

## **South-South Knowledge Exchange on Planted Forests between Brazil, Ethiopia and Mozambique**

### **1) Background**

As part of World Bank forestry operations in Mozambique and Ethiopia (**Forest Carbon Partnership Facility Grant for REDD+ Readiness, Oromia Forested Landscape Project and Improve Business Climate for Planted Forests**), stakeholders in Ethiopia and Mozambique have demonstrated interest in increasing their understanding of different aspects of planted forests. Therefore, the WB is organizing a south-south knowledge exchange in form of a study tour to strengthen their understanding of how to attract private (small and large) investments into new planting and timber processing, how to ensure socially and environmentally sustainable timber management and how to finance planted forests.

Ethiopia's growth and transformation agenda critically depends on how natural resources and climate risks are managed. The impacts of natural resource degradation on the economy and people's livelihoods are significant, complex, and amplifying with increasing climate risks. To improve the understanding of the contribution of Ethiopia's forest and trees in landscapes to economic development, contribution to energy supply, growth and employment, the government is preparing a Forest Sector Review, which complements the ongoing national REDD+ Readiness initiative.

Mozambique has favorable conditions for fast growing forest plantations. Relatively low human population density, adequate soil conditions, sufficient rainfall and low cost for long term land leases are attracting plantation investments. The Government has estimated that 7 million ha of land is available and suitable for fast growing tree plantations in the country. At the moment almost 1 million ha of such areas are either fully legalized, or in the process to receive land leases for plantation establishment mainly by international companies. The World Bank is currently collaborating with the Mozambican government on an analytical study of the "business climate for planted forests" in the country.

Brazil stands out internationally in the planted forest sector. Knowledge in agriculture, forest management, harvesting and wood transport is advanced and used for benchmarking by other tree growing companies all over the world. It is the fourth largest producer of pulp and the ninth largest producer of paper. In the domestic market, planted forests supply the construction segments, furniture, packaging and energy.

This exchange will provide an opportunity for Ethiopian and Mozambique's leaders in the sector to be exposed to and learn from the private sector; government and civil society on successful examples of deforestation free supply chains. The study tour will also complement the other capacity-building efforts undertaken through the multi-year project engagement of the WB and will be accompanied by thorough follow-up as to ensure sustainability and desired results.

### **2) Objectives and expected results**

The study tour intends to:

- Increase participants' knowledge on how re/afforestation activities and planted forests can contribute to poverty reduction, focusing on smallholders in the timber supply chains, organization of small producers to participate in plantations activities, extension and support services and public-private partnerships;

- Increase awareness on; the latest advances on silviculture and technologies on fast-growing species with particular emphasis on applicability for smallholder forestry; environmental sustainability in forest plantation, including relation between forest plantations and the reduction of pressure over native forest;
- To enable participants to bring home skills and transferable knowledge on public policies and incentives to foster forest plantations by the private sector (large, small, domestic and international) that could be applied in their country contexts and used to formulate concrete recommendations actions
- Provide participants with knowledge on tools to access to finance, smart subsidies and innovative sources of financing for forest activities and how to create a positive investment climate for forest activities and wood industry.
- To establish and strengthen lasting partnerships with Brazilian entities and agencies working in the forestry sector that can sustain after the study tour

### 3) Why study tour:

Study tours are one of the most well-known forms of expanding South-South knowledge exchange. The “*Learn by Doing*” format provides policy makers and practitioners to experience essential, real life contact with other agencies to learn how similar challenges have been tackled successfully in other countries. To make study tours as effective as possible, the team should ensure that: 1) The right participants are selected 2) the study tour is accompanied by other instruments (i.e. preparatory virtual meetings to establish understanding of objectives and expectations) 3) there are well-defined follow-up actions (e.g. summary of lessons learned, development of action plans and possible future mentoring) 4) the experience is captured in a user-friendly format to share with other stakeholders who will not participate in the study tour and that can be further disseminated to inform other similar projects.

