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BNDES approves R\$ 9.1 million for Rioterra to combat deforestation in the state of Rondônia

The project aims at recovering 500 hectares of areas that have been degraded by the implementation of agro-forestry systems

The board of directors of the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES), within the scope of the Amazon fund, approved financial support in the amount of R\$ 9.1 million to recover degraded areas and to generate income in three municipalities in Rondônia: Itapuã do Oeste, Cujubim and Machadinho D'Oeste. With this approval, the Amazon Fund's portfolio now boasts 41 approved projects, with a total value of R\$ 540.3 million.

With a 48month deadline, the project "Amazonian backyards" (Quintais Amazônicos) under the responsibility of the Center for Studies on Culture and the Environment in the Amazon (Rioterra) aims at supporting environmental regularization and fostering development of agro-forestry systems (SAFs) as an option to recover degraded areas that belong to family farmers and those settled by agrarian reform. (See details to the right)

A partnership with the Federal University of Rondônia will enable research on the soil and the landscape, as well as a choice of species and the production of saplings that are more appropriate for implementing SAFs in the region.

Most of the forests in Itapuã do Oeste, Machadinho d'Oeste and Cujubim are preserved, but are located on the outer border where deforestation takes place in Rondônia, of which 36% of the territory is deforested.



On the slate

Registration of families and collection of physical (size, location, current activities etc) and social data (number of inhabitants, income etc);

Technical support for selecting cultures, providing saplings and equipment, as well as technical assistance to implement agro-forestry systems (SAFs) in degraded or altered areas on selected properties, estimating the recovering of approximately 500 hectares (approximately one hectare per family);

Financial incentives for environmental services rendered by family farmers on the project as an incentive to participate and as an economic alternative to income generated by activities that cause deforestation.

Registration of properties on the Rural Environmental Registration (CAR);

Expansion of sapling production in the municipal nursery in Itapuã do Oeste to meet the demands in the region.

Stay tuned

Agro-forestry systems (SAFs) are a way to use and manage the land where arboreal species (fruit and/or timber) are combined with agricultural crops simultaneously or in timed sequence. The main logic is to recover areas degraded by cultures with different productive cycles and which, therefore, produce food at varying timings, thus blending environmental improvement either with the generation of income or with contributions to food safety. Using agro-forestry systems (SAFs) has become stronger in



Photo: Simone Schneider

recent years, especially due to the new Forestry Code (Law N°. 12,651/2012) and, recently, with Law N°. 12,805, April 29, 2013.

Rural Environmental Registration is an Amazon Fund priority

Focused efforts outlined by the Guidance Committee (COFA) highlight the CAR, a tool for environmental regularization of rural properties and which helps recover degraded areas

The Rural Environmental Registration (CAR); an environmental management instrument established in the new Forestry Code (Law N°. 12,651/2012) is one of the priorities in support from the Amazon Fund, in accordance with the focused efforts approved by the Amazon Fund Guidance Committee (COFA) for the 2013-2014 period.

With this, the projects presented by state governments to the Amazon fund aiming at fostering environmental regularization of tenured land and rural properties already amount to R\$ 307.7 million. This amount is distributed throughout nine projects, of which R\$ 96.5



Example of rural property with production activities, which meets the requirements of the Legal Reserve and Permanent Preservation areas.

million has already been awarded and R\$ 211.2 million is still being processed at the BNDES

In addition to these projects, the Amazon Fund portfolio has a further R\$ 35.7 million related to support for projects from third-sector institutions and municipal

governments, which, among their activities, include support to prepare the CAR.

Integrating Information - The Rural Environmental Registration is an important instrument in environmental management, providing information on rural properties to several branches of government and society in general. Based on information provided by the rural property owner, it is possible to environmentally regularize production activities, curb illegal deforestation, and facilitate access to credit and financing for producers.

With the goal of stimulating not only the preparation of CAR, but also integration with the Rural Environmental Registration System (SICAR), the Ministry of the Environment (MMA), in partnership with BNDES, within the scope of the Amazon Fund, has developed specific guidelines aimed at public and private institutions.

Projects eligible for support include those submitted by state governments or third sector organizations that meet all the following requirements: The state where the project is located must have a technical cooperation agreement with MMA; the project must include integration with SICAR and must not cover areas with similar CAR projects that are being awarded or carried out, in addition to reaching a vast territorial scale, for example, the scheduled efforts, as a whole, should cover a group of municipalities or a region covered by state planning.

The complete document *Support to Rural Environmental Registry/Amazon Fund and the Ministry of the Environment*, the main efforts and the Amazon Fund's portfolio of projects, among other information, are available on the Internet and can be found at www.amazonfund.gov.br.

In Focus

2012 Annual Report

The 2012 Annual Report is available on the Amazon Fund's website (www.amazonfund.gov.br):

The Executive Report (on the right) is aimed at briefly presenting the efforts of the Amazon Fund in 2012, focusing on its basic concepts and the 36 supported projects.

The Annual Report (on the left), besides containing data on the supported projects, presents the criteria for eligibility and the analysis process at the BNDES, while describing the governance, fundraising, operational performance, monitoring and assessment of results, among other information.

