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Two recently approved projects benefit traditional populations and indigenous peoples in the Amazon

Forest Assistance Program+ will encourage sustainable production and empowerment of the riparian communities of 16 protected areas of the state of Amazonas

BNDES's Board of Directors approved the Forest Assistance Program+ project of the Sustainable Amazon Foundation (FAS) on April 5, with funding of R\$ 32 million. This will be the second project to be executed by FAS, which concluded in 2015 its first initiative supported by the Amazon Fund.

The Forest Assistance Program+ will support sustainability in 16 protected areas (PA) of sustainable use in the state of Amazonas through various activities in four lines of action:

- (i) sustainable production, such as training in sustainable management practices and investments to increase the scale of production of small community projects;
- (ii) strengthening of social organization, with structural actions of repair and provisioning in the headquarters of local associations, as well as in the collective management of investments, through the organization of assemblies, meetings, and other expenditures;
- (iii) management of knowledge accumulated by FAS and by the communities in the development of local solutions. In this context, technical-scientific publications will be developed on sustainable



Publicity FAS

Management of pirarucu is one of the productive activities supported by the Sustainable Amazon Foundation

- productive arrangements, assessment of social and economic impacts of investments on income generation, among other actions; and
- (iv) release of a public call to small and medium-sized productive sustainable community-based projects in the surroundings of the PAs benefited by the project.

Project of the Socioenvironmental Institute will work in nine indigenous lands in the basins of rivers Xingu and Negro

On June 27, BNDES approved a project of the Socioenvironmental Institute (ISA) to be supported with R\$ 11.7 million from the Amazon Fund. The project aims at the implementation of the Territorial and Environmental Management Plan (PGTA) of the Xingu Indigenous Park and the elaboration of PGTA of the indigenous lands (TI) of the Alto Rio Negro and Ianomâmi region. The operation territory of the project covers more than 24 million acres and is occupied by approximately 60 thousand indigenous people of different ethnic groups with their own languages, history, and culture, living in two major river basins in the Amazon: the basins of rivers Xingu and Negro.

The PGTA is a participatory planning instrument of territorial and environmental management of indigenous lands. The plans allow indigenous organizations to systematize their demands and strengthen their associations, improving their relation with the State and the civil society organizations.

The project of ISA is the fourth one approved by the Amazon Fund within the public call in support of territorial and environmental management in indigenous lands. It was released in partnership with the Ministry of the Environment, the Brazilian Indigenous Foundation (FUNAI), and the Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon (COIAB).



Juliana Alvim

The Xingu Indigenous Park will receive actions described in its Territorial and Environmental Management Plan

Amazon Fund holds the 1st Workshop of Experience Exchange between Projects of Sustainable Productive Activities

Event gathered over 100 participants, including managers and indigenous, subsistence farmers and small farmers beneficiaries

Executors and beneficiaries of projects supported by the Amazon Fund shared knowledge and experiences in a workshop of exchange between projects of sustainable productive activities, held in Rio de Janeiro on June 8 and 9. The opening of the event was conducted by the superintendent of the Environment Area of BNDES, Gabriel Visconti, and the head of the Department of Management of the Amazon Fund, Juliana Santiago, who stressed that “the structuring of the social and biological diversity chains is fundamental in the construction of a sustainable economy in the Amazon”.

During the event, participants had access to plenary lectures and were also divided into groups to identify best practices to be replicated. Issues such as transparency, governance, greater participation of women and indigenous people, financial management, innovation, empowerment of indigenous organizations, monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of the projects, formalization of partnerships, and strengthening of less structured institutions were addressed, among others.

The challenges for a successful implementation of projects, such as the long term management planning, the strengthening of community organizations, and



Workshop of Experience Exchange gathered over 100 people at the headquarters of BNDES

the focus on management were also discussed, as well as the strengthening of the surveillance and the control of deforestation. At the end of the seminar, several recommendations were discussed to, for example, optimize the capabilities of the projects, respect local cultures, and integrate even more the beneficiaries of the project management.

The Guidance Committee members of the Amazon Fund meet in Brasília

Activities of environmental surveillance and deforestation control were exempted from the verification of additionality of resources

On April 29, 2016, the 20th meeting of the Guidance Committee of the Amazon Fund (COFA) was held in Brasília. On the occasion, the new operation focus of the Amazon Fund for the 2015-2016 biennium was approved, intending to exempt, in exceptional character, the condition of additionality of resources to projects that aim to continue or improve environmental surveillance and the control of deforestation. The updated document of guidelines and criteria for applying the resources of this fund and the operation foci for the 2015-2016 biennium can be found on the website www.amazonfund.gov.br.

During the meeting, the *Annual Report of Activities of the Amazon Fund* of 2015 was approved, which, besides being an instrument of accountability and transparency of information, contains a report of stories and learning. The report is also available on the website www.amazonfund.gov.br. In addition, the agenda of the meeting included the presentation of

the Ministry of the Environment about the data on deforestation in the last 2014-2015 forest year, with the analysis of the trends of deforestation by the states of the Legal Amazon and their distribution by land categories in the period from 2012 to 2015.



20th Meeting of the COFA in Brasília