

THE ACTIVITY REPORT

HOW MANY

CHOICES

2023

ARE INCLUDED IN ONE

SOLUTION?



THE 2023 ACTIVITY REPORT HOW MANY CHOICES ARE INCLUDED IN ONE SINGLE SOLUTION?

Board of Directors

Mariana Luz (Chairperson)
Marcos Lisboa
Ricardo Sennes
Sergio Leitão

Scientific Board

Rudi Rocha (Chairperson)
Ariaster Chimeli
Izabella Teixeira
Marcelo Paixão
Marcos Lisboa

Audit Council

Plínio Ribeiro (Chairperson)
Fernando Furriela
Zeina Latif

Team

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Sergio Leitão

RESEARCH DIRECTORS
Jaqueline Ferreira
Larissa Rodrigues

RESEARCH MANAGERS
Juliana Luiz
Rafael Giovanelli

RESEARCH COORDINATOR
Emily Brandão

INSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES MANAGER
Gisela Cordeiro

FINANCIAL ANALYST
Rafael Cardoso

INSTITUTIONAL COMMUNICATION MANAGER
Cinthia Sento Sé

INSTITUTIONAL COMMUNICATION ANALYST
Gabriela Matos

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER
Salette Cangussu

Publication credits

EDITORIAL COORDINATION
Cinthia Sento Sé

TEXT EDITING
Sergio Leitão e Cinthia Sento Sé

ART EDITION
FIB - Fábrica de Ideias Brasileiras

TRANSLATION
Excelle

OVERVIEW

WE CAN NO LONGER PRETEND THAT
THIS PROBLEM DOES NOT EXIST

OR POSTPONE THE ADOPTION OF NEW PERSPECTIVES
FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

For all these reasons, we can no longer pretend that this problem does not exist or postpone the adoption of new perspectives for social and economic development. The tragedy in the State of Rio Grande do Sul features a time of significant changes in Brazil in connection with the climate emergency.

By publishing this report – at such a severe and decisive moment for Brazil – Instituto Escolhas confirms its focus on identifying the challenges that hinder the country’s sustainable development and pointing out likely solutions so that the public administration and society can unlock them. We continue committed to these goals, and you can check our actions on the following pages to advance on this path throughout 2023.

THE ESCOLHAS TEAM

The tragedy experienced by the State of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, highlighted what organizations and researchers have been saying for years about the likely effects of climate change on our lives and the productive sectors of society. Unfortunately, the social, environmental, and economic impacts were neither invention nor overstatement. Reality emerged in the worst conceivable way, and the federal government’s resources will be critical to rebuild what has been lost.



Throughout 2023, we celebrated the enactment of laws and passing of bills that received direct inputs from Instituto Escolhas in their development. Brazilian law has also advanced, inspired by proposals presented in our studies and advocacy actions.

DATA THAT TRANSFORMS

2023

JANUARY

On the first day of the year, **President Lula revoked Decree No. 10966, which created the Support Program for the Development of Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining.** In practice, the decree encouraged illegal mining, which today is one of the main threats to the Amazon forest and its people.

MARCH

The **Brazilian Internal Revenue Service (RFB) published RFB Normative Instruction No. 2138, which implements electronic invoices for gold sale from mines.** The regulation came into force in August.

APRIL

The **Federal Supreme Court (STF) unanimously suspended the presumption of good faith in the trade of gold from mines.** Data from the study **Gold under the microscope: more than 200 tons of brazilian gold are potentially illegal,** which conducted the entire national debate on the topic, were cited in Justice Gilmar Mendes' ruling.

To learn more about the study, please click on the link



MAY

President Lula enacted a new law that expands the list of sustainable economic activities permitted within public forest concessions (Law No. 14590). The study **Unlocking the bioeconomy agenda: solutions to boost forest concessions in Brazil** proposed the expansion and other changes brought about by the new legislation.

To learn more about the study, please click on the link



JUNE

President Lula sent Bill No. 3025 to Congress, with proposals for changes to the gold trade in line with those approved in the previous months. Just like Bills No. 836/21 and No. 2159/22, also intended for the gold trade activity, **Bill No. 3025 was drafted based on data and information provided by Instituto Escolhas.**

AUGUST

The Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Farming of Brazil launched the Program Florestas Produtivas (Productive Forests), inspired by data provided by the study **How can the bioeconomy fight poverty in the Amazon?** and the Instituto Escolhas' reviews on forest recovery.

