BRAZILIAN
BIODIVERSITY FUND

FUNBIO

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The Strength of Partnerships

As we continued on a steady path of growth, 2025 became a year in which we reached new levels in delivering our programs and securing the resources needed to sustain ongoing efforts and launch new ones.



ÁLVARO DE SOUZA
Chair of FUNBIO's Board of Directors

It was also the year in which we began shaping a new five year Strategic Plan, updating and strengthening our management processes. This plan is designed not only to consolidate our past growth but to set the foundation for what comes next, with an expanded use of AI tools playing a central role.

In 2025, we also enhanced our compliance policy, deepening our understanding of the partners who supply and implement our programs. In an increasingly complex, and at times hostile, world, safeguarding our operations has become ever more important.

For FUNBIO, the Climate COP30 in Belém (Pará) was a moment to celebrate ideas that have taken shape as initiatives expected to become, in the coming years, participatory models with strong transformative potential. We took part in more than 20 events during the inspiring and intense COP30 marathon, strategically led by Brazil.

In Belém, together with the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples, we announced Vítuke, a FUNBIO initiative and first financial mechanism designed in partnership with the Ministry and organizations representing the Indigenous movement. This co creation model—reflected in the mechanism's name, Vítuke, meaning "ours" in the Terena language—will generate valuable insights that will support the implementation of the National Policy for Territorial and Environmental Management of Indigenous Lands (PNGATI, the acronym in Portuguese).

In what became the COP with the largest participation of Indigenous representatives, Vítuke announced initial contributions totaling roughly USD 30 million, with expectations of mobilizing USD 100 million in the coming months. Its launch, in a packed auditorium, reflected what has driven us for 30 years: bringing people and interests together to make concrete results in environmental conservation and sustainable development possible.

These three decades of intense work and learning, celebrated in 2026, have been marked by milestones such as the ARPA Program – the Amazon Region Protected Areas initiative. Launched in 2002 and now a global reference, it expanded its reach even further in 2025. At the same COP30, in another full auditorium, ARPA Communities was announced, a new effort focused on the people who are central to protecting the program's 60 sustainable use protected areas.

The initiative was sparked by a field visit in which donors engaged directly with local communities—a reminder of how essential that connection is. From that on the ground experience and the conversations that followed came the idea of supporting, in a more direct way, the communities living in ARPA's sustainable use protected areas.

From the Amazon to the Atlantic Forest, 2025 was also a year of expanding partnerships, including an important cooperation agreement with the state of São Paulo through FINACLIMA SP. This state level financial mechanism will channel private resources toward climate actions that include, among others, forest restoration.

This annual report reflects the broad and expanding scope of FUNBIO's work. At 30 years, a long journey for an environmental institution, we still carry the energy and freshness of the organization that, back in the 1990s, helped lay the groundwork for a new way of thinking about and advancing conservation in Brazil. A vision that proved to be the right one.

PERSPECTIVES

Three Decades and 200 Million Hectares

Our journey dedicated to safeguarding the future began in 1996. Three decades later, in 2026, it is gratifying to look back and see, each in its own rhythm and time, the impact of the initiatives under our management.



ROSA LEMOS DE SÁ
FUNBIO Secretary General

Over these 30 years, FUNBIO, a Brazilian institution that builds the connections needed to turn ideas into action, has worked across every biome and region of the country, at a scale that matches Brazil's vast territory and environmental significance.

Two hundred million hectares—that is the area currently supported across Protected Areas and Indigenous Lands. It is the equivalent of 200 million football fields, a territory larger than a country like Mexico. Over these 30 years, nearly 150 funders, along with dozens of governments and companies, have trusted our work and made more than 790 projects possible. They have become essential partners along our path.

We are also encouraged by FUNBIO's direct access to the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD), granted to institutions already accredited by the GEF and the GCF. We now serve as an implementing agency for three of the most important international cooperation funds: the FRLD, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Together, they provide critical resources for conservation efforts around the world, including in Brazil.

Another program that makes us particularly proud is the FUNBIO Grants – Conserving the Future, developed in partnership with the GEF's Fonseca Leadership Program. Grounded in the conviction that knowledge is essential for rational and effective decision making, the program supports applied field research by master's and doctoral students. With the results of the 2025 call, we have now supported 253 scientists. The enthusiasm of these young researchers is not only contagious, it drives the production of knowledge that helps us envision a better world.

This year marks the start of fieldwork for projects in biologically rich biomes that do not always receive the visibility they deserve, such as the Caatinga in Brazil's Northeast. It also marks the implementation of initiatives carried out in partnership with Indigenous and traditional communities, including Vituke, the first fund for Indigenous Peoples created jointly with the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples and representative Indigenous associations, and ARPA Communities, which will support more than a thousand communities living in ARPA's extractive and sustainable development reserves. The government of Brazil recognizes "20 segments that make up a significant share of the population and occupy a considerable portion of the national territory." Highlighting their leadership in conservation is essential for the country.

As we mark our 30th anniversary, I extend my gratitude to all the people and institutions that have worked with us, directly or indirectly, and helped shape this path. In the years ahead, guided by a robust strategic plan, we hope to continue contributing to environmental conservation and sustainable development in Brazil with ever greater scale and effectiveness.

Mission



Mobilize strategic funding for **biodiversity conservation**

Vision



To be **a leading reference in enabling strategic funding** and **solutions for biodiversity conservation**

Values

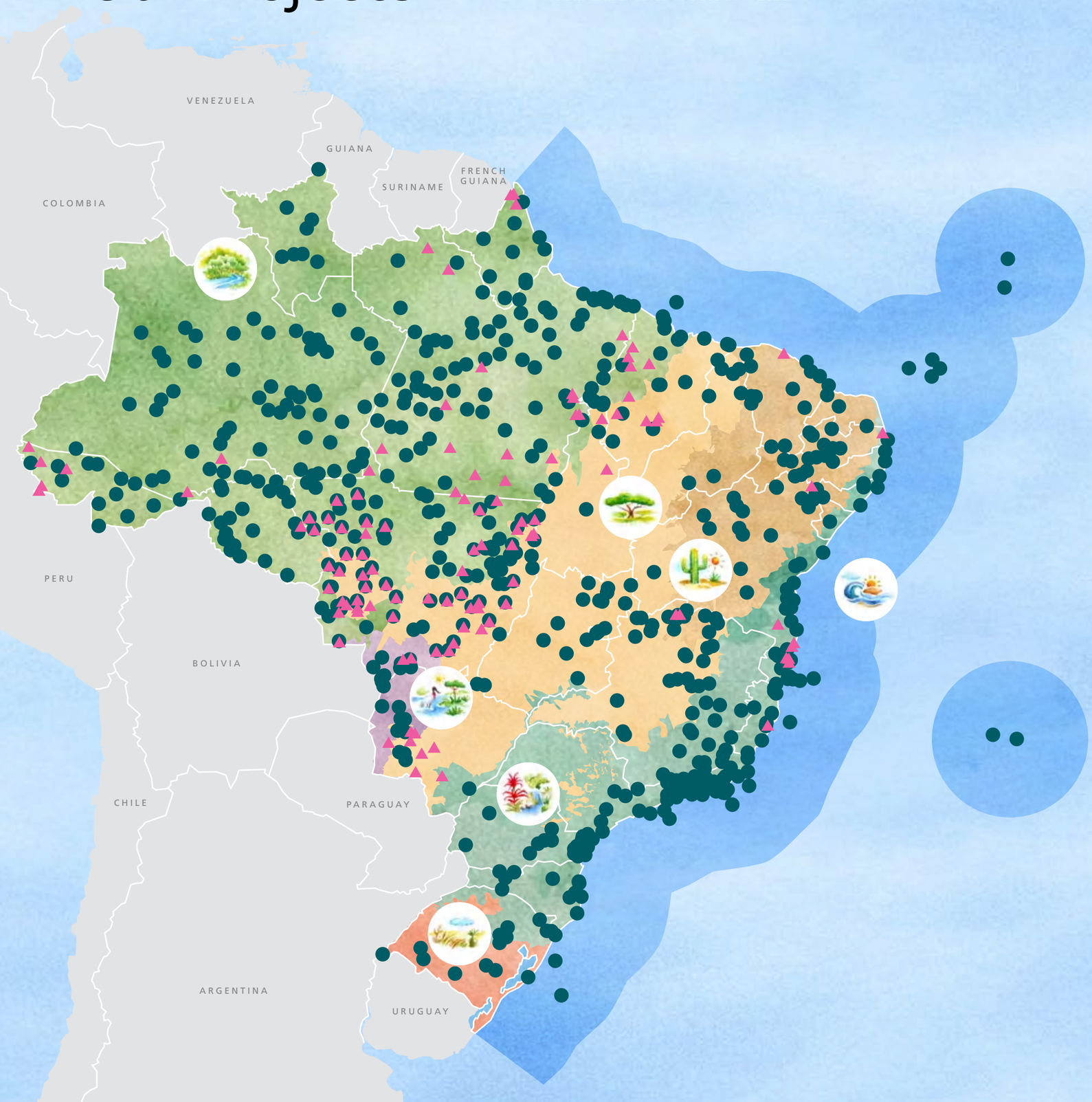


FUNBIO is guided by the **following values**:

- **Transparency**
- **Ethics**
- **Effectiveness**
- **Responsiveness**
- **Intellectual independence**
- **Innovation**

Our Projects*

*Data consolidated in December 2025.



PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY FUNBIO

PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY FUNBIO IN INDIGENOUS LANDS

BIOMES

AMAZON

ATLANTIC FOREST

CAATINGA

CERRADO

PAMPA

PANTANAL

ECOSYSTEM

COASTAL-MARINE

In Numbers

561
protected areas supported

497
institutions supported

120
project calls

80
ethnic groups supported

>178
MILLION
hectares of protected areas supported

7.2× the size of the state of São Paulo

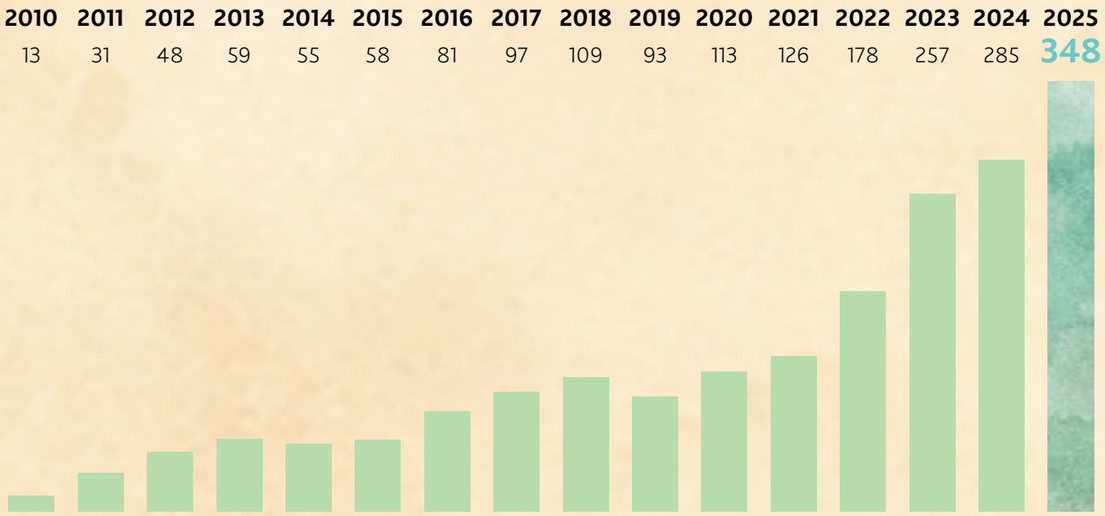
792
projects supported

123
Indigenous lands supported

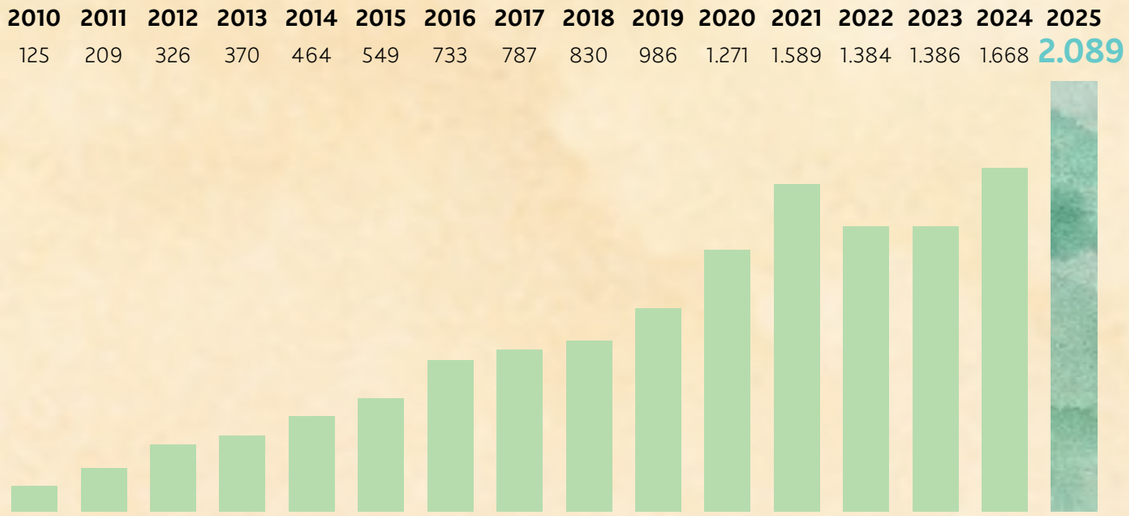
>33
MILLION
hectares of Indigenous lands supported

1.3× the size of the state of São Paulo

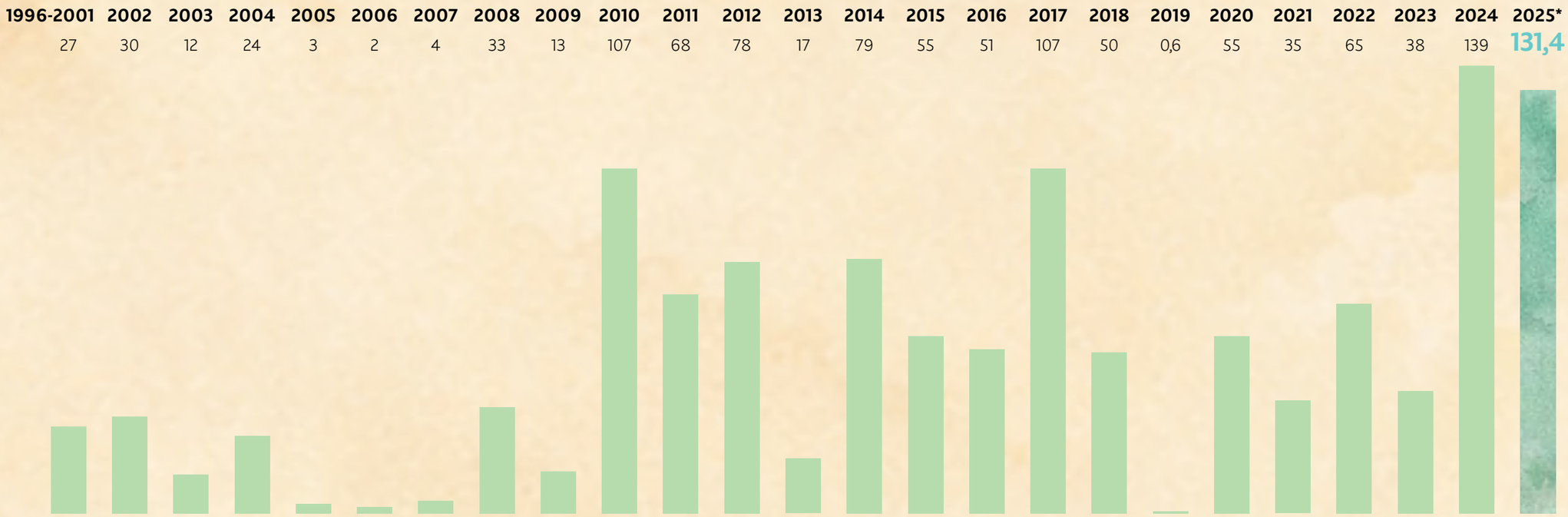
In Numbers



TOTAL EXECUTED — IN R$ MILLLION



TOTAL ASSETS MANAGED — IN R$ BILLION

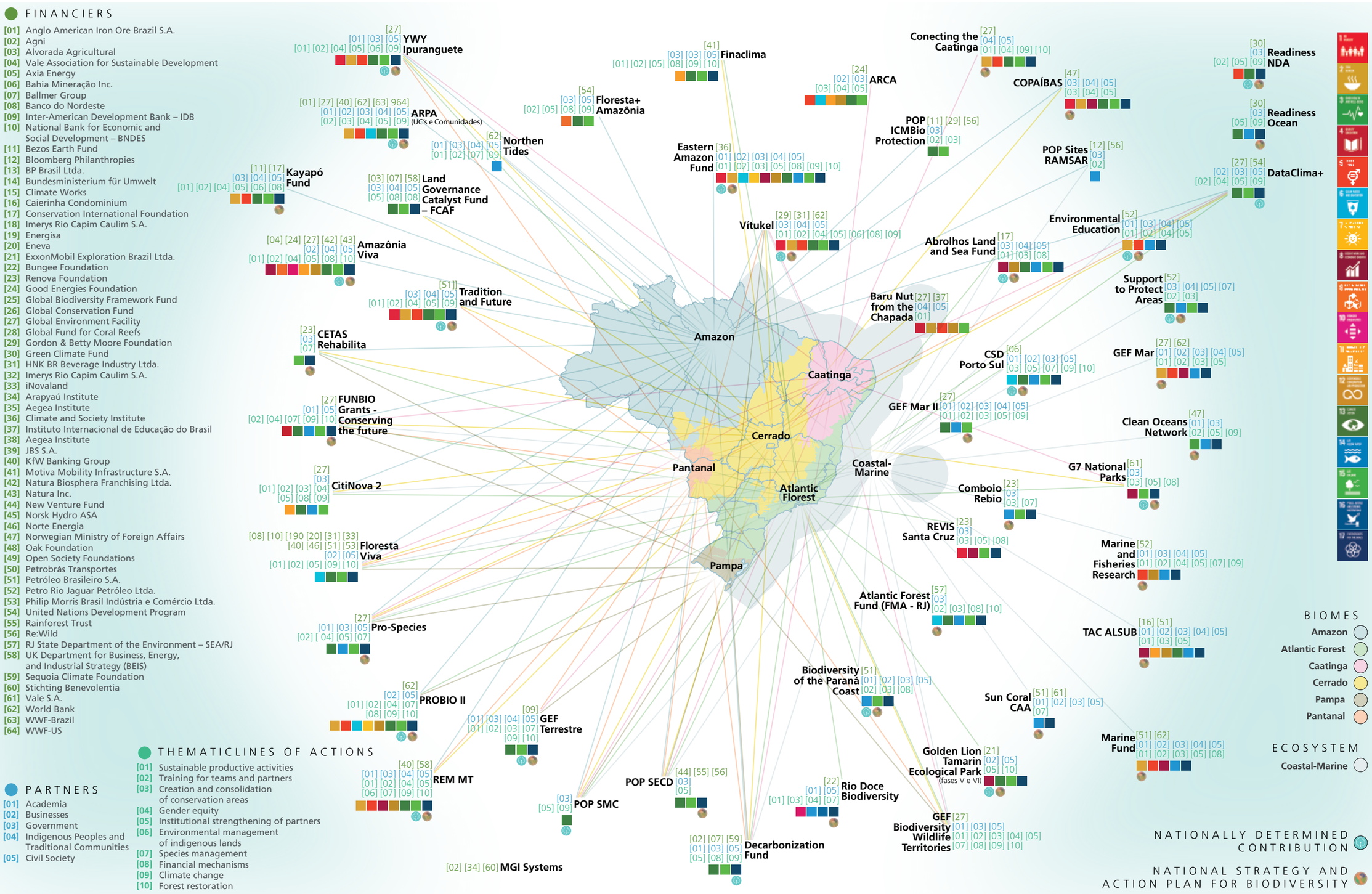


SUM CONTRACTED PER YEAR** — IN USD MILLION

*Cumulative data since the beginning of FUNBIO's operations.

**Project value converted to U.S. dollars (exchange rate on the last day of the contract month). From 2019 onward, values were converted using the exchange rate on the contract signing date.

Our Connections



Thematic Areas

	CLIMATE CHANGE	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF INDIGENOUS LANDS	ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF PROTECTED AREAS	FINANCIAL MECHANISMS	FOREST RESTORATION	GENDER EQUITY	INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS	SPECIES MANAGEMENT	SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES	TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS
ABROLHOS LAND AND SEA FUND			●	●					●	
AMAPÁ FUND				●	●	●	●		●	
AMAZÔNIA VIVA				●	●	●	●		●	●
ARCA	●		●			●	●	●		●
ARPA (PAs AND COMMUNITIES)	●		●							●
ATLANTIC FOREST FUND (FMA-RJ)			●	●	●					●
BARU NUT FROM THE CHAPADA									●	
BIODIVERSITY OF THE PARANÁ COAST			●	●						●
CETAS REHABILITATION								●		
CITINOVA II	●				●	●			●	
CLEAN OCEANS NETWORK	●						●			●
COMBOIOS BIOLOGICAL RESERVE			●					●		
CONNECTING THE CAATINGA	●		●	●		●	●		●	●
COPAÍBAS		●	●	●		●	●		●	●
DATACLIMA+	●					●	●			●
DECARBONIZATION FUND	●			●			●			
EASTERN AMAZON FUND	●		●	●	●		●		●	●
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION						●	●		●	●
FINACLIMA–SP	●			●	●		●		●	●
FLORESTA VIVA	●				●		●		●	●
FLORESTA+ AMAZÔNIA	●			●			●			●
FUNBIO GRANTS	●				●	●		●		●
G7 NATIONAL PARKS			●	●			●			
GEF BIODIVERSITY WILDLIFE TERRITORIES	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
GEF MAR	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●
GEF MAR II	●		●			●	●		●	●
GEF TERRESTRE	●		●	●	●		●	●	●	●
GOLDEN LION TAMARIN ECOLOGICAL PARK (PHASE 6)					●		●	●		
KAYAPÓ FUND		●				●	●		●	●
LAND GOVERNANCE CATALYST FUND				●			●			●
MARINE AND FISHERIES RESEARCH	●					●		●	●	●
MARINE FUND			●	●			●		●	●
MGI SYSTEMS							●			
NORTHERN TIDES	●							●	●	●
POP ICMBio PROTECTION			●							●
POP SECD							●			
POP SÍTIOS RAMSAR										●
POP SMC	●						●			
PRO-SPECIES						●	●	●		●
PROBIO II	●			●	●	●		●	●	●
READINESS NDA	●						●			
READINESS OCEANS	●						●			
REM MT	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
REVIS SANTA CRUZ			●	●			●			
RIO DOCE BIODIVERSITY			●			●	●	●	●	
SCD PORTO SUL	●		●		●		●			●
SUN CORAL CAA								●		
SUPPORT TO PAs			●							●
TAC ALSUB			●				●		●	
TRADITION AND FUTURE	●					●	●		●	●
VÍTUKE	●	●		●		●	●		●	●
YWY IPURANGUETE	●	●				●	●		●	●

Objectives and Contributions

FUNBIO's projects support biodiversity conservation initiatives that contribute to the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to Brazil's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), and to the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP).

In this report, the project pages display icons indicating their connections with the SDGs, Brazil's NDC, and the NBSAP.



Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

To protect the planet, end poverty, and ensure prosperity for all, the United Nations (UN) announced in 2015 the adoption by member countries of 17 SDGs. These Sustainable Development Goals build on the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals (2000) and contribute to reaching those that have not yet been attained. This set of measures will guide Brazil and the other 192 UN member states in national policies and international cooperation activities through 2030.

Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)

Brazil's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) was presented in 2015 as the country's commitment under the Paris Agreement. The commitment was updated in November 2024, when the country pledged to reduce emissions by 59% to 67% by 2035, using 2005 as the baseline year, according to the document *Brazil's NDC*: National Determination to Contribute and Transform, submitted by the federal government to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)

The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) promotes the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Developed by the federal government in collaboration with state governments, the business and academic sectors, and civil society, the strategy also includes the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources as one of its goals. FUNBIO's projects contribute to the NBSAP.

Objectives and Contributions

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
ABROLHOS LAND AND SEA FUND								●				●	●	●	●		●	●	●
AMAPÁ FUND		●						●					●		●		●		●
AMAZÔNIA VIVA								●	●	●	●	●	●		●		●	●	●
ARCA													●	●	●		●	●	●
ARPA (PAs AND COMMUNITIES)		●			●	●							●		●		●	●	●
ATLANTIC FOREST FUND (FMA-RJ)						●								●	●		●		●
BARU NUT FROM THE CHAPADA	●	●			●							●			●		●		●
BIODIVERSITY OF THE PARANÁ COAST														●	●		●	●	●
CETAS REHABILITATION															●		●		●
CITINOVA II											●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●
CLEAN OCEANS NETWORK			●											●			●		●
COMBOIOS BIOLOGICAL RESERVE														●	●		●		●
CONNECTING THE CAATINGA		●			●								●		●		●		●
COPAÍBAS	●	●						●					●		●		●		●
DATACLIMA+													●			●	●	●	●
DECARBONIZATION FUND													●		●		●	●	●
EASTERN AMAZON FUND	●	●				●	●	●				●	●	●	●		●	●	●
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION		●			●									●			●	●	●
FINACLIMA–SP											●		●				●		●
FLORESTA VIVA						●							●		●		●	●	●
FLORESTA+ AMAZÔNIA									●				●				●	●	●
FUNBIO GRANTS				●									●	●	●		●		●
G7 NATIONAL PARKS								●							●		●	●	●
GEF BIODIVERSITY WILDLIFE TERRITORIES													●	●	●		●	●	●
GEF MAR		●			●			●						●			●		●
GEF MAR II		●			●	●							●	●	●		●		●
GEF TERRESTRE													●		●		●	●	●
GOLDEN LION TAMARIN ECOLOGICAL PARK (PHASE 6)								●					●		●		●	●	●
KAYAPÓ FUND		●			●								●		●		●		●
LAND GOVERNANCE CATALYST FUND													●		●		●		●
MARINE AND FISHERIES RESEARCH					●							●		●			●		●
MARINE FUND		●			●			●						●			●		●
MGI SYSTEMS									●		●				●		●		●
NORTHERN TIDES														●			●		●
POP ICMBio PROTECTION													●	●	●		●	●	●
POP SECD													●		●		●		●
POP SÍTIOS RAMSAR														●			●		●
POP SMC													●				●	●	●
PRO-SPECIES													●	●	●		●		●
PROBIO II		●			●	●	●					●	●		●		●	●	●
READINESS NDA					●								●				●	●	●
READINESS OCEANS													●	●			●		●
REM MT		●			●			●				●	●		●		●	●	●
REVIS SANTA CRUZ	●							●						●	●		●		●
RIO DOCE BIODIVERSITY										●				●		●	●		●
SCD PORTO SUL	●	●			●	●							●		●		●	●	●
SUN CORAL CAA														●			●		●
SUPPORT TO PAs													●	●	●		●	●	●
TAC ALSUB								●			●	●	●	●			●		●
TRADITION AND FUTURE	●	●			●								●		●		●	●	●
VÍTUKE	●	●			●								●		●		●	●	●
YWY IPURANGUETE	●	●			●								●		●		●	●	●

In 2025

January

The **G7 National Parks** project is launched with an investment of R$ 150 million to strengthen seven federal protected areas in Minas Gerais, covering a total of 704,000 hectares.

The GEF announces a USD 5.5 million investment in the **Connecting the Caatinga** project, led by the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment and implemented by the GEF FUNBIO Agency. The initiative promotes the creation of ecological corridors connecting protected areas across Brazil's only exclusively national biome.

February

A meeting in Goiás brings together representatives from 12 projects selected under the Biodiversity Corridors call of the BNDES led **Floresta Viva** program, marking the start of the largest Cerrado restoration initiative, with R$ 58 million allocated to the recovery of 2,400 hectares.

March

- Fifteen initiatives aimed at strengthening sociobiodiversity value chains in Pará are selected through the call of the Eastern Amazon Fund (EAF), focused on quilombola organizations.

The **FUNBIO Grants – Conserving the Future** program announces the selection of 32 new fellows under the 2024 call, 11 of whom are part of the partnership with the GEF's Fonseca Leadership Program.

April

FUNBIO is selected to manage **Finaclima–Sp**, the State of São Paulo's financial mechanism that will receive resources from donations and legal obligations to support climate adaptation actions, including restoration, conservation, sustainable landscape use, and bioeconomy initiatives.

The **Ywy Ipuranguete – Biodiversity Conservation in Indigenous Lands** project is launched, an unprecedented initiative to strengthen the management of 15 Indigenous Lands, coordinated by the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples and implemented by the GEF FUNBIO Agency.

May

ExxonMobil renews its support for the **Golden Lion Tamarin Association (AMLD)** for the seventh consecutive year, allocating approximately R$ 1 million to strengthen the Golden Lion Tamarin Ecological Park in Silva Jardim (Rio de Janeiro).



Photo: Luiz Thiago de Jesus

June

- The **Amazônia Viva** blended finance mechanism, a partnership between Natura, VERT, and FUNBIO, completes its second credit cycle with a 100% repayment rate. In total, 15 associations and cooperatives received R$ 13 million to boost their productive activities, and an additional R$ 13.5 million was invested in infrastructure, management, and socioenvironmental actions.

- On World Environment Day, June 5, the Federal Government signs the decree expanding the ARPA program, paving the way for a new initiative focused on directly strengthening the populations living in the 60 sustainable use protected areas supported by the program. **ARPA Communities** will be able to invest directly in the people who inhabit these territories.



Photo: Thales Carmo



Photo: Virginia Dandara



Photo: Yuri Cruvinel



Photo: Rodolfo Cabral



Photo: Rony Eloi/MPI

In 2025



Photo: Luis Nova



Photo: Thomaz Pedro/FUNBIO



Photo: FUNBIO institutional communications



Photo: Helio Hara/FUNBIO

July

A preparatory event for COP30 at the Embassy of Norway, with the participation of the country's Minister for International Development, highlights the results of the **COPAÍBAS** program, funded by Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI).

• In partnership with the Boticário Group Foundation for Nature Protection, FUNBIO launches the publication *Environmental Compensation*: A Guide to Strengthening the National System of Protected Areas, offering guidance for the implementation of resources from environmental compensation.

• The **FUNBIO Grants – Conserving the Future** program, in partnership with the GEF's Fonseca Leadership Program (FLP), receives 626 proposals, the highest number since its launch in 2018.

With support from **GEF Mar**, the Abrolhos Marine National Park (Bahia) inaugurates in Caravelas the permanent exhibition "Open Your Eyes," which presents the history of the protected area created more than 40 years ago.



Photo: Pedro Dantas

August

The **Amazônia Viva** blended finance mechanism, a partnership between FUNBIO, Natura, and Vert, becomes the first in Brazil to access the GEF's Non Grant Instrument line, which approves USD 6.2 million for cooperatives working with products such as copaíba, tucumã, murumuru, and açaí.

In São Luís, the fourth volume of the ***Climate Dialogues*** initiative is launched in partnership with the Maranhão Public Prosecutor's Office. The book brings together articles on topics such as babaçu forests, urban arborization, and permanent preservation areas.

The **FUNBIO Grants – Conserving** the Future program holds an in person meeting in Belo Horizonte, strengthening its series of regional gatherings with fellows and highlighting themes such as urban pollinators and invasive species.



Photo: Helio Hara/FUNBIO



Photo: Virginia Dandara

September

The **Fishing Festival – Sea Projects Fair** brings the ocean to Quinta da Boa Vista (Rio de Janeiro), gathering more than a thousand visitors and showcasing results from the Marine and Fisheries Research, Franciscana Dolphin Conservation, Protected Areas Support, and Environmental Education projects.



Photo: Joaquim Lima



Photo: Joaquim Lima

October

FUNBIO's experience in protected areas, financing, and communication takes center stage at the **2025 RedLAC Congress** in Chile. With nearly 200 participants from Latin America and the Caribbean, the event celebrates the 25th anniversary of the network, which brings together 34 representatives from 20 countries, with FUNBIO as one of its founding members.

• Our new office in Brasília opens its doors to welcome the FUNBIO team. With 600 square meters, it is located in the city's Asa Norte district.

• Two scientists from the **FUNBIO Grants – Conserving the Future** partnership with the GEF's Fonseca Leadership Program bring the Brazilian experience to the global leadership meeting promoted by the GEF in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Bringing together more than 20 exhibitors, **the Fishing Festival – Sea Projects Fair** arrives in **Armação dos Búzios** (Rio de Janeiro) to explore caiçara tradition and culture, science, and gastronomy through the results of initiatives supported with resources from the Frade CAA.



Photo: Joaquim Lima

November

At the **launch of Vituke** ("ours," in the Terena language), initial resources were announced from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), through the German Development Bank (KfW), and from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, in addition to planned support from the World Bank for the instrument.

• The announcement of **ARPA Communities** at COP 30 featured the presence of the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA), Marina Silva, along with donors. With a 15 year plan (2025–2039), the initiative will benefit 130,000 people, with a special focus on the territories of the 60 sustainable use protected areas (PAs) it supports.

FUNBIO takes part in more than 20 events at **COP 30** in Belém. Highlights include the announcement of the **ARPA Communities** initiative, the launch of the new financial mechanism for Indigenous associations and peoples, Vituke, and the release of a ***Climate Dialogues*** publication authored exclusively by women.



Photo: Joao Pedro Aranha and Mariana Almeida

December

• **Finaclima–SP**, the financial mechanism managed by FUNBIO, begins operations with R$ 7.3 million in resources. The proposal is to create a 100 hectare restoration bank to meet legal environmental licensing obligations for infrastructure projects.

Three editions, one single purpose: celebrating the achievements of the projects supported with resources directed from the Frade CAA and managed by FUNBIO over the past five years. The third and final edition of the **Fishing Festival – Sea Projects Fair** took place on November 29 and 30 in **Paraty** (Rio de Janeiro), after bringing together more than two thousand people at Quinta da Boa Vista and in Armação dos Búzios. The event on the Costa Verde closes the cycle of knowledge exchange and promotion of caiçara culture in the state, with actions focused on environmental education, income generation, and improvements to environmental quality.



Photo: Joaquim Lima

FUNBIO

The Brazilian Biodiversity Fund (FUNBIO) is a private, non-profit national financial mechanism.

Over the 29 years it celebrates in 2025, the organization has partnered with government, the private sector, and civil society to channel strategic financial resources into impactful biodiversity conservation initiatives.

Since its establishment in 1996, it has supported more than 570 projects, benefiting over 400 institutions across the country.

FUNBIO has supported project financial management, the design of financial mechanisms, and studies on new funding sources for conservation, as well as the procurement of goods and services.

It has served as the financial manager of the Amazon Region Protected Areas Program (ARPA) since the program's launch in 2002.

ACCESS
THE WEBSITE

How We Work

FUNBIO's project portfolio is organized into two units::

Grants
Unit

Resources derived from private donations and bilateral and multilateral agreements with the Brazilian government

Legal Obligations
Unit

Resources originating from legal obligations, including environmental compensation, mitigation measures, fine conversions, environmental licensing requirements, and Terms of Commitment and Conduct Adjustment Agreements (CAAs)

List of Funding Sources **2025**

AGNI

AGRÍCOLA ALVORADA S.A.

ANGLO AMERICAN MINÉRIO DE FERRO BRASIL S.A.

VALE ASSOCIATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ASSOCIAÇÃO VALE PARA O DESENVOLVIMENTO SUSTENTÁVEL)

AXIA ENERGIA (FORMERLY ELETROBRAS – CENTRAIS ELÉTRICAS BRASILEIRAS S.A.)

BAHIA MINERAÇÃO S.A.

BALLMER GROUP

BANCO DO NORDESTE DO BRASIL S.A.

INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK – IDB

BRAZILIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK – BNDES

BEZOS EARTH FUND

BLOOMBERG PHILANTHROPIES

BP BRASIL LTDA.

GERMAN FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (BUNDESMINISTERIUM FÜR UMWELT – BMU)

CLIMATEWORKS

CONDOMÍNIO CAIEIRINHA

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

ENERGISA S.A.

ENEVA S.A.

EXXONMOBIL EXPLORAÇÃO BRASIL LTDA.

BUNGE FOUNDATION (FUNDAÇÃO BUNGE)

RENOVA FOUNDATION (FUNDAÇÃO RENOVA)

GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK FUND

GLOBAL CONSERVATION FUND

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY – GEF

GLOBAL FUND FOR CORAL REEFS

GORDON & BETTY MOORE FOUNDATION

GREEN CLIMATE FUND – GCF

HNK BR INDÚSTRIA DE BEBIDAS LTDA.

IMERYS RIO CAPIM CAULIM S.A.

INOVALAND INVESTMENT LIMITED

INSTITUTO ARAPYAÚ DE EDUCAÇÃO E DESENVOLVIMENTO SUSTENTÁVEL

INSTITUTO AEGEA

INSTITUTO CLIMA E SOCIEDADE

JBS S.A.

KFW BANKENGRUPPE

MOTIVA INFRAESTRUTURA DE MOBILIDADE S.A.

NATURA BIOSPHERA FRANQUEADORA LTDA.

NATURA COSMÉTICOS S.A.

NEW VENTURE FUND

NORSK HYDRO ASA

NORTE ENERGIA S.A.

NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

OAK FOUNDATION

O BOTICÁRIO FRANCHISING LTDA.

OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS

PETROBRAS TRANSPORTE S.A.

PETRÓLEO BRASILEIRO S.A. – PETROBRAS

PETRO RIO JAGUAR PETRÓLEO LTDA.

PHILIP MORRIS BRASIL INDÚSTRIA E COMÉRCIO LTDA.

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME – UNDP

RAINFOREST TRUST

RE:WILD

RIO DE JANEIRO STATE SECRETARIAT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT – SEA/RJ

UK DEPARTMENT FOR BUSINESS, ENERGY & INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY – BEIS

SEQUOIA CLIMATE FOUNDATION

STICHTING BENEVOLENTIA

THE WILLIAM AND FLORA HEWLETT FOUNDATION

EUROPEAN UNION – EU

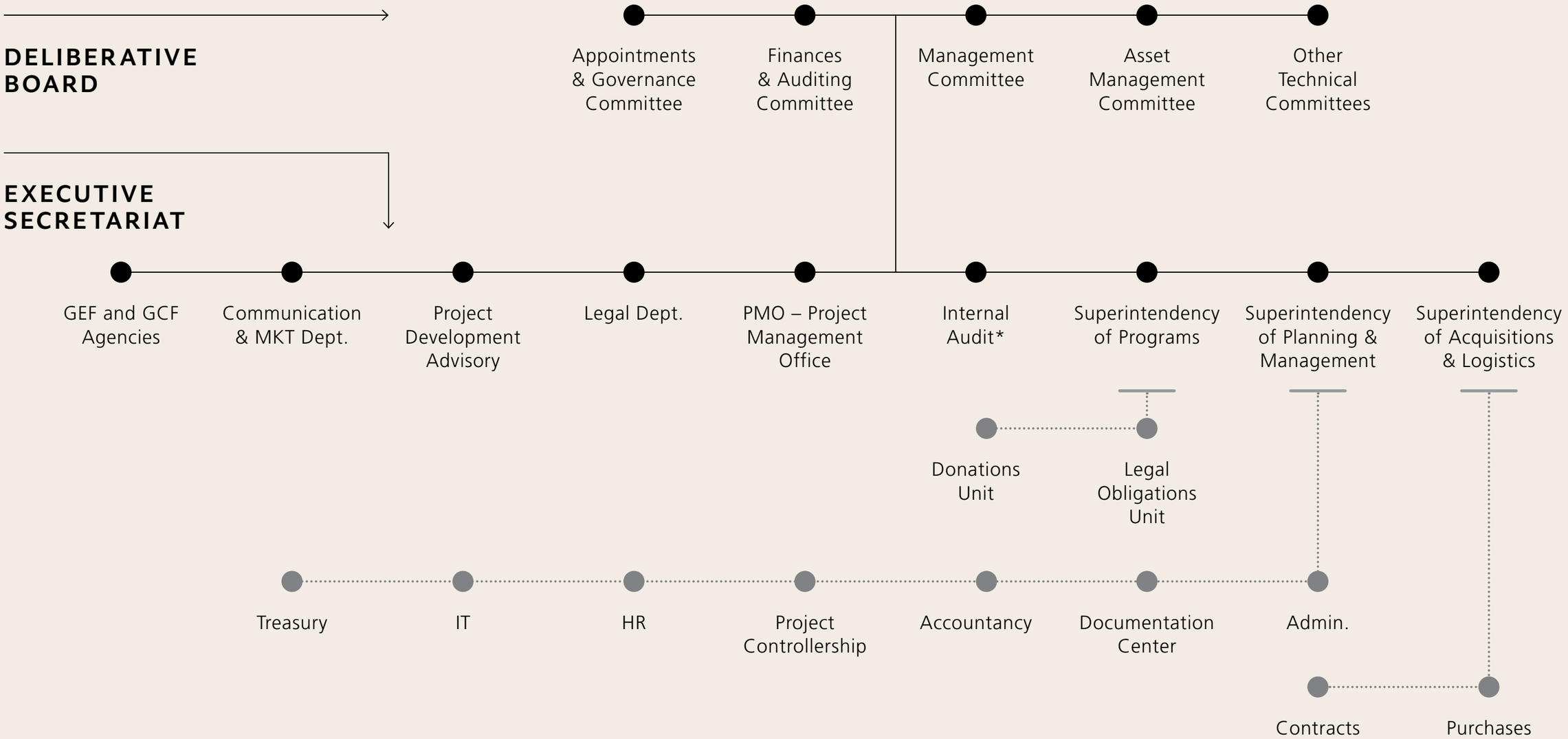
VALE S.A.

WORLD BANK

WWF-BRAZIL

WWF-US

Organizational Flow Chart



* Responds functionally to the Deliberative Board
Department composition

Governance



The Board includes **16 members from the academic, environmental, corporate, and governmental sectors**. It is responsible for guiding FUNBIO's strategies.



Chairman
ÁLVARO DE SOUZA

Vice-Chairman
MARIANNE VON LACHMANN



Academic Sector

ANA MARIA DE OLIVEIRA NUSDEO
University of São Paulo – School of Law

EDUARDO SECCHI
Federal University from Rio Grande (FURG)

OSCAR GRAÇA COUTO
Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio)

VÂNIA PIVELLO
University of São Paulo (USP)



Environmental Sector

MARIA DE LOURDES SILVA NUNES
Fundação Grupo Boticário

ANE AUXILIADORA COSTA ALENCAR
Instituto de Pesquisa Ambiental da Amazônia – IPAM

SINEIA WAPICHANA
Conselho Indígena de Roraima

VALMIR ORTEGA
Conexsus



Corporate Sector

ÁLVARO CARDOSO DE SOUZA
ADS – Gestão, Consultoria e Investimentos Ltda.

FLAVIO RIBEIRO DE CASTRO
FSB Comunicação

JOSÉ FLAVIO RAMOS
BR Partners

MARIANNE VON LACHMANN
Lachmann Investimentos Ltda.



Governamental Sector

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATIONS AND COMMUNICATION
Andrea Brito Latgé – Secretary of Strategic Policies and Programs

MINISTRY OF FINANCE
Matias Rebello — General Coordinator for Social and Environmental Impact Analysis, Secretariat for Economic Policy

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT
Rita Mesquita — National Secretary for Biodiversity, Forests, and Animal Rights

CHICO MENDES INSTITUTE FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION (ICMBio)
Mauro Pires – President

Transparency



The financial statements as of December 31, 2025, together with the independent auditors' report and explanatory notes, are available at the link below.

External
Audit



Since its first year of operation, FUNBIO has been audited by independent external firms. All financial statements, each issued with a clean opinion, along with the corresponding independent auditors' reports and explanatory notes, are publicly available on FUNBIO's website..

Since 2013, FUNBIO has maintained an internal audit function dedicated to assessing controls and the integrity of accounting and financial data. Operating across all levels of the organization, it fosters effective collaboration among teams, supports continuous process improvements, and promotes the adoption of best practices. It also serves as a key reference for strengthening and engaging with robust organizational governance standards. The financial statements, together with the independent auditors' report and explanatory notes, are available on FUNBIO's website.



Internal
Audit

ACCESS
ALL AUDITS

Ethics Committee

Throughout 2025, the Ethics Committee met regularly and undertook the following activities:

Training on violence, harassment, equality, and diversity in the workplace, conducted by Gabriela Augusto, in partnership with the Human Resources Unit and CIPA+A, with the participation of 149 staff members, including apprentices, interns, and outsourced personnel from the Rio de Janeiro and Brasília offices

Launch, in July 2025, of the new Ethics course on FUNBIO University, featuring video lessons and updated information

Rafaela Giongo assumes the coordination of the Ethics Committee, replacing Manuela Muanis

Organization of in person ethics trainings for employees, apprentices, and interns, with sessions held in September and October, including the presentation of conflict of interest case studies for analysis and clarification of questions

Marilene Viero begins her first term on the Ethics Committee in November

Assessment of 28 submissions, including inquiries and grievances

Composition of the Ethics Committee in 2025

ANDREA GOEB
first term from September 2023 to September 2025

MANUELA MUANIS
second term from November 2023 to November 2025; term as coordinator from September 2024 to September 2025

RAFAELA GIONGO
second term from March 2024 to March 2026; term as coordinator from September 2025 to March 2026

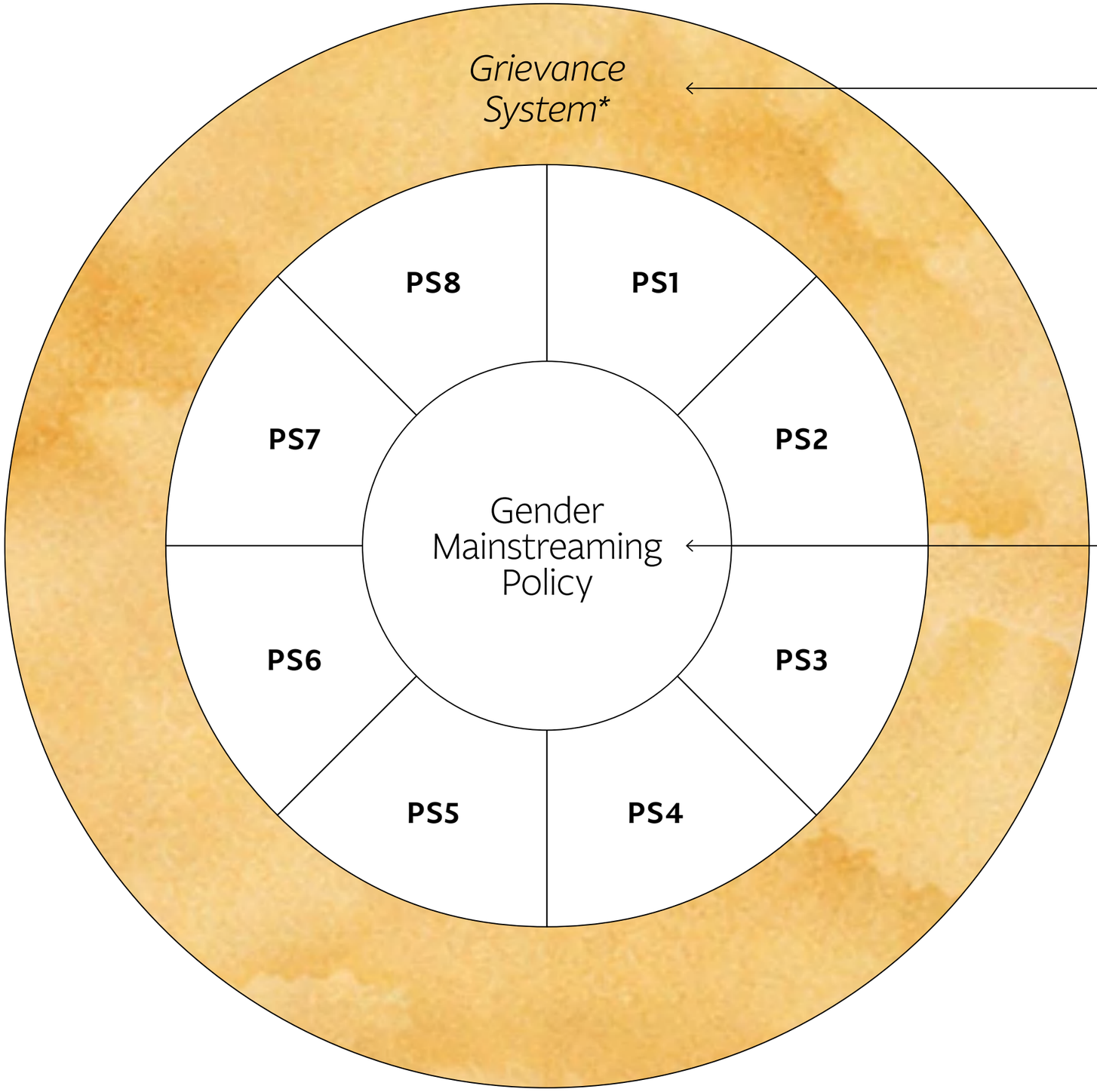
FERNANDA MARQUES
first term from October 2024 to October 2026

MARILENE VIERO
first term from November 2025 to November 2027

ACCESS THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

Safeguard Policies

Since 2018, FUNBIO has adopted the safeguard policies of the International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group.



