



Forest and biodiversity protection, Brazil

This REDD forest conservation project is safeguarding a huge area of rainforest in the Amazon region from being cut down for cattle pasture.

Location



The REDD Project is located in Mato Grosso province, Brazil. This part of the Brazilian Amazon is known as “Deforestation Arch” due to the intense deforestation pressure caused mainly by economic reasons.

Project



As an alternative to common land-grabbing to perform illegal logging followed by cattle raising, this REDD project was developed to drive change and prove that an economic model based on payment for ecosystem services can bring local socio-economic development.

71,714 hectares of native forest are now being protected – the biggest sustainable management plan of the State of Mato Grosso. All the area is FSC® certified.

Project activities encompass a partnership with a neighboring State Park (Parque Estadual Igarapés do Juruena), promoting local initiatives to create fire brigades, vigilance of the borders to avoid land-grabbing, and environmental education initiatives.



Another project activity is a public-private partnership together to create a technical forestry school targeting education of locals. This school has the objective to qualify students in the best practices of low impact sustainable forest management and bring development to the region through higher education.

Project achievements



Socio-economic impact:

- Currently the project benefits local communities by creating formal jobs amongst people who used to perform illegal logging and invasions. These jobs generate local income, by employing workers who live in the surrounding and urban zones. Under the exploration period, the project employs directly approximately 80 jobs. Also, the project supplies 5 local saw mills with certified timber. Such operation involves around 50 workers in each saw mill. Therefore, we generate indirectly around 250 jobs in the urban area.
- Apart from the generation of local jobs, we also benefit the community providing capacity building and training, as part of the FSC certification.
- As a result, we contribute to qualifying local workers in the low impact logging, demarginalizing such activity and promoting change in the local socio-economic scenario.

Environmental impact:

- The project area makes part of an ecological corridor called “Corredor Ecológico da Amazônia Meridional”, an area composed by National and State Parks, totalizing around 2 million hectares. The project borders with the southern portion of this corridor, precisely where the deforestation pressure comes from. As a consequence, the project area acts like a shield, avoiding biodiversity loss and promoting mobility for local fauna.
- The sustainable forest management plan contributes to the conservation of vulnerable and endangered species.
- Our workers constantly maintain a fauna logbook, registering vulnerable and endangered species observed in the area. This data is kept and analysed for any possible negative impact that might require action.
- Fishing and hunting is prohibited within the project area.

Checklist Project 301 271



✓ Additionality and permanence:	according to the rules of the FSC and VCS
✓ 3 rd party validated::	by Rainforest Alliance
✓ Transparency:	provided by Markit Environmental Registry
✓ Annual CO ₂ reduction:	990,000 tCO ₂ e
✓ Social and environmental benefits:	as documented in our database
✓ Marketing material:	pictures available

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