The enactment of BCB Normative Instruction No. 406. The ruling guides institutions authorized to operate by the Central Bank of Brazil – multiple banks, commercial banks, investment banks, securities brokers, and securities distributors (DTVMs) – regarding the procedures to be adopted when purchasing gold. According to the document, these institutions “must observe that there is no presumption of legality of the gold acquired, nor presumption of good faith on the part of the acquiring legal entity”.

To learn more about the study, please click on the link



SEPTEMBER

Brazil's Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Farming launched the National Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture Program. Still during the transitional government, the Instituto Escolhas proposed a National Urban Agriculture Policy to combat hunger and foster food security.

Law No. 9916 was enacted in Belém, establishing the City Policy to Support Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture in the capital of Pará. Data from the study Os desafios e o potencial da agricultura urbana e periurbana em Belém (**The challenges and potential for urban and peri-urban agriculture in Belém**), developed by Instituto Escolhas in partnership with the Municipality, boosted and supported the development of the passed law.

To learn more about the study, please click on the link



DECEMBER

The Senate Environment Committee approved Bill No. 836/21, drafted with the technical support of Instituto Escolhas. The Bill improves control over the sale of gold by financial institutions, requiring the submission of proof of legal origin of the gold and environmental compliance. Said Bill is a further step towards traceability.



Instituto Escolhas developed 9 studies in 2023. These studies gave rise to 16 publications and supported coordination and advocacy actions with decision-makers within the three spheres of the public administration.

We grouped these studies and initiatives according to their priority areas of influence on the following pages. Read more!

ALL DATA PRODUCED BY INSTITUTO ESCOLHAS IS MADE AVAILABLE IN WHITE PAPERS AND TECHNICAL REPORTS, WHICH ARE AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD ON OUR WEBSITE. WHITE PAPERS ARE AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH AND PORTUGUESE.



THE STUDIES

MINING

“



In the first half of 2023, the agenda to combat illegal gold trade in Brazil achieved significant successes, such as overturning the presumption of good faith and adopting electronic invoices. Now, we must advance on other crucial points, such as the regulation of an origin traceability system and the elimination of the use of mercury in gold mining.

LARISSA RODRIGUES

MULTIPLE NEGOTIATIONS TO CONTROL THE GOLD CHAIN IN BRAZIL

In the first quarter, Instituto Escolhas completed an intense schedule of meetings and negotiations with the Federal government, mainly bringing data and proposals to curb the prospecting of illegal gold and generate jobs and income in the Amazon through bioeconomy initiatives. The hearings with Ministers Flávio Dino (Ministry of Justice and Public Security), Waldez de Góes (Ministry of Integration and Regional Development), Marina Silva (Ministry of Environment and Climate Change), Sônia Guajajara (Ministry of Indigenous Peoples) and Paulo Teixeira (Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Agriculture) and the meetings with Roberto Campos Neto (president of the Central Bank of Brazil), Joenia Wapichana (President of the Brazilian National Foundation of Indigenous Peoples - Funai) and Robinson Barreirinhas (the Secretary of the Brazilian IRS) were critical to the advances made throughout the year in the fight against illegal gold mining.



SECRETARY OF THE BRAZILIAN IRS
ROBINSON BARREIRINHAS



MINISTRY SÔNIA GUAJAJARA



MINISTRY FLÁVIO DINO
AND TEAM



PRESIDENT OF THE FUNAI
JOENIA WAPICHANA

The presentation of the Instituto Escolhas' proposal for the implementation of a Brazilian gold traceability system to Campos Neto resulted in the creation of a working group focused on the topic and directly influenced the publication of BCB Normative Instruction No. 406 on July 31, 2023. Said Instruction provided for compliance mechanisms for institutions that buy gold. Still in January, Instituto Escolhas collaborated with Greenpeace and signed an amicus curiae brief for action to combat illegal mining filed with the Federal Supreme Court (ADI No. 7273). Instituto Escolhas also attended the Annual Assembly of the Kabu Institute held in Novo Progresso, Pará, from March 28 to 30. The event brought together around one hundred Indigenous people from villages affiliated with the Kabu Institute and invitees.

