NGO Case Study Presentations

GEF-NGO Consultation meeting

June, 2005

The following four case studies were presented during the GEF-NGO Consultation on June 2, 2005:

1. ***Growing grapes in the Namibian desert: an African Success story***, by Steven Gruzd, South African Institute of International Affairs –SAIIA (South Africa).
2. ***Models of Partnerships within the SGP in North Africa 1999-2005,*** by Emad Adly, Arab Network for Environment and Development – RAED (Egypt).
3. ***Restoring Mountain Ecosystems through Community Land Management*,** by Elsa Matilde Escobar, Fundación Natura (Colombia)
4. ***Alliances for Conservation: Empowering Civil Society in Central America***, by Ingrid Arias, FUNDAECO (Guatemala).

1. Growing Grapes in the Namibian Desert: An African Success Story

By Steven Gruzd, South African Institute of International Affairs

From dust to dollars …

- ✓ Only 2% of Namibia receives enough rain to grow crops
- ✓ The Namib desert, along Namibia's Atlantic coastline, has a mean annual rainfall of 50 mm - one of the driest places on the planet
- ✓ Irrigation is only possible only along a few border rivers in the far north and south; borehole irrigation is prohibitively expensive
- ✓ But this climactic curse is a blessing for growing table grapes …

Meet Dusan, a man with a plan

- ✓ Yugoslav Dusan Vasiljevic emigrated to Australia, become a fresh fruit commodity trader, then moved to Johannesburg, SA
- ✓ Realising that few places on earth could produce fresh grapes in November/December for Europe because of frost and rainfall, he saw an opportunity along Africa's Atlantic coast to grow grape varieties that thrive on high heat and low humidity.
- ✓ In extreme aridity, farmer controls harvest period
- ✓ In 1988 Vasiljevic bought Aussenkehr, a failed vegetable farm along the Orange River, in then South West Africa. Despite its low annual rainfall, the farm had a 15 km riverfront and an annual irrigation quota – a government-determined ration based on acreage planted and pumping capacity.

Potted Political History

- ✓ German South West Africa 1884
- ✓ South Africa administers SWA as a League of Nations Mandate after WWI
- ✓ Protracted legal dispute after WWII, ruled as de facto "fifth province" of SA
- ✓ SWAPO opposes SA rule, begins insurgency in 1960
- ✓ War in Angola, Cold War context
- ✓ Independence 21 March 1990

Tough times

- ✓ Steep learning curve
  - 3 years to bear fruit
  - planted tomatoes, cantaloupes, watermelons for SA market
  - irrigation pumps failed, expensive to replace
  - had to buy out investors who lost faith
  - Had to source own funding in forex, weak Namibian dollar
- ✓ *'It was tough. 'People thought I was mad and that this was a white elephant. The perception was that it was simply not possible to grow grapes there. I was in a newly independent country planting new crops in a virgin area. There was hardly any infrastructure, a lack of quality management. The commercial banks don't deal with many farmers and refused to lend, especially in new areas.'* – Dusan Vasiljevic

Grapes on the Negotiating Table

- ✓ European grape-producing states - Spain, Italy and France - plus several non-EU grape farmers can't produce at yearend, and fresh grapes deteriorate in quality after long, expensive periods in cold storage.
- ✓ Namibia joined Fourth Lomé Convention (1992-2000), offering preferential access to EU for certain low income African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) states.
- ✓ Vasiljevic urged Ministry of Agriculture to seek concessions in Europe for Namibian grapes.
- ✓ Competitors lobbied for time-bound duty-free access.
- ✓ Decision: all ACP countries, combined, could export 600 tonnes of fresh seedless table grapes duty-free to the EU from 1 December to 31 January each year.

