



Valparaiso forest conservation and community development, Brazil

A rainforest conservation project with sustainable community development, reducing emissions by avoiding deforestation and degradation of Amazon rainforests.

Location



This ambitious REDD+ project is located in the western Brazilian state of Acre in the Amazonian basin and home to communities and families living amongst these properties. In the surrounding area, 63% of the Amazon Rainforest has already been lost and this project is reversing the trend. The state's economy in the past used to be based on forest products (from natural rubber to precious hardwoods), agriculture (cattle breeding) and mining.

Project



The Valparaiso project covers more than 29,000 hectares of tropical rainforest on privately owned land and preserves a threatened tropical rainforest eco-system while simultaneously providing the rural communities with sustainable economic opportunities and direct payments for forest conservation.

The project mitigates deforestation to combat climate change and preserve an extraordinary biodiversity. social projects and activities to mitigate deforestation pressures benefit the local communities include, but are not limited to: agricultural extension training, forest patrols of sites at risk of deforestation, improving local schools and health clinics, and eventually building better housing and installing solar photovoltaic panels for the local communities to improve their livelihoods.



The Valparaiso project also provides a variety of essential ecosystem services such as: water cycling, filtration and storage; oxygen production and nutrient recycling; genetic repository for medicinal plants; and habitat for thousands of native Amazonian animal (including scarlet macaws and Amazon river dolphins) and plant species.

Aligned with the state's formulated Green Economy and Benefits for Environmental Services, this project is contributing to sustainable development and emission reductions.

Project achievements



Socio-economic impact:

Community enhancement and helping children is an essential component of the success of Valparaíso. The project will generate sustainable economic opportunities for members of the local community including:

- School and educational opportunities for local children
- Development of a health clinic
- New homes for local families
- Direct payments to local families
- Agricultural training programs
- Job creation
- Social projects and programs
- Creation of association to process açai and manioc flour. A local processing plant were built to industrialize the açai berries grown
- Help communities to obtain land tenure

Environmental impact:

- With nearly 1/3 of all known species and the largest network of freshwater contained in the Amazon Rainforest – Valparaíso protect these remaining forests and associated bio-diversity by permanently preventing threats of cattle ranches, slash-and-burn agriculture, and commercial agriculture to the project area.
- Several endangered native species (according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature) are being protected under the project activity, including howler monkeys, freshwater dolphins, and scarlet macaws; while also providing habitat for 30,000 endemic plants.

Checklist Project 301 662



✓ Additionality and permanence:	according to the rules of the VCS
✓ 3 rd party validated:	by Environmental Services (ES)
✓ Transparency:	provided by the Markit Registry
✓ Annual CO ₂ reduction:	154,000 tCO ₂ e
✓ Social and environmental benefits:	as documented in our database
✓ Marketing material:	high resolution pictures available

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