In May, portfolio manager Larissa Rodrigues attended the event **Correio Debate: Caminhos do ouro (Correio Debate: the gold paths)**, which brought together authorities and experts in Brasília to discuss the Brazilian gold chain and its implications. At the event, with the participation of representatives from the Brazilian IRS and the Ministry of Mines and Energy, researchers and members of Congress, Mr. Gilmar Mendes, Justice of the Brazilian Federal Supreme Court, commented on his ruling that suspended the principle of good faith, which was subsequently validated by the STF panel of Justices, and highlighted the significance of data of the Instituto Escolhas for the measure, since it demonstrated the legal uncertainty of the presumption of good faith. The studies of Instituto Escolhas were also cited, at the same event, by the President of the Brazilian National Foundation of Indigenous Peoples (Funai), Ms. Joenia Wapichana, and the National Secretary of Access to Justice, Mr. Marivaldo Pereira.



To watch the debate, please click on the link.





JUNE / 2023

Unveiling the wildcat gold mining cash

INSTITUTO ESCOLHAS



In June, we launched the study **Unveiling the wildcat gold mining cash book**, with information on the flow of inputs and outputs of transactions in this activity in the Amazon. The study showed that the investment to start a regional ferry mining operation exceeds USD 616,7 thousand. In open-pit mining, the initial investment is around USD 281,6 thousand. These figures evidence that the mining activity requires significant investment. Therefore, it is far from its artisanal origin.

To learn more about the study, please click on the link



A news report published in the newspaper **Valor Econômico** demonstrated that, in 2023, gold exports registered a drop of 19.3% in volume, totaling 77.7 tons, and 28.9% in value, totaling USD 3.5 billion. According to the text, the drop was due to the impact of the end of the presumption of good faith and the adoption of electronic invoices in the sale of illegal gold. As seen in the previous pages, these changes relied on the direct collaboration of the studies developed by Instituto Escolhas.



Valor

ASSINE

Exportações de ouro caem após novas regras contra mercado ilegal

Em 2023, país exportou 20 toneladas a menos do que em 2022; medidas dificultaram que metal fosse esquentado pelos canais de legais de comércio, mas governo precisa fazer mais, dizem especialistas

Por Marcos de Moura e Souza — De São Paulo

06/02/2024 05h00 · Atualizado há um mês



LAND USE



Deforestation, combating poverty, land regularization and agricultural financing may be considered separate topics at first glance, but they are intrinsically linked in Brazil's debate on sustainable development. This debate needs to be ramified and expanded to offer the solutions that the country demands now.

