

Lessons learned at the Water Producer Project in the Atlantic Forest, Brazil



Ricardo Viani - viani@ufscar.br
Federal University of São Carlos, Brazil



Introduction



Brazilian Atlantic Forest

- < 16% of native forest cover remaining
- More than 120 million people living

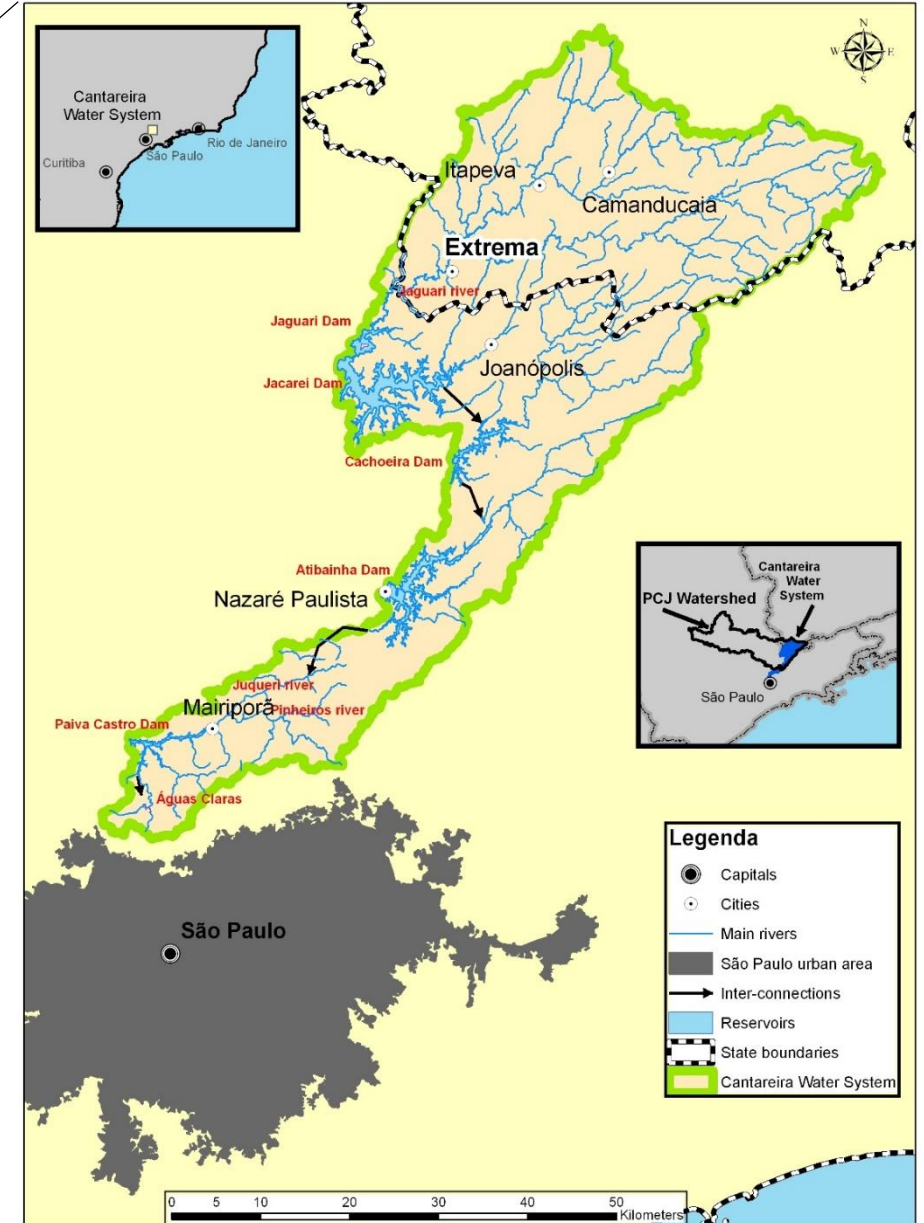


Introduction

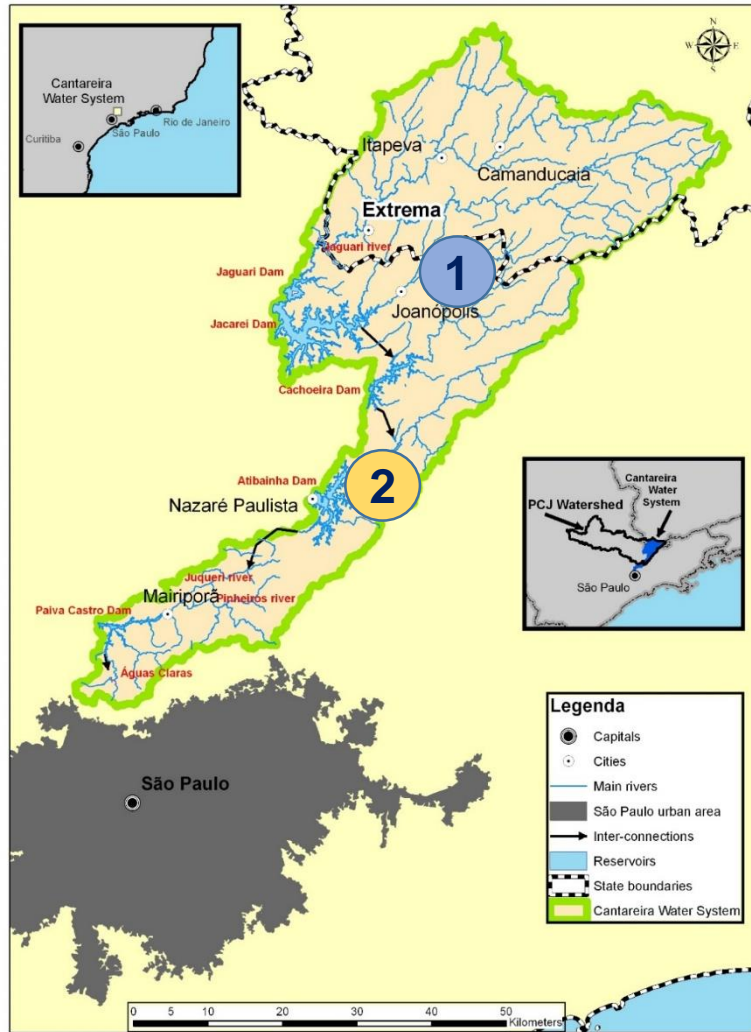
Cantareira Water System and PCJ watershed



