



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

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### Implementation of National Workshops

Project completion report

9.9.06

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## **Project identification**

**Title:** ITTO Guidelines for the Restoration, Management and Rehabilitation of Degraded and Secondary Tropical Forests. Implementation of National Workshops

**Project no (IUCN Reference):** 76518-000

**Executing agency:** IUCN – The World Conservation Union / Forest Conservation Programme

**Starting date:** June 2005

**End date:** November 2006

**Project Costs:** USD 120,000

*Photo on the cover page: Field visit during the India workshop.*

*Photo source: A.Rehmath Ali*

## 1. Executive summary

The ITTO Guidelines for the Restoration, Management and Rehabilitation of Degraded and Secondary Tropical Forests were published in 2002. Six sub-regional workshops were organized in order to promote the understanding of the Guidelines, provide feedback and encourage further regional or country level initiatives in this area. The feedback received from participants in the regional workshops identified a need to the necessity to further clarify the concepts and strategies related to forest landscape restoration.

In addition to the Guidelines, a Reader (Manual) on Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) was developed by a group of international organizations including IUCN, CIFOR, WWF International, Intercooperation (Switzerland) and the University of Queensland (Australia) which deals with specific aspects related to forest landscape restoration in a user-friendly manner and is illustrated with examples.

IUCN was assigned by ITTO to conduct one-week training workshops in nine ITTO producer member countries selected by ITTO (in order of implementation of the workshops): Ghana, Mexico, Guyana, Guatemala, Cameroon, Philippines, Côte d'Ivoire, India, Myanmar, between January – October 2006. The *general objective* of the workshop series was to create a greater awareness of issues related to degraded and secondary tropical forests at the national level and to assist member countries in developing effective approaches to the restoration, management and rehabilitation of such forests. *Other workshop objectives* included giving feedback on the ITTO Guidelines and the Reader on FLR and reviewing the need to develop national/context-specific field guides and technical manuals on FLR or components thereof.

IUCN conducted the workshops in collaboration with Intercooperation and the host countries. Intercooperation supported IUCN in international facilitation tasks while the host countries were in charge of all the logistical arrangements in their countries. The host countries also appointed national facilitators to work with the IUCN/Intercooperation facilitators.

A total of 228 people attended the national workshops including representatives from national governments, local and regional authorities, civil society organizations, research institutions and the private sector. In some cases the representation of local level participants and the private sector was stated to be too low and is something that should be taken into account in case of organization of further workshop on the topic.

The workshop objectives were extremely well met. Each of the workshops included a session on the actual state, issues and challenges in the forestry sector in the countries as well as the current status of FLR in the countries. This generated active discussion around the key problems, challenges and potential answers towards restoring and rehabilitating the degraded forests as well as identification on how FLR can bring added value to already ongoing attempts on forest restoration.

The FLR terminology and concept were found in some cases very useful to a country's forest management activities whereas in some cases it was found to be too conceptual and too far away from practice. The differences in understanding and appreciation of the FLR context varied between countries and among participants. This was dependent on the previous level of knowledge on FLR or restoration that the person participating at the workshop or country had. Participants in some countries, such as Ghana, were very well aware of FLR and its practical implications and therefore the workshop could go into rather detailed level of analysis on the specific needs and follow-up actions for further work in the country. In countries, where the group of participants consisted of people with no, or very little previous knowledge on FLR-related issues, used the workshop more to learn about the topic for the first time. In these cases the

potential follow-up activities from the workshop are quite different from those of, for example, Ghana.

Each of the workshops included a field trip, which was seen as a very useful exercise in order to put the FLR terminology in to practical context.

The existing “tools” on FLR, i.e. the *ITTO Guidelines for the Restoration, Management and Rehabilitation of Degraded and Secondary Tropical Forests* and the Reader (Manual) *Restoring Forest Landscapes: an Introduction to the Art and Science of Forest Landscape Restoration* were presented and applied during the workshop. One of the workshop objectives was to receive feedback on the usefulness of these two documents. Even though both of the documents were seen generally as useful tools, they were seen too theoretical to be really useful in day-to-day practical work. The documents were also considered as being too general in order to be useful in country-specific situations. The language of the documents was considered to be too complicated and the terminology in some cases not consistent. As a general feedback, the Guidelines and/or the Reader (Manual) should be revised for language, structure and terminology and new tools, such as national and topic specific manuals should be developed in order for the tools to be really useful in practice. Once developed, these tools should be distributed among all the relevant stakeholders including the private sector.

Each country had a session and working groups on the practical next steps towards implementing FLR in their countries. Action plans were developed in seven out of nine countries and field projects where FLR could be implemented were identified in each workshop. Some countries developed a core group to ensure that the identified follow-up activities will be implemented. This has proven to be successful in a way that at least in three countries where a group or person was named to be responsible for follow-up, activities have taken place since the completion of the workshop. In this relation, assistance from the international community, such as ITTO, IUCN and Intercooperation, was expressed during the workshops. The most often mentioned assistance was funding for implementing FLR in the field. In addition to this, technical assistance in developing field manuals and ensuring that these will be adopted by different stakeholders, including decision makers, was requested from the international community.

The national workshops received a considerable amount of publicity partly due to the fact that the workshop opening ceremonies were usually attended by high level governmental representatives. TV, radio and the press were present in many of the workshops and in that way helped the concept of FLR to be introduced to a wide audience in the host countries. IUCN posted a web story after each of the workshops that were facilitated by an IUCN staff member and has created a special section on the Forest Conservation Programme’s web-site<sup>1</sup> where all the national workshop reports can be downloaded.

