

# Forest restoration from the grassroots in Veracruz, Mexico.

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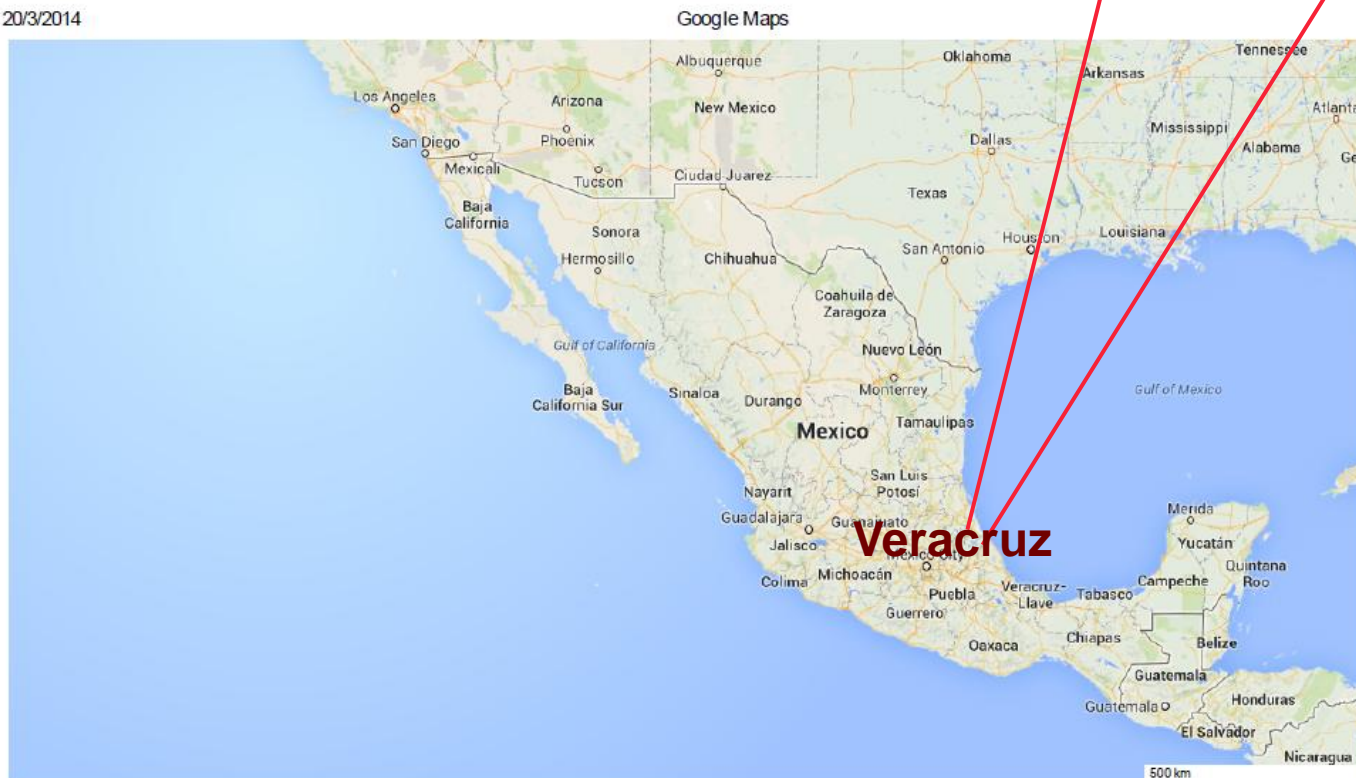


