

# The Importance of Sugar Cane Agroecological Zoning (Zaecana)



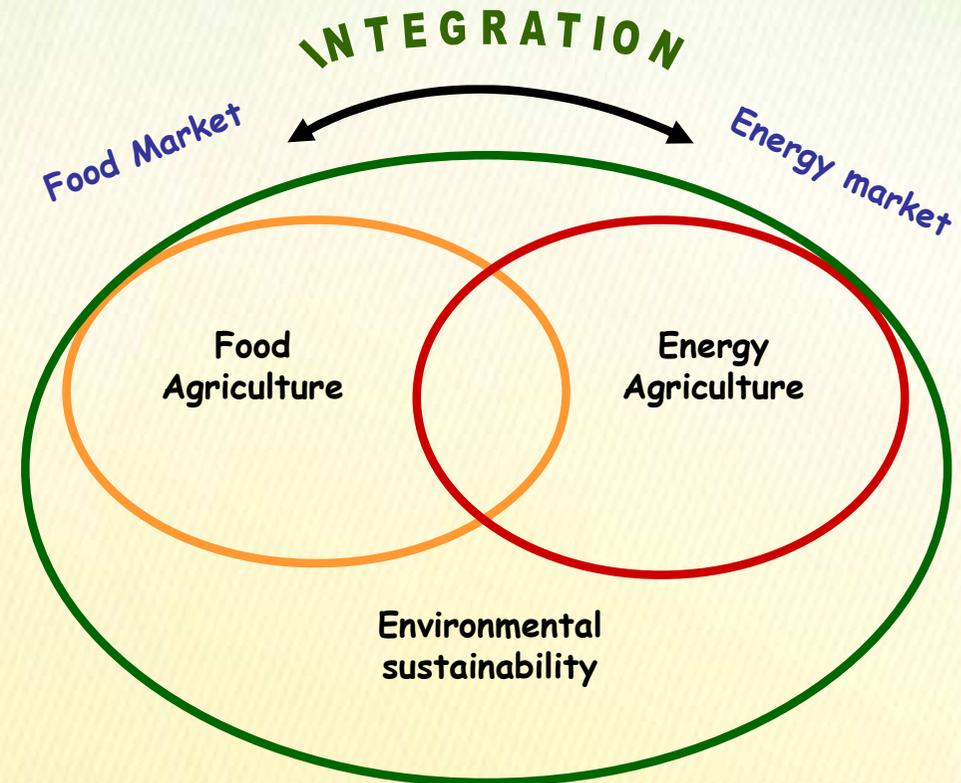
**Brasília, March, 2013**

# What was the situation before of the the Sugarcane Agroecological Zoning?

1. A growing world debate (Biofuels x Food);

2. International criticisms;

3. Possible non-tariff barriers;



# What is the Sugarcane Agroecological Zoning?

1. Pioneering zoning coordinated in national level (MAPA, Embrapa, MMA);
2. Preventive action for a strategic sector;
3. It gives the government (Federal, State and Municipal) technical subsidies for drawing public policies for the sustainable and balanced expansion of this sector.

# Complex project that included the participation of several stakeholders both from public and private sectors

**Meeting in Palmas (TO)**



**Meeting in Rio Branco (AC)**



## **Goals of Zaecana :**

- 1. Identify areas with climate and soil potential for sugar cane production with mechanical harvesting (<12% slope);**
- 2. Identify areas with potential for sugar cane production previously used for livestock production;**
- 3. Identify areas without environmental restrictions and with potential for sugar cane production (no irrigation);**

# **Zaecana – main environmental restrictions:**

- 1. Exclusion of the Amazon and the Pantanal Biomes and Upper Paraguay River Basin;**
- 2. Exclusion of the national parks, indigenous areas, urban areas and other protected areas;**
- 3. Prohibition of deforestation for planting sugar cane;**

# **Policies derived from Zaecana to guide sugar cane sector expansion:**

- 1. Guidance of public and private funding;**
- 2. Guidance for installation of new ethanol plants  
(not applicable for installed plants);**
- 3. Guidance for environmental license procedures;**

**92,5% of  
Brazilian  
territory were  
set aside as  
potential  
areas for  
sugar cane  
production  
after Zaecana  
was  
concluded!**



# Sugarcane Zoning results

Potential areas in Brazil by level of aptitude and land use (ha)				
Potential	Potential by land use (ha)			Total
	Ap	Ag	Ac	
High (H)	10.251.027	585.989	7.191.388	18.028.403
Medium (M)	22.818.770	2.015.247	16.340.890	41.174.906
Low (L)	3.062.029	490.027	733.152	4.285.208
H+M	33.069.796	2.601.235	23.532.277	59.203.309
<b>Total</b>	<b>36.131.825</b>	<b>3.091.263</b>	<b>24.265.429</b>	<b>63.488.517</b>

Ap = areas with pastures; Ag = areas with agriculture; Ac = areas with agriculture and livestock.

Only 7.5% of Brazil were identified as areas suitable for expansion of sugarcane and only 10% of this potential area is expected to be occupied in the next 10 years.

## Concluding remarks

- **Tools like Zaecana should be conducted with a focus on technical point of view;**
- **Tools like Zaecana are excellent to promote efficient land use;**
- **Tools like Zaecana require a solid database;**
- **Brazil is open and willing to share its experience in developing a tool such as Zaecana;**

**Thank you!**

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