshops
- Elaboration of terms of reference for future projects that the government will support
- Selection, implementation and evaluation of projects
- Establish integrated land use plans as part of the activities to develop before, or at the same time than the implementation of FLR activities

- Promote the payment for environmental services in FLR activities
- Promote the creation of local and national working groups in order to promote the

concept of FLR, to exchange experiences and to develop ideas and actions for further implementing FLR in Mexico.

#### **Support from ITTO and IUCN**

- Technical and financial support for the development of the local guidelines
- Support the organization of participatory workshops for preparing the guidelines
- Organization of national platforms for promoting the exchange of information
- Foster, within the framework of the ITTO country members, the implementation of FLR in Mexico, as

a main element of the forest policy in that country.

- Technical and financial support for the preparation and implementation of projects
- Training
- Foster the exchange of experiences among regions in Mexico and with other countries

## **DAY FIVE**

### **ACTION PLAN**

Seven strategic lines were identified for promoting the implementation of FLR in Mexico, being the diffusion of FLR the strategic line that was most recommended by participants.

- Research
- Diffusion
- Financing
- Planning
- Implementation
- Participation
- Training

Participants proposed 104 action lines that could be developed under these seven strategic lines. For identifying the priorities among the group, participants were asked to choose their top 10 actions from the 104 already proposed. When analyzing the results and for presenting the information, facilitators re-grouped actions among the specified strategic lines with the aim to provide an order among all suggestions given by participants. However, some actions that were totally out from the scope of FLR were eliminated, since they could fit in other national frameworks but the one the workshop meant to outline. Nevertheless, as the reader will notice, some activities are more recommendations for the national authorities than real actions to be implemented under the umbrella of a National FLR Action Plan. Finally, for reducing the amount of information for this report, actions recommended with zero or one vote were eliminated from the analysis.

For the **Research Strategic Line**, recommended actions could be grouped in two action lines: Diagnosis and Studies. For "Diagnosis" the action with the higher votes was the *Analysis and assessment of ecosystems*, followed by the *need of preparing a National Situation Analysis on FLR*. The number of activities grouped under the action line "Studies" is longer, and the *Compilation and Dissemination of national studies already carried out in FLR* was identified as the most important action. It is important to highlight that *Studies for developing the national manual or guidelines* appears as a third priority.

**Table 1: Action lines and specific actions recommended for the Strategic Line “Research” in the National Action Plan**

ACTION LINES	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	VOTES
DIAGNOSIS	ANALYSIS OF ECOSYSTEMS	15
	SITUATION ANALYSIS	8
	IDENTIFICATION OF NEEDS	6
	COMPILATION AND ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION OF LANDSCAPES IN THE MEXICAN TROPIC	4
STUDIES	COMPILATION OF STUDIES CARRIED OUT IN MEXICO IN FLR	20
	RESEARCH IN PILOT PROJECTS	17
	STUDIES FOR DEVELOPING THE MANUAL IN MEXICO	9
	GOOD SALARIES FOR RESEACHERS	8
	PROMOTE ADEQUATE SPACES FOR RESEARCH	5
	FLR STATE OF ART IN MEXICO	3
	PREPARATION FOR FLR METHDOLOGIES IN MEXICO	2

For the **Diffusion Strategic Line**, it was possible to group suggested actions in four action lines: elaboration of material, promotion, development of participative workshops and the development of instruments. The *elaboration of didactic material on FLR and of manuals and brochures* were highly recommended actions, as well as the *need to raise awareness among landowners*. When it comes to instruments for diffusion it is recommended to use *massive communication meanss*.

**Table 2: Action lines and specific actions recommended for the Strategic Line – Diffusion in the National Action Plan**

ACTION LINES	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	VOTES
ELABORATION OF MATERIAL	DIDACTIC MATERIAL ON FLR	10
	MANUAL AND BROCHURES	11
PROMOTION	RAISE AWARENESS AMONG LANDOWNERS	15
	INCORPORATION OF FLR IN FOREST AND RURAL SUSTAINALBE DEVELOPMENT STATE COUNCILS	6
	FLR AMONG TECHNICIANS, PRODUCERS AND OTHER MAIN ACTORS	4
PARTICIPATIVE WORKSHOPS	FOR PRESENTING AND DISEMINATING FLR	5
	FOR EXCHANGING EXPERIENCES	2
	OTHER	6
INSTRUMENTS	DIFFUSION PROGRAM	5
	WEB PAGE	4
	USE MASSIVE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION	14
	OTHER	4

For the **Financing Strategic Line**, four action lines were identified: Identification of financial resources, normative framework, participation and the development of projects. Since government

currently supports some forest activities in the ground, some of the most recommended actions were those focused on the *support for key projects and consider real timing when supporting them*.

**Table 3: Action lines and specific actions recommended for the Strategic Line – Financing in the National Action Plan**

ACTION LINES	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	VOTES
IDENTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL SOURCES	OPTIMIZATION OF FLR PROGRAM RESOURCES	3
	IDENTIFY SUPPORT PROGRAMS AND SOURCES FOR FUNDING	3
	AIM FOR SELF FINANCEMENT	4
NORMATIVE FRAMEWORK	MINIMIZE BUROCRATIC STEPS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE GOVERNMENT	4
PARTICIPATION	ORGANIZE INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT	11
	COLABORATION AGREEMENTS	7
PROJECTS	SUPPORT KEY PROJECTS AND CONSIDER REAL TIMING FOR IMPLEMENTATION	14
	FINANCEMENT OF LOCAL ACTIVITIES	3
	FINANCEMENT BASED ON REALITY	12
	ANALYZE VIABILITY OF PROJECTS	7

**Planning** was another important Strategic Line identified, and within this, *land planning* is by far one of the most important activities recognized by participants.

**Table 4: Action lines and specific actions recommended for the Strategic Line – Planning in the National Action Plan**

ACTION LINES	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	VOTES
LAND PLANNING	LAND PLANNING	35
STRATEGIC PLAN	DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL AND REGIONAL STRATEGIC PLANS	8
SOCIAL PARTICIPATION	CONCERTACIÓN CON PRODUCTORES	4

When discussing how the first FLR will be **implemented** in Mexico, in several occasions the idea of developing pilot projects or demonstration sites were mentioned during plenary. This Strategic Line shows that participants recommended the *assessment of the economic feasibility of any project on FLR*.

**Table 5: Action lines and specific actions recommended for the Strategic Line – Implementation in the National Action Plan**

ACTION LINES	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	VOTES
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	DIFFUSE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DIFERENT RESTORATION STRATEGIES	2
	SUPPORT THE STABLISHMENT, ASSESSMENT AND IDENTIFICATION OF LESSONS LEARNED FROM PROJECTS	2
PROJECTS	DEVELOPMENT OF FLR PROJECTS	5
	IDENTIFICATION OF ECONOMIC FEASIBLE PROJECTS	11
	DEVELOPMENT OF PILOT PROJECTS OR DEMONSTRATION SITES	20

When it comes to **Training**, participants identified two specific types of actions, the ones that can be developed as workshops, and the second ones as learning by doing experiences.

**Table 6: Action lines and specific actions recommended for the Strategic Line – Training in the National Action Plan**

ACTION LINES	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	VOTES
"LEARNING BY DOING"	PRACTICAL EXPERIENCES / PROJECTS	8
PARTICIPATORY WORKSHOPS	COURSES, EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES BETWEEN LANDOWNERS, FIELD TECHNICIANS, ETC	13
	OTHER	15

Finally, **Participation** can be considered as a transverse strategic line, since it crosses all other strategic lines identified in this exercise. The activity prioritized by participants can be seen as a recommendation for the national authority: *ensure a participatory process for preparing and implementing the Action Plan.*

**Table 7: Action lines and specific actions recommended for the Strategic Line – Participation in the National Action Plan**

