

SALVEASERRA

Concordia Mountain Environment Protection Group, NGO

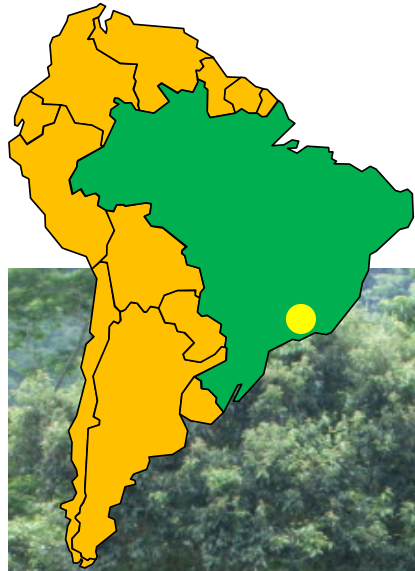
CETAR - Regional Center for Agroforestry Education and Technology

Concordia Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary

Valença, Rio de Janeiro State, BRAZIL

The project

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Trees and education to save the Brazilian Rainforest



Our Mission:

Restore degraded Atlantic Rainforest by promoting sustainable land use and agro-reforestation techniques

Take environmental awareness and agro-ecological experiences into the field

Work with farmers, communities and schools

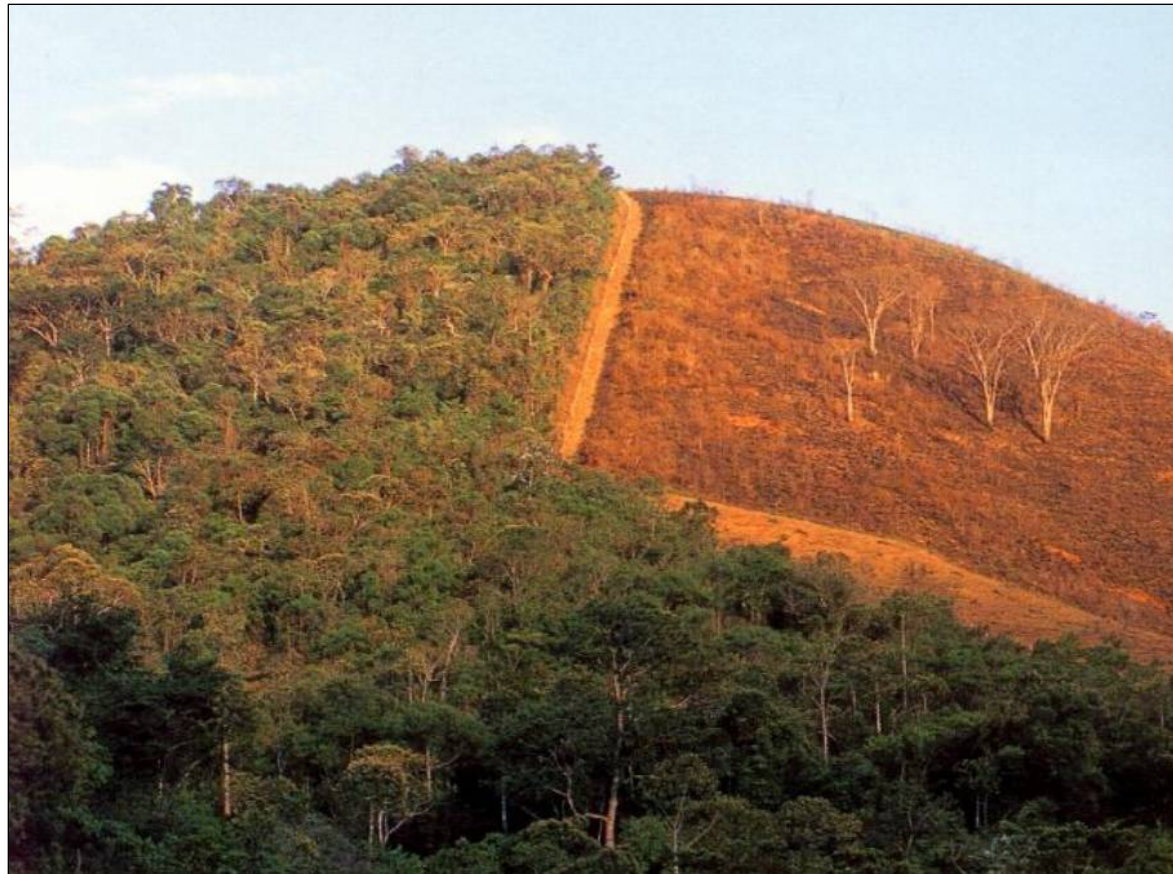
Agroforestry plantation

The need

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Repair the damage of generations of misuse

Change bad habits that linger on



Farms in the Rainforest were created with non sustainable production methods that led to severe soil, water and landscape degradation, causing rural poverty and migration to cities.