Centro de Investigaciones Tropicales  
Universidad Veracruzana

Totonacapan= place for  
*'hombres de tierra caliente'*

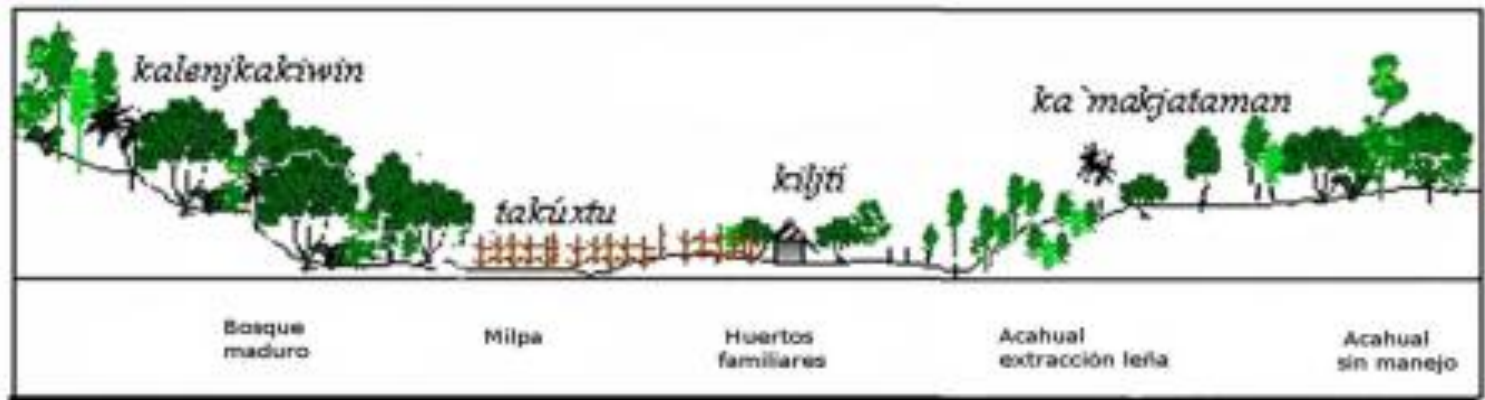


20/3/2014



# A biocultural legacy

valuable, intangible elements for  
sustainable forestry development



Totonac landscape units. Adapted from Toledo et al., 2005

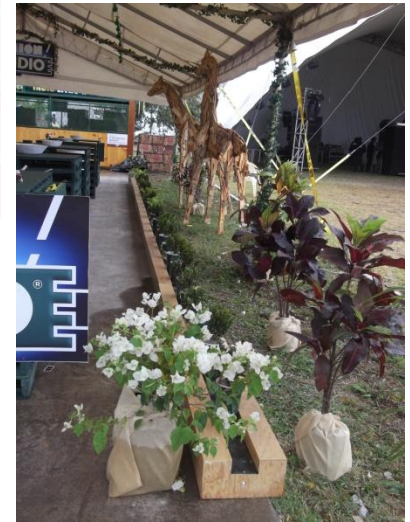


# Development





# Ritual de los Voladores UNESCO Intangible Heritage (2011)











# Diversified agroforestry systems

- High biodiversity
- Refuge for native flora and fauna (birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles and insects)
- Key environmental services (carbon sequestration and watershed renovation)
- Broad variety of tree and plant species
  - economic, nutritional, ritual, cultural and ecological importance



# Agroforestry and action research

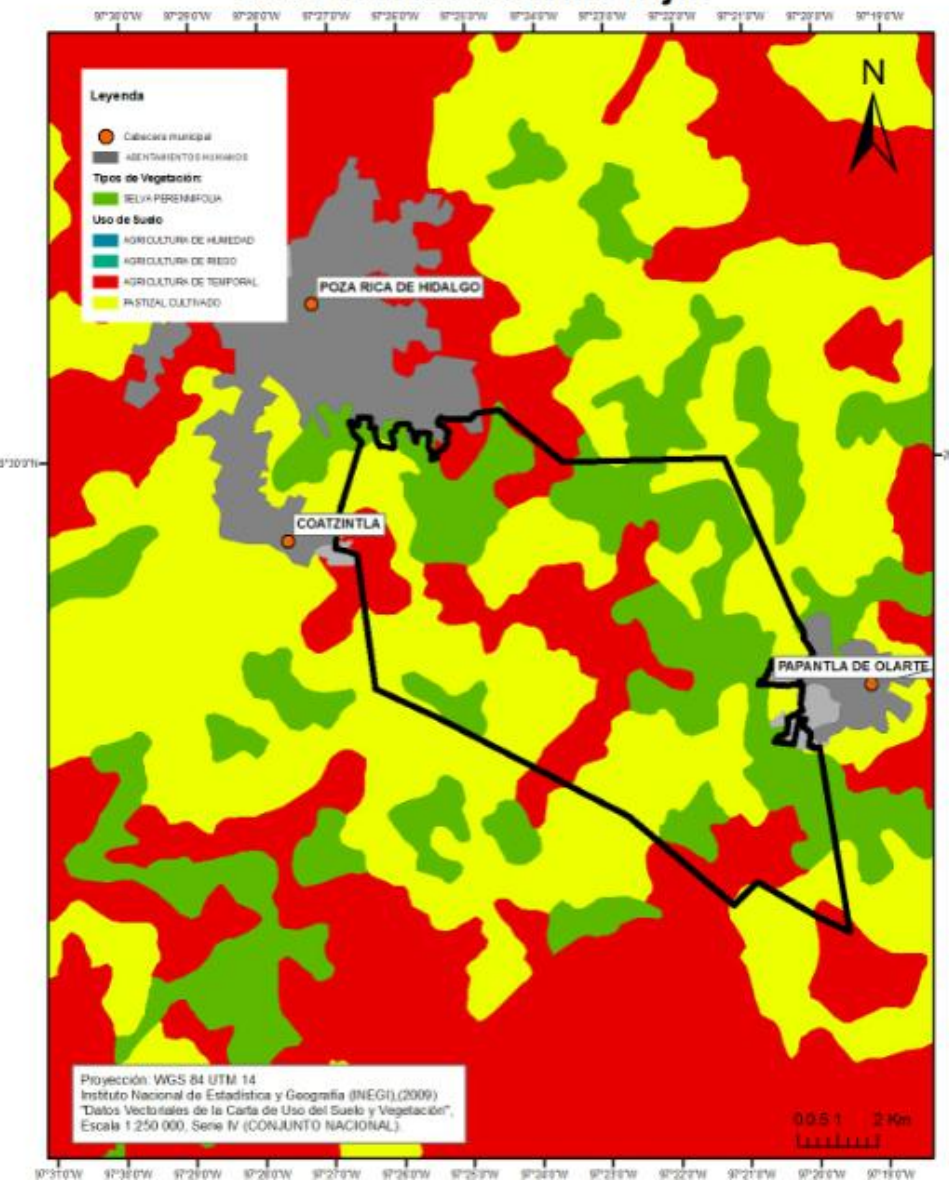
- *Zuelania guidonia* – biocultural element