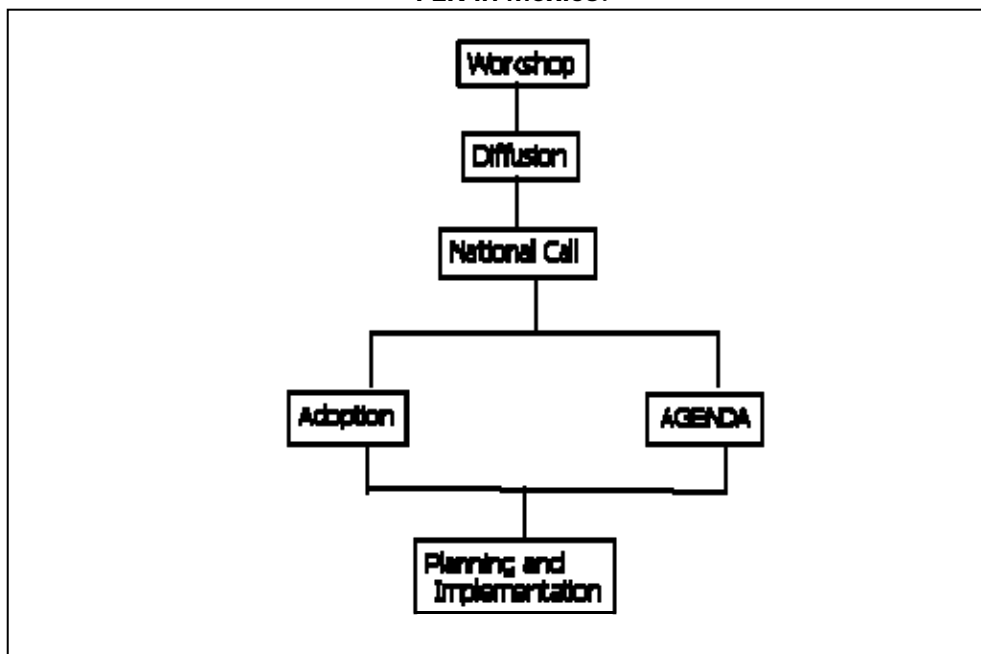
ACTION LINE	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	VOTES
PARTICIPATION	ENSURE A PARTICIPATORY PROCESS FOR PREPARING AND IMPLEMENTING THE ACTION PLAN	18
	INTERINSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION	11
	CALL FOR INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS FROM MUNICIPALITIES TO PARTICIPATE	8
	INTEGRATE THE FLR NATIONAL COMISION IN MEXICO	4

## PROPOSAL PRESENTED BY CONAFOR

The forest national authority presented a proposal for a National Strategic Plan on FLR, as illustrated hereafter, which includes the following steps:

- Adequate and adapt the Guidelines / manual to a national context
- Promote and diffuse the strategic program for FLR
- National call for experts on forest restoration, management and rehabilitation of secondary and degraded forests in Mexico. This national call will target institutions and organizations that are currently related, or will be in the future, to FLR, including the private sector and different organizations of the civil society.
- Promote the creation of national and local working groups for the exchange of experiences and development of new ideas and actions for the management and restoration of secondary and degraded forests in Mexico.
- A National working group, representative from the different sectors of the society, will develop national agenda on FLR. Over that base and over the Programs and Projects CONAFOR develops, the National Strategic Plan will be implemented.

**Diagram 1: Process for planning and implementing a Strategic Plan on FLR in Mexico.**



The national representative of CONAF at that moment, Mr. Macías ratified the compromise of CONAFOR for following the process for implementing FLR in Mexico, and mentioned that the government will lead the development of the Action Plan.

## **MAIN CONCLUSIONS**

One of the factors that influenced the evolution of the workshop was the decision made by the national forest authority and the ITTO Regional Officer, on focusing the event on the ITTO Guidelines, and not over the Reader / Manual. This had clear implications on the general outcomes of the event.

FLR is a new concept among Mexican forest authorities, practitioners and researchers. The translation for restoration, management and rehabilitation generated some noise among Scientifics who made a call for reviewing concepts previous to the development of the national guidelines / manual on FLR.

Some participants recognized that probably the best way to learn and understand the characteristics to of FLR could be by practice, therefore the proposal for developing pilot projects for preparing the national guidelines on FLR in Mexico was mentioned in plenary. On the other hand, there was a recognition that the framework of FLR has been implemented in some experiences through ancestral techniques of forest restoration. In that sense there was a call to the government for identifying those experiences and for systematizing best practices and lessons learned.

After participants had the chance to review both documents: ITTO Guidelines and the Reader, they had the perception that former document was not a direct instrument for FLR due to the conflict in

concepts the Guidelines present. Nevertheless, participants recognized the utility of the Guidelines for planning activities in restoration, management and rehabilitation of secondary and degraded forest.

For this, and for other reasons, participants recognized the need for developing a national / local instrument that will support the implementation of FLR in Mexico. In fact, participants recognized other tools besides the national manual or guideline, as needed for promoting FLR implementation on the ground.

Regarding the Manual / Reader main recommendations focused on its format and the way information is presented along the document. The main recommendation was to prepare the information presented in a more consecutive way, showing the linkages between chapters and presenting a chapter in which it could be shown how the information of the Manual can be used.

Finally participants agreed that the national forest authority was the institution responsible for promoting the implementation of FLR in the country, and therefore they strongly recommended CONAFOR to develop a participatory process for the preparation of any planning instrument that they will produce for the implementation of FLR. Also, participants asked for the creation of platforms for exchanging ideas and experiences on FLR as well as for supporting the understanding of its concept and framework.

## GEORGETOWN – GUYANA

The workshop took place between the 13-17 of March 2006 in the city of Georgetown – Guyana, at Le Meridian Hotel.

### **DAY ONE**

#### **OPENING CEREMONY**

The opening ceremony was presided over the following authorities:

- Mr. T. Balgobin, Chairman of the Board of Directors Guyana Forestry Commission
- Mr. S. Sawh, Acting Minister of Agriculture with responsibility for Forestry
- James Singh, Commissioner of Forest
- Jorge Malleux, ITTO Regional Officer for Latin America
- Ms. Consuelo Espinosa, International Facilitator, IUCN
- Tasreef Khan, National Facilitator, GFC

Mr. T. Balgobin stated that the workshop is timely and urged stakeholders/participants to make optimum use of the exercise. Mr. S. Sawh stated the importance of the workshop for Guyana since forest restoration is not a choice but a necessity. Mr. Singh offered an overview of the Guyana Forestry Commission GFC and of its main programs. Mr. Jorge Malleux emphasized the need for FLR policies and programs and stated that the workshop will be a two way learning process through which the stakeholders will gain greater knowledge from the facilitators and vice-versa. Ms. Consuelo Espinosa noted that FLR approach is pragmatic and its implementation varies from country to country.

#### **INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL SITUATION OF FORESTS**

Two presentations were made in this section, one on the international state of forest by the International Facilitator, and the second by the National Facilitator, who reviewed the extension of forests in Guyana and in the Forest Region, the extension of degraded and secondary forests, and other main information about the forest sector in the country.

For this case, the presentation of the total extension on forests in the country, as well as the estimations of secondary and degraded forests generated some discussions in Plenary. Also, participants asked for a presentation on the concepts that facilitators were using for presenting information on forests, such as primary forest, degraded and secondary, deforestation, afforestation, etc.

### **Forest situation in Guyana:**

The main conclusions of the presentations and discussions that took place during this session were:

- Forests cover 87% of the surface in Guyana
- The State of Forest covers 13.8 millions of hectares of forests, representing 74% of the national forest area.
- Estimations on the total extension of degraded and secondary forests are 2,8 million of hectares.
- The total extension of forest under the property of the government is 13,8 million hectares, while private owners and community ownership cover 4,8 millions of hectares.
- It was noted that based on the GIS software, the forestland of Guyana reflected a slightly larger area.
- There was a clear need for an updated Land Use map

### **INTRODUCTION TO THE CONCEPT FLR**

Main comments exposed on this section were:

- It was difficult for participants to visualize a landscape and questions regarding land use change to increase forest coverage were presented.
- Also there was important concern whether the implementation on FLR in the country should be accompany by a policy framework.

