

**Brazil**  
**Amapá Initiative**  
**News from the Field**

**August 2016**  
**Conservation International**

The “Forests for the air” project aims for the conservation of two protected areas: Amapá National Forest and Amapá State Forest. Preserving nature in these protected areas contributes to sustainability of the natural capital that is so important to human well-being and to the improvement of the livelihoods of families living in and around the protected areas. Let’s look at CI’s activities over the past quarter.

**Support of Local Communication Network and Management of Protected Areas**

Three communication workshops were held in March and April 2016 to build a communication plan for the protected areas of Amapá. The March workshop was detailed in the previous report. The objectives of the two workshops in April were to map strategic elements to support the communication plan for the protected areas. The second workshop was held from April 18 to 20 in the city of Pedra Branca do Amapari, located 183 kilometers from Macapá in the west of Amapá. The 22 community leaders attending came from the municipalities of Serra do Navio, Pedra Branca do Amapari, and Porto Grande.



Communication workshop in Pedra Branca do Amapari, Amapá State  
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During the workshop, participants broke into working groups to organize information and identify the most effective means of communication. In addition, the workshop promoted discussions about the potential for economic and social benefits in protected areas of Amapá state, and the importance of participation by local residents in the management of these areas and in monitoring the creation and implementation of public policies.



Working group during the second communication workshop in Pedra Branca do Amapari, Amapá State (© SEMA/Carlos Urso).

From April 25 to 27, the third communication workshop was held in the city of Macapá, the state capital of Amapá, and attended by 27 community leaders from the municipalities of Macapá, Santana, Mazagan, Laranjal do Jari, and Itaubal. Discussions focused on achieving the objectives outlined in the previous workshops.



Third communication workshop, held in Macapá, Amapá State (© CI/Marcos Pinheiro)

The next step will be to hold a workshop for the creation of the communication plan for the protected areas of Amapá. CI is planning to invite community leaders and representatives of government, such as the Ministry of the Environment. The workshop was originally scheduled for May 2016, but due to administrative changes in the management of the protected areas, it has been postponed to September. This postponement will allow for a more effective communication plan creation process.

### **20<sup>th</sup> Pan Amazon Book Fair**

About 40,000 people attended the 20<sup>th</sup> Pan Amazon Book Fair, held from May 27 to June 5, 2016 in Hangar, Belém, Pará State. CI-Brazil and 10 other NGOs operating in the Brazilian Amazon were invited to participate in a booth called 'Society Defending Amazon'. Communication materials from Amapá conservation units were among the publications distributed during the event. The stand had three screens showing Amapá audiovisual presentations along with videos from CI and the booth's other participating NGOs.

## Supporting the Multi-purpose Forest Management and Agroecology Programs

From June 22 to 24, 2016, a total of 15 members of the Association of Agroextractive Producers of Araguari River (Bom Sucesso) participated in training on good management practices for andiroba oil production, held at the base in the Amapá National Forest.



A best-practices course for andiroba management at FLONA and FLOTA Amapá  
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The training was aimed at showing the Bom Sucesso association's members, who extract andiroba oil from the forest, how to consider ecological, labor safety, and hygiene standards in order to enhance the quality of the product. They also learned the basics of using GPS to map species and best plan how to collect fruit from the forest.



Participants in the best-practices course for andiroba management at  
FLONA and FLOTA Amapá (© ICMBio/Sueli Pontes)

This activity is part of the strategy to strengthen the sustainable use of non-timber forest products from Amapá National Forest and Amapá State Forest. These products include the oil extracted from the trees, as well as processed oil derivatives such as soaps, creams, and insect repellent candles. Thus, this initiative is an attempt to generate economic and social benefits to families of FLONA and FLOTA Amapá in balance with the ecosystem services provided by nature.

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