

Brazil
Amapá Initiative
News from the Field

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Conservation International

Supporting the Communication Network to Better Manage Protected Areas

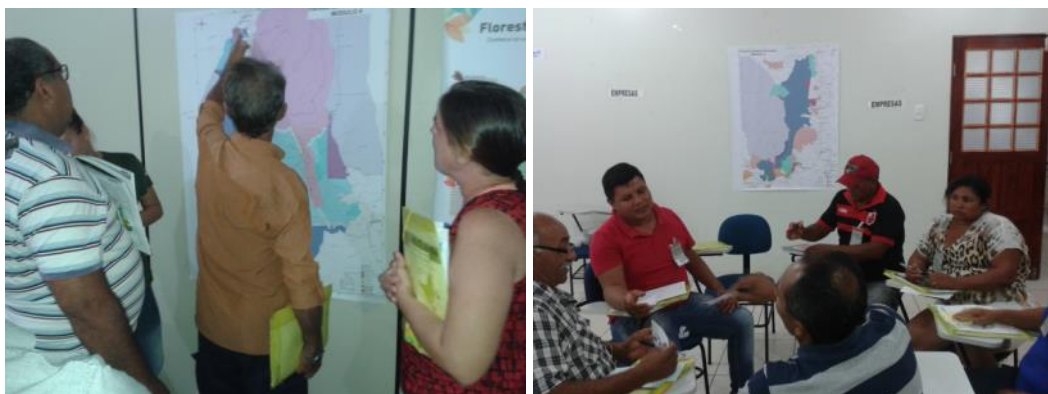
We are currently formulating the Communication Plan of the protected areas of Amapá, which we aim to have completed by May. From March 11 to 13, we held a plan-formulation workshop in Ferreira Gomes, which was attended by 25 community leaders from four cities. The workshop aimed to identify the strategic elements needed to support the Communication Plan.



Workshop to facilitate the formulation of the Communication Plan; held in the municipality of Ferreira Gomes

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Workshop participants conducted group work aimed at organizing information and finding the most effective way to communicate the project.



Participants working in groups at the workshop
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In April and May, three more workshops will be held to identify key information to finalize the Communication Plan.

Supporting Multi-Purpose Forest Management and Agroecology Programs

Economic activities are essential to the communities' socio-economic development process. When forests are used sustainably, it is possible to strategically maintain the balance of the ecosystems while also promoting human prosperity. In the context of protected areas, it is important to work with the local community organizations because, as representatives of the community, they are able to mobilize funds, form partnerships, and lead the development of the project for the benefit of the whole community. Below are some of the activities conducted during the reporting period.

Meeting of the Bom Secesso Association

One of the local organizations in which residents of Amapá State Forest (FLOTA) and Amapá National Forest (FLONA) participate is the Association of Agroextractive Producers Bordering the Araguari River (Bom Sucesso). The Association meeting was held in the city of Porto Grande (Amapá) on February 19. The 35 community members at the meeting discussed non-timber forest products (NTFP) management projects and agroecology-based sustainable production, shared experiences in the Tapajós National Forest, strengthened the social organization along the Araguari River, and created the association's logo.



Meeting of the Bom Secesso Association

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Following the meeting, a group was created to be the liaison between the community and the Brazilian Support Service for Micro and Small Enterprises (SEBRAE). This connection makes possible the institutional strengthening of the association and support in the management of economic activities.

Management of Non-Timber Forest Products

Residents of FLONA and FLOTA of Amapá who are members of the Bom Sucesso Association gave a presentation at an event called Seminar on Best Practices for Conservation Units Management, held in Brasilia from February 23 to 25. The presentation

was about making handmade products using materials from trees such as andiroba (*Carapa guianensis* Aubl.), copaiba (*Copaifera dukei* Dwyer), fava (*Parkia* spp.), and breu (*Protium* sp.).



Bom Sucesso Association members with their presentation material at the seminar
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This seminar was an initiative of the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMbio) in partnership with non-governmental organizations. The event aimed to enhance, disseminate, and increase best practice actions in the management of protected areas in Brazil.

Final Remarks

This project is supporting the strengthening of pilot initiatives in the State of Amapá. By supporting the implementation of FLOTA and FLONA in Amapá, these initiatives aim to improve the well-being of families whose lives are closely connected to nature. The strategy is to encourage the adoption of sustainable agroecology-based practices, improve the management of timber products and non-timber products, strengthen the social capital of communities, and support the communication of these issues.

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