

Abstract

- Study was conducted in Oaxaca, México (05/17 – 07/17)
- Focus on new forest law to determine positive and negative attributes according to key stakeholders: communities, ejidos, public sector, Federal and State Government, academic sector and service providers
- Legal and governmental documents, diverse articles and interviews with key stakeholders were sources of information

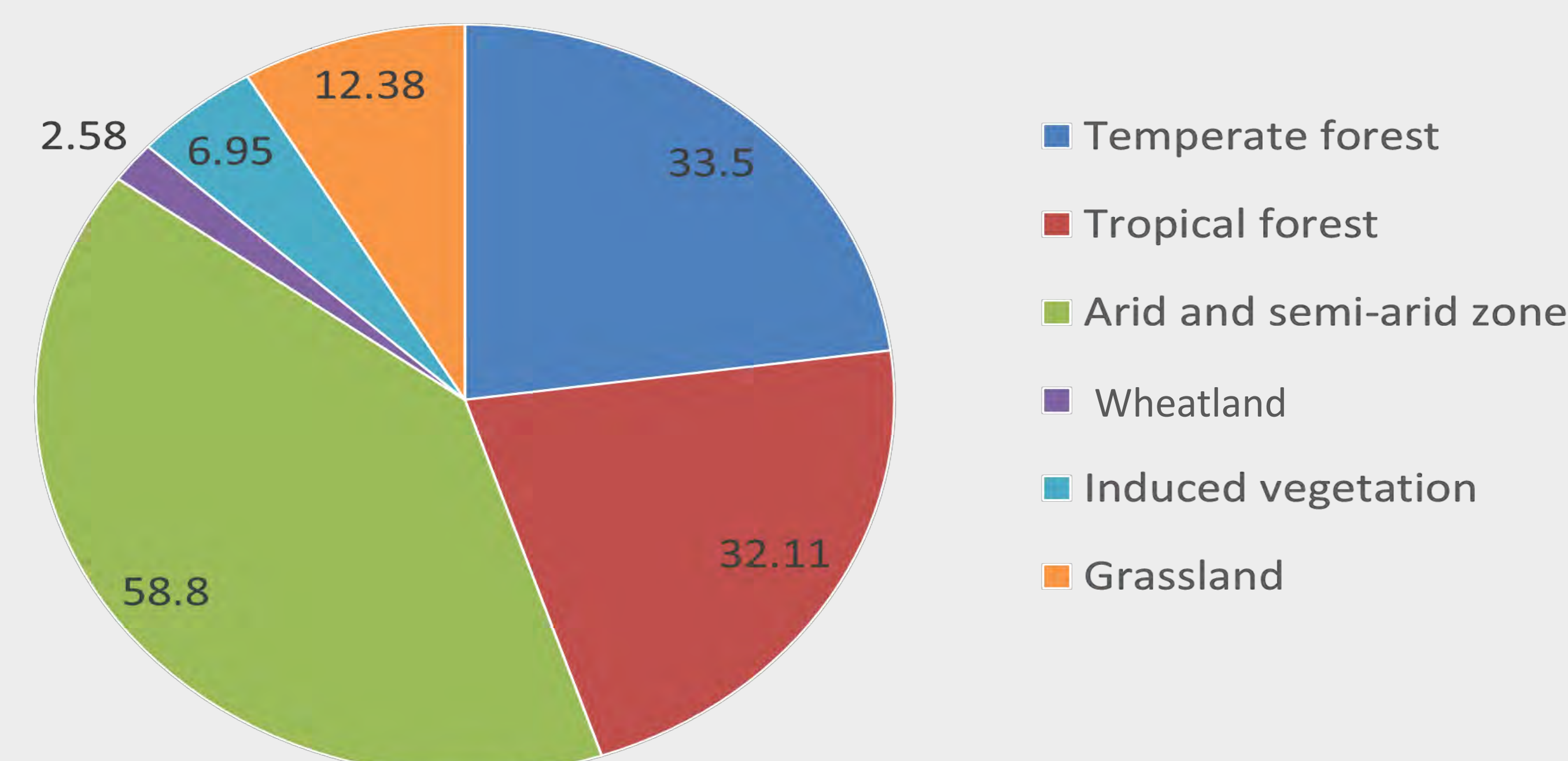
Background

This research analyzes the new forest law that will be implemented in Mexico, to determine its positive and negative attributes with regards to the forest sector

Forestry Sector in México

- 65% of country covered by tempered and tropical forest
- The 52% to ejidos and communities