Thanks for Nothing, Brussels

- ✓ In 1992, Namibia the only ACP country that could export grapes to the EU, and Aussenkehr alone easily exceeded the 600 tonnes.
- ✓ Duty-free quota boosted to 800 tonnes in 1996, split between December and January, to the first supplier to market.
- ✓ From January 2002, government negotiated a tariff reduction of 2.5% for grapes over the quota, but changes to EU trade rules extended it to all ACP countries.
- ✓ Small market opening - struck deal with UK supermarket Tesco.
- ✓ 'Supermarkets want grapes on their shelves 365 days a year. You get brilliant prices, if you can deliver consistently to very fussy customers. And it's all about the marketing window – if you don't take advantage, they will hunt for grapes from one of their 27 other supplier countries. Deliver what you are asked to – you are dead if you don't.' -- Stuart Symington, CEO, South African Fresh Produce Exporters' Forum.

Perseverance Pays Off

- ✓ First 150ha on Aussenkehr - 1,000 tonnes in 1991. Wholesale price about $3,800/tonne (after duty) in Europe - restructured debt, planted 350ha new vineyards.
- ✓ Vasiljevic sold some land to government at reduced price, and the parastatal Namibia Development Corporation and black empowerment corporation (the Namibia Grape Company producing on 360ha.
- ✓ Government developing Tandjeskoppie farm, aid from Arab Development Bank, another 5,000 irrigated ha planned.
- ✓ 2003: Namibia produced 12,000 tonnes (approximately N$180 million ($US29 m).

Inspiring a Bunch of Other Farmers

- ✓ Komsberg Farming, in cooperation with a major black economic empowerment group, started production about 200km east along the Orange River.
- ✓ Hardap irrigation scheme 600km north of Orange - still small, export licensed pack house for table grapes recently built for 3,000 tonnes.

- ✓ Rising cost of providing scarce water for irrigation, innovative farmers switching to high value crops – mostly fruit, vegetables and flowers – principally for export.
- ✓ 12 farmers created 150 jobs – Kalahari Table Grapes joint branding, single negotiation channel

Meeting EU Trade Standards

- ✓ EurepGAP certification – complex, costly set of interconnected requirements covering food safety, the origins of produce, environmental standards and the social welfare of workers
- ✓ Namibia has no organisation able to certify that grapes meet EU quality standards.
- ✓ European wholesalers send experts to Namibia before harvesting and during packing
- ✓ Exporters must pay SA's Perishable Products Exports Control Board (PPECB) to conduct inspections

Not Coming to America

- ✓ Namibia tried for 8 years to sell table grapes in the US.
- ✓ It can take 5-7 years to meet the quarantine conditions for an import permit from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) in the US Department of Agriculture (USDA).
- ✓ Pest Risk Assessment (PRA) controlled and supervised by APHIS is required. Namibia lacks expertise to execute these complex tests.
- ✓ Visits by APHIS experts not borne fruit.
- ✓ Depreciating dollar, so industry concentrated on expanded EU.
- ✓ Yet SA received permits easily in 1995 – politics?
- ✓ Buy SA's PRA is not acceptable to APHIS for Namibia, and the laborious and expensive exercise must be duplicated although the two production zones straddle the Orange River.

Urging Collaboration

- ✓ Namibian government's Green Scheme: to incorporate disadvantaged Namibians into commercial operations. Budding farmers wanting to create new irrigation schemes must have a black empowerment component.
- ✓ At the NGC's irrigation project adjacent to Aussenkehr Farms, 30 small scale farmers established in a mixed vegetable/grape production unit. Aussenkehr packs and markets their grapes through existing channels normally inaccessible to the low volumes produced by individual farmers.
- ✓ NORTEGA the Namibian Orange River Table Grape Association, which gives newer entrants all the benefits of access to established market channels and quality certification systems, which small farmers would be unable to develop individually.

Making a Difference

- ✓ From scratch, created about 3,500 new permanent jobs, another 7,000 employed during 3-4 month harvest, biggest employer in impoverished, underdeveloped Karas Region.

