

Sustainable forestry/carbon certification is also in the early stages of development in Paraguay. The sector faces obstacles in terms of the investment climate and limited access to credit and markets and is often perceived as risky. Nevertheless, a number of positive experiences in recent years encourage the use of targeted incentives that promote sustainable forestry to overcome these structural challenges.

Any intervention in this area in Paraguay should include an institutional strengthening component to enhance their capacities of both CSOs and government institutions. This will also ensure effective and efficient capabilities to make sure that the NGOs working in the buffer zones around the protected natural areas are incorporating natural resources management technologies that work towards a more sustainable farming system.

Other lessons learnt include: (i) the importance of technical assistance and use of updated technological information; (ii) the need for combining technical assistance with goods (seeds, seedlings, TICs, equipment, etc.); (iii) information sharing using a range of techniques and gathering in field demonstration areas; and (iv) the need for a landscape approach connecting protected areas and production sites in the interventions.