

# BRAZIL

## AMAPÁ STATE, BRAZIL

**July 2023 to Jun 2024**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

In Brazil, the "Forests nurturing the air" project contributes to the process of implementation of two protected areas (PAs) – Amapá National Forest and Amapá State Forest. Between 2014 and 2017, the project supported, through technical and financial resources, the strengthening of social organization communication strategy and community-based forestry economic activities of timber and non-timber products.

The activities of this project aim to contribute to improve the livelihoods of families living inside and around the two protected areas (Amapá National Forest and Amapá State Forest), while protecting natural capital and, consequently, the provision of environmental services, essential to human well-being.

As main results of this work, we have strengthened a community-based association, supported a sustainable timber management activity, as well as a non-timber products supply chain (andiroba, copaiba, breu, fava) - management and processing - and developed activities of agroecological good practices in the cultivation of family food. In total, we have developed 27 technical training courses in this project between 2014 and 2017.

In order to continue CI-Brasil's contribution to sustainable development in the Amazon, we have started four new projects in the region called "Sustainable and Resilient Tapajós", "Unlocking and Leveraging Low-Emission Development", "Restaurata – forests restoration" and "Amapá Fund".

The Sustainable and Resilient Tapajós project started in 2018, with funds from the Amazon Fund. The main objective is the same of the "The Forests Nurturing the Air" project, to contribute to the strengthening of the timber and non-timber forest supply chains through the empowerment of local traditional communities. However, the scale is expanded into three protected areas, National Forests of Tapajós, Trairão and Itaituba I, in the west of Pará state.

The project "Unlocking and Leveraging Low-Emission Development" has started in June 2022, funded by GCF-TF (Governor's Climate and Forests Task Force). The main objective is to contribute to the eligibility of the state of Amapá to the standard The REDD+ Environmental Excellence Standard (TREES) and enabling the mechanism of Lowering Emissions By Accelerating Forest Finance (LEAF).

The Amapá Fund is an initiative launched by CI and GCF in 2016 that aims to support the consolidation or protected areas and indigenous lands in Amapá state, especially through the development of sustainable forest supply chains, bioeconomy, governance and natural capital conservation. In this sense, the fund is supporting two projects, one on biocosmetics supply chain and the second with brazilian nut supply chain in the regions of FLOTA AMAPÁ and RDS Iratapuru. The fund has around 3 million dollars and Its' expected to support new projects every year.

## **2. ACTIVITIES**

In the last year (July 2022 to June 2023), non-timber forest management activities were developed for the production of biocosmetics and the construction of the headquarters of the Seedwomen Araguari Association.

The main partners that supported the Seedwomen Araguari Association were Iepé (Institute of Indigenous Research and Training), Embrapa (Brazilian Agricultural Research Company), IEPA (Institute of Studies and Research of Amapá), the Mamirauá Institute, SENAR (National Rural Learning Service), CNS (National Council of Rubber Tappers) and the Amapá Fund.

### **2.1. Non-timber forest management**

Last year, some of the main activities carried out by the Seedwomen Araguari Association were non-timber forest management aimed at the biocosmetics production chain. Training, works, infrastructure and participation in events were developed to showcase work and prospect business opportunities.

An important infrastructure completed was the headquarters of the Seedwomen Araguari Association. This space is being useful for community meetings, the development of courses focused on the forest management chain of non-wood products and the production of biocosmetics.



**Figure 1** – Headquarters of the Seedwomen Araguari Association. Photo: Arlete Pantoja.

A notable achievement was communication via the internet. In partnership with CNS through the Federal Government Program called "Internet For All", an internet signal was installed benefiting part of the community. This is an example that strengthening social organization is fundamental to seeking public policies that benefit the collective. Additionally, in partnership with IEPE, internet was installed at the Association's headquarters, thus providing access to another part of the community. In other words, there are currently two internet access points, significantly favoring communication.

In relation to productive activities, with a partner from SENAR, a training course in handicrafts using banana fiber was developed. In addition to new artifacts to be produced, this course created new opportunities for sustainable packaging for bioecosmetics products. The course took place in March 2024 and 15 community members participated.





**Figure 2** – Banana fiber crafts course developed by SENAR for members of the Seedwomen Araguari Association. Photo by Arlete Pantoja.

### **3. FINAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Community-based enterprises are very important for the conservation of the forest and its biodiversity in the Amazon. However, they are activities that need long-term investment and monitoring and have a high risk of sustainability, as social conflicts are intense for the most varied reasons. Thus, financial and technical support is demanded continuously to seek the sustainability of these initiatives and, consequently, the maintenance of environmental services, essential to human well-being.

In this sense, in partnership with IEPA and IEPE, two new projects were approved through Amazonia+, financed by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) with the implementing agency of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The two projects are aimed at strengthening the non-timber forest products chain and will begin in the second half of 2024.

Samples of biocosmetics produced by the Association Sementeiras Araguari.



Samples of the the biocosmetics products produced by Associação Sementeiras do Araguari.



Copaíba soap (*Copaifera langsdorffii* Desf.) produced by pela Associação Sementeiras do Araguari.



Andiroba soap (*Carapa guianensis* Aubl.) produced by Associação Sementeiras do Araguari.



Breu branco scrub soap (*Protium heptaphyllum* (Aubl.) Marchand) produced by Associação Sementeiras do Araguari.