

Participatory REDD+ (How) does it work?

OroVerde – Tropical Forest Foundation

Dr. Elke Mannigel





- **Founded in 1989**
- **German non-profit Foundation**

Forest conservation in international projects

- Cooperation with local partner organizations
- Promotion of technical and financial cooperation
- Focus on conservation and sustainable development

Environmental education and awareness raising in Germany and the EU

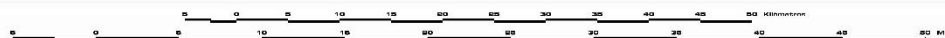
- Elaboration of material for schools and kindergartens
- Campaigns and contests
- Elaboration of information material

Experiences from the field

Social aspects in a REDD pilot project in Guatemala



Project location: Sierra del Lacandón National Park



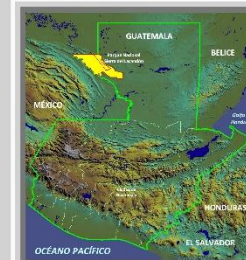
Escala 1: 155,000
Proyección del Mapa Transversal de Mercator - TM
Cuadrícula del Mapa Guatemala Transversal de Mercator - GTM

Mapa de:

**COBERTURA FORESTAL
PARQUE NACIONAL
SIERRA DEL LACANDÓN**

Municipios de La Libertad y Las Cruces
Departamento del Petén
República de Guatemala

UBICACIÓN GEOGRÁFICA DEL ÁREA



Nomenclatura



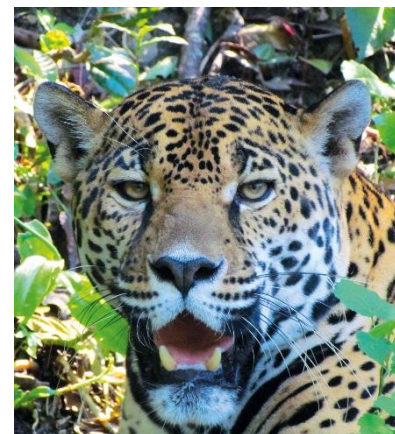
Fuente Datos: CIGOT, IGN, NAS, CONAP, UAG y JAL

Proyecto:
Parque Nacional Sierra del Lacandón
Mapa Elaborado con:
CIGOT elgato@extensores.org.gt
Fecha:
Noviembre 2012

