



CELEBRATING TWENTY YEARS
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



Improved Certification Schemes for Sustainable Tropical Forest Management

Fast Facts

Achieved: Improved tropical forest certification schemes and contributed to stable forest management in three countries.

Where: Brazil, Cameroon, Mexico

Cost: GEF funds: \$962,000; Co-financing: \$793,000

When: May 2005 to June 2009

Partners: Forest Stewardship Council, Proforest, Forest Stewardship Council National Initiative of Brazil, Forest Stewardship Council Regional Office in Cameroon, Forest Stewardship Council National Initiative in Mexico

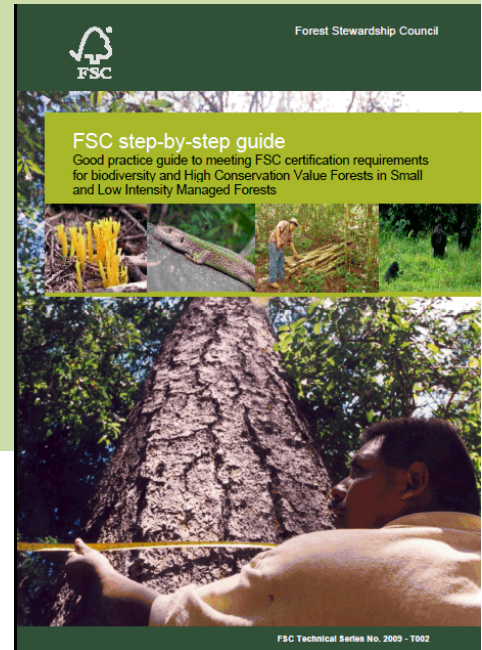
Achievements

In three unprotected tropical forests, the project developed certification tools and incentives for small forest managers, communities and non-timber forest product collectors. The goal of certification was to incentivize the stakeholders to protect biodiversity while maintaining their commercial goals. The tools were disseminated internationally by partners and in workshops.

Legacy

The work of the project continues because:

- The results were widely disseminated by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) network and affiliated certification bodies.
- Generic tools were extrapolated from the project that are adaptable to other tropical forest areas.
- The project prompted the FSC to start a fair-trade pilot project to certify community and small-timber operations in developing countries.
- Some project activities were continued and expanded because of leveraged funding.
- The GEF-funded project influenced the FSC to take into account small forest, community and smallholder operations and to develop a policy to deal with mission-related work by outside organizations.



20 Projects to Showcase 20 Historic Years of Environmental Finance

Improved Certification Schemes for Sustainable Tropical Forest Management

Publications:

Results of the project were distributed through the Forest Stewardship Council, www.fsc.org.

Outputs and Deliverables:

The project succeeded in:

- Contributing to ongoing sustainable forest management efforts in Brazil, Cameroon and Mexico, three countries with high levels of biodiversity.
- Generated generic tools for certification that could be used worldwide.
- Established improved certification standards geared toward biodiversity conservation for small forest managers, communities and other low-intensity forest management units.
- Worked closely with FSC, an international non-profit that promotes responsible forest management, to incorporate small forest managers and low-intensity concerns into their protocols.

Contact: www.unep.org/dgef or email: gefinfo@unep.org

Photo Credit: photos from guide covers are from www.fsc.org



Forest Stewardship Council

FSC user-friendly guide to FSC certification for smallholders

Make more out of your forests!



FSC Technical Series No. 2009 - T003