

Brazil
Amapá Initiative
News from the Field

May 2017
Conservation International

Under Daikin's "Forests for the Air" project, CI Brazil aims to contribute to conservation of two protected areas: Amapá National Forest (FLONA) and Amapá State Forest (FLOTA). We strive to protect the environment so that we can enjoy the natural blessings that are indispensable to people's happiness and so that we can contribute to improving the lives of people both inside and outside of the protected areas. This is a report for the quarter from January to March 2017.

Support of local communication network and management of protected areas

Communication campaign in Amapá National Forest (FLONA)

On January 20, we held an educational event about the protected areas for residents around the upper region of the Araguari River and the mouth of the Falsino River, where FLONA and Amapá State Forest (FLOTA) are located. Twenty-seven community members took part in discussions on survey activities in FLONA and a program for monitoring an endangered species of turtle using methods developed by Amapá State University.



Community meeting with residents living around the upper region of the Araguari River and the mouth of the Falsino River (© Bom Sucesso Association/ Elma Gemaque)

Using videos, pamphlets, and a summary of the FLONA management plan, participants discussed topics including national policy on the protected areas, how management of the protected areas

affects society, and management programs likely to be implemented under the FLONA management plan. The participants live in the protected areas, make a living from the natural resources extracted there, or are members of their local village councils. Activities such as this that deepen these people's understanding will prove useful in getting more people involved in the management plans for FLONA and FLOTA.

Supporting the multi-purpose forest management and agroecology programs

Economic activities are essential to the local socioeconomic development process. The strategy behind these programs is to have economic activities follow the principles of sustainable development so that the very existence of activities maintains ecosystem balance and results in greater well being for people.

Community-based Eco-tourism training

Community-based Eco-tourism training was held during February and March in FLONA and FLOTA. Held in conjunction with Centro de Educação Profissional do Amapá (CEPA), the session comprises five modules, three of which are completed. The final two modules will take place in April and May. The training was attended by 20 members of the Associação Agroextrativistas Ribeirinhos do Rio Araguari (Bom Sucesso).



Participants in the Community-based Eco-tourism training held in FLONA and FLOTA
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A major goal of this training was to achieve public use of FLONA and FLOTA, a provision that is expected to be part of the management plan for the protected areas. In June, a new course on motorboat operation was planned with the same goal in mind. This course will proceed with the collaboration of the Brazilian navy in Amapá State.

Training on forest cutting (phase 2)

From March 27 to 31, Amapá State Institute of Forests (IEF) led the second phase of training on forest cutting. The training was attended by 13 community members who are practicing sustainable wood production in the PA Serra do Navio protected area, FLONA, and FLOTA.

The training's aim was to give community members the skills needed for each stage of sustainable forest management. The third phase of the training is planned for April.



Participants in the forest cutting training (©IEF / Inácio Barreto)

Conclusion

Under this project, Amapá State is stepping up model initiatives with the goal of improving the well being of people whose lives are inextricably tied to their natural environment. As its strategy, the project is promoting several initiatives—selected economic activities that utilize sustainable agroecology, improved management of wood and non-forest products, and the raising of the social capital of communities—and is publicizing these initiatives on a wide scale.

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