- ✓ For every 1,000 tonnes of table grapes Namibia has produced and exported, an estimated 300 new permanent and 600 part-time jobs were created, and these workers earn a total of about N$6,000,000 ($967,000).
- ✓ Inspired Hardap scheme 600 km away

Lessons Learned

- ✓ Identifying and developing lucrative niche markets
- ✓ Encouraging and nurturing entrepreneurs, building on their own self-belief
- ✓ Planting other species as cash crops while cultivating fruit trees that take years to mature to offset expenditure
- ✓ Articulating to governments why a crop is worth supporting, working together to leverage market access
- ✓ Ensuring that exports meet plant health standards of foreign markets
- ✓ Tackling supply side constraints, like transportation and storage effectively

For more information:

Jürgen Hoffmann
Senior Trade Advisor: Agricultural Trade Forum
P.O.Box 5096, Windhoek, Namibia
Phone: + 264 61 22 47 41
Fax: + 264 61 22 53 71
E-mail: jurgen@nammic.co.na

Steven Gruzd
Research Manager, NEPAD and Governance Project
SAIIA - the South African Institute of International Affairs
PO Box 31596, Braamfontein, 2017, South Africa
E-mail: gruzds@saiia.wits.ac.za
Phone: (+27 11) 339-2021
Fax: (+27 11) 339-2154
www.saiia.org.za

2. Models of Partnerships within the SGP in North Africa 1999-2005.

By Emad Adly, Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED), Egypt.

The SGP Countries in North Africa

- ✓ Egypt
- ✓ Morocco
- ✓ Tunisia

Levels of Partnerships

- ✓ At the National Level
- ✓ At the Programme Management Level
- ✓ At the Thematic Level
- ✓ At the Project Level

- **At the National Level**

In Number of Countries, the SGP is hosted by NGOs
In our case in North Africa: In Egypt and Tunisia i.e. 2 out of 3

- **At the Programme Management Level**

The NSC composition:

- ✓ NGOs
- ✓ Academia
- ✓ Private Sector
- ✓ International & UN Agencies
- ✓ Government

The Country Programme Strategy (CPS) is developed in a complete **Participatory process** involving all the Stakeholders. Linking between achieving the Global Benefits and the National Priorities in order to achieve the Local Community Benefits. Ensuring the linkage with Poverty and MDGs

- **At the Thematic Level**

Converting the Problem into an Opportunity through the Establishment of a Partnership

Strengths of Partnerships

- ✓ Ensure Governance.
- ✓ Ensure Participation of all Relevant Actors (especially the communities).
- ✓ Maintaining SGP Commitment to SLI.
- ✓ Achieving Synergy and Complementarities with other programs and projects.

- ✓ Up-scaling and replicating successful SGP funded Projects
- ✓ Minimize the costs (resources mobilization and co-financing)
- ✓ Facilitate Sustainability

This leads to make a **Greater Impact** at both the **National and Global levels**

History of GEF/SGP in Egypt

- Egypt's SGP Pilot Implementation Phase started in 1992.
- The majority of the projects funded during the last 13 years focused on adopting measures for mitigating **climate change**.
- The Pilot Phase 1992-1996
- The First Operational Phase 1996 – 1999
- The Second Operational Phase 1999 – 2002
- The Second Operational Phase 2002 – 2005

Lesson learned

- ✓ Projects closely related to peoples' livelihoods and community development, they are bound to succeed.
- ✓ Local residents are eager to improve their living conditions by conserving natural resources for future generations, and are awaiting an opportunity to achieve their aim.
- ✓ The SGP has contributed to enlightening policy-makers to adopt and support environmental activities as a frame of reference for community development.
- ✓ Whenever civil society organizations are enabled, they deliver positively impacting their local community and serving their environment.

Successful Stories of Community Participation / Partnerships on a National Priority Issue

- ***Solar Heaters***
- ***Agricultural Wastes***
- ***Waste Water***
- ***Medicinal Plants***

1) The Solar Heaters

Objectives of the Project

- ✓ Awareness raising
- ✓ Training
- ✓ Revolving Fund

Partners Involved

- ✓ The NGOs
- ✓ The Private Sector
- ✓ The Government

- ✓ The Local Authorities
- ✓ And of course the COMMUNITIES

Accomplishments

- ✓ The NGOs installed 100 percent of the heaters and have an excellent record for recovering the costs of installation.
- ✓ The Projects trained many youngsters on the installation and maintenance of the heaters (job creation)
- ✓ In addition to raising the awareness of the community leaders and officials.

