

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF
THE SECOND PROGRESS REPORT
"SUPPORT FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL FORESTS IN
CENTRAL AMERICA PROJECT (PAGEBOCA)"
APRIL 1995 - APRIL 1996
(Including additional information up to June 1996 in relation with the
external evaluation)**

I. INTRODUCTION:

During 1995 and 1996, the Central American Region made significant progress in the Conservation and Sustainable Development area. Perhaps, the best known and most significant event was the signing of the Central American Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Development of Natural Forests in 1995.

information describing the strategies to address the recommendations of the external

These tables specify the results obtained, during this period, in each activity undertaken by PAGEBOCA. These results are contrasted against the expected results proposed in the Annual Operative Plan. For more in-depth explanations and analysis of results, please refer to the full technical and financial progress report for this period submitted to the

national level with women's grassroots groups involved in social forestry, particularly with non-timber forest products (NTFP).

Other regional projects: A coordination mechanism with other projects.

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B. Promotion of cooperation and integration of regional, national and local forest conservation initiatives:

At the request of the CCAB/CCAP, PAGEBOCA coordinated the drafting of a proposal on **The Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Effects and Carbon-Fixing in Central America**. This proposal has several components, including the **Prevention and Control of Forest Fires: a Regional Plan**. Forest fires are the second major cause for the loss of forests in Central America.

Activities on the Control of Forest Fires

Río Plátano, Honduras:

PAGEBOCA gave technical assistance to a local indigenous initiative for the

C. The Participatory Analysis Process (Systematization)

This new and evolving initiative has been adopted by IUCN/ORMA as a key instrument to learn from experiences, in order to influence the regional, national and local policy-making processes, and to identify mechanisms for the sustainable use of natural resources.

Objective 3: *Contribute to the drafting of public policies which are coherent with the region's sustainable development, taking into account local experiences and initiative in sustainable use.*

A. **Analysis of the current state of forest conservation in Central America and its legal/institutional situation.**

In 1992, UICN/ORMA --with the financial support of the Swiss Cooperation Agency--

the commitments assumed by the countries under ALIDES, CCAD asked PAGEBOCA to update this assessment. A preliminary updated version is completed and has been

National level:

Guatemala:

PAGEBOCA promoted a wide consultation process on forest concessions in Petén. In addition, a technical study on forest concessions at the national level was conducted by the *Guatemalan Tropical Forest Action Plan (PAFT-G)* and

Nicaragua:

PAGEBOCA organized three workshops to revise the draft Forestry Law. The proceedings of these workshops were published --as a compendium of laws related to forest resources-- by PAGEBOCA in cooperation with *CONIC*

IV. PAGEBOCA's MULTIPLIER EFFECT

PAGEBOCA has clearly achieved a multiplier effect as a result of three distinct work strategies: a) Networking, b) cost sharing of priority activities, and c) the mobilization and pooling of existing regional technical capacities.

A. Networking

PAGEBOCA has promoted and supported the following networks in the region:

The Regional Technical Committee for the Management of Forest Fires:

This network has been officially recognized by CCAD as the body in charge of

Several proposals formulated by different organizations in the region have been

V. A LIST OF PUBLICATIONS PRODUCED BY PAGEBOCA DURING THIS PERIOD

CCAD, CCAB/CCAP, PNUD & UICN/ORMA. 1995. *Primera Reunión Plenaria*

Alcance Centroamericano del Documento de Política Forestal de la Región de América Central

Biodiversidad y Legislación Ambiental. Circulation 1,000 copies.

CCAB/CCAP, CATIE & UICN/ORMA. 1995. *El Papel de los Productos No Maderables en el Manejo Diversificado del Bosque. Consultation for Central America and the Caribbean, July 15-21 1995. 500 copies published.*

CCAD, CCAB/CCAP, USAID-OFDA & UICN/ORMA. 1995. *Primera Reunión Centroamericana de Prevención y Control de Incendios Forestales y Agrícolas. 100 copies published.*

PROYECTO CORREDOR BIOLÓGICO TALAMANCA CARIBE (CBTC), THE NATURE CONSERVANCY (TNC) & UICN/ORMA. 1995. *Proyecto Corredor Biológico Talamanca Caribe, Limón, Costa Rica: Resultados de una Sistematización. 500 copies published.*

CCAD, CCAB/CCAP, UICN/ORMA & SECRETARÍA DE ECONOMÍA DE COSTA RICA

VI. LESSONS LEARNED

The following main lessons learned during this period are partially extracted from those

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important working area for PAGEBOCA in systematizing experiences and promoting this integration.

feasible

VII. STRATEGIES FOR THE FUTURE.

A. The Internal Strategies

PAGEBOCA will direct its efforts according to the following strategic requirements:

- a) the consolidation of its achievements,
- b) the incorporation of lessons learned into daily practice,
- c) the incorporation of pertinent recommendations by the external evaluation, and
- d) other actions to promote the implementation of the objectives.

included in global and regional agreements, in an effort to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the forest resources of the region.

These efforts will be directed to:

- a) Providing a neutral *fora* for different sectors and institutional actors.
- b) Training of grassroots organizations on negotiation mechanism and on project management.
- c) Developing a system of indicators and monitoring instruments.

B. External Strategies

The monitoring of the compliance of national, regional and international agendas on forest conservation, and the vertical integration of these fora with local actors are the greatest challenges that PAGEBOCA faces. For this reason, PAGEBOCA is initiating

- *Improve mechanisms for communications and sharing of experiences.*
- *Disseminate at the international level the process of regional integration underway in Central America, and share the experience of the CCAB/CCAP with the international community.*

C. Working Mechanisms

Considering the experiences and lessons learned during this phase, PAGEBOCA is planning to:

- Improve the national consultation mechanisms and the restitution of the systematized experiences to key actors.
- Promote, with greater emphasis, the incorporation of new actors at the local and national levels.
- Provide systematic and synthetic information to key institutional actors at the local level in order to support regional and national processes.

- Generate a greater horizontal and vertical integration of the project and ORMA team.
- Develop non-traditional indicators and monitoring and evaluation tools in order to support regional and national process.
- Reinforce the existing coordination mechanisms at the regional and national levels.

ANNEX 2

AGREEMENTS AND LETTERS OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNED
BETWEEN IUCN/ORMA AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS IN
SUPPORT OF THE CCAD CONVENTION

IUCN/ORMA-CCAD: Letter of

Support for the implementation of the

ANNEX 3

EXAMPLES OF THE MULTIPLIER EFFECT OF PAGEBOCA

ANNEX 2	PAGEBOCA FUNDING (US\$)	OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS (US\$)	INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED	TOTAL
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