### **MAIN OUTCOMES FROM THE WORKING GROUPS**

Participants presented the outcomes of this working group in a matrix, which was summarized and presented hereafter:

<b>PROBLEMS</b>	<b>CAUSES</b>	<b>SOLUTIONS</b>
Over harvesting of forest traditional species	Increased demand for traditional species	• Research
Inadequate staff for deployment and transportation	Inadequate resources	Improved revenue collection
Boundary disputes	Lack of a forest survey department	Increase field survey capacity
Lack of education and awareness of SFM	Operators are more committed to financial gains;	More programs to meet the needs of all stakeholders
Impact of adverse weather	Climate change	Operators need to change their modus operandi to prevailing conditions
Inappropriate technology	Least cost of production and existing tax regimes	Standardized tax regime
Inadequate technology transfer	Poor uptake of training opportunities (e.g. FTU), Lack of incentives	Make maximum use of FTCI, system of incentives by govt.
Full value of resources not utilized	Industry is not market driven	Centralized marketing agency
Inadequate resources information	Weak GFC to provide inventory data	GFC conducts more national level inventory

Hinterland population growth	Demand for resources , adverse weather, sea level rising	Structured migration programs (townships, communities, etc).
Illegal loggers/logging	Lack of opportunities Poverty Easy access to chain saws Restricted enforcement	Improve monitoring Introducing license schemes for chainsaws, Find alternatives for income generation HR capacity
Limited value-added process	Focus on production of primary products Lack of incentives	Produce wider range of products System of incentives
Forest legislation outdated	Revised legislation not yet approved	Speed up process
Poor community based FM activities	Weak community institutions Poor planning and harvesting Lack of training	Strengthening institutions Provide opportunities for training
Lost of skills (migration)	Migration of people (community, national) Low salary	Increase opportunities in forestry
Overlapping land uses	No land use policy	National land use planning
Degradation of forests	Land use conflict Over harvesting Not following GFC's guidelines	Increased monitoring Enforcement of regulation Interagency cooperation
Lack of value added and quality	Lack of primary products Limited marketing capacity Lack of human resources	Improved research and marketing needs Liaise with bureau of standard and other approved org.
Inefficiency of Industry	Low recovery rate Outdated technology and equipment	Improve methodology and technology Improve equipment and know how
Uncontrolled harvesting of NTFP	Increase in demand No research and studies undertaken	Develop COP for harvesting More research on impacts

## DAY TWO

### FLR IN THE TROPICAL FORESTS IN GUYANA

The presentation in charge by the national facilitator showed that most efforts developed by the Guyana Forestry Commission GFC were focused on pilot plantations. Also he presented the Interim Forestry Project and rehabilitations efforts at mined-out areas. One of the main conclusions of this session was that in Guyana, basically afforestation and agroforestry activities were developed for restoring forestlands. Also, it was realized that it is needed to have a better agreement on the current situation of forests before moving forward.

The Guyana Forestry Commission stated that FLR will not be focusing on Primary forest but through Guyana as a whole, thus activities will include areas that are part of the forest region.

## THE ITTO GUIDELINES AND THE MANUAL

After both presentations, of the manual and the guidelines, participants worked in groups. The questions presented in this session aimed to promote the revision of specific parts of the Guidelines and the Reader, with the further objective of sharing main findings in Plenary. However this not necessarily happened since presentations in Plenary were very short and concrete. Then, in order to ensure the adequate exchange of information among participants, it was decided among facilitators to mix people from the 3 groups to form the new working groups for the field trip.

The question prepared for each groups were.

Group 1:

- Discuss the information you might need for ensuring adaptive management in any FLR initiative?
- What steps an adaptive management should include?
- When do you think adaptive management should consider trade – offs?
- Read the Case study presented in Page 23 of the Reader. Do you think adaptive management was used along the experience? If so, discuss when this happened?

Group 2:

- Discuss which are the main methodologies YOU use for: identifying, involving and assessing stakeholders' interests in a field activity.
- Compare your notes with the suggestions presented in the Reader/Manual and discuss what is new or what is missing. Pick one of the methods suggested in the reader and analyze its utility.
- Discuss how participation can determine adaptive management in a FLR project.
- Read the Case presented in page 23 of the Reader and discuss which the main stakeholders are and how their participation became a key factor for the success of the experience?

Group 3:

- Discuss how the double filter encourages adaptive management.
- How does the double filter and the trade off principles can complement when analyzing the economic, cultural, ecological, biophysical factors of a landscape.
- Discuss how can you overcome the lack of information when working on the establishment of FLR initiative?
- Read the Case presented in page 23 of the Reader and discuss how do you think the double filter principle applies in this case?

## MAIN OUTCOMES FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

### FLR in Guyana

- Forest restoration happens in Guyana, but not FLR;
- Some principles of FLR are being implemented at a site level;
- There are some projects already being developed in forest restoration but they are very costly.
- Some characteristics already being implemented in Guyana are: Trade-off, Adaptive Management, Double filter, Local stakeholder involvement in planning and management, restoring forest functionality.

### **Opportunity**

- Degraded Lands such as Linden Highway – very important area for water conservation
- Mined-out areas
- Bauxite, gold and diamond mine areas
- Possibility for implementing forest activities and improve community development
- Restore watershed management
- Reduce erosion
- Government support
- Guidelines
- Implementation of FLR with International Environmental Conventions

### **Actors**

- Local communities
- Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
- Funding agencies (UNDP, CIDA etc)
- GFC
- AMCAR
- NARI
- Local Authority
- GGMC
- Government agencies
- NGOs (local and international)

### **Needs**

- Funding
- Education, awareness,
- Policy Framework
- Social – economical needs
- Political will
- Policy support
- Funding
- Stakeholder commitment
- Capacity building
- Baseline data

### **Utility of Documents**

Participants found the Guidelines and the Reader very useful for increasing knowledge, for been informative, for providing guidance and for presenting case studies. However they commented that more clarity was needed in relation to guiding the implementation of activities.

### **What is missing from the Guidelines and the Reader:**

- Glossaries from both documents should be standardized.
- Reader needs an executive summary.
- The Reader contains sentences too long.
- Some definitions need simplification - Double Filter: Term not a user friendly, good if can find a better self explanatory term.
- Definition in Glossary – needs revision (restoration) and inclusion of some acronyms not covered (ecological integrity).
- For making the Reader friendlier the material needs some improvement: simplification of the content and font change.
- The Reader needs some work for becoming a Manual.
- The Manual should include a section on how to begin a project on FLR and how to prepare a project proposal.
- The Manual should include a section on the planning phase before the implementation of activities;
- There is a need also regarding alternative economic opportunities to generate income on a short term level.

## **DAY THREE**

For the field trip, specific questions were included to those already prepared, fostering the use of the Reader, specially using the information the groups reviewed and generated on the day before.

1. Propose a mechanism to involve the stakeholders in the initiative;
2. How can you ensure to have an adaptive management in the initiative?
3. Explain the main trade – offs that might occur in that landscape.
4. Did the analysis made yesterday in the working groups help you in answering these questions?

The field trip included the visit to three different places, Durabuisi mined – out area, the forest reserve Chikabaru and NARI Farm and Linden Highway area of secondary forest being used by a new community established in the forest.

### **Linden Degraded Area - Durabusi**

Bauxite Mining first occurred in 1917 in this area. Activities continued with nothing much being done to rehabilitate the area. However, within recent times a few attempts were made to rehabilitate the area.

### **Chikabaru Reserve**

The Chikabaru/Marshall Reserve is located some 28-30 km along the eastern side of the Linden-Ituni Road. Chikabaru is a logged over compartment within a large forest concession. TSA 8/85, held by Mondeen's Industries Limited. The Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC) operates under an informal agreement with Mondeen's Industries Limited. Chikabaru has been and is used for various research and training programs.

## **MAIN OUTCOMES FROM THE WORKING GROUPS**

As result of the work in groups and through their presentations it was clear for facilitators that participants had internalized some characteristics of FLR, and were using the terms continuously. However participants could not picture a mosaic of activities within a landscape, failing to identify site level interventions for achieving a main FLR objective. Also some participants could not see the importance of participation for planning, decision making and implementation of activities.

## **DAY FOUR**

## **MAIN OUTCOMES FROM THE WORKING GROUPS**

### **Need for a specific local tool for implementing FLR**

All three groups agreed that the reader and guidelines provided useful information, but also agreed on the need for a national specific tool - a national field manual.