2) Agricultural Wastes

Programme Objectives:

- ✓ To develop a pilot project for recycling of agricultural waste in the form of non-conventional animal fodder and organic fertilizers.
- ✓ This approach is an alternative to burning the waste which results in initiating what we call it the Black Cloud Phenomenon.
- ✓ The project's activities work in light of the international environmental agenda as well as the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry for the Environment.

Partners Involved

- ✓ Ministry of Agriculture
- ✓ Ministry of Local Development
- ✓ NGOs
- ✓ Private Sector
- ✓ Research Centers

Biodiversity

- ✓ The Egyptian Botanical Society (EBS) implemented a programme on the Conservation of Rangeland Biodiversity in El-Omayed Protected Area (GEF small grants project Int/92/G31).
- ✓ Egyptian Botanical Society is an NGO (President: Prof. K.H. Batanouny, the project leader of the present project). This society has all the botanists, ecologists and other related fields as members.
- ✓ The budget was 26,400 US $ for a period of 18 months.
- ✓ This helped to establish nurseries with the Bedouins. Awareness campaigns were held and studies on the endangered plants were undertaken.

The results and information obtained from this project represented a good solid basis for the projects on Biodiversity Conservation in Egypt. Among these is that implemented by the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology and obtained a fund from the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) through the International Union for Conservation (IUCN). The Project leader was Prof. Dr. K.H. Batanouny, Professor of Ecology.
This project built upon the experience and achievements of the SGP GEF project

Personnel contributing to the activities of the project

- ✓ hundreds of persons were involved in SGP, including:
- ✓ Bedouin in sites where nurseries were established, Bedouin involved in the meetings and workshops, persons from the local authorities and the Governorate, scientists and researchers from different Faculties in the different Universities and rResearch Centres, workers helping in the preparation of nurseries and collection of seeds, members of the NGO, school teachers, hotel personnel, and hundreds receiving the booklet on Biodiversity (in Arabic), which was published by the SGP.

Training the Bedouin

It is a new practice to the Bedouin to cultivate wild plants. Their tradition makes them believe that this something "Rabbani", i.e. coming from Allah and grows in nature. The Bedouin will not try to cultivate these plants except when they feel that they are the main reason of its eradication; either by collection or changing the habitat. The practice of cultivation of these wild plants when shown to them by experts in the field, convinced them. They were satisfied to find the plants growing and they can get some resource. However, it is to be noted that the growth of the desert plants is slow. This may be among the constraints. This can be remedied by providing the Bedouin by a supporting livelihood during the first trials.

The Bedouin Women and Natural Resources

- ✓ The Bedouin woman is responsible for numerous things in the daily life of the household.
- ✓ Through her activities, the woman has a paramount effect on the biodiversity. It is to be noted that the socio-economic changes in the Bedouin society affects the culture and behavior controlling the conservation of biodiversity. The indigenous knowledge respecting the biodiversity is apt to be extinct. Household interviews were held. Women, especially old women, are the main source of traditional knowledge about the components of biodiversity.

The success of the project

- ✓ The success of the project helped to raise funds to get a donation of a piece of land of ca 5500 m2 at El Hammam at a value of more than 20000 US$. This is used to establish a centre and a garden for the conservation of endangered plants.

Objectives of the El-Hammam Centre

- ✓ Ex situ conservation of the threatened and rare economic plant species, especially those of medicinal value
- ✓ Raising awareness among the stakeholders and users about the value of conservation
- ✓ Documentation of the traditional knowledge about the use of plants to help conservation of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)
- ✓ Support education in the field of biodiversity conservation

- ✓ Provide researchers with facilities to undertake experiments on cultivation, propagation, harvest and phytoochemical investigation of the plants.