Our project promotes knowledge of and training for environmental conservation and sustainable development forest farming for rural economic rehabilitation.

Our goal is a new generation of environment-minded farmers living on their family land and practicing agro-ecological techniques in their farms and communities.

Slash and burn agriculture

The solution

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Usable technologies

Hands-on experience



We work with better land use and ecological, economically-viable, sustainable forest farming methods.

We train farmers in agro-forestry technology and vegetable garden production, showing them ways to obtain more lasting and profitable results.

Coffee plant seedlings

We plant trees

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A full mix of native species

Increasing the economic value of forests and brushwood

Recovering degraded areas



Since 1995 we have planted more than 80,000 trees, including rainforest rare wood trees. The aim is to get close to the original mix.

We increase the density of palm trees, fruit trees and others of commercial value, to help promote sustainable exploitation of the forest and of recuperated degraded areas.

Replanting in a partially degraded area

Tree nursery

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Reforestation from local seeds

Seed bank of rainforest species



Salveaserra maintains a simple seed bank of local forest species to ensure that reforestation respects existing (original) genetic profile.

We make seeds and seedlings available for our plantations and also advise small farmers of reforestation procedures.

This project donates tree nurseries to local communities.

Seedlings ready for the 2007/2008 planting season

Fauna

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Protecting local fauna

Promoting local fauna



The Atlantic Rainforest is one of the world's richest habitats. We protect and promote the fauna by:

- Bird watching
- Educating local people about Biodiversity, against hunting and the need for predators.
- Protecting and promoting food sources, replanting rainforest fruit trees that have become very rare.

Small marsupial

Higher education

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Training and teaching for students of various disciplines



We run several training courses tailored to the needs of local rural communities and farmers and others interested in organic, ecological farming and agro-forestry practices.

In 2007 more than 250 students participated in Salveaserra courses.

Agroforestry course

Agroforestry

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Practical experience

Practical examples of problems, solutions



Students can see the relationship between the forest, agroforestry production and the water supply.

We demonstrate in practice how maintaining forest cover is essential for climate within a tropical environment, and because of the rain production, necessary for non-forest agriculture and cities.

Agroforestry learning in the field

Outreach

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“A Day in the Forest” program reaches a wide population



This popular environment education program offers a general introduction to the Atlantic Rainforest and explains its essential relationship with sustainable rural development.

The program is designed for non-specialists. It attracts small farmers, students, and interested urban residents.

Going to a Sierra trail

Young awareness

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“The forest is your friend – be a friend to the forest”



We take groups of school students into the forest.

Incredibly, for most of them, residents in local towns, it is the first time they have been inside the Rainforest and the first time they see a water source coming out of the ground.

Knowing a mountain stream

Training

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We teach and train local communities to promote the sustainable use of forest and country products used for handicrafts making, to generate permanent work possibilities and increase local incomes.

Banana plant fiber extraction course at Serra da Concordia rural village

Vegetable garden

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One good vegetable garden can feed 6 families

A hands-on course

Sustainable organic production to boost income



This course is popular with small-holders and lower-income families in rural and semi-rural situations.

The goal is to promote eco-friendly ways to produce organic food at home to supplement family diets and income from surplus production.

This project donates vegetable gardens to local communities.

Organic vegetable garden course

Participation

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Local ecological movements

Official hearings and processes



Salveaserra has no political or religious identification or affiliation.

The NGO participates in numerous regional and national environmental events and local ecological movements, and is often called upon to give expert testimony in relevant questions.

Salveaserra director Roberto Lamego (center, white shirt) gives evidence in an official hearing on deforestation and water in the Paraiba do Sul river basin

Multiplication

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Relevance for a huge, severely degraded region

Our work is directly available to more than six thousand farmers and smallholders in local and neighboring counties.

Our pioneer experience in the Paraíba do Sul River Valley is being disseminated and replicated throughout the Atlantic Rainforest region by other NGOs, via an on-going exchange of information.





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**“What is today seen as an innovative idea and
experience, will soon become essential practice
in many degraded tropical regions”**

Roberto Lamego, Founder/Director, SALVEASERRA

Trajectory

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**Agroforestry
 research
 project**

Fauna Inventory

1992 1993 1997 2000 2003 2005 2006 2007

**Concórdia
 Mountain
 Wildlife
 Sanctuary**

**Center for
 Agroforestry
 Education**



Federal Government