### **Objectives and structure of a proposed national field manual**

<b>OBJECTIVES</b>		
Guide national FLR initiatives	To give stakeholders a step by step guide in planning and implementing FLR nationally.	To rehabilitate, restore and implement multi-use management for FLR in Guyana
<b>PROPOSAL FOR STRUCTURE</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduction</li> <li>- Definition</li> <li>- Approaches and techniques for FLR</li> <li>- Site level options</li> <li>- Glossary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is FLR?</li> <li>- What is Adaptive Management</li> <li>- Stakeholder approach and benefits</li> <li>- Methods of data collection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Introduction               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Definitions</li> <li>▪ Objective</li> <li>▪ Suggested sites</li> <li>▪ Description of chapters</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Acronyms</li> </ul>	<p>and analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identify site level options</li> <li>- Site level strategies for restoring forest functions</li> <li>- Monitoring and Evaluation</li> <li>- Glossary</li> <li>- Annex</li> <li>- Reference</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Building the Support framework</li> <li>o Strategies for restoration at site-level</li> <li>o Strategies for rehabilitation at site-level</li> <li>o Strategies for Multiple use Management</li> <li>o Conflict Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Negotiation skills</li> </ul> </li> <li>o Procedure for Data collection and sharing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Collection of general ecological data</li> <li>▪ Accessing data from previous surveys</li> </ul> </li> <li>o Glossary</li> </ul>
<b>FORMAT</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Readable fonts</li> <li>- Simple language</li> <li>- Clear and adequate illustrations</li> <li>- Field useable</li> </ul>	<p>Pocket size Simple standard English</p>	<p>Pocket Book size for the fields to support the larger version in the library</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Language –English</li> <li>▪ More diagrams than in present manual</li> </ul>

**Projects Proposed in Guyana**

- Mined out areas in Mahdia (twice proposed)
- Restoration of Mined out Areas in and around Linden
- Managing Secondary Forest along the Linden/Soesdyke Highway.
- Degraded Area-Best Village, WBD
- Amerindian Communities-St. Cutbert's
- The Guyana FLR Program
- Areas proposed for Hydro-electric projects.
- Linden/Soesdyke road corridor
- Site of OMAI Gold mines Limited

The next table presents the main problem each project will overcome and the main objective of the FLR initiative.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Problem</b>	<b>Objective</b>
Mined out areas in Mahdia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restoration of land degraded by Gold Mining</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To restore forest landscape</li> <li>• Allows for commercial exploitation of restored areas.</li> <li>• To improve forest functionality, including ecosystem-hydrological, biological</li> <li>• To guarantee participatory M&amp;E as a base for adaptive management</li> </ul>
Restoration of Mined out Areas in and around Linden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area degraded /nil economic value</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase forest area to provide ecological</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weak economic situation within area</li> <li>• Community does not benefit from the area</li> </ul>	<p>functions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase socio-economic benefits to the communities within close proximity.</li> <li>• Improve the landscape and land use.</li> </ul>
Managing Secondary Forest along the Linden/Soesdyke Highway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholders participation, interest and trust</li> <li>• Conflicting land uses</li> <li>• Promotion of inter-agency collaboration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secure the permanence of the secondary forest to enhance its protective environment and recreational functions and values</li> <li>• Increase of productivity and value of secondary forest to generate income for local communities</li> <li>• To enhance stakeholders participation, interest and trust</li> </ul>
Degraded Area-Best Village, WBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coastal erosion</li> <li>• Destruction of marine ecosystem</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance Mangrove Vegetation</li> </ul>
Amerindian Communities-St. Cutbert's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Depletion of biodiversity-near by forest</li> <li>• Degraded area-Slash and Burn activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide alternative livelihoods</li> <li>• To restore degraded areas</li> <li>• To improve biodiversity</li> </ul>
The Guyana FLR Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restoration of mined-out areas covering silica and gold and multiple-use management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To restore degraded areas</li> <li>• To promote multi-use management</li> <li>• To enhance livelihood in areas where we work</li> </ul>

### **Activities for promoting the implementation of FLR in Guyana**

- Policy Framework
- Acquire / Access Funding
- Education
- Prioritize areas for FLR
- Financial support/security for long-term management – 30 yrs and more
- Awareness and sensitization programs
- Technical support
- Lobby for political support
- Development of base line data
- Core Group and support representative
- Land Use Plan and Map
- Action plan/management plan
- Host National consultation forum

### **Support needed from ITTO to help FLR implementation in Guyana**

- Training and Guidance
- Technical Assistance
- Training Materials
- Funding
- Capacity building

## DAY FIVE

### AREAS TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE ACTION PLAN

The following areas were identified by participants during the last day of event for including in a national Action Plan:

- Funding
- Policy Framework
- Data collection
- Education
- Monitoring and Evaluation

### PRIORITIZED ACTIVITIES

Listed below is a list of actions that participants considered, from a bigger set, as priorities.

#### Funding

- Allocation of funding from local means
- Identify funding source
- Security for long-term management
- Solicit donor agencies/individuals with an interest in FLR (write proposal)

#### Policy framework

- Policy development
- Develop a National Action Plan and Management Plan
- Ensure stakeholder consultation
- Land Use map and plan
- Establish a core group to promote FRL

#### Data collection

- Creation of maps
- Data base development
- Prioritize areas for FLR
- Collection and management of base line data
- Cost and benefit analysis
- Equipment
- Surveys

#### Education

- Hold national consultations
- Develop proposal and solicit technical support
- Education and awareness
- Media messages
- Electronic and Print Media
- Meetings

#### Monitoring and Evaluation

- Use collected dataset for guidance to develop FLR Management plan
- Produce spatially descriptive products
- Conduct gap analysis

### LIST OF KEY OBJECTIVES OF PROPOSED CORE GROUP

Since the formation of the Core Group was discussed and agreed during this last day of the workshop, a small group of participants described the objectives this Core Groups should have:

- To facilitate Education and Awareness in Hinterland Areas
- To provide scientific information
- To monitor and evaluate FLR
- To provide technical support
- To collaborate on FLR projects

- To develop a policy framework
- To develop land use management
- To manage base line data collection

The proposal of the group members are:

1. Local Communities throughout Guyana
2. National Agriculture Research Institute (NARI)
3. Guyana Forestry Commission
4. Guyana Geology and Mines Commission
5. Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission
6. Funding Agencies
7. Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
8. Environmental Protection Agency
9. Office of the President
10. Ministry of Local Government
11. Conservation International, Guyana
12. Forests Products Association
13. Private Sector Companies – Forests Concessionaries

## Conclusions

FLR is also a new concept among forest authorities, practitioners and researchers. Nevertheless participants could interiorize the characteristics of FLR easily. Participants could recognize that some characteristics of FLR are already being implemented at a site level, but most of the interventions at a site level are afforestation and agroforestry.

Since mining is an important economic activity in the country, and since resources are located underneath the forests, there is a big concern regarding restoration in previous mined-abandoned areas. Such activities could be very expensive not only for the barely non existence of forest in those areas, but due to the presence of toxic material in the zone that would need to be taken away or treated. This could be one of the reasons why participants have the perception that forest restoration activities could be extremely expensive.

Regarding the documents analyzed: the ITTO Guidelines and the Reader, participants found them very useful for solving some problems that FSM faces, as well as to take advantage of the opportunities identified for FLR implementation in Guyana. However, they expressed the need for national manuals on implementing FLR.

Participants also recommended the forest authority to support the dissemination of FLR, and to develop a participatory process that will facilitate the implementation of the approach in the country.

## EL PETEN - GUATEMALA

### DAY ONE

#### OPENING CEREMONY

The workshop in Guatemala took place from the 20-24 march 2006, and the opening ceremony was held on the first day of the meeting, in the Hotel El Petén at the city with the same name. The following authorities attended the ceremony:

- The Major of El Petén
- A local representative from the National Institute of Forests INAB
- The Director of the National Forest Program
- The Regional Officer of ITTO in Latin America and the Caribbean

- The International facilitators from IUCN

Participants were encouraged to learn and work for the workshop since the outcomes of the event would be of their entire benefit. The national authority on forest recognized the importance of forest restoration activities and recognized the support that ITTO has provided in the past.

## **INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL SITUATION OF FORESTS**

Two presentations were made in this session, the one by the international facilitator on the global state of forests, and the second one by the national facilitator on the national advances of the forest sector in Guatemala. This former presentation was focused on rates of deforestation and on the evolution of the legal and institutional frameworks. It also highlighted the set of working groups established around forest nationally and regionally.

