



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**CLIMATE, NATURE
and COMMUNITIES
in Guatemala**



**Rainforest
Alliance**



**The Nature
Conservancy**
Protecting what Matters Most



UG
UNIVERSIDAD
GUATEMALA



DEFENSORES
DE LA TIERRA Y DEL AGUA



AGEXPORT

TIMBER

TROPICAL
PRODUCTS

GUATEMALAN
TIMBER

Metopium brownei
Sikingia salvadorensis
Platymiscium yucatanum
Lonchocarpus castilloi
Calophyllum brasiliense
Rendera penninervia
Brosimum alicastrum
Bucida buceras
Dendrophanax arboreum
Aspidosperma stegomeres
Cedrela odorata
Astronium graveolens
Swietenia macrophylla
Caesalpinia velutina
Pseudobombax ellipticum
Aspidosperma megalocarpon
Lysiloma bahamensis
Swartzia cubensis
Myroxilon balsamum
Lysiloma desmotachis
Vatairea lundelli



Preface

The Climate, Nature and Communities in Guatemala (CNCG) program has created the Tropical Timber Products Catalog to help establish a market for value-added timber products that employ the facilities and services of local communities. The catalog is also designed to create a wood-processing value chain, which could serve as a model for other regions in the future.

The program takes an integrated approach to supporting Guatemala in its efforts to reduce the negative effects of climate change. This approach includes improving natural resource management and biodiversity conservation, establishing technical and institutional capability, and strengthening the legal and political frameworks related to climate change.

Supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the program's efforts are national in scope with a focus on the Maya Biosphere Reserve, the Sierra de Las Minas Biosphere Reserve, Alta and Baja Verapaz, and five of Guatemala's Western Highlands departments.

CNCG's first objective is to promote the marketing of sustainable products and services from forest communities and small- and medium-sized enterprises. To achieve this objective, the program provides technical assistance on the manufacture of high-quality products through both sustainable and social value chains. By stimulating the economies of forest communities and reducing the CO₂ emissions that lead to global climate change, the program's work contributes to the sustainability of Guatemala's forests.

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Community forestry and small and medium enterprises in Petén, Guatemala

"The forest is our life. We live from it. We work for it." –Tomasita Gómez, Manager, Suchitecos SC

"It is not easy being in the forest for days, but it is so gratifying to witness the beauty of the tropical forest." –Joel Pacheco, Arbol Verde

From the northern reaches of Guatemala's Maya Biosphere Reserve, to Alta and Baja Verapaz, and five departments of the Western Highlands, the Climate, Nature and Communities in Guatemala (CNCG) program – led by Rainforest Alliance– is promoting sustainable forestry and helping communities and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to access markets for responsibly harvested forest products. In the southern Petén – where reforestation is becoming an increasingly attractive economic alternative for small property owners – CNCG is working to improve land – use practices in compliance with Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) standards, which safeguard and enhance native forests and biodiversity. In addition, the program delivers basic business-development support to emerging SMEs that are engaged in reforestation activities.

USAID and the Rainforest Alliance have been active in the Maya Biosphere since 1990, issuing the first FSC certificates and providing support, training and marketing assistance to concession holders. The CNCG program works with governmental agencies, local groups, businesses and forest communities to ensure responsible forest management, improve livelihoods and put a halt to deforestation and illegal wood extraction.

CNCG's efforts to organize and improve value-added processing in the region has led to the creation of a second-tier community – owned organization known as FORESCOM. This enterprise plays an increasingly important role in improving efficiency by organizing the area's supply of forest products. The program also works directly with purchasing companies, connecting them to certified community and industrial suppliers and creating market incentives that encourage new suppliers to seek certification.





Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) partners in Peten, Guatemala

- ▶ Cooperativa Comunitaria Carmelita
- ▶ Asociación Comunitaria Arbol Verde
- ▶ Asociación Comunitaria Suchitecos
- ▶ Asociación Comunitaria Laborantes Del Bosque
- ▶ Asociación Comunitaria El Esfuerzo
- ▶ Asociación Comunitaria Costucel
- ▶ Asociación Forestal Integral San Andrés Petén (AFISAP)
- ▶ BAREN Comercial
- ▶ Gibor, S.A.
- ▶ Productos Forestales Industrializados de Guatemala (PROFIGSA)
- ▶ Empresa Comunitaria de Servicios del Bosque (FORESCOM)



