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Agroforestry systems on the Monte Cristo slopes (Guatemala)

SINREM: Training and information systems for participatory natural resource management

The European SINREM project (2006-2009) addresses a major bottleneck of participatory natural resource management-the circulation of information across decision levels. The project aims to enhance the application of sustainable natural resource management strategies and contribute to territorial development in cross-border zones of Central America. The project is carried in close collaboration with universities in three Central American countries (El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala).

It contributes to boosting their capacities and networking with European research centres. It also provides support for two regional organizations, i.e. Trifinio and the *Comisión Centroamericana de Ambiente y Desarrollo* (CCAD), which disseminate the project results throughout the region.

A training process is being developed through the project, while taking the different expectations, outlooks and needs of public and private stakeholders at different decision levels into account—from the local to the national/regional scale. It strengthens local stakeholders' capacities and governance and articulates natural resource management analyses conducted at this level with current development policies. The project focuses especially on:

- stakeholder training and networking
- management of a knowledge base by synchronizing existing information systems
- consolidation of spaces for discussion and negotiation
- development of a cooperative plan for the sustainable development of cross-border zones.

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