For more information:

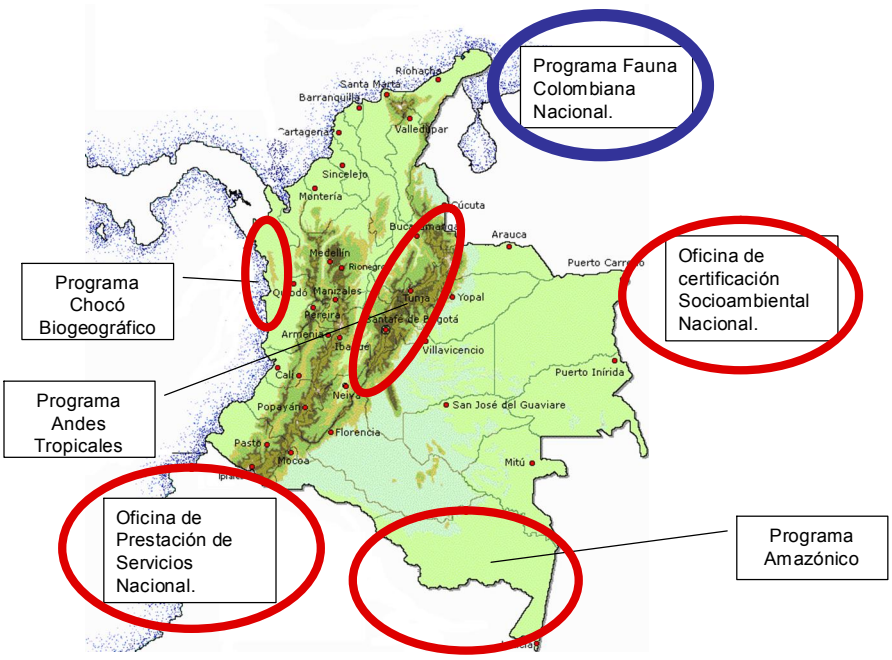
Dr. Emad Adly
General Coordinator
Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)
E-mail: aoye@link.net
Phone.: +20-2-5161519
Fax: +20-2-5162961
www.undp.org/sgp
www.sgpgefegypt.org

3. Restoring Mountain Ecosystems through Community Land Restoration

By Elsa Matilde Escobar, Fundación Natura Colombia (Colombia)

Fundación Natura Colombia

- ✓ Colombian private organization
- ✓ Created in 1984 (21 years of work)
- ✓ Objective: conservation and sustainable use of natural resources
- ✓ Participative and community based work
- ✓ Works in topics like: territory organization, environmental education, organizational strengthening, research, sustainable production systems, protected areas, soil restoration, biodiversity conservation



Importance of the Andes

- ✓ Myers 1988 defines the tropical Andes as one of the terrestrial eco- regions which is a world priority, because it is unique, fragile and strategic.
- ✓ Dinerstein 1995: Identifies in the Tropical Andes 8 eco-regions which are high priority areas to prevent the disappearance of critical, vulnerable or endanger species.
- ✓ WWF 1997 identified the north of the Andes as one of the 17 world priorities for its uniqueness and its degree of threat.
- ✓ Myers 1998: identified the north of the Andes as one of the 25 places with a high concentration of a particular element HOT SPOT.

- ✓ Davis 1997: there are at least 9 plant diversity centers in the Andean region.

The Andes in the Colombian Context

Ecosystem

- ✓ Only the 6% of the original forest in the Andean zone remains.
- ✓ The world highest diversity in the smallest area is concentrated here.
- ✓ Aquatic ecosystems highly affected by domestic, industrial and mine contamination are located in the Andean zone.
- ✓ Strategic ecosystems for water production.