Mexican Territory 196.4 Million of Hectares



Study Area

State of Oaxaca, México



Methodology

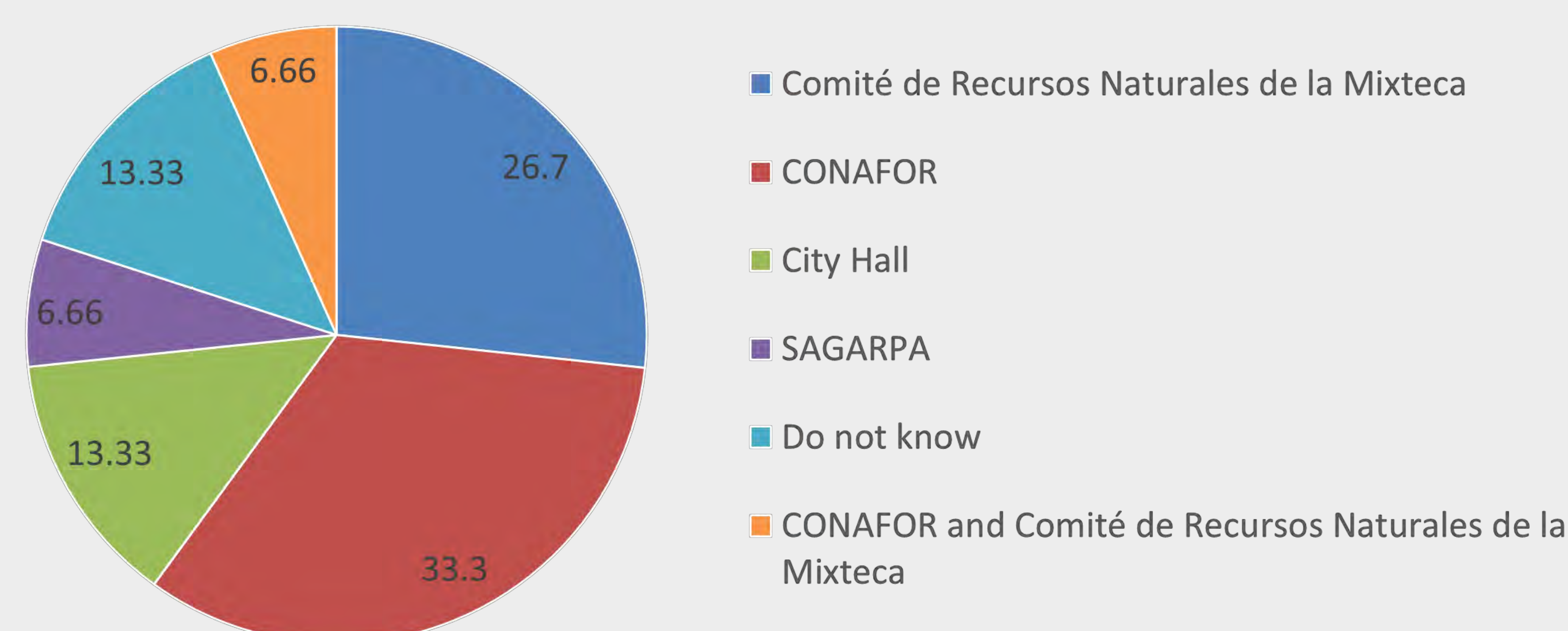
- Comprehensive literature review
- Semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders

Results

Mexican Forestry Legislation

The country has had seven forest laws since the promulgation of the Political Constitution of 1917: 1926, 1942, 1947, 1960, 1986, 1992, 2003
The way community members and ejidatarios find out about the programs varies.

How the Comuneros and Ejidatarios find out about the programs



At the same time that the new forest law is not well known.

Knowledge of the new Law by Comuneros and Ejidatarios	
Do not know	73%
Do know	27%

Myths	Realities
Forests will be privatized	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Law does not touch any subject of agrarian • The ejidos and communities are the owners of the Forests.
There was no consultation of the society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is based on the three-year work of the National Forestry Council (CONAF)
Forest plantations are bad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial forest plantations are established only in degraded areas • Great alternative for economic development and remove pressure on natural forests
Lawmakers did not want to hear proposals from opposing organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The organizations were received with their proposals in several occasions by Deputies and Senators
The Law is different from the CONAF proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft Law is almost entirely based on the project designed by CONAF • The members of the Council have expressed their support for the new Law
The rights of indigenous people and forest owners are affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Law is clear and precise on the rights of indigenous people • The owners of the forest will be the beneficiaries of the services that the forests generate.
Forests will be lost	<p>The main objectives of the new Law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conservation of forests • Avoid the change of land use in forest lands • Establishes sanctions for whoever damages a forest to change it



Conclusions

- There is a lack of information between people who are part of the communities and ejidos
- The perceptions of the new Forest Law among people living in the forests is that the law will affect their lives
- The comuneros and ejidatarios believe that they were not asked during the discussion of the Law

Recommendations

- Create forums around the country to explain the new law to members of communities and ejidos
- Use clear language to explain the main points and avoid using technical language
- Create a monitoring system to track the impact of the new Law and accompanying regulations.