



Analog Forests #12 – June 2014



[2014 Demonstration Site Microloans now available!](#)

These microloans aim to cover the implementation costs of new analog forestry demonstration sites. Find out more and apply before August 15!



[Analog forestry workshop in Rancho Quemado](#)

A community workshop in the Osa peninsula of Costa Rica yields exciting results and important lessons.



[Release of *Rediscovering the Country*](#)

One of the first major works published on analog forestry has now been released for free download. See the announcement [here!](#)



[Analog forestry & permaculture: \(not so\) distant cousins?](#)

Our Chairperson, Grover Stock, an accomplished permaculturist, talks about the links between the two disciplines.

2014 Demonstration Site Microloans now available!

Eduardo Aguilar Espinoza

Program Director



Around the world, **the restoration of degraded ecosystems is one of the key challenges that we face in ensuring a sustainable future**, combating and adapting to climate change, and working towards food sovereignty. Analog forestry has emerged as a response to these challenges, as it imitates forest structure and function to restore ecosystem services while emphasizing sustainable production.

At IAFN, one of our key roles is to facilitate on-the-ground impact and share the success stories of implementing analog forestry. In order to do so, we support new and innovative application of the analog forestry methodology in demonstration sites around the world. In 2013, **[we were proud to support three new demonstration sites](#)** in Africa and Latin America with our network partners. See these photos from demonstration sites that were initiated in the **[Peruvian Amazon](#)** and **[Northwest Cameroon](#)**.

The 2014 site development call builds on these experiences, looking once again to receive proposals to create new demonstration sites. This funding provides support for the first year implementation costs of analog forestry demonstration site. The maximum amount that can be applied for is **US\$4,000**, and applications are due **August 15, 2014**.

This funding is awarded as a one-year loan, with two action streams for repayment: the first is to pay the loan back, free of interest within a term agreed upon with IAFN. The second is to design an impact plan to use the results of the demonstration site in local capacity building activities, seed exchanges, or other impact that can multiply the local benefits of the demonstration site. For more details, please see the full guidelines, below.

IAFN wishes the best to all those who apply to this funding call. The **full guidelines and application form** can be downloaded [on this page](#). Please send completed applications, as well as any queries to info@analogforestry.org.

The 2014 analog forestry demonstration site microloans program is possible thanks to generous support from [Both Ends](#) and [Rich Forests](#).

Photo: Forest and Agroforestry Partners

Analog forestry workshop in Rancho Quemado, Costa Rica

Kitty Garden

Training Officer



As part of our mission to improve opportunities in rural areas, IAFN supports community-based training activities. In this workshop, held from June 4-8, 2014, the IAFN team, with [trainer Oscar Fonseca](#), travelled to the community of Rancho Quemado, on the Osa Peninsula. This workshop was the first that IAFN carried out within a community setting in Costa Rica since 2011, rather than at its training center in Londres. The idea arose out of the knowledge that many farmers and other people living in remote communities are not able to travel and stay for several days at a training centre, as they have obligations in their communities, with their families, and on their farms or places of work.

Rancho Quemado is a small community located within the Golfo Dulce Forest Reserve, close to the edge of Corcovado National Park on the Osa Peninsula. It is an extremely important area in terms of forest conservation and biodiversity, dominated by tropical rainforest, and adjacent to one of the two main bodies of fresh water in the area (Laguna de Chocuaco). The Osa Peninsula is estimated to house some 30-50% of Costa Rica's total biodiversity.

The community in Rancho Quemado traditionally depended on cattle ranching and other agricultural production, including African palm plantations, and in the past poaching and artisanal gold prospecting have also been important economic activities, though they are significantly diminished today.

In recent years the community of Rancho Quemado has turned to eco-tourism, and several projects have been established, including the building of cabins for tourist accommodation, the development of hiking trails, and tours of local farms. The participants in this workshop were interested in using analog forestry to help them regenerate degraded lands in this unique ecosystem, while contributing to their agricultural and tourism activities.

This workshop also had a marked focus on practical activities. In addition to the fieldwork that is an important part of any analog forestry design process, the participants all got together on the final day of the workshop to put together a community nursery in the local school, which is currently growing the trees that will be planted throughout the community, including mahogany, *caobilla*, *cerillo*, *quira*, *suita*, *fruta dorada*, *escobo*, *chaperon*, *cedro*, and *gallinazo*.

In addition, there was a strong interest from the community in applying the analog forestry methodology to their own land. The property of Enrique Ureña was used for the design exercise and he expressed his intent to pursue the establishment of a site. Several other participants indicated that they would follow suit, and there is interest in pursuing analog forestry restoration on land belonging to the Environment Ministry in the community.

IAFN thanks the community of Rancho Quemado for their assistance, interest, and collaboration in the workshop. We would also like to thank [UNAFOR Costa Rica](#), who acted as co-sponsors of the event. IAFN's participation in this training was made possible by funding from [Both Ends](#), for which we are very grateful.

For more information, click here to see a photo gallery from the event, or [download the full training report on the IAFN website](#).

International release of *Rediscovering the Country*

Ian Penna

[Ballarat Region Treegrowers](#)



"I don't think that there is enough money in the world to fix the environmental challenges that we face unless the people who live in the spaces on the planet are mobilised and engaged. We cannot do it without their help because they live in each catchment, in each river valley, on each plateau and in each desert."

--Victoria Mack, Secretariat for International Landcare

The Ballarat Region Treegrowers is happy to announce the online release of the new documentary *Rediscovering the Country*, produced by [She Oaks Films](#), which can be viewed at www.rediscoveringthecountry.org. The theme of "Rediscovering the Country" is the importance of transforming rural landscapes through revegetation for environmental and economic benefits. Community collaboration needs to be at the heart of this transformation. The film presents some of the revegetation projects being conducted in south-east Australia and the regenerative agriculture/analog forestry activities in Sri Lanka. It contains interviews of farmers and landowners, academics, Landcare proponents, as well as promoters and practitioners of analog forestry/regenerative agriculture.

The aim of "Rediscovering the Country" is to strengthen community support for the improved management of rural lands by increasing awareness within rural and urban communities of how revegetation and integration of biologically rich and commercially valuable plantings into farming operations can help tackle land management problems and contribute to rural communities.

Analog forestry and permaculture: (not so) distant cousins?

Adam Kabir Dickinson

Knowledge Management Officer

One of the most frequent questions we get when talking about analog forestry is: isn't that the same as permaculture? The truth is, they're not so different – indeed, one could say that they sprouted from the same soil, as both methods were born around the same time, and both have strengths that complement one another. At IAFN, a number of our board members have taken, or teach, Permaculture Design Courses. [In this interview](#), IAFN Chairperson and experienced

permaculturalist Grover Stock explores the common goals of analog forestry and permaculture, and how the two can work together.

IAFN thanks all authors for their contributions. Photos are by the author of the respective articles, except where noted. To contribute to a future IAFN bulletin, please contact Adam Kabir Dickinson, Knowledge Management Officer at kabir@analogforestry.org