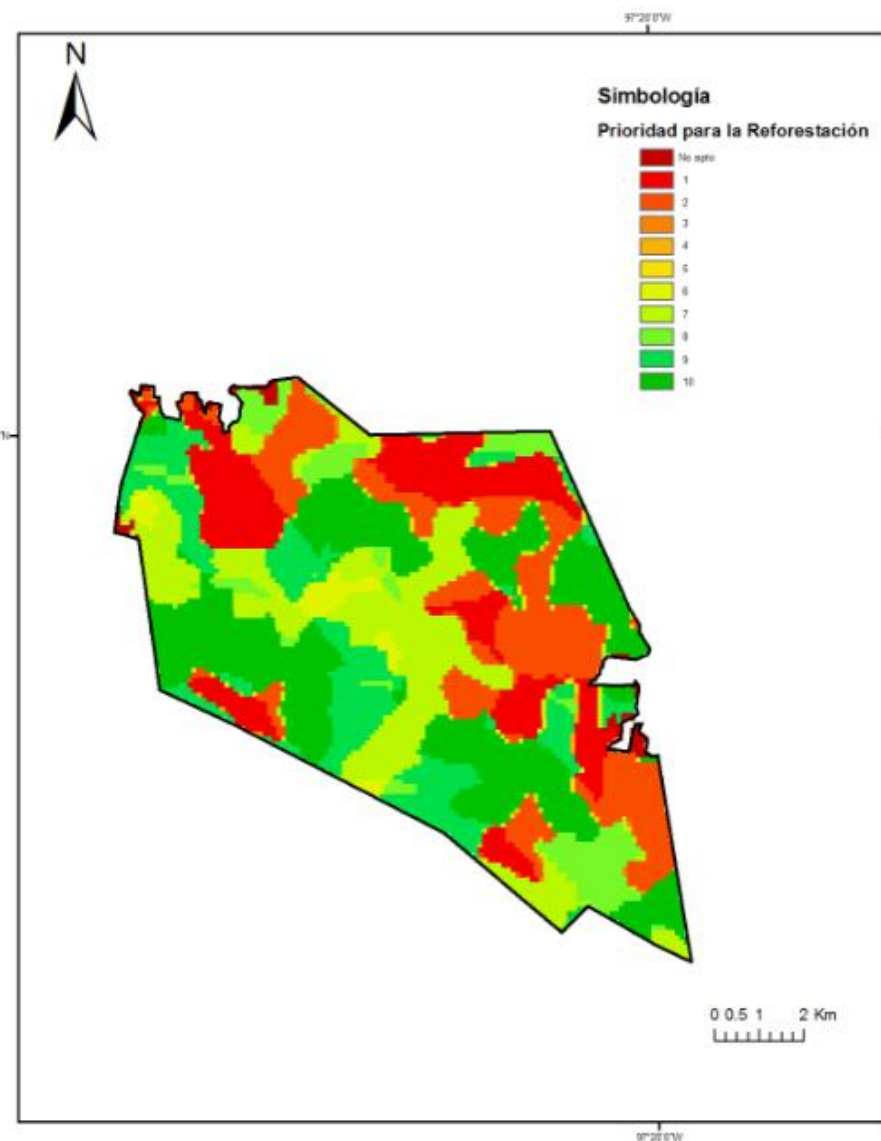
An opportunity to  
restore northern  
Veracruz landscape