Based on the success of the regional and national workshops on FLR that IUCN has facilitated, we feel that the concept has a significant potential for replication in other countries, especially those ITTO member countries that expressed willingness to host a national workshop but which could not be included in this round of workshops due to financial limitations. The methodology developed originally for the six regional workshops and now tested in additional nine workshops has proven to be extremely successful and therefore could significantly help in assisting ITTO member countries in developing effective approaches to the restoration, management and rehabilitation of degraded tropical forests.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.iucn.org/themes/fcp/experience\\_lessons/flr\\_national-workshops.htm](http://www.iucn.org/themes/fcp/experience_lessons/flr_national-workshops.htm)

## **2. Background information about the project**

The ITTO Guidelines for the Restoration, Management and Rehabilitation of Degraded and Secondary Tropical Forests were published in 2002. Six sub-regional workshops were organized in order to promote the understanding of the Guidelines, provide feedback and encourage further regional or country level initiatives in this area. The feedback received from participants in the regional workshops identified a need to the necessity to further clarify the concepts and strategies related to forest landscape restoration. Subsequently, a reader (or Manual) *Restoring Forest Landscapes: an Introduction to the Art and Science of Forest Landscape Restoration* was developed including information on specific aspects related to forest landscape restoration in a user-friendly manner.

IUCN was assigned by ITTO to conduct one-week training workshops on the implementation of the ITTO *Guidelines for the Restoration, Management and Rehabilitation of Degraded and Secondary Tropical Forests* as well as the above-mentioned Manual in nine ITTO producer member countries selected by ITTO, using the Guidelines and the Manual as supporting materials.

More precisely, the workshops included (later referred as objectives of the workshops):

- A validation of an 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;
- An introduction of the concept of forest landscape restoration to participants;
- Learning activities, such as a field trip, by which participants gain a deeper understanding of the various components of forest landscape restoration;
- 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;
- Discussion on the assistance expected from ITTO for the development of field guides and manuals;
- Feedback on the content of the ITTO Guidelines and the Reader;
- 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.

This report summarizes the experiences and findings of the implementation of the nine National Workshops on the ITTO Guidelines for the Restoration, Management and Rehabilitation of Degraded and Secondary Tropical Forests and gives recommendation for further action. The workshops were held as following:

- Ghana, 30.1.-3.2.2006
- Mexico, 6.-10.3.2006
- Guyana, 13.-17.3.2006
- Guatemala, 20.-24.3.2006
- Cameroon, 24.-28.4.2006
- Philippines, 8.-12.5.2006
- Côte d'Ivoire, 24.-28.7.2006
- India, 22.-25.8.2006
- Myanmar, 28.8-1.9.2006

The original reports from the nine workshops have been submitted to ITTO by the host countries.

IUCN had the following tasks regarding to the implementation of the project:

1. Develop the general concept, structure and content of the workshops, including the workshops agenda.
2. Engage international training specialists.
3. Develop workshop methodology and background materials.
4. Hold a preparatory workshop for training specialists.
5. Ensure the workshops are run in an orderly, timely and effective manner.
6. Conduct a report on the first four workshops.
7. Publish workshop materials and outcomes.
8. Prepare and submit final financial and technical reports to the ITTO.

### **3. Project achievements**

The *general objective* of the workshop series was to create a greater awareness of issues related to degraded and secondary tropical forests at the national level and to assist member countries in developing effective approaches to the restoration, management and rehabilitation of such forests. In particular each workshop included:

1. A validation of an 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. An introduction of the concept of forest landscape restoration to participants;
3. Learning activities, such as a field trip, by which participants gain a deeper understanding of the various components of forest landscape restoration;
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. Discussion on the assistance expected from ITTO for the development of field guides and manuals;
6. Feedback on the content of the ITTO Guidelines and the reader;
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.

A brief descriptive summary of each of the nine workshops including action plans developed for each specific country can be found in Annex 1. Summary information from the first four national workshops can be found from the mid-term report submitted for ITTO in May 2006. The mid-term report as well as all the national workshop reports can be downloaded from the IUCN web-site:

**[http://www.iucn.org/themes/fcp/experience\\_lessons/flr\\_national-workshops.htm](http://www.iucn.org/themes/fcp/experience_lessons/flr_national-workshops.htm)**

Below is a combined summary on how the workshop objectives were met at the nine workshops.

#### a. FLR in the national context

Each of the workshops included a session on the actual state, issues and challenges in the forestry sector in the countries as well as the current status of FLR. The session was prepared by the national facilitators and led often to a lively discussion on whether FLR is not already happening in the countries? As explained by the international facilitators, FLR is already happening in many places but brings often additional dimension on already ongoing approaches, such as the concept of double filter or the issue of trade offs.

In some countries the participants had no or very little previous experience on restoration in general or FLR in particular and in these cases the session was mainly a learning experience rather than a moment for discussion on the details of FLR.

b. FLR concept and terminology

As mentioned above, the FLR concept was often seen as “nothing new” in comparison to already existing approaches and it was questioned whether FLR is only a new name for old techniques. The international facilitators were able give explanations on the added value that FLR can bring to ongoing practices and in this relation the film on FLR showed at the beginning of each workshop proved to be a useful tool since it showed the theoretical concept in practice.