Cantareira Water Supply System

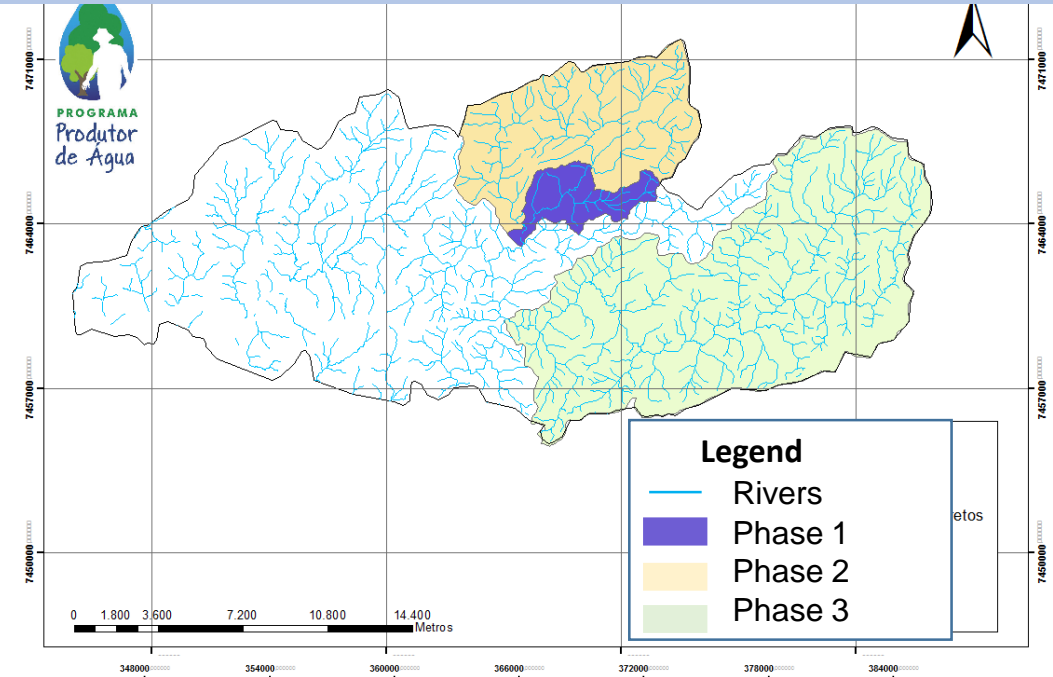


Project sites, structure and support

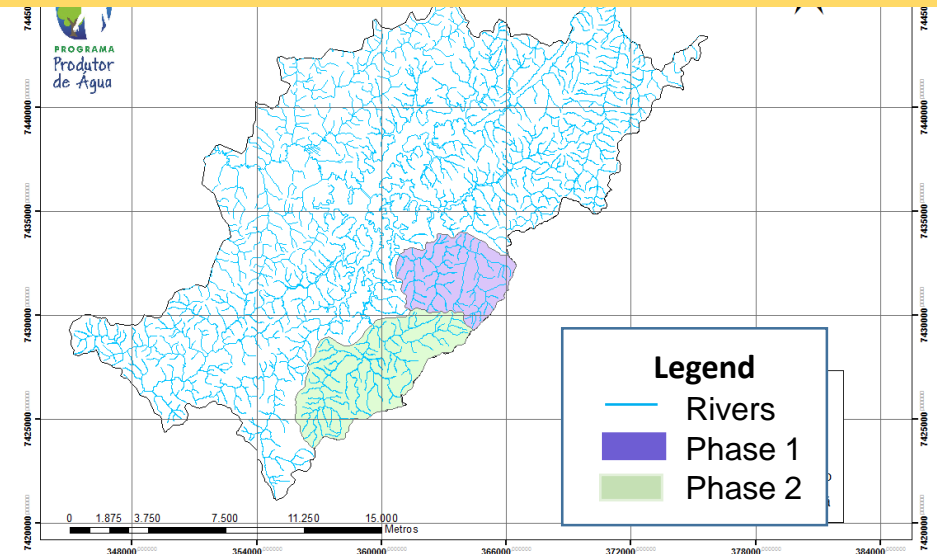