## Mapa de Uso de Suelo y Vegetación del Área Natural Entorno Tajín

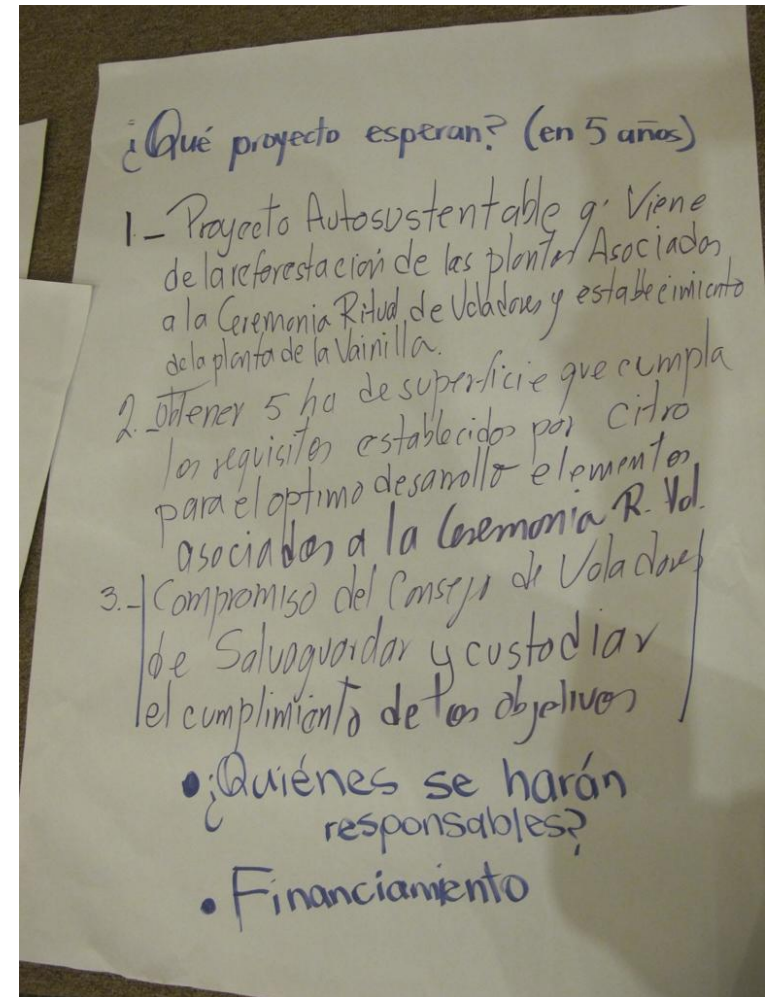
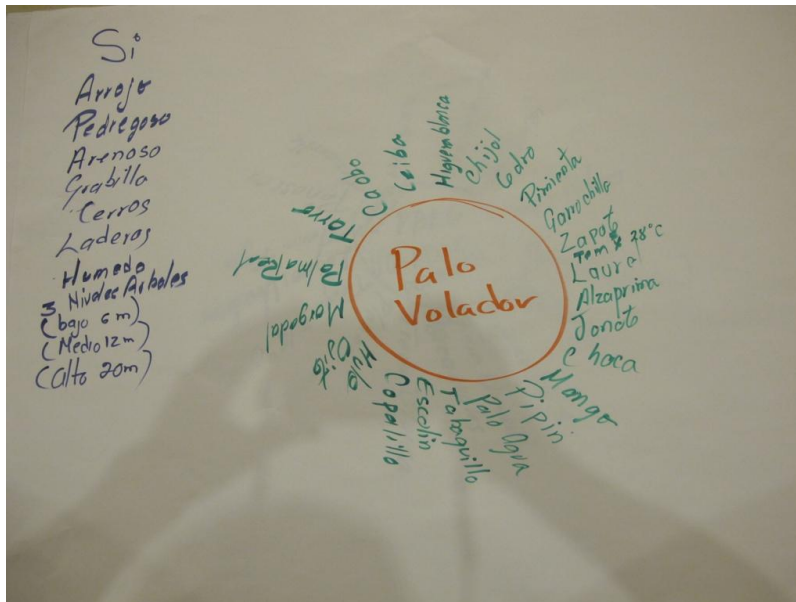


## Zonas Prioritarias para la Reforestación del Área Natural Entorno Tajín





Techniques and knowledge revitalization about species and systems of ecological, economic and cultural importance for landscape planning.