*“J’ai juste réveille mes sensibilités car plusieurs activités sont exécutées comme dans la RPF sans être appelées RPF »*

*« This is an approach or method, therefore « a means to an end » and not an end to itself. Are there circumstances to which it is not applicable? »*

Participants at the Cameroon workshop

It should be noted that the previous knowledge of FLR varied a lot among countries and among the participants. Some countries knew the principles of FLR very well and have ongoing projects on the topic while other countries heard about FLR for the first time.

c. Field trip

In all the workshops, the field trip was seen as a useful exercise in order to put the FLR theory into practical context. The actual value of the field trip was excellent in countries, where the national team had been able to prepare the trip ahead of time and understood the objectives behind the exercise.

*“Les réalités du terrain sont beaucoup plus précises et élaborées que des idées préconçues au bureau”*

Participant at the Cameroon workshop

The field trip exercise was designed in a way that the utilisation of the Guidelines and the Manual was encouraged. The participants used these documents and found them useful in general but could easily identify ways to improve them – summary of these suggestions can be found in Annexes 3 and 4.

A summary of the field sites visited can be found in Annex 2.

d. Review of the ITTO Guidelines

Each workshop included a session on the ITTO Guidelines for the Restoration, Management and Rehabilitation of Degraded and Secondary Tropical Forests. Whereas the Guidelines were usually considered as comprehensive document, they were seen as too complicated and not well structured. Detailed comments on the Guidelines can be found in Annex 3.

Very few participants had seen or read the Guidelines before the workshop and therefore time was given during the session for participants to get acquainted with the document. The feedback might have been more detailed had the participants familiarized themselves with the Guidelines in

beforehand. At the workshops where participants had very little or no previous experience on FLR, the feedback on the document was not given probably due to the novelty of the issue. In some cases, the feedback given revealed that the participants did not understand the FLR concept correctly, which is a useful feedback as such and calls for simplified ways and/or tools of presenting the topic.

A general comment relates to the Spanish and French version of the Guidelines especially in relation to translating the English terminology into the two languages. The international facilitators found the translations sometimes misleading and confusing and therefore, it would be useful to revise the translations before any possible follow-up workshop on the Guidelines.

e. Review of the “Reader” (Manual)

In general, participants found 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 implementation of activities on the ground.

Even though the Reader was considered as a more useful tool than the Guidelines, the need to simplify the text and concepts was expressed. Practical examples were considered informative but each country wished to have more information and cases on their specific contexts. Therefore, the need for national specific practical Manual/Reader was expressed in each of the workshops. It was mentioned that such document should be developed in close collaboration with the different stakeholders in the countries but that technical support might be needed from international organizations, such as ITTO/IUCN/Intercooperation. Financing such a document was also considered as requiring external support.

The use of terms “Manual” vs. “Reader” was not consistent between the different workshops and might have caused some of the complaints regarding the contents of the document.

Country specific comments on the Reader can be found in Annex 4.

f. Assistance required from the international community

During the workshops, a discussion on what would be needed from ITTO in particular and the international community in general took place. Whereas the most common support needed was mentioned to be funding for field projects, there were a many requests for technical support for preparation of national specific tools (such as a Manual), capacity building and awareness rising. Few countries expressed need to have training on project formulation. Annex 5 lists the specific needs for assistance by countries.

g. Communications

After each workshop, a web story has been posted at the IUCN web-site. In general, the workshops have created big media interest in the organizing countries partly due to the attendance of high level governmental people to the workshop opening ceremonies. An example below is from the Guyana workshop:

- IUCN webstory March 13th on the HQ homepage, March 14th translated and on IUCN Regional Office for South America homepage based on media advisory sent for distribution.
- Half-page article in Guyana Chronicle March 14th, “Guyana moves to boost forest restoration”

- National TV Station breakfast show March 14th (7h30-08h00) attended by Consuelo Espinosa and Michelle Laurie from IUCN as well as Jorge Malleux (ITTO) and the Guyana Forestry Commission Commissioner. This introduced IUCN and ITTO to the general public as well as the basic concepts around FLR.
- A second interview on March 16th with Consuelo Espinosa, the deputy commissioner, ITTO and a workshop participant. The focus was on what has been learned so far and the future of FLR in Guyana. Copies of both shows were supposed to be delivered to the GFC however none had arrived before I left the country.
- Capital News (channel 7) is the most watched news station in Guyana. Interview and aired for the 6oclock evening news March 14th and re-run Thursday morning, March 16th. We have a copy of the news report (interviews with Michelle of IUCN, Deputy Commissioner GFC and ITTO rep).
- NCN Radio, programme Good Morning Guyana, Thursday March 16th, workshop participant spoke about the workshop and FLR. Over 60% of the population listens to the morning show.
- Friday, March 17th, media attended the closing ceremony.

The IUCN Forest Conservation Programme's web-site includes a section with the reports from the nine workshops<sup>2</sup>.

[http://www.iucn.org/themes/fcp/experience\\_lessons/flr\\_national-workshops.htm](http://www.iucn.org/themes/fcp/experience_lessons/flr_national-workshops.htm)

#### **4. Target Beneficiaries' Involvement**

A total of 228 people attended as participants in the nine workshops. The number of participants in different countries can be found in Annex 1. Even though the composition of participants varied between countries, it can be said generally that the participants represent a rather good variety of different sectors: national and local governments, local NGOs, private sector, researchers and scientists. The gender balance was highly skewed towards male participants.