### 4) Structure of the exchange field visit

The main instruments used in this knowledge exchange are: a preparatory planning phase, a study tour and follow up workshops and VCs. The main study visit will span over a **5-day field visit** to Brazil to allow participants to visit local experiences on planted forest.

#### 1. Preparatory phase

To ensure participants’ ownership of the study tour, a preparatory exercise will be convened prior to the tour that enables participants to share their expectations and learning objectives with each other. First, each participant prepares in advance a short note on the situation in his or her institution and what their expectations and aspirations are for the study tour. The national counterparts then meet in a workshop to present to each other and to prepare a joint presentation that builds on all stakeholders input. The two countries thereafter convene in a VC to collaboratively draft a study tour expectations presentation. This workshop will also help participants to get to know each other and create a common understanding and motivation for the study tour.

Parallel to this exercise, and to ensure that people can raise specific (and maybe anonymous concerns), participants will also answer a survey on what their needs and expectations are for the study tour. The survey results will be compiled and guide the study tour as well as serve as important monitoring tool for results.

## **2. Study tour**

The study tour will extend over 5 days (February 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015) and include visits to relevant agencies/institutions as decided upon by the participants and WB. To ensure a mutual beneficial and inclusive exchange some sessions will also include presentations from the Mozambican and Ethiopian delegations, to share their experiences with Brazilian counterparts.

During the study tour, participants will document their daily experience and each participant will be responsible for drafting segments that will feed into a final report that will be delivered by the end of the trip. The report should build on and draw parallels to the expectations presentation prepared prior to the tour. After the study tour, the report should feed into the creation of a potential follow up action plan for each country and agency/entity. The WB team will also hold daily debriefs/reflection sessions with participants to discuss the applicability of the lessons learned for the context of Mozambique and Ethiopia.

## **3. Immediate follow-up**

After the study tour, the WB team will follow up with an evaluation survey to participants to evaluate the direct outcomes. To track progress, this survey will build on the one made prior to the exchange.

The participants will also prepare the collaborative summary report of tour, including the lessons learned for each country, drawing lessons back to the expectations document that was written prior to the study tour.

## **4. Long-term follow-up**

Based on the report outlined during the study tour, participants should reconvene with a wider group of stakeholders to formulate and anchor a concrete action plan, with specific short term targets and long-term change goals for the country as a whole as well as the specific agencies.

## **5) PARTICIPANTS:**

The study tour includes a maximum of 10 participants. The WB team has worked with the Country Offices and other national counterparts to identify leaders and those key actors who can be sought as 'Change agents' in the forestry sector. The group of participants will thus be made up of officials who will each play a key role for catalyzing possible reforms for planted forests and the supply chain as well as those who provide important momentum and support to them.

## **7. Preliminary agenda for the visit in Brazil (to be confirmed)**

<b>Days</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Topics</b>
Sunday	Arrival	
1 <sup>st</sup> day – Monday, São Paulo	<p>Mini Seminar</p> <p>Participants will be meeting in the hotel conference room with invited guests, who will learn from participants their expectations from the Brazil study visit. Guests in return will share with the participants their knowledge about forestry plantations in Brazil within the context of their institutions</p>	<p>8-10:00h AMATA Brasil:</p> <p>AMATA is a leading company at the timber industry sector. Amata woods come from planted forest of native species, eucalyptus and pine, produced and harvested through low impact forestry.</p> <p><u>Topic:</u> Private sector perception of the sector.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• coffee break</li> </ul> <p>10-12:00h SAE</p> <p>The Strategic Issues Secretariat (SAE) is, the Federal body in charge of the National Development Plan of Planted Forests</p> <p><u>Topic:</u> presentation of the National Development Plan of Planted Forests and how the federal government can improve the business environment to attract private investments.</p> <p>12-14:00h Lunch</p> <p>14- 16:00h State government of São Paulo</p> <p>The Government of São Paulo state has adopted state-level policies to promote smallholders inclusion in the timber supply chain and to incentivize forest plantations in the state.</p> <p><u>Topic:</u> Creating incentives for smallholders to get involved in and benefit from timber supply chain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coffee break</li> </ul> <p>16 – 18:00h BRACELPA</p> <p>BRACELPA is the <i>Brazilian Tree Industry</i>, an association responsible for representing the actors in the planted forests supply chain. It represents 62 private companies and 8 state entities that supply products obtained from planted trees, such as wood panels and laminate flooring, pulp, paper and biomass for energy production.</p> <p><u>Topic:</u> Introduction to planted forests in Brazil</p>
	<u>Evening:</u> Dinner hosted by the WB	Debriefing
2 <sup>nd</sup> day – Tuesday,	Participants will travel to Pilar do Sul (150 km from SP, for about 2:11	7:00h Travel to Pilar do Sul and debriefing at the bus.

