

PROGRAMME ON PROTECTED AREAS AND SUPPORT TO ARPA (AMAZON)





WWF-Brazil

WWF-Brazil is a non-profit Brazilian civil society organization, recognized by the government as an institution of public utility. Created in 1996, WWF-Brazil has its headquarters in Brasilia. WWF-Brazil's mission is to contribute to a Brazilian society that conserves its natural environment, harmonizing human activity with the conservation of biodiversity and the rational use of natural resources, to the benefit of the citizens of today and of future generations.

WWF-Brazil is also a member of the world's largest environmental network: WWF Network. Created in 1961, the WWF Network consists of similar and autonomous organizations from 40 countries and is supported by some 5 million people among registered members as volunteers. The WWF Network operates on 5 continents in more than 100 countries.



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Amazon Region Protected Areas Programme (ARPA)

The Amazon Region Protected Areas Programme (ARPA) was announced by the Brazilian Government in September 2002 during the United Nations Sustainable Development Conference in Johannesburg (South Africa), also known as 'Rio+10', with the purpose of creating, consolidating and maintaining 500 thousand square kilometers of protected areas - an area equivalent to the land surface of Spain -, under the control of integral protection and sustainable land use groups in the Amazon. The goal to be reached in 10 years will guarantee the protection of about 12% of the different landscapes that comprise the Amazon biome - the equivalent of 3.6% of all of the remaining tropical forests in the world.

To achieve this goal, ARPA foresees the creation and the implementation of new protected areas and the consolidation of existing areas into an integrated protected areas network, while also looking to ensure conditions for their long term maintenance. The ARPA network will protect an ecologically representative sample of the biological diversity of the Amazon and contribute to its sustainable development.

ARPA is part of the governmentally-initiated political process for the conservation of



biodiversity and contributes to ordering the system of protected areas of the country, in keeping with the commitments made under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). A key CBD commitment says the countries which take part should 'establish a system of protected areas where measures should be taken to conserve the biological diversity'.

It is estimated that consolidating this network of protected areas will require an investment of US\$ 390 million dollars during the 10 years of the programme, which includes direct investments during the creation and implementation phase and additional funds to ensure protection in perpetuity.

ARPA is coordinated by the Ministry of the Environment and is implemented by IBAMA in partnership with state governments from the Amazon region that have adhered to the programme. Besides these active participants, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the World Bank, KfW (German development bank) and WWF-Brazil are cooperating with the programme.



The Fundo Brasileiro para Biodiversidade (FUNBIO) (Brazilian Biodiversity Fund) collaborates on the financial management and procurement functions related to ARPA. GTZ (agency of technical cooperation of Germany) and WWF-Brazil are providing technical assistance to the programme.

ARPA: BASIC NUMBERS

TOTAL GOAL	TO CREATE & CONSOLIDATE 500 THOUSAND SQUARE KM OF PROTECTED AREAS
ESTIMATED COST	US\$ 390 MILLION
DURATION	10 YEARS

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Programme on Protected Areas and Support to Arpa (Amazon)

WWF-Brazil's main mission on its Programme on Protected Areas and Support to ARPA (Amazon) is to accompany and support the execution of the Amazon Region Protected Areas Programme (ARPA), a Federal Government initiative created in 2002 to implement a network of protected areas for the conservation of an ecologically representative sample of the biological diversity present in the different landscapes of the Brazilian Amazon.

The implementation of a programme with such a focus - the Programme on Protected Areas and Support to ARPA (Amazon) – by the WWF-Brazil results from the commitments it has assumed with ARPA partners, especially with the Ministry of the Environment. Besides having participated in the programme's conception, formulation and realization since the beginning, today the WWF-Brazil's involvement in ARPA extends to the decision-making and planning



level (as a donor, as a member of the Programme Committee and through its participation in work groups and other technical activities). WWF-Brazil also participates in a coordinated effort led by the Ministry of the Environment with the involvement of other partners to raise further financial resources for the programme.

- Improving the methodology for the identification of priority areas for conservation adopted by ARPA and studies upon which to base proposals for the creation of new protected areas;
- Supporting of public consultations within the process of creating new protected areas;
- Supporting the dministration of mosaics of protected areas and conservation corridors;
- Supporting the formation, functioning and invigoration of protected area management councils, through training and capacitu building;

- Technical training in protected area management for technicians from state and federal environmental agencies and civil society organizations acting locally and regionally;
- Studies for better understand conservation and degradation processes, such as evaluating of the effectiveness of the management of the protected areas, the conceptual definition of sustainable development reserves and the legal status of the protected areas in the states;
- Documenting and disseminating information on protected areas and ARPA results.



Geographical areas of action

In order to rationalize its performance, WWF-Brazil's Programme on Protected Areas and Support to ARPA (Amazon) chose priority protected areas and regions in which to develop its activities. WWF-Brazil's ARPA support strategy involves the realization of complementary activities, designed to collaborate technically with the government programme, strengthening its implementation and guaranteeing the sustainability of its results. These activities are put into effect through partnerships with IBAMA, state governments, and with civil society organizations from the Amazon region.



WWF's action

WWF-Brazil's activities have a wider scope, seeking to support the development of national policies for protected areas in the Amazon. In order to achieve this, WWF-Brazil also collaborates on the improvement and implementation of the National System of Protected Areas (SNUC), as well as participating in the discussions of the National Forum for Protected Areas and the National Plan for Protected Areas (linked with Decision VII/28 of the Biological Diversity Convention - Work Programme for Protected Areas).

These contributions by the WWF-Brazil, which complement the support directly given to the execution of ARPA, involve supervision and technical support on activities such as:



That choice took into consideration the conservation needs of the biological diversity contained in the planning of ARPA, the history of WWF-Brazil's action in the Amazon and the specific interests associated with the activities designed to complement the programme.

Some of the priority areas in which the



Programme Protected Areas and Support to ARPA (Amazon) is active are:

 Amapá, with special focus on the implantation of the Montanhas do Tumucumaque National Park, as well as support in drafting the management plans for the Sustainable Development Reserve at Iratapuru and Cabo Orange National Park;

- Acre, with special focus on the Chandless State Park, as well as support for the Rio Acre Ecological Station and other areas, with the prospect of acting towards an integrated protection with areas of Peru and Bolivia;
- Amazonas, with special focus on the south of the state, including the mosaic, and on the Negro river basin, as well as the prospect of working on the Purus river basin; the Southwestern areas of the State and specific state protected areas;
- Pará and the north of Mato Grosso, especially in the mosaic of protected areas in the area called 'Terra do Meio' (Xingu/Iriri interfluent) and in the region of the Serra do Cachimbo.

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