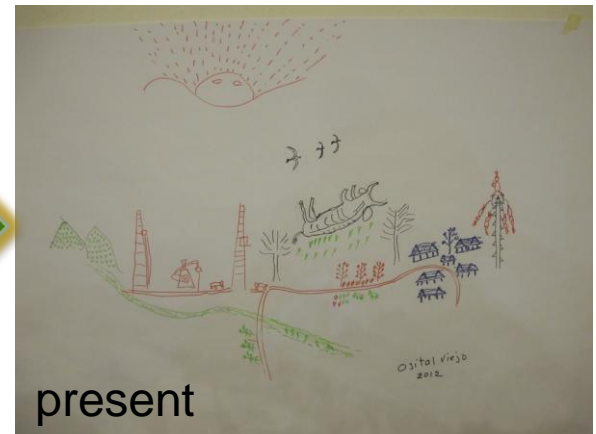
# Reconnecting – knowledge dialogues







past



present



future



# Diversified Agroforestry Model



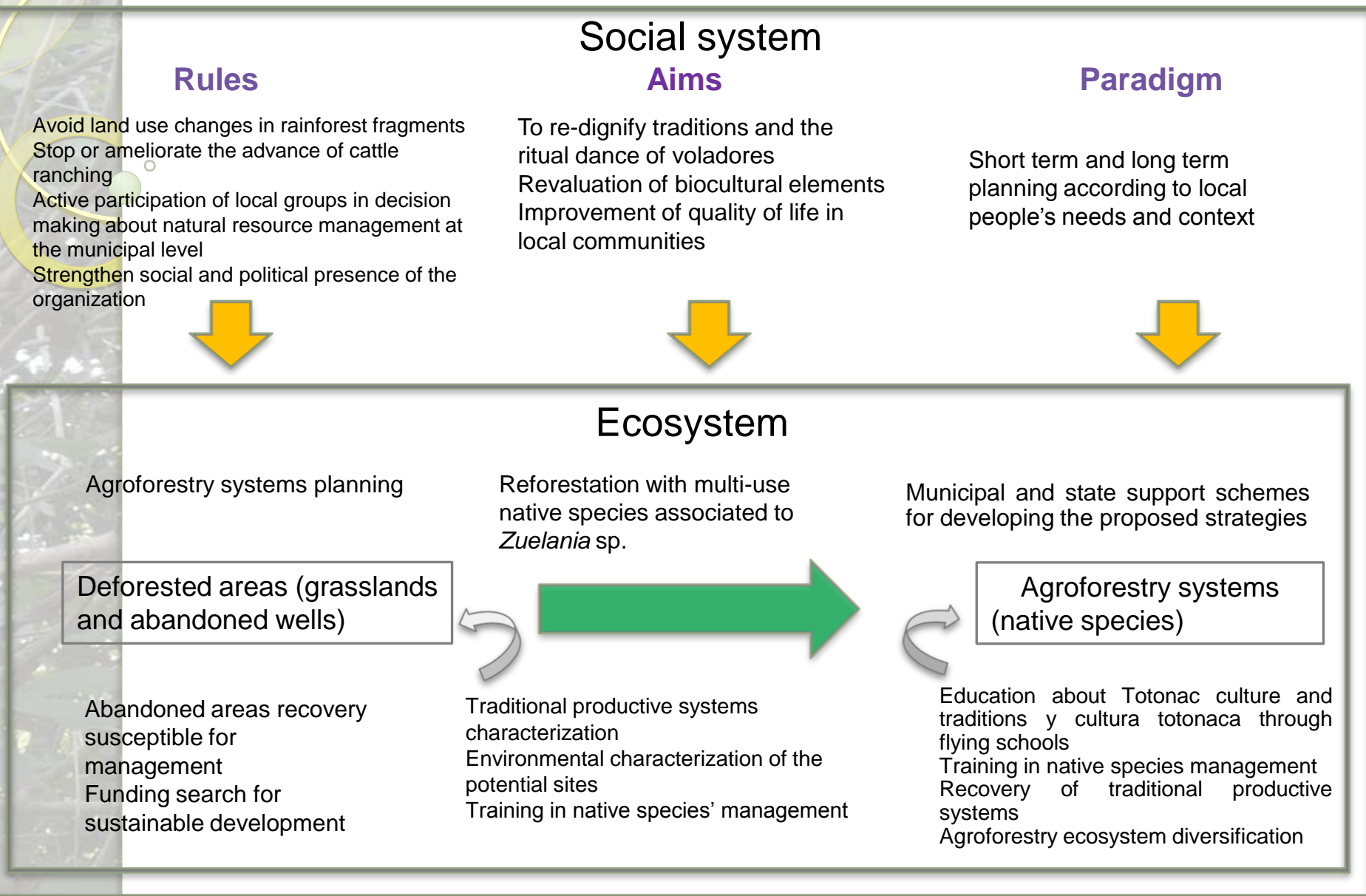
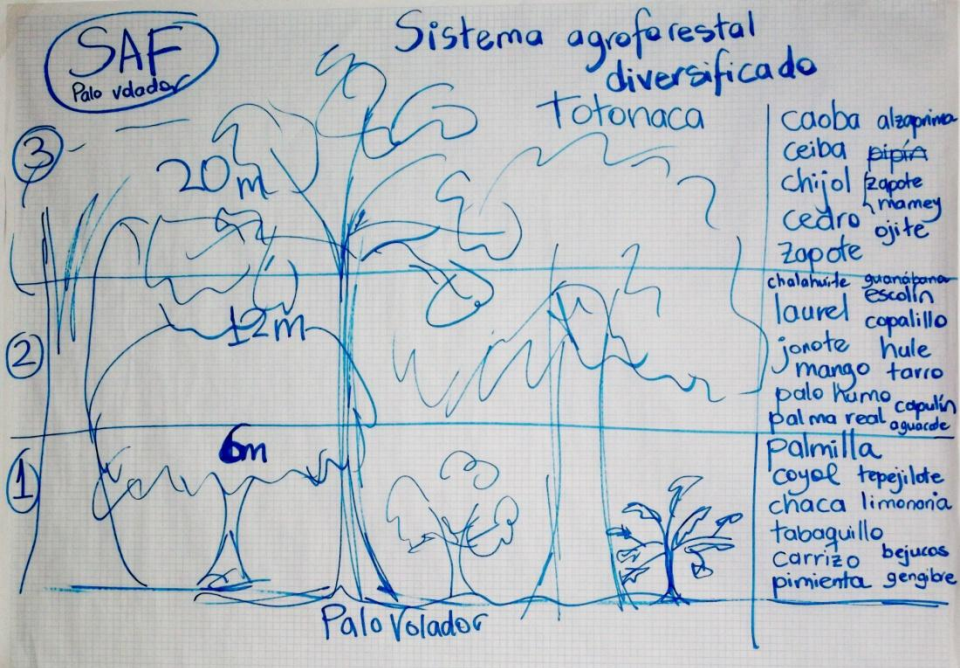


Figura 2. Ecological restoration model proposed for the influence area of the Voladores organization. Adapted from: Hobbs, *et al* (2011)





#### + Beneficios del bosque

- Ambiente fresco
- Paz e inspiración
- Crecimiento plantas de uso medicinal
- Alimento
- Captación de agua
- Conservación de animales y aves como:
  - lagunas
  - ardilla
  - mupaches
  - armadillos
  - zorros
  - chachalacas
  - Papones
  - Zopilote
  - conejo
  - ranos

2 has







# Complementary elements

Diversified Agroforestry Systems  
Sustainable development in a  
biodiverse region

Participatory process from within  
where local communities are the  
main actors and responsible for their  
own development



# Operation principles

- Strategic planning
- Inter-institutional inter-actoral dialogue
- Regional restoration perspective
- Adaptability
- Flexibility
- Research and exchange networks
- Alliances
- Supporting grassroots initiatives
- Participatory action research





# Program stages

- Diagnosis and strategic planning
- Local projects implementation
- Experimentation and research
- Leaders identification and community researchers
- Formation and training
- Monitoring and process documentation
- Materials production and other forms of knowledge and experiences exchange







# Acknowledgements

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