

AGENDA: Modelling Deforestation in the Yucatan and Beyond

Dates: March 31 - April 2, 2014

Location: Merida, Mexico

Hosts: Workshop and Learning Exchange Hosted by

- The Nature Conservancy
- Conservation International
- Environmental Defense Fund
- Center for Global Development
- The Observatorio de Selva Maya

Monday, March 31: LCM Technical Introduction (~15 Participants)

Introductory training for technically oriented folks on LCM.

Goal: Build the capacity of technically-oriented participants to use LCM software on their own, with hands-on training on use of software with real datasets from the Yucatan peninsula.

- First half of day: Introductory presentations by EDF-CI-CGD staff on applications and core components of LCM (and OSIRIS, to extent outputs used as LCM inputs), with examples from prior studies using each software package.
- Second half of day: Participants sit down in front of computers with EDF-CI-CGD staff to walk through real-time use of software with existing datasets, focusing on Yucatan Peninsula.

Tuesday, April 1: Alternative Policy Scenarios for REDD+: discussion of policy scenarios for OSIRIS

(~ 30 participants)

Big Picture Outcome: *Advance well-informed forestry, agriculture, and climate policy in Mexico.*

Goal: Identify alternative REDD+ policy scenarios that can be modelled with OSIRIS, that (i) inform discussions about optimal feasible Mexico REDD+ policy options (at national and/or state level) that achieve social and environmental outcomes, and (ii) assess the level of potential emissions reductions may be linked to alternative given policy interventions.

- 8:30-9:00: Introductory presentations on overview of MREDD policy engagements and Mexico's emerging national (and state level) climate policy framework (Leticia Gutierrez)
- 9:00-10:30: Presentations on use of OSIRIS software as tool for modeling policy outcomes for REDD+ (EDF-CI-CGD staff, George Dyer).
- 10:45 - 1:00: Breakout groups (max 5 per group) to discuss and identify best alternative policy scenarios that can be modeled with OSIRIS.
- 1:00 – 2:00 Lunch

- 2:00 – 4:30: Reports back from breakout groups, and full group discussion.
- 4:30 – 5:00: Summary of key outcomes by EDF/CI/CGD staff.

Wednesday, April 2: Topic: Region-specific drivers and modeling analysis methods, with a focus on Yucatan. (~30 participants)

Big Picture Outcome: *Inform the design of region-specific modeling analysis in order to improve the design of REDD+ conservation strategies in the Yucatan and elsewhere.*

Goals: (i) Review prior and ongoing studies modeling deforestation phenomena in southern Mexico, and (ii) identify priority questions to answer with EDF-CI-CGD LCM modeling analysis that build on prior and ongoing studies and are ground-truthed with pragmatic realities understood by practitioners.

- 8:30 – 9:15: Introductory presentations on (i) overview of MREDD Yucatan initiatives (Sebastien Proust, other TNC Staff).
- 9:30-12:00: Presentations on existing/ongoing studies modeling deforestation phenomenon in Mexico (and elsewhere?) (EDF-CI-CGD staff, Alan Blackman, Arturo Romero, etc.)
- 12:00: Lunch
- 1:00-3:00: Breakout groups (3-4 per group) to identify priority questions about deforestation phenomena in Yucatan or other Mexican geographies that need further study.
- 3:00-4:30: Reports back from breakout groups, and discussion about key region-specific questions about deforestation phenomena that can be modeled to improve the design of conservation strategies in these regions.
- 4:30-5:00: Summary of key outcomes (EDF/CI/CGD staff).