***Grievance System:** A mechanism for receiving and managing grievances, ensuring oversight and accountability for environmental and social safeguards.

PS1 — Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

PS2 — Labor and Working Conditions

PS3 — Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention

PS4 — Community Health, Safety, and Security

PS5 — Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement

PS6 — Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

PS7 — Indigenous Peoples

PS8 — Cultural Heritage

ACCESS THE SAFEGUARD POLICIES

FUNBIO National Agencies

FUNBIO is the only civil society organization in the Southern Hemisphere accredited as a national implementing agency for both the **Global Environment Facility** (GEF) and the **Green Climate Fund** (GCF).

gef global environment facility INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

In 1992, at the Rio 92 **Conference, the Global Environment Facility** (GEF) was established to help address some of the most significant pressures on the environment. Since then, the GEF has allocated USD 21.1 billion to more than five thousand conservation projects in 170 countries. Today, there are 18 GEF implementing agencies worldwide, contributing to the expansion and diversification of its portfolio. In 2015, following a rigorous evaluation, FUNBIO was accredited as a national GEF agency. Beginning in 2018, the first projects of the GEF FUNBIO Agency were launched.

GREEN CLIMATE FUND

The **Green Climate Fund** (GCF) was established in 2010 to support projects aimed at addressing climate change. Since then, it has supported more than 100 projects, totaling over USD 2 billion. In 2018, FUNBIO was accredited as a national implementing agency of the GCF. FUNBIO, Caixa Econômica Federal, and BNDES are the first Brazilian institutions accredited as GCF implementing agencies in the country.

ACCESS GEF AGENCY

ACCESS GCF AGENCY

IMPACT IN ACTION: 30 YEARS OF HISTORY

30 Years Connecting Conservation, People, and Territories

For **30 years**, **FUNBIO** has been transforming resources into concrete actions that bring together biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.

Throughout this journey, it has built a portfolio of **792 projects** and **supported 497 institutions**, driving initiatives that strengthen forest based economies, expand the production and circulation of knowledge, consolidate biodiversity protection strategies, recognize and value Indigenous peoples and their traditional knowledge, and contribute to ecosystem restoration—all in alignment with global commitments to address climate change.

792
projects

497
supported institutions

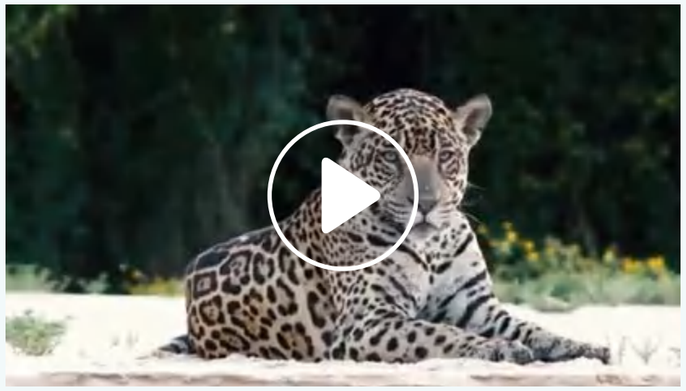
Watch the video series and explore the **results** of our work across **five key areas**:



KNOWLEDGE: FUNBIO Grants and support for 251 young scientists from 58 institutions across the country, in partnership with the GEF.



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES: Nearly 100 initiatives involving more than 80 ethnic groups, in territories totaling over 33 million hectares — an area equivalent to that of Italy.



ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION: More than R$ 300 million invested in the recovery of degraded areas.



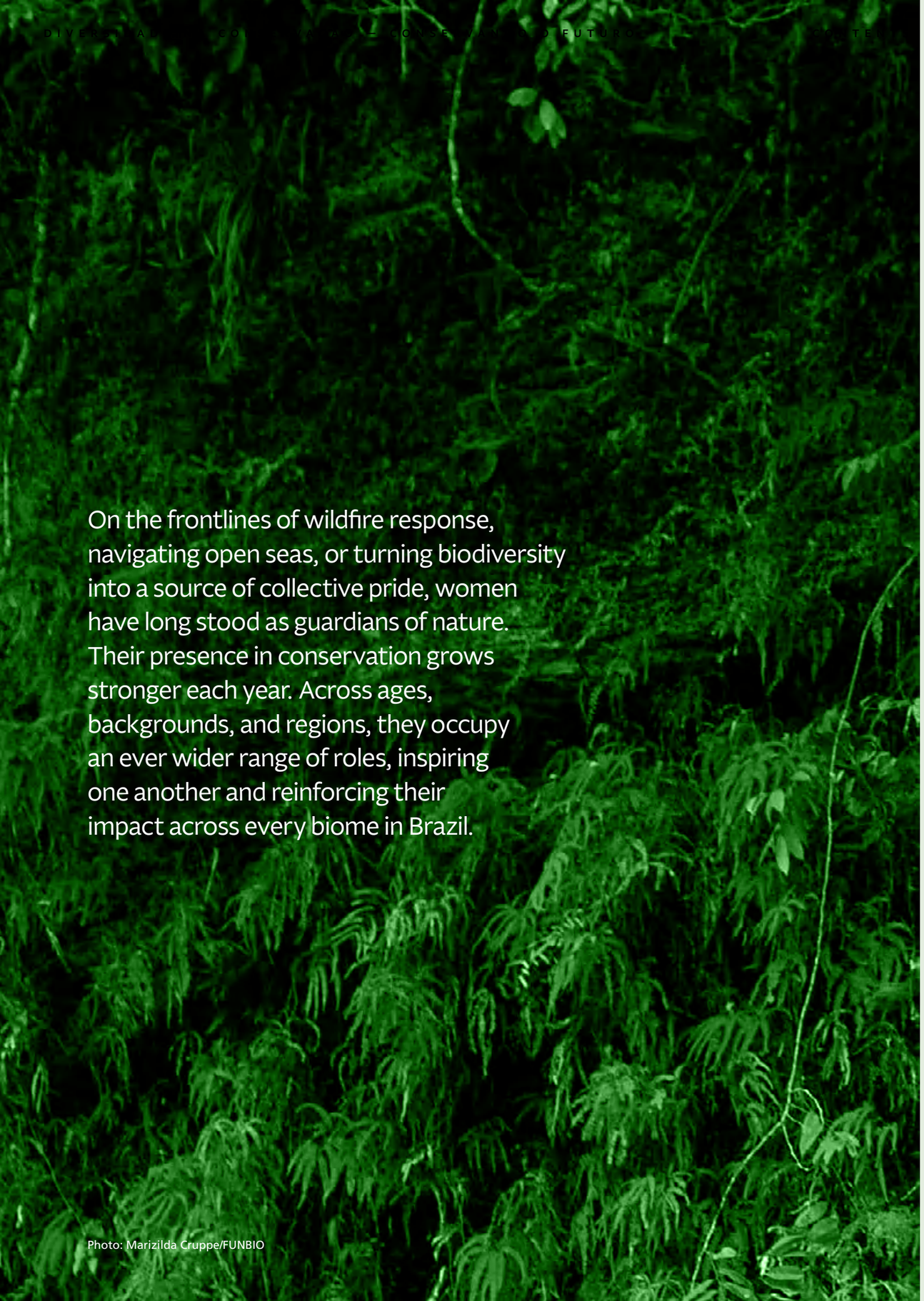
SOCIOBIOECONOMY: Traditional knowledge, science, and financial resources working in favor of a forest based economy.



PROTECTED AREAS: Programs contribute to the creation, consolidation, and management of nearly 180 million hectares of protected areas across the country.

Diversity in Conservation

Photo: Marizilda Cruppe/FUNBIO



On the frontlines of wildfire response, navigating open seas, or turning biodiversity into a source of collective pride, women have long stood as guardians of nature. Their presence in conservation grows stronger each year. Across ages, backgrounds, and regions, they occupy an ever wider range of roles, inspiring one another and reinforcing their impact across every biome in Brazil.

Photo: Marizilda Cruppe/FUNBIO

EDINALDA PEREIRA DO NASCIMENTO

The Strength of Pantanal Women on the Frontlines of Fire

When large scale fires swept through the Pantanal in recent years, EDINALDA PEREIRA DO NASCIMENTO, 35, witnessed firsthand the devastation and the vulnerability of traditional communities facing advancing flames. **"Many communities are isolated, and by the time help arrives, the damage can be immense,"** she says. She saw the impact up close in Acurizal, the traditional community in Mato Grosso where she was born and raised.

"We went through a terrifying experience, with fires on a scale we had never seen. We lost crops, watched wildlife perish, and didn't know how to defend our territories or our animals," she recalls of the fires that struck the region in 2020 and 2024. From that trauma emerged a call to action and to preparation.

That is how the idea of offering community fire brigade training courses took shape. The initiative was carried out by Instituto Gaia in 2025, supported by the project Conservation, Restoration and Management Strategies for Biodiversity in the Caatinga, Pampa and Pantanal (GEF Terrestre).

"During the courses, we realized the need to formalize an all women brigade, because most community leaders are women. They are the ones who go out to fish, who tend the crops, who face the challenges of daily life. So why shouldn't we have a women's brigade ready to act immediately within our territories?" says Edinalda, a community leader and now head of the women's community fire brigade.

The training equipped Pantanal women not only to fight fires, but, above all, to prevent the kind of devastating events seen in recent years. A central pillar of the work is planning for Integrated Fire Management (IFM) and ensuring the safety of the brigade members.

"Before, we would try to put out fires in flip flops, running in desperation with whatever we had in our hands. Today, we know how to read the wind, the weather, and the fire's behavior, whether it's too large to approach, and how to create firebreaks and defense lines. These were things we simply didn't know. Now, with training, we understand what can and cannot be done, the right actions for prevention and response, and how to protect our lives," she says.

The resources also made it possible to structure, train, formalize, and equip the women's brigade, including uniforms and gear, whose work will be divided into two squads around the Taiamã Ecological Station (Mato Grosso): one in Alto Paraguai, in the municipality of Cáceres, and another in Barão de Melgaço, where the community of Acurizal is located.

"We understand that the women's brigade only reinforces what has long been the role of women in the Pantanal, guardians of their territory and its biodiversity," Edinalda concludes.



Photo: Personal collection

MARINA ANGELI

The Mermaids of the Abrolhos Archipelago

Born in the Serra Gaúcha, far from the sea, biologist MARINA ANGELI (aka Nina) found her true home in the middle of the ocean, specifically in the Abrolhos Marine National Park on the coast of Bahia, one of the protected areas supported by the Marine and Coastal Protected Areas project (GEF Mar). Now 35, she began her career studying southern right whales in Santa Catarina and Uruguay. Following her passion for these giants, she arrived in Caravelas in 2015—the gateway to the archipelago—to monitor humpback whales during their breeding season.

What was meant to be a five month assignment became ten years, and a life devoted—directly or indirectly—to the archipelago. **"I have a love affair with Abrolhos,"** she says.

"When the whale season ended and my temporary contract came to a close, I joined the park's volunteer program and spent four months in the Abrolhos archipelago, the heart of the protected area," the marine biologist recalls.

That volunteer experience marked the true beginning of her bond with Abrolhos, a connection that endured even after Nina became a full time researcher with the Humpback Whale project or later founded an audiovisual production company dedicated to science communication and environmental awareness.

But it didn't take long for the archipelago to return to the center of her life. In 2023, she became an environmental ranger at the park. The team includes five rangers who rotate shifts, four of them women. In total, thirteen women work at the park, including its manager, Josângela Jesus.

Women pilot boats, lead monitoring efforts, enforce regulations, and coordinate teams. **"Female representation is very strong in the park, especially in the archipelago, where most visitation activities and biodiversity monitoring take place. This presence matters, especially in marine work, which is still often seen as a man's job, that old idea of the sailors. And here we are, showing that the sea is full of mermaids,"** Nina says.

Her work ranges from public use management, e.g. assisting vessels, organizing the area, and overseeing tourism and research activities, to enforcement and monitoring of Abrolhos' rich biodiversity. To do this, the ranger team works in 15 day rotations on the archipelago. Their activities are supported by GEF Mar, a program managed by FUNBIO that strengthens the protection and management of Brazil's marine and coastal environments.

"It's a second home. You build a unique relationship with the place, sleeping and waking up there, having more time to observe, to feel, to connect, to listen to what Abrolhos is telling you," Nina says.



Photo: Personal collection

MERCEDES FERRO BRAGA

Crochet Threads That Transformed a Community

The Protecting Our Planet Challenge (POP) Ramsar Sites project, completed in 2025, left a lasting legacy by strengthening community organization while promoting the protection and appreciation of Amazonian mangroves. In the hands of MERCEDES FERRO BRAGA, 70, this legacy took on color and form through crochet threads that became manatees, crabs, seahorses, and mangrove trees. A respected matriarch, she is one of the leaders of Ilha do Gato, in the Baía do Tubarão Marine Extractive Reserve (RESEX) in Maranhão, a community supported by the Manatee Monitoring Fishers project (PEMOPE), funded through POP Ramsar Sites.

At the heart of the RESEX initiative is voluntary manatee monitoring, data collection through citizen science, and deep community engagement. This engagement unfolds through activities such as painting vibrant murals on the homes of monitors, supporting the Manatee Festival, offering training sessions, and fostering alternative income generation opportunities. From this last component emerged the idea of offering a course for local women to learn how to create *amigurumi* (crochet or knitted stuffed figures).

"The training was excelente, an investment that allowed us, the women of the community, to learn the *amigurumi* technique as a source of income. It changed our reality. Today, we even receive orders from outside the state," says Mercedes, who coordinates the women's collective known as the *Crocheteiras*.

The success of the *amigurumi* pieces has drawn the attention of the entire community, and more and more fishers and shellfish gatherers are eager to join the initiative.

Formed in August 2025, the group already brings together 17 women of all ages living in the RESEX—from 75 year old retirees to the teenage daughters of other crocheters, some as young as 15. One of the eldest members, Mercedes explains that their gatherings have become moments of shared learning and intergenerational exchange. **"We are generating income and strengthening our relationships,"** she says.

"Every meeting, I make coffee and we open a space for conversation. Our group is very united. And now we're bringing their daughters to learn as well—girls of 15, 17, 18 who are already joining the circle of *crocheteiras*," explains the coordinator. More than generating income, the collective has helped rebuild the women's confidence. **"Most of them have gone back to school, many married very young, and two older women who hardly left their homes are now deeply engaged in the group," she says.**

For Mercedes, the group has become a true network of women. **"We are fishermen's wives, we are shellfish gatherers, we are fishers ourselves. We make rays, octopuses, manatees, crabs, shrimp, mussels… And the children get curious and want to learn too. When the mangrove is preserved, our lives improve, there's more fish, more crab, more life,"** she emphasizes. **"We are grateful to FUNBIO and to the POP Ramsar Sites project for believing in us, in the women, and in our community,"** she concludes.



Photo: Personal collection

FUNBIO Grants – Conserving the Future

FUNBIO GRANTS
CONSERVING
THE FUTURE

gef global environment facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

BRAZILIAN
BIODIVERSITY FUND
FUNBIO

Photo: Beatriz Tristão

FUNBIO Grants – Conserving the Future

Financing young Brazilian scientists to conduct fieldwork and carry out high quality research is at the heart of the **FUNBIO Grants – Conserving the Future** program.

Created in 2018, the initiative reached a historic milestone in 2025, with more than R$ 1.3 million invested to support the selected master's and doctoral projects across all of Brazil's biomes. This achievement was made possible through a partnership with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), via the Fonseca Leadership Program. The increased investment reflects the record number of applications received that year, 629 in total.

The 2025 call selected 35 research projects from scientists across 17 Brazilian states.

Since 2018, the program has supported more than 250 scientists—194 PhD candidates and 57 Master's students—from over 50 academic institutions.

251
grantees

139
women

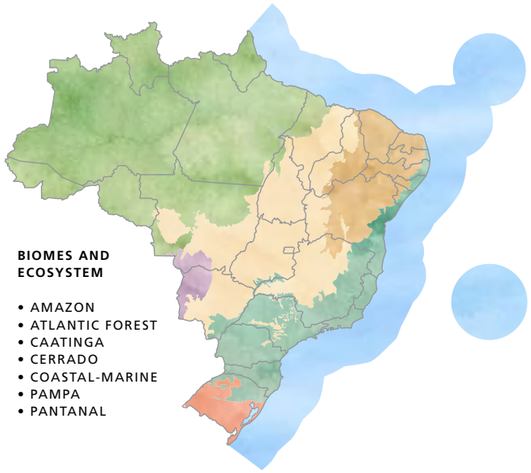
112
men

194
PhD candidates

57
Master's students

58
institutions

27
States + Federal District



"We were very pleased with the quality of the proposals submitted by these young scientists. The record number of applications shows the program's consolidation as an effective mechanism for fostering applied field research in Brazil. These studies generate knowledge and can support decision making and future public policies"

highlights Rosa Lemos de Sá, FUNBIO's Secretary General and creator of the program

The network of researchers formed through the program has continued to strengthen through meetings promoted by FUNBIO since 2024, which this year reached their 4th and 5th editions in new locations. In August, nine grantees met in Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais. In October, the meeting took place in Manaus, Amazonas, with the participation of six researchers.

These events offer opportunities for grantees to share their research, exchange experiences, learn from one another, and build lasting networks of collaboration and support.

The FUNBIO Grants agenda also extended beyond national borders. In October, two researchers supported through the Fonseca Leadership Program had the opportunity to attend the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress, held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Marine biologist Juliana Fonseca, from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), and biologist Daniel Felipe Silva, from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte (UFRN), were part of a group of 17 fellows from different countries supported by the GEF. They had the opportunity to present their research on a global stage, among professionals from around the world, and also received intensive leadership training.

SDG

PARTNERS
ACADEMIA
CIVIL SOCIETY

THEMATIC AREAS
CLIMATE CHANGE
FOREST RESTORATION
GENDER EQUITY
CLIMATE CHANGE
TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

FUNDER
Agência GEF

END YEAR
2027

> “This is the first time we have been able to bring together students from the leadership program from all regions of the world, including two from Brazil, from the program carried out in partnership with FUNBIO. And it is an incredible opportunity. We see in this younger generation a great hope for the future of conservation”
>
> says ADRIANA MOREIRA, head of the Partnerships Division at the GEF



Meeting promotes knowledge exchange among young researchers. Photo: Larissa Noguchi

The program honors biologist Gustavo Fonseca, who led GEF’s program direction for many years and passed away prematurely in 2022, leaving a significant legacy in conservation.

The partnership with the GEF also enabled a science communication workshop aimed at training grantees in communication skills and introducing them to narrative and technical tools to help them bring their research to increasingly broader audiences.

The training was structured into three virtual workshops held from September to December and involved 20 grantees, 13 of them from the Fonseca Leadership Program.

The FUNBIO Grants program funds projects across four thematic lines: conservation, management, and sustainable use of fauna and flora; restoration of landscapes and degraded areas; territorial management for biodiversity protection; and climate change and biodiversity conservation.

> “The purpose of this workshop is to teach tools related to narrative techniques so that researchers can not only inform people, but also captivate them with their work. Telling a good story allows us to reach a much wider audience”
>
> says SARAH AZOUBEL, a biologist specialized in science communication who led the workshop

Photo: Virginia Dandara



Young Leaders in Science and Conservation

DANIEL FELIPE SILVA

Young Researcher from Rio Grande do Norte Turns His Passion for the Caatinga into Climate Science

Meteorologist DANIEL FELIPE SILVA, who lives in Natal, Rio Grande do Norte, first discovered and fell in love with the Caatinga during his undergraduate studies. Through a scientific initiation project, he had direct contact with the biome and reconnected with his roots in the small town of João Câmara. **“It was during field trips that I realized how beautiful and understudied this biome is, in addition to being the ecosystem I come from, in the countryside of the state,”** Daniel says.

This experience shaped his academic and professional path, leading him to deepen his work on the biome’s ecosystem processes. **“Since then, I’ve continued working with the Caatinga,”** he summarizes.

Now a PhD candidate at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte (UFRN), the researcher seeks to deepen the understanding of the Caatinga’s role in carbon sequestration and in mitigating the climate crisis.

“I realized there was a real scientific gap, and that the work we continuously carry out can make a concrete contribution to the conservation of the Caatinga and to understanding its role in the carbon cycle,” he explains.

He will analyze the dynamics of CO2 exchanges with the atmosphere and the environmental factors that influence this carbon balance. The measurements will be taken using a flux tower installed in the Açu National Forest, in the municipality of Açu (Rio Grande do Norte).

Daniel was selected in 2024 by the FUNBIO Grants Program – Conserving the Future, through the Fonseca Leadership Program of the Global Environment Facility (GEF). In October 2025, he was one of two Brazilian grantees chosen to participate in the IUCN World Conservation Congress, the largest gathering of conservation professionals in the world, held in Abu Dhabi, in the United Arab Emirates.

“It was a chance to present the Caatinga to the world, a biome that is so important and so neglected, and that exists only in Brazil,” says the young conservation leader.



Photo: Personal collection

JULIANA FONSECA

Brazilian Researcher Brings Ocean Studies to the Global Stage

Some stories seem destined to unfold. Carrying the surname FONSECA, inherited from her father, JULIANA was reflecting on the direction of her life and career when she received the news that she had been selected by the FUNBIO Grants Program – Conserving the Future, through the Fonseca Leadership Program, an initiative of the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The support for young scientists propelled her research and led her to unexpected stages, including the World Conservation Congress.

Selected in the 2024 edition, the PhD candidate at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) investigates the effectiveness of Brazil's marine protected areas. To do so, she uses reef fish as indicators, species essential to the balance of reefs, marine life, and the food security of many communities. Her research will conduct a temporal comparison of these fish populations to understand what has happened to them across ten protected areas, analyzing both sustainable-use protected areas, which allow activities such as fishing, and fully protected areas, which impose stricter restrictions.

Among the areas analyzed are Fernando de Noronha, Abrolhos, Atol das Rocas, Costa dos Corais, Arraial do Cabo, and the Alcatrazes Archipelago. **"Most of these protected areas are located in regions that depend directly on the marine environment. So measuring how effective marine protected areas are in safeguarding reef fish is essential for understanding how to maintain the subsistence of these local populations,"** she says.

Resources from the FUNBIO Grant will be essential for carrying out fieldwork, including purchasing travel tickets, renting boats, and acquiring the necessary equipment.

The research also seeks to assess the status of key species, such as groupers and parrotfish—the latter already locally extinct in some regions and still under strong fishing pressure in others. **"My project will indicate how effective these areas are in protecting these groups,"** she explains.

Her research on Brazilian coral reefs, still underway, gained global visibility during her participation in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Congress, held in October in the United Arab Emirates. She was featured on a panel organized by the GEF in honor of Gustavo Fonseca, a biologist who led numerous environmental conservation programs and lends his name to the Fellowship.

"It was an incredible opportunity, and also a moment in which we were able to learn more about the story of Gustavo Fonseca, who gives his name to the program I am part of, to understand his importance for nature conservation, and to carry a bit of the legacy he left for us," she says.



Photo: Personal collection

ISABELA PRADO

The Invisible Clues in the Fight Against the Trafficking of Lear's Macaws

Even after decades of conservation efforts, the Lear's macaw still faces a persistent threat: illegal trafficking. Researcher ISABELA PRADO, selected in the 2025 edition of the FUNBIO Grants Program – Conserving the Future through the Fonseca Leadership Program of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), uses chemical traces left on the birds' bodies to reveal the origin of individuals targeted by this environmental crime and, through scientific analysis, generate data to strengthen conservation strategies.

Endemic to the Caatinga in northern Bahia, the Lear's macaw was once on the brink of extinction, but thanks to conservation actions, such as habitat protection and reintroduction programs in recent decades, the species has recovered. Still, it remains at risk of extinction, with trafficking standing out among the threats.

In this context, Isabela's research seeks to use chemical information present in tissues such as feathers, blood, and claws to uncover the origin and recent environmental history of each individual.

"Everything an animal consumes and the environment it lives in leave natural records on its body," explains the PhD candidate at the State University of Santa Cruz (UESC), in southern Bahia. These markers, known to scientists as isotopic signatures, make it possible to identify the environmental characteristics of each region, which produce distinct combinations that act as natural records of where the birds lived or fed.

"When a bird is rescued, there is often no reliable information about its origin or how long it remained in a given environment," Isabela explains. **"We can use this information to reconstruct part of the trajectory of birds seized from trafficking,"** she adds. This opens the door to more informed decisions on management actions, such as reintroduction, and even on enforcement.

Isabela will conduct fieldwork in the two protected areas where the species occurs: the Raso da Catarina Ecological Station and the Boqueirão da Onça National Park to collect biological samples from free living macaws. The study will also monitor individuals that have undergone environmental changes in controlled situations, such as reintroduction processes; analyze samples from birds seized from trafficking; and examine the isotopic signatures of animals kept under human care in Brazil and abroad. This collection effort will allow comparisons across different environmental contexts, forming the basis for a reference database to support future conservation actions for the Lear's macaw.

The findings, she notes, have the potential to guide strategies to combat trafficking and inform more effective conservation planning. By transforming invisible signals into concrete information, the research opens new possibilities for protecting the Lear's macaw and demonstrates how science can be a decisive ally in conserving Brazil's biodiversity.



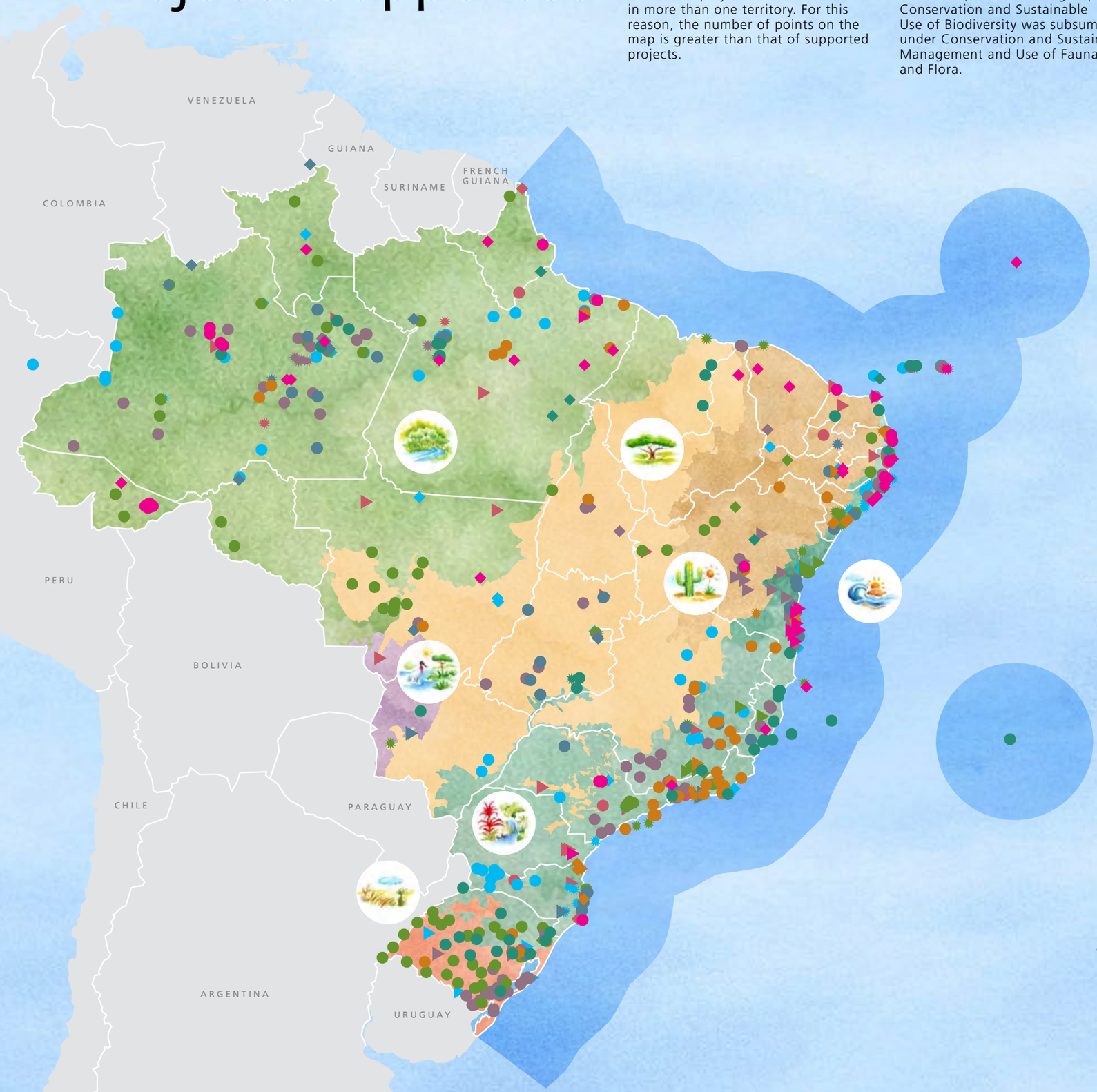
Photo: Personal collection

Projects Supported*

*There are projects with field activities in more than one territory. For this reason, the number of points on the map is greater than that of supported projects.

**In 2019, the thematic group Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity was subsumed under Conservation and Sustainable Management and Use of Fauna and Flora.

***In 2023, there was no research selected in this thematic group.



	135	23	54	25
	CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF FAUNA AND FLORA**	TERRITORIAL MANAGEMENT FOR BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION	CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION	RESTORATION OF DEGRADED LANDSCAPES AND AREAS***
2025	●	✸	◆	▶
2024	●	✸	◆	▶
2023	●	✸	◆	▶
2022	●	✸	◆	▶
2021	●	✸	◆	▶
2020	●	✸	◆	▶
2019**	●	✸	◆	▶
2018	●	✸	◆	▶

BIOMES

AMAZON

ATLANTIC FOREST

CAATINGA

CERRADO

PAMPA

PANTANAL

ECOSYSTEM

COASTAL-MARINE

FUNBIO at COP30

A Historic COP: Multilateralism and Action in the Amazon

The announcement was made in 2022, at a Climate COP held on the Sinai Peninsula, between sea and desert: in 2025, Brazil would host the event for the first time. In November 2025, under Belém's blue sky, that announcement became reality as COP30 opened its doors to an unprecedented edition in the Amazon, a biome central to global climate stability. From the 10th to the 21st, the conference, which brings together the signatory nations of the Climate Convention along with representatives from civil society and the private sector, welcomed more than 40,000 accredited participants from nearly 200 countries. It also recorded the largest Indigenous presence ever seen at a Climate COP.

It was in this setting that FUNBIO took part in more than a dozen events, including the announcements of Vítuke—"Ours," in the Terena language **(see p. 88)**—the first Indigenous fund designed in partnership with the Brazilian Ministry of Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous associations; and ARPA Communities, a new component of ARPA, the world's largest tropical forest conservation initiative, which will support the 60 sustainable use protected areas that make up the program **(see p. 42)**. Both initiatives place at their center the people who live in and from the forest, recognizing the essential role of traditional knowledge in environmental conservation, with impacts that extend far beyond territories and borders.

"Vítuke is a platform that enables Indigenous Peoples to access resources directly, strengthening their management and expanding their work in their territories. These resources will support actions that complement those of the government and are defined by Indigenous Peoples themselves as priorities," explained Rosa Lemos de Sá at the launch event, held in a full Brazil Pavilion.

"Today is a historic day at the COP, with the launch of a fund that already carries a name meaning 'ours.' At this COP, the one with the largest Indigenous delegation in history, we are pleased to announce a mechanism that will allow us to advance even further in protecting our territory," said Sônia Guajajara, Minister of Indigenous Peoples, on the day of the announcement in Belém.

Announcements unfolded one after another in the capital of Pará, where delegates from desert nations filmed in awe the heavy rains that swept across the COP30 afternoons. In the climate funds pavilion, we spoke about the central role of civil society in addressing the challenge of global warming and highlighted successful initiatives such as Amazônia Viva, Natura's blended finance program, of which we are partners alongside Vert.

On the same day, at Norway's pavilion, we shared with the audience the results of the COPAÍBAS program, which simultaneously supports Brazil's two largest biomes, the Amazon and the Cerrado, and has been contributing to the strengthening of sociobiodiversity value chains that connect knowledge, communities, and products such as baru. This Cerrado nut, recognized as a superfood, is gaining ground in global markets, following in the footsteps of products like açaí, now consumed worldwide. Baru, however, is still gathered rather than cultivated.

Also off COP, we partnered with the Brazilian Association of Environmental Prosecutors (ABRAMPA) to launch a groundbreaking publication authored exclusively by women. Featuring nine articles, *Women and the Climate Debate: the role of female representatives from the Brazilian justice system* presents the experiences and perspectives of members of the Public Prosecutor's Office, Public Defender's Office, State Attorney's Office, and universities from different states across the North, Northeast, and Center West.

As the historic gathering in the Amazon came to a close, Brazil's COP30 presidency noted that the conference **"made significant progress toward our shared goals: strengthening multilateralism, accelerating the implementation of climate action, and bringing the climate agenda closer to people's daily lives."** The message also underscored the importance of collaboration in shaping the outcomes: **"The four pillars of the COP—Mobilization, Leaders' Summit, Negotiations, and Action Agenda—delivered concrete results that were only possible thanks to the commitment and dedication of each of you,"** wrote the organizers in a letter signed by André Corrêa do Lago, COP30 President, and Ana Toni, CEO.

Photo: Larissa Noguchi

FUNBIO at RedLAC

REDLAC 2025 CHILE

In Patagonia, Alliances and Storytelling

In the mid 19th century, on the shores of Lake Llanquihue, the city of Frutillar was founded in Chilean Patagonia. With spectacular views of volcanoes and the constant calls of the ubiquitous *bandurrias* (the black faced ibis, a larger, more discreetly colored and far more vocal relative of Brazil's scarlet ibises), Frutillar takes its name from a regional variety of wild strawberry. More than a century and a half after its founding, the small town brought together ideas, voices, and experiences in a range of accents for the 2025 edition of the RedLAC Congress, the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Environmental Funds, of which FUNBIO is one of the founding members.

With more than 200 participants from 34 environmental funds representing 20 countries, along with government and private sector representatives, the annual event featured FUNBIO in panels on challenges and strategies for protected areas. Manoel Serrão, Communications Superintendent, shared FUNBIO's extensive experience with long term programs such as ARPA, as well as the creation of funds that ensure long term financing. FUNBIO also contributed to discussions on public private alliances for green financing and on the use of storytelling as a leverage tool for addressing environmental challenges.

"Stories are universal, and their structure is understandable regardless of local, regional, or national particularities. The group, a diverse one, brought together Craig Henry, CEO of the Saint Lucia National Conservation Fund; Jeanelle Mencias, Communications and Marketing Manager at PACT in Belize; and a writer and strategist of historic relevance, Juan Forch, who transformed Chile's history with a political campaign that even inspired a film. Storytelling allows stakeholders to see themselves in the projects; it creates a sense of belonging and makes socioenvironmental actions and results easier to understand," said Helio Hara, FUNBIO's Communications and Marketing Manager, who moderated the discussion in Frutillar.

In 2026, the RedLAC Congress — which in 2016 was hosted by FUNBIO — will take place in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia.

Photo: Marizilda Cruppe/FUNBIO

Photo: Victor Moriyama/FUNBIO

PROJECTS WITH

Grant Funding

In FUNBIO's portfolio, 28 initiatives are supported through donations from philanthropic sources, as well as multilateral and bilateral organizations and agreements.

These resources enable the implementation of programs and projects that address key challenges of the global environmental agenda across all regions and biomes of the country—from strengthening environmental management and territorial protection in Indigenous lands, such as the recently launched Vítuke, to large scale ecological restoration efforts like *Floresta Viva*, the largest match funding mechanism for restoration in Brazil. They also support the creation, management, and consolidation of protected areas through initiatives such as ARPA and GEF Terrestre, which generate income while delivering positive impacts for biodiversity and climate.

Explore all the projects.

35 AMAZÔNIA VIVA
37 ARCA
39 ARPA (PAs and Communities)
40 — ARPA PAs
new 42 — ARPA Communities
44 CITinova II
46 COPAÍBAS
50 DATACLIMA+
51 FLORESTA VIVA
new 54 FLORESTA+ AMAZÔNIA
55 ABROLHOS LAND AND SEA FUND
56 AMAPÁ FUND
57 LAND GOVERNANCE CATALYST FUND
59 DECARBONIZATION FUND
61 KAYAPÓ FUND
64 MARINE FUND
65 GEF MAR
new 69 GEF MAR II
70 GEF TERRESTRE
75 NORTHERN TIDES
76 GOLDEN LION TAMARIN ECOLOGICAL PARK (PHASE 6)
new 78 POP ICMBio PROTECTION
79 POP SECD
81 POP SÍTIO RAMSAR
83 POP SMC
84 PROBIO II
85 CLEAN OCEANS NETWORK
86 REM MT
87 TRADITION AND FUTURE
new 88 VÍTUKE

Amazônia Viva Financing Mechanism

Amazônia Viva

One of the major bottlenecks in the sociobiodiversity value chain is access to credit combined with technical assistance to invest in and structure community based enterprises.

24
cooperatives

15
with access to direct credit

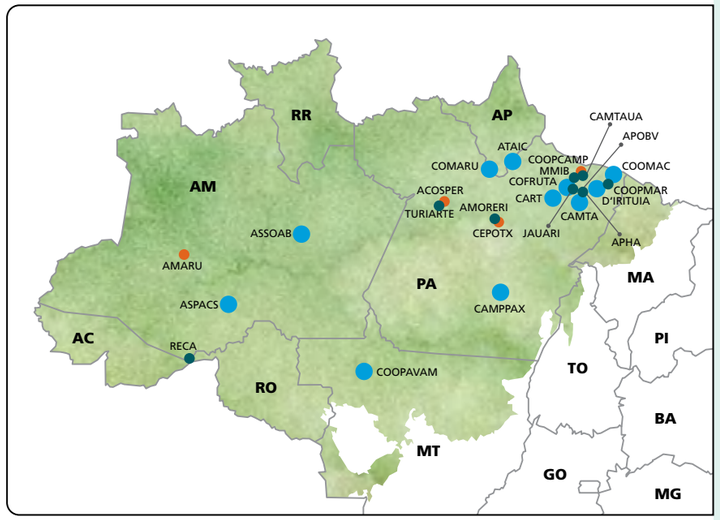
R$ 44
MILLION
in reimbursable and non reimbursable resources

Designed to strengthen cooperatives and extractive associations working with Amazonian products such as andiroba and Brazil nuts, and to improve the well being of forest dependent communities, the **Amazônia Viva Financing Mechanism** already benefits 24 cooperatives—15 of which have access to direct credit—all supported by philanthropic resources dedicated to the structuring and strengthening of community organizations.

The Amazônia Viva mechanism operates through a blended finance structure that brings together, under a single governance framework, two complementary instruments: one credit based and the other philanthropic. The first is the Agribusiness Receivables Certificate (CRA, the acronym in Portuguese), issued and managed by the securitization firm VERT, which offers loans to agro extractive cooperatives with low bureaucracy and interest rates ranging from 8% to 10% per year.

The second instrument is a non reimbursable philanthropic fund, known as the Enabling Contribution Fund (ECF), managed by FUNBIO. The purpose of the ECF is to make structuring investments in cooperative and association capacity building, conservation initiatives, and the strengthening of sociobiodiversity value chains and their respective territories.





ORGANIZATION WITH ACCESS TO CREDIT

ORGANIZATION WITH ACCESS TO STRUCTURING GRANT FUNDING

ORGANIZATION WITH ACCESS TO BOTH MECHANISM INSTRUMENTS

The project is the result of an investment by Natura, a founding member of the mechanism, with initial contributions from the Good Energies Foundation and Fundo Vale. In 2025, the mechanism welcomed two new investors: the Global Environment Facility (GEF), with a commitment of R$ 17 million in its first phase, and the International Finance Corporation (IFC), with R$ 6 million. In addition, FUNBIO itself contributed R$ 1 million to the ECF.

The latest investments brought Amazônia Viva to a milestone of R$ 44 million in mobilized reimbursable and non reimbursable resources as of June. The mechanism aims to raise R$ 50 million for the structuring line (ECF) and an additional R$ 60 million for the credit line by 2028.





Sociodiversity values the fruit, the land, and those who depend on it. Photo: Naiara Jinknss

Amazônia Viva

Strengthening Community Based Extractivism

Through the ECF, R$ 6.4 million has been invested in the implementation of nine projects selected under Call 18/2024, focused on improving processing units of cooperatives and associations in the states of Pará, Amazonas, Rondônia, and Mato Grosso. The projects, which began implementation in March, include the installation of photovoltaic panels and composting systems; acquisition of safety equipment; modernization of existing infrastructure; training in good management practices; and management of raw materials and supplies.

In the municipality of Lábrea (Amazonas), the Association of Agro extractive Producers of Colônia do Sardinha (ASPACS) is one of the organizations selected under the call. The association collects murumuru seeds, a palm native to the Amazon that is rich in oils and valued by the cosmetics industry. The project's support enabled the construction of 25 seed drying houses and three storage warehouses, as well as community training, improved commercialization techniques, fair price sales, and access to new markets.

"Amazônia Viva brought four very significant pillars to the association and its producers: strengthening production, generating income, ensuring environmental preservation, and delivering benefits both to producers—who received the drying houses and the storage warehouse, since they previously had no adequate place to store their products—and to the association, which gained autonomy to implement the project, develop and acquire knowledge across all these areas, and strengthen its leadership," explains Jeane Soares, deputy secretary of ASPACS.

Resources from the ECF also enabled the launch of a project to implement Agroforestry Systems (SAFs, the Portuguese acronym) based on macaúba (Acrocomia aculeata) production in the region of the municipalities of Irituia and Bragança, in the state of Pará. Planting this native palm in consortium with other crops also contributes to the restoration of 25 hectares of degraded land.

The philanthropic fund also enabled, through a partnership with IDB Invest and the International Institute of Education of Brazil (IEB), a pilot training program for young people in sociobiodiversity based cooperativism and associativism. The nine month program was named Raízes do Futuro (Roots of the Future). The inaugural meeting took place in August in the municipality of Benevides, in the state of Pará, and brought together 36 young representatives from 18 cooperatives and associations across the state. The event addressed topics such as territorial knowledge, communication strategies, and climate change. Two of the participants were invited to join the Natura and IEB teams at the 30th Climate Conference (COP30) in Belém.

In addition to youth engagement, women were also at the center of another initiative: the Gender Plan of the Amazônia Viva Mechanism, developed with contributions from an in person seminar held in April in the state of Pará, with the participation of 18 women leaders from 14 agro extractive cooperatives and associations.



Photo: Flavio Soares







Raízes do Futuro youth development program meeting.

The Gender Plan of the *Amazônia Viva* Mechanism gath-ered 18 women leaders from 14 agro extractive cooperatives and associations for an event in Pará.

Meeting marking the culmination of the Amazonia Viva program's work.

Photos: Marcio Nagano

Access to Credit

The credit line managed by VERT concluded its second lending cycle with a 100% repayment rate among the cooperatives and associations. In April, the third credit cycle began, with the addition of two new organizations: the Association of Agro extractive Residents of the Uacari Sustainable Development Reserve (AMARU), in the state of Amazonas; and the Cooperative of Rural Producers of Campo Limpo (COOPCAMP), in the state of Pará.

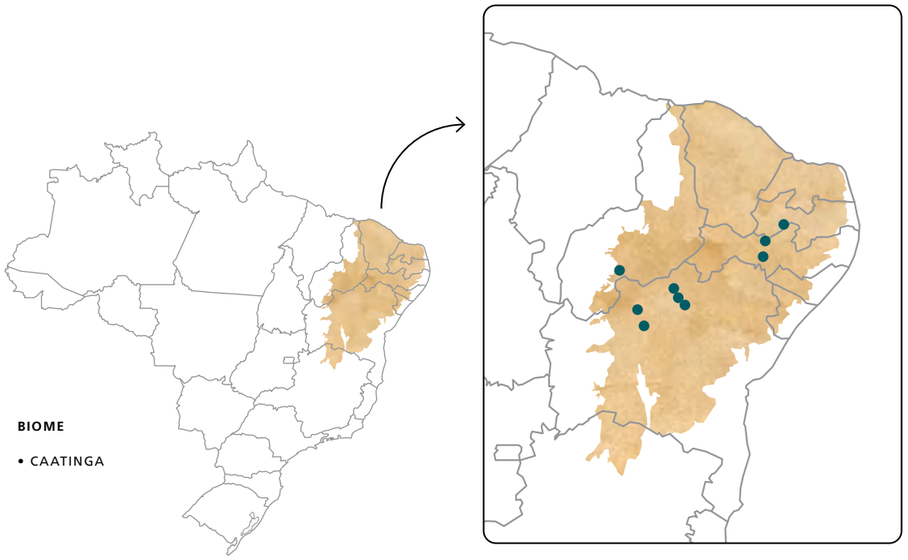
> "Amazônia Viva brought four very significant pillars to the association and its producers: strengthening production, generating income, ensuring environmental preservation, and delivering benefits both to producers—who received the drying houses and the storage warehouse, since they previously had no adequate place to store their products—and to the association, which gained autonomy to implement the project, develop and acquire knowledge across all these areas, and strengthen its leadership" "
>
> explains JEANE SOARES, deputy secretary of ASPACS

FUNDO BRASILEIRO PARA A BIODIVERSIDADE FUNBIO VERT natura

ARCA

Contrary to the images of dry, cracked soil that dominate common perceptions of the *sertão* [the semi arid backlands of Brazil's Northeast], the Caatinga is home to thousands of plant and animal species, making it the most biodiverse semi arid region in the world.

> "The GEF, through the GBFF, is very pleased to support ARCA in creating and strengthening the management of protected areas in this unique and globally important biome, building on the GEF's successful support for a similar program in the Amazon, the Amazon Region Protected Areas Program (ARPA). The investment in ARCA includes targeted support and capacity building for Indigenous Peoples and Traditional Communities in territorial management and in recognizing their vital contributions to the conservation and sustainable use of the Caatinga"
>
> CLAUDE GASCON,
> Director of Strategy and Operations at the GEF



Even so, it remains one of Brazil's most vulnerable biomes, with less than 10% of its territory designated as Protected Areas (PAs). The **Caatinga Protected Areas** program **(ARCA)** aims to strengthen the protection of this rich biodiversity. The initiative supports the management of nine existing PAs, which together cover about four million hectares across four states: Bahia, Pernambuco, Piauí, and Paraíba. The project also focuses on creating new protected areas, supporting the National Action Plans (PANs, the acronym in Portuguese) for the Conservation of Endangered Species, and strengthening the communities that live around these PAs.

Announced in June 2024, the initiative took its first steps throughout 2025, focusing on planning and on formally establishing partnerships with the federal and state agencies responsible for managing the nine PAs. A key milestone was the signing of a Cooperation Agreement with the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA) in August. Field activities are expected to begin in the first half of 2026.

Among ARCA's goals are: supporting the development of seven management plans, the essential documents that guide PA administration; assisting ten PANs for threatened fauna and flora species found within the nine PAs; combating illegal hunting and wildlife trafficking; and funding studies for the creation or expansion of at least 100,000 hectares of protected areas in the Caatinga. In parallel, the project will also invest in establishing and training the management councils of each PA involved.

ARCA is funded by the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF), managed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). It was one of the first three projects in the world to receive GBFF approval. Running through 2030, the project is executed by FUNBIO and implemented by WWF US.