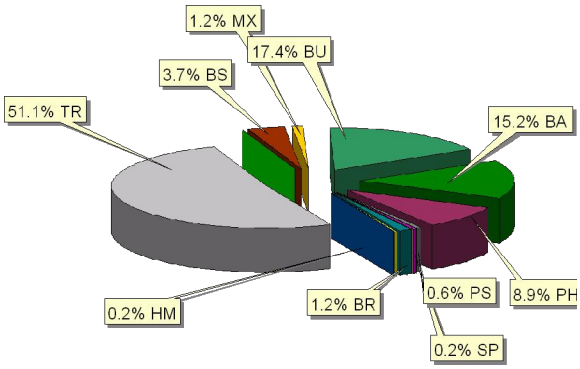
Socioeconomic

- ✓ Inhabited by the 80% of the Colombian population concentrated in big cities and small urban centers.
- ✓ The highest deforested areas for agriculture expansion are located in the Andean region
- ✓ The highest industrial and urban development and the highest generator of environmental problems.

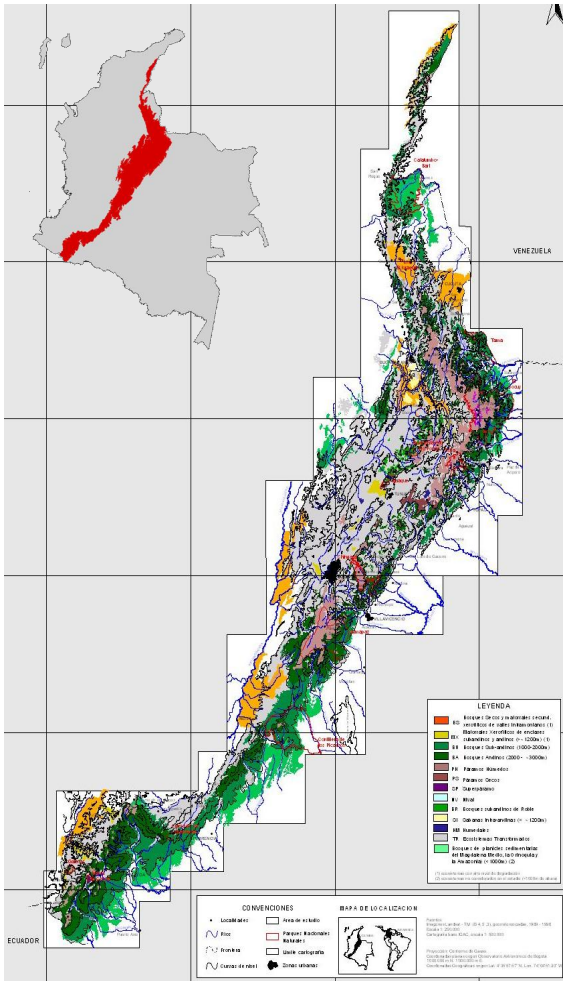
Agro ecosystem

- ✓ Occupies the second place after the pacific area in forest exploitation
- ✓ The 88% of the areas are intervened along the three mountain chains
- ✓ Close to 3.000.000 hectares which correspond to 56% of the cultivated area in the country are located above 1000 meters.
- ✓ There are processes of erosion and instability because of high slopes and intensive land use.

The eastern Cordillera and its soil



Transformed ecosystems: 51%;
Natural coverage: 49%;
Sub Andean forest:17.4%;
Andean forest: 15.2%;
Páramo: 9.5%;
Xerophytic bushes: 1.25%;
Oak forest: 1.2%



Desertification and erosion, priorities for the country

The annual report about the environmental conditions of Colombia identified the causes of soil degradation processes like erosion, desertification and salinization.

- ✓ Colombia has 250.000 Km2 of dry zones: arid, semiarid y sub-humid, which corresponds to 22% of the country.
- ✓ From the area above 79% of the dry zones presents some degree of degradation.
- ✓ From these, 56% presents a high degree of degradation, originated by erosion, salinization, compactness processes and loss of organic material.
- ✓ The Andean region and in special the medium height and low mountains and the inter mountain valleys are highly degraded.
- ✓ The highest incidence of mountain ecosystems' soil loss is associated with the superficial water erosion (affecting 79% which is equivalent to 90.392.661 hectares).

- ✓ In the case of pastures, the compacting process affects the structural stability of the soil and the water flux through the soil profile.
- ✓ The habitat and ecosystem fragmentation is one of the most serious threats for biodiversity conservation and the main cause of the present extinction crisis in the world.
- ✓ This land degradation process has adverse effects on the ecological integrity and the productivity.