The participants appreciated the workshops greatly, which was proven by the daily evaluations that allowed the participants to review the contents, activities, participation, time-keeping, objective and facilitation of the day. As a general rule, participants' satisfaction on these topics improved towards the end of the workshop. The participants were especially (positively) surprised with the participatory approach taken by the workshop facilitators and the field work, which put the theoretic issues into a practical context. As a generalization for the nine workshops, the contents, objective and facilitation of the workshops received high level of satisfaction. In many cases the participants found the workshop to be useful in their daily work:

*"I will organize a one day work session for all staff in my Forest District and discuss the ITTO Guidelines and the Manual"*  
Workshop participant in Ghana

Participants had a lot of practical ideas for follow-up action in their countries and almost all countries developed an action plan towards implementing FLR at the national level. By the time of submitting this report, at least 3 countries have taken practical steps towards implementing the action plan developed during the workshop.

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<sup>2</sup> During the writing of this executive summary (5.9.2006) final report from Myanmar was still missing.

## **5. Lessons Learned**

### **a. Development Lessons**

The series of the nine national workshops benefited from the methodology originally developed for the six regional workshops on FLR organized 2003. A one-day meeting for the international facilitators was held in advance to review the methodology and to come up with concrete ideas on the content for the national workshops. As a result of the meeting, the facilitators' manual originally developed for the regional workshops was reviewed to meet the needs of the national workshops. The manual was used by the international facilitators and to some extent by the national facilitators as well. The manual was not translated into Spanish or French, which made it difficult for national facilitators in French and Spanish speaking countries to use. IUCN has taken into account the feedback from the international and national facilitators and added that to the current version of the facilitators manual.

The project sustainability is very much reliant on the people that were indicated as responsible to follow-up the workshop results, such as the action plan. The level of enthusiasm in different countries also varies quite a lot in terms of interest to implement FLR on the ground. For example, in the three Latin American countries concrete actions have already taken place whereas in some other countries less has happened after the workshop. The sustainability of the project follow-up actions might also be related to the previous knowledge of FLR in the different countries. In countries where FLR concept was felt too theoretical or "heavy", the motivation to follow-up with action on the ground might be rather small. Countries that felt that FLR and the workshop gave practical advice on how to solve their forest degradation problems find it easier to use the workshop teachings in practice.

### **b. Operational Lessons**

The project was organized in a way that IUCN was responsible for hiring the international and national facilitators whereas the host countries were responsible for logistical matters. This arrangement received some concerns in beforehand but fortunately worked out well in most of the cases. In some cases the host countries did not take the workshop logistics organization seriously, which led to a general dissatisfaction of the workshop participants to the workshop in general despite the fact that the technical issues were well presented. For example, in some cases the workshop material (the Guidelines and the Reader) were not sent to the participants in beforehand or were not copied in sufficient amounts at the workshop venue, which caused problems during the corresponding sessions.

The choice of the national facilitators was host countries responsibility. The national facilitator had a major role to play in the success of the workshop. It was mentioned, that the national facilitator should be someone that is still active in work life (in some countries national facilitators had retired from their jobs) in order to be able to follow-up the workshop results in practice.

The working relationship between the international and national facilitators was good in most cases. When this relationship was functional, the workshops led generally to excellent results in terms of participants' satisfaction and follow-up ideas. In some cases the relationship was not properly established either due to difficulties in communications or lack of clarity on the roles and responsibilities between the international and national facilitators.

External factors that lead to delay in the project completion include, among others, that the choice of the host countries had not been done before the project implementation started. Some countries had difficulties in finding appropriate dates for the workshop or sending invitations for the international facilitators. This in turn lead to the situation where the workshop dates had to be postponed a number of times and therefore the project implementation was delayed. With some

countries communications was a real problem and – again – lead to delays in project implementation or increased project implementation costs.

## **6. Conclusions and recommendations**

Based on the feedback from the participants and the host countries, the workshops were found to be extremely useful and therefore it would be very important to host similar workshops in other countries not the least due to outstanding requests from ITTO member countries<sup>3</sup> but also to replicate the workshop methodology that has now been tested and found useful in 6 regional workshops and 9 national workshops.

In general, the nine workshops were successfully implemented and the feedback from the participants was extremely positive. It should be emphasized that meeting the objectives is directly linked to the national facilitator and the level of enthusiasm and preparatory work that s/he has been able to carry out prior to the workshop. This related especially to the field trip and the choice of the site/sites that were visited.

The approach where the national authorities were given a possibility to influence the workshop agenda and objectives led in some cases adjustments to the overall objectives that ITTO and IUCN had originally in mind. However, this approach was considered being the only way for the countries to have a strong buy-in for the workshop results afterwards.

The analyses of the state of forest degradation in the specific national contexts was in most cases well prepared by the national authorities and a validation on the situation in each specific country could be reached by the participants.

The FLR terminology was introduced to the participants partly through presentations, partly through reading the Guidelines and the Manual and partly during the group exercises. During the field trip the terminology was applied in practice. Despite these efforts, the participants were still struggling with some concepts, such as “double filter” and “landscape” and therefore, more attention should be paid on finding simple and concrete ways on explaining these to the participants as early as possible during the workshop.

The feedback on the Guidelines and Manual was well-recorded during the workshops. However, it should be noted that often the participants come to the workshop without having read either of the documents and in order to get constructive feedback from them, some time had to be allocated for actual reading of the two documents. The need for national-specific Guidelines and/or Manual was expressed in each of the workshops. It should also be noted that the translation process needs be done extremely carefully, and if possible, the translations should be verified by people who speak are native speakers of the translated language and who are aware of the FLR concept and terminology. Further, the terms “Guidelines”, “Reader”, and “Manual” are currently being confused – not only by the participants- but also there seems to be some inconsistencies in the current documents.