NDC

SDG

PARTNERS

ACADEMIA

CIVIL SOCIETY

COMPANIES

GOVERNMENT

INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS AND TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES

THEMATIC AREAS

CLIMATE CHANGE

ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF PROTECTED AREAS

GENDER EQUITY

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

END YEAR

2030



Detail of Caatinga flora, a biome considered the most biodiverse semi arid region in the world.
Photo: Elisson Gomes

Respect and Attentive Listening to Communities

Before any concrete action in the territory, ARCA began engaging with communities living within and around the PAs to foster dialogue and establish a formal channel for residents to voice concerns, complaints, or reports. This early effort is designed to serve as a social and environmental safeguard, ensuring that local populations have a clear point of contact for any issues that may arise during project implementation.

Strengthening community based organizations and expanding local involvement with protected areas are also core objectives of the project. The focus includes activities such as community led resource management, fire prevention, sustainable harvesting and commercialization of natural products like umbu, licuri, and mandacaru, and participation in the ecological restoration value chain.

9
Protected Areas

4
MILLION
de hectares

4
States

PAs Supported by ARCA

- Boqueirão da Onça National Park (Bahia)
- Boqueirão da Onça Environmental Protection Area (Bahia)
- Serra das Confusões National Park (Piauí)
- Serra Teixeira National Park (Paraíba)
- Lagoa de Itaparica Environmental Protection Area (Bahia)
- Sobradinho Lake Environmental Protection Area (Bahia)
- Dunas e Veredas do Baixo e Médio São Francisco Environmental Protection Area (Bahia)
- Mata da Pimenteira State Park (Pernambuco)
- Serra da Canoa Ecological Station (Pernambuco)

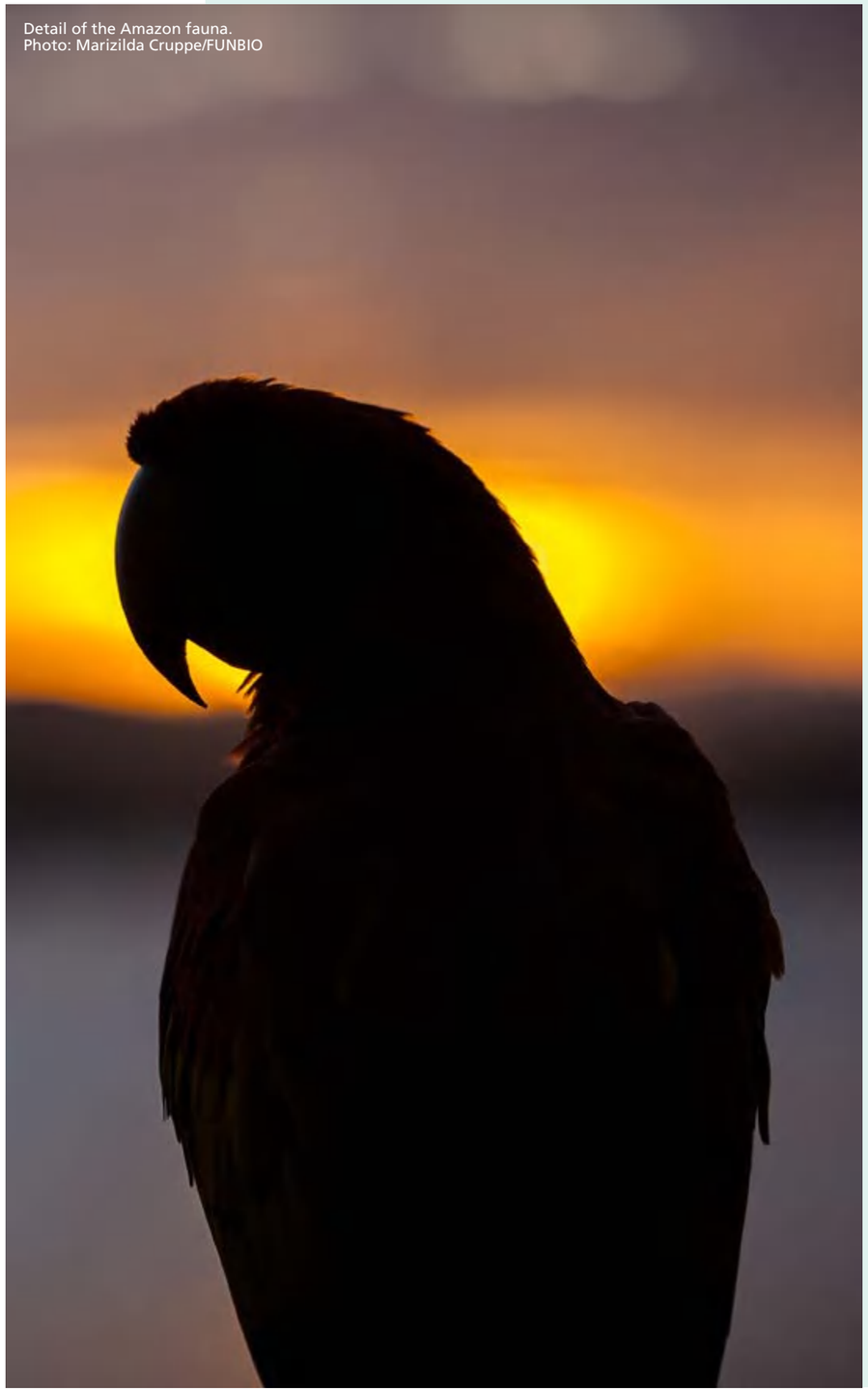


Mata da Pimenteira, in Serra da Pimenteira State Park, Serra Talhada, Pernambuco. Photo: Rodrigo Ferraz

Amazon Region Protected Areas Program

ARPA

In 2025, **ARPA**—the largest tropical forest conservation program on the planet—launched a new initiative, ARPA Communities. With this announcement, the program now operates along two complementary fronts: one focused on the creation and management of Protected Areas, with an emphasis on biodiversity conservation and sustainable development; and the new front, centered on the populations living within the 60 sustainable use PAs in the region, benefiting around 130,000 people and more than one thousand communities across 23.7 million hectares of Amazon forest. The initiative is expected to mobilize more than USD 120 million in donations.



Detail of the Amazon fauna.
Photo: Marizilda Cruppe/FUNBIO

NDC

SDG

PARTNERS

- CIVIL SOCIETY
- COMPANIES
- GOVERNMENT
- INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS AND TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES

THEMATIC AREAS

- CLIMATE CHANGE
- ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF PROTECTED AREAS
- GENDER EQUITY
- TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

END YEAR

2039



BIOME

• AMAZON

ARPA
Programa Áreas Protegidas da Amazônia

Governos Estaduais da Amazônia Brasileira: Acre, Amapá, Amazonas, Mato Grosso, Rondônia, Roraima, Pará e Tocantins

IN THE PRESS

11/17/2025 — *EXAME.COM*
Amazon: IDB Expands Support for the Bioeconomy and Efforts to Combat Deforestation

11/17/2025 — *O((ECO))*
Government and NGOs Secure US$120 Million for Protected Areas with Traditional Communities in the Amazon

ARPA – Creation and Management of Protected Areas

ARPA PAs

ARPA is coordinated by Brazil's Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA), with financial management by FUNBIO.

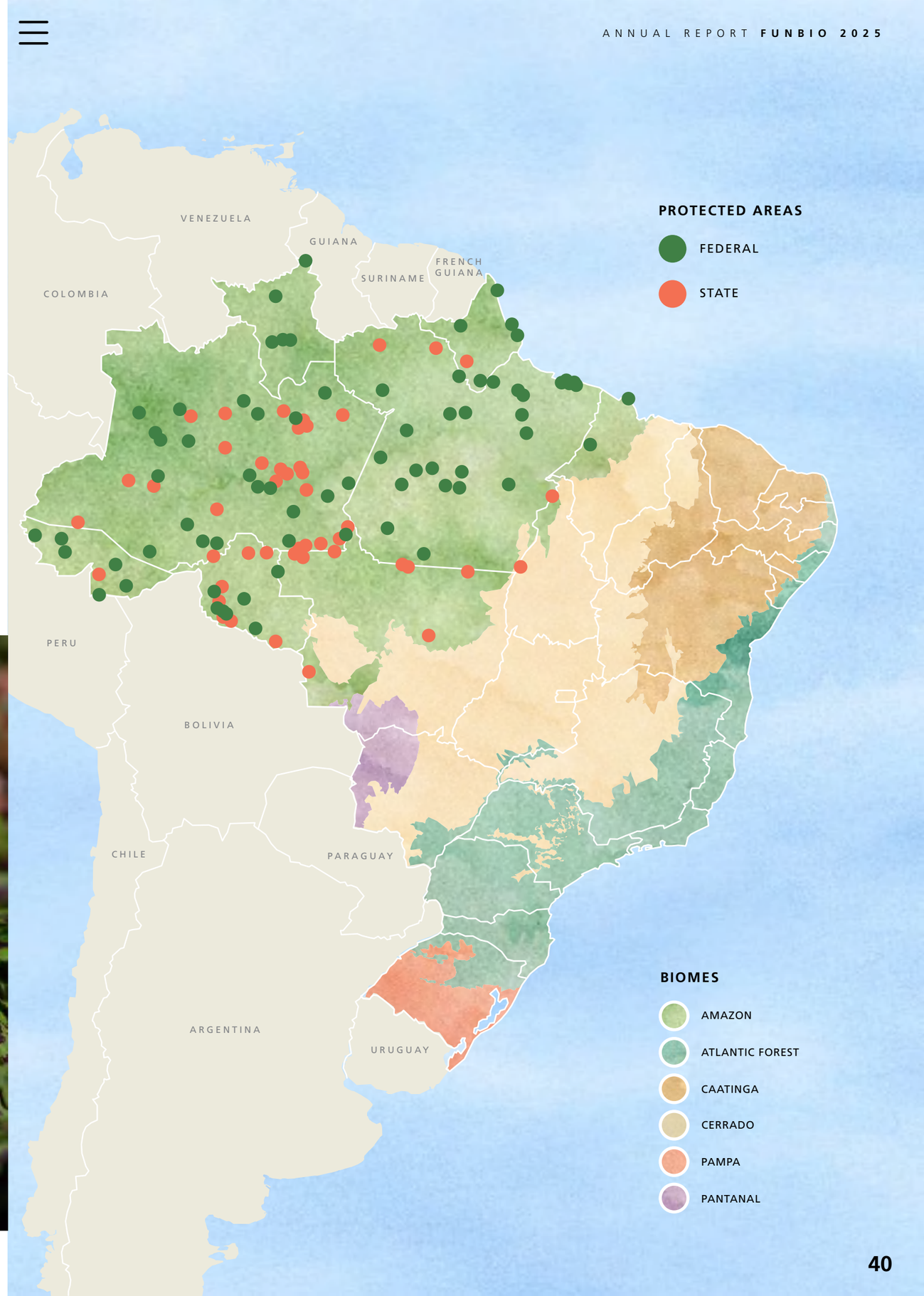
The approval of program resources for the next biennium (2026–2027) confirmed a record investment of R$ 134.23 million, distributed across 120 Protected Areas representing 62.5 million hectares in all nine states of the Legal Amazon. The allocation of resources was planned through a participatory process during seven in person workshops with federal and state PA managers.

Created in 2002, ARPA has already surpassed its goal of creating six million hectares of Protected Areas in the Amazon, reaching a cumulative total of 6,508,707.55 hectares. In the 2024–2025 biennium alone, 668,763 hectares of Amazonian protected areas were added through the creation and expansion of PAs. In 2025, the Pied Tamarin (Sauim de Coleira, in Portuguese) Wildlife Refuge was established in Amazonas state, covering 15.3 thousand hectares.

According to the latest cycle (2025) of the ARPA Program Effectiveness Assessment Tool (FAUC, the acronym in Portuguese), there has been solid progress in the consolidation of supported Protected Areas, with most of them reaching high levels of implementation. This includes meeting criteria such as the development of management plans and the establishment of management boards (Level I), as well as conducting socioenvironmental research and monitoring (Level II). The results reinforce ARPA's effectiveness in strengthening the management of Amazonian protected areas.



Detail of the Amazon fauna.
Photo: Victor Moriyama/FUNBIO



> “For many years, communities and sociobiodiversity value chains within ARPA supported Protected Areas have called for stronger support. Although the program had funded projects in these areas before, they were limited in scope. By expanding ARPA’s mandate in 2025 to include these two new objectives, the supported RESEX and RDS will reach a new stage of implementation, community strengthening, and income generation—crucial steps for these PAs to achieve their intended goals and amplify the benefits they deliver locally”
>
> notes RENATA GATTI, analyst at the Program Coordination Unit (UCP/MMA)

Over the course of the year, 22 thematic training sessions were held with 270 managers from 70 Protected Areas to improve ARPA’s implementation mechanisms. These sessions led to operational enhancements that strengthened dialogue and workflow among all parties involved. A newsletter and a broadcast messaging group were also created to facilitate information exchange and promote best practices among PA managers.

From June 10 to 12, in Manaus (Amazonas), a training session was held with 64 managers from all partner institutions focused on the operationalization of program resources and the use of FUNBIO’s internal system, aimed at ensuring the program’s operational efficiency.

Upper Xingu

Featuring scientific discoveries, unprecedented records, and a robust inventory of local fauna and flora, the book *Xingu State Park*: Biodiversity, Natural Resources, and Ecological and Socioenvironmental Significance, released in September, has become a key reference for science and conservation in the state of Mato Grosso. Covering approximately 95,000 hectares in the transition zone between the Amazon and Cerrado biomes, the park protects a rich and diverse array of species.

The publication is the result of five years of research, field expeditions, and analyses conducted by a network of 162 researchers from 37 institutions, with financial support from ARPA. The book is a joint project of the Mato Grosso State Secretariat for the Environment (Sema/MT) and the Federal University of Mato Grosso (UFMT).

The goal is for the data to deepen scientific knowledge about the Upper Xingu and support the development and updating of the park’s management plan; guide managers in enforcement efforts; and help identify priority areas for restoration or for the development of ecotourism activities.

Researchers identified 29 medium and large sized mammal species, nine of which are threatened, including the jaguar (*Panthera onca*), the giant otter (*Pteronura brasiliensis*), and the giant armadillo (*Priodontes maximus*).

They were also surprised by the diversity of insects recorded: 151 butterfly species, 120 beetle species, and ants from 55 different genera—including species never before documented in the state.

The flora inventory also led to new discoveries and unprecedented records, including five orchid species documented for the first time in Mato Grosso or in the broader Central West region.

> “It is a pleasure to take part in the launch of this book, a work developed by many hands and supported financially by the ARPA program, along with state resources. The research conducted in the park will deepen our understanding of local biodiversity, train the many students involved in the project, and generate information that will guide public policy”
>
> highlights ANA PAULA SANTANA, Coordinator of Protected Areas for the State of Mato Grosso



RDS Amanã.
Photo: Victor Moriyama/FUNBIO

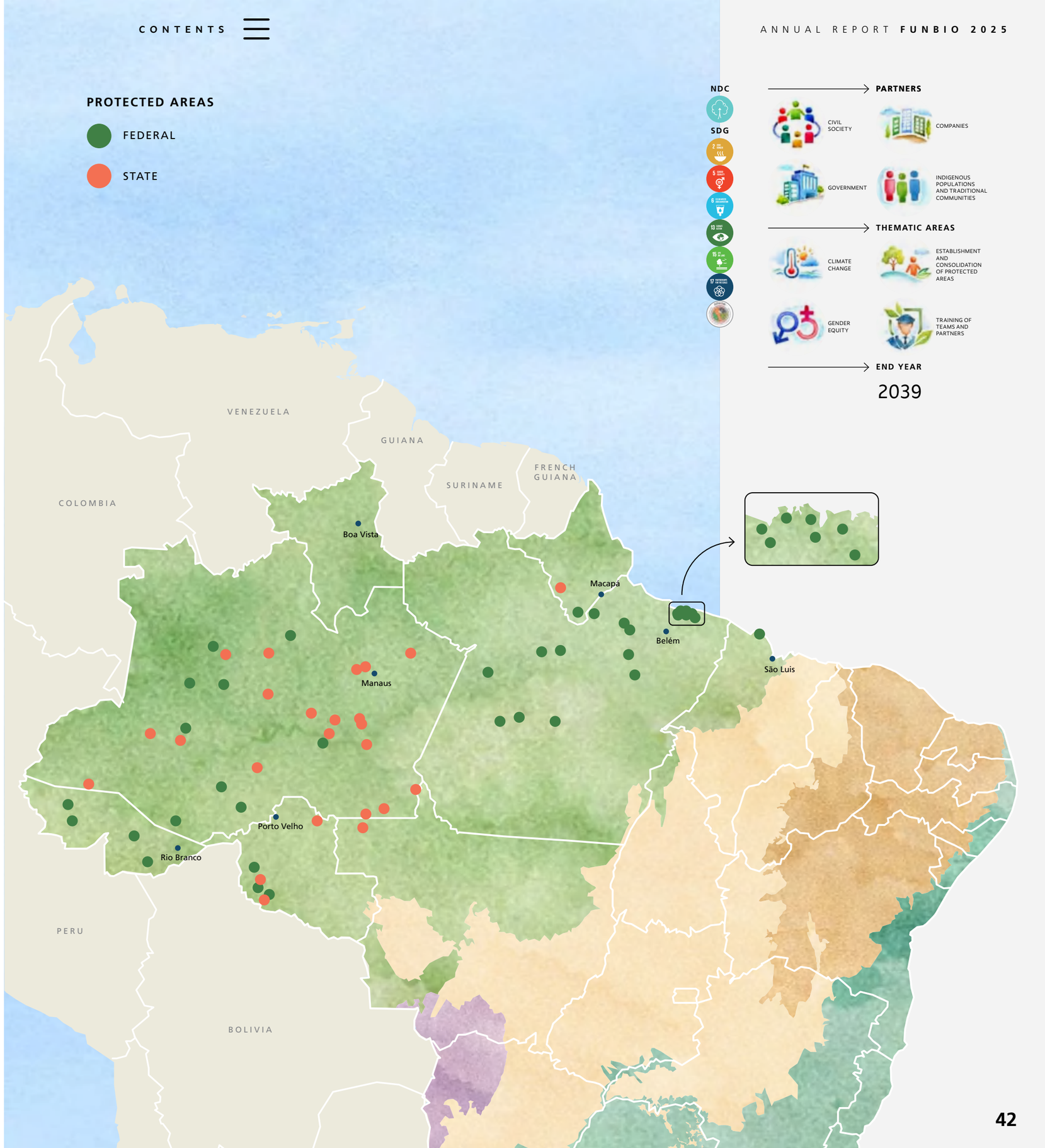
ARPA

new

ARPA Communities

ARPA Communities was announced by the federal government in November during the Climate Conference (COP30) in Belém, Pará. The new format prioritizes strengthening the communities that live in and around sustainable use PAs, as well as supporting the economic activities that drive sociobiodiversity value chains.





ARPA Communities

> “This second step is essential, bringing benefits directly to communities. Protecting our forest and biodiversity is only possible if we create this cycle of mutual reinforcement. Good management and implementation of Protected Areas must be done in partnership with communities, both those living around them and those within sustainable use areas, such as in extractive reserves”
>
> said MARINA SILVA, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, during the launch event

ARPA Communities has a 15 year planning horizon (2025–2039) and will directly support 43 Extractive Reserves (Resex) and 17 Sustainable Development Reserves (RDS), covering approximately 23.7 million hectares.



RDS Amanã.
Photo: Victor Moriyama/FUNBIO



RDS Amanã.
Photo: Victor Moriyama/FUNBIO

> “At CONFREM, we have very high expectations for ARPA Communities, which will be a transformative initiative—one that expands community capacities to implement concrete actions on the ground. This includes support for production; strengthening the leadership of women and youth; improving access to public policies, infrastructure, and income generation opportunities; and reinforcing the institutional capacity of community based organizations and the development of local leadership”
>
> says CARLOS ALBERTO PINTO DOS SANTOS, Institutional Relations Coordinator of the National Commission for the Strengthening of Extractive Reserves and Traditional Coastal and Marine Extractive Peoples (CONFREM)



Launch of the ARPA Communities initiative at COP30 in Belém.
Photo: Helio Hara/FUNBIO

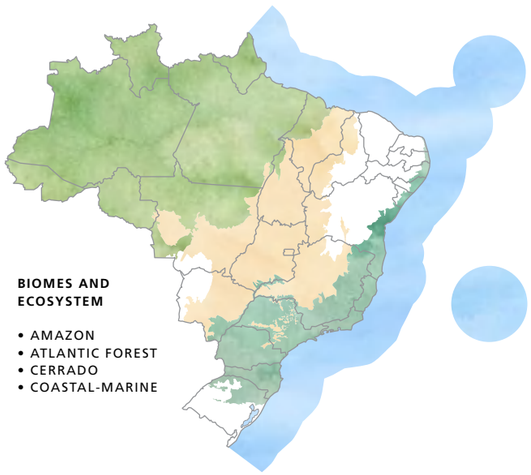
Promoting Integrated Metropolitan Planning and Innovative Urban Technology Investments in Brazil

CITinova II

Urban areas sit at the center of today's environmental and climate challenges and must also be part of the solution, adopting strategies that create more sustainable cities, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and promote biodiversity conservation.

This agenda is at the core of CITinova II – Promoting Integrated Metropolitan Planning and Innovative Urban Technology Investments in Brazil, coordinated by the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MCTI). The initiative focuses on three medium sized urban regions encompassing 30 municipalities: the metropolitan region of Belém (Pará), the metropolitan region of Florianópolis (Santa Catarina), and the Integrated Development Region of Teresina, which includes municipalities in Piauí and Maranhão.

In Florianópolis, the Carijós Ecological Station (ESEC) and the Pirajubaé Marine Extractive Reserve help preserve mangrove and restinga ecosystems within the state capital. With support from CITinova II, a pilot research project is assessing and monitoring water quality in both Procted Areas, evaluating the impacts of urban expansion through physical, chemical, and biological parameters. In addition, through the Tainhota Sentinela project, researchers analyze fish and macroinvertebrate species considered bioindicators of environmental quality.





Visit of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) delegation to the Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi. Photo: Diego Galba

> "Support from CITinova brought new energy to the laboratory. It provided equipment, personnel, reagents, and materials that allow the work to continue. And the information we generate helps guide management decisions and assess the impacts of the city's Master Plan. Our studies show how urban expansion affects water quality and the ecosystem services of these Protected Areas, and they help foster discussions on how to mitigate these impacts and highlight the importance of protected territories"
>
> explains CLAUDINEI RODRIGUES, environmental analyst at ICMBio in the Ecological Station and coordinator of the laboratory

NDC

SDG

PARTNERS

GOVERNMENT

THEMATIC AREAS

CLIMATE CHANGE

ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF PROTECTED AREAS

FINANCIAL MECHANISMS

GENDER EQUITY

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS

SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES

TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

COP30 Highlights

During the 30th Climate Conference (COP30), held in Belém (Pará), the MCTI and the Ministry of Cities signed a technical cooperation agreement for the development of the National Information System on Urban Development (SINIDU+Clima). The platform, developed in partnership with CITinova II, will provide data on territory, urbanization, and climate to support municipal managers in urban planning aimed at climate resilience. The system will consolidate strategic information on urban planning, biodiversity, and climate from the three metropolitan regions covered by the project.

On the eve of the conference, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Inger Andersen, together with the CITinova II team, visited the Utinga State Park and the Emílio Goeldi Museum in Belém. During the visit, she discussed strategies for biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation in the metropolitan region of Belém.

CITinova II

Among the activities planned for the region is the implementation of an innovative financial model designed to compensate the efforts dedicated to conservation and sustainable management within the park and its buffer zone, areas that ensure essential ecosystem services, such as water supply.

The metropolitan region of Belém will also host the creation of a mosaic of urban green areas, establishing integrated governance across 14 sites together cover approximately 17,000 hectares. With support from CITinova II, a consultancy will conduct a full diagnostic assessment, including a synthesis of territorial planning and the development of a management plan for the mosaic, which will need to be formally approved by public authorities.

> “At Utinga State Park, one of Belém’s greatest environmental treasures and the main source of drinking water for the region, I was able to see firsthand how this work can generate real impacts for those who live in the city. The park faces challenges from urban expansion, and the project will work alongside local communities and authorities to protect this water that is so essential to life.”
>
> emphasized UNEP Executive Director INGER ANDERSEN, during her visit

Signing of the technical cooperation agreement between the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MCTI) and the Ministry of Cities. Photo: Luara Baggi



National Dialogue

In June, the second edition of the National–Local Dialogue was held. Over two days, municipal, state, and federal authorities, along with urban planning professionals from each of the three metropolitan regions, gathered in Teresina (Piauí) to discuss ways to strengthen metropolitan and inter federative governance. The event featured presentations on successful city models from around the world and explored how global agendas can be aligned with local management, as well as the current challenges and advances in metropolitan cooperation.

Launched in 2023, CITinova II is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and carried out through a partnership between FUNBIO and the MCTI.



Monitoring visit.

Local Solutions, Global Impact

In 2025, CITinova II launched its Low Emission Pilots in Belém (Pará), Florianópolis (Santa Catarina), and the Teresina–Timon urban agglomeration. The actions will be implemented by the Climate Consortium, formed by four companies: Certare Engenharia e Consultoria Ltda., MYR ESG Solutions, MCrit Multicriteria Planning, and G&G Klima.

With a total investment of R$ 3.2 million, the initiative aims to design local solutions within urban areas—a street in Belém, a block in Teresina, and a district in Florianópolis—capable of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The expectation is that these localized interventions can be replicated in other municipalities and states with similar contexts, helping scale up emission reduction efforts across the country.

To develop these strategies, which may include actions in mobility, nature based solutions, sanitation, and circular economy, the project will conduct participatory workshops with local leaders, public sector representatives, specialists, and the broader community.

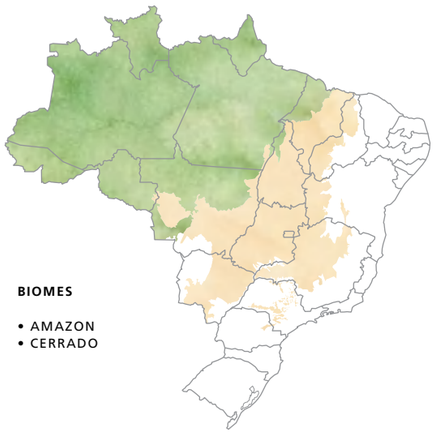
In parallel, CITinova II contracted, in September, the development of the Climate and Technology Action Plan for the three regions covered by the project. Prepared through a participatory process, the plan will be delivered at the end of 2026 and will help outline pathways and integrated actions for sustainable urban development, as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation, aligned with Brazil’s international commitments.

Community, Protected Areas, and Indigenous Peoples Project in the Brazilian Amazon and Cerrado Savannah Program

COPAÍBAS

Composed of one Protected Area and six Indigenous Lands, the Gurupi Mosaic, officially established in June, marks a significant milestone for Brazil's environmental policy and nature conservation.

Formalized with support from the **Community, Protected Areas, and Indigenous Peoples Project in the Brazilian Amazon and Cerrado Savannah Program (COPAÍBAS)**, the mosaic is the first in the country to be recognized with a structure centered on a single Protected Area, the Gurupi Biological Reserve, connected to a larger set of protected territories, namely the six Indigenous Lands: Araribóia, Caru, Rio Pindaré, Alto Turiaçu, Awá, and Alto Rio Guamá.



BIOMES

- AMAZON
- CERRADO

59

Indigenous Lands supported

26

Protected Areas supported



Leaders celebrate the official establishment of the Gurupi Mosaic. Photo: Andrea Baré/ISPN Collection



Biribiri State Park, Serra do Espinhaço, Minas Gerais. Photo: Augusto Gomes

Located in the Amazon, spanning the states of Pará and Maranhão, these territories together cover approximately 46,000 km². The mosaic establishes integrated management across the seven protected areas, strengthening coordinated action and enhancing conservation efforts throughout the region.

Until recently, Brazilian legislation required at least two Protected Areas for the creation of mosaics. The new interpretation of what constitutes a protected area mosaic is the result of a broad mobilization effort involving civil society organizations, Indigenous leaders, and institutions such as ICMBio, the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA), the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples (MPI), the National Foundation for Indigenous Peoples (Funai), and the Ministry of Racial Equality.

SDG

PARTNERS

- CIVIL SOCIETY
- GOVERNMENT
- INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS AND TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES

THEMATIC AREAS

- CLIMATE CHANGE
- ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF PROTECTED AREAS
- GENDER EQUITY
- INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS
- SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES
- TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

FUNDER

Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Embassy of Norway)

IN THE PRESS

10/06/2025 — *G1*
RECA Series: Agroforestry Drives the Economy and Restores Degraded Areas in Rondônia

01/30/2025 — *FOLHA DE S. PAULO*
Meet Baru, the Nut Exported to the U.S. but Still Little Known in Brazil

03/26/2025 — *O GLOBO*
Daughter of Rubber Tapper Chico Mendes Discusses Women's Role in Rural Areas on a Podcast

01/04/2025 — *((O))ECO*
The Future Is a Feminine Word

04/04/2025 — *((O))ECO*
Women's Participation in Conservation Featured in New Publication and Podcast

10/2025 — *GLOBO.COM – UM SÓ PLANETA*
RECA: From a Forgotten Frontier to the Amazon's Agroforestry Laboratory

COPAÍBAS

> “For us, the Indigenous peoples of Maranhão who make up the Gurupi Mosaic, this recognition is a major step toward unifying our territory. It brings a light of hope that, united and strengthened, we can achieve even greater things”
>
> said Indigenous leader MARCILENE LIANA GUAJAJARA, General Coordinator of the Coordination of Indigenous Organizations and Coalition of the Indigenous Peoples of Maranhão (COAPIMA)

20.5
MILLION
hectares of protected territories benefited (Indigenous Lands and Protected Areas)

R$ 120+
MILLION
executed to dates



Photo: Marizilda Cruppe/FUNBIO

This coordinated effort led to an unprecedented legal opinion issued by the Office of the Attorney General (AGU), which recognizes the integrated management already practiced in the Gurupi territory and paves the way for the official establishment of mosaics with similar configurations.

The COPAÍBAS Program supports a total of 59 Indigenous Lands, home to 73 Indigenous peoples, covering approximately 18.6 million hectares across ten states (Acre, Amazonas, Pará, Amapá, Tocantins, Maranhão, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Rondônia, and Minas Gerais).

“We have made significant progress within our territories through COPAÍBAS and the organizations supported by the program. This support has greatly contributed to strengthening our institutions, our internal capacities, and the preservation of Indigenous knowledge and culture,” added Marcilene.

Photo: Marizilda Cruppe/FUNBIO



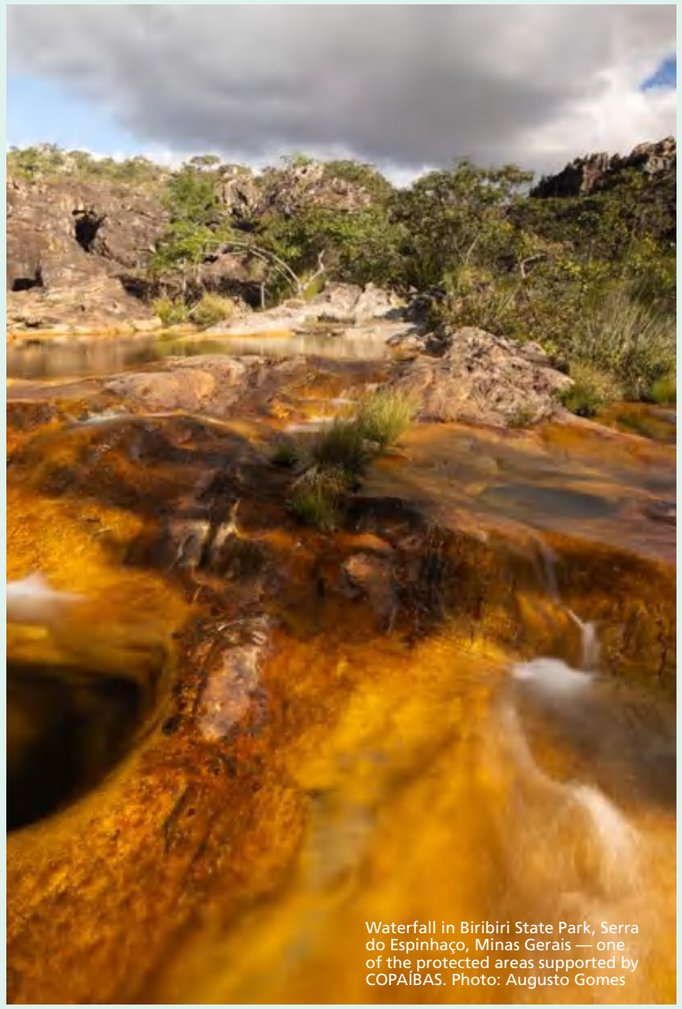
Protected Areas

The program also supports 26 Protected Areas—21 at the state level and five federal—which together safeguard approximately 1.9 million hectares across both biomes, in the states of Minas Gerais, Goiás, Maranhão, Mato Grosso, and Mato Grosso do Sul. COPAÍBAS funding enables the development of management and public use plans, the establishment and operation of advisory councils, and a range of initiatives that strengthen the governance and protection of these areas.

A new call for proposals, launched in December 2024, selected nine projects with a total investment of R$ 5 million. These initiatives aim to support actions not only within Protected Areas such as Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park, but also in the surrounding landscapes.

Resources from the call will be directed toward strengthening existing volunteer and community fire brigades and creating new ones, as well as improving systems and technological tools for monitoring and issuing forest fire alerts, measures designed to accelerate response times and reduce fire impacts.

In parallel, the program supported the development of three Integrated Fire Management Plans for Serra do Cabral State Park (Minas Gerais), Mirador State Park (Maranhão), and Serra Dourada State Park (Goiás).



Waterfall in Biribiri State Park, Serra do Espinhaço, Minas Gerais — one of the protected areas supported by COPAÍBAS. Photo: Augusto Gomes

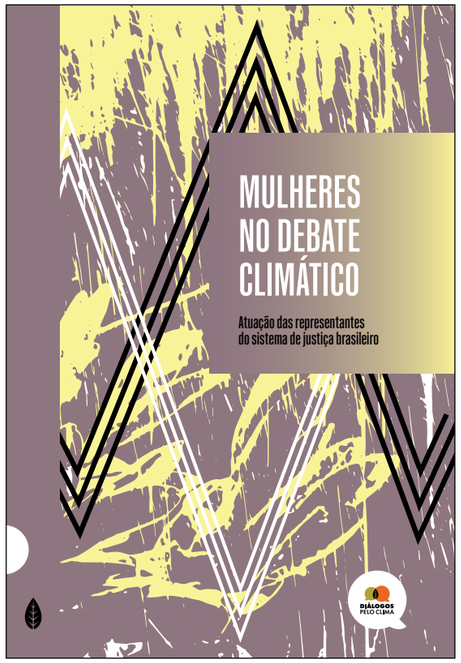
IN THE PRESS

10/27/2025 — *JOTA*
Traceability of Brazilian Beef: The “End of the Beginning” in the Era of Global Requirements

10/29/2025 — *((O))ECO*
Reinventing Cupuaçu: RECA Boosts Production of the Amazonian Fruit Through Agroforestry Systems

11/26/2025 — *JOTA*
Building a Jurisdictional REDD+ Framework in the State of Pará

COPAÍBAS





Launch of the sixth volume of the Climate Dialogues series, held during COP30 in Belém. Photo: Helio Hara/FUNBIO

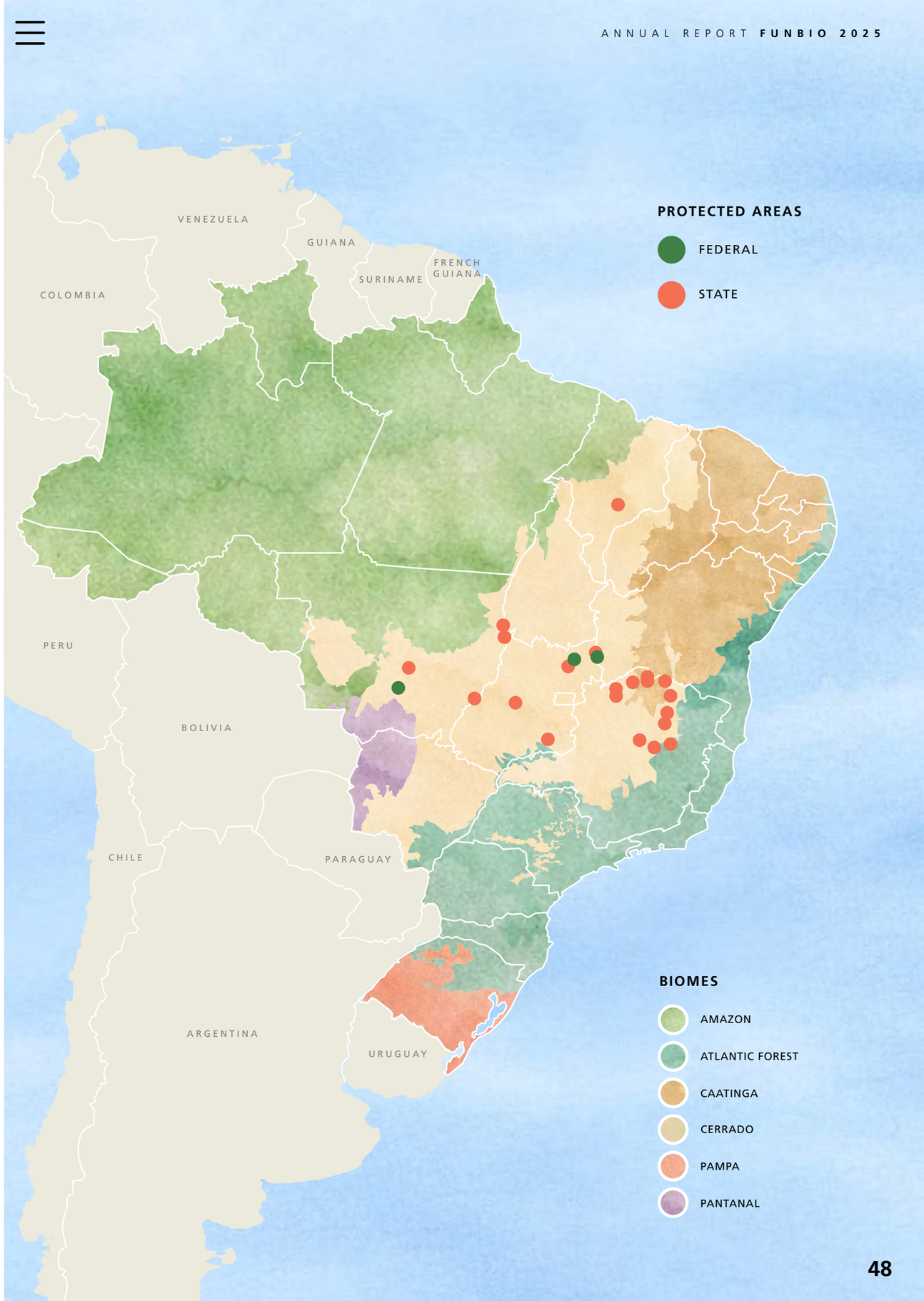
COPAÍBAS at COP30 and in the Climate Dialogues

The COPAÍBAS Program was featured at the 30th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30), held in Belém, in the state of Pará. The program was highlighted in the Norway Pavilion during the panel New Voices for a New Future. Through the Norway International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI), a key funder of COPAÍBAS, Norway showcased the results of this strategic partnership dedicated to conserving Brazil's two largest biomes. The session brought together Manoel Serrão, Program Superintendent at FUNBIO; José Godofredo Pires dos Santos, Prosecutor at the Public Prosecutor's Office of the State of Pará; Andréia Mello, biodiversity specialist and lead of the Climate Dialogues initiative; Mayk Arruda, from Central Cerrado; and Jaime Siqueira, from the Centro de Trabalho Indigenista (CTI).

An initiative of the COPAÍBAS Program, Climate Dialogues also had a strong presence at COP30 with the launch of the sixth book in its collection—and the fourth published this year, with **all titles available online**. Titled *Women in the Climate Debate*: Contributions from Representatives of Brazil's Justice System, the bilingual volume brings together nine articles written entirely by women serving in Public Prosecutor's Offices, Public Defender's Offices, State Attorney's Offices, and universities across the North, Northeast, and Central West regions.

Climate Dialogues aims to engage justice system professionals in the climate and environmental agenda, foster the exchange of ideas, build networks for collaborative solutions, and help guide the judiciary's role in responding to the climate crisis and biodiversity loss. The initiative is carried out in partnership with the Public Prosecutor's Offices of Maranhão and Pará, the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office in Amazonas, and the Forum of State Environmental Attorneys of the Legal Amazon (FOPEMA).

During COP30, the initiative also hosted a roundtable at the Socio Environmental Journalism House, focused on Environmental Public Security in the Context of Climate Change, featuring the participation of federal prosecutors and state public prosecutors.



COPAÍBAS

Brazil–Norway Partnership

In July, the Embassy of Norway in Brasília had already highlighted the partnership during a preparatory event for COP30 that brought together Brazilian and Norwegian authorities, Indigenous representatives, and members of Brazil's justice system. The event was attended by Åsmund Aukrust, Norway's Minister of International Development, and Odd Magne Ruud, then Norway's Ambassador to Brazil, both of whom underscored the importance of international cooperation in advancing climate solutions.

Launched in 2020, the COPAÍBAS Program is funded by the Norway International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI), under the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with technical and financial management by FUNBIO. The initiative aims to help reduce deforestation in Brazil's two largest biomes by supporting four strategic pillars: strengthening protected areas in the Cerrado; supporting territorial and environmental management in Indigenous Lands in both the Amazon and the Cerrado; fostering dialogue on climate related issues among members of Brazil's justice system; and strengthening value chains and local socio biodiversity production systems.

2nd Meeting of Managers



Meeting of managers and focal points from the protected areas partnered with the COPAÍBAS program, held at FUNBIO's headquarters in December. Photo: Priscila Boschini/Copabase Collection

In December, the COPAÍBAS Program held the 2nd Meeting of Managers and Focal Points from partner Protected Areas. The gathering brought together around 60 participants from five states for an exchange of experiences, learning, and presentation of results. Over five days, discussions addressed socio environmental management, communication, local engagement, and integrated fire management.

Biodiversity monitoring results from the Protected Areas were also a highlight. In Mirador State Park (Maranhão), the largest state park in the Cerrado, the program supported studies on the threatened oncilla (*Leopardus tigrinus*). The species, which ranges from Central America to Argentina, has in Mirador its only long term viable population within a protected area anywhere in the world.

In Minas Gerais, in the Serra do Espinhaço region, COPAÍBAS supported fauna and flora surveys that identified more than 70 species of amphibians and reptiles in Caminho dos Gerais State Park, along with the discovery of three new plant species.

> "The COPAÍBAS project is a powerful example of the strategic partnership between Norway and Brazil in the fight against deforestation and in the promotion of sustainable development. Our support for this initiative reflects our shared commitment to protecting vital biomes such as the Amazon and the Cerrado. By integrating work with traditional communities, Indigenous peoples, and the management of Protected Areas, COPAÍBAS adopts a comprehensive approach to environmental and social challenges, representing an essential step toward a greener and more prosperous future for both countries"
>
> emphasized ODD MAGNE RUUD, the ambassador of Norway to Brazil



Photo: Priscila Boschini/ Copabase Collection

Record Cupuaçu Harvest and the Sociobiodiversity Value Chain

Another strategic investment pillar of the COPAÍBAS Program is the promotion of income generation linked to forest based products. A leading example is RECA (Consortium and Dense Economic Reforestation), which has been active for four decades in the Ponta do Abunã region, spanning the states of Rondônia, Acre, and Amazonas. Since 2023, with support from COPAÍBAS through the Cooperate to Advance project, RECA has managed 800 hectares of Agroforestry Systems (SAFs, the acronym in Portuguese), resulting in increased productivity of crops such as peach palm, açaí, Brazil nuts, and cupuaçu. The latter stood out in 2025 with a record harvest of 2.2 million kilograms, well above the previous year's 1.3 million.

"Today I see that the forest so many once wanted to cut down has become a source of income. I helped plant this seed, and it brings me joy to see it flourish," shared producer Aldenia dos Santos Gama, who manages 98 hectares, nearly 90 of which are dedicated to carbon projects and SAFs with cupuaçu, açaí, and Brazil nuts.

RECA's work benefits 450 producers and generates income for more than four thousand people through direct and indirect employment. Support from the program also enabled the construction of two facilities for organic compost production, the purchase of new equipment, the renovation of the sales center, and training initiatives, including courses on good practices in agro industrial processing.

Across the broader sociobiodiversity agenda, COPAÍBAS has supported 22 projects spanning 16 distinct value chains, such as pequi, vanilla, and baru in the Cerrado, and açaí and vegetable oil production in the Amazon. In total, 20 cooperatives and associations have benefited, and more than six thousand participants have taken part in training activities focused on sustainable economic practices.

COPAÍBAS
COMUNIDADES TRADICIONAIS, POVOS INDÍGENAS E ÁREAS PROTEGIDAS NOS BIOMAS AMAZÔNIA E CERRADO

Strengthening the National Transparency System in Brazil under the Paris Agreement

DataClima+

The project **Strengthening the National Transparency System in Brazil under the Paris Agreement (DataClima+)** aims to ensure the systematic organization and public availability of data related to mitigation, adaptation, support, and climate finance actions in Brazil.

To achieve this, the initiative invests in technology and the development of automated systems that accelerate data dissemination and the production of monitoring reports required every two years. Currently under development, the new National Climate Transparency System of Brazil was announced during the 30th UN Climate Conference (COP30) in November, in Belém (Pará), at the Brazil Pavilion. The platform will represent a major milestone in the country's climate data governance, serving as a centralized hub for Brazil's most relevant climate related information.

Signed in 2024 and scheduled to run until 2028, the project is executed by the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MCTI), with FUNBIO as co executing partner. The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) serves as the implementing agency, and the initiative is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The project foresees a total investment of over R$19 million.

> "Brazil will now have a unique climate data infrastructure that ensures the quality, consistency, and security of information. This is another concrete step, a tangible response from the country to meet its international commitments and strengthen trust and credibility in the climate arena"
>
> said ANDREA LATGÉ, Secretary for Strategic Policies and Programs at MCTI







Brazil's new National Climate Transparency System was announced during the 30th Climate Conference (COP30), in November, in Belém (Pará), at the Brazil Pavilion. Photos: Lidia Duarte

The DataClima+ system will comprise five modules aligned with the rules of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) under the Paris Agreement. The platform will integrate data from the National Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory; progress toward Brazil's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC); climate change adaptation information, including vulnerabilities, risks, and impacts; mitigation and adaptation public policies; and climate finance, technology, and capacity building initiatives. The **project's website** was launched during COP30.

The effective launch of DataClima+ took place in April with the hiring of a chief technical consultant, responsible for leading coordination with MCTI and partner institutions and overseeing the activation of project activities.

Additional strategic hires were made as the project advanced. The *Rede Nacional de Ensino e Pesquisa* (National Education and Research Network, RNP), a social organization linked to MCTI and a development partner, was contracted to design and build the system. The project also engaged companies specializing in information technology management and climate transparency solutions. Beyond system development, DataClima+ will invest in training programs for government employees, researchers, and civil society organizations, expanding the responsible and qualified use of the information that will be made available.

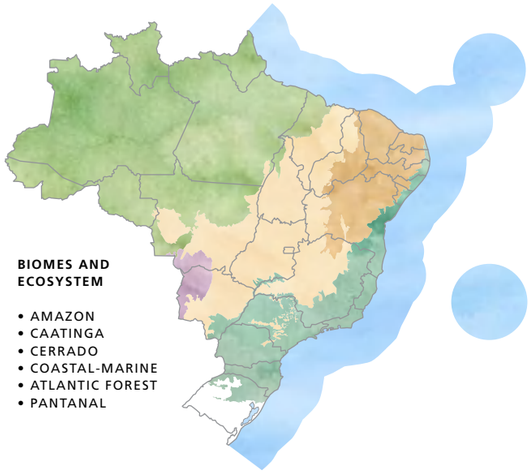


> "The development of DataClima+ marks the beginning of a new era in Brazil's climate governance. We are bringing together cutting edge technology, robust processes, and, above all, skilled people capable of transforming data into concrete climate action"
>
> said MÁRCIO ROJAS, General Coordinator for Climate Science at MCTI, the unit responsible for implementing the project

Floresta Viva

As the largest match funding initiative for ecological restoration in Brazil, **Floresta Viva** invested R$ 26.9 million in 2025 to support 46 projects dedicated to restoring native vegetation and strengthening the productive chain behind this effort across all Brazilian biomes.

