

Land Governance Project

Allocation of land for social inclusion in the forest

Current challenges

Rural federal public lands in Brazil, which include indigenous lands (TIs), conservation units (UCs), agrarian reform settlements (AST), military areas, and undesignated public lands, occupy about 121.30 million hectares (INCRA, 2024). Of this total, 116.57 million hectares (99%) are located in the Legal Amazon and about 50 million have not yet been allocated.

Official deforestation data (PRODES) from the National Institute for Space Research (INPE) indicate that, between August 2023 and July 2024, the rate was 6,288 km², of which approximately 28% occurred in these undesignated lands¹. In some states, such as Amazonas, this percentage exceeds 70%.

These areas, without a clear definition of use and management, become extremely vulnerable to invasions, land grabbing, land conflicts and illegal exploitation. In other words, the lack of land tenure security and spatial planning is one of the main drivers of deforestation and threatens the livelihoods and economic participation of small family farmers and traditional peoples and communities (PCTs). The Land Governance project proposes to address land management as a central strategy to combat deforestation in these federal public lands in the Amazon, within the context of the current phase of the Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Deforestation in the Legal Amazon (PPCDAM).

The lack of proper destination and management of these public lands not only facilitates illicit activities and environmental degradation but also prevents the application of effective public policies that could benefit local communities and promote a sustainable local economy. Therefore, a multisectoral, inter-federative intervention for the management of these lands is crucial to ensure the environmental protection of the Amazon, the equitable distribution of public lands, and respect for the rights of traditional peoples and communities.

Objective

The main objective of the Land Governance project is to facilitate access to land for traditional communities and family farmers,

Project name	Land governance and environmental control in the Amazon – Land management and environmental monitoring in Brazil
Commissioned by	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Country	Brazil
Political partner	Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Farming (MDA); National Institute for Colonization and Agrarian Reform (INCRA)
Budget	2.500.000,00 €
Duration	01/2025 to 12/2026

promoting a fairer and more equitable distribution of land resources, based mainly on the correct allocation of public lands. In addition, it seeks to improve land regularization flows and processes through the implementation of advanced technologies and system interoperability, making them more efficient and transparent.

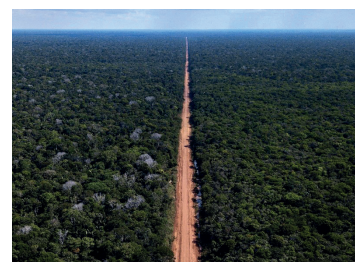
Another key objective is to contribute to the reduction of deforestation through more effective governance. This includes the implementation of practices that ensure the protection of vulnerable areas and promote the sustainable use of natural resources, in line with national and international environmental commitments.

Our approach

The implementation of the project will be carried out in close collaboration with the Ministry of Agrarian Development (MDA), through the Technical Chamber for Destination and Land Regularization of Rural Federal Public Lands and the National Institute of Colonization and Agrarian Reform (INCRA). These partnerships are essential for the success of the project, as they ensure alignment with national public policies and the use of already established technical and institutional expertise.

The project's approach aims to strengthen the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Land, Fisheries and Forest Resources in the Context of National Food Security (MDA,

¹ RAD2023: Annual Report on Deforestation in Brazil 2023 - São Paulo, Brazil – MapBiomas, 2024 - 154 páginas. https://alerta.mapbiomas.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/17/2024/10/RAD2023_COMPLETO_15-10-24_PORTUGUES.pdf. DOI: 10.1088/1748-9326/ac519).



Photos 1, 2 and 3: Integrated campaigns for environmental and land regularization – Advisory services for rural landowners and georeferencing tools, @GIZ/Carlos Toniazzo. Photo 4: Public land along the BR-319 highway, @DNIT.

2015²), which emphasizes the importance of collaborative and participatory governance, where all actors involved, including local communities, should have a voice and active participation in the decision-making process and management of territories. This not only strengthens the legitimacy of the proposed actions but also ensures that the solutions developed are sustainable and adapted to local realities.

Fields of Action - Activities

Support to the Technical Chamber for Destination and Land Regularization of Rural Federal Public Lands

The project provides for direct support to the Technical Chamber of Destination, aiming to improve the coordination and dialogue space of the deliberative³ collegiate. This includes the review of normative instruments and the implementation of procedures that ensure transparency and equity in land distribution.

Improvement of Flows and Processes of Destination and Land Regularization

Actions will be developed to optimize the flows and processes of land allocation and regularization for traditional peoples and communities, including consultation methods, following ILO 169 guidelines⁴, the introduction of technologies that facilitate the mapping, analysis and management of land data. Database qualification and interoperability between systems will be strengthened to ensure that crucial information is shared effectively between different sectors and levels of government.

Systems Strengthening and Interoperability Capacity

The project will invest in strengthening information systems and interoperability between various land administration databases. It is intended to carry out a detailed analysis of the tools and technologies currently employed in the management of public lands and in the fight against deforestation, focusing on data interoperability and the use of Application Programming Interfaces (APIs), which will contribute to the improvement of land allocation procedures,

allowing centralization of dispersed information, correcting operational gaps to expand the efficiency of data use in the context of territorial governance. This will allow for a more integrated and efficient management of land information, facilitating decision-making based on accurate and up-to-date data.

Capacity Building of Land Governance Actors

Training will be offered to actors responsible for land governance, including public agents, community leaders and representatives of civil society organizations. Ensuring that everyone involved is prepared to implement the necessary changes and ensure access to information.

Expected results

The Land Governance project hopes to achieve a set of results that will contribute to the improvement of land management in the Amazon and the reduction of deforestation:

1. **Reducing deforestation:** Through effective and sustainable governance practices, a significant reduction in deforestation rates on federal public lands is expected.
2. **Guarantee of territorial rights:** Improved land regularization instruments for traditional communities and family farmers, enabling access to public policies, guarantee of rights and social inclusion.
3. **Strengthened information systems:** Interoperability between systems will be improved, resulting in more integrated and efficient data management.
4. **Training and empowerment:** Public managers and local actors trained for territorial management and protection, promoting sustainable and inclusive development. The gender issue will be integrated into land regularization initiatives, promoting social inclusion, and reinforcing women's right to own and use land.
5. **Strengthened partnerships:** Collaboration with government institutions and local organizations in the territories will be strengthened, ensuring a lasting and positive impact.

² Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Land, Fisheries and Forest Resources in the Context of National Food Security (DVGTF). Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

³ It brings together: MDA, INCRA, Ministry of the Environment (MMA), Ministry of Indigenous Peoples (MPI), Secretariat of Federal Heritage (SPU), Brazilian Forest Service (SFB), Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio) and National Foundation of Indigenous Peoples (Funai). And as advisory members, the Ministry of Justice and Public Security and the Ministry of Racial Equality. and the effectiveness of land allocation actions.

⁴ Convention No. 169 of the International Labor Organization (ILO) on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples.

Publisher	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Company headquarters in Bonn and Eschborn, Germany	Partner	Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Agriculture (MDA) St. BCR Norte, Qd. 1, Brasília/DF, Brazil www.gov.br/mda	
	GIZ's Biosphere Program in Brazil Land Governance and Environmental Control in the Amazon SCN Quadra 1 – Bloco C, Room 1701 Ed. Brasília Trade Center 70.711-902 - Brasília/DF Brazil giz-brasilien@giz.de www.giz.de/brasilien		On behalf of the	Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (BMZ) BMZ Bonn Dahlmannstraße 4 53113 Bonn, Deutschland T +49 (0)228 99 535-0 www.bmz.de
Accountable	Taiguara Alencar			
Date	December 2024			