The support required from the international community, such as the ITTO, IUCN and Intercooperationon, in bringing forward FLR in the countries was identified during the workshops. The most common need was funding for actual field work. Other requests for assistance included technical support, provision of training material and organization of study tours between different countries, among others.

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<sup>3</sup> Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Indonesia, Honduras, and Panama expressed interest to host national workshops and many other countries have indicated their interest for the same.

The workshop evaluations showed that the participants learned a lot during the fore/five days of the workshop. However, the long-term change will only become apparent when reviewing the quality of the project proposals on FLR that will be submitted for ITTO in the future as well as following up the implementation of the action plans that were developed in most of the workshops.

As an executing agency for the nine national workshops, IUCN believes that it would be excellent to have funds to organize and conduct national workshops in additional countries.

In order to make the potential future workshops even more successful, it is recommended that:

- More emphasis should be paid on the choice of participants in order to ensure balanced sectoral, gender, and age representation;
- Allow enough time for host countries to find a suitable date and venue for the workshops so that the workshop logistics and methodology do not suffer from lack of preparative activities;
- Revise French and Spanish translations of the Guidelines and the Reader (Manual) and correct the existing mistakes in the terminology;
- Enough time is allowed to design the workshop specific context with the host countries to ensure that the contents are tailor-made for the specific needs of the different countries.

### **Responsible for the Report**

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**Position held:** Programme Officer, IUCN – The World Conservation Union, Forest Conservation Programme

**Date:** 9.10.2006

## **Annex 1: Summary information of the nine workshops**

<b>Country / Place</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>National Facilitator</b>	<b>International Facilitator</b>	<b>No. of Participants</b>	<b>Action Plan / follow-up actions</b>
Ghana/Sunyani	30.1.-3.2.	Dominic Blay (dbl原因@forig.org)	Sandeep Sengupta/IUCN (Sandeep.sengupta@iucn.org)	19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of Ghana specific manual on FLR;</li> <li>• Development and implementation of project proposals;</li> <li>• Awareness creation and capacity building for all stakeholders;</li> <li>• Harmonization of policies and strategies.</li> </ul>
Mexico/Campeche	6.-10.3.	Rafael Contreras Aguado (rcontreag@yahoo.com)	Consuelo Espinosa/IUCN (Consuelo.espinosa@sur.iucn.org)	35	<p>National Strategic Plan on FLR includes the following steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequate and adapt the Guidelines / manual to a national context;</li> <li>• Promote and diffuse the strategic program for FLR;</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p>

Guyana/Georgetown	13.- 17.3.	Tasreef Khan	Consuelo Espinosa/IUCN (Consuelo.espinosa@sur.iucn.org)	25	<p>The following areas were identified by participants during the last day of event for including in a national Action Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Policy Framework</li> <li>• Data collection</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Monitoring and Evaluation</li> </ul> <p>Objectives for a Core Group responsible for implementing the action plan include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To facilitate Education and Awareness in Hinterland Areas</li> <li>• To provide scientific information</li> <li>• To monitor and evaluate FLR</li> <li>• To provide technical support</li> <li>• To collaborate on FLR projects</li> <li>• To develop a policy framework</li> <li>• To develop land use management</li> <li>• To manage base line data collection</li> </ul>
Guatemala/El Petén	20.- 24.3.	Axel Mauricio Gómez Chávarry (alfatecma@itelgua.com)	Consuelo Espinosa/IUCN (Consuelo.espinosa@sur.iucn.org)	27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• National call for a first meeting of the working group</li> <li>• Presentation of the results of every Commission</li> <li>• Implementation of each Commission's workplan</li> <li>• Development of the Strategic Plan</li> <li>• Elaboration of the National Strategy for implementing FLR</li> <li>• Agreement on Strategic actions for implementing FLR in Guatemala</li> <li>• Identification and involvement of new key actors (public sector, private sector, municipalities, regional, NGOs)</li> <li>• Nations Strategy for the implementation on FLR approved</li> </ul>
Cameroon/Mbalmayo	24.- 28.4.	Njib Ntep (njibdieudonne@yahoo.fr)	James Gasana/Intercooperation (j.gasana@intercooperation.ch)	31	No action plan was developed during the workshop but need to develop one was identified as a priority point for bringing FLR forward in Cameroon.

Philippines/Bataan	8.- 12.5.	Marcial C. Amaro, Jr. (amaromarsjr@yahoo.com)	Sandeep Sengupta/IUCN (Sandeep.sengupta@iucn.org)	19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• development of Philippine FLR Manual;</li> <li>• promotion of Implementation of FLR in the Philippines, and;</li> <li>• generation of support/assistance to FLR in the Philippines</li> </ul>
Côte d'Ivoire/Abidjan	24.- 28.7.	Kouadio Eugene Bonny (+225 22 43 33 65)	James Gasana/Intercooperation (j.gasana@intercooperation.ch)	24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating a stakeholder forum on FLR</li> <li>• Preparing a national strategy and action plan on FLR</li> <li>• Capacity building on FLR to different stakeholders, including decision makers</li> <li>• Preparing a (simplified) country specific FLR manual</li> <li>• Identifying a sustainable funding mechanism for FLR projects</li> <li>• Including FLR aspects in national, regional and local development programmes</li> <li>• Conducting pilot projects</li> </ul>
India/Chennai	22.- 25.8.	A. Rehmat Ali (rehmathali2002@yahoo.com)	Sandeep Sengupta/IUCN (Sandeep.sengupta@iucn.org)	23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore ways to link FLR concept with existing programmes JFM/FDA</li> <li>• Explore possibilities of incorporating ITTO Guidelines into Ministry's other guidelines, such as the National Afforestation Programme, Greening India etc.</li> <li>• Dissemination of FLR through regular workshops</li> <li>• Create awareness on FLR among industry players.</li> </ul>
Myanmar/Nay Pyi Taw	28.8- 1.9.	Myint Oo Can be contacted through: (DG.FD@mptmail.net.mm)	James Gasana/Intercooperation (j.gasana@intercooperation.ch)	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Setting up a project coordinating team before October 2006</li> <li>• Planning and Organization of a wider Workshop for stakeholders by the team before November 2006</li> <li>• Fine-tuning the action plan by the team before December 2006</li> <li>• Submission of two project proposals for pilot areas in 2007.</li> </ul>