At the midpoint of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and with Brazil committed to restoring 12 million hectares of native vegetation by 2030, the initiative continues to play a decisive role in catalyzing investment in this agenda. To date, 15 calls have been launched, and approximately 9,000 hectares are already in the process of restoration. The program generates broad environmental and social benefits, including biodiversity conservation, strengthened management of strategic territories such as Protected Areas and Indigenous Lands, improved water security, mitigation of climate crisis impacts, and the creation of jobs and income.



> “*Floresta Viva* is one of the largest ecological restoration initiatives in Brazil: it benefits both the environment and local communities”
>
> highlights BNDES President, ALOIZIO MERCADANTE

Launched in 2021 by the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES), *Floresta Viva* aims to attract and scale investments in ecological restoration and agroforestry projects across all Brazilian biomes. Half of its resources come from the BNDES Socioenvironmental Fund, while the remaining half is contributed by supporting institutions (companies, foundations, private associations, and public agencies) that voluntarily join the initiative.

FUNBIO serves as the project’s managing entity, with activities planned through 2030. Since its launch, approximately R$ 350 million have already been mobilized to enable native vegetation restoration across the country and to strengthen the productive chain that supports this effort.

With 46 projects currently underway, *Floresta Viva* is expected to reach around 100 projects by the end of 2026, expanding its scale and bringing at least 15,000 hectares into the restoration process.



The program catalyzes investments in ecological restoration projects and agroforestry systems throughout the nation’s biomes.



46
contracted projects

54
Protected Areas

13
Indigenous Lands

Floresta Viva

Investment in Connectivity

Beyond restoring vegetation, the project strategically targets priority areas where restoration can reconnect natural landscapes. With an investment of R$ 47 million distributed across 12 projects in five states and the Federal District, the Biodiversity Corridors Call aims to strengthen ecological connectivity among remnants of native vegetation in the Cerrado and Pantanal biomes. The call is supported by Petrobras and the German development bank KfW and is expected to restore a total of 2,700 hectares.

One of the organizations selected under the call is Araticum, which works in partnership with the Rede de Sementes do Cerrado (RSC) to restore 200 hectares in strategic areas such as Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park and the Kalunga Quilombola Territory.

The initiative aims to promote social inclusion, strengthen the local economy, and highlight the role of traditional communities as guardians and holders of knowledge on the use, management, and stewardship of the biome. The project will directly engage four groups of seed collectors and community based restoration practitioners, with a strong emphasis on the participation of women and youth.

The effort also includes regional meetings and training sessions for community groups, institutions, and land managers to strengthen the restoration value chain. Investments will additionally support innovation and research on seed physiology to enhance restoration outcomes.

As part of the call, a training workshop was also held with representatives from the 12 selected institutions, along with specialists, community leaders, and organizations committed to ecological restoration and Cerrado conservation. The meeting took place in February in Alto Paraíso de Goiás.

5
new calls underway

120
municipalities across

18
States and the Federal District

8.2
THOUSAND
hectares under restoration

“Our commitment goes beyond restoring 200 hectares. We want to transform realities, strengthen communities, and secure a sustainable future for the Cerrado. *Floresta Viva* brings together science, tradition, and partnerships to protect a biome that is essential to Brazil and to the world. More than ecological restoration, this project seeks to deepen the transformation already underway in how communities relate to the Cerrado, generating income, promoting equality, and valuing the knowledge held by traditional peoples”

says ANABELE GOMES, president of the Rede de Sementes do Cerrado (RSC)

“These calls focused on the Cerrado are essential. *Floresta Viva* is currently the largest restoration initiative underway in the biome. Most of the water that supplies the country originates in the Cerrado, and large scale restoration is fundamental to ensuring water security. It is impossible to think about conserving sociobiodiversity without this tripod: preventing deforestation, promoting ecological restoration, and ensuring connectivity”

explains ALEXANDRE SAMPAIO, coordinator of the National Center for Research and Conservation in Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration (CBC/ICMBio)



BNDES announces three new calls for proposals for ecological restoration projects during COP30, with FUNBIO serving as the managing partner. Photo: Helio Hara/FUNBIO

Another connectivity focused effort, the second investment window of the *Conectando Paisagens* FASB call, totals R$ 8.8 million, with co funding from the international organization Inovaland. The call aims to support ecological restoration actions that connect forest fragments and form ecological corridors in southern Bahia and northern Espírito Santo, from Pau Brasil National Park (Bahia) to the Sooretama Biological Reserve (Espirito Santo).

For this reason, valuing and involving traditional communities in the restoration value chain—one of *Floresta Viva*’s core pillars—is essential. **“Without the hands of the people who live in native ecosystems, there is no real restoration. *Floresta Viva* has been strategic in creating and structuring these productive chains and the capacities needed to scale this agenda and ensure community involvement. Because projects end. And then, who will take care of it? Communities must be engaged. They are the ones who will generate income from this work and care for these areas for decades to ensure restoration truly happens. That is how we achieve scale and permanence,”** he concludes.

Floresta Viva

Indigenous Lands and the Floresta do Rio Initiative

Floresta Viva also launched, in October of this year, a call dedicated to ecological restoration in Indigenous Lands in the states of Mato Grosso, Tocantins, and Maranhão. With a total of R$ 8.88 million, jointly contributed by BNDES, KfW, Fundação Bunge, and Agrícola Alvorada, the call will support up to four projects.

In total, *Floresta Viva* carries out actions in 13 Indigenous Lands, encompassing territories of ethnic groups such as Pataxó, Xavante, Potiguara, Xakriabá, and Tuxi.

In Rio de Janeiro, with support from the State Secretariat for Environment and Sustainability (SEAS RJ) and Aegea, the *Florestas do Rio* call selected in November the seven proposals that will invest in restoration actions across four hydrographic regions and nine municipalities in the state. A total of R$ 39.5 million will be allocated to the projects, which are expected to begin implementation in 2026.

A second edition of the call, totaling R$ 60 million, jointly invested by SEAS RJ and BNDES, was also launched in October to promote ecological restoration associated with water security in the state.

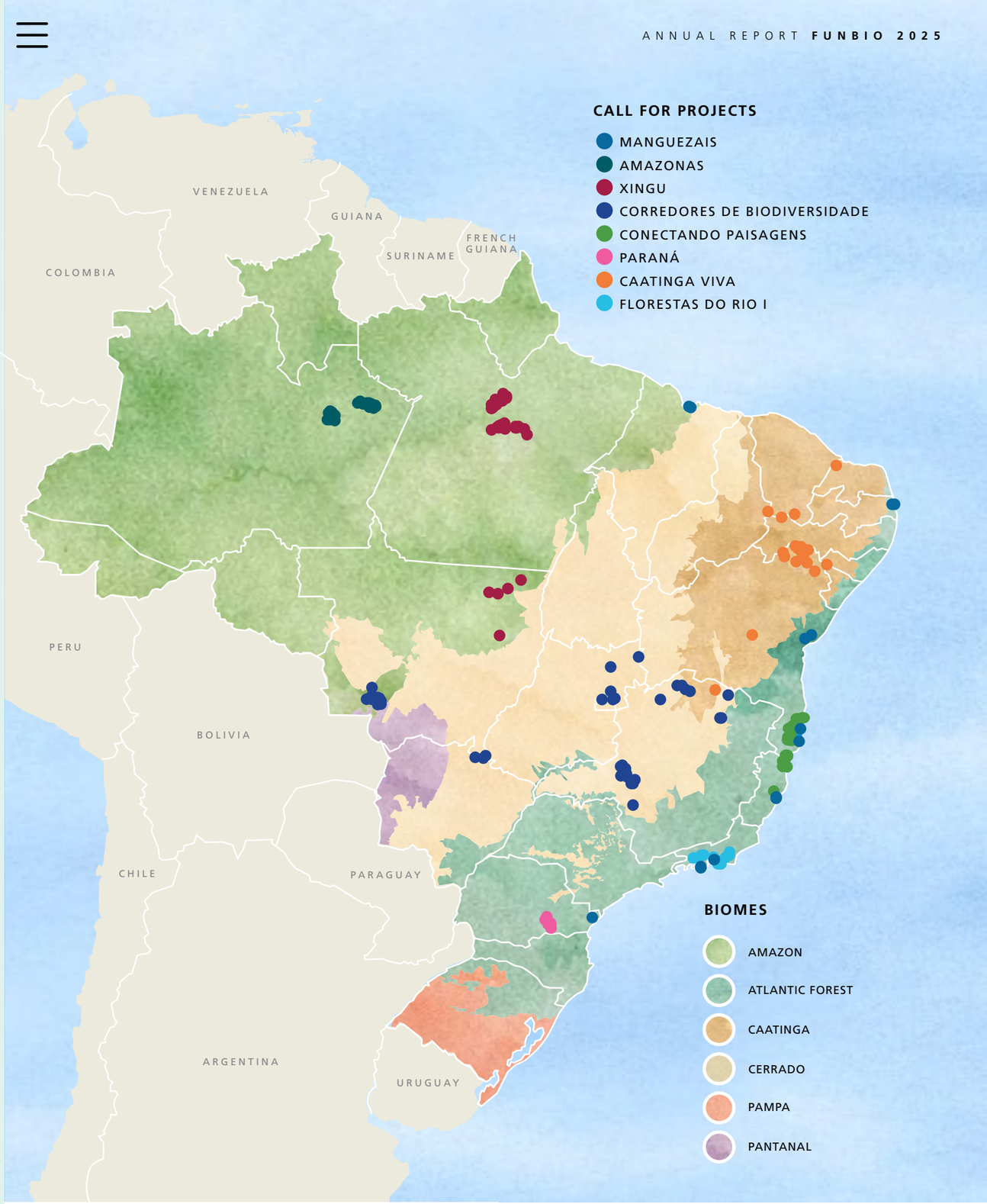
New Calls at COP30

During the UN Climate Conference (COP30), held in Belém, Pará, *Floresta Viva* launched three new calls totaling nearly R$ 32 million in restoration investments.

Águas do Beberibe — With a total investment of R$ 8.88 million, this call aims to support restoration efforts in the recharge area of the Beberibe Aquifer, in Pernambuco. Funded jointly by Heineken and BNDES, the call will select three projects.

Águas do Paranaíba — Focused on ecological restoration and the revitalization of water resources in areas influenced by the reservoirs of the Corumbá, Batalha, Serra do Facão, and Itumbiara Hydropower Plants, in the Paranaíba River Basin. With resources from the supporting institution Axia Energia (formerly Eletrobras), the call will allocate R$ 17.76 million to up to seven projects, to be selected in 2026.

Ecological Restoration in the Pantanal — With a total of R$ 5.2 million, this call will invest in two projects dedicated to ecological restoration and strengthening the restoration value chain in the biome, with emphasis on the Upper Paraguay Basin. The call is supported by the sanitation company Aegea.



floresta viva

APOIO FINANCEIRO

BNDES

PARCEIRO GESTOR

FUNDO BRASILEIRO PARA A BIODIVERSIDADE FUNBIO

new

Floresta+ Amazônia

Starting in 2025, the **Floresta+ Amazônia** program aims to curb deforestation, promote sustainable development, and reward those who protect and restore the forest.

The initiative is a partnership between the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and is part of the MMA's Union with Municipalities for the Reduction of Deforestation and Forest Fires program.

The federal initiative has formalized participation agreements with 70 priority municipalities across six states of the Legal Amazon: Acre, Amazonas, Mato Grosso, Pará, Rondônia, and Roraima.

Outboard motors, gas cylinders, canoes, and tool kits will ensure greater autonomy for Indigenous peoples. Photo: Vanderson Apurinan





BIOME

• AMAZON



Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, Marina Silva, at the event marking the signing of the contract to establish the monitoring offices between MMA, UNEP and FUNBIO. Photo: Nathália Josino

The participating municipalities received support through the Floresta+ Amazônia program and additional funding sources to establish Environmental Governance Offices. This included the purchase of vehicles, boats, and equipment such as drones and computers. The support package also provides specialized technical assistance and strategic services delivered by the Brazilian Institute of Municipal Administration (IBAM), with the goal of improving municipal environmental management and strengthening local capacity to monitor deforestation and forest degradation. Through Floresta+ Amazônia, each participating municipality received R$ 700,000.

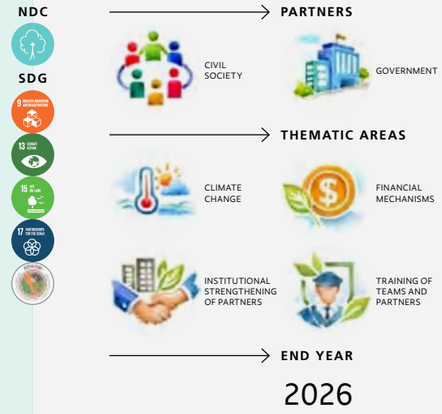
The delivery of equipment for the establishment of the governance offices took place throughout the second half of the year, covering all municipalities involved in the program. In addition, outreach events for Floresta+ Amazônia were held in Porto Velho (Rondônia), Altamira (Pará), Manaus (Amazonas), Rio Branco (Acre), and Cuiabá (Mato Grosso), with the participation of local authorities. Since the beginning of its activities, the program has already delivered more than one thousand items, including both goods and services.

The ceremony held in Manaus on September 9 marked the launch of the Union with Municipalities program and was attended by President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva; the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, Marina Silva; the National Secretary for Deforestation Control, André Lima; as well as mayors, municipal environment secretaries, and teams from MMA, UNDP, FUNBIO, and IBAM.

During the event, Minister Marina Silva underscored the importance of supporting municipalities in their efforts to tackle deforestation:

"We have a commitment, and we must also have clear indicators of the efforts behind that commitment. Efforts that materialize in financial resources, human resources, proper processes, and the right structures so that we can implement the decisions we make," she said, referring to the support provided to municipalities through Floresta+ Amazônia to curb deforestation.

The Floresta+ Amazônia project is an initiative coordinated by MMA, financed by the Green Climate Fund (GCF), with resource management by UNDP and implementation carried out by IBAM and FUNBIO.

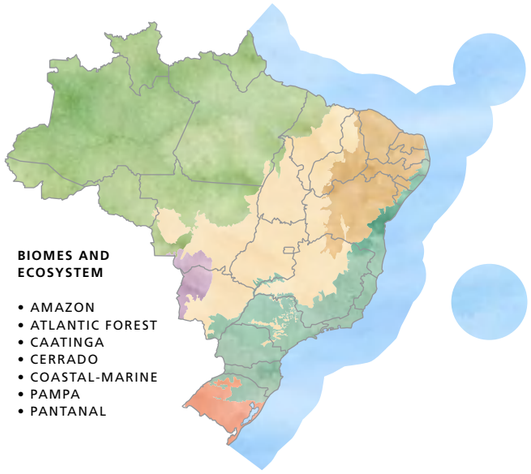


Abrolhos Land and Sea Fund

Focused on strengthening eight federal protected areas (PAs) in southern Bahia and the far north of Espírito Santo, the **Abrolhos Land and Sea Fund – Sustainable Tourism** invested in the continuation and development of the Futuri Alliance for Regenerative Tourism.

The initiative, which emphasizes management, stakeholder engagement, governance, and the promotion of sustainable practices, now brings together nearly 300 local allies, including tourism businesses, consultants, educational institutions, and local enterprises.

The network established its Steering Committee, responsible for implementing a participatory governance model; mobilized 11 local Working Groups; and organized good practice events featuring examples of more sustainable solutions, capacity building activities, and knowledge exchange.

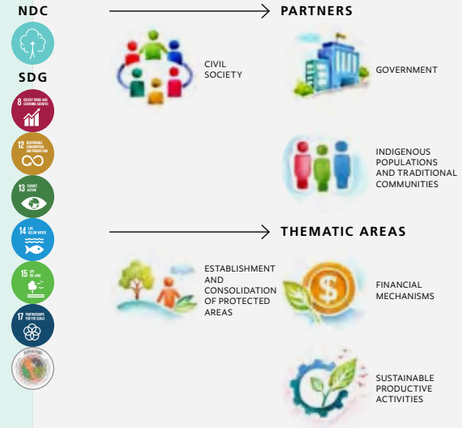




Lantana camara. Photo: Thaina Goldman

During the 30th Climate Conference (COP30) in Belém, Pará, the Futuri Alliance took part in panel discussions and presented world leaders with a manifesto underscoring the historic opportunity to elevate regenerative tourism as both an inspiration and a climate solution. The document highlights the role of traditional peoples and communities, the importance of preserving their cultural practices, and the fact that tourism is one of the main economic drivers sustaining these groups. It also outlines recommendations for governments, the private sector, and international organizations, calling for the recognition of regenerative tourism as a concrete strategy for climate action and adaptation, capable of generating economic, social, and environmental benefits.

The Abrolhos Fund supports the enhancement of public use in the five protected areas included in the initiative, contributing to infrastructure improvements, the acquisition of materials and services, trail signage, and visitor outreach on the importance of these protected areas.





The initiative strengthens the protected areas of southern Bahia and the far north of Espírito Santo. Photo: Guilherme Duarte

Amapá Fund

The **Amapá Fund** was launched in 2015 with the aim of streamlining implementation and providing greater flexibility in allocating resources to protected areas and to the conservation of the state's sociobiodiversity. It mobilizes funding through donations, Conduct Adjustment Agreements (CAAs), and payments for environmental services.

Over its ten years of operation, the fund has also supported sustainable value chains and the bioeconomy in the state that holds the highest proportion of preserved native vegetation in Brazil.

Among the organizations supported throughout the project is the Mixed Cooperative of Producers and Extractivists of the Iratapuru River (COMARU), located in the municipality of Laranjal do Jari. The fund's support has focused on strengthening the Brazil nut value chain through fair trade practices that improve the quality of life of extractivist families while promoting forest conservation.



BIOME

• AMAZON

Through the *Instituto de Pesquisa e Formação Indígena* (IEPÉ), the fund also supported the work of the Araguari Women Extractivists Association – *Sementes do Araguari*, which operates within and around the Amapá National Forest. This community based organization brings together women who collect non timber forest products such as andiroba, fava, copaíba, pracaxi, and breu branco, extracting oils used in the production of natural cosmetics. The support focused on strengthening good management practices, promoting the use of appropriate techniques and tools, enabling the collection and processing of additional non timber forest products, and fostering the region's bioeconomy.

The Amapá Fund was designed by FUNBIO, the initiative's financial manager, with support from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and CI Brazil, in alignment with the Amapá State Secretariat for the Environment. The fund received an initial contribution of USD 2.5 million from Conservation International's Global Conservation Fund (GCF), complemented by a state counterpart of R$ 1 million.



For ten years, the Amapá Fund has supported environmental conservation and sociobiodiversity in one of Brazil's most preserved states. Cabo Orange National Park, Amapá. Photo: Victor Moriyama/FUNBIO

SDG

PARTNERS

- CIVIL SOCIETY
- INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS AND TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES

THEMATIC AREAS

- FINANCIAL MECHANISMS
- FOREST RESTORATION
- GENDER EQUITY
- INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS
- SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES

END YEAR

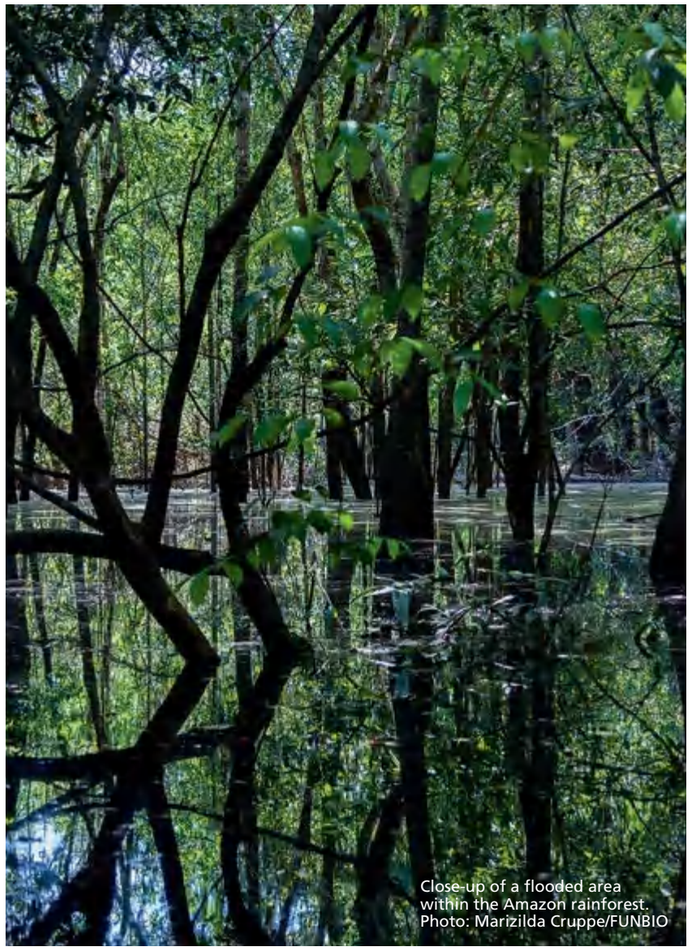
2025

Land Governance Catalyst Fund

The **Land Governance Catalyst Fund (FCAF)** supports the Brazilian government in advancing its goal of determining the future of 29.5 million hectares of undesignated public forests in the Legal Amazon.

USD 1.5
MILLION
executed in 2025

USD 5.9
MILLION
committed to new projects



Close-up of a flooded area within the Amazon rainforest. Photo: Marizilda Cruppe/FUNBIO

SDG

PARTNERS

CIVIL SOCIETY

COMPANIES

GOVERNMENT

THEMATIC AREAS

FINANCIAL MECHANISMS

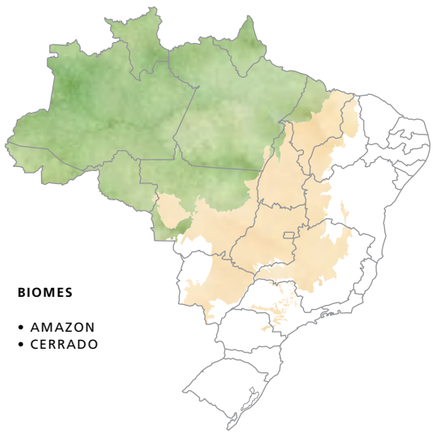
INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS

TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

END YEAR

2028

> “While POP SECD **(see p. 79)** was essential for building the MMA team and structuring the core components of the *Territórios da Floresta* program, the Fund is what is enabling the program to scale. Without the FCAF, we would not have effective actions to allocate public lands to traditional peoples and communities, nor would we be addressing this challenge at the level we have reached. If POP allowed us to make a qualitative leap, the Fund is allowing us to make a quantitative one. These are complementary initiatives that are propelling the land tenure regularization agenda forward”
>
> says BRUNO ABE SABER, SECD’s general coordinator



The financial mechanism, which executed USD 1.5 million in 2025 and has an additional USD 5.9 million committed to new projects, has been investing in the implementation of the Territórios da Floresta program, jointly led by the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA) and the Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Farming (MDA). The first contracts are expected to be signed in the first half of 2026, designating up to 1.2 million hectares for traditional peoples and communities in the states of Amazonas, Maranhão, Tocantins, and Acre—in the latter with support from POP SECD **(see p. 79)**.

Among the five projects supported by the fund, this initiative is implemented by the MMA’s Extraordinary Secretariat for Deforestation Control and Territorial Environmental Planning (SECD). Its purpose is to formalize Concession Contracts for Real Use Rights, securing and recognizing the territorial rights of traditional peoples and communities. Fund resources have already enabled the identification of communities, families, and territories in three states (Amazonas, Maranhão, and Tocantins), as well as the organization of community assemblies required for program participation, activities that engaged approximately 500 people over the year.

The other four projects financed by the Catalyst Fund were approved by the Fund Steering Committee in October and will begin activities in 2026. These initiatives aim to maximize the number of areas designated, with a focus on ensuring long term sustainability and effective territorial management. The allocation of public lands is a key instrument in combating land grabbing and deforestation.

FCAF



Photo: Marizilda Cruppe/FUNBIO

One of the institutions supported by the Fund is the National Foundation for Indigenous Peoples (FUNAI), which is developing the Indigenist Information System for the Regularization of Indigenous Lands. The cooperation agreement for the system's implementation, which includes integration with other federal government databases and improvements to the management and demarcation processes of Indigenous Lands, was signed during the Climate Conference in Belém (COP30).

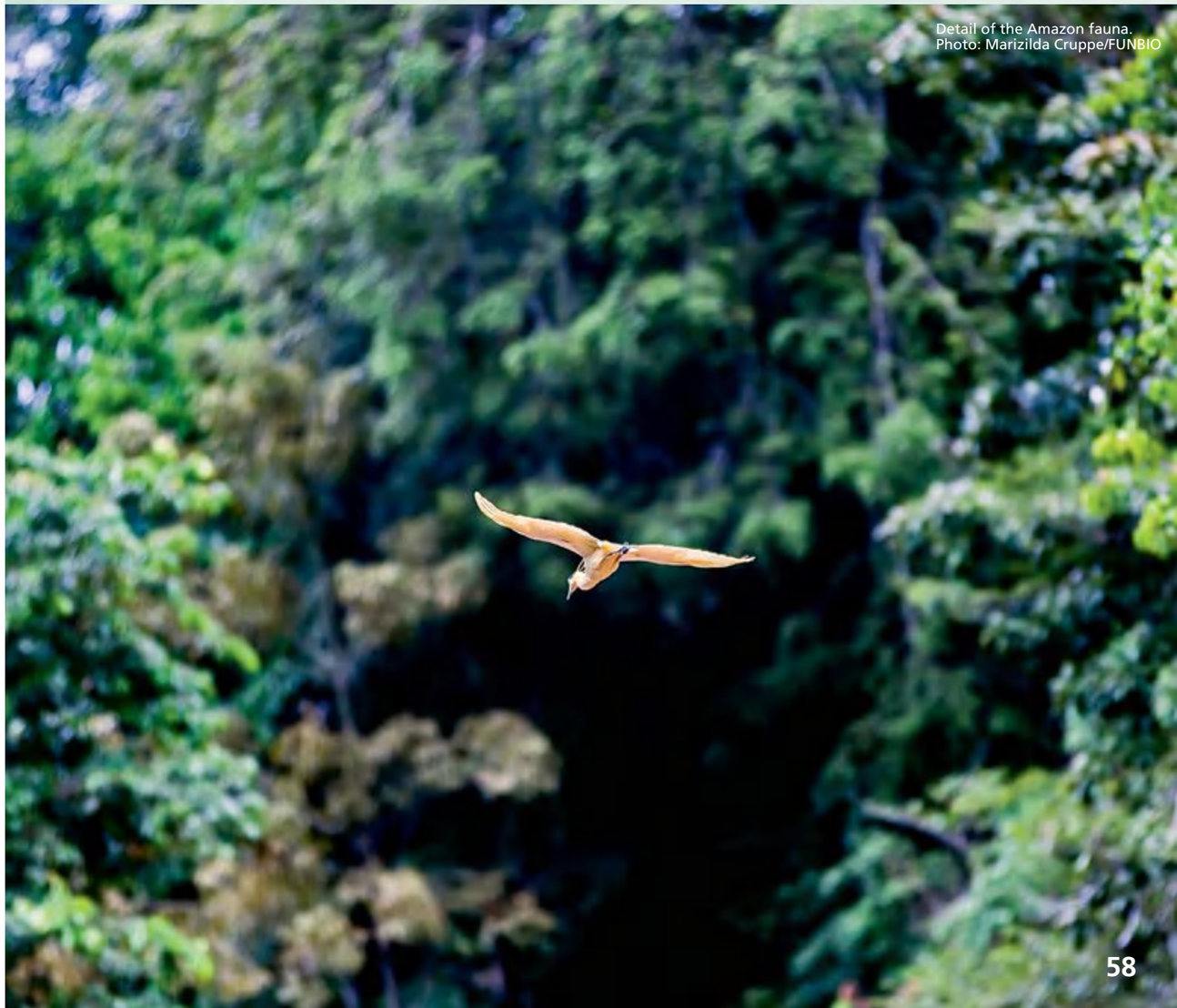
The National Institute for Colonization and Agrarian Reform (Incra) has also received support from the Fund to allocate approximately 500,000 hectares of undesignated federal public lands for settlement purposes in the states of Pará, Tocantins, Amazonas, and Maranhão.

In Brazil's second largest state, the Pará Land Institute (ITERPA) will regularize approximately 10 million hectares of public lands. Of this total, seven million hectares will secure land tenure regularization and legal certainty within protected areas, while three million hectares will be allocated for other purposes, with priority given to sustainable use designations.

FCAF resources will also support the Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Farming (MDA) in advancing the allocation of 10 million hectares of public lands currently under review by the Technical Chamber for the Allocation and Land Tenure Regularization of Federal Rural Public Lands (CTD, the acronym in Portuguese), with priority for traditional communities. The Fund will further enable the addition of new modules to the *Terras do Brasil* Platform, focused on supporting collective land allocations for traditional peoples and communities. It will also facilitate integration between the Platform and state level databases, creating a unified territorial management system.

National Meeting

In September, during the **II National Meeting of Land Agencies** in Teresina (Piauí), the FCAF was formally presented for the first time, during the panel Territories of Rights: Collective Allocation of Public Lands for Traditional Peoples and Communities. The event serves as a strategic space for coordinating integrated actions among federal, state, and local institutions, sharing experiences, and developing regional and national solutions to address Brazil's land tenure challenges.



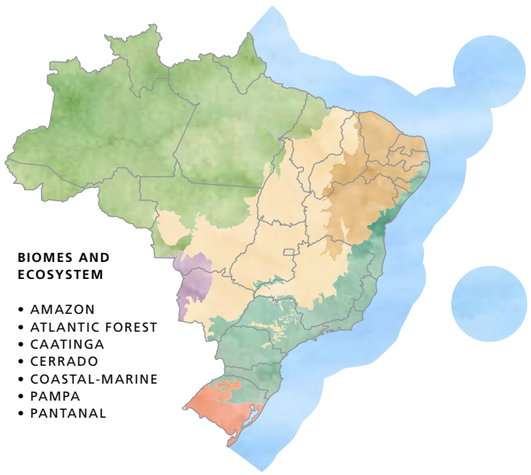
Detail of the Amazon fauna.
Photo: Marizilda Cruppe/FUNBIO

Decarbonization Fund

As part of the global effort to confront climate change, each country that is party to the Paris Agreement must develop and communicate its climate actions and targets through its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

Delivering on these commitments is central to the agenda and the core mission of the **Decarbonization Fund**, created to support and accelerate climate action in Brazil. Operating since 2024, the financial mechanism invests in the improvement and implementation of public policies and decarbonization strategies led by federal and state governments, in collaboration with scientists and civil society. Its work strengthens institutional capacities, generates strategic knowledge, and advances the transition to a low carbon economy.

In 2025, approximately R$ 16 million were committed to initiatives organized around five thematic pillars: climate governance; climate change mitigation and adaptation; integration of climate policy with development, infrastructure, and social inclusion agendas; climate and oceans; and international coordination for the implementation of Brazil's Climate Policy.



Part of this strategy was made possible through support to the Secretariat for Climate Change (SMC) of the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA), including the hiring of specialized consultancies to assist in implementing the *Plano Clima*. This work included conducting workshops with the SMC to define priorities, targets, governance structures, and monitoring frameworks for sectoral plans.

The project also contributed to the organization of the 30th UN Climate Conference (COP30), held in Belém (Pará). Through consultancies contracted to support the COP presidency, the Fund helped structure events and thematic agendas within the conference, with a focus on decarbonization, climate finance, and public policy.

The financial mechanism also invested in the development and operationalization of Sectoral Decarbonization Plans, with particular emphasis on the industrial, energy, and agricultural sectors. In partnership with the Ministry of Development, Industry, Trade and Services (MDIC), for example, strategies were defined to reduce emissions associated with the production of iron, aluminum, cement, and glass.



Decarbonization Fund

Update of the Low Carbon Agriculture Plan (ABC+ Plan)

The project supporting the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAPA), aimed at strengthening the ABC+ Plan agenda, will begin with a strategic review of the plan, the reinforcement of state level governance, and the development of the institutional capacities required for its implementation.

The initiative represents a significant opportunity to enhance Brazil's low carbon agriculture policy, aligning it with the current challenges of the national climate agenda and with the country's mitigation and adaptation targets.

The project is structured around three complementary pillars. The first focuses on supporting the revision of the ABC+ Plan, updating its guidelines, priorities, instruments, and implementation strategies to increase its effectiveness and ensure alignment with the new context of the *Plano Clima* and with public policies related to land use and sustainable agricultural production. This process is expected to make the plan more robust, current, and responsive to the sector's needs.

The second pillar focuses on strengthening the State Management Groups (GGEs, the acronym in Portuguese), recognizing that effective implementation of the ABC+ Plan requires stronger federative coordination, territorial alignment, and operational capacity at the state level. To this end, the project seeks to support mobilization, organization, and capacity building efforts within these groups, creating the conditions for states to play a more active role in territorializing the policy and identifying concrete opportunities for implementation.

The project also includes training and technical assistance to support project design and resource mobilization, with the aim of enhancing the ability of stakeholders to translate strategic guidelines into viable, fundable, and high impact initiatives. In doing so, it contributes not only to improving the ABC+ Plan but also to creating the practical conditions necessary for its execution, strengthening Brazil's agricultural decarbonization agenda in a structured and lasting manner.

Renewable Energy in the Northeast

In October, Fortaleza hosted the seminar How to Scale and Accelerate Sustainable Investments in the Northeast: Powershoring Opportunities, organized by the Northeast Consortium with support from the Decarbonization Fund.

'Powershoring' refers to the relocation of industries to regions with abundant renewable energy potential as a strategy to reduce emissions. With its states accounting for more than two thirds of Brazil's installed wind and solar capacity, the Northeast offers uniquely strategic conditions to lead this agenda.

The seminar brought together government, industry, investors, and civil society to discuss regional strategies for consolidating powershoring; investor perspectives and financing mechanisms; the current industrial landscape; and the role of philanthropy and international cooperation in advancing the transition.

The Decarbonization Fund was established through contributions from national and international philanthropy, which together provided approximately USD 6.4 million to the financial mechanism.

Restoration Arc in Pará

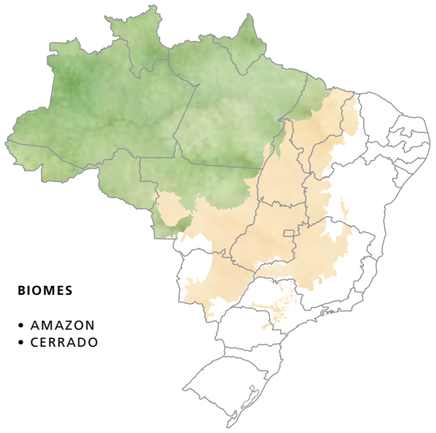
At the state level, the Fund supported the Pará Secretariat for Environment and Sustainability (SEMAS) in developing a State Concession Program for Forest Restoration, which aims to allocate more than 100 thousand hectares of public land for restoration by 2026 in partnership with the private sector.

The collaboration includes the development of governance arrangements among federal and state entities; the strengthening of regulatory and technical capacities within the institutions involved; the design of innovative financial instruments that ensure the economic sustainability of the concessions; active engagement of local communities and other strategic stakeholders; and the promotion of socio environmental integrity across the territories.

Kayapó Fund

The mission of the **Kayapó Fund** is to strengthen and empower the Mebêngôkre Kayapó people (combining the name used by the people themselves with the name by which they are known by other Indigenous groups). They inhabit the Kayapó, Menkragnoti, Baú, Capoto Jarina, Badjônkôre, and Las Casas Indigenous Lands, located between southern Pará and northern Mato Grosso. Together, these territories encompass 10.6 million hectares of protected Amazon rainforest and areas of Cerrado.

To fulfill its mission, the fund invests in strengthening environmental management and territorial protection; conserving and promoting the sustainable use of natural resources; empowering Indigenous women and youth; and valuing the traditional knowledge and cultural practices of the Kayapó people. In 2025, approximately R$3 million were invested. For the first time, the fund supported local organizations directly, expanding participation to nine Kayapó organizations and benefiting more than 10,300 Indigenous people across 130 villages.



R$ 3
MILLION
invested

9
participating organizations

10,300
Indigenous people benefited

130
villages supported

The Fund supports initiatives focused on territorial protection, conservation, and the sustainable use of natural resources. Photo: Lucas Landau/FUNBIO



Another key investment priority was strengthening the management of the financial mechanism itself. Three meetings of the Kayapó Fund's provisional Governance Committee were held, during which members formalized the creation of a Kayapó Steering Council and approved its internal regulations, endorsed jointly by Indigenous leadership and donors. These meetings also brought together 12 leaders from the six territories supported by the Kayapó Fund, advancing the transition toward a governance model grounded in increasingly strong Indigenous leadership and decision making.

> "We are representative organizations from our territories, and we are here discussing the governance structures of a fund that belongs to all of us"
>
> emphasized MAYALU TXUCARRAMÃE, executive coordinator of the Raoni Institute, one of the most prominent Mebêngôkre organizations and a beneficiary of the financial mechanism





The initiative also reinforces the leadership of Indigenous women and youth and highlights the traditional knowledge and cultural practices of the Kayapó people. Photo: Arewana Yudja/FUNBIO

Kayapó Fund



Waterfall in protected indigenous territory. Photo: Gabriella Furtado

Projects Supported

Associação Angrokrere: Strengthening Institutional Governance (income generation)

Associação Cultural Indigena Kapot Jarinã: Documentary — *Bep Kororoti*: The Eye That Sees Everything

Associação Mekragnotire Sul: Kukradja Otyj (strengthening the association)

Associação Ngonh Rorokre: Bàjkà Nhõ Ngô (reactivating the association)

Associação Indígena Pore Kayapó: Art and Ethnic Identity, Sustainable Entrepreneurship, and Income Generation

Associação Indígena Pykôre: Kayapó Cacao, Preserving Tradition, Cultivating the Future

Unprecedented Local Support

In its fifth investment cycle, the Kayapó Fund supported six locally based organizations for the first time: Associação Angrokrere, Ngonh Rorokre, Pore, Pykôre, Associação Mekragnotire Sul (AMS), and the Associação Cultural Kapot Jarina (ACKJ). Each received a R$100,000 contribution.

The resources enabled local initiatives focused on strengthening and training Indigenous associations within the territories, with an emphasis on organizational development, income generation, and communication.

One of the supported projects is the documentary "Bep Kororoti: The Eye That Sees Everything", now in its final stages of production and developed by the Kapot Jarina Indigenous Cultural Association (ACIKJ). The film is written, directed, and edited by Indigenous filmmakers. Alongside interviews with 20 participants, including leaders, youth, and elders of the Mebêngôkre people who share their stories and knowledge, the documentary portrays daily life in the Kapot village, located in the Capoto Jarina Indigenous Land in northern Mato Grosso, home to around 600 people.

"We want to show how we maintain our traditional knowledge and how Indigenous peoples protect their lands, rivers, and springs. The film demonstrates what we already do to safeguard the territory and keep alive the culture of our elders, who pass their knowledge on to younger generations," explains Betikre Tapayuna Metuktire, communicator, young leader, and producer of the film. **"This is a tool for protection and for denouncing threats. It is a powerful film that brings our stories, stories we want to share with the world,"** he adds.

Kayapó communicators also contributed to the creation of the Kayapó Fund's visual identity, launched this year together with the institutional newsletter Bà Kaben Ma – Listen to the Forest, now in its third edition.



Meeting of leaderships at the FUNBIO headquarters. Photo: Mateus Duarte/ FUNBIO

Structural Actions of the Program

- 2 stores offering Mebêngôkre products
- 4 commercialization events
- 16 villages with waste collection logistics in place
- 14 households equipped with solar energy systems
- 1 water system with active pumping
- 2 supplementary educational books produced
- 788 students benefited
- 500 copies of the Flora Species Guide for the Baú and Menkragnoti Indigenous Lands distributed
- 5 coordination meetings supported by the Raoni Institute
- 1 Strategic Planning consultancy
- 4 internal capacity building meetings
- 1 Institutional Assessment conducted
- 1 training program for youth and women
- 1 internet antenna installed on a monitoring vehicle
- 1 monitoring expedition in the Las Casas Indigenous Land
- 171 hectolitros de castanha produzidas
- 1 COOBA Y Assembly held
- Support provided to the Women's Department
- Participation in the VII AGMMTIX – General Assembly of the Women's Movement of the Xingu Indigenous Territory
- 100 participants supported at the *Acampamento Terra Livre* (ATL)
- +10 communication pieces published on social media
- 1 Strategic Planning process for the *Associação Floresta Protegida* (AFP)
- 1 AFP General Assembly held

Kayapó Fund

Forest Products

In its fifth investment cycle, the Kayapó Fund also supported five productive chains: Brazil nuts, cumaru, cacao, manioc flour, and handicrafts.

Known as the "vanilla of the Amazon" for its sweet, vanilla like aroma, the cumaru seed is at the center of a project led by the community based Instituto Kabu in the Menkragnoti Indigenous Land, which has already received a total of R$1 million. Considered both a food and a form of medicine, cumaru is also an important source of income for the villages. Forest fires, however, pose a threat to this valuable resource.

The project, made possible through a direct R$175,000 contribution from the Kayapó Fund, aimed to restore cumaru production and reverse declining harvests. This effort included an expedition to a village abandoned 10 years ago after a plane crash. The 20 day journey revealed a regenerated forest and resulted in a harvest of 215 kg of cumaru.

These actions are part of the project Territorial and Environmental Management of Kayapó Territories along the BR 163 Corridor [a major highway in the Amazon], which promotes direct income generation for Mebêngôkre families through forest based extractivism that keeps the forest standing. The initiative supports access to fair markets, the pursuit of agroforestry certifications, and the implementation of strategic measures such as local processing, transforming traditional knowledge into financial autonomy.

The Fund also invested in the structuring and operation of five surveillance and monitoring field stations; the renovation of 14 energy systems; the implementation of Agroforestry Systems; and the strengthening of solid waste management in 10 villages.

Resources for the Kayapó Fund's 5th Cycle (2024–2025) come from donations from the Amazon Fund/BNDES and Conservation International (CI), totaling R$5.8 million invested. Financial management has been carried out by FUNBIO since 2011.

Representation at COP30

The Kayapó Fund participated in the Climate Conference (COP30), held in Belém (Pará) in November, with a delegation of 18 young Kayapó leaders.

Young people and women from the project Raoni's Legacy: Grandchildren of Resistance – Reforesting Thought to Postpone the End of the World, led by the Raoni Institute, were also present at the conference. Supported by the Fund in its fifth cycle, the initiative aims to strengthen the institutional capacity and self sufficiency of Kayapó communities, promoting sustainable development and the political participation of women, youth, and leaders. The organization received R$1 million to invest in territorial monitoring, sustainable production, environmental management, political representation, and administration.

The work included preparatory workshops that trained participants in politics, climate change, and communication, and discussed how COPs operate as well as expectations for the conference.



The program's fifth cycle supported the strengthening of sustainable production chains. Photo: Lucas Landau/FUNBIO



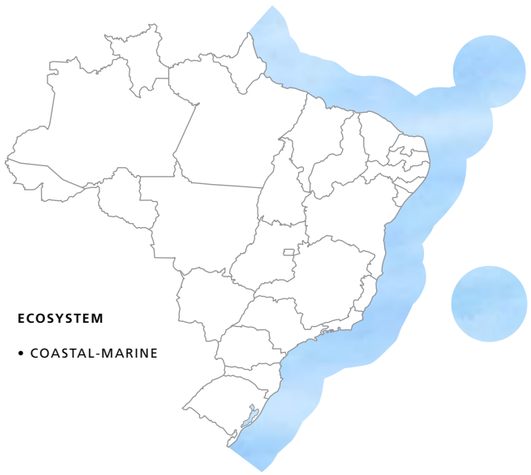
Efforts promote income generation and socioeconomic development. Photo: Lucas Landau/FUNBIO

FUNDO KAYAPÓ

Marine Fund

In 2025, the **Marine Fund** made significant progress in its structuring process, establishing the governance framework of the financial mechanism, an essential milestone for the start of implementation, planned for the first half of 2026. Created to ensure the continuity of the Marine and Coastal Protected Areas project (GEF Mar), also managed by FUNBIO, the fund will invest more than R$54 million directly in marine and coastal protected areas (PAs). Its mission is to cover the entire Brazilian coastline, secure the long term financial sustainability of these protected areas, and support the development of public policies for the coastal and marine zone.

Throughout 2025, the newly formed Governing Board met three times to select civil society representatives and to validate the project's resource implementation plan. A meeting of the Donors Committee was also held.



Understanding the Fund

Open to new contributions, the Marine Fund operates under a multi portfolio structure, allowing it to hold different classes of assets. It currently comprises two portfolios. The first, totaling R$54 million, is an expendable portfolio, i.e. resources that can be fully invested in marine and coastal protected areas (PAs), as well as in policies and strategic actions for biodiversity monitoring and conservation (Marine Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Living Resources – REVIMAR). It also supports governance initiatives such as Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) for the sustainable use of Brazil's marine and coastal zone (blue bioeconomy), and the development and implementation of public policies. The second is a non expendable endowment, currently holding R$53 million, from which only net investment returns may be used, ensuring the long term perpetuity of the fund.

The resources originate from a 2018 Commitment Agreement between the Brazilian Institute of Renewable Natural Resources (Ibama) and Petrobras, which contributed R$46 million to regulate the measures required for adapting the company's offshore platforms regarding produced water disposal (expendable portfolio). An additional R$36.6 million was provided by the GEF Mar program to establish the financial mechanism, an integral part of the program's mission (non expendable portfolio).



Projeto Áreas Marinhas e Costeiras Protegidas

GEF Mar

The largest initiative supporting marine and coastal biodiversity conservation in Brazil, **GEF Mar** invested approximately R$17.13 million in 2025 to fund activities in 36 protected areas (24 federal and 12 state), which together safeguard over 98 million hectares of Brazil's coastline, as well as seven research centers.

Through its funding calls, GEF Mar also supported 19 community-based organizations. Of these, 16 signed agreements in February under a call that allocated R$3.8 million to strengthen coordination and build capacity among organizations representing traditional peoples and communities that benefit from or make use of the protected areas supported by the program. The selected projects focus on developing sustainable value chains, providing training for youth and women, promoting community-based tourism, and strengthening institutional capacity.

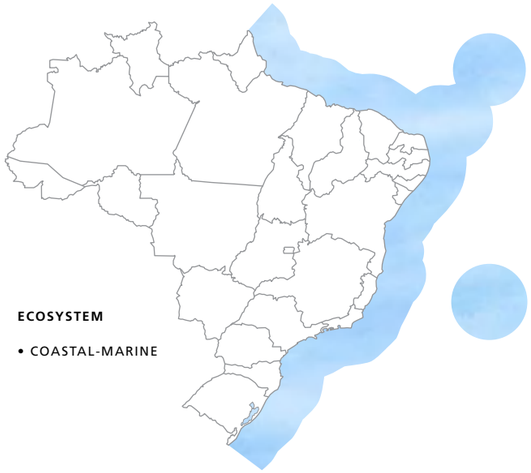
At the Cassurubá Marine Extractive Reserve (RESEX Cassurubá), in Caravelas on the coast of Bahia, approximately 350 families sustain their livelihoods through artisanal fishing, shellfish harvesting, small-scale farming, and community-based tourism. Within this setting, a collective of women shellfish gatherers from the Miringaba community created *Delícias do Mangue* ("Mangrove Delights"), an ecogastronomy initiative established with GEF Mar support and now entering its second round of funding.

The program financed the construction of a community kitchen, provided technical training for the women, supported the group's participation in agroecological fairs, and contributed to the development of a community-based tourism route—currently the focus of the latest funding call.

36
protected areas supported

7
research centers supported

98.15
MILLION
hectares under protection



Visitors to the reserve can experience the region's flavors through dishes prepared with locally sourced ingredients, carefully harvested and cooked by community members. The experience begins with breakfasts featuring produce from family farms and extends to seafood-based lunches, including specialties such as shrimp sausage, fish kibbeh, skewered aratu crab, *xibiu* (a fritter similar to *acarajé* made with shellfish), and traditional *moquecas*. Any surplus is thoughtfully repurposed into animal feed or organic fertilizer.

