

ACTIVITY
REPORT
2025

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Quem We are

The Fronteiras Institute is a civil society organization working in the Juruá Valley (AC) to promote concrete solutions to the socioenvironmental challenges of the Amazon.

We work alongside indigenous peoples and traditional communities to strengthen territorial governance, defend collective rights, and build sustainable alternatives that keep the forest standing

We see frontiers as spaces for encounter and transformation. Our work arises precisely in these transition zones, between the university and the local community, between technical knowledge and traditional wisdom, between conflict and the forging of new paths.

We work to ensure that these boundaries cease to be spaces of exclusion and become territories of empowerment, autonomy, and the future.

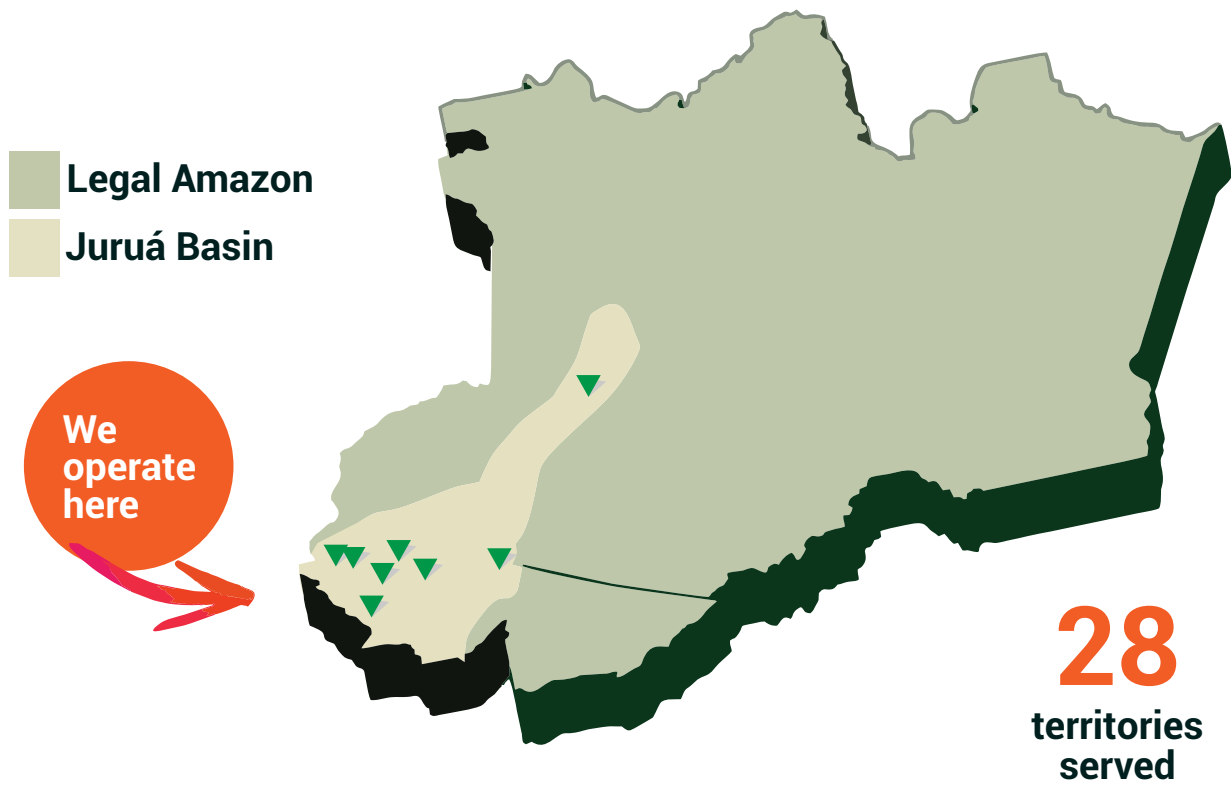
Our Work

The Fronteiras Institute builds collective processes that generate solutions to socio-environmental problems in the Juruá Valley, always grounded in the concrete reality of the territories.