**2,828 ha
(125 properties)**

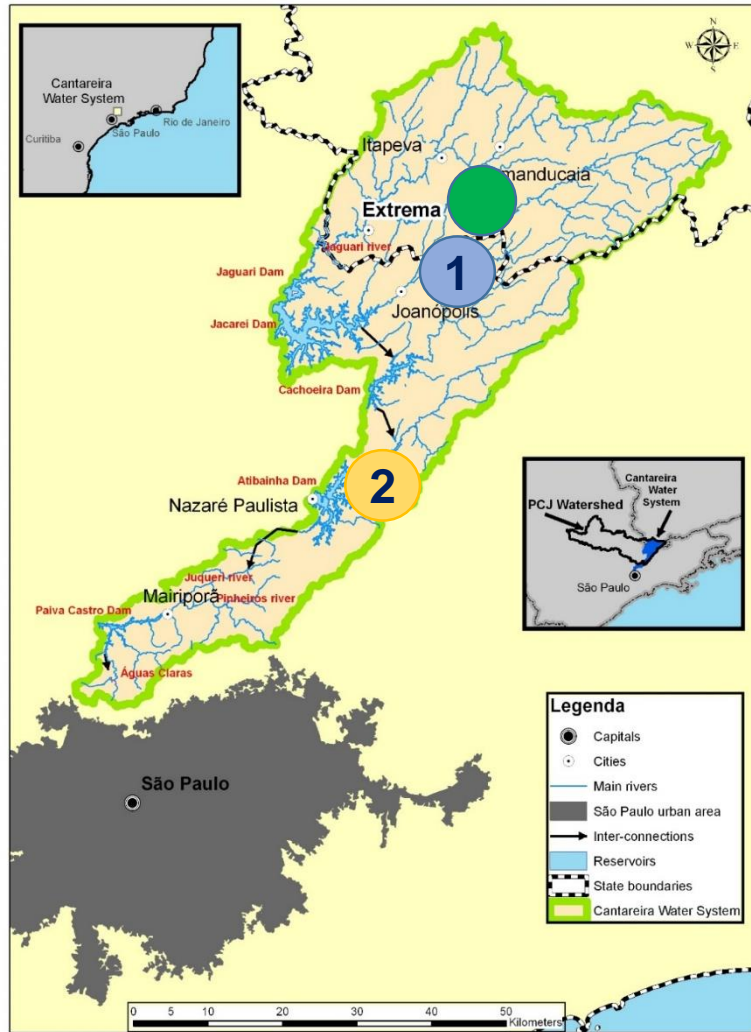
Site 1 – Joanópolis – 1,141 ha (55 properties)