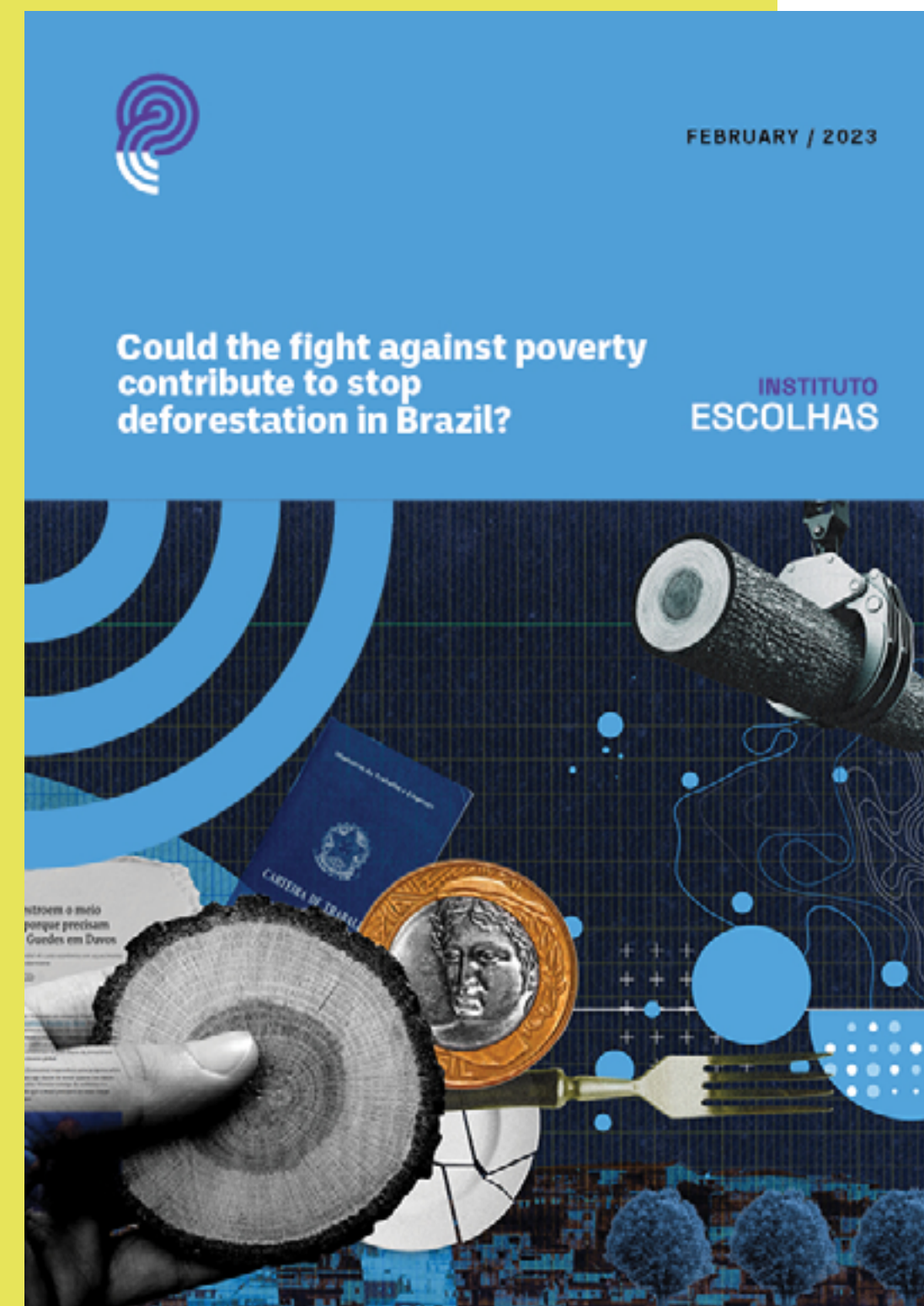
SERGIO LEITÃO



LAND USE AND OCCUPATION: THE KEY TO UNDERSTANDING HOW TO ENABLE A FAIRER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE AMAZON

The study **Could the fight against poverty contribute to stop deforestation in Brazil?** – which opened our annual series of releases – brought, for the first time in the Brazilian scenario, a review of deforestation jointly with forms of economic deprivation on a broad geographic scale, covering the entire Brazilian territory with annual data (2012- 2019).

The research investigated the extent to which deforestation is impacted by variations in the number of people in situations of poverty and extreme poverty and the number of members of the formal labor market in Brazil, based on the premise that deforestation is an unhealthy, risky and undesirable activity for individuals who perform it at the end in its chain.



To learn more about the study, please click on the link



The results showed that a 1% reduction in the rate of the population in extreme poverty, with a monthly household income of less than BRL 70 per person, is associated with a decrease of 42.7 thousand hectares in total deforestation in Brazil. The 1% increase in the formal employment rate – or the equivalent of an additional 462 thousand people with formal employment in the country – is related to the reduction in deforestation by 87.6 thousand hectares, an area larger than the Municipality of Goiânia.



PRESENTATION OF THE STUDY TO MINISTRA MARINA SILVA

In October, Instituto Escolhas published the study **Same game, new rules: a land solution for the Amazon**, which **proposes a new land framework for the country**.

The research, developed in partnership with the Public Policy Work Group of Esalq/ USP, brought together a team of experts in the area. The research was presented to the Land Governance Work Group of Brazil's Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Agriculture and the Secretary of Land Governance of the Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Agriculture, Mr. Moisés Savian.

The study had broad outcomes for disclosing that almost a quarter of the Brazilian Amazon, 118 million hectares, are public lands without defined destination and, therefore, subject to irregular occupation. According to the data, Amazon has 59.4 million hectares of public land without allocation and is not yet occupied. These areas must be immediately allocated to environmental conservation. If these areas are assigned, the territory will have an area of 231 million hectares protected, including Conservation Units, Indigenous Lands and Quilombola Territories. Today, this area comprises 171 million hectares.



PRESENTATION OF THE STUDY TO THE SECRETARY MOISÉS SAVIAN

To learn more about the study, please click on the link



In December, we published the study **Resources for financing agriculture and climate change**, which provides a survey of public resources allocated under favorable conditions for agricultural activities in the states of the Legal Amazon and Matopiba

– a region with large and growing grain production (soy and corn), comprised mainly by areas of the Cerrado in the States of Maranhão, Tocantins, Piauí and Bahia.