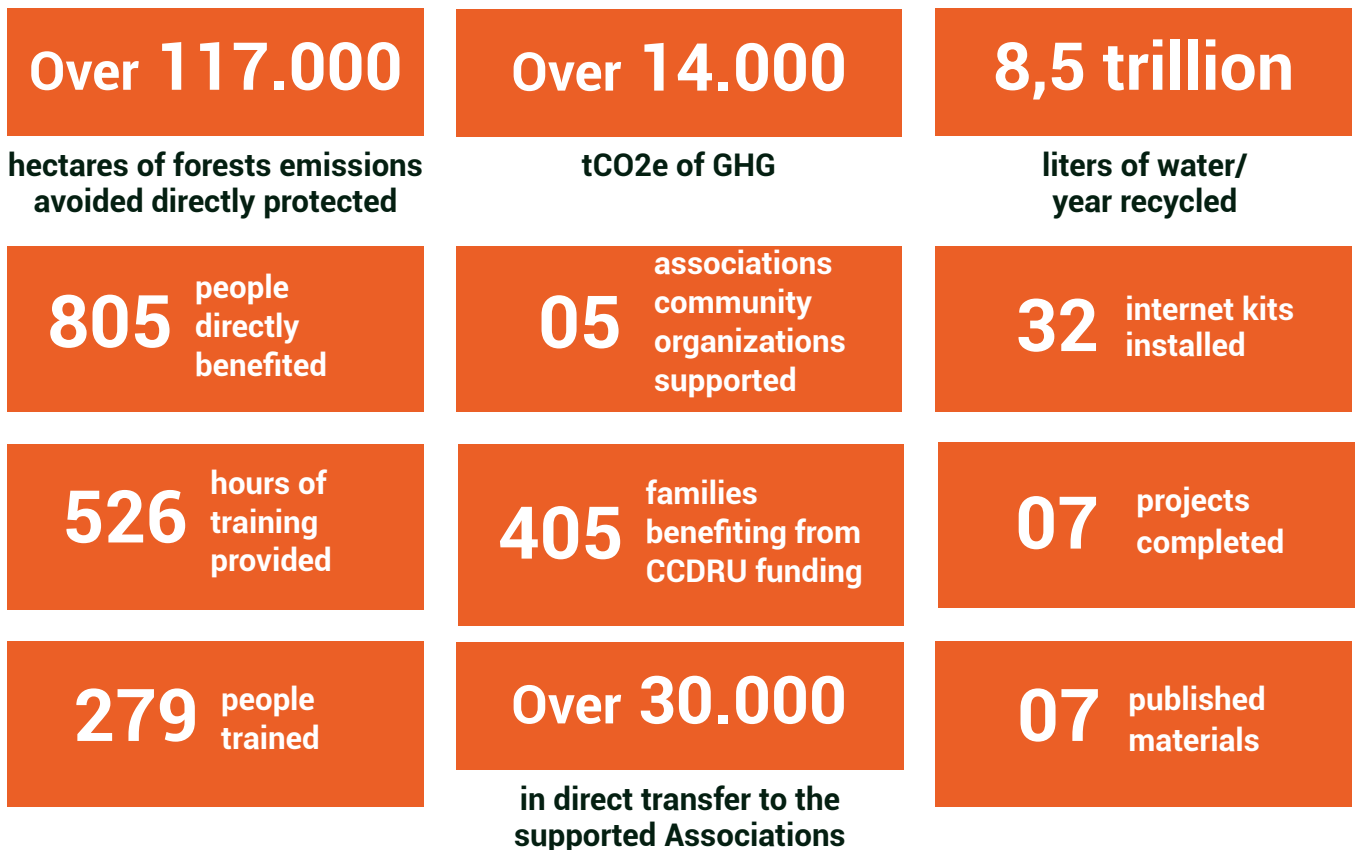
Our work combines expert consulting, organizational strengthening, engaged research, and institutional coordination.

We work alongside communities to secure land rights and defend their territories, to structure socio-bioeconomic initiatives, to train leaders, and to build sustainable alternatives in areas such as digital inclusion, energy transition, and sustainable management of natural resources.