> "*Delícias do Mangue* is about valuing our territory and the mangrove ecosystem, generating and fairly distributing income within the community, as well as strengthening household earnings and women's autonomy, since most heads of household here are women. We started with eight women, and today we are 23"
>
> says community member ELIANA MATOS MENEZES DE SOUZA, coordinator of the *Delícias do Mangue* group



The program supports efforts to conserve marine and coastal biodiversity. Photo: Paula Vergne

SDG

PARTNERS

- ACADEMIA
- CIVIL SOCIETY
- COMPANIES
- GOVERNMENT
- INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS AND TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES

THEMATIC AREAS

- ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF PROTECTED AREAS
- INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS
- SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES
- TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

END YEAR

2029

IN THE PRESS

09/13/2025 — *PROGRAMA É DE CASA – TV GLOBO*
Abrolhos, Bahia, Is a Haven for Many Seabirds That Have Chosen the Archipelago as Their Home

GEF Mar



Community-based tourism, environmental education, and ecosystem appreciation are among the actions supported by the program. Photo: Paula Vergne

According to Eliana, community-based tourism and the sale of seafood by-products have increased household incomes while fostering greater awareness of and respect for nature, seasonal closures, and the sustainable use of natural resources. **"We also carry out environmental education and promote recognition of the mangrove's importance,"** she adds.

Caravelas is also the gateway to the Abrolhos Marine National Park, where the exhibition "Abra os Olhos" ("Open Your Eyes") was inaugurated in July at the protected area's visitor center. Developed with support from the program, the exhibition offers an immersive and interactive experience, featuring virtual reality headsets, videos, interpretive panels, stereoscopes for close observation of natural specimens, and even a life-size humpback whale. The opening brought together authorities, ICMBio representatives, and the broader public.

GEF Mar is a federal government project funded through a grant from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), coordinated by the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment (MMA) and financially and operationally managed by FUNBIO. Running through 2029, the program aims to conserve biodiversity and strengthen the protection and management of Brazil's marine and coastal environments, while developing mechanisms to ensure their long-term financial sustainability.

In 2025, the project carried out planning for its sixth cycle (2026–2027), marking the transition to GEF Mar II **(see p. 69)**.

19
community-based institutions benefited

163
fellows directly supported

Community Strengthening

In December, representatives from the second cycle of GEF Mar's Community Strengthening and Integration subprojects took part in a closing seminar in Brasília. The event brought together protected area managers and community leaders, celebrating years of intensive collective effort and the consolidation of participatory processes in protected areas and traditional territories along Brazil's coastal and marine zone. These actions stem from three subprojects: *Integra Mar Nordeste*, which worked with communities and protected areas; *Integra Pesca Artesanal Sul*, which strengthened value chains, participatory monitoring, and sustainable fishing networks; and the *Subprojeto do Sul da Bahia*, implemented directly by the communities themselves, marking a significant advance in local autonomy and governance.

Among the key outcomes of *Integra Pesca Artesanal Sul* was the crucial support provided to foster dialogue between the management of Lagoa do Peixe National Park (Rio Grande do Sul) and local fishers, helping to ease long-standing tensions and paving the way for the implementation of community-based monitoring of pink shrimp through ICMBio's Monitora program.

Meanwhile, under *Integra Mar Nordeste*, the project leaves a legacy of closer integration among federal and state protected areas in the region, alongside strengthened support for the creative economy and the formation of new women's and youth networks, enhancing community autonomy and creating income-generating opportunities, such as the launch of a tourism route in the Guadalupe Environmental Protection Area (APA) in Pernambuco.

In southern Bahia, at the Canavieiras Extractive Reserve, a Community Center was built to host council meetings, celebrations, fairs, association gatherings, and other community events. Delivered in December and scheduled for formal inauguration in February 2026, the facility also includes a community kitchen to support income-generating activities. The project was developed in partnership with community members and prioritized local labor. One of its highlights is the lighting, crafted by local artisan André Dias using straw and ceramic.



Caravelas is the gateway to the Abrolhos Marine National Park. Photo: Rafael Sperb

GEF Mar

Start of Marine Spatial Planning in the Northeast

In October, sectoral workshops were launched with key stakeholders to develop the first Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) for Brazil's Northeast Region. Scheduled to run through November 2026, these workshops mark the initial phase of a four-year process to map uses and activities across the region's coastal and marine zone. The initiative represents an estimated investment of R$10 million and is being implemented in partnership with the Brazilian Navy and the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA).

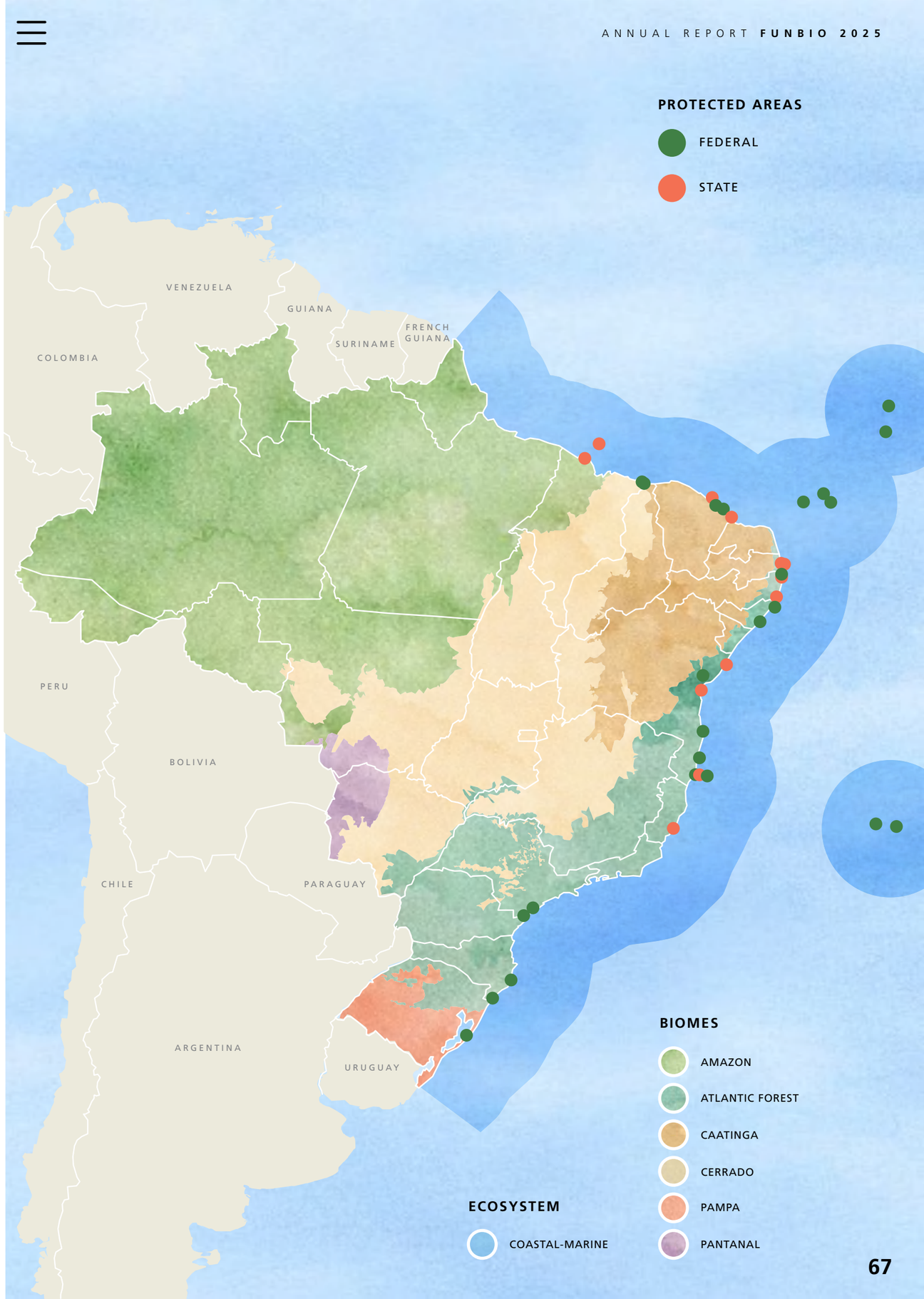
The development of the MSP forms part of Brazil's commitment, made in 2017 at the 1st United Nations Ocean Conference, to complete mapping of its entire marine and coastal zone by 2030. Implementation of MSP in the country's other regions is led by the National Bank for Economic and Social Development (BNDES).

Mangrove and Coral Conservation Highlighted at COP30

The Action Plan for implementing the National Program for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Brazil's Mangroves (ProManguezal), a public policy established in 2024, continued to advance with support from GEF Mar. The program aims to promote the protection and sustainable use of mangroves nationwide. In May 2025, a regional workshop for the Northeast was held in Natal (Rio Grande do Norte), bringing together around 40 representatives from government, academia, civil society, and traditional peoples and communities.

Another initiative supported by GEF Mar is the National Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Coral Reefs (ProCoral), formally established by Decree No. 14,486 in June 2025. Coordinated by the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA), the strategy seeks to guide, align, and coordinate public policies for the conservation, sustainable use, and restoration of coral reefs and other reef ecosystems in Brazil.

Both initiatives received project funding to support consultancies, organize workshops, and cover logistics for participation in key events. The main one was the 30th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30), held in November in Belém (Pará), where both policies were presented.





Photos 1 and 2: inauguration of the exhibition at the visitor center of the Abrolhos Marine National Park, in Caravelas (Bahia). Photo: Paula Vergne





Technical visit to the Abrolhos Marine National Park, with a stop at Santa Bárbara Island in Caravelas (Bahia). Photo: Paula Vergne

Research and Protected Area Management

In January, the 26th call for GEF Mar – supported research fellowships was launched, selecting 20 fellows to work across 10 ICMBio protected areas and research centers. Across all editions, the program has supported 163 researchers (104 women and 59 men).

The project:

- The project also strengthened protected area management through initiatives such as supporting the development of the management plan for the Berçários da Vida Marinha Environmental Protection Area (APA) in Ceará;
- establishing advisory councils for the Trindade and Martim Vaz Archipelago APA and the São Pedro and São Paulo Natural Monument;
- and revising the management plan for the Fernando de Noronha APA.

GEF Mar has played a key role in advancing the protection of Brazil's marine areas, including support for the creation of marine protected areas that enabled the country to surpass its national target of protecting at least 10% of its coastal and marine zone.

PROJETO GEF MAR

GRUPO BANCO MUNDIAL

gef

FUNDO BRASILEIRO PARA A BIODIVERSIDADE FUNBIO

GOVERNOS ESTADUAIS DA COSTA DO BRASIL

IBAMA MMA

ICMBio INSTITUTO CHICO MENDES MMA

MINISTÉRIO DO MEIO AMBIENTE E MUDANÇA DO CLIMA

GOVERNO FEDERAL BRASIL UNIÃO E RECONSTRUÇÃO

Sustaining Healthy Coastal and Marine Ecosystems

new GEF Mar II

Created to continue the mission of GEF Mar I, the project **Sustaining Healthy Coastal and Marine Ecosystems** project – **GEF Mar II** was signed in July 2025.



Initiated in July 2025, GEF Mar II carries forward the conservation efforts for Brazil's coastal and marine ecosystems. Photo: Rafael Sperb

SDG

PARTNERS

- ACADEMIA
- CIVIL SOCIETY
- COMPANIES
- GOVERNMENT
- INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS AND TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES

THEMATIC AREAS

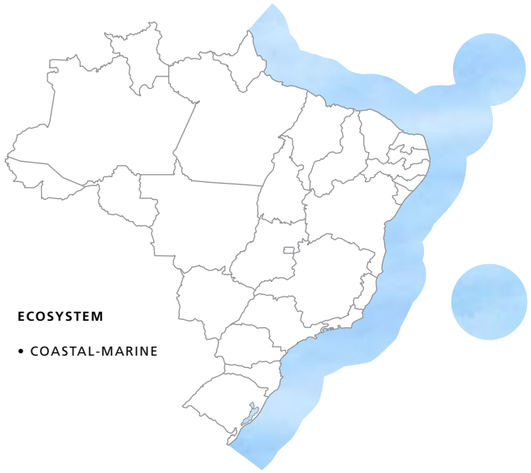
- CLIMATE CHANGE
- ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF PROTECTED AREAS
- GENDER EQUITY
- INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS
- SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES
- TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

FUNDER

FAO/GEF

END YEAR

2030



ECOSYSTEM

• COASTAL-MARINE

Its aim is to ensure the financial sustainability of marine and coastal protected areas while safeguarding biodiversity and ecosystem services across more than 14 million hectares, spanning 28 protected areas. Scheduled to run through 2030, the project has a total planned investment of US$ 14.3 million (equivalent to more than R$ 77 million at current exchange rates), funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

This funding will support expanded efforts to protect, connect, and manage Brazil's coastal and marine environments, strengthening and organizing protected areas; advancing financing, capacity-building, and management strategies; supporting community projects; enhancing biodiversity monitoring; and deploying innovative technologies to ensure the sustainable use of marine resources.

Currently in the structuring and planning phase, program activities are expected to begin in 2026.

Technical coordination of GEF Mar II is led by the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA), with management and implementation carried out by FUNBIO.

Organização das Nações Unidas para a Alimentação e a Agricultura

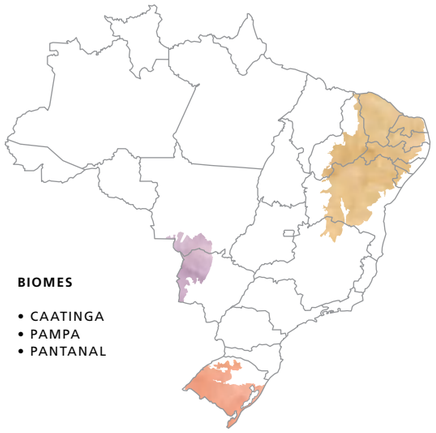
Conservation, Restoration, and Management Strategies for Biodiversity in the Caatinga, Pampa, and Pantanal

GEF Terrestre

In 2025, the **Conservation, Restoration, and Management Strategies for Biodiversity in the Caatinga, Pampa, and Pantanal (GEF Terrestre)** project reached a total of 61 supported protected areas (PAs) across the three biomes.

The project also contributed to the creation of eight new protected areas, adding more than 80,000 hectares: the Soldadinho do Araripe Wildlife Refuge; the Serra de Irauçuba Environmental Protection Area (APA); the Serras da Caatinga APA; the Pontal da Serra da Ibiapaba Area of Relevant Ecological Interest; the Furna dos Ossos Natural Monument; and the Picos da Caatinga Wildlife Refuge, all in Ceará, as well as two Private Natural Heritage Reserves (RPPNs) in Pernambuco and Mato Grosso do Sul. In total, R$24.5 million was invested in 2025 across five priority areas: the creation of protected areas, strengthening PA management, protecting threatened species and monitoring biodiversity, restoring degraded areas, and developing long-distance trails.

The GEF Terrestre project is coordinated by the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA), funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), managed and implemented by FUNBIO, and supported by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) as the implementing agency.





The program supported the creation of eight new protected areas, all located in the state of Ceará.

NDC

SDG

PARTNERS

ACADEMIA

CIVIL SOCIETY

GOVERNMENT

INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS AND TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES

THEMATIC AREAS

CLIMATE CHANGE

FINANCIAL MECHANISMS

FOREST RESTORATION

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS

SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES

TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

END YEAR

2027

GEF Terrestre

New Protected Areas

One of the eight newly created protected areas, the Soldadinho do Araripe Wildlife Refuge in Ceará, was established by the federal government in June, covering 5,585 hectares. The unit is designed to safeguard the habitat of the endangered Araripe manakin (*Antilophia bokermanni*), a small bird found only on the slopes of the Araripe Plateau in the Caatinga region of Ceará. The project played a key role in its creation, supporting preliminary studies and the required public consultations.

In addition to the federal protected area, five more state protected areas were established in Ceará in December. The project supported the preparation of the technical studies underpinning these new areas, carried out by Associação Caatinga in partnership with the Ceará State Secretariat for the Environment and Climate Change.

Andréa Moreira, environmental manager and advisor to the Protected Areas Unit of the Ceará State Secretariat for the Environment and Climate Change, also noted that the new protected areas, all located in the Caatinga, represent a strategic response to climate change and contribute to maintaining a resilient and biodiverse semi-arid region for future generations. **"We have surpassed 40% of our territory designated as protected areas, with this expansion concentrated in the Caatinga biome. Most of our protected areas were previously along the coast, and GEF made it possible to extend them to municipalities in regions of the state that had none,"** she added.

GEF Terrestre also supported the creation of the 20-hectare Jaguarte Private Natural Heritage Reserve (RPPN) in Mato Grosso do Sul.

In addition, seven studies have been contracted and are underway to support the creation of new state protected areas—six in Pernambuco and one in Rio Grande do Sul. Further studies are being carried out to expand Sete Cidades National Park in Piauí and to establish two new federal protected areas in Rio Grande do Sul's Pampa biome: the Campos Missioneiros Environmental Protection Area (APA) and the Campos Finos and Pau-ferral Wildlife Refuge.

A consultancy contracted in December will also initiate studies for the creation of three additional protected areas in Rio Grande do Sul.

The program also provides direct support to the Rio Grande do Sul Secretariat for the Environment and Infrastructure (SEMA-RS), both in establishing new protected areas and in strengthening and consolidating existing ones, such as Espinilho State Park and the Ibirapuitã Biological Reserve.

The program also financed public consultations to discuss the expansion of Pantanal Matogrossense National Park and Taiamã Ecological Station, both in the Pantanal.

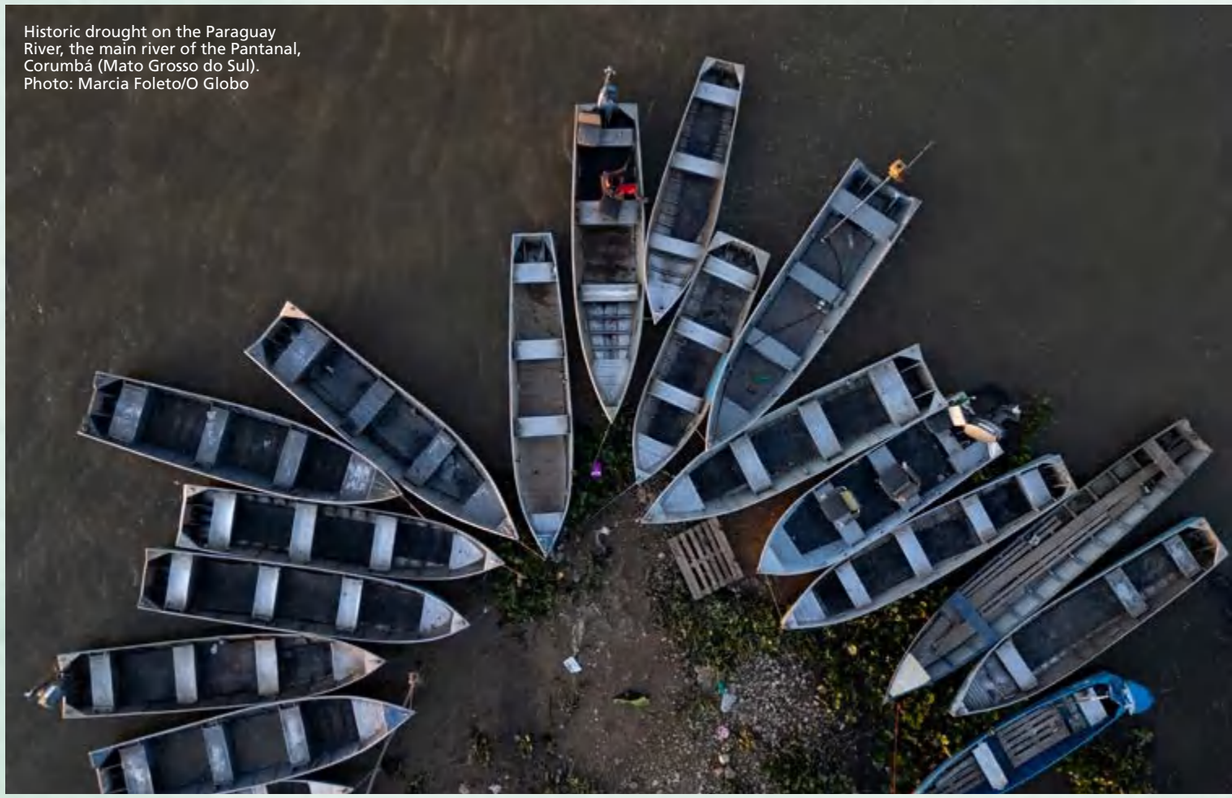
2025 IN NUMBERS

3
calls for proposals

24
projects supported

3
biomes

250
kilometers of trails under implementation



Historic drought on the Paraguay River, the main river of the Pantanal, Corumbá (Mato Grosso do Sul). Photo: Marcia Foleto/O Globo



Detail of the Caatinga flora. Photo: NEMA Image Bank

> "GEF Terrestre has been highly strategic for Caatinga conservation in Ceará. The project provided the technical and financial leverage needed to transform vulnerable areas into environmental assets, protecting species found only in the Caatinga and linking conservation to the economic development of local communities"
>
> said ANDRÉA MOREIRA, environmental manager and advisor to the Protected Areas Unit of the Ceará State Secretariat for the Environment and Climate Change

GEF Terrestre

Support for Community Brigades and the Strength of Pantanal Women

Strengthening the effectiveness of protected areas across the three biomes is one of the program's core objectives. Of the 61 supported PAs, 37 are in the Caatinga, 20 in the Pantanal, and four in the Pampa. The supported projects aim to enhance management through the development of instruments such as management and public-use plans, while ensuring their implementation and the achievement of each area's conservation objectives.

A key focus has been the planning of Integrated Fire Management (IFM) in federal and state protected areas. In total, 36 brigades have been trained and equipped.

In the Pantanal, one of the biomes hardest hit by severe fires in recent years, four projects were implemented to train and equip volunteer community fire brigades in the surroundings of Pantanal Matogrossense National Park, engaging 34 brigade members.

The program also supported the creation of an all-women brigade in the area surrounding the Taiamã Ecological Station (Mato Grosso), implemented by Instituto Gaia and active in the municipalities of Cáceres and Barão de Melgaço.

Edinalda Pereira, 35, a Pantanal native, community leader, and head of the women's brigade, explains that the initiative emerged in response to the devastating fires that have affected the biome.

"In 2020, we went through a very frightening experience, with fires on a scale we had never seen before. We lost our crops, witnessed wildlife deaths, and didn't know how to respond to defend our territories and animals. Then, in 2024, large-scale fires struck again, and the idea emerged to offer brigade training within the communities. Many of them are quite remote, and by the time help arrives, the damage can be severe. Through the training, we learned what we could do ourselves, including preventive measures," recalls Edinalda, from the traditional Pantanal community of Acurizal.

This marked the beginning of a new effort, which took shape in 2025 through a project led by Instituto Gaia, with support from GEF Terrestre, to train community brigades. **"We also saw the need to formalize a women's brigade, because most community leaders are women. They are the ones who go out fishing, tend crops, and face daily challenges. So why not have a women's brigade to enable an immediate response within our territories?"** Edinalda adds.

The project also supports the structuring, training, and formalization of the brigade, providing uniforms and equipment. **"We understand that the women's brigade reinforces the role women already play in the Pantanal as guardians of the territory and its biodiversity. Now, with training, we know what can and cannot be done, and how to take appropriate action to prevent and combat fires without putting our lives at risk,"** she adds.







Women firefighters in the Pantanal are taking a leading role in wildfire response. Photo: Ednalda Pereira

Elsewhere in the biome, in Mato Grosso do Sul, the program also supported the implementation of an artificial intelligence–based monitoring system capable of detecting heat sources within up to three minutes in Pantanal do Rio Negro State Park, the largest strictly protected area in the state and one of the regions most affected by fires in recent decades.

Two monitoring towers equipped with high-resolution 360° cameras were installed to speed the detection of early fire outbreaks and improve brigade response times across an area of more than 400,000 hectares. The initiative is implemented by Instituto Terra Brasilis (ITB) with funding from GEF Terrestre.

A new call to support fire brigades across the three biomes covered by GEF Terrestre closed in October and will allocate R$2.9 million to strengthen fire prevention and response efforts.

> "One of the terms often used for this system is that we will 'put out fires with our boots.' The goal is for brigades to reach a fire at its source before it grows, making it easier to extinguish"
>
> explains JOSIEL COELHO, ITB's technology coordinator

GEF Terrestre

Biodiversity Conservation: Focus on Brazil's Flora

Another core component of GEF Terrestre's mission is investment in biodiversity protection. To this end, the program supported the development of 11 National Action Plans (PANs, the acronym in Portuguese) for the conservation of endangered species. Six have already been published, covering Caatinga birds, Southern Grasslands birds, the giant otter, Northeastern primates, canids, and large felids. Plans focused on Northeastern herpetofauna, ungulates (hoofed mammals such as the pampas deer), Southern lagoons, Caatinga flora, and the *Sertões* are still under development. In addition, the program supported the implementation of actions under 13 PANs and the assessment of extinction risk for more than 2,600 species of Brazil's fauna and flora.

A significant share of this total came from plants, with the assessment of around 1,300 endemic species from the Caatinga, Pampa, and Pantanal that had not previously been evaluated. The technical work, carried out by the Rio de Janeiro Botanical Garden Research Institute (JBRJ), assessed more than 1,000 of these species in 2025 and is expected to be completed by January 2026.

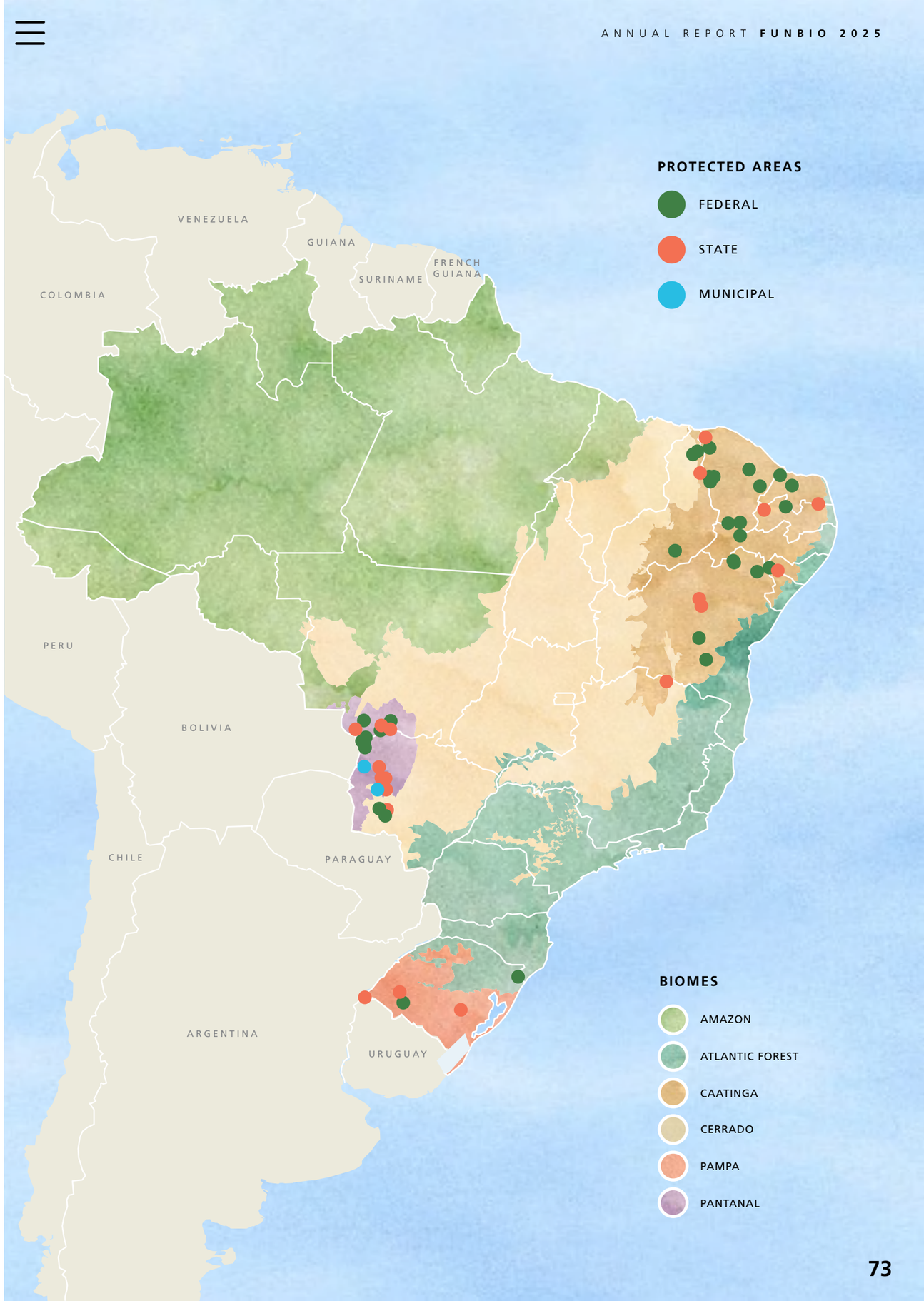
Understanding which species face the highest risk of extinction is essential for guiding conservation efforts, including the creation of new protected areas. Collecting this data required fieldwork, as many species had limited available information. In total, six expeditions were conducted: four in the Caatinga, one in the Pantanal, and one in the Pampa, to help fill these knowledge gaps.

The work, supported by GEF Terrestre, has also enabled the development, still underway, of a pioneering PAN focused on the conservation of 25 threatened plant species from the Caatinga found between Ceará and Piauí, in a previously understudied region.

"This is the first PAN dedicated to Caatinga flora. It is unprecedented in a region that, in addition to lacking protected areas, had no prior Action Plan. Now, as the assessment of these endemic species nears completion, we are able to propose more targeted strategies and actions for the conservation of each of these 25 species," explains the JBRJ coordinator.

"Understanding and protecting Brazil's flora is one of our institutional missions, and GEF makes it possible to significantly expand the reach of our work," he adds. A documentary on the expeditions is set to be released in the first half of 2026.

> "Each of these expeditions generated new data on previously understudied species, enabling more accurate and up-to-date assessments. We also targeted areas where new protected areas were under consideration, contributing not only to the management of existing sites but also to the studies that underpin the creation of new ones"
>
> explains EDUARDO FERNANDEZ, project coordinator at JBRJ's Center for the Assessment of Flora Conservation Status



GEF Terrestre

Investment in Connectivity and Restoration

In 2025, the program also invested in the development and implementation of three long-distance trails. These initiatives serve not only to promote tourism but also to strengthen connectivity between natural landscapes and protected areas.

At the interface between the Caatinga and Cerrado biomes, the *Caminhos de Ibiapaba* is one of the trails supported by GEF Terrestre. Spanning approximately 190 km, it connects Sete Cidades National Park (Piauí) and Ubajara National Park (Ceará), crossing the Serra de Ibiapaba Environmental Protection Area (APA). The route was recognized by the Brazilian government as part of the Brazilian Trails Network in April 2025 and is scheduled for official inauguration in February 2026.

The Guadakan Traverse, in the Serra do Amolar region of the Pantanal, and the Caminhos do Pampa, in Rio Grande do Sul, measuring 30 km and 360 km, respectively, also received support for their implementation and are set to open in 2026. These trails are also designed to create alternative sources of income for traditional and local communities through sustainable tourism.

Alongside connectivity, the program consolidated its investment in restoration with the development and publication of three technical guidelines for monitoring restoration in the Caatinga, Pampa, and Pantanal—the latter launched during COP30 in Belém. The **documents** were prepared under the technical coordination of the MMA's Department of Forests, in partnership with regional networks: ReCaa in the Caatinga, the Pantanal Restoration Pact, and the Southern Restoration Network in the Pampa.

THE PROGRAM

61
protected areas

including

22
federal PAs

13
state PAs

26
private reserves (RPPNs)



Long-distance trails enhance connectivity among protected areas, fostering biodiversity conservation and sustainable tourism. Photo: Tiago Beraldo



Amid viewpoints, waterfalls, and rock formations, the *Caminhos de Ibiapaba* connect two states along 190 km. Photo: Tiago Beraldo

Calls for Proposals and New Projects for 2026

The program invested not only in public protected areas but also in Private Natural Heritage Reserves (RPPNs), managed by private landowners. To this end, a call totaling R$1.2 million was launched to support the creation of federally recognized RPPNs across the three GEF Terrestre biomes. Following the close of the call in June, two projects were selected, with implementation set to begin in 2026.

A call was also launched to support sustainable productive practices in protected areas and their surrounding landscapes. Closed in August, it will allocate R$6.9 million to reach a target of 25,000 hectares and at least 200 families adopting good management practices to maintain ecosystem services and biodiversity.

GEF Terrestre | FUNBIO | BID | gef | MINISTÉRIO DO MEIO AMBIENTE E MUDANÇA DO CLIMA | GOVERNO DO BRASIL

Participatory Mapping of Strategic Marine Regions in Northern Brazil

Northern Tides

To understand is essential for conserving, and **Northern Tides: Participatory Mapping of Strategic Marine Regions in Northern Brazil** represents a crucial step toward enabling the country to better know—and protect—its coastal and marine zones.

The project aims to deepen understanding of how the ocean is used and valued in the states of Maranhão, Pará, and Amapá by surveying the economic and cultural activities connected to the sea, as well as the conservation needs and challenges they pose. This is especially relevant for traditional communities engaged in small-scale fishing and aquaculture, but also for sports activities and even tourism.

This effort is a key component of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP), which will provide a national overview of uses and activities in Brazilian waters to ensure long-term sustainability. Along the coastline of the Northern Region, the project's focus, the greatest knowledge gaps remain, the result of a long history of limited investment combined with access logistics that are often more complex and costly.

Launched in 2024, the project took its first major step in June 2025 with the signing of a Cooperation Agreement with the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA), which leads the initiative executed by FUNBIO.

The assessment is significant not only environmentally, but socially as well. **"This is an unprecedented participatory mapping effort that is giving voice to traditional communities and ensuring that data and information on small-scale fishing and their maretórios [the term used by these groups to describe their territories shaped by the tides, "marés" in Portuguese] are recognized and incorporated into the datasets that will guide planning. This has long been a demand of traditional peoples and communities, who want to ensure their knowledge is not rendered invisible in discussions or in the indices and indicators that make up the methodologies used in Marine Spatial Planning and Integrated Coastal Management,"** the coordinator adds.

Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) is being implemented jointly by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA) and the Brazilian Navy, with the work organized by region. The expectation is that MSP for the entire country will be completed by 2030. Through the GEF Mar program, FUNBIO is also responsible for contracting the MSP process for the Northeast Region.

SDG

PARTNERS

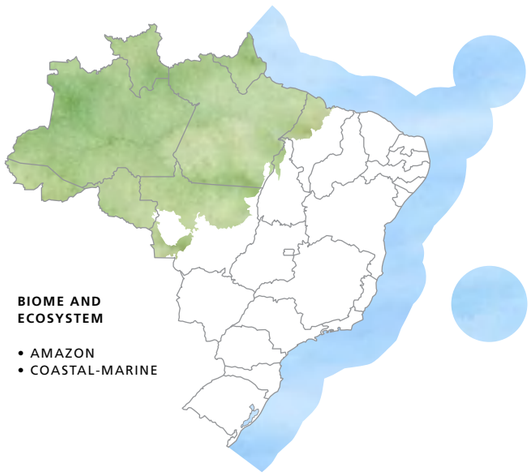
- ACADEMIA
- CIVIL SOCIETY
- GOVERNMENT
- INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS AND TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES

THEMATIC AREAS

- CLIMATE CHANGE
- SPECIES MANAGEMENT
- SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES
- TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

END YEAR

2026



BIOME AND ECOSYSTEM

- AMAZON
- COASTAL-MARINE

> "The Northern Tides project holds undeniable importance for planning the use of marine areas in Brazil, both for Marine Spatial Planning and for Integrated Coastal Management"
>
> says JOÃO LUIZ NICOLODI, general coordinator of the Department of Ocean and Coastal Management at the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA)



Knowing in order to conserve: participatory mapping strengthens the planning and protection of the marine environment. Photo: Ana Colla

Partnership for the Implementation of the Golden Lion Tamarin Ecological Park

Golden Lion Tamarin Ecological Park (Phase 6)

The golden lion tamarin is a symbol of Brazilian wildlife. Even so, this endangered primate lives only in the Atlantic Forest of the state of Rio de Janeiro.

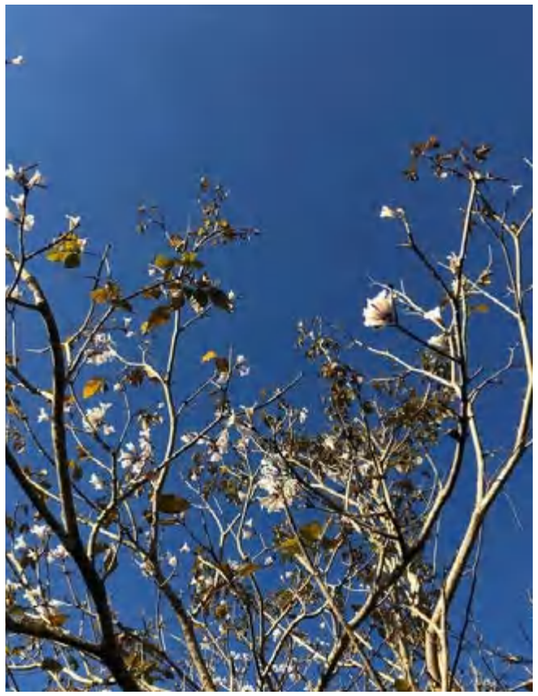
It is in this restricted habitat that the Golden Lion Tamarin Association (AMLD, the acronym in Portuguese) works to secure the species' future.

One of the strategies to raise awareness, generate income, and strengthen the sense of belonging among local residents is ecotourism, through the Golden Lion Tamarin Ecological Park, located in the municipality of Silva Jardim. The site, now designated as the Private Natural Heritage Reserve (RPPN) Parque do Mico, connects visitors to conservation efforts through trails, viewpoints, exhibitions, and interactive spaces. With donated resources from ExxonMobil, managed by FUNBIO, this project aims to support the implementation of the park and expand tourism activities throughout the region, consolidating the Golden Lion Tamarin Destination.



BIOME

• AMAZON



Detail of the local flora.
Photo: Helio Hara/FUNBIO



A symbol of Brazil's fauna, a golden lion tamarin with its offspring.
Photo: Tiago de Jesus/AMLD

The project supported the implementation of a new attraction: a 14 kilometer cycle tourism route that connects the park to Fazenda Perdida, a neighboring property acquired by AMLD and officially recognized in November 2025 as the RPPN Parque do Mico II. The new route for cyclists was inaugurated in February of the same year.

Fazenda Perdida, acquired by AMLD in October 2023, is a former pasture that is gradually returning to Atlantic Forest thanks to ecological restoration efforts. Through the project, the planting of more than 17,600 native seedlings was made possible, bringing the forest back across 10 hectares of the new RPPN.

In addition, the support funded the renovation, now completed, of the farm's main house, which will serve as the headquarters and lodging for the Atlantic Forest Restoration Reference Center; and the development of three studies on native stingless bees found in the region, aimed

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COMPANIES

CIVIL SOCIETY

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FOREST RESTORATION

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

FUNDER

ExxonMobil

Golden Lion Tamarin
Ecological Park (Phase 6)

at establishing a stingless-bees apiary to be used for ecotourism and environmental education activities, as well as to boost pollination, a key step in accelerating the restoration of newly replanted forest areas.

Landscape recovery and efforts to conserve the Atlantic Forest are also part of the experience for those who visit the Ecological Park—and learn from it. In 2025, the park received more than three thousand visitors, over one third of whom came from public and private schools and universities. Among them was a group of 16 students from the University of Miami in Ohio, United States, who spent ten days with AMLD and stayed at the park during their visit.

The project also supports the upkeep of initiatives such as the Restoration Tower, a 15 meter high wooden structure that offers a view of a young forest undergoing regeneration where pasture once stood; the monitoring and maintenance of trails and visitor support vehicles; and a visitor engagement training program for young people from the region, four of whom were hired to work in the protected area. The project additionally funded the renovation and adaptation of the park's parking area to improve accessibility.

One of the park's major attractions is the calendar of events held on site. In 2025, six cultural events—known as *Mico com Arte*—brought together trails, guided tours, and nature appreciation with music, films, yoga sessions, and educational activities. More than 600 people took part in the golden lion tamarin event series.

Beyond the borders of Silva Jardim, the project also funded the participation of AMLD representatives in regional and national tourism events, strategic opportunities to increase the park's visibility and strengthen tourism activity across the region. Highlights include Green Rio, during the Tourism, Nature and Technology panel; the II Technical Scientific Seminar of the Brazilian Trails Network, in São Paulo; and the Silva Jardim Tourism Route: Trails, Forests and the Golden Lion Tamarin, a joint initiative by Sebrae and the Silva Jardim Municipal Secretariat of Tourism and Culture, developed in collaboration with the AMLD team.

> "Strengthening an ecotourism destination centered on the golden lion tamarin is one of our key goals for the region, and many of the attractions we envisioned only became viable thanks to the support provided through FUNBIO. This partnership is essential not only for the park, but for creating a truly transformative experience for visitors. And because of it, the park has already become a reference in the region"
>
> highlights ANDERSON RIBEIRO, AMLD's Ecotourism Advisor



Ecotourism is an ally in environmental conservation and in protecting the golden lion tamarin. Photo: Andreia Martins/AMLD



Trails, educational and hand-on activities in the forest transform the Tamarin Park in a space for learning, conservation, and connection with the Atlantic Forest. Photo: Thiago de Jesus/AMLD

new

POP ICMBio Protection

Efficient, intelligence driven enforcement is essential to combating illegal deforestation.

The establishment of two situation rooms within ICMBio, the federal agency responsible for managing Brazil's national protected areas, marks an important step in that direction. The results are already visible in the declining deforestation trends across the Amazon, particularly within the 12 priority protected areas covered by the project, which recorded an estimated 31% reduction in 2025 compared to the previous year, according to INPE data. This progress in curbing the destruction of the world's largest tropical forest reflects the goals of the program Enhancing Monitoring Strategies and Actions to Reduce Deforestation and Fires in Federal Protected Areas in the Amazon (POP ICMBio).

The project strengthens ICMBio's capacity to monitor and combat forest destruction, with a particular focus on the 12 protected areas located along the BR 163 (highway) corridor in Pará. This region concentrates the highest deforestation rates in the Amazon and nearly half of all deforestation recorded within federal protected areas in the biome.



The situation room of ICMBio's General Coordination for Protection (CGPro), initially equipped in 2024, received additional upgrades and was fully operational in 2025. The data generated there enhanced the effectiveness of enforcement actions in priority areas.

The situation room established for the Coordination of Climate and Epizootic Emergencies (COECE) also received new equipment, strengthening the teams' ability to respond to environmental emergencies. Both rooms are located at ICMBio headquarters in Brasília.

The initiative, which runs through 2026, is part of the Protecting Our Planet Challenge (POP), the world's largest private fund dedicated to biodiversity conservation. To implement the project, managed by FUNBIO, USD 3 million were invested, with resources donated by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and Re:wild.

Aerial Monitoring

The project also financed an additional 115 hours of aerial surveillance to support enforcement efforts in protected areas, particularly in the fight against illegal mining, bringing the total available flight hours to 485. These flights strengthened operations such as the removal of illegal cattle from the Jamanxim National Forest, actions to curb irregular ranching in the Nascentes da Serra do Cachimbo Biological Reserve, and efforts to combat mining and deforestation in protected areas near the municipalities of Jacareacanga and Itaituba.

Ground based monitoring efforts were further strengthened through the acquisition of satellite internet connection kits, expanding communication capacity in remote areas. A total of 80 kits were purchased: 20 have already been delivered to ICMBio, while the remaining 60 will be distributed to local communities through the Instituto Povos da Floresta (IPF).

In total, approximately five million hectares are being monitored through the combination of contracted flight hours and territorial protection actions.

NDC

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PARTNERS



GOVERNMENT

THEMATIC AREAS



ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF PROTECTED AREAS



TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

END YEAR

2026

POP SECD

SDG

PARTNERS

GOVERNMENT

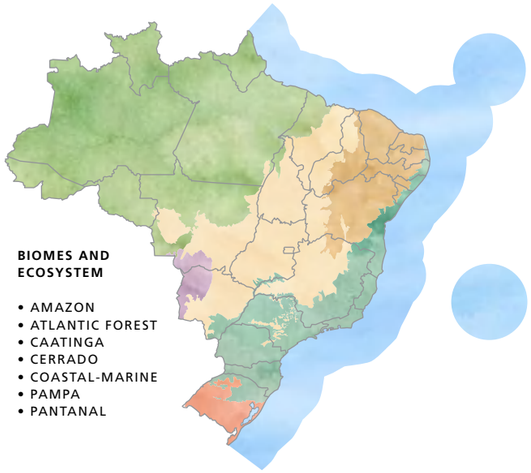
THEMATIC AREAS

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS

END YEAR

2026

According to the latest data from the National Registry of Public Forests, Brazil has 31.2 million hectares of undesignated federal public forests, areas that still lack a defined use. Addressing this gap is a strategic priority in the fight against land grabbing and illegal deforestation, particularly in the Amazon. To support the country in advancing this agenda, the Protecting Our Planet Challenge (POP) initiative is allocating USD 1.2 million to strengthen the **Extraordinary Secretariat for Deforestation Control and Environmental Land Use Planning (SECD)** of the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA), as well as to implement the *Territórios da Floresta* program, jointly carried out by the MMA and the Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Farming (MDA).



“In the beginning, we believed we could advance the allocation of federal public forests primarily through the creation of protected areas and the recognition of Indigenous Lands. But the country’s political landscape led us to explore other land allocation modalities. I believe the project’s greatest contribution was enabling the government to take a further step in securing the rights of forest peoples and communities. Without the agility and investment provided by POP SECD, the project would not have advanced as far as it did”

says BRUNO ABE SABER, SECD’s General Coordinator

In synergy with the program, POP SECD will enable the allocation of up to 385,000 hectares of undesignated public forests to traditional communities and Indigenous peoples in the state of Acre, in partnership with the Chico Mendes Memorial and the National Council of Extractive Populations.

The first Real Right of Use Concession Contracts, covering 270,000 hectares, are expected to be signed between the federal government and the respective traditional communities in the first half of 2026. The process included community consultations, the organization of formal assemblies to ensure consent and adherence to the program, the characterization and delimitation of territories, and the registration of communities and families living in or sustainably using these areas. This allocation will mark the beginning of the program’s on the ground outcomes, which are also supported by the Land Governance Catalyst Fund **(see p. 57)** for implementation.

The process to allocate the remaining estimated 115,000 hectares is scheduled to begin in 2026 and is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

The concession contracts represent a new modality for allocating public forests, developed with support from POP SECD, which formalizes the right of traditional communities and peoples to the permanent use and occupation of these territories.

POP SECD



The program supports the allocation of public forests, promoting territorial planning and the protection of the Amazon. Photo: Marizilda Crupper/FUNBIO

Strengthening SECD

Project resources also supported the training and the physical and technological strengthening of the Department of Environmental Land Use Planning (DOT) within SECD. This included the acquisition of computers and geoprocessing software essential for accelerating data analysis through automated workflows and geospatial assessments related to environmental and land tenure issues.

With SECD's enhanced structure and technical capacity, it was possible to advance the improvement of the National Registry of Public Forests and to map 5.83 million hectares of undesignated public forests suitable for the creation of protected areas. The upgraded structure also enabled the identification of 256 records deemed fraudulent, indicating land grabbing in undesignated public forests, which were forwarded to the Ministry of Justice for appropriate action.

Another indirect result was the development of the Zero Deforestation Data Integration System (SIGDeZ), which enables integrated monitoring of spatial information to accelerate actions to combat deforestation, fires, and the allocation of public lands.

Through the engagement of a technical consultancy, the project also supported the development of a methodological framework for processing territorial data and delineating public lands and forests, an essential step in planning their allocation. This methodology was agreed upon and formally recognized by the Technical Chamber for the Allocation and Land Regularization of Federal Rural Public Lands (CTD). In parallel, a team of consultants assisted the Ministry of the Environment in refining the environmental characterization and the patterns of use and occupation of undesignated public forests, in line with the established criteria, and supported SECD in identifying public lands suitable for regularization with traditional communities and peoples.

