



#ESPConf7 / Press Release: September 12<sup>th</sup> 2014

## Local Knowledge Associated to Scientific Knowledge to Tackle Global Issues

**San José, Costa Rica.** On September 10<sup>th</sup>, representatives of local communities from Mexico, Brazil, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Colombia, Chile, Argentina and Guyana got together with international researchers, during the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP) Conference in Costa Rica. This event is organized by the ESP and Fundación Neotrópica.

The experiences of different projects were presented at this conference, for example the silvopastoral Voisin project in the municipality of Santa Rosa de Lima, Santa Catarina-Brasil, which enabled to make milk production more viable, to improve quality of family life, animal health, quality of soil, water and forest and other environmental benefits. This case was studied by the CiVi.net project, one of the five projects funded by the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Union FP7, which results were presented at the conference.

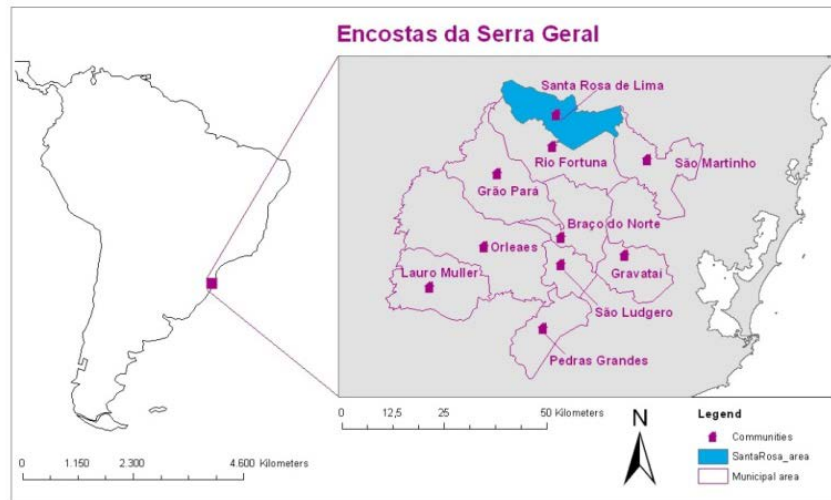


Image: Location of Santa Rosa de Lima in Brasil.





To reach this goal, local producers worked together with researchers and students from local universities and foreign organizations, encouraging a wide exchange of knowledge that led to successful outcomes for both sides.

One of the challenges of these projects and the work with communities, is to achieve continuity of processes. In the case of the projects funded by FP7, this constant exchange helps to strengthen the work and improve it permanently.



*Photos: Silvopastoral VOISIN Project in Brasil*





## References:

- European Union FP7 - A fund to support research and innovation - <http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/>

## About the FP7 Projects:

**CiVi.net** <http://www.civinet.eu/espanol>

The CiVi.net project aims to analyze, transfer and disseminate successful and sustainable community based solutions with regard to ecosystem service management in Latin America. Countries involved Costa Rica, Brazil, Germany, Switzerland, Netherlands, Austria.

**Cobra** <http://projectcobra.org/>

Behind Project COBRA lies a very simple idea. This idea suggests that human development policies and projects need to serve primarily the people they intend to strengthen. Project COBRA aims to showcase indigenous solutions for the management of natural resources that could in turn inspire development policies and projects. Countries involved Guyana, Brazil, Surinam, United Kingdom, Italy, Netherlands.

**EcoAdapt** <https://sites.google.com/site/ecoadaptproject/>

EcoAdapt is an action-research initiative working with three Latin American provinces to influence water management processes that contribute to local development and reduce vulnerability of human populations to climate change through capacity building, knowledge sharing, conflict prevention and mitigation, and promoting joint work with local and national stakeholders. Countries involved Costa Rica, Ecuador, Bolivia, Argentina, Chile, Austria, United Kingdom, France, Spain.

**COMBIOSERVE** <http://www.combioserve.org/es>

COMBIOSERVE is a consortium of ten institutions working together to assess the effectiveness of community-based management strategies for biocultural diversity. Using a multi-disciplinary and participatory research strategy, the consortium seeks to identify the conditions and principles for successful community-based conservation initiatives in selected locations in Brazil, Bolivia and Mexico. Countries involved Austria, United Kingdom, Brazil, Bolivia, Spain, Netherlands, Bolivia, México.

**COMET-LA** <http://www.comet-la.eu/index.php/es/>

The aim of the project is to identify sustainable community-based governance for the management of natural resources that could be used in different social-ecological systems in a context of climate change and increasing competition in the use of these ones. Countries involved México, Colombia, Argentina, Spain, Norway, United Kingdom, Portugal.

## Additional Information:

Tony Villalobos [tvillalobos@neotropica.org](mailto:tvillalobos@neotropica.org) 6108-8514

Karla Córdoba [kcordoba@neotropica.org](mailto:kcordoba@neotropica.org) 8892-5566

#ESPConf7 Official website: [www.esconference.org](http://www.esconference.org)

#ESPConf7 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EcosystemServicesPartnership>

