

PACAJAI REDD+: Avoided deforestation in the Amazon rainforest

Protecting 150,000 ha of forest

Background

Over two thirds of Brazil is covered in forest land. However, only 17% of this large forest area is protected and many areas are vulnerable to deforestation. As a result, Brazil has lost almost 10% of its forest cover since 1990. Part of the problem is that Brazilian law allows squatters to claim legal ownership of unused land after 5 years and thus legalizes clearing. As owners, people are allowed to cut down 20% of their forest without breaking the law. This consequently creates the issue of squatters claiming and logging areas of land. The forest is predominantly vulnerable from the outside where loggers can easily access it from transport links. However, pioneer roads are quickly making their way deeper into the forest and eating away at it from the inside. Deforestation and landuse changes account for around 60% of Brazil's total CO₂ emissions, meaning the country currently stands at 2.3t of carbon dioxide being produced per capita every year. In 2010, Brazil was the 6th biggest emitter of CO₂ in the world despite the fact that 41% of all energy and 83% of electricity in the country was generated from renewable sources. By protecting its forests, Brazil will not only protect many endangered species, but will also significantly reduce its future projected carbon footprint.

The Project

The project area covers nearly 150,000 ha of land in the Portel municipality. It does this through on-the-ground patrolling, strategic physical occupation of territory, improvement of forest management practices and encouraging sustainable use of forest products. The project also focuses on the local communities within the area, Improving their quality of life and empowering them as their own population. Communities will be involved in the activities related to biodiversity, since the forest resources provide almost entirely the income of the families, as well as their food. Villagers within the project area will be trained and employed as rangers to patrol the area to prevent illegal logging and deforestation by offering squatters to cooperate with the project.

Forest Protection in Pará

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Location:	Pará State, Brazil
Project type:	REDD+
Project standard	VCS VERIFIED CARBON STANDARD
UN Agenda 2030 goals	
	

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