Tropical wood species Selection 1



Chechén Negro
▶ *Metopium brownei*
0.60 g/cm³



Saltemuche
▶ *Sikingia salvadorensis*
0.60 g/cm³



Granadillo
▶ *Platymiscium yucatanum*
0.80 g/cm³



Manchiche
▶ *Lonchocarpus castilloi*
0.70 g/cm³



Santa María
▶ *Calophyllum brasiliense*
0.80 g/cm³



Sacuché
▶ *Rendera penninervia*
0.70 g/cm³



Ramón Blanco
▶ *Brosimum alicastrum*
0.70 g/cm³



Pucté
▶ *Bucida buceras*
0.60 g/cm³



Mano de León
▶ *Dendrophanax arboreum*
0.60 g/cm³



Malerio Blanco
▶ *Aspidosperma stegomeres*
0.60 g/cm³



Tropical wood species Selection 2



Cedro
▶ *Cedrela odorata*
0.73 g/cm³



Gesmo
▶ *Lysiloma bahamensis*
0.77 g/cm³



Jobillo
▶ *Astronium Graveolens*
0.70 g/cm³



Catalox
▶ *Swartzia cubensis*
0.80 g/cm³



Caoba
▶ *Swietenia macrophylla*
0.58 g/cm³



Balsamo
▶ *Myroxilon balsamum*
0.78 g/cm³



Chaltecoco
▶ *Caesalpinia velutina*
0.67 g/cm³



Tzalam
▶ *Lysiloma desmostachis*
0.68 g/cm³



Amapola
▶ *Pseudobombax ellipticum*
0.96 g/cm³



Danto
▶ *Vatairea lundelli*
0.64 g/cm³



Mlerio Colorado
▶ *Aspidosperma megalocarpon*
0.76 g/cm³



Processing and production



▶ Log



▶ Veneer



▶ Lumber



▶ Drying



▶ Standard sizes



▶ CNC Manufacture



▶ Specialized sizes



▶ Boards





The best uses for each tropical species Cabinet Making



Chechén Negro
▶ *Metopium brownei*
0.55 g/cm³



Caoba
▶ *Swietenia macrophylla*
0.59 g/cm³



Catalox
▶ *Swartzia cubensis*
0.80 g/cm³



Granadillo
▶ *Platymiscium yucatanum*
0.54 g/cm³





Carpentry



Caoba
 ▶ *Swietenia macrophylla*
 0.56 g/cm³



Ramón Blanco
 ▶ *Brosimum alicastrum*
 0.72 g/cm³



Cedro
 ▶ *Cedrela odorata*
 0.42 g/cm³



Santa María
 ▶ *Calophyllum brasiliense*
 0.74 g/cm³



Jobillo
 ▶ *Astronium Graveolens*
 0.70 g/cm³



Tzalam
 ▶ *Lysiloma desmostachis*
 0.51 g/cm³





TROPICAL TIMBER PRODUCTS

Flooring



▶ **Manchiche**
Lonchocarpus castilloi
0.76 g/cm³



▶ **Catalox**
Swartzia cubensis
0.96 g/cm³



▶ **Ramón Blanco**
Brosimum alicastrum
0.73 g/cm³



▶ **Chechén Negro**
Metopium brownei
0.92 g/cm³



▶ **Granadillo**
Platymiscium yucatanum
0.80 g/cm³



▶ **Santa María**
Calophyllum brasiliense
0.85 g/cm³



▶ **Jobillo**
Astronium Graveolens
0.72 g/cm³

Baren Comercial by Gabriela Valle





Veneer



Caoba
 ▶ *Swietenia macrophylla*
 0.54 g/cm³



Catalox
 ▶ *Swartzia cubensis*
 0.56 g/cm³



Ramón Blanco
 ▶ *Brosimum alicastrum*
 0.73 g/cm³



Chechén Negro
 ▶ *Metopium brownei*
 0.55 g/cm³



Granadillo
 ▶ *Platymiscium yucatanum*
 0.50 g/cm³



Cedro
 ▶ *Cedrela odorata*
 0.74 g/cm³



Baren Comercial by Gabriela Valle



Tzalam
 ▶ *Lysiloma desmostachis*
 0.54 g/cm³



Baren Comercial by Gabriela Valle



Tool handles (for utensils and musical instruments)



Caoba

▶ *Swietenia macrophylla*
0.561 g/cm³



Catalox

▶ *Swartzia cubensis*
0.926 g/cm³



Ramón Blanco

▶ *Brosimum alicastrum*
0.773 g/cm³



Granadillo

▶ *Platymiscium yucatanum*
0.857 g/cm³



Santa María

▶ *Calophyllum brasiliense*
0.55 g/cm³



Tzalam

▶ *Lysiloma desmostachis*
0.698 g/cm³



by Gabriela Valle



by Gabriela Valle



by Gabriela Valle



by Gabriela Valle





About the Rainforest Alliance

One of the founders of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), the Rainforest Alliance has 25 years of certification experience and is a globally respected pioneer in the field of sustainable forestry. With the launch of SmartWood in 1989, we developed the first global forestry certification program and were the first organization to harness market forces as a tool for forest conservation. Since then, we've worked in more than 70 countries and all forest types, collaborating with native communities, small businesses, nonprofit organizations, governments and Fortune-500 companies alike.

The Rainforest Alliance is the world's largest FSC®-accredited forest-management certifier by area and has certified the greatest number of community and indigenous operations according to FSC standards. Today, our certification and auditing services are implemented and managed by our RA-Cert Division, which oversees all audits, evaluations and certification/verification/validation decisions.

For more information, please visit www.rainforest-alliance.org





Rainforest Alliance contact information

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The image features a background of vertical wood grain in various shades of brown. It is framed by registration marks (crosshairs) at the corners and color bars on the left and right sides. A grayscale bar is located at the bottom center.

Editor:
Gabriela M. Valle de Hartig
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