### **Presentation on the state of the forests in Guatemala:**

Main conclusions of this presentation were:

- Contribution of forest to National GDP is 2.5%
- The sector generates 80,000 and 160,000 direct and indirect jobs respectively
- In 1960, 77 % of the surface was covered with forests
- Deforestation rates vary according to different authors; one of the sources recognizes that in 1990 forests covered 32% of the national surface; others more conservative estimates that in the year 2003, forest covered 41% of the surface.
- In Peten, it is estimated that for the period 1969-1982 deforestation raised up to 285,000 hectares in average per year
- Other more conservative authors, estimated that the annual deforestation average were 163,000 hectares at a national level
- The National Institute for Forests INAB was created in 1996 and currently implements the Forest Incentive Program, fostering in this way reforestation activities along the country
- The establishment of plantations due to governmental incentives during the period 1979 – 1997 were estimated in 19,337 hectares
- From other Governmental programs, the total extension of plantations increased at a national level to 96,047 hectares until the year 2005

## **MAIN OUTCOMES FROM THE WORKING GROUPS**

### **Main forest problems in Guatemala**

Problems were grouped in 5 categories as follows:

- **Governance**
  - Public policies are deficient in definitions
  - Institutions are instable, uncoordinated and there is an overlap among the activities they performed
  - Weak juridical system
  - Lack of agreements among environmentalists and the forest sector
  - Bureaucratic processes for forest management
- **Economy**
  - Insufficient investment in the sector
  - Limited access to markets/ no valuation of forest goods and services
  - Little added value of forest products
  - Market concentrated on few forest species

- **Environment**
  - Deforestation
  - Land use change
  - Low productivity of land
  - Expansion of agricultural frontier
  - Forest fires
- **Social**
  - Lack of training and education
  - Narcotrafic
  - Colonization
  - No inclusion of social components in the management of NR
- **Technology**
  - Low technological development
  - Lack of technical assistance in agriculture and forest activities
  - Lack of agro-ecological principles
  - Lack of integration of biodiversity criterions in programs for natural resources management

#### **Main causes of national forest problems**

- Weaknesses in the application of the law
- Corruption
- Demographic growth
- Migratory agriculture and extensive livestock
- Natural disasters
- Low profile of a forest culture
- Lack of investment
- Poverty
- Illegal logging
- Low productivity of agro systems
- Incipient technology in the timber industrial sector
- Lack of agro-ecologic principles, not allowing to include all the components of forests in an integral manner
- No forest norms promoting the legal use of resources
- Economic growth models
- Market does not recognize the value of the forests

#### **Main Solutions to forest national problems**

- **Management and conservation strategies**
  - Foster co-management in protected areas
  - Promote forest certification
  - Land planning
- **Governance**
  - A unique forest regulation entity
  - Effective forest policies
  - Improve norms
  - Law enforcement
- **Participation**
  - Increase the incident of the sector on decision making processes
  - Influence sectorial agendas
  - Strength local and national organization
  - Involve the private sector
  - Promote the exchange of experiences
- **Research and education**
  - Promote research programs
  - Promote education
  - Promote the management of knowledge and information

- **Economic**
  - Investment: Involve external investment
  - Incentives: for concessions, in general for forest activities
  - Market: trade nets, promotion of new markets
  - Valuation: good and services from the forests
  - Influence macroeconomic policies

## **DAY TWO**

Two presentations were made in this session, the first one by the national facilitator presenting activities that have been done in Guatemala in forest restoration, and the main results of a research work regarding the national restoration process of the forest after the Maya civilization.

### **FLR IN THE TROPICAL FORESTS IN GUATEMALA**

The main conclusions from this presentation were:

- Erosion rate is estimated to vary between 20-300 tons/ha/year in no-deforested regions, and between 700-1100 in deforested lands
- There are important laws and regulation that can foster the national development of forest restoration activities
- Government has promoted forest rehabilitation and restoration through forest concessions and forest plantations

### **MAIN OUTCOMES FROM THE WORKING GROUPS**

#### **FLR in Guatemala:**

- FLR has not been implemented in Guatemala
- Some characteristics of the approach are applied at a site level, but not in an integral manner
- Among the main characteristics recognized from FLR that are already been implemented at a site level are restoration of the functionality of forest, participation of key actors in planning, decision making and in implementation.

#### **Opportunities for implementing FLR**

- Large area of secondary and degraded forest in the country (South of Peten, Southern coast, Central Altiplano, agricultural areas within concessions, Tigre Lake, buffer zone of the Mayan Biosphere Reserve)
- The existence of local nets that can allow scaling up lessons learned from local experiences

#### **Challenges in implementing FLR**

- Build a consented national policy framework for FLR
- Link current policies for the implementation of FLR
- Develop efficient tools and financing mechanisms for developing FLR
- Design incentives for FLR
- Integration of cultural and natural diversity to current forest restoration activities
- Strategic alliances
- Land Planning

#### **Main Actors for FLR implementation**

- Municipalities
- Governmental Institutions
- NGOs
- Universities

- International Cooperation
- Central and local Government
- Land Owners
- Forest Associations
- Communities
- Private Sector

### **The guideline and the reader**

- The Guidelines are generic and descriptive. They represent the conceptual framework for orienting the implementation of FLR activities.
- The Reader can be applied as an operative and field document. It is a compendium of case studies, methods and tools for implementing some activities. It could represent material for training.

### **Utility of the documents**

<b>Aspect</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Guidelines</b>
Increase knowledge and decision making process	It presents case studies for getting to know the application of direct FLR activities	It provides ideas of activities to be considered for FLR implementation, at a local and policy level
Implementation of FLR	Require the adaptation to local and regional conditions	It does not help, since it does not offer specific steps for FLR implementation

### **What is missing**

- Validate the applicability of FLR according to the national reality
- Clarification regarding the steps and sequence of activities for starting a project on FLR
- Include a chapter on economic aspects
- Use the current reader and Guideline for a pilot project implementation and identify what other things should be included
- Develop adequate documents as:
  - Field Manual
  - Implementation Guideline

## **DAY THREE**

For the field trip we visited the *Comunidad las Carmelitas*, which is a land concession that was given to the community and that currently develops forest activities and other communitarian activities with the support of international organizations and donors. Unfortunately, forest activities developed in this area are basically focused on forest management and none restoration activities have been developed in the area besides the one that had occurred over the years on natural basis.

This deficiency on the identification of an appropriate site can be explained due to the limited consultations and feedback provided by the national facilitator in this regard; also due to the fact that the national facilitator was not familiar with FLR and could not difference from FSM schemes.

Even this generated some disappointments between participants, they were able to analyze different factors during the visit for implementing FLR activities in that area, increasing the level of understanding of the concept and its characteristics. The level of participants allowed this outstanding exercise and supported to overcome the lack of a good field trip.

## MAIN OUTCOMES FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

### Causes of degradation of the site visited

#### Land use

- Land invasions
- Increase of livestock activities
- Low productivity of land

#### Environmental

- Traditional schemes of resources management
- Conventional conservation principles reduced the scope of activities that could be developed within the forest
- Forest fires

#### Economic and Social

- Low value of forest services and of NTP
- Development of bad oriented development policies
- Poverty
- Lack of awareness
- Demographic pressures

#### Political, legal and institutional

- Lack of law enforcement and application
- Poor level of governability
- Groups of power against forest management

### How the Reader can be improved:

Incorporation of a diagram for:

- Presenting the information included in the document
- Explaining the limits of the content
- Explaining the sequences for implementing FLR
- Presenting implementation mechanisms
- Presenting Monitoring and verification tools

### FLR Projects

#### Objectives of FLR projects in the field trip

- Reestablish forest functionality for the benefit of local actors and for integrating different land uses to the forest ecosystem.
- Increase the commitment with land management and forest restoration

## DAY FOUR

## MAIN OUTCOMES FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

### Need for a specific local tools for implementing FLR

Each group identified the need for developing specific tools for implementing FLR in Guatemala. The objective, content and format is summarized in the next table

#### Objectives and structure of this tool

OBJECTIVE		
Provide the social, cultural and ecological contexts for facilitating the implementation of FLR in Guatemala	National consented guidelines for implementing FLR	National document that includes all elements for implementing FLR in Guatemala

