

## **Project Update: January 2019**

Second report to communicate the progress of the activities carried out in the period: September, October and November 2018. During these months, fieldwork focused on: a) growth, survival and light availability of planted samplings; b) natural regeneration and diversity; and c) Interviews with local actors.

### **a) Growth, survival and light availability of planted saplings**

During November 2018, we recorded light availability at each site (14 plots) using hemispherical projections of photographs taken from a single position to a perpendicular projection of light gaps.

We monitored the growth (diameter and height) and mortality of each sapling (1456 plants). The mortality was classified as: plants with no leaves and dry trunk, saplings ripped out of the ground, 'uprooted', and plants that could not be found, 'missing'.

### **b) Natural regeneration and diversity**

In September 2018, permits were obtained from owners, parks and reserves managers, as well as one from an ejido leader, to access the oak fragments for the assessment of natural regeneration (saplings and juveniles) and diversity. The first transect was carried out in company with some stakeholders to make our work known and get their trust.

In October 2018, oak sampling and oak trees were inventoried in four sites of the Valle de Jovel basin: Reserva Moxviquil, Reserva Ecológica del Huitepec, Parque Natural El Encuentro y El ejido La Albarrada, Aguaje. These sites were chosen due to the local inhabitants' allowance, land tenure and internal regulations.

Each site has eight transects with a total of 32 transects (2 m wide and 50 m long) established in direction of the fragment level curves. All inventoried oaks (transects) were GPS-georeferenced. In the transects we measured the diameter at breast height (dbh) of the samplings/trees oaks, additionally, the immediate environment of the fragments was generally described.



Establishment of the transect in the plot El Encuentro park



Forest condition of one of the fragments for the regeneration and biodiversity transects in Reserva Moxviquil



Transect of the natural oaks' regeneration and biodiversity