

## Activity Document

Submitted by the Government of Brazil

**TITLE:** Ecology and silviculture of mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla King*) in the western Brazilian Amazon

### SUMMARY

In Brazil, although mostly confined to Public Forests, especially to Indian Reserves, mahogany is still a species of great interest to forest managers and to entrepreneurs. A great challenge still persists of how to sustainably manage mahogany forests. In Brazil, only three forest management projects have been officially approved by the country's CITES Authority – IBAMA located in the States of Rondônia, Amazonas and Acre. The Project located in the Amazonas State in the region called Fazenda Seringal Novo Macapá Municipality do Acre, is the target of the present project extension proposal. The strategy of putting together forestry researchers and timber producers creates an excellent opportunity to develop sound forest management practices in mahogany forests.

Notwithstanding the advancements achieved several research initiatives, most of the knowledge generated concerned to mahogany seedling ecology and abundance in natural populations. The more practical part of the project related to silviculture of mahogany forests has not been well addressed due to discontinuation on provision of funds. This is then another opportunity to tackle an old research problem which is how to sustainably manage mahogany forests. The support from a timber company and the support from ITTO are of paramount importance to achieve the projects objectives.

The project aims at contributing to establish best silvicultural practices for mahogany in natural forests and to improve the present government regulations concerning forest management plans to ensure that international trade meets CITES' requirements for sustainable management and conservation of the species.

**EXECUTING/IMPLEMENTING AGENCY:** FUNPEA – Foundation for Supporting Research Extension and Teaching in Agrarian Sciences

**LEADING RESEARCH INSTITUTION:** UFRA – Federal Rural University of the Amazonia

**COLLABORATING AGENCIES:** Batisflor Florestal Ltd, GERFLOR – Forest Management Me, CNPq – National Research Council and CAPES – Coordination for improvement of undergraduate and graduate personnel

**DURATION (months):** 24