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The city of Alta Floresta (MT) is removed from the list of the Ministry of Environment and seeks to become a green municipality

Supported by the Amazon Fund, the city of Alta Floresta has met the requirements of reducing deforestation and having 80% of its area in the Rural Environmental Registry

Directive Nº. 187, issued by the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment and published on June 11 in Brazil's Official Gazette, removed the municipality of Alta Floresta, located in the northern regions of the state of Mato Grosso, from the list put together by the Ministry of the Environment with the priority municipalities for efforts to combat deforestation in the Amazon Forest.

To be removed the critical list of the Ministry of the Environment and to be considered a municipality with monitored and controlled deforestation, Alta Floresta, besides having to reduce deforestation, also needed to have 80% of its properties registered in the state Rural Environmental Registry (CAR).

Requirements were met with the support of R\$2.8 million provided by the Amazon Fund for the project Olhos d'Água da Amazônia, which specifically aims at strengthening the environmental management of the municipality through environmental diagnosis and by making the CAR registration process of small rural properties feasible, besides fostering development efforts to recover degraded permanent protections areas close to springs located on small properties.

Directive Nº. 187 excluded not only Alta Floresta from the critical list of the Ministry of the Environment, but also the



Photo: Publicity/BNDES

CAR registration of rural properties has the support of the Amazon Fund

municipality of Santana do Araguaia, located in the state of Para.

Incentive – In practical terms, removal from the list created in 2008 by the Ministry of Environment through Directive Nº. 28 establishes the municipality as a priority in the allocation of federal economic and fiscal incentives, plans, programs and projects which pursue economic and social development on a sustainable basis, particularly regarding the consolidation of forest, agro extraction, agriculture and cattle-raising.

Seminar assesses impacts of projects supported by the Amazon Fund in the north of the state of Mato Grosso

The Seminar "Strategies and Projects for a Green Municipality in the Amazon" took place on May 3 and 4 in the municipality of Alta Floresta, state of Mato Grosso. On the first day of the event, the results and the

impacts of the three projects supported by the Amazon Fund in the north of Mato Grosso were discussed: Olhos d'Água da Amazônia; Nascentes do Buriti and Sementes do Portal. On the second day, sustainable strategies and good environmental practices were presented to take Alta Floresta into the category of green municipality in the Amazon.

With the participation of representatives from the Ministry of the Environment, the BNDES, the Norwegian Embassy, Alta Floresta and Carlinda city halls, Incra, Embrapa, unions and associations, among others, the seminar included a technical visit to rural properties benefiting from the projects supported by the Amazon Fund.



Photo: Publicity/BNDES



Photo: Publicity/BNDES

Cláudia Costa and Irene Duarte participated as speakers

BNDES approves R\$ 27.6 million for two new projects

The Amazon Fund totals 30 approved projects in the amount of R\$ 303 million

The board of directors of the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES) within the scope of the Amazon Fund approved non-reimbursable financial support in the amount of R\$ 27.6 million for two new projects, which are: "Acre: Zero Forest Fires" (R\$ 12.6 million) and "Banco do Brasil Foundation (FBB)/Amazon Fund" (R\$ 15 million). With these approvals, the Amazon Fund portfolio now totals 30 approved projects in a total amount of R\$ 303 million.

Acre: Zero Forest Fires Project – this project aims to provide support to monitor, prevent and combat deforestation resulting from forest fires and burn-offs that are not authorized by the state of Acre.

The project is scheduled for completion in two years while comprising the acquisition of vehicles and support equipment for seven operation units of the Military Firefighters Corps of the state of Acre (CBMAC) located in the municipalities of Cruzeiro do Sul, Tarauacá, Manuel Urbano, Xapuri and Rio Branco (see map). Resources are also earmarked for capacity-building programs for officials to prepare managers specialized in control, monitoring, inspection support and forest fire combat.

The project also comprises activities to effectively implement the National Program for Reduced Use of Fire in Rural Areas and Forests (PRONAFOGO) coordinated by the Ministry of the Environment in accordance with the Plan for Prevention and Control of Deforestation in Acre.

Banco do Brasil Foundation (FBB)/Amazon Fund Project – This project was approved within the scope of the Technical and Financial Cooperation Agreement of the BNDES established with the Bank of Brazil Foundation (FBB). Its purpose is to provide support for the development of production activities aligned with fostering the conservation and sustainable use of the Amazon Biome in traditional communities, settlements and family farmers, with the following highlights:

- Structuring solidarity enterprises in typical production activities in the region, such as: açaí berries, cupuaçu berries, banana, cacao, beekeeping, fish breeding, cassava, rubber and art crafts;
- Reapplying social technologies in several areas, among them: food safety, access to drinking water, energy generation in a sustainable manner, recovery of degraded areas, rational management and soil use in agro-forestry systems;
- Support efforts for land-title regularization and licensing;
- Efforts in sustainable forestry management, reforestation, forestry certification and recovery of deforested areas.

The partnership between the Amazon Fund and the Bank of Brazil Foundation will be effective for five years. During this period, it is expected to reach disbursements of up to R\$ 100 million, of which up to R\$ 60 million will come from the Amazon Fund and up to R\$ 40 million from the FBB.

CBMAC has seven operational units spread across the five regional sections in the state of Acre

