

# Action4Forests – A4F

## Background

The project Action4Forests (A4F) arises in the context of Brazil's commitment, through its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), to significantly reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030 and achieve climate neutrality by 2050. To meet this target, forest protection and the fight against illegal deforestation are essential. Brazil's official report to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2022 indicated that 38% of the country's emissions come from the Land Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry (LULUCF) sector, and 29% from agriculture.

In this scenario, the full implementation of the fifth phase of the Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Deforestation in the Legal Amazon 2023-2027 (in portuguese: PPCDAm 2023–2027) is decisive for the country to achieve its goal of zero illegal deforestation by 2030. The plan structures its actions around four pillars — (i) sustainable productive activities, (ii) environmental monitoring and control, (iii) land and territorial management, and (iv) regulatory and economic instruments — all supported and strengthened by the Amazon Fund (AF).

The AF is a pioneering financial mechanism based on results-based payments from Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD), while also recognizing the role of forest carbon stock conservation, sustainable forest management, and forest carbon stock enhancement (+), collectively known as REDD+. The AF is managed by the Brazilian National Bank for Economic and Social Development (in portuguese BNDES). The National REDD+ Strategy (in portuguese: ENREDD+) seeks to enable Brazil to access the international incentives foreseen under the UNFCCC. Meanwhile, the Brazilian Emissions Trading System (in portuguese: SBCE), which establishes the regulatory framework for the national carbon market, was created by Law No. 15.042 of December 11, 2024. It introduces a new element into climate finance and gives increasing relevance to forest carbon credits in the regulated market, requiring greater transparency, integrity, and social participation.

Project Name	Action4Forests – A4F
Commissioned by	The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Cofinanced by	Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)
Country	Brazil
Executing agency	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Political Partner	Brazilian Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MMA)
Executing Partners	National Bank for Economic and Social Development (BNDES)
Investment	6.900.000 EUR
Duration	04/2024 to 03/2028

Therefore, for these advances to translate into real impact in the territories, it is essential that resources reach Indigenous Peoples, Quilombola communities, traditional peoples and communities, and family farmers (in portuguese: PIQPCTAFs) in a fair and inclusive manner. This means ensuring compliance with REDD+ safeguards and alignment with national policies already in place, such as the PNGATI (National Policy for Territorial and Environmental Management of Indigenous Lands), PNGTAQ (National Policy for Territorial and Environmental Management of Quilombola Lands), and PNPCT (National Policy for the Sustainable Development of Traditional Peoples and Communities).

## Objective

The project A4F aims to strengthen national, subnational, and local actors relevant to forest conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources, enabling them to access and effectively manage climate finance resources.



On the left, a REDD+ Training Workshop for specialized staff and prosecutors from the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (in portuguese: ICMBio) and the National Foundation for Indigenous Peoples (in portuguese: Funai), Brasília/DF. On the right, a Workshop on Developing Project Proposals to Access Climate Finance, Quilombola Community of Boa Vista/PA.

## Our approach

The target audience of the A4F includes public servants, fund managers, and representatives of umbrella organizations of PIQPTAFs at national, subnational, and local levels. Special attention is given to the inclusion of women, youth, and elders.

The project's methodology combines capacity development with knowledge exchange, guided by principles of transparency, scale, and inclusion. It seeks to broaden access to climate finance resources and strengthen their implementation. By doing so, A4F aims to generate tangible impacts, such as reinforcing key public policies for reducing deforestation and supporting REDD+ and forest carbon initiatives in the Brazilian Amazon. Public entities and PIQPTAFs organizations are able to better and faster access and implement financial resources for forest protection. Furthermore, it reaffirms the role of the Amazon Fund as a pioneering climate finance mechanism, ensuring that its implementation occurs with greater transparency, quality, and outreach.

## Expected impacts

The project is structured around three main outputs, complemented by the cross-cutting axis of capacity development, which permeates all activities.

The **Output Action4Governments** is carried out in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MMA), through the Special Secretariat for Deforestation Control and Territorial Environmental Management. Actions are agreed and implemented jointly with the National REDD+ Commission (CONAREDD+), the Interstate Consortium for Sustainable Development of the Legal Amazon (In Portuguese: CAL), and the Governors' Climate & Forests Task Force (GCFTF). The outputs' focus is to support strategies and measures that strengthen federal, state, and municipal public actors in accessing and managing resources for forest protection, with special attention to the Amazon Fund. In this context, A4F assists public managers in developing projects aligned with the PPCDAm and ENREDD+. Furthermore, Legal Amazon states are supported to strengthen their jurisdictional REDD+ systems and reinforce existing control structures to combat deforestation.

The **Output Action4People** is developed in partnership with the MMA, through the National Secretariat for Traditional Peoples and Communities and Sustainable Rural Development (SNPCT). Its main goal is to expand capacities and applied knowledge through trainings and customized materials on climate change, climate finance, REDD+, carbon markets, and project management. Within this process, representative entities such as the National Council of Traditional Peoples and Communities (CNPCT), the Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon (COIAB), the National Coordination of Quilombola Rural Black Communities (CONAQ), and their respective community funds are strengthened to access and manage resources for forest protection, while also multiplying knowledge within their respective target groups.

At last, the **Output Action4Funds** focuses on technical cooperation with the BNDES, as the manager of the Amazon Fund, with the goal of increasing its scale, impact, transparency, quality, and outreach. Proposed innovations are guided by the results of already realized thematic evaluations of projects supported by the Fund, promoting continuous learning and improvements. A4F also encourages knowledge exchange with other fund managers, reinforcing innovative practices and reaffirming the Amazon Fund's pioneering role. Accelerating resource implementation is expected to attract additional contributions from international donors, while cross-cutting themes such as gender and REDD+ safeguards are incorporated to ensure greater inclusion and effectiveness. In this way, PIQPTAFs play a significant role in managing and executing resources, whether directly or indirectly.



*Workshop for Consolidation of the Organizational Diagnosis of State Secretariats for Indigenous Peoples (in portuguese: SEPIs), Brasília/DF.*

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Published in	September 2025			