<b>CONTENT</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preface</li> <li>• How to use the manual</li> <li>• Abbreviations</li> <li>• Introduction (Situation of secondary and degraded forests in Guatemala and its causes)</li> <li>• Definitions</li> <li>• Principles of FLR, recommended actions, methods, tools and case studies</li> <li>• Process for implementing FLR</li> <li>• Bibliography</li> <li>• Glossary</li> <li>• Annexes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Getting to know FLR               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Background</li> <li>○ Objectives and scope</li> <li>○ Principles and concepts</li> <li>○ Activities</li> </ul> </li> <li>• National considerations for applying FLR               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Aspects of national biodiversity and social and cultural aspects</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Applying FLR in Guatemala               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Defining landscapes and actors</li> <li>○ Defining the national objective of FLR</li> <li>○ Adapting the Guidelines to national reality</li> <li>○ Implementing specific guidelines</li> <li>○ Applying lessons learned</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annexes</li> <li>• Examples</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Preface</li> <li>2. Introduction</li> <li>3. Definitions: (Table 1. pg. 10 from the Guidelines)</li> <li>4. Type of forests:</li> <li>5. Causes of degradation</li> <li>6. Issues of forests in Guatemala regarding degradation               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Economic</li> <li>b) Social</li> <li>c) Cultural</li> <li>d) Environmental</li> </ol> </li> <li>7. FLR               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Definitions (pg. 19 Reader)</li> <li>b) Technical components of FLR</li> </ol> </li> <li>8. Methodologies at site level of degraded forests               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Management of degraded forests</li> <li>b) Silviculture and plantations</li> <li>c) Livestock and agroforestry</li> </ol> </li> <li>9. Case Studies</li> <li>10. Finance mechanisms</li> <li>11. Biodiversity productivity and other forest services</li> <li>12. Glossary</li> <li>13. Bibliography</li> <li>14. Annexes.</li> </ol>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Size: 2A</li> <li>• Include text and pictures, maps and diagrams</li> <li>• Font 12</li> <li>• Number of pages: Max 100</li> <li>• Electronic version and hardcopy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include a lot of graphs, draws and diagrams</li> <li>• Include a summary at the end of each chapter</li> <li>• Digital format (CD, DVD).</li> <li>• Available in the Internet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Size: 2A no longer than 25 pages</li> <li>• Mix of text and diagrams</li> <li>• Digital and electronic formats</li> <li>• Include a manual for implementers</li> </ul>

### **FLR Projects**

Participants identified 13 potential projects, but only 6 were analyzed.

#### **Peten**

- FLR at the central block of forest concessions at the Mayan Reserve
- Landscape restoration of the concession area in San Miguel, Peten

#### **Hydrographic basins**

- FLR at the Atitlan Lake
- Basins management
- FLR at the high basin of the Itza Lake
- FLR in the Dulce river basin

### National Level

- FLR Communities and municipalities
- Degraded areas due to natural disasters
- Integral management of the buffer zone of the SIGAP

### Per-urban Areas

- Management of the Green Belt in Guatemala

### Others

- Mangroves restoration
- Critical zones of Cuchumatanes
- FLR of the North Transversal Zone (Raxuja – Cadenas)

### Main problems and objectives for the identified projects

<b>Project</b>	<b>Problem</b>	<b>Objective</b>
FLR at the central block of forest concessions at the Mayan Reserve	Invasions within the reserve	Restoration of degraded zones and stop impacts of invasions
FLR at the Atitlan Lake	Damages caused in communitarian water systems and communitarian infrastructure	Restoration of forest conditions, preventing and managing risks
RPF at the Dulce River	Agricultural frontier expansion	Stop the expansion of the agricultural frontier and restoration of forest functionality
High Basin management	Flow reduction Erosion Forest degradation	Flow restoration Reduction of erosion Forest Improvement
Mangroves restoration	No sustainable use Habitat destruction	Habitat restoration Sustainable management
Integral management of the SIGAP buffer zone	Soil degradation No sustainable management	Restore levels of productivity Diminish pressures over the protected area

### Main actions for the implementation of FLR in Guatemala

- Creation of a national commission on FLR in Guatemala
- Promote a net of actors
- Incorporation of FLR in renewable resources management policies in the country
- Promote the investment on FLR
- Design and implementation of financial mechanisms in FLR
- Training and diffusion on FLR
- Training future trainers
- Incorporate FLR principles in national programs related to the use and management of natural resources.
- Develop pilot experiences at a national level

### Support from ITTO and IUCN

#### Technical Assistance for:

- The elaboration, dissemination and training of a national manual on FLR
- Pre-investment of projects
- Formulation of projects

- Financing pilot projects

**Technical Assistance for:**

- Elaboration of the Manual
- Design of projects
- Facilitators / consultants for the national process for implementing FLR

**DAY FIVE**

Since one of the most important recommendations of participants was the formation of a national working group for developing a National Initiative in FLR, participants were asked to work in pairs for discussing and proposing the objectives of this working group. After this exercise, participants proposed the main strategic lines for such initiative, identifying some activities to be considered within these lines.

**THE NATIONAL WORKING GROUP AND THE INITIATIVE IN FLR**

The objective of the working group is to conduct and coordinate national efforts for the implementation of FLR in Guatemala. The National Working Group was established at the workshop with the following people, but the agreement was to increase the number of representatives after the workshop:

- José Contreras, CUDEP/USAC
- Cesar Castañeda, UVG
- Mario Méndez, FAUSAC
- Federico Alvarado, Forest Social association
- Roberto Cáceres, environmental sector
- Ebal Sales, INAB
- Mario Díaz, INAB
- Héctor Gutierrez, National Commission on Protected Areas

The activities agreed by the national working group during the workshop were:

1. Definition of an Agency in charge of following the workshop. This was already agreed on the workshop, giving this responsibility to the Forest National Program
2. National call for a first meeting of the working group
  - Proposal for the agenda:
    - Registration
    - Forum for discussion
    - Formation of Commissions (Definition of functions, Internal Regulations, Strategic Plans, Promotion and diffusion of FLR; Management of resources; Internal training)
3. Presentation of the results of every Commission
4. Implementation of each Commission's workplan
5. Development of the Strategic Plan
6. Elaboration of the National Strategy for implementing FLR
7. Agreement on Strategic actions for implementing FLR in Guatemala
8. Identification and involvement of new key actors (public sector, private sector, municipalities, regional, NGOs)
9. Nations Strategy for the implementation on FLR approved

Participants also discussed and identified strategic lines for the National Initiative:

- Policy framework
- Diffusion and promotion
- Management
- Training
- Creation and development of instruments for FLR implementation

- Participation

The main activities mentioned for each strategic line were:

<b>Strategic line</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Policy framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Incorporate FLR in the formulation of public policies</li> <li>- Include an strategic line of FLR within the National Forest Agenda</li> <li>- Include FLR in national and local agendas of private and public sectors</li> </ul>
Diffusion and promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promotion and disclosure of FLR</li> <li>- Diffuse the importance of FLR</li> </ul>
Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support the formulation of projects</li> <li>- Support initiatives of other organizations</li> <li>- Identify financing opportunities</li> </ul>
Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Formation of a group of experts on FLR</li> <li>- Provide technical assistance on FLR at a national level</li> </ul>
Creation and development of instruments for FLR implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development of a national manual on FLR</li> <li>- Develop a national document on FLR criterions</li> </ul>
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Generate participation spaces</li> <li>- Create and facilitate inter-institutional alliances</li> <li>- Create and strength forum for discussion and for building consent</li> </ul>

## MAIN CONCLUSIONS

There is a clear recognition that the establishment of the National Institute of Forests in Guatemala has supported the extension of plantation along the country, including an important improvement on the forest sector in the last 10 years. It is also known and accepted that estimations for deforestation varies from author to author.

The FLR approach was of interest to participants and they also recognize the need of governmental support for the implementation of it in the country. Characteristics of FLR were identified to exist in restoration projects at a site level, and scaling up at a landscape level represents the main challenge for participants. Nevertheless, since the time in the workshop was not enough to analyze the restoration of degraded forest and the management of secondary forests, there was confusion regarding the kind of practices that such activities will imply.

The need to develop and count with a specific local guideline and manual was recognize as a mean for supporting the understanding of the concept, as well as for the implementation of activities in the country. Again, the need to include a section on economic / finance mechanisms for its implementation was raised in this event, as well as the need to have a section that can describe how to begin activities in the ground.

Even participants demanded from the government an appropriation regarding the process for developing the Strategic Initiative for implementing FLR, they also demanded the inclusion of different sectors in the process that they recommended for building the initiative. The creation of the National Working Group on FLR was the main result of the event and a clear step forward in ensuring the participation of different actors for the implementation of FLR in Guatemala. Nevertheless, the recognition of technical and financial support from ITTO and IUCN was recognized as needed, especially to the fact that there are not experts on FLR in the country.

## **6. LESSONS LEARNT**

The main lessons learned from the development of the workshops will be presented in benefit of the process that IUCN is following in supporting the implementation of the 9 national workshops.

### **Regarding the preparation of the event:**

- It could be a good idea to organize a meeting between the international facilitator and the national facilitators in order review main concepts of FLR, review the logical behind the agenda, the content of the presentations, and reach agreement on the roles each one of the facilitators will have during the event. This will allow to:
  - o Facilitate the process of preparation among facilitators – national and international;
  - o Encourage the countries to identify a national facilitator in advance
  - o Justify the role of having 2 facilitators for the workshop
- When dealing with countries where FLR is not either know not applied, the national facilitator could be seen as a future reference for the theme in the country, but he/she would need to receive extra capacity building or information on the thematic
- When the region has an ITTO Regional representative, the agenda and content of the event should also be shared with this person previously to the event. It could also be good to have his/her participation in any preparation workshop among facilitators.