Site 2 – Nazaré Paulista – 1,757 ha (70 properties)



Project sites, structure and support

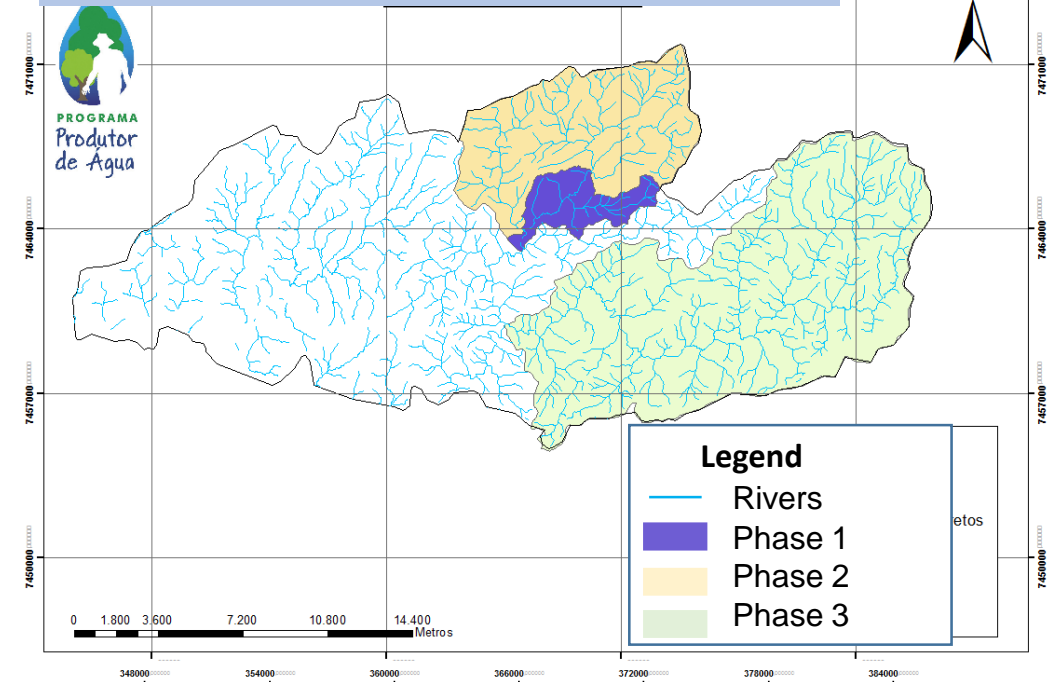


2,828 ha
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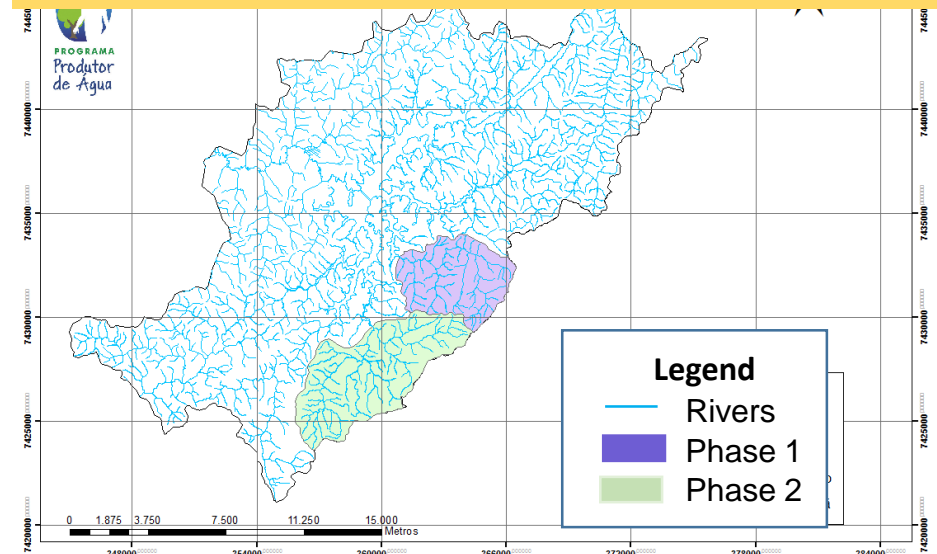