## Annex 2: Summary table of the field trips for the nine workshops

Country	Field trip
Ghana	<p>The field trips in Ghana were made by two groups to two sites; i) <b>Pamu Berekum forest reserve in the Dormaa district</b> and ii) <b>Aframso Brohuma Forest reserve in Offinso district</b>. These forest reserves are degraded forests with on going restoration projects. Pamu-Berekum Forest Reserve has gone through severe disturbances and the current state of the reserve is that of a degraded forest following years of unsustainable logging and rampant bushfires. As a result the forest cover has been replaced by an invasive weed <i>Chromolaena odorata</i> (Acheamong weed) and some kind of secondary grassland in which <i>Panicum maximum</i> is dominant. These are very vigorous competitors, which form very dense weedy cover, hence regeneration is effectively curtailed. The Afrensu- Brohuma Forest Reserve in Offinso Forest District is located in the Dry Semi - deciduous Fire Zone (DSFZ) and has similar characteristics with the reserve described above, except that the occurrence of wildfire is more frequent than the former. In general, the DSFZ is closer to the northern savanna boundary. Occasional ground fires are the major factors determining the nature of this forest type. Deciduousness is higher in the DSFZ than any other type or subtype. Perhaps the heavy crop of leaf litter in the dry season predisposes it to fire. Currently the reserve is generally in a state of complete degradation, been dominated by grass vegetation. Regeneration of forest trees is completely prevented by very frequent burning.</p>
Mexico	<p>Three ejidos were visited during the field trip: <b>Ejido Tikinmul, Ejido Bonfil and Ejido Arellano</b>. The groups 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.</p>
Guyana	<p>The field trip included the visit to three different places, <b>Durabuisi</b> mined – out area, the forest reserve <b>Chikabaru</b> and NARI Farm and <b>Linden Highway area</b> of secondary forest being used by a new community established in the forest.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Guatemala	<p>The participants visited the <b>Comunidad las Carmelitas</b>, 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.</p> <p>This deficiency on the identification of an appropriate site can be explained due to the limited consultations and feedback provided by the</p>

	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Cameroon	i) Forest reserve of Mbalmayo, ii) Degraded forest of Mvila
Philippines	<p>i) 200-ha area within <b>Brgy, Liyang</b>. This embraces Sitio Kinainisan and Sitio Catmon. Degradation in the area is caused by the following: Bataan logging; encroachment and kaingin making of upland settlers; conversion to sugarcane plantation; grazing land; cultivation of land into agricultural purposes, and forest fires. There are restoration efforts conducted in the area, namely: National Forestation Program, SIFMA, AFFLA, and individual initiatives. Furthermore, there are innovative land use practices observed in the area such as boundary demarcation using eucalyptus and kakawate, tree plantations (SIFMA/FSP), agroforestry, and orchards ii) <b>SIFMA Program for Degraded Forest Land Rehabilitation</b> located in the Province of Bataan iii) <b>Catmon Sub-Watershed</b>, a tributary of the Panitian Watershed in Brgy. Parang, Bagac, Bataan.</p>
Côte d'Ivoire	i) Classified forest of <b>Andguédégon</b> surrounding an urban center, ii) Classified forest of <b>Bebasso</b> , iii) Rural landscape around the village of <b>Abé</b> and classified forest of <b>Yapo-Abé</b>
India	The field was designed to give the participants an overview of the relevant activities which were undertaken in India i.e. Joint Forest Management (JFM) closely relevant to theme of the workshop. <b>Achrapakkam Reserved Forests</b> was severely degraded due to heavy biotic interference by the villagers abutting the forests through head load removals, overgrazing and forest fire for the last several years. This Forest faced severe problems from ecological, hydrological, socio-economic and technological aspects and it was addressed through the project intervention from the year 1997.
Myanmar	During the field trip the participants visited to the field site located in <b>Yedashe Township, Bago Division</b> , approximately 80 km south of the Workshop venue. The field trip started with the visit to the Yedashe Township Forest Office where the participants were reported about the reforestation and restoration activities by the Director of the Bago Division (East) Forest Department and the Staff Officer of the Yedashe Township Forest Office. The field trip then proceeded with the visit to the degraded forest landscape of the site and to the Forest Village located in the Compartment No. 73 of Saiya Reserved Forest. At the village the three groups carried out the field work together with three different social groups of the villagers, namely, women, elders and young members of the community. The participants also visited Pho Kyar Forest Resort (eco-tourism site), forest nursery and special teak plantation established in 1999-2000. After returning to the Workshop venue, the participants gathered again at 20:00 h to prepare group work presentations.