Soil loss and low productivity by:
Overgrazing:

- ✓ Intensification of livestock, higher number of cows by hectare.
- ✓ Loss of shade coffee systems, riparian forests and secondary forests, for the establishment of livestock with animals' overload
- ✓ Destination of forest soils for livestock activities
- ✓ "Clean landscape" culture (only pastures)
- ✓ Use of inappropriate technologies like: a) agrochemical b) inappropriate traction c) low productivity races d) the lack of pastures' rotation e) the use of Paramo for seasonal livestock.
- ✓ In dry forests: desertification, total loss of the understory, selective loss of native species for overgrazing and the increasing of the temperature due to a higher accumulation of exposed soil.

Unsustainable Agriculture:

- ✓ Agricultural practices in high slope areas.
- ✓ Low crop rotation.
- ✓ Use of agrochemical for the management of plagues and fertilization.
- ✓ Use of high impact techniques like the inappropriate plow.
- ✓ Permanent superficial water flow (escorrentia)
- ✓ Management of vegetation with the use of fire
- ✓ Expansion of the agriculture frontier (becoming pastures).
- ✓ Social imbalance for land access, inequitable distribution of property, underused clean technologies associated with high levels of illiteracy, unstable productive chains also with intermediaries.

Strategy for soil recovery: CREATION OF THE CONSERVATION CORRIDOR GUANTIVA – LA RUSIA - IGUAQUE

- ✓ **Tool for regional planning integrating the ecological, economical and social dimensions.**
- ✓ **Participative Planning:** Participation of the interested parties: peasants, institutions, producers, women, academics, NGOs
- ✓ **Identification of biophysical and socioeconomic threats**

- ✓ **Collective identification of activities that conduct to a Sustainable Development Strategy for the region, with a portfolio of projects for the region**
- ✓ **Strengthening of alliances**

Planning results

Conservation targets	**Threats**
Water	Flow decreasing
	Contamination of residual water
	Sedimentation
Riparian forest	Loss of plant coverage
	livestock
Páramos	Burning
	Livestock
	Unsustainable agriculture
Dry forest	Livestock
	Desertification
	Burning
Oak forest	Loss of plant coverage
	Livestock
	Fragmentation
Sub Andean forest	Loss of plant coverage
Sustainable productive systems	Soil loss
	Livestock
	Loss of native seeds

ANDEAN FORESTS Y DRY ENCLAVES

- **<u>OBJECTIVE:</u> To design and develop a five year plan that should involve: compensation actions or implementation of incentives, change to agro forest systems, soil restoration and decreasing of aridity, in the two mentioned zones.**

Strategic actions

- ✓ To get the region's decision makers involved in the design of policies that agree with the proposed approaches
- ✓ Design and implementation of packages for rationalization and improving of conventional productive systems to get agro forest systems.
- ✓ Soil improvement for the implementation of agro forest ecosystems in dry areas and high slope mountains.
- ✓ Design and implementation of incentive packages and conservation legal tools for private properties.

- **<u>OBJECTIVE</u>: To establish conservation areas of a minimum 250 hectares in a period of three years**

Strategic actions

- ✓ Zoning of dry enclaves and Andean forests for conservation and recuperation
- ✓ Purchase of land to establish conservation areas with the participation of owners, communities, local governments
- ✓ Design and implementation of management plans for conservation areas

For more information:

Elsa Matilde Escobar
Executive Director
Fundación Natura Colombia
Calle 55 Bis No. 15-14
Phone: (571) 345-6188
Bogotá, Colombia
E-mail: emescobar@natura.org.co
Web: www.natura.org.co

4. Alliances for Conservation: Empowering Civil Society in Central America.

By Ingrid Arias, FUNDAECO (Guatemala)

The Gulf of Honduras protects an incredible **biodiversity** along with cultural and **ethnic multiplicity**. Coral reefs, spawning aggregations, sea grasses, inundated forests and mangrove are found in this shared ecosystem. Around the Gulf of Honduras are also found great remnants of the Central America Tropical Rain Forest, with high levels of endemism and biodiversity. Threatened and endangered species of plants and animals, extinct in other regions of Mesoamerica, are found in the Gulf of Honduras

TRIGOH. The Trinational Alliance for the Conservation of the Gulf of Honduras – TRIGOH is a **regional network** of organizations from Guatemala, Belize and Honduras, dedicated to **Biodiversity conservation** and the improvement of **livelihood of local communities** from this shared Trinational ecosystem: The Gulf of Honduras. It was formally established 1997.