In partnership with the Land Governance Catalyst Fund **(see p. 57)**, the project has already engaged around 500 participants in workshops with traditional peoples and communities aimed at securing recognition of their territories within public forest areas. These workshops were held in the states of Acre, Amazonas, Maranhão, and Tocantins during the months of March, April, and August.

> "We are a secretariat and a department created in 2023, with mandates that did not exist within the Ministry of the Environment until December 2022. The agenda of allocating public lands and advancing land regularization was not something the Ministry had previously handled so directly. This required us to build the necessary expertise to take on the challenge. One of the project's major contributions was enabling us to structure and qualify ourselves. Without POP, we would not have progressed nearly as quickly. The institutional strengthening of the Ministry to address the allocation of public lands is largely the result of what we were able to implement through the POP project"
>
> adds BRUNO ABE SABER, SECD's General Coordinator

> "POP SECD provided the initial momentum for activities that led to this level of institutional maturity. Thanks to the equipment, software, and automation consultancies supported by the project, we were able to envision the creation of a system like SIGDeZ"
>
> says BRUNO ABE SABER, SECD's General Coordinator

POP Ramsar Sites

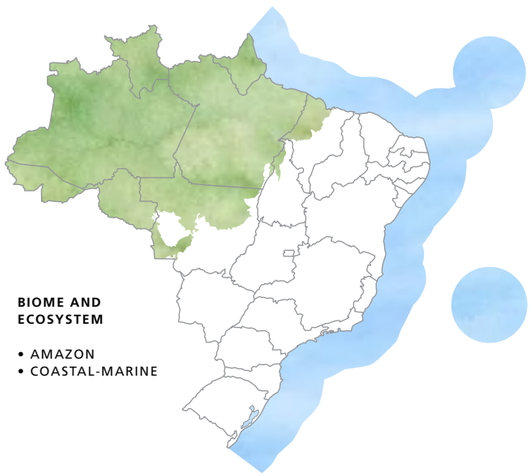
Mangrove ecosystems support exceptional biodiversity and play not only a vital ecological role but also a crucial social one, underpinning food security and income generation for local communities. In its final year, the **Protecting Our Planet Challenge (POP) Ramsar Sites** project is fulfilling its mission to consolidate a unified, participatory governance system for the Amazon mangroves, one that is active, representative, and grounded in the engagement of local communities, research institutions, government agencies, and civil society organizations.

5
states

23
protected areas

3,8
MILLION
hectares

R$ **1**
MILLION
invested



SDG

PARTNERS
GOVERNMENT

THEMATIC AREAS
TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

END YEAR
2025

> “The project’s greatest legacy is the strengthening of local leadership. Through the training sessions, communities gained a deeper understanding of what it means to live within a Ramsar Site and were empowered to take ownership of their territory. Today, we have a woman, Renilde Piedade, a fisherwoman and community leader who depends on the mangroves of the Amazon Estuary, serving as a full member of the National Wetlands Committee (CNZU)”
>
> highlights GABRIELE SOEIRO, coordinator of the National Center for Research and Conservation of Sociobiodiversity Associated with Traditional Peoples and Communities (CNPT/ICMBio)

A key milestone in this process was the first training session of the Management Committee of the Ramsar Site Amazon Estuary and its Mangroves, held in June at the Mãe Grande de Curuçá Extractive Reserve (RESEX) in Pará. The workshop featured discussions on climate change, blue carbon, and Payments for Environmental Services, equipping communities to address emerging challenges. The committee’s formal recognition is currently under government review and is expected to be published in 2026.

The project’s achievements were also highlighted on international stages during the 15th Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (COP15), held in July in Zimbabwe, and at the Climate Conference (COP30), hosted in Pará in November. Participation in both events elevated global visibility of the governance model developed in the territories, adding further legitimacy and robustness to the process.

Focusing on the Ramsar Site Amazon Estuary and its Mangroves, the project operated across five states—Amapá, Maranhão, Pará, Piauí, and Ceará—and 23 federal and state protected areas, encompassing more than 3.8 million hectares.

POP Ramsar Sites

With full implementation and more than R$ 1 million invested, the project strengthened the role of Amazonian mangroves as a global socioenvironmental asset, elevated the visibility and leadership of traditional communities, and supported the sustainable use of local resources. It also reinforced the international recognition of these wetlands as a Ramsar Site, given their environmental significance, and contributed to Brazil's commitments under the Ramsar Convention, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The initiative is funded by the Bloomberg Ocean Initiative and Re:wild, in collaboration with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA), through the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio), and with financial management support from FUNBIO.



The PEMOPE initiative was presented in **video** during COP30. In the communications component, the project also produced educational materials, memory workshops, and cultural and audiovisual content, including a 360° video, all of which help disseminate and highlight Amazonian sociobiodiversity.

Valuing Communities and Strengthening Local Livelihoods

One of the initiatives supported by the POP Ramsar Site project is the *Pescadores e Pescadoras Monitores do Peixe Boi* (PEMOPE) program, which engages fishers from Ilha do Gato, in the Baía do Tubarão Marine Extractive Reserve (RESEX) in Maranhão, in voluntary monitoring of the Amazonian manatee and in data collection through citizen science. As a form of recognition, the monitors have their homes painted with vibrant murals depicting the marine mammal, celebrating both their work and their connection to the species.

The project also promotes income generation for local communities, whether by supporting the Manatee Festival, the region's main cultural event, or by offering workshops and training sessions.

One of the courses, held in August in the Ilha do Gato community, trained a collective of women to produce *amigurumis*, crocheted or knitted dolls inspired by local biodiversity, from manatees to mangrove trees. The activity brings together income generation and environmental education.

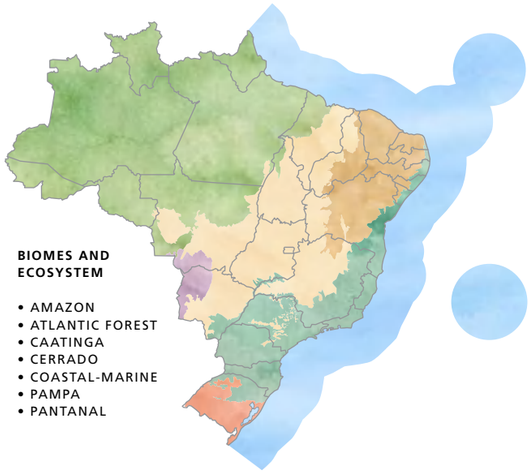
> "The training was excellent. It was an investment that allowed us, as community women, to learn the *amigurumi* technique as a source of income. It changed our reality. Today we receive orders even from outside the state. We are fishers, shellfish gatherers, women of the mangrove. We make rays, octopuses, manatees, crabs, shrimp, mussels... And the children become interested and want to learn more. When the mangrove is preserved, our lives improve, there is more fish, more crab, more life. We are grateful to FUNBIO and to the POP Ramsar Sites project for believing in us and investing in our community"
>
> says MERCEDES BRAGA,
> a 70 year old community member who leads the *Crocheteiras* project, now composed of 20 women

POP SMC

The fight against the climate crisis calls for coordinated action across sectors. In this context, the National Plan on Climate Change (Climate Plan 2024–2035) is Brazil's main framework for guiding the country's strategic response to adapt to and reduce the impacts of the climate emergency.

Supported by resources from the Protecting Our Planet Challenge (POP), this FUNBIO managed project works with the National Secretariat for Climate Change (SMC) and the Secretariat for Bioeconomy (SBC) of the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA) to help implement the Climate Plan and strengthen the secretariats. The goal is to equip Brazil to meet its national and international commitments, including its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), while advancing the bioeconomy as a driver of sustainable, low carbon development.

A key focus of the project is reinforcing the SMC, which leads federal climate policy. This includes funding a consultancy to improve internal workflows, clarify priorities, strengthen governance, boost efficiency, and organize coordination processes for sectoral plans.



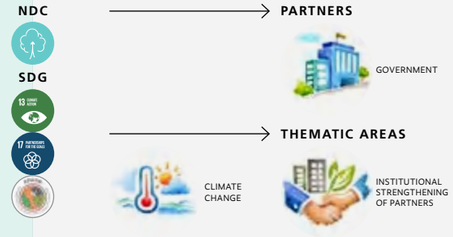
In addition, graphic design services were contracted to strengthen SMC's communication efforts, giving greater visibility and transparency to the climate agenda. This work included developing content for institutional websites, outreach materials for the Climate Plan, and communications related to the Climate Conference (COP30).

Another key pillar of the project was supporting the development and consolidation of the Sectoral Mitigation Plan for the Land Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry (LULUCF) sector, within the Climate Plan and under SMC's leadership. To that end, a specialist was hired to prepare technical studies on reducing deforestation; restoring native vegetation; creating and maintaining protected areas; and estimating the costs of implementing the federal public policies needed to meet mitigation targets.

The project also developed a proposal for an incentive mechanism to encourage the conservation of native vegetation that exceeds Legal Reserve and Permanent Preservation Area (APP) requirements in the agricultural sector.

The project also supported the MMA's strategic actions within the Brazilian Antarctic Program (PROANTAR), helping to strengthen the connection between scientific research, climate policy, and Brazil's international positioning.

As it nears its final phase, the project will focus on bolstering communication efforts and supporting the monitoring of the Climate Plan, in close coordination with the SMC. On the SBC side, the work plan includes completing the management plan for pirarucu in the Amazon and finalizing services that advance the Blue Bioeconomy agenda.



Opportunities Fund of the National Public/Private Integrated Actions for Biodiversity Project

Probio II

The **National Project for Integrated Public–Private Actions for Biodiversity (Probio II)** concludes in 2025, leaving a significant legacy of investment and coordinated action to advance the conservation, production, and sustainable use of biodiversity.





In the state of Maranhão, Probio II advanced the bioeconomy by supporting sustainable extractivism and generating income for traditional communities. Photo: Alexandre Ferrazoli



The initiative focused on priority territories and on economic activities such as agriculture, extractivism, and forest management across the Amazon, Atlantic Forest, and Pampa biomes. It also supported the implementation of agroforestry systems and plant nurseries.

The subprojects supported by Probio II span a wide range of themes: the sustainable pulp production chain; biodiversity conservation integrated with agricultural and livestock production in the Pampa; sustainable development in southern Bahia; the Forest Economy; the strengthening of agroecology; and wildlife health and digital inclusion.

One notable success was the promotion of the bioeconomy and the processing of forest products in Maranhão, through the establishment of a Local Productive Arrangement with traditional communities to foster sustainable extractivism. The initiative supported the development of products such as bio jewelry, fiber and vine handicrafts, and soaps, increasing community income, particularly for women, while reinforcing conservation efforts.



PROBIO II

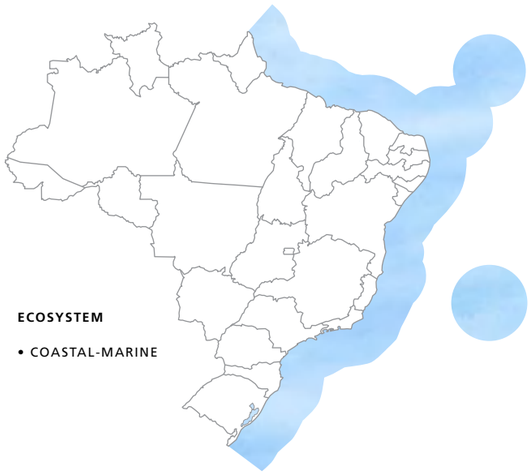
BANCO MUNDIAL

FUNDO BRASILEIRO PARA A BIODIVERSIDADE
FUNBIO

Clean Oceans Network

In its final phase of implementation, the **Rede Oceano Limpo (Clean Oceans Network)** project expanded its activities to eight states. The inclusion of Santa Catarina strengthened the initiative's mission to combat marine litter along the Brazilian coast and led to the organization of the First Santa Catarina Seminar on Combating Marine Debris, which identified priority actions to guide state level strategies.

The project, which reached full implementation, was extended until August following an additional contribution from the Embassy of Norway. This extra funding enabled the execution of state work plans in São Paulo, Amapá, Ceará, Rio Grande do Norte, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, and Paraná, leaving a legacy of coordinated and strategic action in support of ocean conservation.



ECOSYSTEM

• COASTAL-MARINE

Progress in Rio Grande do Norte

In June, the **mapping and analysis report on public policy strategies** for addressing marine litter in the state of Rio Grande do Norte was published. The document was developed in partnership with the Institute for Economic Development and the Environment (Idema) and the Secretariat for the Environment and Water Resources (SEMARH). The launch took place in Natal during the *Ondas de Conservação* event, organized by Idema. This publication adds to those already produced in the other states participating in the project, with the exception of Santa Catarina.



At the federal level, the project collaborated with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA) in developing the National Strategy for a Plastic Free Ocean (ENOP, the acronym in Portuguese). This ocean conservation public policy, supported by Clean Oceans Network, was enacted by federal decree in October. The initiative aims to guide and coordinate public policies focused on preventing, reducing, and eliminating plastic pollution in the oceans by 2030. The initiative was presented at the United Nations Ocean Conference, held in France in June.

Clean Oceans Network was developed by the UNESCO Chair for Ocean Sustainability, linked to the Institute of Advanced Studies and the Oceanographic Institute of the University of São Paulo (USP), with support from the Embassy of Norway. The project is managed by FUNBIO.

The network is part of the Strategic Plan for Monitoring and Assessment of Marine Litter (PEMALM, the acronym in Portuguese), launched in 2021, which provides guidelines for addressing solid waste in the marine environment and promotes coordination among public agencies, the private sector, non governmental organizations, universities, and research institutes. The project operates through working groups that lead engagement with environmental authorities to ensure that states incorporate into their public policies the concepts and methodologies for combating marine litter, grounded in the best available scientific evidence.

SDG

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ACADEMIA

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CLIMATE CHANGE

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS

TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

END YEAR

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> "Clean Oceans Network has reached a stage of maturity, with eight states now part of the network and, together with the Ministry of the Environment, contributing to the development of the National Strategy for a Plastic Free Ocean. The expectation is that all 17 coastal states will eventually join the network, integrating them into the national strategy, extending its reach to municipalities, and planning the next steps. This outlook is only possible thanks to the joint effort initiated by the University of São Paulo, the UNESCO Chair for Ocean Sustainability, FUNBIO, and the Embassy of Norway"
>
> says Professor ALEXANDER TURRA of USP, the project's founder and coordinator

REDE OCEANO LIMPO

Embaixada da Noruega
Brasília

Cátedra UNESCO para a Sustentabilidade do Oceano

FUNDO BRASILEIRO PARA A BIODIVERSIDADE
FUNBIO

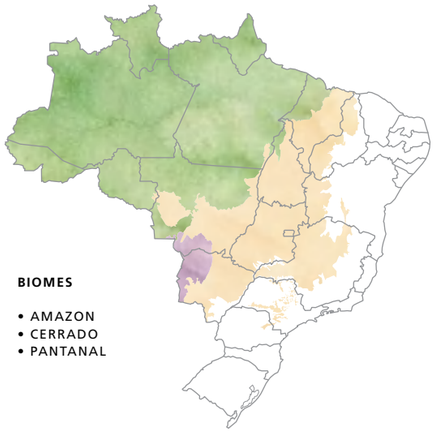
REDD+ Early Movers –
Mato Grosso (REM MT)

REM MT

Mato Grosso is the only state in Brazil that encompasses three major biomes: Amazon, Cerrado, and Pantanal. With the mission of curbing deforestation, Phase I of the global **REDD+ Early Movers – Mato Grosso (REM MT)** program concluded its cycle having successfully prevented the loss of 160,000 hectares of native vegetation—an area larger than the city of São Paulo. The initiative has become one of Brazil's most prominent subnational results based climate finance programs.

Between 2019 and 2025, REM MT directed resources toward advancing a sustainable, inclusive, and low carbon rural development model. Its efforts ranged from supporting public policy coordination involving the state government and strengthening the institutional capacity of the State Secretariat for the Environment, to implementing strategic territorial investments.

These included assisting family farmers and Indigenous peoples in adopting more sustainable production practices. In total, more than R$ 240 million were invested, supporting over 150 projects and directly benefiting approximately 44,000 people, including farmers, Indigenous communities, traditional populations, and rural producers across multiple regions of the state.



BIOMES

- AMAZON
- CERRADO
- PANTANAL

The program comes to an end leaving a legacy of reduced deforestation and reinforced environmental governance. Photo: Mariana Galvão



> "A key legacy of REM MT has been building a consistent dialogue with Indigenous peoples and advancing the bioeconomy, particularly by strengthening sociobiodiversity value chains. The program's investments also shifted the state's approach to deforestation. In the past, we were always reacting after the damage was done; now, with preventive action, deforestation has dropped significantly and Mato Grosso has become a national reference"
>
> says LIGIA VENDRAMIN, environmental analyst at SEMA-MT and REM MT coordinator

The program also contributed to strengthening the State REDD+ System (SISREDD+), advancing governance, social participation, and transparency. It enhanced the state's environmental enforcement capacity and reduced by up to 50% the time required to issue and adjudicate infraction notices, significantly increasing the effectiveness of environmental oversight.

The REM MT Program is the result of a partnership between the German and UK governments, through the German Development Bank (KfW) and the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS), together with the state of Mato Grosso, with financial management carried out by FUNBIO.

The success of Phase I leaves a legacy of positive results and strengthened institutional foundations that pave the way for the continuation of REM MT, with a second phase of the initiative already underway under the financial management of another organization.

NDC

SDG

PARTNERS

- ACADEMIA
- CIVIL SOCIETY
- GOVERNMENT
- INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS AND TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES

THEMATIC AREAS

- CLIMATE CHANGE
- FINANCIAL MECHANISMS
- FOREST RESTORATION
- GENDER EQUITY
- INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS
- SPECIES MANAGEMENT
- SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES
- TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

FUNDER

Banco Alemão de Desenvolvimento (KfW)

END YEAR

2025

Weaving Pathways for Indigenous Well Being

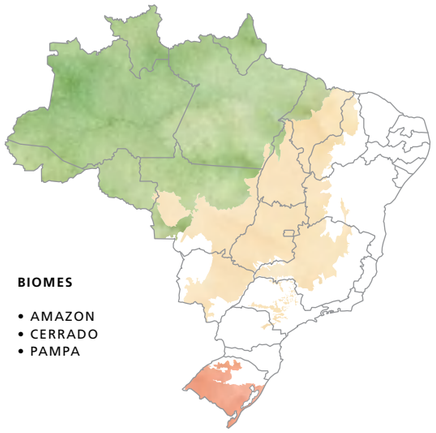
Tradition and Future

Designed for Indigenous peoples and communities across territories in the Amazon, Pantanal, and Cerrado, the new project **Tradition and Future – Weaving Pathways for Indigenous Well Being** aims to support 27 Indigenous Lands (ILs) in four Brazilian states (Acre, Pará, Mato Grosso, and Mato Grosso do Sul).

The initiative recognizes the essential role of Indigenous peoples in biodiversity conservation and in responding to climate change and seeks to strengthen the connection between culture and nature, territorial protection, and the leadership of Indigenous youth and women.

Planned actions include supporting the development and implementation of Territorial and Environmental Management Plans (PGTAs, the acronym in Portuguese), training Indigenous Environmental Agents, strengthening cultural practices, recognizing innovative Indigenous initiatives aligned with well being and rights promotion, and fostering sustainable productive chains.

The initiative is supported by the Petrobras Socioenvironmental Program, in partnership with regional Indigenous organizations, with FUNBIO responsible for financial and operational management. Activities are scheduled to begin in 2026.





Kayapó leaders visit the Ashaninka during the first phase of the Tradition and Future program. Photo: Domingos Peixoto

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THEMATIC AREAS

CLIMATE CHANGE

GENDER EQUITY

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS

SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES

TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

FUNDER

Petrobras

END YEAR

2031

The project represents an investment organized around **six strategic pillars**:

- Territorial and Environmental Management
- Culture and Traditional Knowledge
- Indigenous Differentiated Education
- Rights
- Food Security and Sociobiodiversity
- Climate Agenda

Financial Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples

new

Vítuke

Launched by the Brazilian Ministry of Indigenous Peoples (MPI) during the Climate Conference (COP30) in November, in Belém (Pará), **Vítuke**, meaning “ours” in the Terena language,

is a pioneering national financial mechanism designed to mobilize at least USD 100 million in private funding. Its purpose is to secure Indigenous territorial rights and accelerate the implementation of the National Policy for Territorial and Environmental Management of Indigenous Lands (PNGATI, the acronym in Portuguese). The initiative has the potential to support the protection of 100 million hectares and benefit more than 300,000 Indigenous people across Brazil.

Managed by FUNBIO, the mechanism begins with three initial donors: the German Development Bank (KfW), contributing €15 million; the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, with USD 10 million; and an additional USD 4 million from the World Bank. Together, these first contributions amount to approximately BRL 150 million—around USD 30 million.



Fazem parte da governança já estabelecida e funcional

Coalition of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil (APIB)

Its seven regional organizations

Coalition of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon (COIAB)

Coalition of Indigenous Peoples and Organizations of the Northeast, Minas Gerais, and Espírito Santo (APOINME)

Coalition of Indigenous Peoples of the Southern Region (Arpinsul)

Coalition of Indigenous Peoples of the Southeast Region (Arpinsudeste)

Aty Guasu, Guarani Yvyrupa Commission (CGY)

Terena People’s Council

National Coalition of Indigenous Women Warriors of Ancestrality (ANMIGA)

> “We need Vítuke’s resources to truly reach those who need them most, our territories, so that we can keep the forest standing and continue protecting those who depend on us”
>
> JOSIMARA MELGUEIRO,
> Coordinator of the Rutî Indigenous Fund
> (Indigenous Council of Roraima)

> “This mechanism represents the materialization of one of our most important demands: the autonomy to continue doing what we have always done, defending life”
>
> emphasized SONIA GUAJAJARA,
> former Minister of Indigenous Peoples

The structuring of the mechanism also received support from the Bezos Earth Fund and Re:wild.

The initiative was conceived, developed, and jointly structured by the MPI and organizations from the Indigenous movement. Its established and fully operational governance includes the associations in the box on the left.

The mechanism is designed to enable Indigenous organizations to directly access its resources and implement actions across six thematic areas: territorial and natural resource protection; Indigenous governance and participation; prevention and restoration of environmental damage; sustainable use of natural resources and productive initiatives; capacity building, training, and knowledge exchange; and management infrastructure.

Investing in the strengthening of Indigenous territories and their communities is essential to keeping forests standing and, in turn, supporting biodiversity conservation and efforts to confront climate change. This principle lies at the heart of PNGATI, established by decree in 2012, yet still not fully implemented..



Vítuke is a financial mechanism created to strengthen Indigenous territories, support environmental conservation, and expand Indigenous organizations' direct access to funding.

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THEMATIC AREAS

CLIMATE CHANGE

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF INDIGENOUS LANDS

FINANCIAL MECHANISMS

GENDER EQUITY

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS

SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES

TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

IN THE PRESS

11/12/25 — *FOLHA DE S.PAULO*
Lula Administration Prepares Unprecedented Fund Dedicated to Indigenous Peoples

11/14/25 — *REVISTA VEJA*
New Indigenous Fund Targets BRL 550 Million to Strengthen Environmental Management of Indigenous Territories

11/19/25 — *REVISTA EXAME*
Mechanism Launched at COP30 Provides BRL 550 Million for Actions in Indigenous Territories

Vítuke



Launch of the Vituke financial mechanism at COP30 in Belém, attended by Sônia Guajajara, then Minister of Indigenous Peoples. Photo: Gilmar Junior



Photo: Dante Novaes

Targets

USD 100
MILLION
in grants

100
MILLION
hectares reached

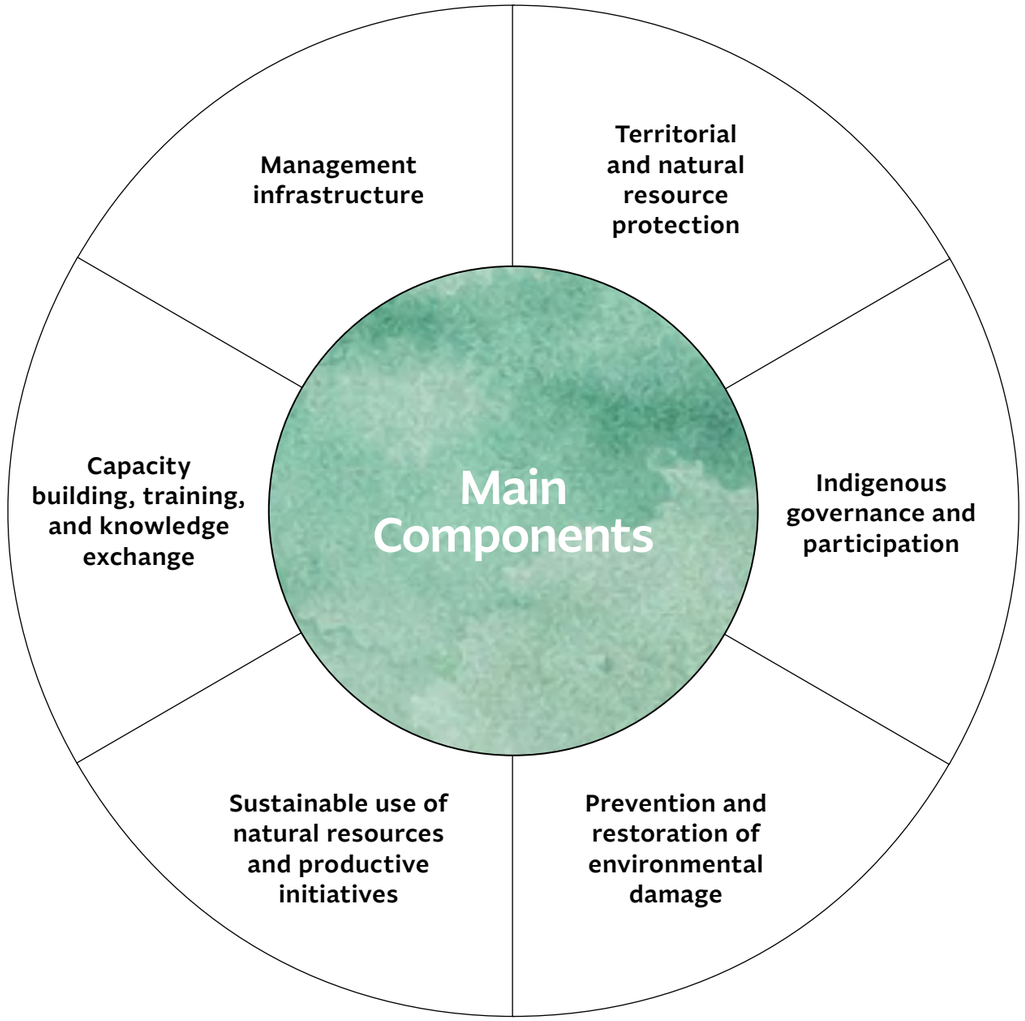
300
THOUSAND
Indigenous people benefited

“The creation of this mechanism represents another important step in recognizing Indigenous peoples as the foremost guardians of biodiversity. Supporting initiatives already aligned with PNGATI is a powerful way to advance the protection and autonomy of their territories, enabling communities to continue safeguarding the forest through their traditional ways of life”

emphasized SONIA GUAJAJARA, former Minister of Indigenous Peoples

“Indigenous territories hold intact forests, preserved biodiversity, and high carbon stocks, contributing directly to climate change mitigation. With Vítuke, we take a decisive step toward ensuring that Indigenous peoples can directly access the resources needed to protect and manage their territories, strengthening their autonomy. True to its name—Vítuke means ‘ours’ in the Terena language—the initiative reflects a collaborative financial mechanism created by and for Indigenous peoples. Vítuke is one of nearly 100 initiatives focused on Indigenous lands supported by FUNBIO over our 30 years of work.”

ROSA LEMOS DE SÁ, FUNBIO Secretary General



FUNBIO

MINISTÉRIO DOS POVOS INDÍGENAS

GOVERNO DO BRASIL
DO LADO DO POVO BRASILEIRO

PROJECTS WITH

Legal Obligation Funding

Photo: Photo: Marizilda Cruppe/FUNBIO

At FUNBIO, 12 initiatives are implemented with resources originating from Legal Obligations—such as conduct adjustment agreements, environmental compensations, fines, or out of court settlements—directly contributing to the country's biodiversity and environmental conservation.

Learn more about the initiatives.

91 SUPPORT TO PAs
93 BIODIVERSITY OF THE PARANÁ COAST
96 RIO DOCE BIODIVERSITY
98 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
100 G7 NATIONAL PARKS
101 MARINE AND FISHERIES RESEARCH
103 CETAS REHABILITATION
new 104 COMBOIOS BIOLOGICAL RESERVE
new 105 REVIS SANTA CRUZ
106 TAC ALSUB
108 SUN CORAL CAA
109 SCD PORTO SUL

Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity at Federal Coastal and Estuarine Protected Areas in the States of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo

Support to PAs

Ten protected areas benefit from the **Support to Protected Areas** project, which aims to conserve biodiversity along the coastal and marine zone of the state of Rio de Janeiro, while promoting the sustainable use of fishery resources and strengthening artisanal fishing.

To date, more than R$ 25 million has been invested in the structuring of these protected areas. In 2025 alone, R$ 4.8 million was executed. Funded through the Frade Conduct Adjustment Agreement (CAA), under the responsibility of the company PRIO, the project is the result of a compensatory measure led by the Federal Prosecution Service (MPF), with oversight from Ibama.

On the southern coast of the state of Rio de Janeiro, project resources also enabled the installation of a small hydroelectric unit in the Cairuçu Environmental Protection Area (APA, the acronym in Portuguese), in the municipality of Paraty, planned jointly with local community members. The equipment brought electricity to the caiçara community living in Martim de Sá, generating benefits such as the ability to refrigerate fish—made possible for the first time thanks to the small power plant and essential for strengthening the community's income generation.



The project reinforces marine and coastal conservation in Rio de Janeiro state, at Ponta Negra Beach. Photo: Joaquim Lima

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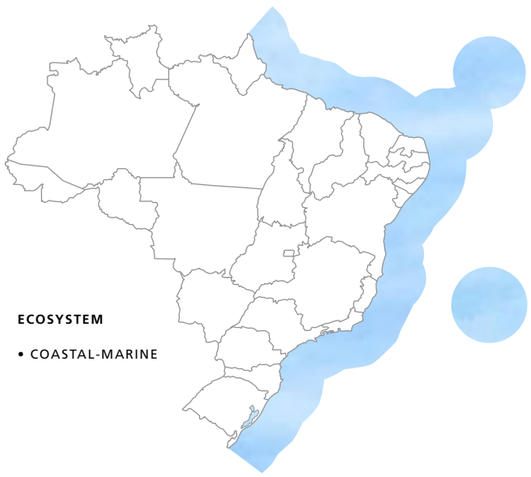
THEMATIC AREAS

ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF PROTECTED AREAS

TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

END YEAR

2026



ECOSYSTEM

• COASTAL-MARINE

R$ 25
MILLION
for the structuring of PAs

R$ 4,8
MILLION
invested in 2025

Supported PAs

- Cairuçu Environmental Protection Area (APA), state of Rio de Janeiro
- Guapi Mirim Environmental Protection Area (APA), state of Rio de Janeiro
- Guanabara Ecological Station (ESEC), state of Rio de Janeiro
- Tamoios Ecological Station (ESEC), state of Rio de Janeiro
- Tupinambás Ecological Station (ESEC), state of São Paulo
- Cagarras Islands Natural Monument (MONA), state of Rio de Janeiro
- Restinga de Jurubatiba National Park (PARNA), state of Rio de Janeiro
- Serra da Bocaina National Park (PARNA), states of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo
- Arraial do Cabo Marine Extractive Reserve (RESEX), state of Rio de Janeiro
- São João River Basin / Golden Lion Tamarin Environmental Protection Area (APA), state of Rio de Janeiro

> "The implementation of these projects has been extremely important for the Cairuçu Environmental Protection Area, because it legitimized the APA's management through dialogue with the communities, the development of community plans, and also with the Parati Mirim Indigenous Land through its PGTA. Together, these efforts generate enormous benefits for the conservation of these territories. It is a legacy of community self affirmation, bringing dignity and recognition to these people and their ways of life, as they are communities historically overlooked by public authorities"
>
> highlights FLÁVIO PAIM, environmental analyst at the ICMBio Paraty Integrated Management Center

The APA will also receive a Cultural Center in the Indigenous community of Tekoa Itaxĩ Mirim, with construction scheduled to begin in 2026. The center will be built in Parati Mirim, an area that overlaps with the protected area and is included in both the Territorial and Environmental Management Plan (PGTA, the acronym in Portuguese) of the Indigenous Land and the APA's management plan. The architectural design was developed together with the community, and the center will serve as a space for valuing traditional knowledge and practices, as well as hosting collective activities such as events, rituals, workshops, and initiatives related to community based tourism.

Mangrove Center

The largest continuous stretch of preserved mangrove in the state of Rio de Janeiro will soon host a new heritage preservation space—the Mangrove Center (Espaço Manguezal). Built adjacent to the headquarters of the Guapimirim Environmental Protection Area (APA) and the Guanabara Ecological Station (ESEC), the center will include a visitor center and an auditorium for events and environmental education activities.

Still under construction, the facility is being built with resources from the Support to PAs project and designed to integrate harmoniously with the natural landscape. The building also features a biodigester for wastewater treatment and a rainwater harvesting system. The inauguration—which will include a permanent exhibition funded by the ALSUB Conduct Adjustment Agreement (TAC), another project managed by FUNBIO—is expected to take place by the end of 2026.



In Paraty, the Fishing Festival gathered local communities, conservation managers, and partners to celebrate traditional knowledge. Photo: Joaquim Lima

Fishing Festival

One of the highlights of the year for the three projects implemented with resources from the Frade CAA (Support to PAs , Environmental Education, and Marine and Fisheries Research) was the Fishing Festival – Sea Projects Fair. Held in three editions across the municipalities of Rio de Janeiro, Armação de Búzios, and Paraty, respectively in September, October, and November, the event brought together the various initiatives carried out under the Frade CAA umbrella and welcomed more than seven thousand participants. The Rio de Janeiro edition also featured projects from the Franciscana Dolphin Conservation initiative. Throughout the events, community members and representatives of the protected areas stood side by side, reinforcing the partnership among the actors implementing actions in the territory **(see more in Marine Research Project — p. 101)**.

Each edition of the fair served as an opportunity to celebrate culture, the traditional knowledge of fishing communities, science, gastronomy, environmental education, and the ten years of work carried out under the Frade CAA.

The Support to PAs project also supported ICMBio's Southeast Regional Office (GR 4) by organizing meetings among managers in the region. In June, the first thematic event for managers—the first in a series of three—was held with a focus on marine conservation. Then, in October, around 60 heads of protected areas from across the Southeast gathered at the Biodiversity Conservation Training Center (ACADEBio), in the municipality of Iperó, in the state of São Paulo, to discuss strategies for nature conservation. Two additional thematic meetings are expected to be supported in 2026.



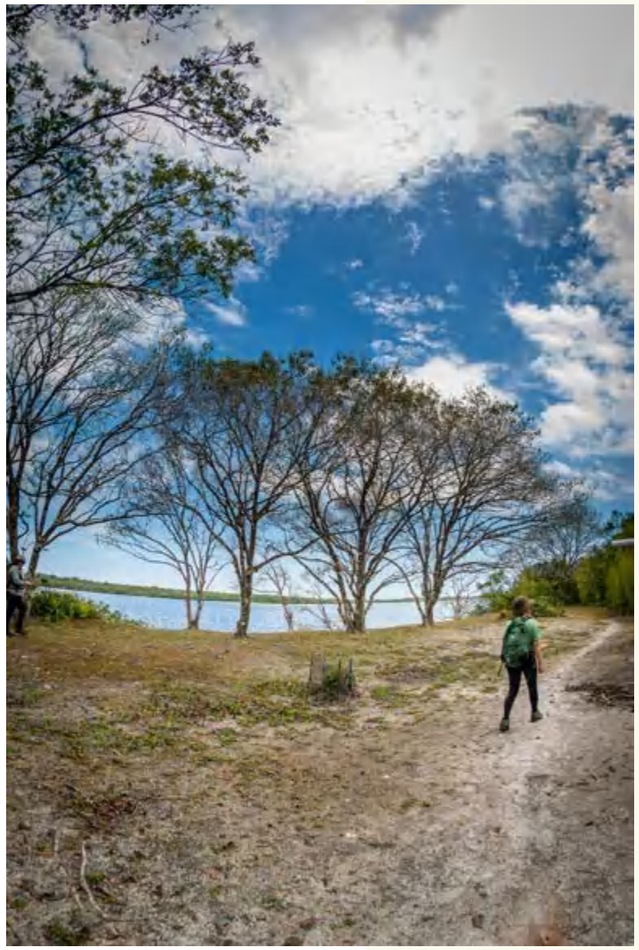
The initiative highlights and restores traditional *Caiçara* knowledge and culture linked to the sea. Photo: Joaquim Lima



Fishing communities are strengthening community-based tourism as a strategy for generating income and conserving their territories. Photo: Joaquim Lima

Biodiversity of the Paraná Coast

The Atlantic Forest of Paraná is home to thousands of plant and animal species. With a focus on conserving this natural heritage, the **Biodiversity of the Paraná Coast** program aims to strengthen protected areas (PAs) in the state, with investments of more than BRL 110 million in activities such as enforcement, research, public use, and environmental education. Strengthening and enhancing both public and private PAs is considered strategic for fostering regional development. One of the key pathways for income generation is tourism. In December, the first fully developed and fully signposted trail in the Superagui National Park was officially inaugurated. Stretching 15 kilometers, the Ararapira Trail can be completed on foot or by bicycle, connecting *caiçara* communities and strengthening community based tourism.



With an investment of approximately BRL 2 million, aligned with the technical planning of the Antonina–Guaraqueçaba Integrated Management Center (NGI, the acronym in Portuguese) of the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio), the route now features seven suspension bridges, a 50 meter boardwalk, and signage following the standards of the Brazilian Long Distance Trails Network. The trail, which began as an initiative of the local communities themselves, is part of the 40 kilometer Superagui Traverse, connecting the island from north to south through restingas, mangroves, Atlantic Forest, and stretches of deserted beach.

The trail's inauguration event brought together representatives from environmental agencies, universities, institutional partners, and local community members, and featured a fandango *caiçara* dance, a cultural expression that has endured for centuries in coastal communities of Paraná, São Paulo, and southern Rio de Janeiro.

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THEMATIC AREAS

ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF PROTECTED AREAS

FINANCIAL MECHANISMS

TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

END YEAR

2031



BIOME AND ECOSYSTEM

- ATLANTIC FOREST
- COASTAL-MARINE



The Ararapira Trail links *Caiçara* communities across Atlantic Forest, mangroves, *restingas*, and beaches on the coast of Paraná. Photo: Priscila Foroni

> "Superagui National Park is 36 years old, and this is the first time it has a formally established and fully signposted trail, developed in partnership with the communities to foster community based tourism. The structuring of tourism activities and the implementation of this trail are only possible thanks to the Biodiversity of the Paraná Coast program. For 36 years, the park had been waiting for an orderly, balanced tourism model built together with the communities"
>
> celebrates CAMILE LUGARINI, head of ICMBio's Antonina–Guaraqueçaba NGI

IN THE PRESS

12/17/25 — *FOLHA DE S.PAULO*
Superagui National Park Opens a Multimodal Trail in Northern Paraná

Biodiversity of the Paraná Coast

Knowledge and Conservation

With seven calls for proposals launched the previous year, 2025 marked the beginning of implementation for 46 previously selected socio environmental projects. These initiatives span different regions of the Paraná coast, invest in conservation and research, and benefit threatened species such as the black faced lion tamarin and the franciscana dolphin.

Expanding knowledge is a key pillar of biodiversity conservation. With support from the program, the Meros do Brasil Institute began implementing the Coastal Paraná Telemetry Network (RETELIPA) in 2025—a collaborative initiative designed to monitor 41 animals from ten marine species (nine fish species and one turtle species) in the Paranaguá Estuarine Complex and the adjacent coastal platform. The project will use acoustic transmitters to collect data from the monitored animals and create an open database accessible to public managers and partner institutions, supporting environmental licensing processes and informing public policies for marine conservation.

The initiative is one of nine selected through the 2024 call, which allocated R$ 4.2 million to enable species and ecosystem management and conservation actions along the Paraná coast over a two year period.

> “Support from the Biodiversity in the Coastal Region of Paraná program was essential for effectively installing a network of monitoring equipment and acquiring new tags now being deployed on the animals. It also enabled the official creation of Paraná’s telemetry network through knowledge exchange workshops and strategic planning”
>
> explains MATHEUS FREITAS, researcher at the Meros do Brasil Institute and project manager

46
projects under implementation

R$ 13
MILLION
executed


Ademadan. Photo: Juliana Camargo

Ademadan.
Photo: Juliana Camargo



Capacity-building activities and dialogues between managers and the community are key components of the program’s agenda. Photo: Larissa Linhares

New Calls Launched in 2025

In 2025, the program executed approximately R$ 13 million. The year also marked the launch of two calls for expressions of interest: one for the development of management plans and signage for state and municipal protected areas, with R$ 2.5 million in funding; and another for the creation of management boards for state and municipal protected areas, which will allocate an additional R$ 500,000.

The program also advanced its support for the creation and consolidation of Private Natural Heritage Reserves (RPPNs, the acronym in Portuguese) in the region, with the release of the third call in this line of work in October. The call will allocate a total of R$ 1.75 million to help conserve nature within private properties in the municipalities of Antonina, Guaraqueçaba, Morretes, Paranaguá, Guaratuba, Matinhos, and Pontal do Paraná.

The program also invested in environmental police forces in the region, allocating R$ 1.3 million to support the structuring of the Paraná Military Environmental Police Battalion and another R$ 1 million to the Environmental Patrol of the Paranaguá Municipal Civil Guard. The projects, approved in 2025, will begin implementation in 2026.

This is the second round of support provided by the program to the Environmental Police Battalion, which in the previous cycle received R$ 1 million for the acquisition of boats, drones, georeferencing equipment, personal protective gear, and essential logistical items for field operations. The new contribution will enable the establishment of fixed support posts in five municipalities.

Biodiversity of the Paraná Coast

Investment in Municipalities

With 97% of its territory covered by natural areas, Guaratuba is one of the coastal municipalities of Paraná that has benefited from program resources, with approximately R$ 1.2 million committed to the municipality. The city government was among the institutions selected through the call supporting Municipal Environmental Secretariats of the Paraná Coast, with a project valued at around R$ 500,000.

The funds enabled the acquisition of vehicles, boats, and drones used for enforcement, as well as computers and software that expanded the municipality's capacity to conduct geospatial studies and analyses. **"The quad bike, in particular, made it possible to carry out regular patrols along approximately 15 kilometers of *restinga* and beach areas, covering stretches that require agile mobility and that, without this resource, are more vulnerable. And the addition of the boat strengthened environmental monitoring in aquatic and coastal areas, making the work of the Municipal Environmental Secretariat more comprehensive,"** explains Edgar Fernandez, Guaratuba's Municipal Secretary of Environment.

One of the main focal points of the actions is the Lagoa do Parado Municipal Natural Park, created in 2004, which protects 3,600 hectares of Atlantic Forest, including mangroves, wetlands, and forest areas that shelter threatened species such as the marsh antwren (*Formicivora acutirostris*). The work includes the creation of a management board and the development of a management plan for the municipal protected area, as well as environmental education activities to engage local residents.

In the municipality of Pontal do Paraná, program resources supported the creation of the Management Board of the Manguezal do Rio Perequê Municipal Natural Park. The process of setting up the board included mobilization workshops with representatives from educational institutions, civil society organizations, the public sector, and local communities, who discussed the criteria for the board's composition and mapped strategic stakeholders.

Another line of support to the Pontal city government will enable the signage and development of management plans for both the Manguezal do Rio Perequê Municipal Natural Park and the Municipal Reserve Park.

Gathering of projects.
Photo: Felipe Nunes





Arapira, Paraná. Photo: Priscila Foroni

> "The exchange of experiences with other actors involved was extremely valuable for the continuity of the projects funded by the program. Now, with a broader understanding of the Biodiversity of the Paraná Coast program, our expectation is to further strengthen actions in the municipal protected areas of Paranaguá"
>
> says RODRIGO DELONGA, forest engineer at the Environmental Secretariat of the Municipality of Paranaguá

First In Person Program Meeting

The year was also marked by the program's first in person workshop, held in April in the municipality of Morretes. The event brought together 55 representatives from supported projects, social organizations, public agencies, and academic institutions for an overview of the program, knowledge exchange, networking, and joint planning.

Over two days, the First Meeting of the Biodiversity of the Paraná Coast Program promoted integration among the program's initiatives and alignment of guidelines for biodiversity conservation in the state.

The program, scheduled to run until 2031, is funded through a Judicial Agreement (TAJ, the acronym in Portuguese) established with the direct participation of the Federal Prosecution Service (MPF) and the Paraná State Prosecution Service (MPPR), as compensation for the spill of 52,000 liters of diesel oil from Petrobras, which affected the Paraná coast in 2001.

BIODIVERSIDADE LITORAL DO PARANÁ

Rio Doce Biodiversity

Threatened with extinction due to habitat loss, diseases such as yellow fever, and the spread of invasive species, the small buffy-headed marmoset (*Callithrix flaviceps*) has now established its first captive population as part of a conservation program.

The initiative, considered crucial for securing the species' future, is one of the outcomes of investments in the **Rio Doce Biodiversity** project, which issued a call for proposals supporting eight research subprojects designed to inform actions for enrichment, reintroduction, or population reinforcement of terrestrial biodiversity species.

The conservation efforts for the buffy headed marmoset, classified by ICMBio as Critically Endangered, are led by the team of the Environmental Education Program (PREA, the acronym in Portuguese). The subproject supports the planning of translocation strategies for this threatened primate, integrating *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation actions through the establishment of a safety population maintained under human care at the Serra Marmoset Conservation Center (CCSS, the acronym in Portuguese). The initiative also encompassed population viability analyses, genetic and health assessments, surveys of known wild populations, and a comprehensive mapping of threats to the species.



