

I T T O

INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER ORGANIZATION

DRAFT PROJECT DOCUMENT

Title	INTRODUCTION OF LESSER KNOWN SPECIES IN THE AMAZON PLYWOOD INDUSTRY
Serial Number	PD 93/90 (I)
Original	ENGLISH

Prepared by

Submitted by

GOVERNMENT OF BRAZIL

Duration

18 MONTHS

Field of Activity

FOREST INDUSTRY

Co-operating Governments

Implementing Agencies

ABIMCE - BRAZILIAN ASSOCIATION OF PLYWOOD
INDUSTRIES

Estimated Starting Date

JULY 1991

Estimated Project Costs

US\$ 239,540 plus contribution in kind

Financing Sources and Amount

- ITTO Contribution

US\$ 239,540

- ABIMCE Contribution

IN KIND

Signed

On behalf of ITTO

Date

On behalf of ABIMCE

Date

PART I - LEGAL CONTEXT

The project relates to operation activities of ITTO in the field of forest industry, included in Article 23 of ITTA - International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1983. Its specific concern is to increase the "utilization of lesser-known and lesser used species" - The project is consistent with all ITTO criteria: it is related to the production and utilization of industrial tropical timber; will benefit the tropical timber economy and relevant to producing as well as consuming members; it is related to the maintenance and expansion of international tropical timber trade; offers prospects for positive economic returns in relation to costs and will use the existing research institutions.

PART II - THE PROJECT

1 - OBJECTIVE

The objective of this study is to select and introduce lesser-known species in the plywood industry, mainly as core veneers.

2 - BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

The Amazon forest is the largest tropical forest area in the world, and the most variable in terms of species. A very large number is responsible for the total volume of exploitable wood, but only a few are commercially used. For veneer and plywood production only about 20 species are used.

Based on wood properties and research related to wood utilization production, it is estimated that 100 species are potentially usable for veneer and plywood production.

Using a larger number of species, logging and transportation costs are expected to be reduced, as smaller areas are needed to be exploited. As wood represents a major cost in plywood production, the use a larger number of species will also represent a significant reduction in plywood production costs. Latin America tropical plywood industry could become more competitive, and at medium term an increase in production could be expected.

The introduction of lesser known species for core veneer should not bring any marketing effect, as plywood is sold based on face veneer. Core veneer could be of any species, as long as physical and mechanical properties are not significantly affected.

At the same time that costs can be reduced, volume needs of valuable face veneer species would decrease. On a long term analysis this will contribute to reduce the impact on the forest resource caused by selective logging.

3 - OUTPUTS

The result of the study will be a list of less known wood species which can be used as core veneer in the Amazon plywood industry. The mixed species plywood will have its properties determined and results published. The effect on logging costs and plywood

production costs will be evaluated. A seminar on the production of plywood in Tropical Latin America will be held to discuss the project results and others relevant aspects related with the activity.

4 - ACTIVITIES

The following activities are planned for this project:

- . Data Collection

Available data on the forest and wood properties will be collected from existing published literature, unpublished data available in research organizations and information accumulated in private companies.

- . Plywood Production

Based in data collected plywood will be produced using lesser known species for core plywood. Two conditions will be analyzed: one using wood from "varzeas" and one from dry land logging operations. Production will be carried out in industrial scale, at two different mills and natural species occurrence will be considered to select proportions of veneer species.

- . Properties evaluation

Plywood quality, and physical and mechanical properties will be evaluated and compared with traditional product. For properties evaluation existing laboratories will be involved.

- . Economic evaluation

Simulations will be carried out to determine the final impact on plywood production costs.

- . Tropical Plywood Production Seminar

Results will be presented in a seminar. Wood industry, research centers, consumers, importers and other interested sectors will be invited to discuss the results and related matters.

At all phases research organizations such as INPA, EMBRAPA (CPATUR) and for Prod. Lab. of IBAMA will invited to participate. To evaluate the properties of the product obtained existing laboratory facilities will be used.

5 - INPUTS

To carry out the proposed project the following inputs, based in ITTO contributions are needed:

- . Team Members

 - 1 Seminar Wood Technologist (team leader) - 18 months

- 2 Wood Industry Engineer - 18 months
- 2 Assistants - 12 months
- 1 Economist (consultant) - 3 months

Other

- Wood Technology Laboratory
- Travel and accommodation costs
- General expenses on seminar promotion

ABIMCE - Brazilian Plywood Association will contribute by involving wood industry in supplying logs, producing veneers and plywood, divulging the project work progress, supporting the publication of the final report and the plywood seminar organization.

6 - DURATION AND WORK PLAN

The full duration of the project will be 18 months. A preliminary work plan is annexed (Annex 1)

PART III - MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTS

1 - MONITORING REVIEW

The project will be subject to periodic technical monitoring in accordance with the policies and procedures of ITTO.

2 - EVALUATION

The project will be subject to mid-term evaluation 9 months after its start up in accordance with policies and procedures established for this purpose by ITTO. The executing agency will submit partial reports on the work progress, subject to discussion and analysis by ITTO.

3 - REPORTS

Reporting will be subject to the policies and procedures of ITTO. Two kinds of reports will be prepared:

- . Work progress reports

Quarterly reports will be prepared. The reports will include the information on work progress, and planning of activities.

- . Final reports

The final report of the studies will be presented at the seminar planned for the last month of activities. Conclusions of the meeting will be compiled and included in the final report to be submitted to ITTO.

PART IV - BUDGET

The project requires a contribution of US\$ 239,540.00 to be implemented.

ITTO	US\$
PROJECT PERSONNEL	181,540.00
TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION	16,000.00
LABORATORY EXPENSES	10,000.00
SEMINAR PROMOTION	32,000.00

TOTAL	239,540.00
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