To learn more about the study, please click on the link



DECEMBER/2022

RESOURCES FOR FINANCING AGRICULTURE AND CLIMATE CHANGE

This study compiles a survey of public resources allocated in 2022, in favorable conditions for agricultural activities in the states located in the Legal Amazon and Matopiba, a region with large and expanding grain production (soybeans and corn), mostly located in Cerrado areas in the states of Maranhão, Tocantins, Piauí and Bahia. The Legal Amazon and the Cerrado were the biomes with greatest native vegetation losses in the past 30 years (1992-2022), with 51 and 32 million hectares respectively. In the same period, those biomes recorded the same increase of land occupation by agricultural activities¹.

In the agenda of the Brazilian National Determined Contribution (NDC), the country has committed to a 40-45% reduction of its greenhouse gas emissions (GEE) as early as 2025 and of 53.5% in 2030. Any path to achieve this ambitious climate change involves transforming the agricultural sector, responsible for 27% of the country's total gross emissions. Even more relevant is the fact that the expansion of agriculture is the main cause for changes in land use (deforestation), the country's main source of emissions, accounting for 40% of the total country's emissions².

The accomplishment of the goals set by Brazil demands a set of commitments, including strengthening the pertinent resources, the so-called climatic financing, to foster a more sustainable production model. The problem is that the Brazilian Government has been investing financial resources for agriculture and stock breeding activities miserably and in the long term, without demanding, effectively, that the sector agents implement good practices regarding production and marketing.

The great amount of resources earmarked for the sector need to be made visible and considered in an agenda aiming at the transition to a low-carbon economy. The country's search for funding for this transition cannot proceed with the constant allocation of public funds to producers (and their customers) who promote deforestation and are not committed to recovering and conserving the native vegetation on their properties.

Access to the complete study at: www.iesp.org

Financing

BRL 16.9 billion is the total amount allocated via Constitutional Funds³ to the agriculture and stock breeding sector in the states of the Legal Amazon and Matopiba.

The Constitutional Financing Fund of the North (FNO) contracted⁴ BRL 11.0 billion in 2022. 70% of this amount (BRL 9 billion) were allocated to agriculture. In the states, the proportion was:

- RONDÔNIA: 84% (2.4 BILLION)
- PARÁ: 61% (2.9 BILLION)
- TOCANTINS: 60% (2.0 BILLION)
- ACRE: 78% (3.7 BILLION)
- RORAIMA: 70% (2.6 BILLION)
- AMAZONAS: 69% (3.4 BILLION)
- AMAPÁ: 61% (2.0 BILLION)

The Constitutional Financing Fund of the Midwest (FGO) contracted BRL 30.2 billion in 2022, with 73% of this amount (BRL 22.0 billion) allocated to agriculture. The percentage received by the state of Mato Grosso, one of the states with the greatest amount released by the constitutional funds was:

- MATO GROSSO: 73% (1.3 BILLION)

BRL 4.2 billion is the total amount earmarked by the National Bank for Economic and Social Development (BNDES) for the agricultural sector in the states of the Legal Amazon and Matopiba.

The states with most funds allocated for agriculture from BNDES were:

- MATO GROSSO | BRL 2.0 BILLION
- BAHIA | BRL 1.00 BILLION
- MARANHÃO | BRL 330 MILLION
- PARÁ | BRL 320 MILLION

Tax benefits and subsidies

The data on tax benefits and subsidies granted by the Federal Government is only available broken down by region. That is why we only highlighted the figures for the North, which is home to 9 of the 9 states that make up the Legal Amazon.

The tax benefit consists in the offer of preferred treatment to a certain sector or region in relation to the generally applicable tax rules, quantifiable through the loss or waiver of revenue⁵.

BRL 5.9 billion is the total estimated amount of tax benefits the agricultural sector of the North region received from the Union in 2022.

Of this total amount, 61% or BRL 3 billion proceed from tax benefits for agriculture in the Manaus Free Trade Zone. The subsidy, unlike the tax benefit, results in an increase of federal spending. An example is a subsidy on the interest rate on a loan, where the state pays the difference between the market rate and, in effect, takes over the payment from the benefited sectors⁶.

BRL 4.4 billion was the total amount of federal subsidies for agriculture the North region received in 2022.

The cross-subsidies of the Energy Development Account (CDE)

The Energy Development Account distinguishes itself from the remaining subsidies, since its resources are from the private sector, proceeding from so-called "crossed subsidies": participants of the energy market, mainly consumers, pay for the subsidies through higher tariffs on their energy bills.