5
calls for proposals

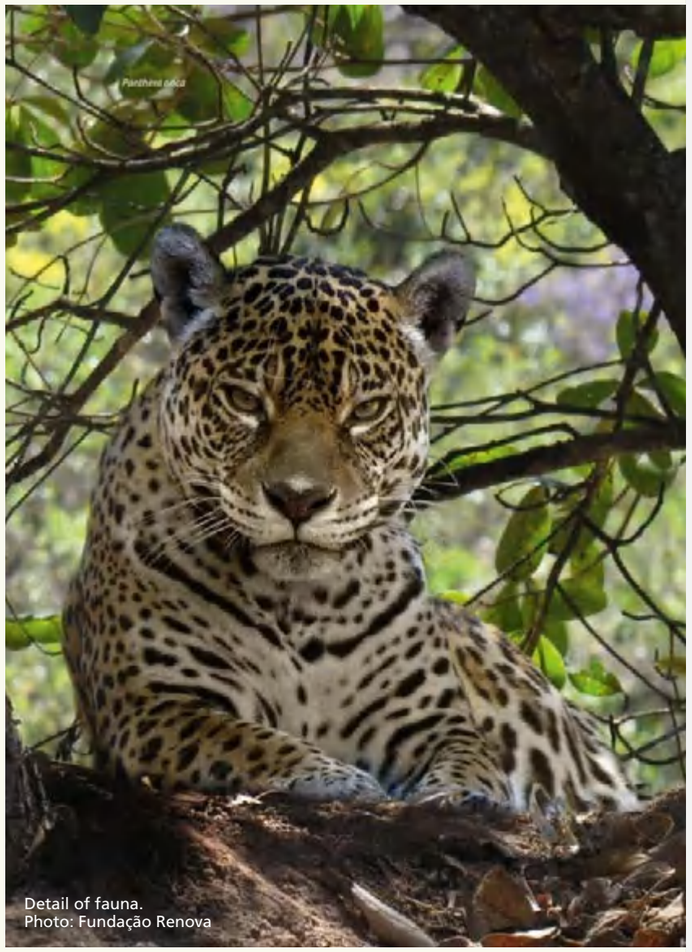
35
subprojects

R$ 29
MILLION
invested

21
research institutions

100+
species studied


The region contains a rich biodiversity.
Photo: Fundação Renova


Detail of fauna.
Photo: Fundação Renova

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- CIVIL SOCIETY

THEMATIC AREAS
- ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF PROTECTED AREAS
- GENDER EQUITY
- INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS
- SPECIES MANAGEMENT
- SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES

END YEAR
2026

> "The funding provided for this subproject through FUNBIO showed me the difference that meaningful, well structured investment makes. It enabled broad, in depth research capable of generating solid, visible, and essential results for the conservation of threatened species. Seeing our progress and the progress of the other subprojects focused on different species made it clear that, yes, it is possible to conserve biodiversity and reverse degradation scenarios when investments are truly adequate"
>
> emphasizes RODRIGO CARVALHO, PREA's executive director

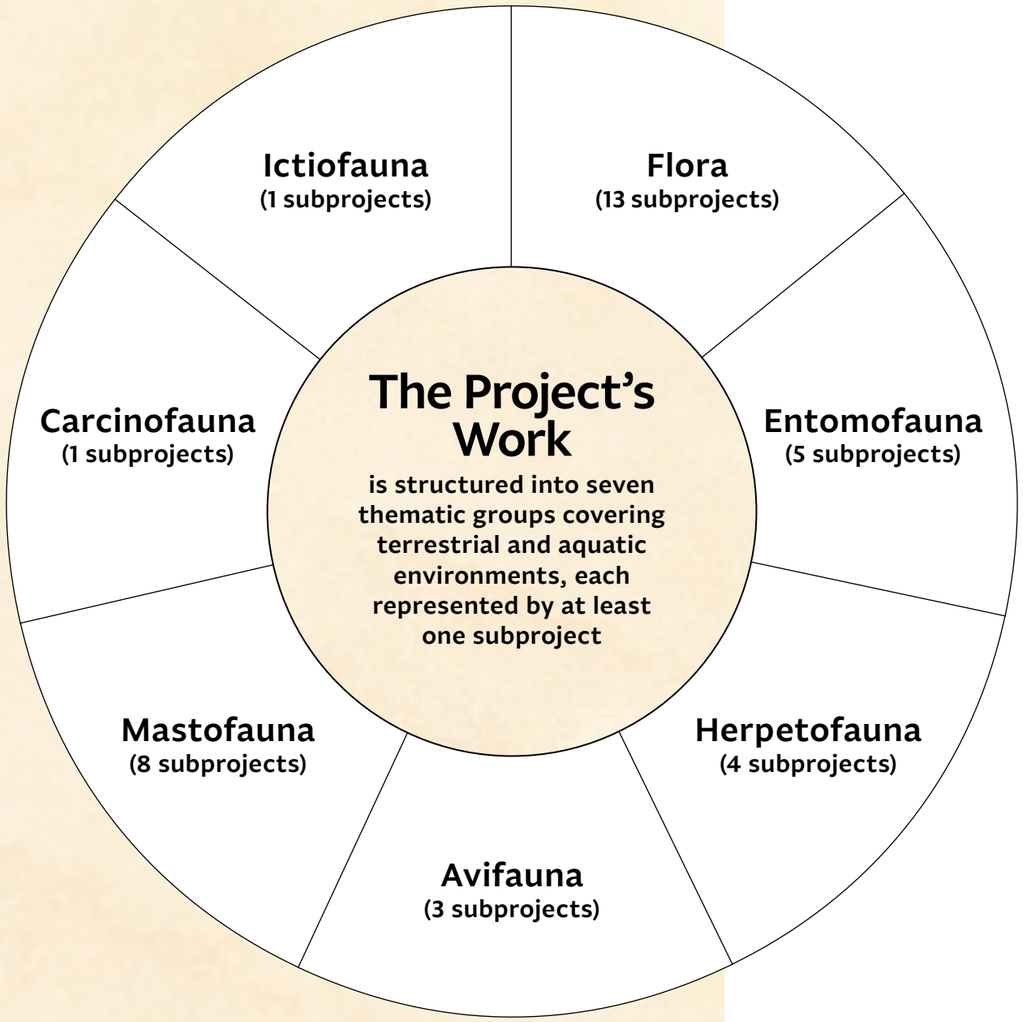
→ Rio Doce Biodiversity

The call dedicated to the translocation of terrestrial biodiversity in the Rio Doce region—supported by an investment of R$ 6.4 million—was one of five funding rounds launched under the Rio Doce Biodiversity project. Together, these calls resulted in 35 subprojects, all completed in 2025. In total, R$ 29 million were directed to initiatives carried out by 21 research institutions, focusing on more than 100 target species included in the Action Plans for the Conservation of Terrestrial and Aquatic Biodiversity across the Rio Doce watershed.

Struck in 2015 by the collapse of the Fundão dam in Mariana, the Rio Doce watershed, spanning the states of Minas Gerais and Espírito Santo, harbors exceptionally rich biodiversity. The project, developed through a partnership between FUNBIO and the now dissolved Fundação Renova, aims to expand scientific knowledge and strengthen the conservation of target species across the basin, encompassing both its flora and fauna.

Focusing specifically on aquatic biodiversity, one of the project's calls allocated R$ 2.5 million to three subprojects dedicated to research on fish, crustaceans, and aquatic insects, conducted by the Espírito Santo Technology Foundation (FEST).

With a focus on eight threatened fish species, the subproject dedicated to studying the ichthyofauna brought together an interdisciplinary team coordinated by Professor Maurício Hostim, from the Fisheries and Aquaculture Laboratory (LabPesca) at the Northern Espírito Santo University Center (CEUNES). The work examined aquatic biology and ecology to understand reproduction, distribution, movement patterns, and habitat connectivity for the eight target species, from the emblematic goliath grouper (*Epinephelus itajara*) to the critically endangered surubim do Doce (*Steindachneridion doceanum*), a large pimelodid catfish endemic to the Rio Doce.




Seedling nursery.
Photo: Fundação Renova

> "For several of the freshwater species, the amount of available information was extremely limited. During the extinction risk assessment workshops, we found that data were virtually nonexistent for most of them. Through this project, we were able to conduct field expeditions and confirm that these gaps are largely due to the low occurrence of these species in the wild. They are difficult to sample and even to identify, as some are remarkably similar to one another"
>
> explains Professor MAURÍCIO HOSTIM, from the Fisheries and Aquaculture Laboratory (LabPesca) at the Northern Espírito Santo University Center (CEUNES)

He adds that one of the most significant outcomes of the subproject was the collaboration established with local fishers, who became active partners in the research. **"We had the opportunity to work in close partnership with the fishers, who were directly affected by the dam collapse, and the fishing community itself was eager to contribute. They understand that the recovery of the Rio Doce depends on information and knowledge."**

The project's calls extended beyond fauna. The Seed Orchards subproject, carried out by the Center for Information and Technical Assistance (CIATT), focused on restoring populations of *braúna* and *peroba amarela*, two native Atlantic Forest tree species threatened with extinction. To achieve this, the research team surveyed remaining populations, selected seed trees, conducted germination tests and genetic analyses, and refined protocols for producing high quality seedlings to support the use of these species in forest restoration efforts.

The project also made possible the establishment of the first forest seedling nursery within a teaching and research institution in the region, at the Federal Institute – Governador Valadares Campus. **"It is a historic milestone and a lasting legacy for training students, advancing research, and generating knowledge and new conservation actions in the territory,"** Bruna emphasizes.

In its final phase, the Rio Doce Biodiversity project held an online Research Seminar in November to present the final and partial results of the studies funded by the initiative. The event brought together around 150 participants, including the Technical Advisory Group of Samarco Mineração S.A. and the technical teams from the 35 supported subprojects.

> "Thanks to this support, we were able to turn the Seed Orchards initiative into reality, a project that brings together scientific research, education, and environmental conservation. FUNBIO enabled the studies, infrastructure, equipment, and technical work needed to address one of the greatest challenges in forest restoration in Brazil: the shortage of seeds and seedlings with the genetic quality required for native forest species threatened with extinction"
>
> says researcher BRUNA SOUTO, from the Seed Orchards project

Biodiversidade RIO DOCE

FUNDO BRASILEIRO PARA A BIODIVERSIDADE FUNBIO

Implementation of Environmental Education and Income-Generation Projects Geared Towards Promoting Environmental Quality in Fishing Communities in Rio de Janeiro State

Environmental Education

With five years of implementation, the **Environmental Education** project, carried out under the Frade Conduct Adjustment Agreement (CAA), is entering its final stage, reaping the results of all initiatives supported since 2020.

Over this period, the project invested more than R$ 42 million in efforts to promote biodiversity conservation along the coastal and marine zones of the state of Rio de Janeiro, the sustainable use of fishery resources, the strengthening of artisanal fishing, income generation, and environmental education.

The year was defined by the work of the subprojects selected through the call for proposals supporting the implementation or improvement of environmental technologies designed to enhance the quality of life in fishing communities. With an investment of R$ 5.1 million, the call selected eight initiatives ranging from the installation of photovoltaic systems and mini hydropower plants to biodigesters and banana tree filtration pits, all of which contributed to securing basic sanitation for *caiçara* communities.

Environmental technologies

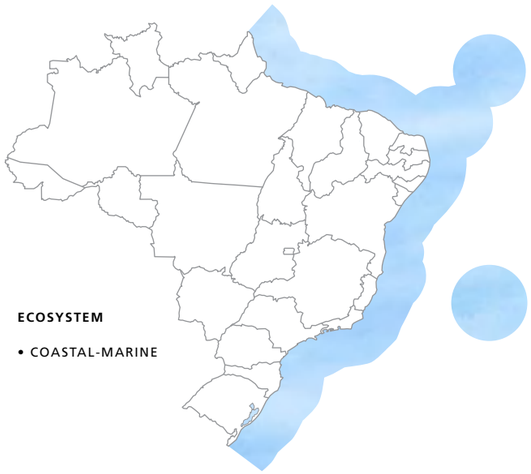
R$ 5.1
MILLION

8
initiatives

Development of the production chain

R$ 4.2
MILLION

12
subprojects



Closing meeting with representatives of the subprojects. Photo: Marianna Martelota/FUNBIO



In Paraty, the Atlantic Forest Biosphere Reserve Friends Institute (IA RBMA) installed photovoltaic panels and mini hydropower units in Ponta Negra, Trindade, and Paraty Mirim, benefiting around 500 residents who had long faced instability in the conventional electrical grid. These alternative energy sources provide greater security for families and help ensure that refrigerators remain powered, preventing the loss of food intended for both household consumption and sale. Additional low impact mini hydropower systems will also be installed to guarantee 24 hour operation of the community health clinic, the school, and the Residents' Association in Paraty Mirim.

The installation of solar panels was also at the core of three other subprojects: Sustentamar, in Arraial do Cabo; Pescando o Sol, in São Francisco de Itabapoana; and Clean Energy and Sustainability, on Ilha do Governador in the city of Rio de Janeiro.

In the case of Sustentamar, implemented by the Association of True Fishers and Open Bow Boat Tourism of Arraial do Cabo, solar systems were installed on 40 "boca aberta" (open-bow) vessels, including eight boats with cabins and 32 without. The change has transformed the daily lives of local small-scale fishers, who can now replace the diesel generators traditionally used during their nighttime trips to sea with solar powered batteries.



Initiatives in environmental education and sustainable technologies help strengthen coastal communities.



Environmental Education

> “We can see that what we’ve achieved through this project strengthens our community and our work as community leaders”
>
> says VALDIRENE COUTO (aka Val Quilombola) president of the Feital Quilombo

In addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, noise pollution, and impacts on the marine environment, the shift to solar power lowers operating costs for fishers and helps prevent health issues linked to continuous exposure to toxic generator fumes. The initiative also established a solar powered charging station at the Fishers’ Marina, further decreasing reliance on fossil fuels.

Two other subprojects—Water for Today and Tomorrow, in Cabo Frio, and Voices of the Mangrove, in Magé—shared a common purpose: improving water quality for fishing communities.

In Cabo Frio, the Búzios Observation Association (AOB, the acronym in Portuguese) installed biodigesters, banana tree filtration pits, and water tanks, combining low cost with high impact, to bring piped water to 32 families in the Chavão community. **“This was a major achievement for us,”** says Roberta Cruz, the subproject coordinator, who also led a training program on composting.

In Magé, in the Baixada Fluminense region, the Voices of the Mangrove subproject combined septic tank systems with other technologies: adaptable gutters for rainwater harvesting, a grinder to ensure full use of fish by products, and solar panels for energy generation.

All eight subprojects took part in the 6th Environmental Education Seminar – Environmental Technologies Call, held in December in the city of Rio de Janeiro, where they presented their solutions, exchanged experiences, learned from one another, and strengthened ties among fishing communities across the state.



Fisherman on the coast of Rio de Janeiro. Photo: Joaquim Lima

Fishing Festival

One of the year’s highlights for the four projects supported with resources from the Frade Conduct Adjustment Agreement (CAA) – Support for Protected Areas, Franciscana Dolphin Conservation, Environmental Education, and Marine and Fisheries Research—was the Fishing Festival—Sea Projects Fair. Held in three editions across the municipalities of Rio de Janeiro, Armação de Búzios, and Paraty in September, October, and November, respectively, the event brought together the wide range of initiatives developed under the Frade CAA umbrella and welcomed more than seven thousand participants. Designed as an open fair, the festival featured exhibitions, environmental education activities, and strengthened collaboration between communities and the many actors implementing actions in the territory **(see more in Marine Research project — p. 101)**. The event also marked the 10th anniversary of the Frade CAA, celebrating a decade of collective efforts in conservation, community development, and sustainable fisheries.

The year’s agenda was also marked by the fifth edition of the Environmental Education project Meeting, held between June and July in the municipality of Armação de Búzios. The event brought together representatives from 20 organizations that developed initiatives under the project, with a program that included lectures, debates, presentations of results, and collaborative creation activities. The meeting concluded with the delivery of a letter to Ibama, reflecting on the autonomy gained by fishing communities throughout the supported projects and calling for greater dialogue and partnership between the environmental agency and community groups.

Development of the Production Chain

The 12 subprojects supported through the call for proposals on production chain development, institutional strengthening, and planning also moved into their final stage of implementation. Now in its third phase, the call invested R$ 4.2 million in infrastructure and in building the long term financial sustainability of participating organizations, several of which are receiving support for the second or even third cycle of the project.

One such example is the Association of Boat Operators and Small Scale Fishers of Trindade (ABAT, the acronym in Portuguese), which benefited from all three rounds of support to establish the Caiçara Community Market of Trindade, in the municipality of Paraty. The facility, now nearing completion, will provide proper storage conditions for fish, improving commercialization and creating new opportunities for income generation among artisanal fishers.

In Arraial do Cabo, the Mulheres Nativas Cooperative used resources from the call to make structural improvements to its headquarters, which now features solar panels, fresh paint, and a revitalized space designed to support community based tourism. There, the women—all over 60 years old—fish and cook themselves, preparing and selling meals and take away dishes based on fish and seafood, such as squid lasagna, shrimp *escondidinho* [a traditional Brazilian casserole], and fish burgers.

Their work elevates the role of artisanal fisherwomen and their traditional knowledge, while fostering income generation and strengthening women’s empowerment within their communities. The initiative was recognized in February 2025 with the national “Women of the Waters” award from the Brazilian Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

A second call for proposals, aimed at strengthening community based institutions and supported by an investment of R$ 2.36 million, selected six additional initiatives in this area. These projects began activities in June and will continue through mid 2026.

The Environmental Education project is funded with resources from a compensatory measure established under the Frade Conduct Adjustment Agreement (CAA), for which the company PRIO is responsible. The agreement is overseen by the Federal Prosecution Service (MPF/RJ), with financial management provided by FUNBIO.

> “Through a great deal of struggle, we secured our place, ensured our livelihood, and proved that fishing belongs to us as well. We are women, and we fish”
>
> affirms MARGARETH JULIÃO, fisherwoman and leader of the cooperative

Educação Ambiental Rio de Janeiro · MPF Ministério Público Federal · IBAMA MMA · anp · PRIO · FUNDO BRASILEIRO PARA A BIODIVERSIDADE FUNBIO

G7 National Parks

Minas Gerais encompasses portions of the Atlantic Forest, Cerrado, and Caatinga biomes, as well as important rivers, cave systems, and mountain ranges.

Part of this natural richness is protected within the seven national parks located in the state: Serra do Cipó, Serra do Gandarela, Serra da Canastra, Sempre Vivas, Cavernas do Peruaçu—recently designated a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site—Grande Sertão Veredas, and Caparaó, the latter shared with Espírito Santo. Together, these parks safeguard approximately 700,000 hectares and are among the protected areas supported by the **G7 National Parks** initiative, which began operations in 2025 and, in its first year, allocated R$6.8 million to these conservation areas.

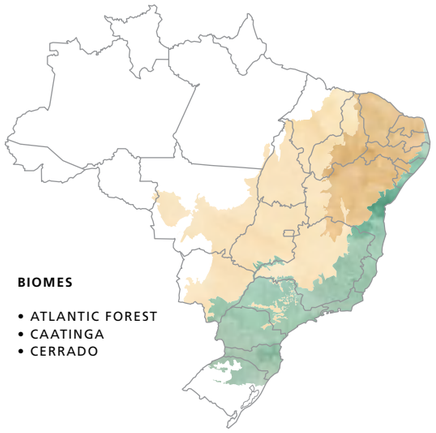
The project, designed to strengthen protected areas (PAs), results from a judicial agreement reached with Vale in 2020 by the Federal Court of Minas Gerais. The agreement allowed the company to substitute the payment of environmental fines applied after the Brumadinho dam collapse in 2019, with the consent of the Federal Prosecution Service, the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA), and the Brazilian Institute of the Environment (Ibama).

7
national parks

700
THOUSAND
hectares

R$ 62.3
MILLION
invested in the PAs

R$ 6.8
MILLION
invested in 2025




Detail of the flora in Serra da Canastra, Minas Gerais. Photo: Thales do Carmo

In this first phase, a total of R$62.3 million will be invested in the PAs. Most of the resources are directed toward construction, renovations, road improvements, and upgrades to infrastructure that supports sustainable tourism. The G7 initiative also funds the purchase of equipment, vehicles, and drones to strengthen enforcement, management activities, and fire response operations, as well as daily allowances for firefighting brigades. Efforts to advance land tenure regularization, one of the most significant challenges faced by Brazilian PAs, are also underway for implementation in the coming years.

Among the highlights of the project's first year are the construction of a new visitor center at Serra do Cipó National Park, currently in the contracting phase, and the delivery of a trail management training program that included practical interventions and improvements along the trails of Sempre Vivas National Park.

G7 resources also enabled ICMBio's participation in the decisive meeting that resulted in the designation of Cavernas do Peruaçu National Park as a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site.

Throughout the year, the project held three planning meetings and three training sessions for managers of the supported PAs, involving approximately 50 staff members.

FUNBIO serves as the implementing agency for the project, which is expected to run until 2027. The second phase of the G7, which will receive an additional R$84 million, includes the development of a financial mechanism proposed by FUNBIO to ensure the long term sustainability of the parks. A preliminary proposal outlining how this mechanism could operate has already been presented to ICMBio and Vale.


Waterfall in Serra do Cipó, Minas Gerais. Photo: Thales do Carmo



"The G7 arrived at a moment of severe financial scarcity for these protected areas and has made a tremendous difference. When PAs begin to have structure and resources, they can finally adopt a proactive agenda, they can plan and execute. This changes everything in terms of improving the parks. For example, in Sempre Vivas and Gandarela National Parks, we carried out public use actions that simply would not have happened without the G7"

says FREDERICO DRUMOND MARTINS, environmental analyst at ICMBio and regional coordinator in Lagoa Santa, Minas Gerais

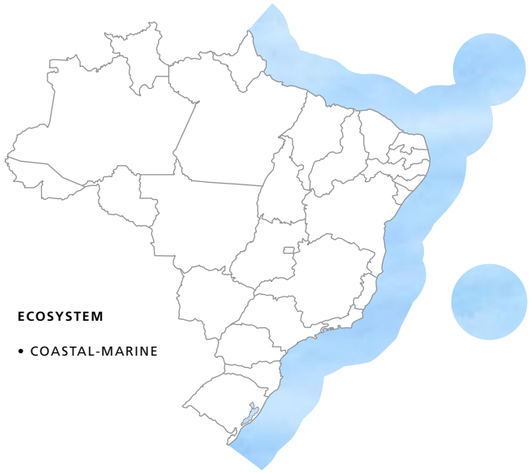
Project to Support Marine and Fisheries Research in the State of Rio de Janeiro

Marine and Fisheries Research

Mariculture, like fishing, is a cornerstone of the traditional livelihoods of many coastal communities along the Brazilian shoreline. It encompasses the cultivation of marine organisms such as fish, oysters, mussels, and seaweed.

One of the central aims of the **Marine and Fisheries Research Support** project is to ensure the sustainable use of these resources, aligning biodiversity conservation with the strengthening of small-scale fisheries and environmental education across the coastal and marine zones of the state of Rio de Janeiro.

In this area of work, the project invested R$4 million across seven subprojects aimed at advancing and strengthening mariculture in the state. Five of them were completed in 2025. The Rio de Janeiro State Fisheries Foundation (FIPERJ) signed an addendum to its support agreement, securing additional funding and extending implementation through mid 2026 to develop the Strategic Plan for Coastal Aquaculture in Rio de Janeiro. The extension ensures the continuity of water quality and seafood quality monitoring, as well as technical assistance for fishers, with a focus on the Costa Verde, Guanabara Bay, and Baixadas Litorâneas regions.



ECOSYSTEM

• COASTAL-MARINE

> “The project was outstanding. It enabled FIPERJ to strengthen its structure, acquire equipment, and gain the capacity to be present in the field alongside producers. It also allowed us to go out to sea every 15 days to collect samples and assess the environmental conditions in areas where mariculture takes place in the state. This provided essential baseline knowledge on the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the water where mollusks are cultivated, ensuring food safety throughout the production chain”
>
> says GUILHERME ZANETTE,
> FIPERJ researcher and coordinator of the initiative

The initiative promotes food security, autonomy, and sustainable economic development for local communities, while helping to curb predatory fishing. Developed in close coordination with the productive sector, the subproject also strengthened FIPERJ’s institutional capacity—the state’s leading agency for mariculture development—ensuring that its work will continue beyond the subproject’s execution period.

The effort also investigated the causes of scallop mortality in farms in Ilha Grande Bay and gathered data suggesting that die offs may be linked to climate change, particularly rising water temperatures, and to irregular sewage discharge. The findings are still preliminary.

The Marine and Fisheries Research project is a compensatory measure established under the Conduct Adjustment Agreement (CAA) led by the Federal Prosecutor’s Office (MPF) in Rio de Janeiro and assigned to the company PRIO. Known as Frade CAA, the agreement encompasses four complementary initiatives: Support for Protected Areas, Conservation of the Franciscana Dolphin (now completed), Environmental Education, and Marine and Fisheries Research.

SDG

PARTNERS

- ACADEMIA
- CIVIL SOCIETY
- GOVERNMENT
- INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS AND TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES

THEMATIC AREAS

- CLIMATE CHANGE
- GENDER EQUITY
- INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS
- SPECIES MANAGEMENT
- SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES
- TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

END YEAR

2026

The actions supported by the program strengthen traditional livelihoods and the sustainable use of marine resources.



Marine and Fisheries Research

Assessment of the Frade CAA

Approaching its final year, the Frade CAA marks a decade of work and investment along the coast of the state of Rio de Janeiro. Among the products currently under development—scheduled for release in 2026—is a book highlighting the projects across the four fronts of the Frade CAA (Franciscana Dolphin Conservation, Marine and Fisheries Research, Support for Protected Areas, and Environmental Education), along with their actions and results. A six episode web series on the projects is also in production, with an expected launch in the first half of 2026.

An **interactive infographic**, available on the Frade CAA website, presents information on the initiatives of the Marine and Fisheries Research project, organized by thematic areas (fisheries, socioenvironmental, ecology and biology, public policy, and One Health), ecosystems, and actions.

In 2025, the Marine and Fisheries Research project invested approximately R$4 million. Over ten years, more than R$58 million have been invested in the conservation, research, and generation of knowledge on marine biodiversity, in synergy with the promotion of the sustainable use of fishery resources.



Visit to the *Ciência do Mar III* training vessel. Photo: Joaquim Lima



Female *guiamum* crab during its reproductive phase. Photo: Eduardo Almeida/UFRJ

Final Stretch

The year was also marked by the completion of the subproject supporting the *Ciências do Mar* III vessel. The initiative delivered a floating classroom equipped with laboratories and fishing, oceanographic, and geological instruments; materials for collecting, capturing, and identifying biota; water and sediment sampling equipment; a drone; a remotely operated underwater vehicle (ROV); as well as computing and georeferencing tools.

The outfitting of the vessel's laboratory was carried out with support from the federal government through a Technical Cooperation Agreement between FUNBIO and the Fluminense Federal University (UFF). The ship is now ready for operation and prepared to receive students from a wide range of fields.

Another project completed this year was the construction of the Taxidermy Laboratory at the National Museum of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ). The new 500 m² facility will be dedicated to taxidermy, responsible for preparing animal specimens for study or exhibition. The laboratory is part of the museum's reconstruction efforts following the 2018 fire that destroyed most of its collection.

Fishing Festival

In 2025, the four initiatives joined forces to celebrate the ocean at the Fishing Festival – Marine Projects Fair, held in three editions across the municipalities of Rio de Janeiro, Armação de Búzios, and Paraty in September, October, and November, respectively. The event brought together the various initiatives carried out under the CAA Frade umbrella and more than seven thousand participants, with a program that brought together community members, researchers, universities, and representatives of protected areas.

Set up as an open air fair, with dozens of booths and free access for the general public, the event featured exhibitions of marine animals, interactive models of traditional fishing techniques, and lively exchanges with children, youth, adults, and older visitors, all captivated by the world of fishing and marine conservation.

Each edition of the fair was an opportunity to celebrate the culture and traditional knowledge of fishing communities, as well as science, gastronomy, and environmental education, along with the ten years of work under the Frade CAA, which enters its final phase of implementation in 2026.

> "Many people saw and touched these animals for the first time, which is incredibly rewarding. Working with scientific outreach brings a real sense of accomplishment, as it is inspiring and gratifying to witness people's positive reactions"
>
> said LUCIANO FISCHER, coordinator of the Salvar, Costões Rochosos, and Multipesca projects at the NUPEM/UFRJ Institute, supported by the Marine and Fisheries Research project



National Museum of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ). Photo: Joaquim Lima

Wildlife Screening Centers (CETAS)

CETAS Rehabilitation

Wildlife Screening Centers (CETAS, the acronym in Portuguese) are essential facilities for the management and rehabilitation of animals affected by environmental crimes, accidents, or disasters. Yet many of these 25 federal centers, spread across the country, lack sufficient resources and infrastructure investment.

Addressing this gap is the core purpose of the **CETAS Rehabilitation** project, signed in December 2024. The initiative initially focuses on four centers located in the states of Minas Gerais and Espírito Santo (Group 1), while also strengthening the entire national CETAS Network (Group 2). A total of R$ 211 million will be invested in the project, including R$ 66 million for the centers in Minas Gerais and Espírito Santo and another R$ 118 million for investments across the rest of the country.

The resources come from a transfer agreement signed between FUNBIO and the Renova Foundation, as part of the legal obligations for the environmental recovery of the Doce River Basin, impacted by the Fundão dam collapse in 2015. To carry out the planned actions, a Cooperation Agreement was also signed between the Brazilian Institute of the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (Ibama) and FUNBIO, with the Renova Foundation as an intervening party.

In 2025 preparations, planning, and governance efforts were carried out to enable the project's implementation, which is expected to run until 2030.



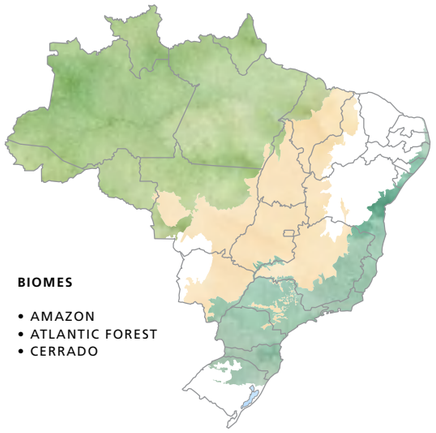
Program-supported actions foster wildlife recovery and reintegration.



Gatherings strengthen conservation and environmental management efforts.



Fauna protection and animal welfare.



BIOMES

- AMAZON
- ATLANTIC FOREST
- CERRADO

In the coming years, the project foresees the construction of two new CETAS facilities—one in Nova Lima, Minas Gerais, and another in Serra, Espírito Santo—along with guaranteed maintenance for at least three years after construction. It also includes the continued maintenance of the existing CETAS units in Montes Claros and Juiz de Fora, both in Minas Gerais.

The engineering and architectural designs for construction and interventions in the CETAS facilities are already in the contracting phase, and this stage is expected to be completed by the end of the first half of 2026.

For Group 2, the project will invest in actions to strengthen the entire CETAS Network, including maintenance, revitalization, and environmental education initiatives. In 2025, a mapping of necessary improvements and urgent repairs at the centers was carried out, and these interventions will begin next year.

The project also includes support for Wildlife Release Areas (ASAS, the acronym in Portuguese), designated and regulated sites where rescued and rehabilitated animals can be returned to nature.

The investments in CETAS Rehabilitation are part of the Doce River Basin Reparations Agreement, signed by Samarco, Vale, and BHP Brazil; the federal government; the governments of Minas Gerais and Espírito Santo; the Federal and State Public Prosecutors' Offices; and the Federal and State Public Defender's Offices (Minas Gerais and Espirito Santo), among other public bodies and institutions, and ratified by the Federal Supreme Court (STF) in November 2024.

SDG

PARTNERS

GOVERNMENT

THEMATIC AREAS

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

END YEAR

2030

> "*Reabilita* is a strategic initiative for strengthening the CETAS Network across the country. The project, born from the cooperation between Ibama, the Renova Foundation, and FUNBIO, will make it possible to structure the network so that animals can be rehabilitated and returned to their original areas of occurrence"
>
> says MARIA IZABEL GOMES, Director of Biodiversity and Forests (DBFlo/Ibama) and Ibama's focal point for the project



Care and rehabilitation of wild animals.

SDG

PARTNERS

GOVERNMENT

THEMATIC AREAS

ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF PROTECTED AREAS

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

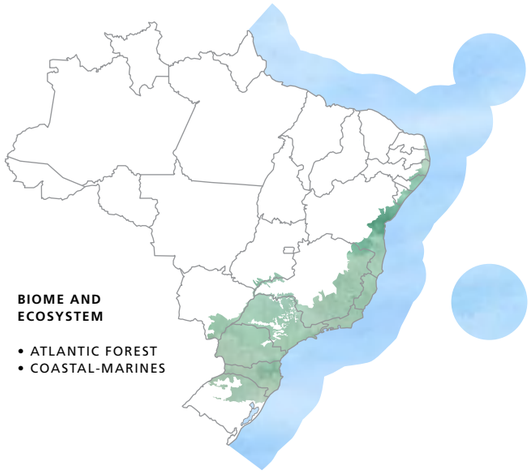
new

Comboios Biological Reserve

The **Comboios Biological Reserve (REBIO)**, located in the coastal marine zone of Espírito Santo, spans 833 hectares. The protected area safeguards a beach recognized as one of Brazil's largest nesting sites for the leatherback turtle, a species threatened with extinction.



Leatherback turtle.
Photo: Clarissa Scofield Pimenta



BIOME AND ECOSYSTEM

- ATLANTIC FOREST
- COASTAL-MARINES

With a R$3.5 million allocation, the project supports the revitalization of the reserve's infrastructure, from upgrades to the water capture system that supplies the marine turtle tanks and the restoration of the deck, to improvements aimed at enhancing accessibility for visitors with mobility challenges.

Situated between the municipalities of Linhares and Aracruz, the REBIO was among the areas affected by the 2015 collapse of the Samarco mining company's dam in Mariana, Minas Gerais. In August 2025, the project was formally established to ensure the reserve's revitalization. The resources will be managed by FUNBIO, the institution responsible for implementing the initiative.

With completion expected by 2028, the renovation work is anticipated to begin in 2026. The allocation of resources is part of a judicial settlement (the New Rio Doce Agreement) with Samarco, Vale, and BHP Brasil, aimed at supporting the socio environmental recovery of the Rio Doce basin, which was impacted by the dam collapse.

Santa Cruz Wildlife Refuge (REVIS)

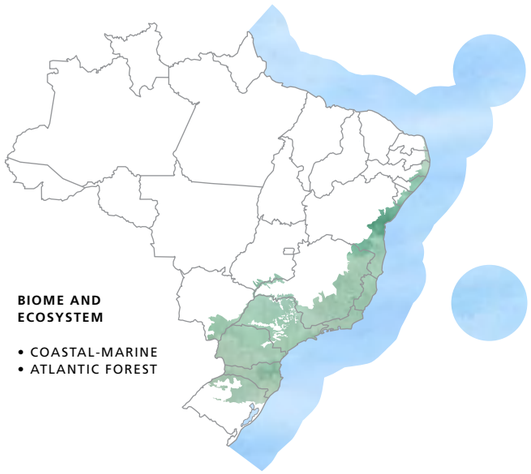
new REVIS Santa Cruz

Signed in December 2024, the project for the **Santa Cruz Wildlife Refuge (REVIS)**, in Espírito Santo, began implementation in 2025, with approximately R$ 4 million already committed.

The initiative aims to enable the Protected Area to fully carry out its mission of safeguarding biological, socio-environmental, and scenic diversity by strengthening its management, operations, and social legitimacy, while also ensuring long-term financial sustainability. Running through 2029, the project will invest a total of R$ 26 million in this marine protected area.



Photo: Marizilda Cruppe/FUNBIO



The project also includes the development of a financial mechanism, to be presented in 2026 by FUNBIO, the implementing institution, which will serve as a long-term Maintenance Fund for REVIS.

The project aims to implement the REVIS management plan, the guiding document for the Protected Area's administration, which establishes an integrated governance model with the Costa das Algas Environmental Protection Area (APA) that surrounds the Refuge. Together, these two Protected Areas encompass 136,000 hectares of coastal–marine zone with rich biodiversity.

A notable component of the project is the contracting of a company to provide vessels, available to the Protected Area whenever needed, to support activities such as enforcement.

Located in the municipality of Aracruz, Espírito Santo, near the mouth of the Doce River, the Santa Cruz Wildlife Refuge (REVIS) was one of the protected areas affected by tailings from the Fundão dam collapse in 2015. A judicial agreement required Samarco, the mining company responsible, to support the consolidation of the Refuge as part of the socio-environmental recovery efforts for the Doce River basin. The transfer of resources is part of the renegotiation process (the New Doce River Agreement) with the company.

SDG

PARTNERS

GOVERNMENT

THEMATIC AREAS

ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF PROTECTED AREAS

FINANCIAL MECHANISMS

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF PARTNERS

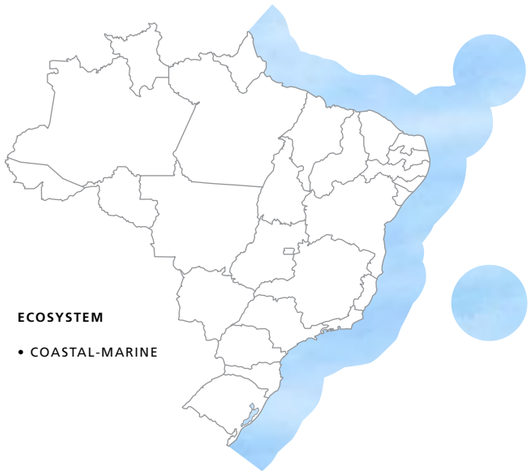
Underwater Warehousing Conduct Adjustment Agreement (CAA)

TAC Alsub

With the signing of an addendum in February to allocate the project's investment earnings, the **Underwater Warehousing Conduct Adjustment Agreement** (**TAC Alsub**, the acronym in Portuguese) advanced its activities supporting 15 protected areas along the coast of Rio de Janeiro state. **(see box, p. 107)**

The additional resources—complementing the initial R$ 20 million fully executed by March 2025—enabled the acquisition of essential equipment such as diving gear, electronic devices, vehicles, and quad bikes. These investments strengthen management and enforcement efforts in the protected areas and reinforce the role of traditional communities living within and around these territories.

In addition, a detailed characterization of fishing gear was carried out in the Tamoios Ecological Station, on the southern coast of Rio de Janeiro, along with the development of a participatory monitoring proposal built jointly with artisanal fishers. The aim is for the fishers themselves to report online which species were caught, as well as the quantity and size of each one, among other information, thereby supporting the Protected Area in monitoring the agreed fishing practices. This monitoring is part of the Term of Commitment, which defines the authorized use areas (marked by signs installed with project resources), the permitted fishing gear, the types of vessels, and the individuals recognized as rights holders based on criteria agreed upon during the negotiation process. The agreement also establishes compliance with closed seasons during reproductive periods and sets limits on the quantities that may be harvested.



21

PAs supported since 2021

5

federal PAs supported from December 2024

46

supported projects

The work was carried out by Igara Consultoria em Aquicultura e Gestão Ambiental Ltda., a company contracted by the project, which helped establish a crucial communication channel between the fishers and the Protected Area's management, contributing to overcoming the region's long-standing conflict between the two groups.

The findings were compiled in the booklet ***O Mar é Tudo – Artes de Pesca Artesanal***, released in May, which highlights and disseminates the daily lives and traditional practices of local fishers.

A similar effort has begun in another Protected Area: Lagoa do Açu State Park, in the northern part of the state. Aiming to map the traditional uses that occur within the park, created in 2012, the ongoing study seeks to identify and describe the main practices associated with the use of natural resources, such as artisanal fishing, shellfish gathering, and the extraction of taboa, a plant that grows along lagoon margins and is used to make mats and baskets. The results will inform the development of regulations governing how local communities may use these resources.

Another Protected Area supported with resources from the addendum was the Arraial do Cabo Marine Extractive Reserve, where new contracts were issued to strengthen the community based tourism initiative, which has now developed its own visual identity and communication materials.





Photo: Igara Consultoria

TAC Alsub

The addendum also enabled the creation of a permanent exhibition at the Visitor Center of Ilha Grande State Park, as well as the maintenance and fuel supply for all ten state managed Protected Areas benefiting from TAC Alsub. At the federal level, the resources supported the purchase of diving equipment, firefighting materials, and vehicles for the five Protected Areas managed by ICMBio.

Signed in 2021, the TAC Alsub is funded through a Conduct Adjustment Agreement established between the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office of Rio de Janeiro and Petrobras, with FUNBIO acting as an intermediary, under Civil Inquiry No. 1.30.001.000486/2019 08. The agreement serves as a compensatory measure for the use of the seafloor in the Campos Basin and is designed to support biodiversity conservation; strengthen and consolidate 15 state and federal Protected Areas along the coast of Rio de Janeiro; improve the quality of life of the state's fishing communities; and promote scientific research related to marine pollution. FUNBIO is responsible for the project's financial and operational management.

PAs Supported

5 FEDERAL PAs
Cagarras Islands Natural Monument
Jurubatiba National Park
Arraial do Cabo Marine Extractive Reserve
Guanabara Ecological Station
Tamoios Ecological Station
10 STATE PAs
Costa do Sol State Park
Tamoios Environmental Protection Area
Ilha Grande State Park
Lagoa do Açu State Park
Itaipu Marine Extractive Reserve
Serra da Tiririca State Park
Aventureiro Sustainable Development Reserve
Praia do Sul State Biological Reserve
Guaratiba State Biological Reserve
Juatinga State Ecological Reserve

> "These initiatives are always opportunities to strengthen dialogue between the parties and build shared solutions. The work carried out under TAC Alsub, characterizing fishing gear and valuing this traditional way of life, moves in that direction, ensuring that fishers are seen and heard"
>
> notes researcher ANNA CECÍLIA CORTINES,
> from Igara Consultoria, the firm responsible for the study

> "The benefits brought by FUNBIO to the *Escola Náutica* have been countless and allowed us to reach our fifth year with remarkable success. Today, the project truly transforms the lives of many families on Ilha Grande, teaching children to swim, engaging them in sports, helping develop discipline, focus, and a sense of community, and positively impacting households across the island"
>
> LIVIA CORREA,
> one of the coordinators of the *Escola Náutica Social* project

Social Strengthening

Another line of action under TAC Alsub supported sustainable production, income generation, and improved quality of life for artisanal fishers and shellfish farmers. With six subprojects approved, five of them completed by 2025, approximately R$ 4.5 million were invested in initiatives aimed at strengthening social organizations, including the construction and renovation of community facilities.

On Ilha Grande, the *Escola Náutica Social* project, implemented by Liga Cultural, uses sports such as sailing and canoeing as tools for environmental education and community engagement. Over the course of the year, 159 children took part in the program. With support from TAC Alsub, the project acquired canoes, paddles, and other nautical equipment, and secured a dedicated space for storing these materials. The resources also enabled the expansion of the school's infrastructure through the renovation of its headquarters in Vila do Abraão and the opening of a new facility at Saco do Céu beach.

"FUNBIO and TAC Alsub marked a turning point for our project. With this support, we were able to train our entire coordination team and our instructors, even enabling former students to become instructors themselves. We also managed to fully equip the school with canoes, paddles, life vests, boats, sails, spare parts, safety equipment, uniforms… and expand our activities to Saco do Céu, with the rental of a facility and the opening of new classes," explains Livia Correa, one of the coordinators of the *Escola Náutica Social* project.

She highlights that strengthening the team's capacity for resource mobilization and institutional development was essential to ensuring the project's long term sustainability and its ability to continue growing independently in the coming years.

ALMOXARIFADOS SUBMARINOS

Sun Coral CAA

Ilha Grande Bay, on the southern coast of Rio de Janeiro state, is one of the areas most severely affected by the sun coral, an invasive exotic species that disrupts native marine and coastal ecosystems as it spreads.

With a total investment of R$ 18 million, the **Sun Coral CAA (Conduct Adjustment Agreement)** program aims to assess, monitor, and understand the dispersion dynamics of this invasive coral and its interactions with other species in the Tamoios Ecological Station and Ilha Grande Bay. The program also applies and tests protocols for early detection and rapid removal, generating data that will help identify the most effective strategies to prevent the advance of the invasion. In 2025, two research expeditions were carried out in the region to monitor and diagnose the presence of the sun coral.

Between September and October, researchers returned to the field to examine how the sun coral interacts with other marine species, including native corals, fish, sponges, and additional organisms. During each expedition, the teams monitor the abundance or absence of the sun coral at predetermined sites, assessing whether the invasive species has expanded its presence.

The project also installed three acoustic instruments that will enable a pioneering analysis of the hydrodynamic profile of Ilha Grande Bay. The Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers (ADCPs) were deployed in March and April at strategic points across the bay. These devices measure the velocity of particles in marine currents using sound waves and will play a key role in deciphering the dispersion patterns of the sun coral.

The program has also contracted a consulting firm responsible for developing protocols for early detection and removal of the sun coral. This pioneering research component, including rapid response testing and removal methodologies, is expected to begin implementation in 2026.

The Sun Coral Conduct Adjustment Agreement (Sun Coral CAA) was established in 2021 between the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office and five companies held responsible for the accidental introduction of the sun coral into Ilha Grande Bay through oil and gas platforms and drilling rigs. FUNBIO serves as the program's financial and operational manager.

SDG

PARTNERS

ACADEMIA

CIVIL SOCIETY

COMPANIES

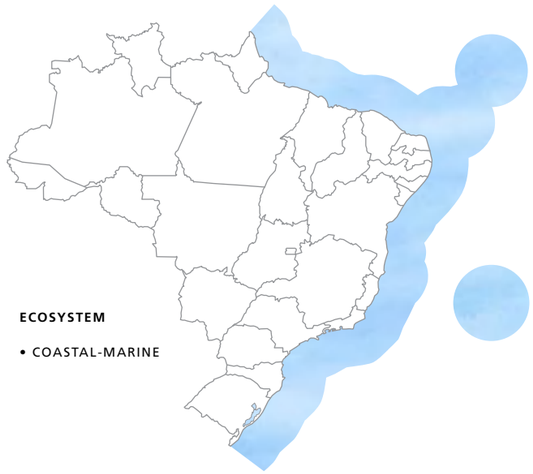
GOVERNMENT

THEMATIC AREAS

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

END YEAR

2028



The Sun Coral

Commonly known as the sun coral due to its vivid red, orange, and yellow coloration, these coral species belong to the genus *Tubastraea* and are native to the Pacific and Indian Oceans. Adapted to tropical environments, the first individuals are believed to have been accidentally transported to the Atlantic Ocean on ship hulls. The species was first recorded in Brazil in the 1980s on an offshore oil platform in the Campos Basin, in the state of Rio de Janeiro. Today, two species of the sun coral (*Tubastraea coccinea* and *Tubastraea tagusensis*) are found along rocky shores in the southeastern and southern regions of the country, frequently associated with offshore oil infrastructure.



Photos: Edson Faria Junior

"Although the sun coral is more widely recognized in Brazil today, significant knowledge gaps remain, especially regarding its impacts on marine life in Ilha Grande. I believe that the five year monitoring effort we are undertaking through this project is crucial for understanding species behavior, ecological dynamics, and for generating scientific information that can guide coordinated mitigation strategies. This work will help determine how to address the issue and close knowledge gaps both in academia and in the oil and gas sector"

explains biologist NATÁLIA SAISSE, Environmental Manager at the consulting firm EnvironPact, which was contracted to carry out part of the research initiative

Socioenvironmental Consent Decree (SDC) Porto Sul

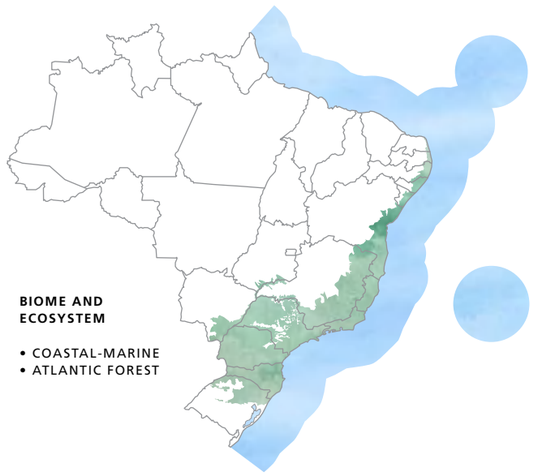
SCD Porto Sul

Bahia is set to receive two major wildlife triage centers dedicated to the protection and care of terrestrial fauna and, for the first time in the region, marine species.

The construction of the Southern Wildlife Triage Center (CETAS Sul) and the Marine Wildlife Triage Center (CETAM) is being made possible through investments from the Porto Sul Socioenvironmental Conduct Adjustment Agreement (TCSA Porto Sul, the acronym in Portuguese). CETAM will be the first facility in the entire Northeast region dedicated exclusively to the rescue and rehabilitation of marine animals, with a focus on humpback whales, sea turtles, and Guiana dolphins.

Both centers will operate across the full spectrum of wildlife management, from rescue to rehabilitation and eventual release back into the wild. The executive design for the facilities was contracted in April, and construction is expected to begin in the first half of 2026.

Aline Barbosa, biologist at the Bahia Institute for the Environment and Water Resources (Inema Bahia), She adds that the centers will also make it possible to build a qualified and specialized technical team to carry out this work and ensure the appropriate handling and destination of the animals.



Resources from the SCD Porto Sul have also enabled the hiring of a firm to support the renovation of the headquarters of the Integrated Management Center (NGI) of the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio) in Ilhéus, as well as the construction of the Visitor Center at Serra das Lontras National Park. The program is also funding structural improvements across the other two protected areas managed by the NGI—the Una Biological Reserve and the Una Wildlife Refuge—in addition to upgrades within the Canavieiras Extractive Reserve. The initiative has further supported technical studies and a workshop to inform the development of the national park's management plan.

Workshops were also held to support the preparation of management and public use plans for four state level protected areas: the Lagoa Encantada and Rio Almada Environmental Protection Area (APA); the Costa de Itacaré/Serra Grande APA; Serra do Conduru State Park; and Ponta da Tulha State Park.