### Annex 3: Summary table including feedback on the ITTO Guidelines

Country	Weaknesses of the Guidelines	Strenghts of the Guidelines	Missing from the Guidelines	Suggestions for improvement
Ghana				In general, the Guidelines were found very useful in the field, because they allow for flexibility and site conditions dictates the intervention. Yet, they need to be complemented by a document that depicts the country - specific situation. There is also the need to do massive education of all stakeholders on FLR process and also build capacity.
Mexico		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Guidelines are a complete document when presenting the set of recommended actions;</li> <li>•Guidelines surpass the national considerations for restoring forestlands</li> <li>•The guidelines present concepts that are not aligned with the concept of FLR (example: restoration), thus require revision.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•A section explaining how to use this guidelines</li> <li>•A section on how to cope with the need of economic resources at the beginning of any restoration project;</li> <li>•Broader promotion of livestock - agro -pastoral systems</li> <li>•FLR fundraising mechanisms</li> <li>•How to build the support from authorities</li> </ul>	
Guyana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Glossaries from both documents (Guidelines and the Reader) should be standardized;</li> <li>•Some definitions need simplification, for example "Double Filter": the term not user friendly, it would be good if a better and self explanatory term could be found;</li> <li>•Definition in Glossary – needs revision (restoration) and</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•There is a need to include information regarding alternative economic opportunities to generate income on a short term level.</li> </ul>

Country	Weaknesses of the Guidelines	Strenghts of the Guidelines	Missing from the Guidelines	Suggestions for improvement
	inclusion of some acronyms not covered (ecological integrity);			
Guatemala		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The Guidelines are generic and descriptive. They represent the conceptual framework for orienting the implementation of FLR activities;</li> </ul>		
Cameroon		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Guidelines strengthen and make the FLR concept more clear (comment given after the presentation on FLR)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The document needs to be simplified</li> <li>• Make it shorter</li> </ul>
Philippines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need to explain FLR more clearly by illustrating specific examples, or comparison with other restoration strategies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidelines, glossary and planning and management principles are comprehensive enough to address ease of application to a given degraded tropical forest with enough generalization, so as not to preclude certain types of landscape.</li> <li>• It also addresses the socio-cultural, ecological and both the economic and institutional considerations of forest management.</li> <li>• It also considers not only the site level-based stakeholders but also other stakeholders within the landscape.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to explain more clearly the FLR by illustrating specific examples, or comparing it with other forest restoration strategies (e.g., watershed approach).</li> <li>• In Annex 3, climate was the only basis used for species site adaptability and no consideration was cited on other site factors like soil requirements</li> <li>• It would help to include the provision of a legal/policy framework in making the availability of funding mechanisms to jumpstart the rehabilitation scheme (FLR).</li> <li>• Provide examples of how laws were enacted to provide a national budget for the identified projects, as well as institutional arrangements with the various local funding and sources of grants, soft loans to address the financial</li> </ul>

Country	Weaknesses of the Guidelines	Strenghts of the Guidelines	Missing from the Guidelines	Suggestions for improvement
				<p>requirements of the same.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance discussion of Conflict Management approach (similar to the treatment given to the discussion on Stakeholder Analysis and Management)</li> </ul>
Côte d'Ivoire				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make the Guidelines more practical and country specific</li> </ul>
India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of clarity of definitions from the Indian perspective</li> <li>• Lot of discrepancies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ On page 33, Principle (2)... How do we support rural livelihood without addressing the access of the community to resources? On page 26, 6th Para, 6th line: It is said that significant financial inputs are required which is contradictory to the previous statements that it has to be cost effective</li> <li>○ On page 19, it is said that local seedlings might be cheaper than the other which is always not true to the Indian context</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The baseline for determining goods and services is not clear</li> <li>• Principle 16 Page 39 causes of degradation should be eliminated. These causes can only be managed and not eliminated</li> <li>• Paradigm shift from flagship species management to other</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aspects such as water conservation missing in the guidelines</li> </ul>	

Country	Weaknesses of the Guidelines	Strenghts of the Guidelines	Missing from the Guidelines	Suggestions for improvement
	<p>species that may be important from the community point of view</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principle 15, Article 52, Page 38, consistent with land use policy - But we don't have a land use policy. National level adaptation of guidelines required</li> </ul>			
Myanmar	No feedback was given on the Guidelines since participants were not familiar with the FLR concept before the workshop. The workshop was considered as a learning course and the Guidelines were seen as teaching material.			

### Annex 4: Summary table including feedback on the “Reader” (Manual)

Country	Weaknesses of the Manual	Strenghts of the Manual	Missing from the Manual	Suggestions for improvement
Ghana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inadequate guidelines on FLR in off reserves: implementation difficult in off reserve areas due to tenure issues in these areas</li> <li>• Most examples are experiences outside Ghana and appear abstract e.g. flora &amp; fauna species</li> <li>• Savannah ecosystems not captured in FLR definition</li> <li>• Recommended strategies missing for neutralising mined out chemicals before implementing effective FLR</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• The Reader needs to be more schematic and to use a more friendly language.</li> <li>• It should include terms of reference for developing FLR projects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The structure and content of the manual is generally fine and can be applied in Ghana, particularly in reserve areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examples cited in FLR Manuel are mostly outside W/Africa</li> <li>• Ghanaian vegetation zones example not cited</li> <li>• Sahelian case studies not cited (This could assist savannah forest management)</li> <li>• Fauna aspect missing</li> <li>• Ownership of lands/land tenure systems in various geographic areas: manual silent on this</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To make manual more meaningful for Ghana some supplementary document that highlights the problems in Ghanaian context should be put in place to enhance local implementation</li> <li>• Abridged or simplified version of manual would be more useful at the site level</li> <li>• Site level FLR might be feasible in Ghana &amp; not on whole landscape; because of the forest tenurial issues</li> </ul>
Mexico				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Reader should adapted to the Mexican tropical conditions</li> <li>• The participants agreed that there is a need for a specific national / local Guidelines. Those should aim on: i)</li> </ul>