With resources from the CDE account, subsidies are granted for the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity to consumers⁷.

Concerning agriculture, BRL 2.2 billion were allocated throughout Brazil, resulting from the sum of two types of subsidies: BRL 1.2 billion for irrigation and aquaculture and BRL 1.1 billion for rural activities in general. Total funding for agriculture via CDE amounted to BRL 201.2 million in the states of the Legal Amazon and BRL 366.6 million in the states of Bahia and Piauí, which belong to the Matopiba region only.

REALIZAÇÃO INSTITUTO ESCOLHAS

The work focuses on a fundamental issue for Brazilian financing of actions related to the climate emergency, both concerning adaptation and mitigation: the review of the high and constant volume of resources allocated to agriculture, a sector known to be responsible for changes in land use, which, in turn, is the primary agent of greenhouse gas emissions. In 2022 alone, BRL21.1 billion in financing and more than BRL10.8 billion in tax benefits and subsidies have been granted to agricultural activities in said States.



JACQUELINE FERREIRA



Food production is a critical agenda for an increasingly populated and urban planet. Through its studies, Instituto Escolhas has been outlining an overview of urban food systems across the different regions of Brazil while presenting solutions to foster and strengthen sustainable local food production and encourage food and nutritional security through improvements of public management instruments.



FOOD SYSTEMS



ACCESS TO LAND, AMENDMENTS TO THE LAW AND INTERSECTORAL PARTNERSHIPS: URBAN AGRICULTURE BEGINS TO EMERGE FROM INVISIBILITY IN BRAZIL

In March, Jaqueline Ferreira, the portfolio manager, presented data on the potential and challenges of urban agriculture in the Metropolitan Region of São Paulo and the city of Belém (Pará) during the seminar Como a agricultura urbana pode contribuir para a promoção de ambientes alimentares saudáveis e sustentáveis? (How can urban agriculture contribute to the promotion of healthy and sustainable food environments?) held by Cátedra Josué de Castro in partnership with Instituto Escolhas.