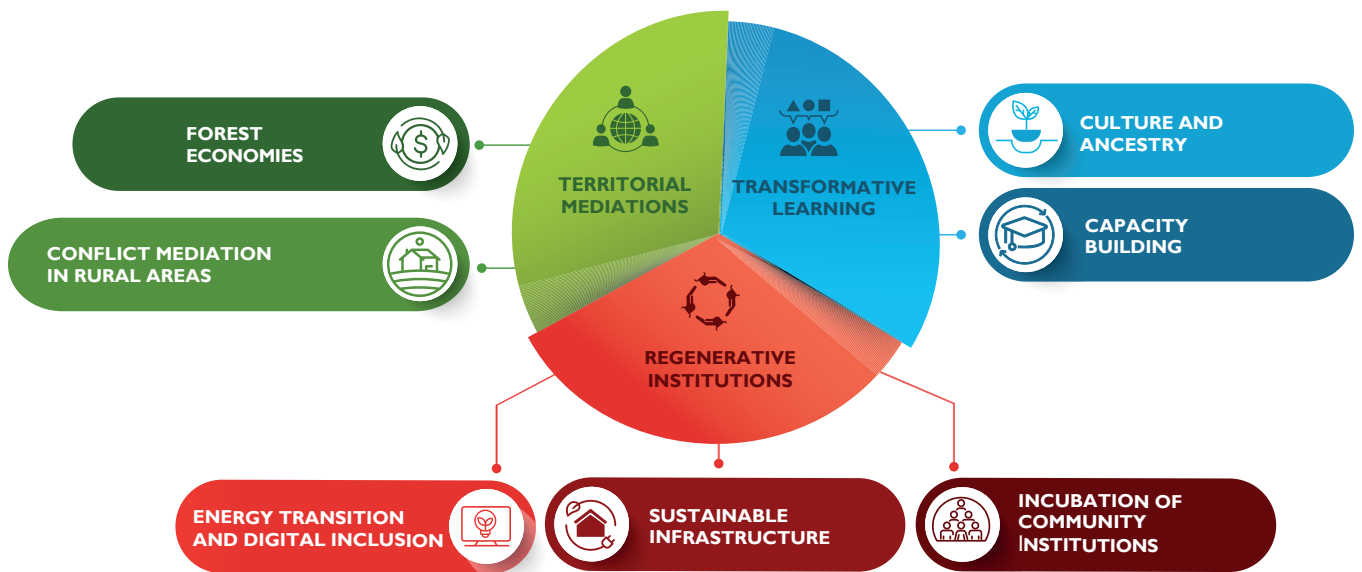
More than just carrying out projects (which we do quite a lot), we seek to contribute to long-term processes that can increase communities' autonomy and establish arrangements that sustain the forest and the life that depends on it.



Positive Impacts 2025



Our Programs



Territorial Mediation

Legal and strategic action

In this area, we work on the collective development of solutions to territorial conflicts, focusing on rights, land use, and institutional responsibilities.

We provide legal counsel, technical support, and strategic coordination to strengthen land regularization processes, the defense of collective rights, and territorial organization.

The actions we undertake address issues such as deforestation, illegal burning, land grabbing, and the construction of unauthorized infrastructure, aiming to restore governance and promote more balanced social, economic, and environmental relations.

Institutions Regenerative

Building sustainable arrangements

We understand that institutions are practices and rules that organize collective life. In this area, we work as a network to strengthen and create institutional arrangements that sustain the standing forest and expand the economic and political autonomy of communities.

We focus on the institutionalization of community-based management, the structuring of sustainable production chains, access to public policies, and the development of economic models compatible with environmental conservation. We seek to support pathways that consolidate viable long-term solutions.

Transformative Transforming

Strengthening community autonomy

In this area, we support educational processes that strengthen community autonomy based on their own histories, knowledge, and experiences

We work with initiatives that foster dialogue between generations, the appreciation of collective memory, and the systematization of knowledge built within the community.

Our goal is to expand communities' capacity to make strategic decisions, plan for their future, and drive desired transformations with a sense of ownership and institutional security.

Our History

2018 to 2024

The Fronteiras Institute came to life in 2018, in the Juruá Valley (Acre), emerging from the bridge established between the university and civil society committed to socio-environmental issues in this part of the Amazon.

From the beginning, our proposal was straightforward and challenging: to build strong bridges between engaged academia and concrete, impactful action in local territories.

We are constituted as a community made up of researchers, professionals, community leaders, and students who have chosen to cooperate based on shared values:

The commitment to life in our forests and rivers, the defense of the rights of Indigenous peoples and traditional communities, the strengthening of territorial governance, and the construction of sustainable alternatives for the future of the Amazon.