18,006 ha (6x)

Site 1 – Joanópolis – 14,181 ha



Site 2 – Nazaré Paulista – 3,825 ha



“Conservador das Águas” – famous and successful FLR and project in Brazil

Project goals

- To test the payment for ecosystem services (PES) to landowners as a tool for FLR implementation (first time in São Paulo State)
- To implement:



forest conservation (540 ha)



riparian forest restoration
(208 ha)

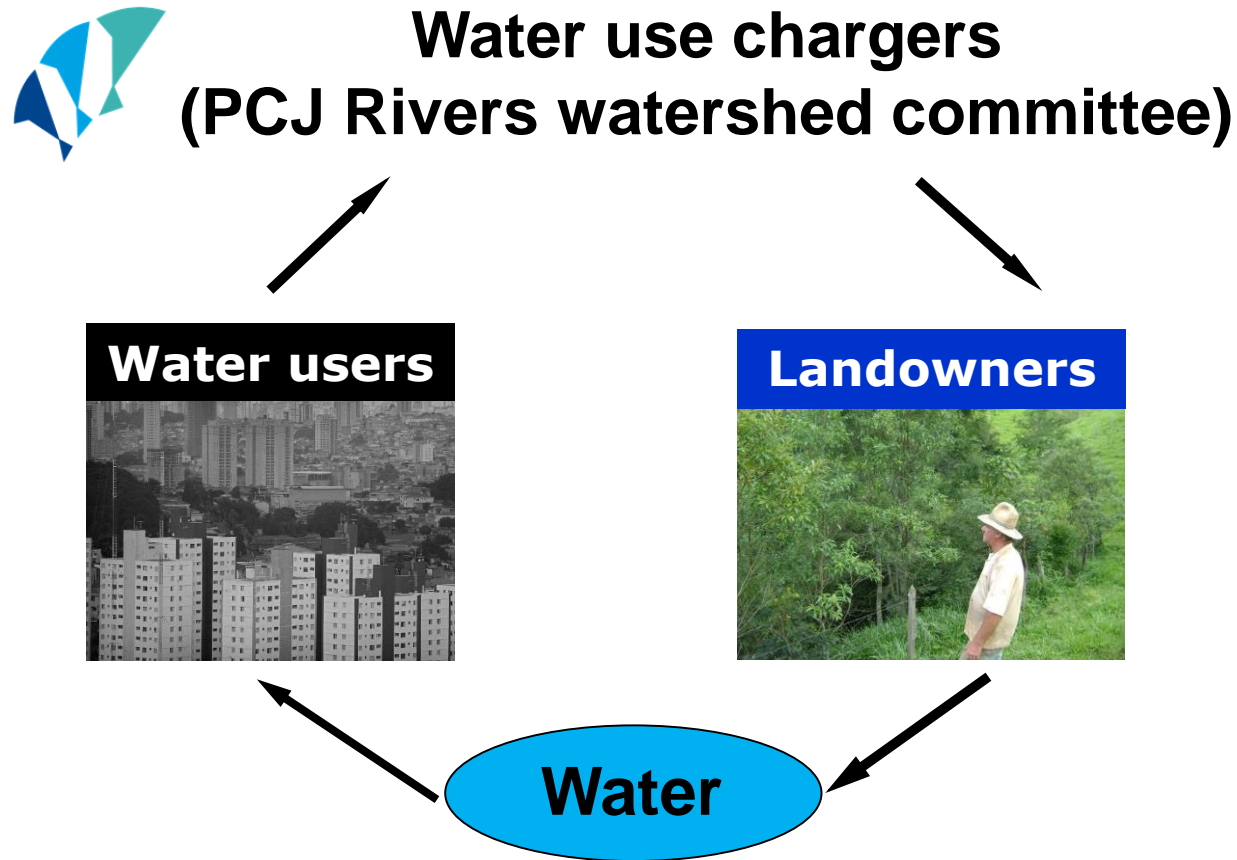


soil conservation / good
farming practices (510 ha)