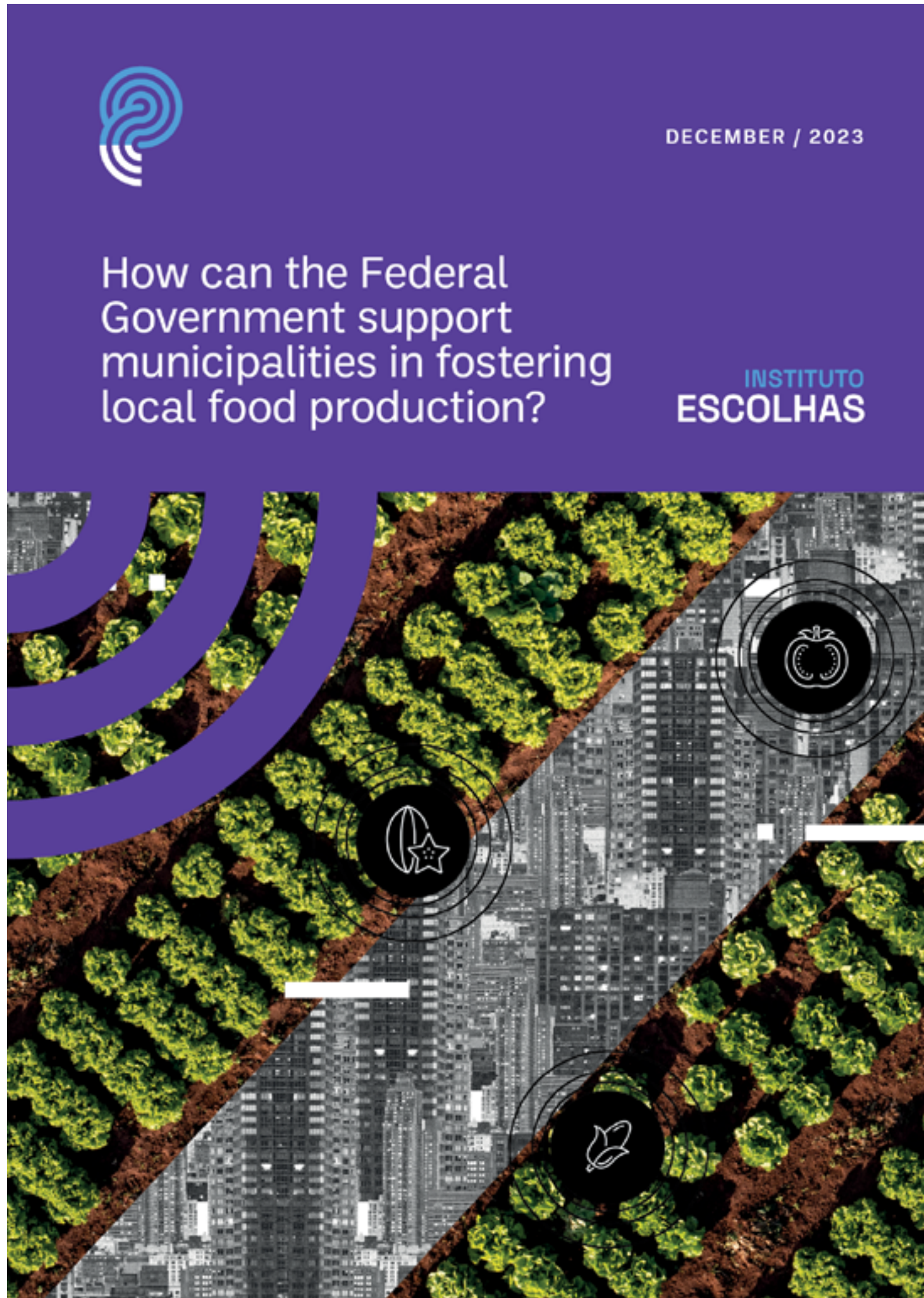


JAQUELINE FERREIRA PRESENTS
DATA FROM INSTITUTO ESCOLHAS

The type of work that Instituto Escolhas has been doing is ground-breaking in Brazil, in the sense of showing the link between the potential for the occupation of urban areas with productive activities that generate income, reorganize territories, combat food deserts and offer populations nutrition elements that the Brazilian population – and, in a certain way, the global population – is lacking, which are fresh foods.

RICARDO ABRAMOVAY

Full Professor of the Josué de Castro Chair
at the Faculty of Public Health at USP



To learn more about the study, please click on the link



In December, Instituto Escolhas published the study **How can the Federal Government support municipalities in fostering local food production?** As the title implies, the **study recommends adequate federal support for municipal strategies to promote local food production. Said recommendations include targeting resources, social mobilization, and guidelines for disseminating Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture.**

In compliance with the Brazilian National Program for Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture, established by the Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Agriculture of Brazil (Decree No. 11700 of 2023), the publication sorts learnings produced in previous studies developed by Instituto Escolhas on this topic and in the in-depth analysis of city programs aimed at the AUP in three Brazilian capitals – Curitiba, Recife and Rio de Janeiro.

In Escolhas' studies, the term "bioeconomy" refers to **economic activities that encompass all biodiversity value chains**, guided by traditional knowledge, science, and the search for innovations in the use of biological and renewable resources to generate circular, regenerative, sustainable, and inclusive economic activity, with collective and local benefits.

BIOECONOMY

THE DOWN-TO-EARTH BIOECONOMY: THE STRENGTH OF THE FOREST IN THE FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY

The following studies have a common focus: the search for solutions to reduce poverty by strengthening bioeconomy production chains. The study How can the bioeconomy fight poverty in the Amazon?, for example, released in March, shows how investment on two fronts – horticulture and forestry recovery – could be a strategy to combat poverty, promoting an economic transition towards sustainable chains to the detriment of those that destroy the forest, such as mining.