Country	Weaknesses of the Manual	Strenghts of the Manual	Missing from the Manual	Suggestions for improvement
				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.
Guyana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Glossaries from both documents should be standardized;</li> <li>• The Reader contains sentences that are too long;</li> <li>• Some definitions need simplification, for example "Double Filter": the term not user friendly, it would be good if a better and self explanatory term could be found;</li> <li>• Definition in Glossary – needs revision (restoration) and inclusion of some acronyms not covered (ecological integrity);</li> <li>• The Reader needs some work for becoming a Manual.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reader needs an executive summary;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Manual should include a section on how to begin a project on FLR and how to prepare a project proposal;</li> <li>• The Manual should include a section on the planning phase before the implementation of activities;</li> </ul>
Guatemala		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>		
Cameroon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examples from Cameroon missing</li> <li>• The practicability on the field is questionable – the current</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Put the Manual into a format that could be used by local communities and by teachers</li> <li>• The document needs to be</li> </ul>

Country	Weaknesses of the Manual	Strengths of the Manual	Missing from the Manual	Suggestions for improvement
	document is too conceptual			<p>simplified</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When developing a specific Manual for Cameroon – include representatives from all stakeholder groups including the private sector, civil society etc.</li> </ul>
Philippines		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent conceptual framework, good documentation and holistic approach in presentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussions on social preparation is lacking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is a need to “laymanize” some technical languages for better understanding and appreciation of stakeholders, especially for the implementers at the field level</li> <li>A second part containing tools and enumerating step by step processes should be added to the FLR manual</li> <li>There is a need for a Philippine specific manual to implement FLR activities in the country</li> </ul>
Côte d’Ivoire				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In collaboration with ITTO and IUCN, prepare a country specific, simplified manual on FLR</li> </ul>
India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is only an essential reading material and not a manual, it does not meet the standard required for manual, should we go for a manual which serves its purpose?</li> <li>Not adequate attention is be given to cover all the sociological aspects in addition to the technical</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manual structure should have site- specific management strategies</li> <li>The India specific Manual structure should stress upon the detailed description of Forests, Forests of our country, History and how they evolved and the challenges that faced the forestry cases in India etc</li> <li>Manual should build upon</li> </ul>

Country	Weaknesses of the Manual	Strenghts of the Manual	Missing from the Manual	Suggestions for improvement
				several points by learning more from the previous projects and case studies
Myanmar	No feedback was given on the Manual/Reader since participants were not familiar with the FLR concept before the workshop. The workshop was considered as a learning course and the Manual/Reader was seen as teaching material.			

### Annex 5: Summary table on the assistance needed from the international community

Country	Assistance needed for further FLR actions
Ghana	<p>Provide capacity building (education, training)</p> <p>Provide funds for research work on FLR</p> <p>Provide funding for the development of Ghana-specific Manual and/or revise the Manual to suit Ghanaian context</p> <p>Provide funding to scale up FLR projects in Ghana</p>
Mexico	<p>Technical and financial support for the development of the local guidelines</p> <p>Support the organization of participatory workshops for preparing the guidelines</p> <p>Organization of national platforms for promoting the exchange of information</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Technical and financial support for the preparation and implementation of projects</p> <p>Training</p> <p>Foster the exchange of experiences among regions in Mexico and with other countries</p>
Guyana	<p>Training (including training material), technical assistance and capacity building</p> <p>Funding</p>
Guatemala	<p>Technical Assistance for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The elaboration, dissemination and training of a national manual on FLR</li> <li>• Pre-investment of projects</li> <li>• Formulation of projects</li> <li>• Financing pilot projects</li> <li>• Elaboration of the Manual</li> <li>• Design of projects</li> <li>• Facilitators / consultants for the national process for implementing FLR</li> </ul>
Cameroon	

Philippines	<p>Technology transfer</p> <p>Cross-visits/study tours</p> <p>Updates on recent developments re: FLR in other countries</p> <p>Enhance linkages especially with other donors</p> <p>Research/studies</p>
Côte d'Ivoire	<p>Technical and financial support for preparing a country specific FLR manual, strategy and action plan</p> <p>Financial support for FLR pilot projects</p>
India	<p>A Land use policy should be developed and followed. MoEF or ITTO should be involved in giving adequate exposure to the field staff. The pilot study should be of good quality.</p> <p>Fund requirements for FLR implementation would be quite high. In fact, it requires many times more of manpower and funds than the existing similar projects. What is the time frame for FLR implementation? These projects may not prove cost-effective immediately. The returns might be available after quite a long period of time, in some cases it may happen after 15 or 20 years. Certain landscapes like those in Rajasthan and Gujarat may not support tree cover but may support grasses and shrubs. Same is the case in mangroves where returns such as NTFP's may not be immediate and adequately rewarding.</p> <p>Capacity building programmes on FLR and dissemination of information can be undertaken by ITTO. ITTO should also have small-grants programme so that certain principles of FLR can be tested.</p>
Myanmar	