- To improve water quality and regularity of supply

Project structure and support

PES to landowners



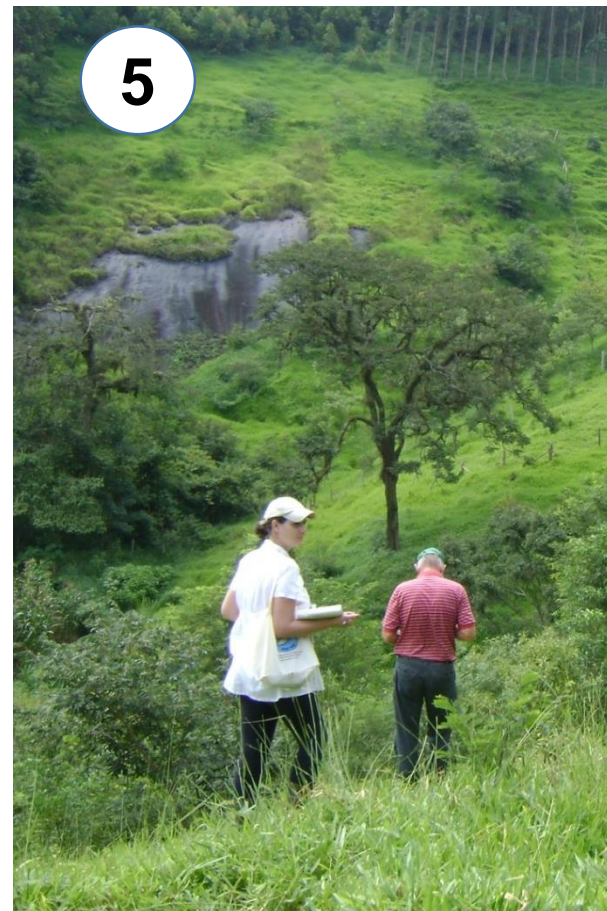
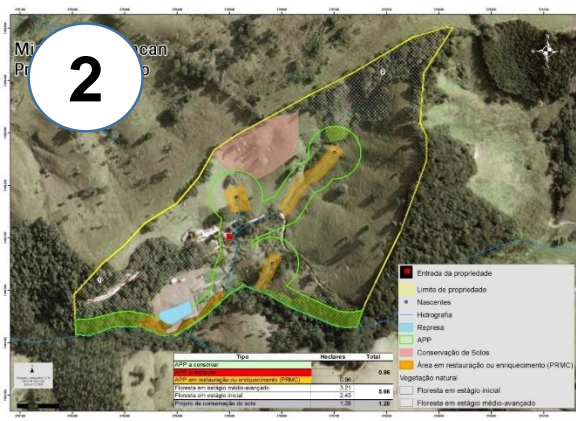
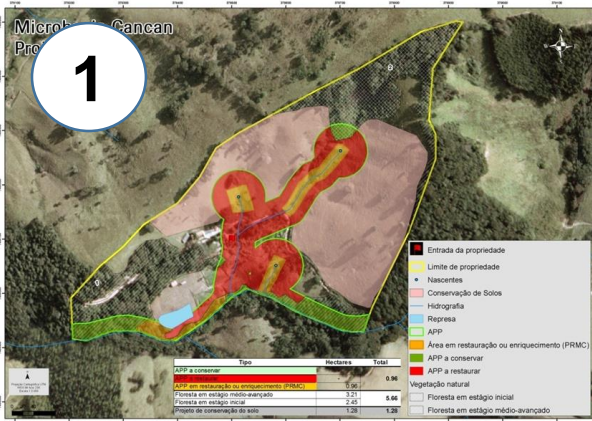
Budget for PES: USD 105,400*

* 1 USD = REAL \$3.75

FLR implementation, communication, monitoring



Project implementation



- PES: US\$7 to US\$33 .ha⁻¹.year⁻¹*
- Opportunity costs (low-intensity pastures)
- 3-years contracts