### **Regarding the content of the workshop:**

- The analysis of the Manual / Reader should had been better prepared to deal with the fact that: a) participants are not familiar on FLR; b) participants do not read the manual in advance to the event; c) participants can not read the entire document during the event.
- Participants demanded the presentation and discussion of concepts. Depending on the audience, the absence of this in the agenda could become a real problem for the implementation of the event.
- The complete understanding of FLR during the workshop is not possible mostly for the lack of participants to visualize how activities can be implemented in a landscape level. An exercise to help tackling this problem should be included in events that aim to present the concept and characteristics of FLR in an audience that is not familiar with the approach.

### **Regarding involvement of participants:**

- For closing activities every day it was good to choose in advance one participant representative from different sectors of society, to present the main conclusions of the day according to his perception;
- Involving participants for time-keeping increases the responsibility of people for getting in time for each session and for respecting time available for discussion. Nevertheless, not matter what method was used for time-keeping, participants always qualified this as the worst aspect of the workshop.
- When dividing participants on working groups it is well accepted to give some suggestions to facilitators on how to promote the participation in the group and how to encourage participants to fulfill the tasks on time, respecting everyone's opinion.

## **7. PARTICIPANTS' EVALUATION**

Participant's evaluations were very similar for the case of Mexico and Guyana. For instance, day two was considered as a very bad day and evaluations in that day were the lowest of the week. In the case of Guatemala, evaluations were the highest of the three workshops, and it was clear that the

incorporation of every lesson learned from the other previous events applied in the Guatemala made a clear difference.

In fact, evaluations show that the incorporation of main lessons learned in every new workshop, increased the qualification participants gave to the different aspects of the event. As shown in the following table, from general evaluations, participants evaluated the event in Mexico as very good in a 61%, while 72% of participants gave the same qualification in Guatemala.

<b>Qualification</b>	<b>Mexico</b>	<b>Guyana</b>	<b>Guatemala</b>
Very good	61%	69%	72%
Good	32%	28%	26%
Other	7%	3%	2%

Nevertheless, these evaluations did not include the field trip, so averages could diminish a little since participants expected to see FLR experiences during the visits. For the case of Guatemala, the evaluation in this day was particularly low, since the experience visited was regarding a forest management experience and not a forest restoration one.

Facilitation was the element of the event best qualified for the cases in Mexico and Guatemala, while for Guyana content was the best aspect of the event according to participant's perception. This clearly has an explanation on the communication limitations the international facilitator had in expressing herself as in her native language.

	<b>Mexico</b>	<b>Guyana</b>	<b>Guatemala</b>
Content	2	1	
Objectives	1	2	2
Facilitation	1		1

For all three events the aspect that received the lowest qualification was time keeping, even though that different mechanism were used in all the events, and that for the case of Guyana, activities ended at 5h00 as scheduled. Nevertheless this qualification could be given to the fact that participants complained a lot about the short time given in each session for discussion.

## 8. ANNEXES

### Annex 1: Workshop Agenda – Campeche

#### Taller Nacional en Directrices de la OIMT para la restauración, ordenación y rehabilitación de bosques tropicales secundarios y degradados

6 – 10 Marzo 2006

Campeche - México

#### Día 1: Lunes 6 de marzo

Hora	Actividad
09h00	Bienvenida del país anfitrión - Santiago Pinzón Lizárraga. Gerente Regional de CONAFOR - Jorge Gracia Rodríguez. Secretario de Desarrollo Rural del Gobierno del Estado de Campeche - Dr. Manuel Angulo Romero – Secretario de Ecología del Gobierno del Estado de Campeche
09h20	Bienvenida de Institución Organizadora y Co-organizadora ITTO: Jorge Malleux. Oficial Regional (a.i) de la OIMT para América Latina IUCN: Consuelo Espinosa - Facilitadora Internacional
09h50	Video en RPF
10h15	Presentación de participantes
11h00	RECESO
11h20	Introducción al taller - Revisión Objetivo Día 1
11h45	Revisión de Ciclo de Aprendizaje Taller – Revisión Agenda Día 1
12h00	Revisión del contexto global en bosques – principales problemas y tendencias en la actualidad
12h20	Avances y logros en restauración de bosques tropicales en México
12h40	Revisión de la situación forestal en el Trópico Mexicano
13h00	Sesión de Preguntas
13h30	ALMUERZO
15h00	Situación forestal en México - Grupos de Trabajo
16h14	Reporte en plenaria sobre los 3 grupos de trabajo  Sesión de Pregunta
16h40	RECESO
16h50	Introducción a la RPF
17h25	Sesión de Preguntas
17h40	Evaluación y Cierre del Día 1

**Día 2: Martes 7 de Marzo**

<b>Hora</b>	<b>Actividad</b>
08h00	Recapitulación Día 1 y revisión objetivo Día 2
08h30	Manejo de Bosques Secundarios
08h50	Presentación sobre experiencias de restauración forestal en la Península de Yucatán
09h10	Presentación sobre los Programas Hidrológicos Forestales, su elaboración y uso como herramienta de gestión.
09h30	Presentación de una iniciativa local: Rehabilitación de Acahuals y áreas degradadas mediante técnicas forestales tradicionales Mayas
09h50	Sesión de Preguntas
10h20	RECESO – Presentación de video de experiencia local
10h40	Restauración Forestal en Bosques Tropicales México - Grupos de Trabajo
12h30	Reporte de los Grupos de Trabajo en Plenaria
13h20	COMIDA
15h00	Resumen y Análisis de las presentaciones
15h15	Introducción Directrices y Manual de la OIMT Manual en RPF
16H00	Análisis de las Directrices - Grupos de Trabajo
17h30	RECESO (durante grupos de trabajo)
18h30	Reporte en Plenaria de los Grupos de Trabajo
19h00	Preparación salida de campo - Grupos de Trabajo
19h30	Evaluación y conclusiones Día 2

**Día 3: Miércoles 8 de marzo: Visita de campo**

8h00	Salida del Hotel (Véase Agenda de la Visita de Campo)
08:00-8:30	Traslado Ejido Tikinmul
8:30-9:30	Visita a Proyecto de Plantación Forestal
09:30-10:30	Traslado al ejido Arellano
10:30-11:30	Visita del Proyecto Piloto Restauración de Suelos. Agroforestería
11:30-12:00	Traslado al ejido Alfredo V. Bonfil
12:00-13:30	Visita al Proyecto Piloto Reconversión de la Ganadería con Agroforestería
13:30-15:00	Traslado a Campeche
15:00-16:30	Comida
18H00	Trabajo en Grupos

**Día 4: Jueves 9 de marzo**

<b>Hora</b>	<b>Actividad</b>
09h00	Recapitulación Día 2 y 3
09h30	Reporte en Plenaria de los Grupos de Trabajo de la salida de campo
10h30	RECESO
10h45	Análisis de las Directrices e la OIMT para Restauración, Ordenamiento, Rehabilitación de bosque tropical secundario y degradado. potencialidad de implementar RPF en los bosques tropicales en México - Grupos de Trabajo
13h30	COMIDA
15h00	Continuación grupos de Trabajo
16h00	RECESO
16H15	Continuación grupos de Trabajo

18H30	Reporte en Plenaria de los Grupos de Trabajo
	Discusión en Plenaria
19h30	Evaluación y conclusiones Día 4

### Día 5: Viernes 10 de Marzo

Hora	Actividad
08h00	Recapitulación Día 4
08h30	Priorización de acciones - Discusión de un Plan de Acción
10h30	CAFÉ
10h45	Introducción al proceso de formulación de proyectos de la OIMT
11h45	Conclusiones del taller
12h20	Evaluación General
13h00	Clausura Oficial y distribución de certificados
13h20	ALMUERZO

## Annex 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AND FACILITATORS

The workshop gathered 35 participants from the National and Local Government, local NGOs, base organizations, private sector and from researchers and scientists. Most of the participants did not know each other before the event, but the interest in the theme foster them to work together in the future as observers of the process National Forestry Commission CONAFOR will lead as result of the event.