> "Within the component of the agreement focused on mitigating impacts on wildlife, the largest share of investment has been directed to the two triage centers: CETAS Sul, dedicated to the care of terrestrial animals from the Atlantic Forest biome, and CETAM, which will become the first marine wildlife triage center in the state of Bahia. These facilities will address a long standing gap in the proper care of wild animals affected by incidents such as road collisions, strandings, and even wildlife trafficking. We will also be strengthening a scientific research structure in partnership with the universities located here in southern Bahia"
>
> explains ALINE BARBOSA, biologist at the Bahia Institute for the Environment and Water Resources (Inema Bahia)

SCD Porto Sul

Study of Restoration Techniques

One of the goals of the initiative is to support the restoration of 100 hectares of Atlantic Forest in southern Bahia. Approximately half of this area will be located within the Una Biological Reserve, where the recovery of a former pasture is being carried out experimentally by researchers from the Federal University of Southern Bahia (UFSB), in partnership with ICMBio. Named *Restaura Una*, the project will test seven different restoration techniques, one applied to each plot of roughly seven hectares, with the aim of identifying the most cost effective strategy for restoring native forest ecosystems in the biome.

Water Monitoring

Water monitoring is one of the action lines of the SCD Porto Sul and is being carried out in partnership with UESC. To support this effort, the program funded the hiring of a specialized consulting firm, the acquisition of Remote Monitoring Units (RMUs) for water quality data collection, and the technical training of field teams. These high precision instruments significantly expand the availability of reliable data, which is essential for water and environmental planning in the Porto Sul region. The program also contracted a technology consulting firm to enhance the platform of Bahia's State Environmental and Water Resources Information System (SEIA), improving data integration, accessibility, and the system's overall capacity to support informed decision making.

Seminar

In July, the SCD Porto Sul Seminar was held in the municipality of Ilhéus, bringing together representatives from the Federal and State Public Prosecutor's Offices, the State Secretariat for the Environment (SEMA), Inema, and the Socioenvironmental Observatory. The event aimed to present to the Public Prosecutor's Offices the actions implemented under the agreement and to discuss the next steps of the initiative, which is expected to continue until mid 2026.

To date, the SCD Porto Sul has invested more than R$ 60 million. In 2025 alone, R$ 5.2 million were allocated to actions supporting seven protected areas that collectively safeguard approximately 285,000 hectares.

The SCD Porto Sul, established following a 2019 court decision, was formalized by Bahia Mineração S.A. (BAMIN) together with the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office (MPF), the Public Prosecutor's Office of the State of Bahia (MPBA), the Government of the State of Bahia, SEMA, Inema, and the municipality of Ilhéus, with resources managed by FUNBIO. The agreement, which runs until mid 2026, aims to ensure the sustainable development of southern Bahia, safeguard environmental integrity and ecosystem services, and prevent or reduce environmental impacts associated with the construction of the Porto Sul intermodal port complex, located 14 kilometers north of Ilhéus and currently under development.

PROJECTS WITH

Grant and Legal Obligation Funding

Photo: Marizilda Cruppe/FUNBIO

Part of FUNBIO's portfolio is financed simultaneously by distinct and complementary sources: on one hand, donations from philanthropic institutions and bi and multilateral agreements; on the other, resources originating from legal obligations, such as fines, settlements, and conduct adjustment agreements.

Despite their different origins, these resources converge toward a single purpose: enabling the implementation of environmental conservation actions at a scale consistent with the country's territorial dimension and the diversity of its biomes.

Learn about the initiatives.

112 CONNECTING THE CAATINGA
new 113 FINACLIMA–SP
114 EASTERN AMAZON FUND
116 ATLANTIC FOREST FUND (FMA-RJ)

Connecting the Caatinga

Focused on supporting the conservation of Brazil's only exclusively national biome, the **Connecting the Caatinga** project will promote the creation of ecological corridors that connect public and private protected areas across the world's most biodiverse semi arid region. The initiative will also invest in ecological restoration and the recovery of watercourses; in collaborative ecosystem management through strengthened, diverse, and representative community participation; in public policies that foster sustainable development; and in actions for climate change mitigation and adaptation.



BIOME

• CAATINGA

PAs Supported

- Boqueirão da Onça Environmental Protection Area (Bahia)
- Boqueirão da Onça National Park (Bahia)
- Sobradinho Lake Environmental Protection Area (Bahia)
- Dunas e Veredas do Baixo Médio São Francisco Environmental Protection Area (Bahia)
- Serra das Confusões National Park (Piauí)
- Serra do Areal State Park (Pernambuco)

Announced at the end of 2024, the project has advanced throughout this year in stakeholder engagement and in detailing its scope. Final approval of the project design is expected from the GEF in the first half of 2026, allowing activities to begin in the second half of the same year.

The Connecting the Caatinga project focuses on strengthening ecological corridors that connect six major Protected Areas within the biome: the Boqueirão da Onça Environmental Protection Area (Bahia), the Boqueirão da Onça National Park (Bahia), the Sobradinho Lake Environmental Protection Area (Bahia), the Dunas e Veredas do Baixo Médio São Francisco Environmental Protection Area (Bahia), the Serra das Confusões National Park (Piauí), and the Serra do Areal State Park (Pernambuco). Together, these Protected Areas cover more than 3.7 million hectares.

The initiative is led by the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA), funded by a grant from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and implemented by the GEF FUNBIO Agency. The project is expected to receive a total investment of over R$ 30 million.

SDG

PARTNERS

CIVIL SOCIETY

GOVERNMENT

INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS AND TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES

THEMATIC AREAS

CLIMATE CHANGE

FOREST RESTORATION

GENDER EQUITY

SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES

FUNDER

Agência GEF

END YEAR

2030



Detail of flora from the Caatinga.

new

Finaclima–SP

As the most populous state in Brazil, São Paulo plays a key role in confronting, adapting to, and mitigating climate change. **Finaclima–SP** was created with the mission of implementing a financial and operational mechanism capable of mobilizing and executing private resources, whether from legal obligations or voluntary donations, to advance the state's climate agenda, with a focus on conserving and restoring landscapes and ecosystems.

FUNBIO was selected through a public call to serve as the mechanism's managing entity, supporting the state government's commitment to restore 1.5 million hectares of native vegetation by 2050.

With activities planned through 2032, the project took its first official step in April with the signing of a Cooperation Agreement with the São Paulo State Secretariat for Environment, Infrastructure and Logistics (SEMIL).

In December, the project launched its first public call, totaling R$ 6.45 million, to support ecological restoration initiatives across 100 hectares in the Pontal do Paranapanema region. Selected proponents will have two years to complete planting activities and three years to carry out monitoring. The resources derive from a contract signed with Motiva/CCR to fulfill legal environmental compensation obligations with the São Paulo State Environmental Agency (CETESB).

Goal

1.5

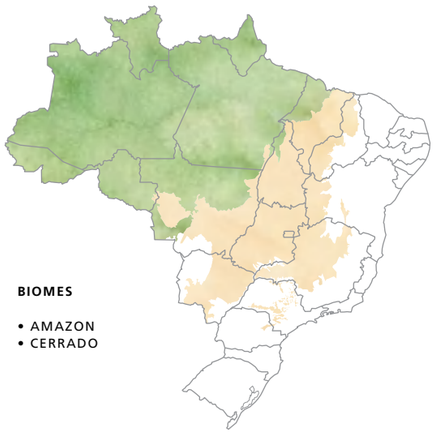
MILLION
hectares restored by 2050

Finaclima–SP's objectives include promoting the expansion and long term maintenance of biodiversity and its ecosystem services; encouraging private sector participation in financing environmental services and other climate solutions; fostering innovation and new sustainability oriented business models; and strengthening institutions, management tools, transparency, and governance mechanisms associated with the State Climate Change Policy.

The project was also one of the highlights of the Agenda +Verde SP Summit. Held in November in São Paulo, the event was organized by the state government in partnership with the city administration and the University of São Paulo (USP). The summit brought together public, business, academic, and civil society leaders around an integrated agenda focused on sustainable development, innovation, the green economy, climate justice, resilient cities, and the energy transition.

The event also celebrated the SP Carbono Zero Award, part of the Finaclima SP initiative to recognize outstanding projects in decarbonization, ecological restoration, energy efficiency, and circular economy solutions.





The initiative structures the mobilization and management of private funds to reinforce environmental governance in São Paulo.



> "Finaclima–SP is an innovative financial mechanism designed to enable the agile and effective implementation of large scale projects. It will mobilize private resources, managed by a specialized entity, ensuring a governance model that is efficient and aligned with climate plans and market best practices"
>
> emphasizes NATÁLIA RESENDE, Secretary of Environment, Infrastructure and Logistics

IN THE PRESS

02/13/2025 — *VALOR*
São Paulo State Government Selects FUNBIO to Manage Sustainable Projects Financing Program

02/18/2025 — *VEJA*
São Paulo Announces Independent Fund for Environmental Projects

Eastern Amazon Fund

The **Eastern Amazon Fund (EAF)** is an operational and financial mechanism designed to mobilize private resources to strengthen public policies and initiatives that advance nature conservation, sustainable development, and climate change mitigation in Pará.

The fund supports actions such as community empowerment, land regularization, ecological restoration, the creation of protected areas, and the promotion of the bioeconomy.

As the EAF's first donor, the Instituto Clima e Sociedade (iCS) allocated resources to a project focused on reinforcing the Eastern Amazon Fund. Beyond contributing directly to the mechanism, the scope of the initiative also supported the implementation of Pará's State Policy on Climate Change (PEMC/PA) and the *Amazônia Agora* State Plan (PEAA).

In this effort, carried out in partnership with the State Secretariat for Environment and Sustainability (SEMAS), strategies were developed for the management of public nurseries in Pará and for the consolidation and strengthening of seed networks.

These initiatives reinforce one another in advancing the forest restoration agenda and in addressing the supply bottlenecks that affect this chain (seeds and seedlings).



> "After five years of implementation, beyond fulfilling its initial mission of navigating the suspension of the Amazon Fund, the EAF has been consolidating itself as a fundamental component of the state's climate finance strategy"
>
> notes NATALIA NAGLE, project coordinator at the Strategic Planning and Corporate Projects Directorate (DPC/SEMAS)

The resulting documents present feasible models to guide decision making by the government of Pará, supporting the consolidation of institutional arrangements necessary for implementing the plans associated with these strategies.

In 2024, SEMAS and FUNBIO also signed a Cooperation Agreement with the Federal Prosecution Service (MPF) and the Pará Livestock Breeders Association (Acripará) to manage the compensation resources established under the Livestock Conduct Adjustment Agreement (*TAC da Pecuária*, in Portuguese). The project, currently in the fundraising phase, as producers opt in to the initiative, will channel investments into promoting sustainable livestock practices.

"With effective resource execution and alignment with the goals of the *Amazônia Agora* State Plan (PEAA), the EAF supports projects that drive the bioeconomy, strengthen local communities, and enhance environmental assets, contributing to a development model that harmonizes conservation with income generation for those who keep the forest standing," adds the coordinator.

The financial mechanism has also supported SEMAS's Digital Transformation initiative. Resources originating from MPF judicial agreements with JBS and Imerys have already enabled the implementation of a data center at SEMAS in 2024 and continue to fund ongoing maintenance services and equipment warranties.

The EAF is funded through national and international donations, as well as through legally mandated contributions. As a financial mechanism created by the state of Pará and managed operationally and financially by FUNBIO, it has already mobilized more than R$ 80 million for the Amazon region of Pará.




Actions to strengthen sociobiodiversity drive sustainable development. Photo: Marco Santos/Agpará

Eastern Amazon Fund

Strengthening Territories

Through the project Conservation and Sustainable Production in New Protected Areas in Pará, supported by resources from the Gordon & Betty Moore Foundation, the EAF contributed to the land titling of three quilombola territories, reinforcing efforts to advance territorial planning and sociobiodiversity value chains. The project also supported the development of a socioeconomic, environmental, and land tenure assessment to inform the creation of three state Protected Areas—one State Forest and two Wildlife Refuges—covering approximately 530,000 hectares in the Marajó region. The proposals for establishing these Protected Areas are currently undergoing public consultation.

Also in the Marajó region, throughout 2025, the initiative provided the technical assistance needed to prepare the Rural Environmental Registries (CARs) for 150 rural properties, along with their respective Plans for the Recovery of Degraded and Altered Areas (PRADAs), as well as the georeferencing of the properties.

These efforts are part of the state's Integrated Action Program for Sustainable Territories (PTS), which aims to reconcile economic development with the productive restoration of areas under deforestation pressure, supporting the transition to a low carbon economy and the regularization of rural properties.

Progress in land and environmental regularization across the archipelago was highlighted during a panel at the 30th Climate Conference, held in Belém, which showcased the case of the municipality of Portel, now considered a reference for the model implemented by the state. The event also marked the symbolic delivery of 150 land titles, issued by the Pará Land Institute (Iterpa), and the validated CARs issued by Semas. The families benefiting from the initiative now gain access to public policies such as technical assistance and rural credit.

Also in 2025, activities began under Call for Proposals 22/2024, aimed at strengthening sociobiodiversity value chains in the state of Pará, with disbursements made to projects from 15 selected quilombola organizations.

Terra Alta Alevinos and açaí.
Photo: Marco Santos/Agpará





Investing in Communities

As an outcome of the Conduct Adjustment Agreement (CAA) signed in 2018 between Alunorte, Norsk Hydro, the MPF, the Pará State Prosecution Service (MPPA), and SEMAS, the Environmental Resilience and Social Integration (RAÍS, the acronym in Portuguese) project advanced in its planning and structuring phases—critical steps for the launch of activities scheduled for 2026. The agreement allocates more than R$ 49 million to benefit communities in the Barcarena and Abaetetuba region and to strengthen environmental enforcement.

Throughout the year, during this initial phase, 13 workshops were held to map the communities within the project's area of influence, conduct a preliminary assessment of local needs and challenges, and define the project's guiding principles. This work was carried out alongside 20 community leaders who represent civil society within the governance structures of both the CAA and the project.

Mechanism for Biodiversity Conservation of the State of Rio de Janeiro

Atlantic Forest Fund (FMA-RJ)

The state of Rio de Janeiro is home to the Atlantic Forest. Over the past five centuries, however, most of its native vegetation cover has been lost. The remaining fragments now persist largely within protected areas (PAs). To strengthen the conservation of this biome, the **Mechanism for Biodiversity Conservation of the State of Rio de Janeiro**, better known as the **Atlantic Forest Fund (FMA-RJ)**, supported, throughout 2025, ten state PAs that safeguard 186 thousand hectares. During this period, R$ 2.35 million were invested.



Inaugural planting event at Sítio Toshimori, in Cachoeiras de Macacu, Rio de Janeiro. Photo: Tatiana Horta



A key achievement was the development of management plans—foundational documents that guide the administration and long term planning of five PAs: the Águas de Guapimirim Municipal Natural Park, in the metropolitan region of Rio de Janeiro, and the four PAs that safeguard Ilha Grande on the state's southern coast: the Tamoios Environmental Protection Area (APA), the Praia do Sul Biological Reserve, the Aventureiro Marine Sustainable Development Reserve (RDS), and the Ilha Grande State Park.

Another investment priority of the Atlantic Forest Fund is the Program for Supporting the Economic Sustainability of State Protected Areas. In 2025, the program commissioned a project to design tourism routes, including mapping potential attractions and fostering local entrepreneurship across five state parks in Rio de Janeiro: Pedra Branca, Serra da Tiririca, and Três Picos, in the metropolitan region; Cunhambebe, along the Costa Verde; and Desengano, in the northern part of the state.

The Fund also directed investments toward Private Natural Heritage Reserves (RPPNs), which are privately managed protected areas. These reserves are considered vital for the conservation of the Atlantic Forest, as most of the biome's remaining fragments lie within private lands. To advance this agenda, the Fund commissioned a consultancy to map existing RPPNs in the state and to encourage the creation of new private reserves.

SDG

PARTNERS

GOVERNMENT

THEMATIC AREAS

ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF PROTECTED AREAS

FINANCIAL MECHANISMS

FOREST RESTORATION

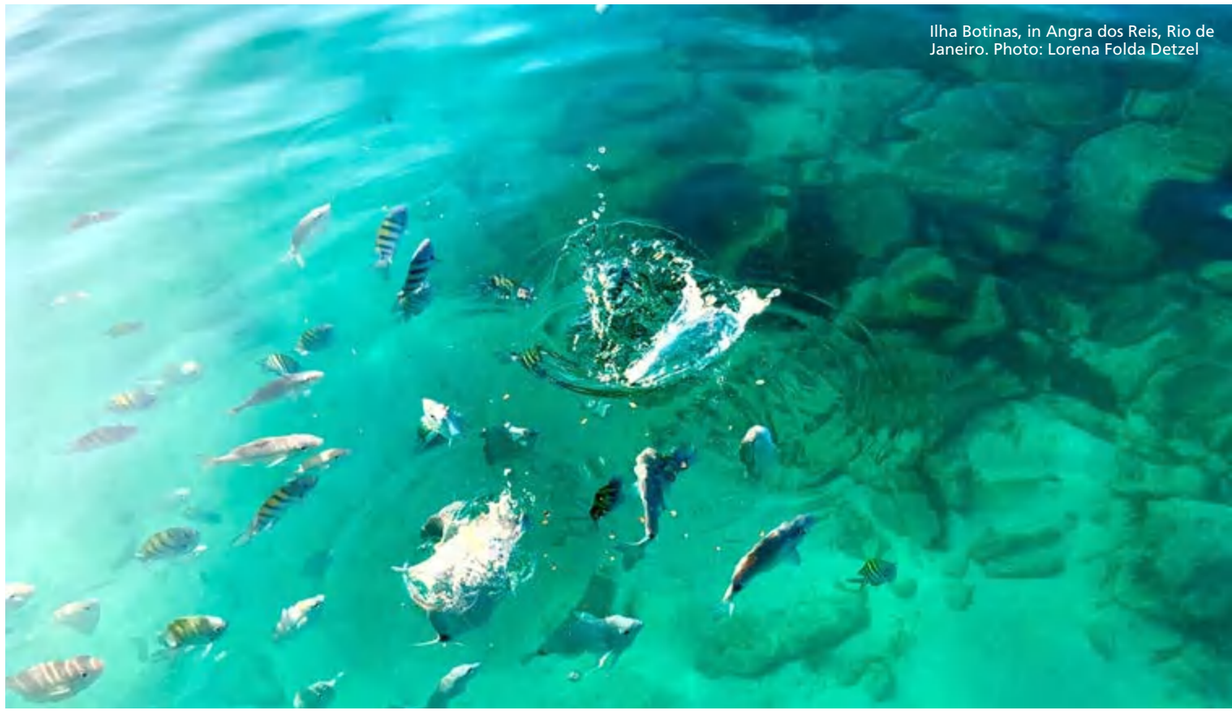
TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

END YEAR

2026



Aventureiro Beach, Ilha Grande, in Angra dos Reis, Rio de Janeiro. Photo: Lorena Folda Detzel



Ilha Botinas, in Angra dos Reis, Rio de Janeiro. Photo: Lorena Folda Detzel

→ Atlantic Forest Fund (FMA-RJ)

He underscores the Fund's role in providing structured, continuous financing for PAs; advancing biodiversity conservation; strengthening territorial and environmental management; and promoting environmental compensation in a decentralized and efficient way.

The Fund also supports the maintenance of approximately 200 hectares currently undergoing ecological restoration. In 2024, native Atlantic Forest seedlings were planted in the municipalities of Magé, Guapimirim, and Cachoeiras de Macacu, areas strategically selected for water security and forest connectivity. Over the next four years, which are critical for the successful establishment of young trees, these areas will continue to receive dedicated care funded by the project.

The project also contributed to the State Environmental Conference (CEMA RJ) and to the development of the State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (EPAEB RJ).

> "The Atlantic Forest Fund is essential to ensure that Rio de Janeiro's PAs do not exist merely on paper, but are effectively protected, well managed, and meaningfully connected to society, fulfilling their ecological, social, and economic roles"
>
> says THIAGO MARTINELLE, coordinator of FMA-RJ at the State Secretariat for Environment and Sustainability of Rio de Janeiro (SEAS RJ)

10
supported PAs

168
THOUSAND
hectares protected

R$ 2.35
MILLION
invested



Photo: Adriano Tamm



Ilha Grande, in Angra dos Reis, Rio de Janeiro. Photo: Lorena Folda Detzel

Created in 2009 at the request of SEAS RJ and currently managed by FUNBIO, the financial mechanism enables the execution of resources from environmental compensation and other legal obligations, channeling these funds into projects that advance biodiversity conservation across the state of Rio de Janeiro.

By the end of the agreement in November 2016, the FMA-RJ had supported 99 projects benefiting 50 state, municipal, and federal PAs, covering a total of 506 thousand hectares. The 99 enterprises that joined the mechanism committed R$ 295 million, of which R$ 285 million were received, R$ 183 million allocated, and R$ 114 million executed. Since 2016, an additional R$ 83.65 million has been executed.

FUNDO DA MATA ATLÂNTICA | FLORESTAS DO AMANHÃ | FUNDO BRASILEIRO PARA A BIODIVERSIDADE FUNBIO | Secretaria de Ambiente e Sustentabilidade | GOVERNO DO ESTADO RIO DE JANEIRO | Rio2030

Photo: Rafael Oliveira

GEF FUNBIO Agency

FUNBIO is one of the 18 implementing agencies of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), an international financial mechanism that supports actions aimed at biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation, helping address some of the major environmental pressures at a global scale.

Since its accreditation as a GEF agency in 2015, FUNBIO has received resources to implement five initiatives, expanding the reach of strategic projects in the country.

Learn about the ongoing projects.

119 BARU NUT FROM THE CHAPADA
new 121 GEF BIODIVERSITY WILDLIFE TERRITORIES
122 IWY IPURANGUETE
new 123 MGI SYSTEMS
new NGI AMAZÔNIA VIVA
124 PRO-SPECIES

Cerrado Standing With Income Generation: The Baru Production Chain as an Ally of Biodiversity and Traditional Peoples

Baru Nut from the Chapada

The sustainable management of baru, a typical Cerrado fruit that has been gaining market visibility due to its high nutritional value, is part of a value chain that links biome conservation with income generation for traditional communities. These two pillars form the foundation of the project Cerrado Standing with Income Generation: the Baru Production Chain as an Ally of Biodiversity and Traditional Peoples (aka *Baru da Chapada*).

In 2025, the initiative invested BRL 2.7 million in strengthening agro extractivist communities in the biome, promoting fair trade for baru, and supporting the autonomy of these populations. The project supported two community based organizations: the Kalunga Quilombo Association (AQK) and the Agroecological Cooperative of Rural Producers of Alto Paraíso de Goiás and Region (CooperFrutos do Paraíso).

Working alongside these organizations, the project led collective discussions to develop a Biocultural Community Protocol establishing best practice guidelines for the sustainable management of baru, valuing and respecting both traditional knowledge and the environment. The protocol's development included a dedicated workshop for women and youth to ensure their voices were represented. The document, currently in preparation, will be published in 2026.

The protocol is the result of the Formar Baru training program, which reached its fourth module in 2025, with three modules held throughout the year and an average of 45 participants in each. The program aims to promote best practices in production and commercialization, prepare community members to access markets, and strengthen their ability to engage with public policies.

In July, during the fourth module, the group—composed of farmers, quilombola communities, extractivists, agrarian reform settlers, and partners—delivered the Letter Formar Baru for the Defense of a Standing Cerrado to representatives of the federal government. The document, collectively drafted, presents demands for protecting the Cerrado and its diverse peoples, grounded in the perspectives of those who live in the territory.

The content of the four Formar Baru modules was also translated into the Baru Best Practices Guide, launched in September during the XI Meeting and Fair of the Peoples of the Cerrado. This educational publication compiles essential guidelines to ensure the quality, safety, and value of baru across all stages of the value chain, and will be shared with agro extractivists, educators, and partners.

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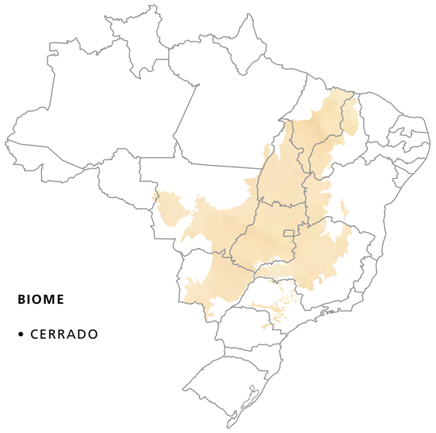
THEMATIC AREAS

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SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES

END YEAR

2027









Community participation strengthens knowledge, livelihoods, and conservation in the Cerrado.
Photo: Carol Gavazzi/IEB Collection
Photo: Camila Behrens/IEB Collection
Photo: Webert Cruz/IEB Collection

Baru Nut from the Chapada

> “These advisory sessions have been extremely important for us, especially because they address an issue that has long been a bottleneck: diversifying markets to increase income generation. The process has been very positive, particularly because of the way people are getting involved and taking on responsibilities, something essential for the cooperative, as it strengthens our sense of belonging”
>
> emphasizes THAMILIS DE MENEZES,
> president of CooperFrutos do Paraíso

Throughout the year, the organizations also received technical assistance from Central do Cerrado to guide fair commercialization practices, market strategies, and the strengthening of traditional knowledge. Each association participated in four advisory meetings.

In the municipality of Cavalcante, in the state of Goiás, the quilombo also benefited from the inauguration of the Kalunga Warehouse in March. The space will serve as a strategic hub for marketing a variety of baru based products—from seeds and sweets to cosmetics—while supporting the organization and visibility of local production within the quilombo.

The work carried out with the Kalunga community also supports the development of a consultation protocol, as established by Convention 169 of the International Labour Organization (ILO 169), ratified by Brazil in 2002. The convention guarantees Indigenous peoples, quilombola communities, and traditional populations the right to free, prior, and informed consultation regarding projects that may affect them. The Kalunga Protocol, a tool for territorial protection, is being developed collectively and defines how external initiatives must consult the community, respecting its culture, timing, and decision making processes.

The project, scheduled to run until 2027, is implemented by the Instituto Internacional de Educação do Brasil (IEB), with funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and financial management by the GEF FUNBIO Agency.

> “This partnership is very important because we learn from those who have been on this path longer, building commercialization strategies and adding value, identity, and culture to our products”
>
> notes CARLOS PEREIRA,
> president of the Kalunga Quilombo Association



Promoting local production generates more income for those who make their living from the land. Photo: Camila Behrens/IEB Collection

Women’s Participation and Engagement

Translator’s notes:
*a local non dairy “cheese like” preparation
**a traditional ground mixture typically made with nuts and other local ingredients

A group of 24 women from the Kalunga Quilombo Association is receiving ongoing training in sustainable management and processing practices for baru. The program also focuses on strengthening women’s representation in decision making spaces.

In addition, at all project events and training sessions, caregiver services were hired to ensure that mothers from the communities could participate fully, bringing their children along when needed.

The project’s event agenda included five thematic workshops covering topics such as baru processing; traditional baru based recipes (including *queijo angatu** and both sweet and savory *paçoca***); and best practices for sustainable management. Additional workshops were held alongside agroecological collective workdays, addressing themes such as soil, fertilization, seeds, and planting.

The project calendar also included 14 meetings of the Baru Coordination Working Group (WG), dedicated to registering organizations, drafting a principles charter, discussing bottlenecks in the baru value chain that require action, and defining thematic subgroups.



Women are strengthening their leadership roles and expanding their participation in community decision-making. Photo: Camila Behrens/IEB Collection

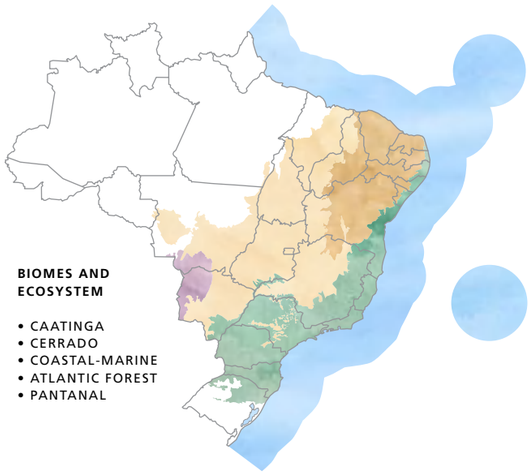
new

GEF Biodiversity Wildlife Territories

Brazil, one of the most biodiverse countries in the world, is home to thousands of species threatened with extinction that depend on the protection of their habitats.

The newest project financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) aims to strengthen, expand, and accelerate the implementation of public policies for biodiversity conservation; promote ecological restoration and connectivity among natural areas; and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.

As part of this effort, the Biodiversity Wildlife Territories initiative identified approximately 21 million hectares of critical areas for conservation actions across all Brazilian biomes, with the exception of the Amazon. This prioritization was guided by a multicriteria analysis and two workshops involving key stakeholders, including ICMBio and the Rio de Janeiro Botanical Garden.







Workshop and training.

The project's efforts focus on strengthening the management of protected areas, promoting ecological restoration and habitat connectivity, and ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources. These objectives are reflected in ambitious targets: the creation of 1.4 million hectares of protected areas, the restoration of 500 hectares of native vegetation in strategically important connectivity zones, the implementation of integrated biodiversity measures across 12 million hectares, and support for 1,500 people engaged in sustainable-use value chains.

Signed in October, the project will be implemented by Instituto de Pesquisas Ecológicas (IPÊ), with financial management provided by FUNBIO and implementation under the GEF FUNBIO Agency. In December, an initial coordination meeting brought together the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio), the Rio de Janeiro Botanical Garden (JBRJ), and the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA) to begin structuring the initiative, which will launch field activities in 2026. With an expected duration through 2030, the project will receive a total investment of USD 16.8 million.

The project also includes investments in extinction risk assessments for fauna and flora species, integrated fire management plans, actions to control invasive alien species, the implementation of National and Territorial Action Plans for the Conservation of Threatened Species (PANs and PATs, the acronyms in Portuguese), and biodiversity monitoring. The Biodiversity Wildlife Territories project also foresees the dissemination of the knowledge generated throughout its implementation.

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FINANCIAL MECHANISMS

FOREST RESTORATION

GENDER EQUITY

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SPECIES MANAGEMENT

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Biodiversity Conservation in Indigenous Lands

Ywy Ipuranguete

Indigenous Lands (ILs) play a critical role in safeguarding Brazil's biodiversity. In recognition of the central contribution of Indigenous peoples to environmental protection, the **Ywy Ipuranguete** project was launched in March 2025.

Its name, in Tupi Guarani, means "beautiful land" and evokes the fertility and rich socio biodiversity that characterize Indigenous territories. Coordinated by the Brazilian Ministry of Indigenous Peoples (MPI), the initiative will support 15 Indigenous Lands, covering approximately 6.4 million hectares across five Brazilian biomes (Amazon, Atlantic Forest, Cerrado, Caatinga, and Pantanal) in implementing their Territorial and Environmental Management Plans (PGTAs, the acronym in Portuguese). The project aims to strengthen territorial protection, curb deforestation, and enhance climate resilience, while also promoting food sovereignty, sustainable income generation, institutional strengthening, and the preservation of Indigenous cultures and traditions.

The PGTAs are instruments autonomously developed by Indigenous peoples to guide the management of their territories. They aim to strengthen traditional knowledge, restore and conserve natural resources, improve quality of life, and ensure the full physical and cultural continuity of present and future generations. Ywy Ipuranguete will help bridge the gap between planning and the effective implementation of these priorities.

Over the past year, the project advanced its initial phase by reviewing the existing PGTAs of the 15 participating Indigenous Lands, mapping priority actions for each territory, identifying Indigenous organizations and potential implementing partners, consolidating a network of collaborators, and assessing the most appropriate operational arrangements based on the specific characteristics of each territory and its peoples. Field activities are expected to begin in 2026.





Launch of Ywy Ipuranguete. Photo: Mre Galvão

Cerrado biome, near the Pantanal, Terena Indigenous Peoples, Mato Grosso do Sul. Photo: Carol Gavazzi



15
Indigenous Lands

6.4
MILLION
hectares

List of Supported Indigenous Lands

- Águas Belas (Bahia)
- Barra Velha (Bahia)
- Caramuru/Paraguaçu (Bahia)
- Comexatibá (Bahia)
- Coroa Vermelha (Bahia)
- Tremembé da Barra do Mundaú (Ceará)
- Dourados (Mato Grosso do Sul)
- Lalima (Mato Grosso do Sul)
- Kadiwéu (Mato Grosso do Sul)
- Cachoeirinha (Mato Grosso do Sul)
- Taunay/Ipegue (Mato Grosso do Sul)
- Munduruku (Pará)
- Kayapó (Pará)
- Entre Serras (Pernambuco)
- Pankararu (Pernambuco)

With implementation planned through 2030, the project is financially managed by FUNBIO, implemented by the GEF FUNBIO Agency, and executed by the *Instituto Internacional de Educação do Brasil* (IEB), with technical oversight from the National Foundation for Indigenous Peoples (Funai). Funding is provided by the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

Another important milestone was the establishment of the project's Executive Committee, now active and with a female majority, which will be responsible for approving the subprojects. The committee includes representatives from the MPI, Funai, the National Association of Indigenous Women Warriors of Ancestrality (ANMIGA), the Coalition of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil (APIB), and IEB.

NDC

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ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF INDIGENOUS LANDS

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SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES

TRAINING OF TEAMS AND PARTNERS

FUNDER

GEF

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> "This is a moment of convergence of efforts and of knowledge toward biodiversity conservation and planetary balance. While we face a climate emergency, Indigenous Lands are also under significant pressure. Indigenous peoples are the protagonists of the solutions the planet urgently needs, and PNGATI transforms policy into concrete action within their territories"
>
> stated ANDRÉIA BAVARESCO, Executive Coordinator at IEB

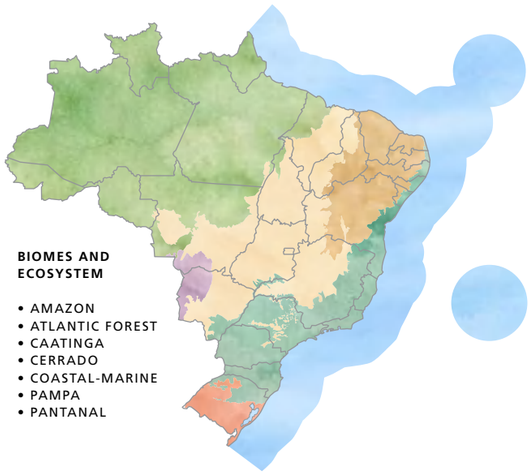
IPURANGUETE | Conservação da Biodiversidade em Terras Indígenas

Support for the implementation of the Data Integration Plan and the Enhancement of Federal Environmental and Land Management Systems

new

MGI Systems

Protected areas, settlements, Indigenous lands, land tenure, and the implementation of the Forest Code—each territorial public policy is supported by distinct systems and registries that often operate in silos, with limited interoperability and poor data quality.



To address this challenge and enable a single rural property to be consistently recognized across all systems, the Data Integration Plan and the Enhancement of Federal Environmental and Land Management Systems were developed. This initiative aims to strengthen environmental and land governance across the entire ecosystem.

The project was launched in 2025, with the mission of supporting Brazil's Ministry of Management and Innovation in Public Services (MGI) in implementing the plan.
Over the course of the year, invested resources enhanced monitoring tools and enabled strategic coordination among government entities, advancing the rollout of this management ecosystem.
The initiative is expected to improve data quality and enable interoperability across multiple government systems.

The project also supports the meetings of the Data Integration Plan Steering Committee, which convenes representatives from the Office of the Chief of Staff (Casa Civil), MGI, the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA), the Brazilian Forest Service, Ibama, ICMBio, the Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Farming, Incra, the Office of the Attorney General of the Union (AGU), and the state-owned technology companies Dataprev and Serpro.

The project formally began in July with the signing of a Cooperation Agreement with MGI and made two strategic hires:

- a consulting firm to support the Ministry in coordinating activities across government stakeholders and managing processes related to the Plan's implementation;

- and a technical consultancy to map bottlenecks and existing needs, design integration flows among multiple systems, and identify the technological solutions required to enable interoperability. The overarching objective is to enhance the quality and effectiveness of environmental and land governance policies.

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National Strategic Project for the Conservation of Endangered Species

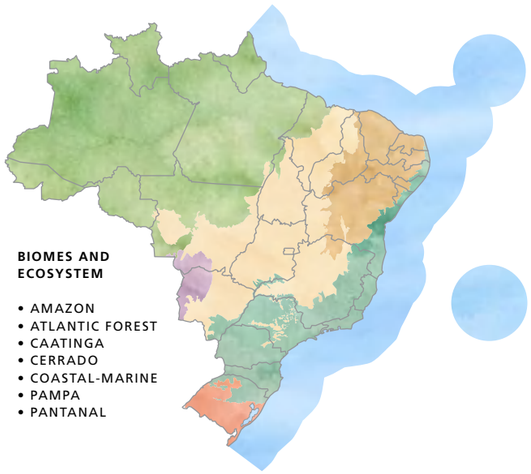
Pro-Species

Brazil is one of the most biodiverse countries on the planet. Many of its plant and animal species, however, are at risk of disappearing. The central mission of **Pro-Species**: All Against Extinction, completed in 2025, was to help eliminate or reduce the threats facing Brazil's critically endangered fauna and flora. Funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the project was the first implemented by the GEF FUNBIO Agency.

A key strategy of the initiative was the development of National Action Plans for Conservation (PANs, the acronym in Portuguese). In total, 15 plans were formalized, covering assessments of more than 12,000 species and supporting actions that benefited 193 Critically Endangered species previously lacking conservation instruments. The project also invested in Territorial Action Plans (PATs, also the acronym in Portuguese), which strengthened protection efforts across more than 14.9 million hectares of natural areas.

In the Chapada Diamantina–Serra da Jiboia PAT, in Bahia, one of the actions carried out in 2025 was the construction of a community kitchen in the municipality of Itaetê. The aim is for the space to support income generation, especially for women, through community based tourism and family farming, while promoting sustainable food practices in the Colônia, Baixão, and Europa settlements. These efforts also contribute to the conservation of threatened species.

> "One of the goals of the PAT was to address the threat posed by unregulated tourism. With that in mind, we held a sustainable cooking workshop with women from the three settlements in Itaetê. At the end, they asked to keep applying what they had learned through a community kitchen"
>
> says SARA ALVES, from Inema, coordinator of the Chapada Diamantina–Serra da Jiboia PAT



Closing event for Pro-Species. Photo: Sigrid Wiederhecker Vallie



On the other side of the country, the Planalto Sul PAT, spanning Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul, became the focus of a documentary series produced by the Environmental Institute (IMA Santa Catarina) and the Secretariat for Environment and Infrastructure (SEMA Rio Grande do Sul). Across five episodes, the series highlights the conservation of 22 threatened species in the region, such as the cambeva fish (*Cambeva tropeiro*) and the *cravo-do-mato* bromeliad (*Tillandsia jonesii*), through the perspectives of researchers and partner institutions.

The aim of the series is to engage and raise public awareness, foster appreciation for the territory, and reduce negative impacts on species and their habitats. Released in May, the videos are available on the YouTube channels of the state environmental agencies.

With Pro-Species funding, the Planalto Sul PAT also invested in purchasing traps to capture wild boar (*Sus scrofa*), an invasive exotic species that poses a threat to native wildlife. A total of 25 traps were installed, five during hands on training sessions and another 20 distributed to rural producers and protected areas based on established technical criteria. The trainings also covered topics such as wild boar control legislation, animal health, trap use, and the collection of biological samples for sanitary monitoring.





Aldama linearifolia. Photo: Mara Magenta

Campaign Against Wildlife Trafficking

The project also supported the campaign "If it's not free, I won't like it," created by Ibama in partnership with WWF-Brazil. The initiative urges people to avoid interacting on social media with content that exploits wild animals and, indirectly, fuels wildlife trafficking. Launched in May, alongside preparations for World Environment Day (June 5), the campaign aims to raise public awareness and encourage reporting of such posts. Wildlife trafficking remains one of the main threats not only to fauna but also to flora species.

> "Pro-Species is reaching the end of a cycle, but this should not be seen as a conclusion. We must build new mechanisms, forge new partnerships, and keep the coordination among all actors alive"
>
> says RITA MESQUITA, National Secretary for Biodiversity, Forests, and Animal Rights at the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA)

> "Our goal is to provide municipalities with a solid technical reference for protection measures, early detection, and rapid response, as well as to support the development of invasive species management programs within protected area management plans"
>
> says SILVIA ZILLER, coordinator at the Horus Institute

Publications

In June, the government of Paraná released its new *Red Book of Threatened Fauna*, presenting data on 339 species—116 of them Critically Endangered—and incorporating eight newly assessed groups of invertebrates, including mollusks and beetles. The publication will serve as a foundation for conservation public policies. The updated list, part of the Pro-Species strategy, is the result of an extensive research effort carried out since 2022.

In Bahia, the project supported the publication of the guide Invasive Alien Species and Biological Invasions, developed by the Horus Institute and launched in February by the Bahia State Public Prosecutor's Office (MP BA) and the Institute for the Environment and Water Resources (Inema Bahia). Aimed at the state's 417 municipalities, the guide provides practical guidance on preventing and controlling invasive species, with the goal of reducing the environmental and economic impacts they cause. It includes recommendations on early detection, mapping affected areas, and management strategies.





Chionanthus fluminensis.
Photo: Inara Carolina da Silva



Field expeditions, Limoeiro Cave, PAT Xingue, Pará. Photo: Luciana Martins Freire

A Legacy in the Fight Against Extinction

Brazil currently has 4,457 species at risk of extinction—1,253 fauna and 3,204 flora. One of the lasting legacies of Pro-Species is the knowledge it helped generate about Brazilian biodiversity, including newly discovered species, first time records, and the filling of critical information gaps. In total, more than 300 field expeditions were carried out across 16 states. The project also strengthened open scientific databases such as SALVE, for fauna, and CNCFlora, for flora. In addition, it served as the main instrument for implementing the National Strategy for the Conservation of Threatened Species (ENEAE) and the National Strategy for Invasive Alien Species, both launched in 2018.

The project is coordinated by the MMA, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), with WWF-Brazil as the executing agency and FUNBIO as the implementing agency.

PRÓ ESPÉCIES
Todos contra a extinção

Photo: Augusto Gomes

GCF FUNBIO Agency

FUNBIO is one of only three implementing agencies of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) in Brazil, one of the leading international financial mechanisms dedicated to addressing climate change.

Resources channeled through the GCF FUNBIO Agency finance projects and programs that support the fulfillment of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) of developing countries, with a focus on strengthening climate resilience and promoting mitigation and adaptation strategies.

Explore the GCF FUNBIO Agency portfolio.

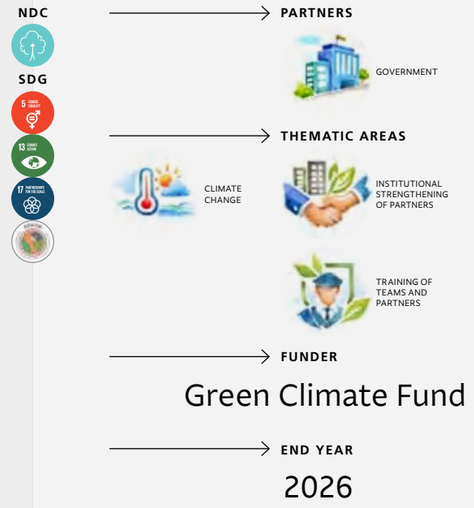
127 READINESS NDA
128 READINESS OCEANS

Readiness NDA

National Designated Authorities (NDAs) are government entities that serve as the primary interface between countries and international funds. In Brazil, the NDA is the Ministry of Finance, through the Secretariat for International Affairs (SAIN), which is responsible for approving and overseeing climate related projects.

The Readiness NDA initiative supports the development of a strategic plan for climate finance. Scheduled to conclude in the first half of 2026, the project's main legacy is its contribution to updating the Country Program, launched in Belém (Pará) during the Climate Conference (COP30) in November. The document consolidates Brazil's strategy for engagement with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and defines national priorities for climate finance, the strategic investment sectors, and the technical criteria that will guide the structuring of the country's project portfolio for submission to the Fund.

> "The 2025 Country Program with the GCF represents a decisive step forward in Brazil's climate finance architecture. Brazil is now using concessional finance with strategic intelligence, directing it toward sectors with high potential for transformative investment"
>
> highlights TATIANA ROSITO, Secretary for International Affairs



The update is part of the new format required by the GCF, the world's largest climate fund, and introduces a more proactive approach in which the country itself leads and presents its strategy and priorities for meeting its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Brazil was among the first countries to deliver the new version of the program, which includes a short term project pipeline (through 2027) and a medium term pipeline (2027–2030). The Readiness NDA initiative enabled the hiring of a specialized consultancy and the organization of workshops and consultations with a wide range of government actors, the private sector, and civil society, ensuring a collective and participatory process that took around six months. In addition, a general GCF manual, informational booklets, and explanatory videos were produced to broaden and facilitate understanding of how the Fund operates.

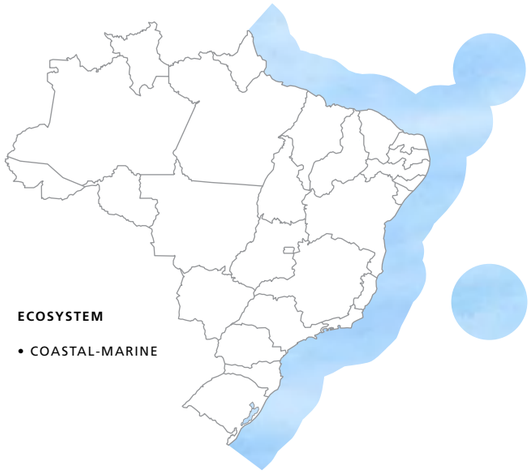
All documents and information can be accessed on the **official NDA website**, which received a new visual identity, developed with project resources, to improve usability for stakeholders. The program outlines USD 3.8 billion in co financing and estimates 665 million tons of CO2 in avoided emissions, benefiting approximately 53 million people.

FUNBIO, the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES), and Caixa Econômica Federal have been accredited since October 2018 as the first national implementing entities of the GCF in Brazil.

Exploring the Potential for Ocean-Climate Pipeline for Mitigation and Adaptation in Brazil

Readiness Oceans

The oceans play a fundamental role in addressing the climate emergency. Yet there is still a significant gap in knowledge and action on how to lead the integration of ocean and climate agendas. The project **Exploring the Potential for Ocean-Climate Pipeline for Mitigation and Adaptation in Brazil (Readiness Oceans)**, funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF), aims to strengthen marine climate governance and build a strategic data foundation to support the identification and prioritization of mitigation and adaptation projects in Brazil.



Readiness Oceans is an initiative of the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MCTI), implemented by the GEF FUNBIO Agency and managed by FUNBIO.

In the first half of 2025, the initiative delivered one of its key outputs: a comprehensive assessment, developed with the support of Brazilian experts, that analyzes the entire coastal and marine context of Brazil through an integrated climate change lens to inform public policies and future projects. Presented to MCTI in March, the document compiles information on the country's coastal and marine ecosystems related to carbon; priority geographic areas for intervention; key mitigation and adaptation measures for sustainable and climate resilient coastal planning; and a policy options map outlining pathways and recommendations to move the agenda forward.

In parallel, three online workshops were organized to discuss key themes and foster the collaborative development of a national ocean climate agenda aligned with GCF guidelines and Brazil's specific context. The sessions were held in a segmented format: one dedicated to government actors, another to civil society organizations and academia, and a third to the private sector. The exchanges and activities carried out during the events helped identify potential pathways, priority actions, and strategic recommendations, which were consolidated in a report delivered in November.

Together, the results of the diagnostic assessment and the workshops will help lay the groundwork for a concept note, already under development, to be submitted in the first half of 2026. This document, the final deliverable of Readiness Oceans, will identify priority and feasible locations for interventions, address existing pressures, and outline the necessary actions in the form of a project pipeline. In this way, the concept note will serve as a foundation for future initiatives focused on the marine climate agenda.

The GCF is a global fund that supports developing countries in addressing the challenges of global warming by reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapting to climate change. Since October 2018, FUNBIO, the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES), and Caixa Econômica Federal have been accredited as the first national implementing entities of the GCF in Brazil.

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FUNDER

Green Climate Fund

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2026

Credits

COMMUNICATION ASSISTANCE AND MARKETING
Cíntia Borges A. Fonseca
Helio Hara
Humberto Miguez
Larissa Noguchi
Mariana Menezes

EDITING
Helio Hara and
Cíntia Borges A. Fonseca

TRANSLATION
Duda Menegassi

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Luxdev – Giselle Macedo

COVER PHOTO
Simone Giovine

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