FARESP (Pilar do Sul and Itú, SP)	hs) to visit REFLORESTA, and later travel to Itú (90 km from Pilar do Sul, 1:20 hs) to visit ACERVIR.	<p>10:00 hs REFLORESTA</p> <p>REFLORESTA is a Forest Replacement Association, an NGO that execute reforestation providing incentives to small farmers, in behalf of commercial wood and charcoal consumers from the city of São Paulo.</p> <p><u>Topic:</u> The participants will learn how the forest replacement scheme works, see tree nursery financed by commercial consumers, and visit one small farmer who has planted eucalyptus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lunch (self-service around 13:00h)</li> </ul> <p>15:00h ACERVIR</p> <p>ACERVIR is an association of ceramic industry (bricks and tiles), which also engage in reforestation projects to obey the forest replacement legislation.</p> <p><u>Topic:</u> The participants will meet the industry leaders, visit one ceramic industry and a small farmer who is partner in the program.</p> <p>20:00h Dinner and debriefing</p>
	Overnight in Itú	
3 <sup>rd</sup> day - Wednesday, São Paulo	Participants will travel to Piracicaba (80 km from Itú, 1:15 hs) to visit IPEF.	<p>7:00h Travel to Piracicaba and debriefing</p> <p>9:00h IPEF</p> <p>IPEF is the Institute of Forestry Research, from the ESALQ university, a state government funded university. ESALQ is among the leading forestry research institutes in Brazil with several industries associated, and with a high level staff of researchers. At IPEF participants will learn about the state of art of commercial forestry in southeastern Brazil, specially about tree seedling and genetic improvement, forest plantations and its interaction with surrounding natural environment, and charcoal and energy production from wood.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lunch (self service)</li> </ul> <p>17:00h Return to São Paulo airport to travel to Vitória, Espírito Santo state, and debriefing</p>
	<u>Evening:</u> flight to Vitória, Espírito Santo, and overnight in Vitoria.	
4 <sup>th</sup> day – Thursday,	Participants will travel to Aracruz (80 km, 1:30h) to visit FIBRIA	<p>7:00h Travel to Aracruz</p> <p>9:00h FIBRIA</p>

Aracruz / ES		<p>FIBRIA is the largest pulp and paper Brazilian company, with a strong presence in the global forest products market. An Industrial Unit is located in the municipality of Aracruz.</p> <p><u>Topic:</u> There participants will learn about the forestry operations of FIBRIA, including tree nurseries, plantations &amp; management, research and tree farming programs.</p> <p>18:00h Return to Vitoria and debriefing</p>
	Overnight in Vitória	
5 <sup>th</sup> day – Friday, Vitória, ES	Participants will spend the day in Vitoria and surrounding.	<p>8:00h State Environmental Directorate / IEMA, Water Utility Company / SESAN</p> <p>The state government of ES is leading a massive program to promote multi-purpose reforestation in the state, including through the use of Payment for Ecosystem Services.</p> <p><u>Topic:</u> Reforestation as part of the broader productive landscape and new mechanisms to promote incentives for reforestation (Payment for Ecosystem Services), including for water services. Participants will visit some of the reforestation areas.</p> <p>16:00h Return to Hotel for final debriefing</p> <p>18:00h Dinner</p>
	Evening free and overnight in Vitoria	
6 <sup>th</sup> day – Saturday, São Paulo	Return	Morning: Flight to SP – Ethiopia/ Mozambique