Newsletter
Management Department of the Amazon Fund
Environmental Division of BNDES

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A further R$ 15 million: two projects approved by the Amazon Fund benefit three states

Nectar from the Amazon is the first project to receive support, focusing solely on honey production using native bees from the Amazon

Nectar from the Amazon *(Néctar da Amazônia)* – On May 13, the board of directors of the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES) approved the third project submitted under the Amazon Fund's Public Call-for-Submission for Sustainable Production Projects. Presented by the Peabiru Institute, in the amount of R$ 2 million, the project will benefit 30 rural communities, including former slave communities (quilombolas), indigenous groups, small farmers, river-dwelling communities and extractionists, together in four associations. Others who will benefit from the project include some 310 honey producers using Melipona bees, a native variety of stingless bee from the Amazon, across five municipalities in the states of Pará and Amapá.

Melipona beekeeping, in addition to offering promising income and contributing to food safety, has a positive environmental effect owing to bee pollination. The project expects to increase the number of hives, implement agro-forestry systems in beekeeping locations, install a honey enhancement unit, as well as provide technical support and train producers.

Resources help combat forest fires in Roraima state

Project to benefit 30 rural communities and 310 honey producers

Roraima Firefighters *(Bombeiros de Roraima)* – On June 17, a project for the Roraima state firefighters was approved, in the total amount of R$ 12.8 million. Resources are earmarked to structure the Integrated Command and Operations Center and to acquire vehicles, equipment and support material to prevent and combat forest fires.

With the support of the Amazon Fund, the Roraima State Military Firefighters will be prepared to monitor and combat deforestation caused by forest fires and illegal burn-offs. In Roraima, between the years of 2000 and 2010, the total area affected by forest fires came to 3,062 Km².

Roraima is the sixth state in the Legal Amazon to receive support from the Amazon Fund to combat forest fires

With this new project, the Amazon Fund consolidates an important role in combating forest fires in the region. Besides the states of Roraima, Pará, Rondônia, Tocantins, Acre, and Mato Grosso, the Fund also provides support to strengthen the National Center for Preventing and Combating Forest Fires (Prevfogo), headquartered in Brasília.

Public Call-for-Submission focusing on Indigenous People in the Amazon has been launched

This initiative will help implement the National Policy on Territorial and Environmental Management on indigenous Land (PNGATI)

On May 8, 2014, the Amazon Fund, in partnership with the Ministry of the Environment (MMA), the National Indigenous Foundation (Funai) and Coordinators of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon (Coiab), launched a new public call-for-submission of projects at the Ministry of Justice in Brasília. Projects will be chosen to design and implement Territorial and Environmental Management Plans (PGTAs) on Indigenous Land in the Amazon Biome.

Workshops	Dates
Rio Branco (AC)	July 29 and 30
Belém (PA)	August 5 and 6
Manaus (AM)	August 7 and 8

The total amount earmarked to the public call-for-submission is up to R$ 70 million, and up to 10 projects will be selected to design and implement PGTAs in the Amazon. Approved projects will receive from R$ 4 million to R$ 12 million and should be in keeping with the principles and guidelines of the National Policy on Territorial and Environmental Management on Indigenous Land (PNGATI), instituted by Decree Nº 7,747, of June 5, 2012. All requirements to take part in the call-for-submission can be found on the Amazon Fund's website.

To promote the public call-for-submission and to prepare potential applicants, a workshop was held at the FUNAI headquarters in Brasília, on June 10 and 11, with support from the German technical cooperation agency, GIZ, involving partners in the call-for-submission.

15th Meeting of the Amazon Fund's Guidance Committee

Meeting in Rio de Janeiro receives minister of the Environment, Ms. Izabella Teixeira, and the BNDES' managing director of the Environmental Division, Mr. Guilherme Lacerda

On April 4, the 15th Meeting of the Amazon Fund's Guidance Committee (COFA) was held at the BNDES in Rio de Janeiro.

The meeting was opened by the Minister of the Environment, Ms. Izabella Teixeira, and a speech was delivered by the BNDES' Managing Director of the Environmental Division, Mr. Guilherme Lacerda.

During the meeting, which was attended by representatives of the federal government, states that are part of the Amazon Biome and members of civil society, the minister affirmed that it is important for COFA to seek out new innovative paths to assess and monitor the fund's operations. Meanwhile, according to Managing Director Mr. Guilherme Lacerda, the Bank has put together a strategy to disseminate the Amazon Fund in other countries that are potential donators. “The aim is to receive the nations that wish to take part in this advanced initiative,” he added.

The Committee was in favor of the call-for-submission to design and implement Territorial and Environmental Management Plans for Indigenous Land (PGTAs), aimed at providing territorial protection for natural resources, as well as environmental education, sustainable use, and conservation of indigenous land, which was put together by the BNDES, the MMA and FUNAI. *(see article on this page)*

Speech presented by Izabella Teixeira, opening the 15th COFA Meeting

Other important points in the meeting include presentations on the preliminary assessment of deforestation data - PRODES 2013, presented by Mr. Francisco Oliveira, head of the Policy Department on Combating Deforestation (DPCD) of the MMA, as well as a talk on the Warsaw Framework for REDD+, given by Mr. Felipe Ferreira, deputy head of the Climate, Ozone and Chemical Safety Division (DCLIMA) of the MRE.

The COFA members were joined in the meeting by representatives from the National Indigenous Foundation (FUNAI), the Norwegian Embassy, the GIZ agency, and employees from the BNDES and the MMA. The next meeting is slated for November 2014.