



Unitor REDD+ forest conservation project in Brazil

Deforestation rates in Brazil have severely increased over time due to the increase in prices for agricultural products and the construction of major infrastructure works such as highways and hydroelectric power projects. The Unitor REDD+ project halts deforestation and protects the rich biodiversity of the Amazon. The project is located in Lábrea, Amazonas State, which is the municipality with the fourth highest deforestation rate in Brazil between 2008 and 2020.

Background

In the Lábrea region, natural ecosystems have been extensively damaged. Land-use changes have provoked severe social conflicts through land-grabs and expansion of agriculture. In many areas of Lábrea, forest landowners have been asked to sell their property for the purpose of agriculture expansion and selling timber. Luckily, a large part of the Amazon forest in the region can be protected with the help of carbon finance.

Forest conservation

The Unitor REDD+ Project protects approximately 99,000 hectares of Amazon rainforest. Roughly 24,000 hectares of forest would have been disappeared over a period of 30 years otherwise. The project plays a fundamental role in minimising deforestation and curbing invasions, bringing benefits for climate and biodiversity. Many endangered species are being protected, including jaguar, giant armadillo, giant anteater, and endemic Amazon flora.

Lastly, the project also facilitated fire brigade trainings, workshops on healthy eating and technical trainings on livestock and sustainable forest management. These kind of activities are in close collaboration with the people living close to the forest and are key to the sustainable development of the Amazon.

Collaboration

Climate Neutral Group (CNG) works with the project by supporting and financially sponsoring it. We enable the reduction of greenhouse gasses and various initiatives in the social, environmental, and economic scope. The project is VCS certified. VCS certification guarantees that the effects, monitoring, and auditing of emission-reducing projects are done properly. In addition, CNG is a founding member of ICROA, which monitors our working methods annually, and guarantees reliable climate compensation.



Advantages

Climate and environment



- The project avoids over 400,000 tonnes CO₂ annually.
- 99,000 hectares of Amazon rainforest is protected. 24,000 would have been destroyed otherwise.
- Protection of at least 302 species including 4 on the IUCN Red List: Jaguar, Giant Otter, Giant Anteater and Giant Armadillo.

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Social and Economic



- The project facilitates workshops on nutrition, hygiene and health.
- The project hosts fire brigade trainings to monitor and prevent forest fires in the region.
- The project hosts technical training on livestock and sustainable forest management.
- The project generates 48 jobs.