



Land for small farmers instead of soy plantations

Forest protection, Portel, Brazil

The land is perfectly suited for soy plantations here in the Amazon region: it's flat and easily accessible, there are several ports close by and the soil is fertile. Brazilian land law makes it possible to simply appropriate, deforest and farm unused land. Nature conservation projects also count as unused land. It's little short of a miracle that there's any rainforest left here at all and that it's still providing a home for animal species that are becoming extinct, such as capuchin monkeys or black bearded sakis.

The idea of this project is to continue to preserve the rainforest and to officially acquire the relevant property rights for the "Ribeirinhos", the inhabitants of the Amazon. This ensures that the area is no longer classified as unused and that farms can no longer legally occupy it. At the same time, it secures the livelihood of the local people, who are among the poorest in all of Brazil. Otherwise, 3,000 hectares of forest would be cleared every year and replaced with soy or other agricultural crops.

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How does forest protection help fight global warming?

Forests are not only among the planet's most important carbon reservoirs. They also are home to an enormous diversity of species and are the livelihood for all people. However, global forest areas have declined sharply in recent decades due to increasing settlement, agricultural use, illegal logging and mining.

Forest protection projects ensure that forests are preserved in the long term and that the protection of forests is given a higher value than their deforestation. Together with the local population, project participants protect the area from negative influences. To allow for this the projects create alternative sources of income and educational opportunities. Depending on the project region, forests store varying amounts of carbon per hectare. Particularly high amounts of carbon are stored in the vegetation and soil of tropical swamp forests, primary rainforests or mangroves.



Contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

SDG 1 · No Poverty

Better living conditions in one of Brazil's poorest regions

SDG 8 · Decent Work and Economic Growth

Creating income possibilities for the inhabitants of the Amazon through e.g. cultivating pepper or training rangers

SDG 10 · Reduced Inequalities

Long-term secure, officially confirmed land rights for the local people

SDG 11 · Sustainable Cities and Communities

More safety through forest patrols

SDG 13 · Climate Action

The project preserves the Amazon rainforest as one of the most important global carbon sinks from deforestation.

SDG 15 · Life on Land

Preserving the habitat of endangered species: the capuchin monkey, black bearded saki, oncilla (little spotted cat) and giant otter



Project standard

Verified Carbon Standard (VCS)
CCBS Gold Level

Technology

Forest protection

Region

Portel, Brazil

Annual volume

364,244 t CO₂e

Verified by

DNV (USA) Inc. (DNV GL)

Further information

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