South Amazon Forest Protection

Brazil

Protecting the abundantly biodiverse Southern Amazon from deforestation

This project protects over 185,000 hectares of Brazil’s Southwestern Amazon Rainforest from deforestation, caused historically by cattle ranching, and logging – legal and otherwise. On top of reducing emissions by preserving forest carbon stocks, the project creates positive impacts for surrounding communities and ecosystem biodiversity.
The Context
Brazil has the greatest concentration of biodiversity on the entire planet; its abundant life forms represent 20% of all Earth’s known species. Yet its rich Amazonian rainforests remain threatened by deforestation. This is a particular issue in the Southern Amazon, where low governance and encroaching human infrastructure bridged by the Trans-Amazonian Highway render the area vulnerable to deforestation, primarily from cattle ranching and timber harvesting.

The Project
Straddling the border of Amazonas state and Acre state in Brazil in the agricultural expansion frontier region, the project encompasses a single property, Fazenda Seringal Novo Macapá. The area forms a buffer, blocking encroaching deforestation and bolstering general conservation efforts in Brazil. Under a sustainable forest management plan (SFMP), this project protects a vast swath of the Southwestern Amazon from deforestation. The Forest Stewardship Council certified SFMP is a tool for conservation and forest carbon stock maintenance, ensuring sustainable timber harvests, increasing surveillance, and reducing social and environmental impacts in the project area.

The Benefits
As well as preventing deforestation to reduce emissions, this project is registered under the Social Carbon Standard, certifying positive community and environmental impacts. By combining these two coveted categories, the project conserves biodiversity and promotes local sustainable development harmoniously. Regional economic benefits such as job opportunities are created in project management and industrial activities, and the project supports community initiatives such as environmental education, while upholding a focus on maintaining local traditional cultures. Over thirty years, this project will save over 30,000 hectares of rainforests, avoiding the emission of roughly 14.5 million tonnes of carbon dioxide – all while protecting an area rich in life, and home to iconic flora and fauna such as mahogany trees and the jaguar.

Meals provided
to all employees by the project proponent, preventing unnecessary fishing and hunting in the project area

Workplace training
provided for employees in partnership with the National Industry Service or Tropical Forest Institute, including reduced impact logging, safety at work, first aid, and firefighting

700 job opportunities
will be generated by the project, boosting the local economy and contributing to regional development

483,000 tCO₂e
reduced on average annually, through avoided deforestation and forest carbon stock maintenance

186,219 ha
of Amazon Rainforests protected – home to 345 birds (including three vulnerable species) and 8 vulnerable or endangered mammal species