



BNDES approves R\$ 4.6 million for ST&I project in the state of Pará

The focus of the support within the scope of the Amazon Fund is to study the Amazon biodiversity

The board of directors of the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES), within the scope of the Amazon Fund, approved non-reimbursable support in the amount of R\$ 4.6 million to the Federal University of Para (UFPA). Resources will be used to implement the project Biodiversity, which aims at strengthening the university's research structure for biodiversity studies.

After this approval, the Amazon Fund portfolio ends April with seven approved projects on Science, Technology and Innovation, representing support of R\$ 24.9 million (see details of the seven projects in the table below and on page 2).

In the same period, the Amazon Fund – which has not only STI projects, but also projects focused on sustainable production activities, institutional development, as well as environmental and land-title regularization – totals 28 approved projects, totaling R\$ 274.8 million. The amount disbursed was R\$ 88.4



Amazon Fund team responsible for ST&I projects

million, adhering to the physical-financial schedule of the projects, whose implementation period varies from one and a half to five years.

Project	Amount of Support	Period (months)
Incubadora de Políticas Públicas da Amazônia	R\$ 2.7 million	24
Conhecer para Conservar	R\$ 8.5 million	36
Nova Cartografia Social da Amazônia	R\$ 4.6 million	36
Compostos Bioativos da Amazônia	R\$ 1.4 million	24
UFPA Ilhas de Belém	R\$ 1.1 million	30
Florestas de Mangue	R\$ 2 million	36
Biodiversidade	R\$ 4.6 million	24

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The natural and cultural heritage of the Amazon Biome represents significant potential for scientific, economic and social uses, whose transformation into sustainable products and services is related to the generation capacity and the dissemination of knowledge, technologies and innovations.

Within this framework, the ST&I projects supported by the Amazon Fund aim at employing the Amazon's biodiversity to develop new products and technological applications, aggregating value to the region's raw materials and becoming an alternative in the economic development of the Amazon region.

Amazon Fund support totals R\$ 24.9 million in seven ST&I projects



Mangrove forests: support for degraded areas in the North Region

The seven projects in Science, Technology and Innovation (ST&I) approved up to this moment within the scope of the Amazon Fund comprise non-reimbursable support amounting to R\$ 24.9 million. Below is information on each of the projects:

Biodiversity – the objective of this project is to strengthen the research structure for biodiversity studies at the Federal University of Para (UFPA) – with a total amount of R\$ 4.6 million and implementation scheduled for completion in up to 24 months.

The project comprises the construction and structuring of the Center for Advanced Studies in Biodiversity (CEABIO) to expand the physical space available for UFPA's Institute of Biological Sciences. This initiative will allow research groups, currently scattered throughout the region, to come together.

Besides that, the Pharmaceutical Planning Lab and the Molecular and Cellular Neurochemical Lab will be renovated, and new equipment will be installed for UFPA's biotechnology group.

Bioactive Compounds of the Amazon – this project totals R\$ 1.4 million and completion is estimated in a period of 24 months. Its aim is to develop new products and technological applications from bioactive compounds extracted from plants and typical fruits in the Amazon region, among them solar photochemical protectors, age-fighting moisturizers and functional food in capsules. To produce and characterize these compounds, a pilot-plant will be installed in UFPA's Food Plant Lab.

Research to develop new products and technological applications was divided into two different approaches: one will be carried out in partnership with a private company (Amazon Dreams) and with a cooperative (Cooperativa Agrícola Mista de Tomé-Açu), while the other will be carried out solely by UFPA without the participation of private partners.

UFPA the Isles of Belém – With completion scheduled for 30 months and amounting to R\$ 1.1 million, this project consists of carrying out research to implement methodologies to support the creation of economic and environmental zoning on islands located in the surroundings of the city of Belém, besides expanding the research infrastructure of UFPA's Graduate Program on Aquatic Ecology and Fishing.

The project comprises the publication of an Executive Summary when research is completed to promote the methodology applied aimed at subsidizing related projects in the Amazon region, especially in estuary regions.

Mangrove Forests – This project totals R\$ 2 million and completion is estimated in three years. Its main purpose is to research and develop knowledge and techniques related to the recovery of degraded mangrove areas in the North Region of Brazil, besides developing models to only estimate the biomass and carbon collection, but to also assess the carbon stock in the mangrove forests. These models may be used in markets as payment for environmental services and as a subsidy to mechanisms of REDD (Reducing of Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation).

The study area of the project is located in the peninsula where the Marine Extraction Reserve Caeté-Taperaçu (RESEX) was installed. The projects will focus on two traditional communities within the RESEX, the Tamatateua and Taperaçu, and in the surroundings of the state highway PA-458. The project also includes the expansion and upgrade of the infrastructure in UFPA's Mangrove Ecology Lab with the construction of a building and the acquisition of lab equipment.

Amazon Public Policy Incubator – Estimated at R\$ 2.7 million and with completion scheduled at 24 months, this project aims at developing interdisciplinary research on socioeconomic and environmental impacts resulting from the expansion of the Amazon's economic border. As a result, it is expected to produce strategies to elaborate public policies to improve governance of socio-environmental management in the region.

Knowing to Conserve – Completion of this project is estimated at 36 months and totals R\$ 8.5 million. It has the purpose of creating the Amazon Museum (MUSA) and a Training Centre in the Água Branca settlement in Manaus, aimed at disseminating knowledge which will contribute to fostering and conserving the Amazon's natural resources and its cultural heritage.

New Social Mapping of the Amazon – Totaling R\$ 4.6 million from the Muraki Institutional Support Foundation in partnership with the University of the State of Amazonas (UEA), this project carries out the social mapping of 27 peoples and traditional communities in the Amazon.