### **NOVEMBER/2023**

# **BRAZIL NEEDS TO RESTORE 1 MILLION HECTARES IN RURAL SETTLEMENTS**

# The good results from forest recovery

About 1 million hectares of forests must be restored in Permanent Preservation Areas (APPs) of rural agrarian reform settlements. Said restoration would contribute to meeting the goal undertaken by Brazil in the Paris Agreement to restore 12 million hectares of forests. As shown below, forest restoration within the 1 million hectare-area can also include food production.

Instituto Escolhas reviewed 7.884 rural settlements, totaling 45.11 million hectares, where 809.4 thousand families are registered. The number of reviewed settlements accounts for 83.4% of the total area in the country<sup>1</sup>. The data is provided in the study The good results from forest recovery: from investment to benefits\*, which calculated the investment required to restore native vegetation on a large scale to allow the achievement of the Brazilian forest restoration goal.

\* This and other data from the study and the complete Technical Report can be viewed at escolhas.org

The Forest Code (Law 12651/2012) allows the restoration of Permanent Preservation Areas (APPs) with agroforestry production combined with natural regeneration on small properties, including settlements. Based on this law, the following would be feasible<sup>2</sup>:



Deployment of Agroforestry Systems (SAFs) in 500 thousand hectares of APPs with low and medium potential for natural regeneration, stimulating diversified food production; and

Passive restoration of **500** thousand hectares of APPs with high potential for natural regeneration.

99.6 million tons THE FIGURES of CO, will be The investment of removed from the USD 11.7 billion atmosphere, with an average of 200 settlements over 30 tons per hectare years should yield removed and stored USD 32.2 billion in by these Systems over 30 years.

in SAEs in the

net revenue\*\*.

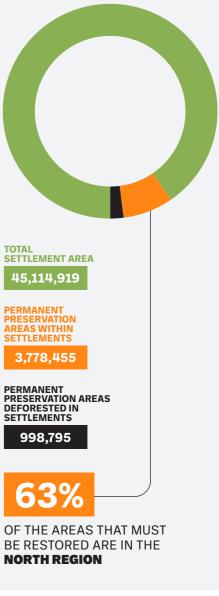
#### 43.1 million tons of food, namely:

**17.77 million** tons of short- and medium-cycle crops, such as beans, corn, cassava, and bananas, were produced during the first three years of the Systems.

**36.10 million** tons of species with a longer cycle, such as palm hearts, coffee, cocoa, and acaí.



## THE SURVEYED AREAS OF SETTLEMENTS WITH RESPECTIVE **TOTAL AND DEFORESTED** PERMANENT PRESERVATION **AREAS (HECTARES)**



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1. There are 9,447 rural settlements in Brazil across 87.9 million hectares, according to Incra (National Institute for Colonization and Agrarian Reform). This study did not consider Sustainable Use Conservation Units, Quilombola Territories and settlements without information on hydrography 2. Data on Incra settlements were considered (available here), as well as the limits of Permanent Preservation Areas in water (Brazilian Foundation for Sustainable Development, 2013) and native vegetation (Mapbiomas Collection 7, 2021).

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

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