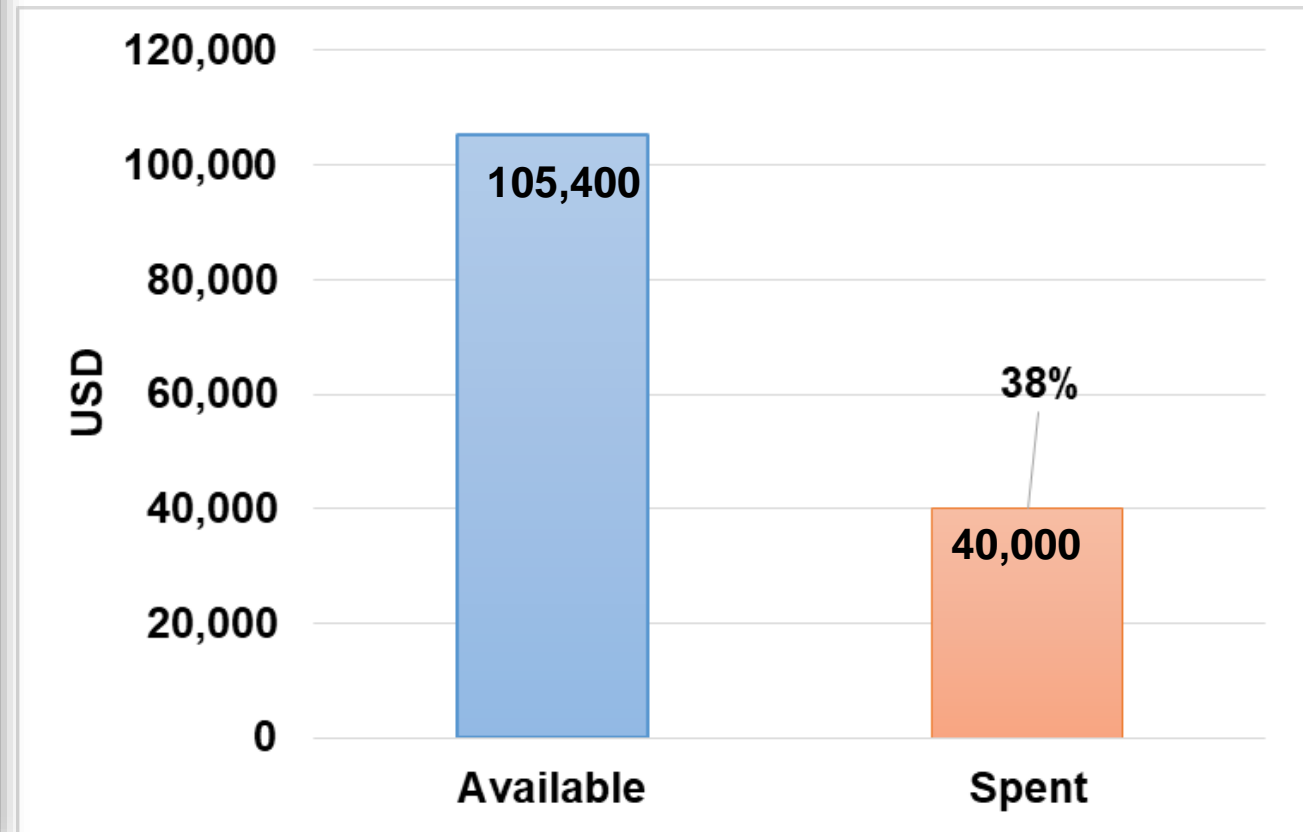
* 1 US\$ = R\$ 3.75

Project outcomes (from 2007 to 2015 – end of the project)

