



Eco-Libris Assessment – Third year of Operation (July 2010 – July 2011)

The Alliance for International Reforestation (AIR)

Prepared by: Dr. Anne Hallum, Director

1. General Information

- 1.1 Name of organization: AIR
- 1.2 Name of Director: Dr. Anne Hallum
- 1.3 Year of establishment: 1992
- 1.4 Registered in (country): USA
- 1.5 Countries of operation: Guatemala
- 1.6 No. of trees planted so far: *Approximately 3.8 million*
- 1.7 No. of trees planted in the 12 months ending on July 1st, 2011 (in total): *261,118*
- 1.8 Average survival rate of trees: *90% (trees that do not survive are replaced)*

2. Eco-Libris tree planting's operations (these questions refer to the trees planted on our behalf – 14,900 trees):

2.1 Out of total number of 14,900 trees and as of July 1st 2011, how many trees have been planted? How many are still growing as seedlings in nurseries and how many are at prior stage (seedlings haven't been purchased yet)?

Of these trees, 12,900 have been planted onto mountain slopes and within food crops; the 2,000 trees funded in May 2011, are still in seed bags and will be planted as seedlings in May – June 2012.

2.2 In what countries/areas the trees were planted? Please fill in the attached excel and be specific as possible.

AIR/ Eco-Libris Trees Planted, all in the Dept. of Chimaltenango, Guatemala, 2010-2011

Communities:	Itzapa	3360 Pino Triste	5990 Aliso
	El Tejar	1500 Pino Triste	950 Aliso
	Xetonox	2700 Pino Triste	

2.3 Please provide the planting schedule in these areas (when the seedlings are planted in nurseries, what are the months of planting, etc.)

Seed bags are filled with seeds during November - Feb.; they are planted on mountain slopes in May, June, July (the rainy season).

2.4 What species were planted, what is the genetic source (country of origin) of each species?

With Eco-Libris funds, we have planted "Pino triste" and "Aliso" trees, which are both native to Guatemala.

2.5 How many hectares were planted as mixed forest? Mixed of how many species?

AIR planted approximately 140 hectares as mixed forests, using around 12 native species.

2.6 How many hectares were planted as monoculture?

None – AIR does not plant monoculture, however we've planted more native pine trees this year than ever because they are the best to guard against deadly mudslides, which have increased.

2.7 How many hectares were planted for agroforestry uses? How much of it is inter-planted with crops? What crops?

AIR planted approximately 100 hectares in agro-forestry, including fruit trees. They are planted within and around diversified crops: corn, beans, vegetables.

2.8 What is the involvement of local communities with these planting activities? What are the social benefits of these specific trees that were planted, in present and in the future?

The local communities are involved from the first day—they elect committees to help with the professional AIR staff in deciding what to plant where. The local residents work in training and in the nurseries and on mountain slopes year round, which is the reason for very high tree survival rates over many years. The social benefits from this kind of leadership development and empowerment are incalculable—especially for the women who now make up 70% of the farmers who choose to work with AIR!

2.9 Are there any specific environmental benefits for the plantings in these specific areas?

2.10 What is the management plan for the next five years for the trees that were already planted during the last year? What is the management plan for the next twenty years?

2.11 Do you plant other species, which are not trees, in the same planting area? (Shrubs, Herbaceous, etc.) If you do, which species? What life form?

We have planted around 5,000 native medicinal plants in gardens, using indigenous knowledge.

2.12 Out of the trees that were planted: 7430 trees were in "clean/ new" areas, 0 trees were planted as fillings in areas with former plantations, 7560 trees were planted as fillings in areas with natural vegetation. [7560 pine trees were planted, but sometimes in mudslide areas completely devoid of natural vegetation after a slide]

2.13 Did you plant non native species? Which species? How many trees?

A few hundred total of eucalipto because they are a highly desired medicinal plant; and about 3250 total Cipres Romano because they are an important wind-break tree for farming. None of the Eco-Libris funds are used for these two species of trees.

2.14 you are most welcome to add more details that you find important or interesting for us and for our customers.

The mudslides continued in 2011, and it is very discouraging because they are partly caused by Climate Change, i.e., the rain now comes in “rain events” because more moisture is in warmer air; these are so intense they cause slides. I have seen young pine trees break up mudslides and stop them, however—we just need to plant more. Also, customers need to understand that in these very mountainous, steep areas; all trees must be planted by hand, using only post-hole diggers. Thus, to plant over 261,000 trees in one year by hand is impressive!

3. Follow-up of the third year assessment

3.1 Could you confirm the planting of 5000 trees that were supposed to be planted in May 2011 were planted? *Yes; they're growing nicely—thank you!*

4. Ensuring the planting quality

With regards to our collaboration in our first year of operation, please choose for each characteristic shown in the table below the most suitable grade between 1-10 (1- cannot guarantee at all 10 – can fully guarantee) and add an X sign in the suitable cell. These grades should indicate your ability to ensure the quality of these characteristics. Please provide further explanations whenever necessary below the table.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Additionality										X
Planting the trees primarily as a mixed forest and not monoculture species										X
Full collaboration with local communities										X
Usage of native species										X
Planting within one year from the payment										X
Ensuring trees planted on behalf of Eco-Libris will not be cut down – <i>only to thin, or diseased trees</i>									X	

Eco-Libris comments:

We thank AIR for their full cooperation in the preparation of the assessment and their willingness to provide all the requested details. Overall we are satisfied with the performance of AIR and believe that their commitment to high sustainable standards is maintained. We look forward to continuing our work together!