Our history is also the story of the transformation experienced by those who have taken part in our collective actions. In real territories, with real conflicts and complex challenges, we have learned that there is no such thing as detached neutrality: we are all affected by the processes we are involved in, and from the very beginning, this has been part of our method.

In the early years, we expanded our territorial presence by supporting Indigenous and traditional organizations in different parts of the Juruá Valley. We carried out participatory socio-environmental assessments, provided technical and legal assistance to communities, and contributed to strengthening the internal management of various local grassroots associations.

We worked to support artisanal fishing and community-based production chains, helping to organize processes, improve management, and connect communities with public policies. At the same time, we invested in the production of applied knowledge, linking academic research with concrete demands identified in the territories.

This period consolidated an important hallmark of Fronteiras' work: always acting based on careful listening to the territories, rather than merely intervening in them.

Starting in 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic brought about a state of emergency. Many of the communities we worked with became isolated and lacked access to essential resources, including facing difficulties in accessing food and clean water. In this context, we focused on emergency food security actions and supported community-based productive infrastructure initiatives.

We raised funds, organized volunteers, and supported the acquisition and distribution of food, while also investing in small-scale structures capable of strengthening local productive autonomy. Internally, we also needed to reorganize: we took advantage of the accelerated technological context to improve our management systems, professionalized our accounting procedures, and expanded our capacity for implementation and accountability. It was a difficult period, but decisive for our institutional consolidation.

Between 2022 and 2024, we significantly expanded our scope of action. Working in networks, we began to develop projects in energy transition and digital inclusion, bringing connectivity and training into traditional territories. We advanced community-based energy transition proposals, seeking renewable and decentralized alternatives.

In the sociobioeconomy agenda, we built our capacity and began to strengthen initiatives such as the sustainable management of pirarucu, integrating environmental conservation, community organization, and market access, work that has been gaining increasing consistency. We also worked on historical and cultural safeguarding, recognizing that culture and memory are an essential part of governance territorial in our basin.

In the field of research, we deepened our knowledge of REDD+, environmental justice, and the impacts of oil and gas in the Amazon, especially at a time when new concessions included an exploration block in the Médio Juruá. This knowledge began to strengthen our policy advocacy and support strategic decisions made by partner communities.

During this period, we strengthened interinstitutional cooperation networks and expanded our presence in spaces for dialogue and public policy development.

It was through this trajectory that we consolidated the understanding that our work is structured around three strategic pillars:

Transformative Learning, which integrates training, research, and capacity building, recognizing that every action is also a learning process;

Territorial Mediation, focused on resolving conflicts related to territorial rights, land regularization, and the defense of collective rights;

Regenerative Institutions, dedicated to building and consolidating new institutional arrangements capable of sustaining the standing forest and strengthening local autonomy based on territories.

Within these three pillars, we reinforced something that has always been present in our journey: the awareness that we only learn by doing, and we act while learning. We have learned that the bridge between the university and civil society cannot be merely institutional; it must be grounded in ethical commitment and in the trust built among people engaged in real processes of transformation.

Teachers become learners, students become mediators, professionals expand their public responsibility, and community leaders strengthen their technical and political capacity, ensuring protection and continuity for future generations.

Between 2018 and 2024, the Fronteiras Institute consolidated itself as an organization operating at the intersection of territories, knowledge systems, expertise, and public policies. More than implementing projects, we seek to contribute to long-term collective regeneration processes capable of generating sustainable solutions and strengthening the autonomy of the peoples and communities of this part of the Amazon.

Our work in 2025

The year 2025 was marked by a strong territorial identity, institutional consolidation, and the expansion of our technical and political advocacy.

We operate in an integrated manner across the Institute's three strategic pillars: territorial mediations, Regenerative institutions and transformative learning, maintaining a direct presence in local communities while also expanding our reach through state, national, and international networks.



Territorial Mediation

Forest Territories

In 2025, the Fronteiras Institute contributed to the process of allocating federal public lands to at least 13 forest-dependent communities that are essential for keeping the forest standing, within the scope of the Forest Territories Program (Ordinance 1309/2025), in partnership with the CNS – National Council of Extractive Populations, the Chico Mendes Memorial, the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA), and the Ministry of Agrarian Development (MDA).

