

# Community strategy for mangrove forest conservation: Conquista Campesina Conservation Easement

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## Abstracts

The drafting of a community plan for mangrove forest conservation in the communal land of Conquista Campesina (Tapachula, Chiapas, Mexico) is part of a more ambitious project aimed at establishing a protected wetlands corridor in the coastal region of the state of Chiapas. The purpose is to guarantee the conservation, protection and restoration of priority wetlands, placing special emphasis on vulnerable ecosystems.

With the technical support of Pronatura Sur A. C. and after signing a conservation agreement (conservation easement), the inhabitants of the communal land undertook to carry out activities for conserving and restoring 824 hectares of land for common use containing 616 hectares of mangroves and 208 hectares waterbodies between natural water channels (esteros) and grasslands.

Zoning of land use was executed through constant monitoring, pursuant to the physical and biological features of the area, and in agreement with the direct users of the system. In this respect, the proposed categories of action are: ecological rehabilitation areas; areas for the domestic exploitation of mangroves; conservation areas and areas with a potential for exploitation.

On a whole, agreement was reached with respect to these categories with the inhabitants of the Conquista Campesina communal land, in keeping with their interests and needs. The phases of activity identified are: a) use of organic matter, b) use of parts and derivatives and c) rehabilitation of water courses.

Javier Rojas Garcias, « Community strategy for mangrove forest conservation: Conquista Campesina Conservation Easement », *Field Actions Science Reports* [Online], Special Issue 7 | 2012, Online since 03 December 2012, connection on 17 March 2013. URL : <http://factsreports.revues.org/2197>