Member NGOs:

- **Belize:** TIDE, BELPO, BTIA, TASTE, FON, SATIIM and the Toledo Chapter of the National Garífuna Council**.**
- **Guatemala:** FUNDAECO, IDEADS, Defensores de la Naturaleza, FUNDARY and Ak´Tenamit
- **Honduras:** PROLANSATE, Fundación Hector Pastor Fasquelle, CCO and REHDES.

These organizations have shared efforts to protect one of the last natural treasures of the world: The Gulf of Honduras

TRIGOH bases its work in the fundamental recognition of the **regional dimension** of the **environmental, social and economic** processes of the Gulf of Honduras that can't be approached from an isolated country point of view.

Conservation and sustainable use of natural resources of the Gulf of Honduras will only be possible through an **adequate communication, coordination and join work** of the three countries that surround this trinationally shared ecosystem

Our Mission -*To contribute to the conservation of Biodiversity of the Gulf of Honduras and to the improvement of livelihood of local communities, through trinational coordination and joint implementation of sustainable management of this shared ecosystem.*

TRIGOH Achievements:

- ✓ Development and consolidation of an idea and a regional vision among key local actors.
- ✓ Consolidation of a forum for communication, exchange of experiences and regional coordination.

- ✓ Presence and continued work for over eight years
- ✓ Exchanges and mutual learning among membership
- ✓ Institutional recognition by Governmental Authorities of the three countries
- ✓ Approach of civil society to the regional environmental problems
- ✓ Designation as the Transboundary Commission for Protected Areas of SAM project
- ✓ Promotion of policies coordinated at the Trinacional level
- ✓ Recognition of TRIGOH and its membership by international donors
- ✓ Lobby in support of the declaration of new protected areas in the Gulf of Honduras
- ✓ Participative development of Site Conservation Plan for the Gulf of Honduras (2001 - 2003)
- ✓ Participatory development of Institutional Strategic Plans (1998 and 2004)
- ✓ Training opportunities for member organization's personnel
- ✓ Technical Trinacional Publication: The Voice of the Fishermen
- ✓ Promotion of conservation and research of manatee at a regional level and reduction of hunting of this species in the region
- ✓ Recognition of threats for the environment that the Port Security represents and initial proposal of a project to support Port Environmental Security presented to BID/GEF
- ✓ Has been a model for other alliances (BEMAMCOR)
- ✓ Has statutes and is in the process of legal recognition in the three countries
- ✓ Exchange of communities at a Trinacional level
- ✓ Trinacional Tour of the Gulf of Honduras for environmental leaders and media
- ✓ In collaboration with SAM project, participatory development of a Framework of Policies for Fisheries, Tourism and Protected Areas for the Gulf of Honduras

Trinational Ecotourism Route

To increase tourism and visitation to protected areas of the Gulf of Honduras, trough the integration of the priority natural areas in a Trinational Ecotourism Route, conceived as a marketing tool and a highly competitive product at the international level

Keys to Success

- ✓ Find common grounds: protected areas, fisheries, manatee, tourism
- ✓ Strengthen Local Leadership: Recognition of individual skills
- ✓ Realistic objectives
- ✓ Create local capacities
- ✓ Communication: inside and outside

For more information:
Ingrid Arias
TRIGOH
7ª. Calle "a" 20-63 zona 11. Col. Mirador I, 01011
Ciudad, Guatemala
Phone: 502-440-4615
Fax: 502-440-4605
E-mail: trigoh@interlnett.com

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