41 PES contracts (41 landowners)

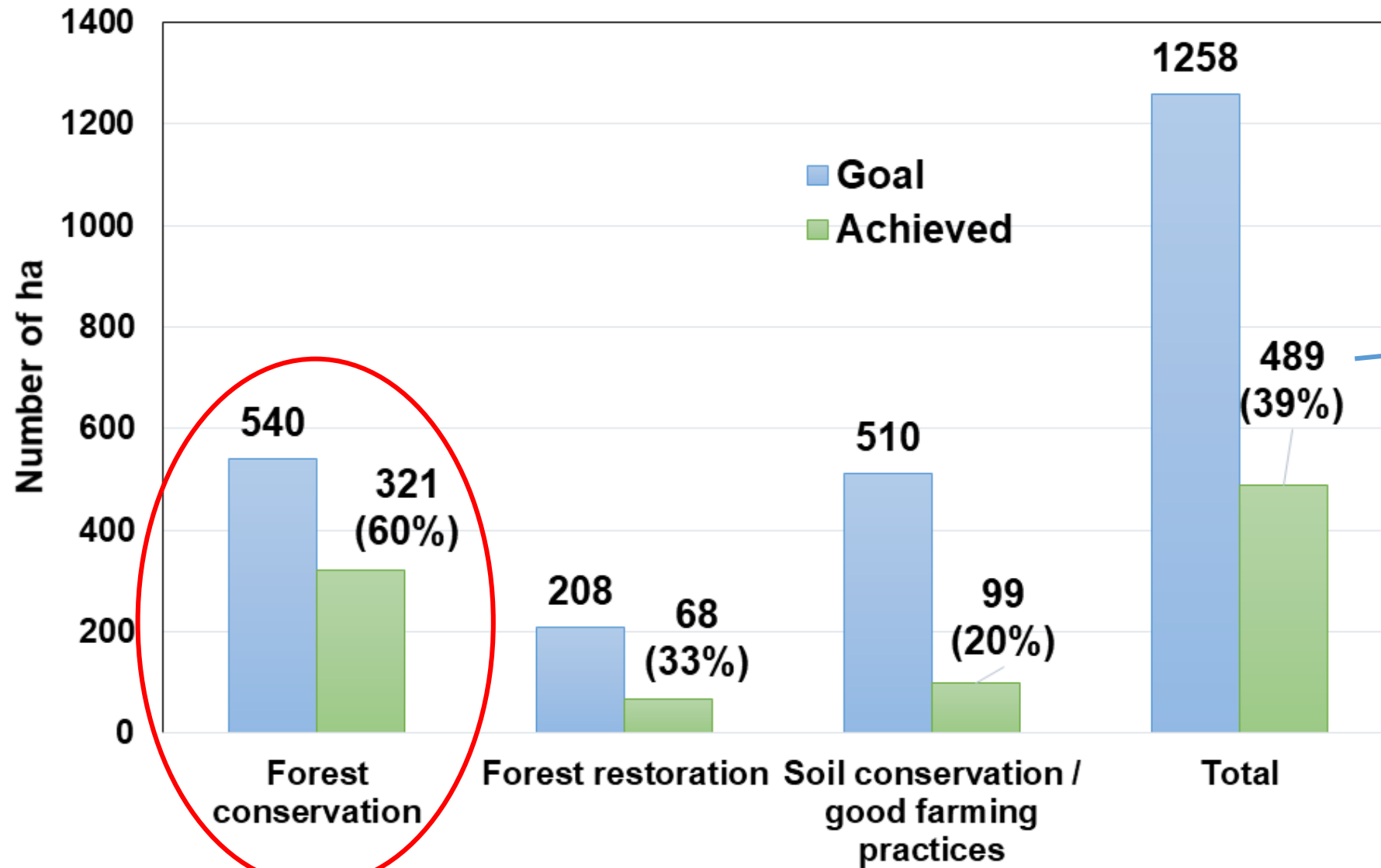


Amount of money spent in PES contracts



For each dollar spent in PES, we spent 14 in project implementation, communication and monitoring

Project outcomes (from 2007 to 2015 – end of the project)



2,7% of the
landscape area

Challenges (real phrases I heard from landowners)

- Landowners participation / engagement
 - ✓ Mistrust in a new project after a sequence of unsuccessful ones
 - ✓ Absence of a local leading partner (and participation of many non-local ones): *“Whenever this NGO is leading the project, I won’t participate...”*
 - ✓ Landowners often do not see them as part of the project: *“Be successful with your project...”* - All implementation done by partners!?

Challenges (real phrases I heard from landowners)

- Limitations in the PES contracts

- ✓ Lack of flexibility
- ✓ Excess of paperwork for signing the contracts (and land tenure problems)
- ✓ Short duration (3 years) with no guarantee for the future:
“If I plant native trees where I have crops, I will receive PES for three years. What about after that?”

Lessons learned and implications for other FLR projects

- 1) Having funds is not a guarantee of being successful in a FLR project.
- 2) PES schemes are more complex than initially thought and PES is just the tip of the iceberg of a project budget.
- 3) PES seems not to be the major factor affecting landowner participation
 - feeling of ownership,
 - past experiences,
 - trust in the leading institution
 - level of information about the project



Lessons learned and implications for other FLR projects

- 4) A local institution leading the project seems crucial – capacity building
- 5) An alternative for landowner engagement(?): higher PES value but him/her has to implement part of the practices
- 6) Acceptance is easier for forest conservation practices (no land use change): changing land use is more expensive and difficult to be accepted.





Thank you!

Ricardo Viani - viani@ufscar.br