04 major areas of FPFND affected

More than **20** communities mobilized

13 diagnosed communities

154 families registered

09 Traditional Use and Occupation Assessments produced (one for each CCDRU)

09 Descriptive maps and SDG spreadsheets prepared (one for each CCDRU)

27 technical documents produced

170 thousand hectares of impacted territory within the Amazon

The main objective was to enable the implementation of the public policy for land tenure regularization through the CCDRU – Contract for the Granting of Real Right of Use – an instrument that formalizes the relationship between traditional communities and the Federal Government.

The technical documents developed support the official allocation of these areas, allowing territories that have long been traditionally occupied, but lack formal recognition, to become legally recognized.

As a result, the State acknowledges the existence of these communities, formalizes the allocation of federal public land, and enables access to public policies. This represents a decisive step toward protecting forests by assigning them to those who have historically conserved them: the Traditional Peoples and Communities (PCTs) of the Amazon.



Regenerative Institutions

Forest Peoples Connection

As a co-founding member organization of Conexão Povos da Floresta, we are part of a structured network that already connects 1,400 communities across the Brazilian Amazon.

In 2025, Fronteiras directly contributed to connecting 42 communities in the Juruá Valley.

The network aims to connect more than 1 million people across over 5,000 Amazonian communities, ensuring high-quality connectivity for Indigenous villages, quilombola communities, and extractivist populations living in protected areas. This connectivity is accompanied by programs focused on education, health, entrepreneurship, territorial protection, and culture, promoting a digitally conscious and territorially committed network.



Support for Community Associations

By 2025, we will support and strengthen

Nixiwaka Institute

Associação de Seringueiros e Agricultores da Reserva Extrativista do Alto Juruá (ASAREAJ)

Associação dos Seringueiros e Agricultores da Reserva Extrativista do Alto Tarauacá (ASAREAT)

Associação Feminina Força da Mulher Rural do Rio Liberdade (Mulher Flor)

Associação de Agricultura Familiar e Pesca Sustentável do Novo Horizonte (AAFPSNV)

Associação Territorial das Comunidades Sustentáveis do Juruá (ATCSJ)

The initiative included legal and institutional support, training, fundraising, and technical and accounting advice.

Among the actions carried out

- Support for the construction of the Kupixawa, model homes, and a guesthouse in the Sacred Village of the Yawanawa People, to support the 5th Indigenous Ayahuasca Conference
- Installation of air quality sensors in the Rio Gregório Indigenous Territory
- Support for the creation of two community associations focused on pirarucu management (Novo Horizonte Community and Flora Community)
- Accounting support for ATCSJ
- Support for ASAREAJ's project development

Pirarucu management

Strengthening the participatory management of pirarucu (*Arapaima gigas*) was a strategic priority throughout 2025, integrating environmental conservation, food sovereignty, and income generation. Institutional coordination was carried out with the Ombudsman's Office of the State of Acre, the Z1 Fishers' Colony of Cruzeiro do Sul, ICMBio, IBAMA, and the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture. The objective was to regularize the activity and secure the release of 300 licenses pending since 2021.

We participated in technical meetings with IMAC in Cruzeiro do Sul and Rio Branco, presenting research findings on the status of fishing, the piracema (spawning season), and impacts on pirarucu stocks in the Upper Juruá basin. The technical team was trained in pirarucu counting methodologies through a program delivered by the Juruá Institute (Cauari/AM). We conducted visits to the Flora community, in the Serra do Divisor National Park, initiating the development of management agreements in three community lakes, in coordination with ICMBio.

The actions also included:

- Support for the participation of the Z1 Fishers' Colony in the Northern Fisheries Plenary
- Organization of thematic panels on pirarucu management and Amazonian bioeconomy at the Latin American Meeting on Ecological Economics
- 13 field expeditions conducted between February and October 2025
- 5 online meetings and 2 in-person events on regulatory review of fishing in the Upper Juruá
- Submission and presentation of the scientific article "Governance of Pirarucu (*Arapaima gigas*) Fishing in the Upper Juruá Basin: A Comparative Analysis" at EcoEco 2025 Comparative Analysis" no EcoEco 2025

- Creation of the ATCSJ association as the territory's first inter-community association
- First meeting of the association's board Association meeting on October 26, 2025, with an increase in membership



Reforestation



In the Pedro Firmino settlement project (Lua Clara Road), we carried out:

01 hectare reforested

01 nursery established

867 seedlings planted

04 training sessions in SAFs

The project focused on the productive restoration of areas degraded by deforestation and wildfires through the implementation of agroforestry systems (AFS), promoting food security, increased income, and community empowerment.