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### Annex 3: AGENDA GUYANA

#### National Workshop on ITTO Guidelines for the Restoration, Management and Rehabilitation of Degraded and Secondary Tropical Forests

13 – 17 March 2006  
Georgetown - Guyana

#### Day 1

TIME	ACTIVITY
8:30 – 9:15	Host country welcome
9:15 – 9:45	Introduction ITTO: Jorge Malleux, Regional Officer for Latin America IUCN: Consuelo Espinosa – International Facilitator, Forest Commission of Guyana: Tasreef Khan – National Facilitator
9:45 – 10:20	Presentation of participants
10:20 – 10:40	A film on FLR
10:40	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
11:00 – 11:20	Introduction to the workshop – background and Objectives
11:20 – 11:30	Focusing in objective Day 1
11:30 – 11:45	Global overview on forest – main issues and trends today
11:45 – 12:00	Overview of forest in Guyana – current status, issues and challenges
12:00 – 12:20	Session of Questions
12:20 – 1:20	<b>LUNCH</b>
1:20 – 2:40	Forest Situation in Guyana - Formation of 3 break-out groups

2:40 – 3:20	Report back by 3 groups to Plenary
3:20 – 3:40	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
3:40 – 4:10	Introduction to FLR
4:10 – 4:30	Session of questions
4:30 – 5:00	Evaluation and Wrap up of Day 1

## Day 2

<b>TIME</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>
8:30 – 8:50	Recap of Day 1 and explanation objective Day 2
8:50 – 9:20	Presentation on current status of FLR in Guyana
9:20 – 9:40	Session of questions and Plenary discussion of other FLR examples in Guyana
9:40 – 10:45	Forest Landscape Restoration in Guyana - 3 mixed break-out groups
10:45 - 11:00	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
11:00 – 11:30	Groups report back to plenary.
11:30 – 12:00	Introduction to ITTO Guidelines in Restoration, Management and Rehabilitation in degraded and secondary tropical forest
12:00 – 1:00	<b>LUNCH</b>
1:00 – 1:20	Presentation to the ITTO/IUCN Manual in FLR
1:20 – 1:45	Session of questions
1:45 – 3:15	Analysis of the ITTO Guidelines and FLR Manual - 3 mixed break-out groups.
3:15 – 3:30	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
3:30 – 4:10	Groups report back to plenary
4:10 – 4:30	Introduction to the field trip and on applying the guidelines / manual in the field
4:30 – 4:45	Formation of groups for the field trip
	Groups start preparing for the field trip
4:45 – 5:00	Evaluation and Wrap up of Day 2

## Day 3: the field trip

7:00 Departure from Georgetown

5:30 Arrive back to Georgetown

## Day 4

<b>TIME</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>
<b>8:30 – 9:30</b>	Working groups preparing presentation for Plenary
9:30 – 9:50	Recap of Day 3 and presentation objective Day 4
9:50 – 10:50	Report back from the 3 field trip groups to Plenary
10:50 – 11:10	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
11:10 – 11:30	Analysis of presentations made and the use of the ITTO Guidelines and Manual in FLR
11:30 – 12:00	Implementing FLR in Guyana - Working Groups
12:00 – 1:00	<b>LUNCH</b>
1:00 – 3:00	Continue working groups
3:00 – 3:15	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
3:15 – 4:30	Groups report back to plenary

	Session of question
4:30 – 5:00	Evaluation and Wrap up of Day 4

**Day 5**

<b>TIME</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>
8:30 – 9:00	Recap of Day 4 and presentation of objective Day 5
9:00 – 10:00	Presentation on the Global Partnership on FLR and on the FCP
10:00 – 11:30	Drafting a rough plan for future actions
11:30 – 12:00	Workshop Conclusions
12:00 – 12:30	Overall evaluation
12:30 – 2:00	<b>LUNCH</b>
2:00 – 3:00	<b>Official Closure and Reception</b>

## ANNEX 4: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS GUYANA WORKSHOP

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## ANNEX 5: Agenda Guatemala

### Taller Nacional en Directrices de la OIMT para la restauración, ordenación y rehabilitación de bosques tropicales secundarios y degradados

20 – 24 Marzo 2006

Petén - Guatemala

#### Día 1: Lunes 20 de marzo

<b>Hora</b>	<b>Actividad</b>
<b>10:00</b>	Bienvenida del país anfitrión Luis E. Barrera, Gerente del INAB
<b>10:10</b>	Inauguración del Taller Sr. Simón Vinicio Penados G. Representante de la Junta Directiva del INAB
<b>10:15</b>	Introducción ITTO, IUCN Rep ITTO: Jorge Malleux, Oficial Regional (a.i.) De la OIMT para América Latina UICN: Consuelo Espinosa, Facilitadora Internacional INAB: Edwin Oliva, Coordinador del PFN-INAB
<b>10:45</b>	Video en RPF
<b>11:00</b>	Presentación de participantes
<b>11:30</b>	<b>CAFÉ</b>
<b>11:50</b>	Introducción al taller
<b>12:15</b>	Revisión del contexto global en bosques – principales problemas y tendencias en la actualidad
<b>12:45</b>	Revisión de la situación forestal en Guatemala
<b>13:30</b>	<b>ALMUERZO</b>
<b>14:30</b>	Situación forestal en Guatemala - Grupos de Trabajo
<b>15:40</b>	Reporte en plenaria sobre los 3 grupos de trabajo
<b>16:10</b>	<b>CAFÉ</b>
<b>16:30</b>	Introducción a la RPF
<b>17:10</b>	Sesión de Preguntas
<b>17:40</b>	Evaluación y cierre día 1

#### Día 2: Martes 21 de Marzo

<b>Hora</b>	<b>Actividad</b>
<b>08:00</b>	Recapitulación Día 1 y revisión objetivo Día 2
<b>08:15</b>	Situación actual de Guatemala en RPF
<b>08:40</b>	Dinámica Maya y Vegetación en el Norte de Petén

<b>09:00</b>	Sesión de Preguntas
<b>09:25</b>	Restauración Forestal en Bosques Tropicales Guatemala - Grupos de Trabajo
<b>10:30</b>	<b>CAFÉ DURANTE LOS GRUPOS DE TRABAJO</b>
<b>11:05</b>	Reporte de los Grupos de Trabajo en Plenaria
<b>11:40</b>	Sesión de Preguntas
<b>12:00</b>	Introducción Directrices de la OIMT y Manual en RPF
<b>12:45</b>	Sesión de Preguntas
<b>13:00</b>	<b>ALMUERZO</b>
<b>14:30</b>	Análisis de las Directrices y Manual - Grupos de Trabajo
<b>16:20</b>	<b>CAFÉ DURANTE LOS GRUPOS DE TRABAJO</b>
<b>16:40</b>	Reporte en Plenaria de los Grupos de Trabajo
<b>17:40</b>	Introducción a la salida de campo
<b>18:00</b>	Preparación salida de campo - Grupos de Trabajo
<b>18:20</b>	Evaluación y cierre día 2

**Día 3: Miércoles 22 de marzo: Visita de campo**

Salida a las 07:00 horas

Retorno a las 18:00 horas

**Día 4: Jueves 23 de marzo**

<b>Hora</b>	<b>Actividad</b>
<b>09:00</b>	Recapitulación Día 3
<b>09:30</b>	Reporte en Plenaria de los Grupos de Trabajo de la salida de campo
<b>10:30</b>	<b>CAFÉ</b>
<b>10:45</b>	Análisis de potencialidad de implementar RPF en los bosques tropicales en Guatemala, necesidad de instrumentos nacionales / locales, proyectos - Grupos de Trabajo
<b>13:00</b>	<b>ALMUERZO</b>
<b>14:30</b>	Continuación grupos de Trabajo
<b>16:00</b>	<b>CAFE</b>
<b>16:20</b>	Presentación grupos de trabajo
<b>17:30</b>	Resumen de las principales conclusiones, Evaluación y cierre día 4

**Día 5: Viernes 24 de Marzo**

<b>Hora</b>	<b>Actividad</b>
<b>08:00</b>	Recapitulación Día 4
<b>08:30</b>	Delinear el grupo nacional de RPF, integrantes, objetivo y acciones- Facilitación
<b>10:30</b>	<b>CAFÉ</b>
<b>10:45</b>	Conclusiones del taller
<b>11:30</b>	Evaluación General
<b>12:00</b>	Capacitación adicional en la preparación de propuestas de proyectos tomando en consideración las Directrices y el Manual en RPF

12:45	Clausura Oficial y distribución de certificados
13:00	Almuerzo

## Annex 6: List of participants Guatemala

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