



Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



COMMUNIQUÉ

STATE OF PARANÁ REPORTS ON CARBON-OFFSET PROGRAMME FOR THE OPERATIONS OF THE SECRETARIAT THROUGH THE TENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

For information only

Montreal 1, December 2008- The Technical Project Manager of the State of Paraná, Brazil, Mr. Sergio Mudrovitsch de Bittencourt, and the head of the State's forestry department, Mr. Paulo Caçola, paid an official visit to the Secretariat on 25 November 2008, to officially deliver its report on the carbon offset programme for the operations of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity from the ninth to tenth meetings of its Conference of the Parties, as defined in the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Executive Secretary, Dr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, and the Governor of Paraná, Roberto Requião. Staff members attended a presentation on the Riparian Reforestation Programme and the Carbon offset project under the Convention on Biological Diversity, which serves as an "island of excellence" and testing ground for the whole programme.

Mr. Mudrovitsch de Bittencourt presented the first official report of the activities of the State of Paraná. The report details the outcome of the 118 hectares of land reserved by the Secretariat to offset the 10,200 of carbon-equivalent of SCBD operations between the years 2008 to 2010. The 37 native tree species planted have an audited survival rate of 98 per cent and will offset up to 10,600 tonnes of carbon over 30 years. In addition, the area will have permanent protection under Brazilian law.

This biodiversity-friendly way to offset carbon emissions is part of a larger award-winning project called Riparian Reforestation Programme, led by the Government of the State of Paraná. The programme is an official partner of "Plant for the Planet: Billion Tree Campaign" under the United Nations Environment Programme. By the end of 2008, 100 million trees will have been planted along conservation corridors that connect parks in the municipalities of Diamante do Oeste, São José das Palmeiras, São Pedro do Ivaí, Jardim Alegre, Goioerê e Moreira Sales.

By using endemic and locally occurring trees, in areas adjacent to natural gene banks, reforestation leads to the restoration of ecosystems associated with the original Atlantic Rain Forest, and protects river borders from erosion. The area is a buffer zone for the complex of protected areas around Foz de Iguacu National Park, and is part of one of the most biologically-diverse – and threatened – ecosystems in Brazil.

During his visit to the Secretariat, Mr. Mudrovitsch de Bittencourt met with the Secretariat staff with a view to developing possible ways to assist Paraná to qualify the Riparian Reforestation programme as a biodiversity-friendly carbon-offset programme and further, to have the programme recognized on the global carbon markets. This offers a unique opportunity to link carbon offsets with biodiversity and ecosystem services such as soil fertility, improved water levels, pest control, and access to credit and assistance for land regularization.



ONE NATURE • ONE WORLD • OUR FUTURE
COP 9 MOP 4 Bonn Germany 2008



United Nations
Environment Programme

413 Saint-Jacques Street, Suite 800
Montreal, QC H2Y 1N9, Canada

Tel : +1 514 288 2220
Fax : +1 514 288 6588

<http://www.cbd.int>
secretariat@cbd.int