Transformative Learning

More than **290h** of training

375 people trained

113 young people involved

15 participating researchers

04 productions generated

Fieldwork in the Juruá Special Exclusion Zone

The 2nd Meeting of the Juruá Extractive Reserves Journeys took place from April 4 to 6, 2025, in Cruzeiro do Sul/AC, bringing together 25 participants over 32 hours.

Organized by the Mulher Flor Association, Instituto Fronteiras, ICMBio, and Projeto Lapi-seira, with support from WRI Brasil, ORFL, and the Elias Mansour Foundation, the meeting strengthened collaboration among the Alto Juruá, Alto Tarauacá, and Riozinho da Liberdade Extractive Reserves.

The focus was on intergenerational knowledge exchange, discussions on public policies, and the collective development of strategies to value traditional ways of life and defend territorial rights.



Multisectoral support for REDD+

We focus on technical, policy, and regulatory learning regarding REDD+, addressing: governance and institutional arrangements; measurement, reporting, and verification; safeguards; environmental justice and territorial rights.

The following were held

10 workshops on REDD+ in Juruá, Acre

01 workshops on REDD+ in Tocantins

158 participants in the workshops

The knowledge was systematized through analyses, dialogues, and public statements.

National Meeting on Ecological Economics (EcoEco)

We coordinated the 16th National Meeting on Ecological Economics (September 8–11, 2025), in Cruzeiro do Sul/AC, with the theme “The Amazon on the Road to COP-30.”

The event brought together experts, researchers, and communities from Brazil and abroad, fostering transdisciplinary dialogue on Amazonian socio-biodiversity.

Letter “For a Fair Cartography of Climate Finance”

At COP30 (Belém/PA), we participated in the drafting of the letter “For a Fair Mapping of Climate Finance,” approved by ANPPAS and ECOECO, advocating for: transparency in metrics; recognition of territorial priorities; equitable distribution of resources; shared responsibility between funders and communities; and the strengthening of networks.

Conexão Cipó

We are part of Conexão Cipó, alongside Apiwtxa, OPIRJ, Yorenka Tasorentsi, CPI-Acre, SOS Amazônia-Acre, and the Institute for Amazonian Studies (IEA), working to strengthen socio-environmental justice in the headwaters of the Juruá and Purus rivers.



Institutional representation

In 2025, we became:

- Member of the CONDEMA Advisory Board in Cruzeiro do Sul/AC
- Member of the Advisory Council of the Serra do Divisor National Park
- Member of the Acre Seed Network



BTG Soma

We participated in BTG Soma's institutional acceleration program, which included two in-person meetings in São Paulo and online classes between April and November, covering team management, finance, fundraising, governance, and institutional positioning.



Global Environments Network (GEN)

We have joined an international network with a presence in more than 12 countries across Africa, Asia, South America, and the Pacific Islands.

Launch of the ifronteiras.org website



Participation in Events

- 1st Municipal Conference on the Environment – Cruzeiro do Sul/AC
- Participatory Workshop on the Future of Sustainable Land Use of Land: Prodigy Project – Rio Branco/AC
- Dialogues on Knowledge in Fisheries Management by the Amazon Waters Alliance – Brasília/DF
- 2nd Meeting of the Amazon Peoples Network Connection Forest – Manaus/AM
- Pirarucu Counting Training – Carauari/AM
- BTG Soma Acceleration Program Environment – São Paulo/SP
- Panel at the Argentine-Uruguayan Association of Ecological Economics (ASAUEE) Conference – ASAUEE Conference
- Panel at EJATLAS-CLACSO – Buenos Aires/AR
- 8th Meeting of the Cross-Border Commission – Pucallpa/PE
- 62nd Session of the Subsidiary Bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (SB62) – Bonn/GE
- Blue Zone of the United Nations on Climate Change (COP30/2025) – Belém/PA
- Event on Climate Finance at the People's Summit
- Event on Climate Finance at the People's COP



