

## STRATEGIES TO RESTORE THE BRAZILIAN ATLANTIC FOREST

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### Introduction

The requirement for the restoration of ecosystems and fragmented landscapes is currently a focal point of several, discussions and projects. This is verified in Brazilian Atlantic Forest (B.A.F.), reduced to 7% of the original forest. The goal of this work was to survey and discuss restoration-wise strategies in the B.A.F. considering the wide *environmental heterogeneity* (comprising *ecological, socioeconomic, political* and *cultural* elements) and need for establishing and creating public policies dedicated to such reality.

### Methods

Secondary data regarding restoration were surveyed (legislation and public policies; management possibilities; methods, models and techniques; difficulties and restraints to restoration; social actors involved, etc.). Next, ecological and social strategies towards the planning of the B.A.F. landscape restoration were defined.

### Results and discussion

The restoration *PLANNING* involves the following steps: (1) Landscape diagnosis, (2) Prioritization of the areas to be restored, taking into account the legislation, *social interest* areas, the *ecological relevance* and the *scale* (ex. regions and states; watersheds, micro basins, rural properties); (3) Diagnosis of the areas to be restored; (4) Definition of methods, techniques and species to be used in each area. The *STRATEGIES* regarding the effectiveness of a restoration program for the B.A.F. are: (1) Development of integrated actions, that is, combined action of different social actors/society sectors with restoration potential (large environmental liability companies or performing supporting activities, etc.); (2) Establishment of institutional partnerships (involving companies, NGOs, research institutes, universities, basin committees, governmental agencies, etc.); (3) Design of socioeconomic devices to make the restoration at the required scale feasible; (4) Use of more appealing models to rural owners, including the possibility of using the restored areas and income generation; and reduction of restoration costs.

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