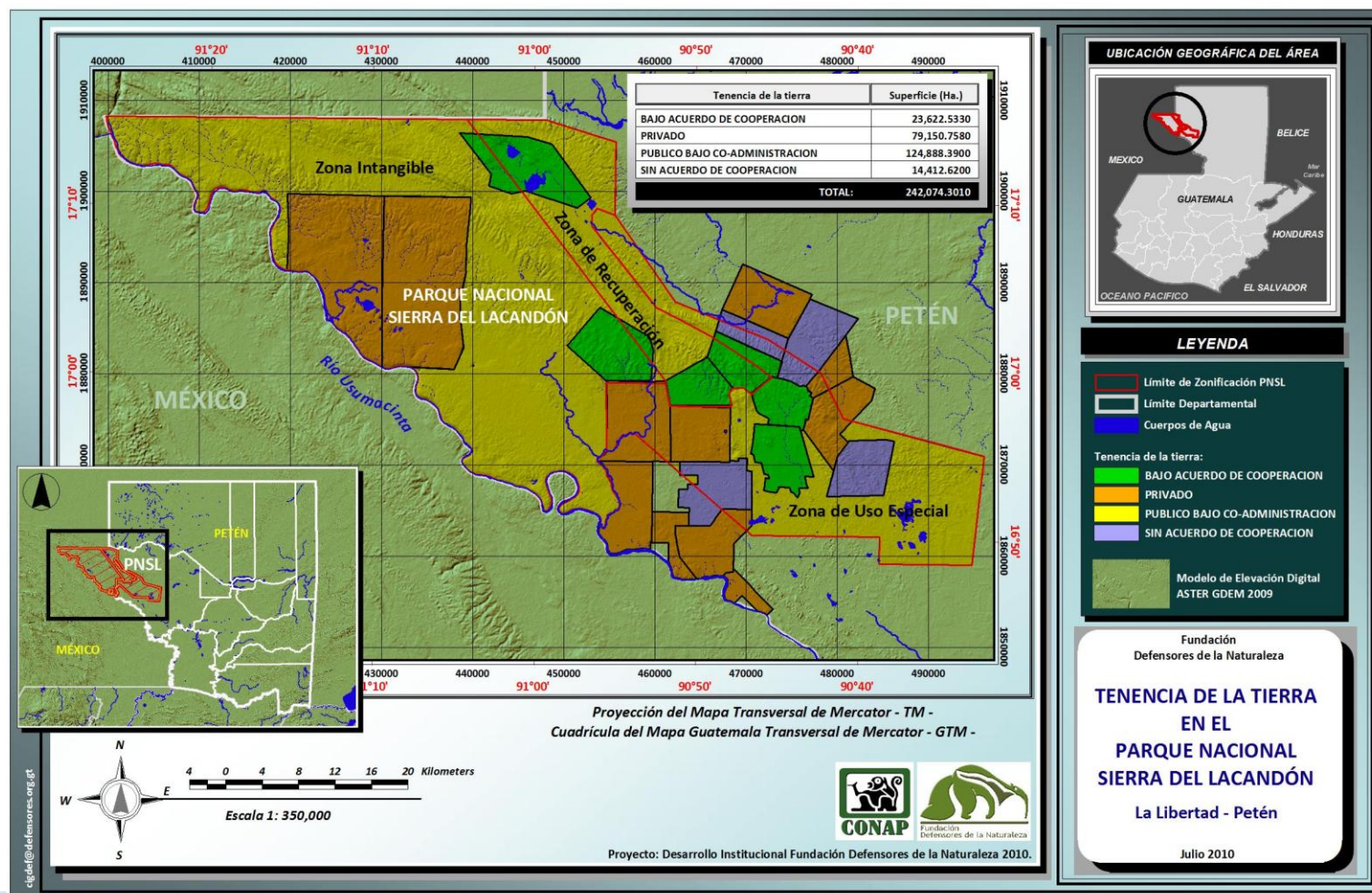


Objectives “Lacandón – Forests for Life”

- Reducing rate of deforestation
- Conserving biodiversity
- Strengthening local sustainable development
- Promoting dialogues (at local, national and international level)



Actual land tenure situation in the National Park



Strengthen development in rural communities

- Promoting dialogue
- Signing cooperation agreements between communities and government
- Involving communities in activities to reduce deforestation and restore the forest cover on their lands.
- Through an incentive program families receive incentive-payments, capacity building and materials for income generating activities



Land rights and land use rights

- Outreach and dialogue in accordance with traditional laws
- Community participation
- Inclusion of indigenous groups, youth and gender aspects
- Working with communities with legal certainty over their land
- Respect for land tenure and traditional farming practices



Community concerns related to their land

- Is our land at risk?
- Do we need to sign a contract?
- Are we going to be able to continue using the forest?
- Do we have to pay anything?
- Can we continue to carry out agricultural production projects on our lands?



Participation of local population

- Genuine participation takes time!
- Training on:
 - Climate Change
 - Greenhouse effect
 - others
- Workshops about REDD+
- Meetings to solve questions and concerns about REDD+ and the project
- Distribution of materials
 - Comics
 - Summaries of REDD Lacandón Project material
 - others



Agreements with communities



- Establishment of a REDD Group Project starting with three communities and FDN on private land

Project governance and benefit sharing

- REDD Lacandón Project committee
 - Representatives of the three participating local communities and FDN; OroVerde as adviser
 - Dialogue and decisions about REDD Project activities, benefit sharing, etc.
- Activities for REDD Lacandón Project
 - Fire control
 - Reforestation
 - Forest enrichment
 - Community development projects
 - Economic support for families
 - Biodiversity monitoring



REDD+ Social aspects in the international discussions and conclusions from the field



Criticism concerning REDD+ social aspects

- Land rights and land use rights are threatened by REDD+
- Participation before and during REDD+ is not effective
- Benefit sharing in REDD+ is not equitable
- REDD+ is only addressing local drivers



Land rights and land use rights

- Indigenous/local population is forced to give up or sell their lands
 - Indigenous/local population are not allowed to use the forest
- If managed right, REDD+ offers possibilities to clarify land rights
 - Land use rights and access to the forests have to be and can be guaranteed



Participation before and during REDD+

- Indigenous/local communities are not informed nor consulted concerning REDD+ projects
 - They are not asked for their permission nor involved in planning and implementation
- Free prior and informed consent is possible, it needs lots of time and resources
 - Participation has to start from the beginning of the project to be transparent and sustainable
 - Participatory processes have to be effective to assure long term sustainability



Benefit sharing in REDD+

- Project implementers keep the money only for themselves
 - After all the costs to achieve carbon credits and the low prices for those, there remains no benefit for the local population
- Benefit sharing can be developed by all, even if the process is slow and complicated
 - Costs are high (including monitoring, verification and administration) and a good price has to be achieved to cover those and create benefits for all proponents and the local population



REDD+ and drivers of deforestation

- Local farmers are forced to give up their cultivations and use of forests resources
- At the same time, international drivers that are responsible for the biggest share of deforestation, are not addressed

- Continuation of traditional sustainable cultivation to guaranty food security is necessary and possible with REDD+
- Unsustainable agriculture can and should be adapted and improved
- REDD+ has to address international drivers as well, this is not possible at the project level, but has to be incorporated into an international mechanism



Conclusions - REDD+ social aspects

- Not all REDD+ projects and national preparations are ideal and violation of rights do occur
- However it is possible to get it right and implement REDD+ with and to the benefit of indigenous and local populations



Thank you

For further questions

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