Publications

- Strengthening Public Governance and Benefit Sharing in Jurisdictional REDD+ Programs: Lessons from Acre (Brazil)
- 0 REDD+ and the New Carbon Market in Brazil: A Primer for Interested Communities
- Policy Brief: Strengthening Governance and Benefit Sharing in REDD+ Jurisdictional Programs: Lessons from Acre (Brazil)
- The Voice of Liberdade: a decolonial interpretive experiment in the co-construction of Amazonian narratives (paper published at an academic event)
- Indicators of Social Participation in SISA Governance: Challenges and Pathways for Environmental Democracy (paper published at an academic event)
- Governance of Pirarucu (*Arapaima gigas*) Fisheries in the Upper Juruá Basin: A Comparative Analysis (paper published at an academic event)
- Economic Rights over Carbon Credits in Traditional Territories: an analysis of the recent experience of the ISA Carbon Program in Acre in the context of the New Legal Framework for the Carbon Market (Law No. 15,042/2024) (paper published at an academic event)
- Platform: REDD+ Observatory
- Support for the book: A Light in the Forest



Networks and Partnerships

The Fronteiras Institute operates as part of a network, bringing together territorial organizations, community associations, government entities, funders, scientific institutions, and multilateral coordination spaces. We believe that the development of socio-environmental solutions in the Amazon depends on structured cooperation, institutional trust, and long-term alliances.

In 2025, our main networks and partnerships included:

Territorial and Community Organizations

- Conselho Nacional das Populações Extrativistas (CNS)
- Memorial Chico Mendes
- Associação Ashaninka do Rio Amônia (Apiwtxa)
- Organização dos Povos Indígenas do Rio Juruá (OPIRJ)
- Instituto Yorenka Tasorentsi
- Comissão Pró-Indígenas do Acre (CPI-Acre)
- SOS Amazônia
- Instituto de Estudos Amazônicos (IEA)
- Associação Feminina Força da Mulher Rural do Rio Liberdade (Mulher Flor)
- Colônia de Pescadores Z1 de Cruzeiro do Sul
- Associação Territorial das Comunidades Sustentáveis do Juruá (ATCSJ)
- Associação dos Seringueiros e Agricultores da Reserva Extrativista do Alto Juruá (ASAREAJ)
- Associação dos Seringueiros e Agricultores da Reserva Extrativista do Alto Tarauacá (ASARE-AT)
- Instituto Nixiwaka
- Associação de Agricultura Familiar e Pesca Sustentável do Novo Horizonte (AAFPSNV)

Government Entities and Governance Bodies

- Ministério do Meio Ambiente e Mudança do Clima (MMA)
- Ministério do Desenvolvimento Agrário (MDA)
- Ministério da Pesca e Aquicultura (MPA)
- Instituto Chico Mendes de Conservação da Biodiversidade (ICMBio)
- Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais Renováveis (IBAMA)
- Instituto de Meio Ambiente do Acre (IMAC)
- Ouvidoria do Estado do Acre
- Conselho Municipal de Meio Ambiente de Cruzeiro do Sul (CONDEMA)
- Conselho Consultivo do Parque Nacional da Serra do Divisor
- Rede de Sementes do Acre

Platforms and partnerships

- Rede Conexão Povos da Floresta
- Conexão Cipó
- Global Environments Network (GEN)
- Associação Nacional de Pós-Graduação e Pesquisa em Ambiente e Sociedade (ANPPAS)
- Sociedade Brasileira de Economia Ecológica (ECOECO)
- Environmental Justice Atlas (EJAtlas)
- Conselho Latino-Americano de Ciências Sociais (CLACSO)
- Aliança Águas Amazônicas
- Green Accountability Academy (WRI, SSN e Comissão Huairou)
- Jornadas Asociación Argentino-Uruguay de Economía Ecológica (ASAUEE)
- Comissão Transfronteiriça (Brasil-Peru)
- Convenção-Quadro das Nações Unidas sobre Mudança do Clima, SB62 e COP30 (UNFCCC)

Institutions, Support, and Funding

Full Circle Foundation; Overseas Resources Foundation Limited (ORFL); WRI Brasil; Fundação de Cultura Elias Mansour (FEM); Ago Social; Programa BTG Soma; Global Diversity Foundation (GDF)

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