

The Amazon Fund ends year with R\$ 439.8 million in 36 projects

The BNDES approves two new projects in December, totaling R\$ 27.3 millions

The board of directors at the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES), within the scope of the Amazon Fund, has approved non-reimbursable financial support in the amount of R\$ 27.3 million for two new projects: Mamirauá: Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in Conservation Units (CUs); and Environmental Management Training Program. With these two approvals, the Amazon Fund portfolio ends 2012 with 36 approved projects, in the total amount of R\$ 439.8 million.



In Mamirauá and Amanã, the local population uses natural resources, according to management plans and specific zoning systems

Institute of Mamirauá – With an estimated completion date of 60 months and R\$ 8.5 million, the Mamirauá project: Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in Conservation Units (CUs) aims at supporting management efforts and participative management in the Mamirauá and Amanã Sustainable Development Reserves, so as to help increase the effectiveness of CUs in the sustainable protection and management of natural resources.

Located in the meso-region of Solimões, in the state of Amazonas, both reserves, together, account for approximately 3.5 million hectares of flooded forests and upland forests. Since they are classified as Sustainable Development Reserves (RDS), scientific research is encouraged and the local population is not only allowed to inhabit the reserves, but also use the available natural resources, according to pre-established rules.

The project supported by the Amazon Fund will enable the Sustainable Development Institute of Mamirauá (IDSM) to

foster efforts in research, development and dissemination of knowledge in sustainable cattle-raising and agriculture, sustainable lumber forest management, sustainable non-lumber forest management, environmental education, environmental protection and monitoring.

IBAM – The Environmental Management Training Program, in the amount of R\$ 18.8 million and with an estimated completion date of 48 months, aims at strengthening environmental management in municipalities throughout the Amazon Biome mainly through distance-learning technology, the exchange of experiences between the participants, as well as fostering innovation and contacts with other levels of government and society in general, within the scope of environmental public policies.

Responsible for the project at the BNDES, the Brazilian Institute of Municipal Administration (IBAM) operates both in Brazil and abroad, especially in Latin American and Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa.

Currently, IBAM focuses on assisting the consolidation of local agents – government and society – so they are capable of improving the quality of urban environment in cities as well as the standards of living, either by modernizing municipal management structures, or by developing the local economy's potential, with a focus on production and social inclusion.

IBAM Project Efforts

- **Training with a focus on environmental management for municipalities that are included in the Amazon Biome;**
- **Meetings with the municipal Legislative Branch;**
- **Technical and legal guidelines for municipal governments;**
- **Development of learning communities;**
- **Awards for best municipal practices;**
- **Improvement of state-municipality relations to decentralize environmental management.**

FINEP Innovation Award 2012

Institutions with projects supported by the Amazon Fund are among the winners

Two institutions with projects supported by the BNDES, within the scope of the Amazon Fund, are among the winners of the FINEP Innovation Award 2012: Amazon Dreams (Project: Amazon Bioactive Compost) and the Sustainable Development Institute of Mamirauá (Mamirauá project: Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in Conservation Units).

Considered the most important tool to encourage and recognize innovation in Brazil, the FINEP Award has awarded over 500 companies, institutions and individuals since its creation in 1998.

In its 15th edition, some 588 projects were in the running – a 56% increase if compared to 2011 – and, for the first time, four institutions in the northern region are among the winners.

Altogether, nine categories were covered, and Amazon Dreams took the award in the category Micro/Small Company,

while the Institute of Mamirauá won in the category Social Technology. The BNDES supports projects in both institutions.

Amazon Dreams is involved in the project being carried out by the Federal University of Pará (UFPA), Amazon Bioactive Compost in the amount of R\$ 1.3 million. It is aimed at developing new products and technological applications from bioactive compost extracted from plants and fruits in the Amazon, among them photochemicals for sun protection, anti-ageing creams and functional foods in capsules.

The Institute of Mamirauá is supported by the BNDES in the Mamirauá project: conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in Conservation Units, totaling R\$ 8.5 million (read more on the project in this bulletin).

Further information on these and other projects supported by the Amazon Fund can be found on the Amazon Fund's website (www.fundoamazonia.gov.br).

Amazon Fund Technical Cooperation / GIZ

Experts presented 13 technical lectures up to December 2012

Another series of lectures were given by experts from several fields that fall within the scope of the Amazon Fund in 2012. Due to preparations for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20 – an event held between May 13 and June 22 – the lectures were given only in the second half of the year.

The series of lectures are in keeping with the scope of the cooperation agreement between the Amazon Fund and GIZ, a German agency for development cooperation, and will continue in 2013 with new topics and lecturers.

Talking with people and institutions that play a significant role in the region is an excellent way to deepen the understanding of its challenges. Fundamental topics were presented and discussed, such as land-title regularization, sustainable production and sustainable cattle-raising. One highlight was the lecture given by Attorney General Daniel Azeredo on the performance of the Federal Prosecutor's Office in the state of Pará, which has achieved important results in the state. Finally, there were presentations on experiments with monitoring and assessment, an essential tool for implementing projects.

Topic	Lecturer	Date
Land-title Regularization as a tool for organizing the space and democratizing access to land	Doctor and Professor José Heder Benatti (UFPA)	July
Support Opportunities for Sustainable Production	Christiane Ehringhaus and Eugênio Pantoja (GIZ)	August
The MPF's performance in Pará	Daniel Azeredo (Attorney General)	August
Reconciling Farming and Cattle-raising Production, and Environmental Conservation in the Amazon	Judson Ferreira Valentim (Embrapa Acre)	September
Lessons learned in Monitoring Systems and Follow-up on Projects in the Amazon	Taiguara Alencar (GIZ)	November