

**Summary of the Report of the XXIII Steering Committee Meeting the Project
“Integration of Forest-Based Development in the Western Amazon”, Rio Branco, Acre,
4 May 2004**

by James K. Gasana, Intercooperation, Bern

Project title	The Integration of Forest-Based Development in the Western Amazon – Phase II: Technology for Sustainable Utilization of the Raw Forest Material
Country	Brazil
Implementing agency	Fundação da Tecnologia do Estado do Acre (FUNTAC)
ITTO contribution to budget	USD 1,875,000.-
Contribution of the Implementing Agency	USD 1,550,000.-
Donors countries	Japan, Switzerland
Planned duration	3 years
Starting date	April 1993

The XIII Steering Committee Meeting of the above project took place on 4 May 2004 in Rio Branco. This was after the Project two-days closing seminar which had a significant attendance, including participants from abroad, and a field visit of the project. Switzerland as a donor had been invited and was represented by M. Robert K. Steiner, Swiss Embassy, Brasilia, and M. James Gasana, Intercooperation, Bern.

The meeting was attended by:

- M. João Cesar Dotto, Director President of FUNTAC, chairperson of the Meeting;
- M. Emmanuel Ze Meka, Assistant Director/Forest Industry, representing ITTO;
- Dr. James Gasana, Donor (Switzerland) Representative;
- Ms. Carmen Roseli Caldas Menezes, ABC/MRE;
- Dr. Rubén Guevara, ITTO Regional Officer of ITTO for Latin America and Caribbean;
- M. Francisco Soares Cavalcante, President of COAEPA – Cooperativa Agro-Extrativista dos Produtores do Antimary;
- M. José Edison de Melo Luna, SINPASA;
- M. José Maria Barbosa de Aquino, CNS;
- M. Pedro Bruzzi Lion, CTA;
- M. Marcelo Argüelles, SEF;
- Ms. Tânia Lúcia Guimarães, Technical Director, FUNTAC;
- Ms. Maria Nésia Moreno, Coordenadora do projeto ITTO;
- M. Antônio Luiz Jarude Thomaz, Manager for Institutional Development;
- Ms. Francisca Roseni A. Macedo, Accountant;
- Ms. Catarina de Sousa Almeida, Operational Manager;
- Dr. Zenobio A.G.P. da Gama e Silva, Forest Economist;
- Ms. Maria Antonieta Machado, Lawyer.

The main points of the agenda were the analysis of the Progress Report, but most of the discussion was on the mechanisms for the sustainability of the project. On this point, the Director-President of FUNTAC presented the ideas on the sustainability of the Project's activities in the Antimary forest. These include:

- Creation of a Consultative Council;
- Establishment of scientific laboratories and facilities;
- Revision of the management Plan;

- Enlarging the ASF;
- Making available 8,000 ha of forests to be harvested in 2005;
- Harvesting 2000 ha in 2004;
- Utilization of 500 ha in partnership with PROMANEJO/IBAMA for training activities;
- Continue with the certification process after the success with first technical visit which took place in October 2003;
- Strengthening the action concerning multiple use of the forest resources;
- To operate the community sawmill;
- A continuous system to monitor economic, social and environmental aspects;
- Creation of the Training Center on Forest Management.

The recommendations of the PSC meeting are the following:

- To increase the incentive of the use of timber products from the ASF.
- To develop a monitoring system concerning commercialization of forest products coming from ASF.
- To apply the ITTO Criteria and Indicators in order to monitor the Forest Management Plan.
- To include elements to evaluate social benefits for the local rubber tapper community.
- To elaborate a final project report following the ITTO standard within three months from the meeting date.
- To prepare a publication on the results of the project in order to inform the public. This publication must be printed in 500 copies in different ITTO languages and Portuguese, for a total cost not exceeding 15,000.-

At the end of the Meeting, the State Secretary for Forests, M. Carlos Ovidio, on behalf of the State Governor, thanked the participants for the attention of the Steering Committee, pointing out how important is ITTO for the sustainable development of the State of Acre.