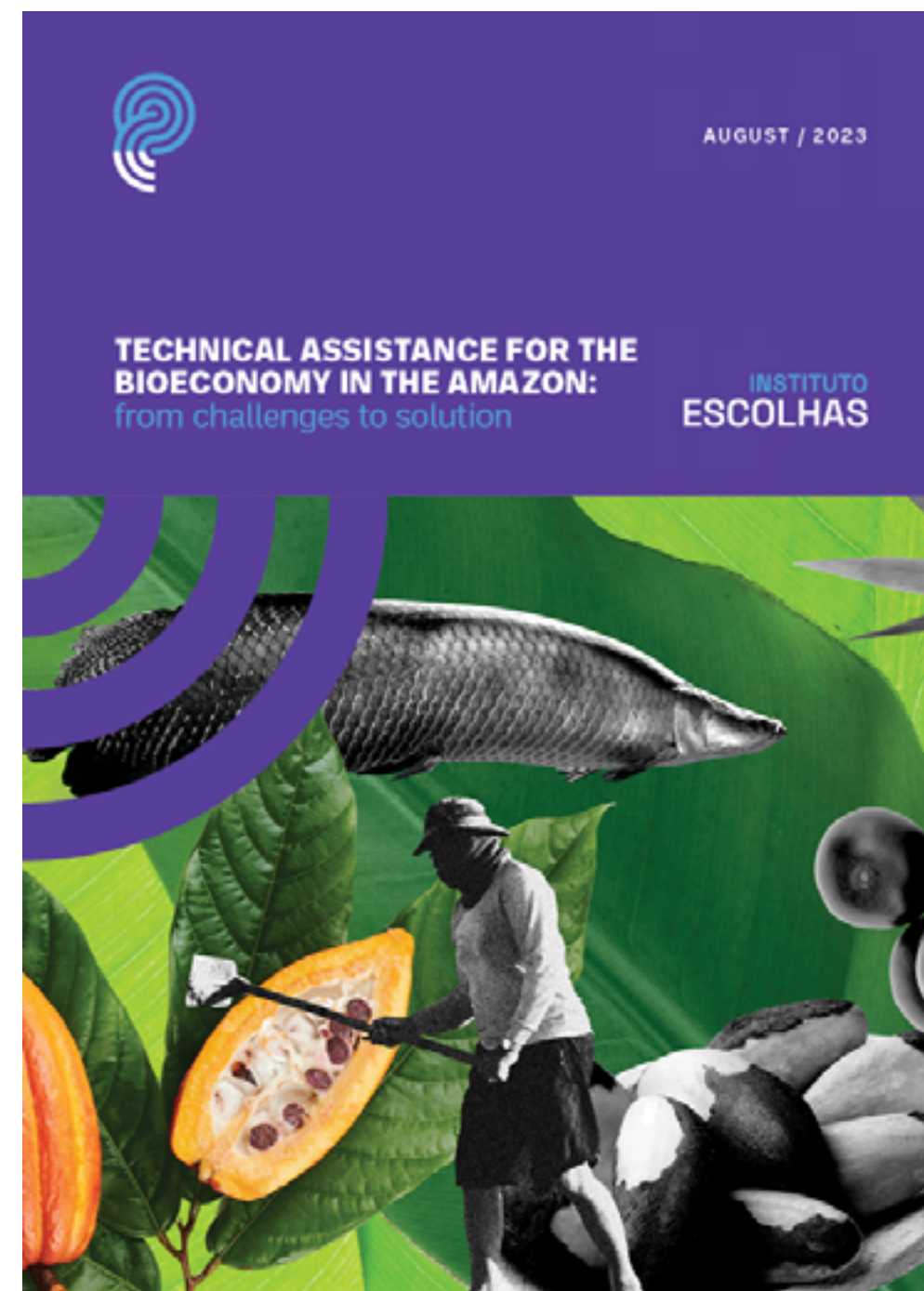
The study calculates that the recovery of 5.9 million hectares of forests in Pará will likely generate BRL 13.6 billion in revenue, create 1 million direct jobs and reduce the poverty rate in the state by 50%. If Maranhão increases its production to 187 thousand tons, it could generate BRL 600 million in income, create 134 thousand direct jobs and reduce the poverty rate in the state by 9%.

To learn more about the study, please click on the link



The study **Technical assistance for the bioeconomy in the Amazon: from challenges to solutions**, released in August, raises the main demands of producers of açai, andiroba, cocoa, Brazil nuts and pirarucu fish brings proposals to strengthen the initiatives for Technical Assistance and Rural Development. **The study also proposes a Single Technical Assistance System for the country - the Suater, inspired on the Brazilian Unique Health System (SUS).**

To learn more about the study, please click on the link



ATER DIALOGUES FOR FAMILY FARMING



DELIVERY OF THE STUDY TO CONGRESSPERSON JOSEILDO RAMOS

This was the proposal presented by Instituto Escolhas at the seminar **Diálogos de Ater para a agricultura familiar: proposta para a criação de um sistema unificado (Ater Dialogues for family farming: proposal for creating a unified system)** held by the Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Agriculture **in Brasília three months later.** The idea was embraced by Congressman Joseildo Ramos, who was advised by Instituto Escolhas to draft the bill that proposes the creation of the Suater.

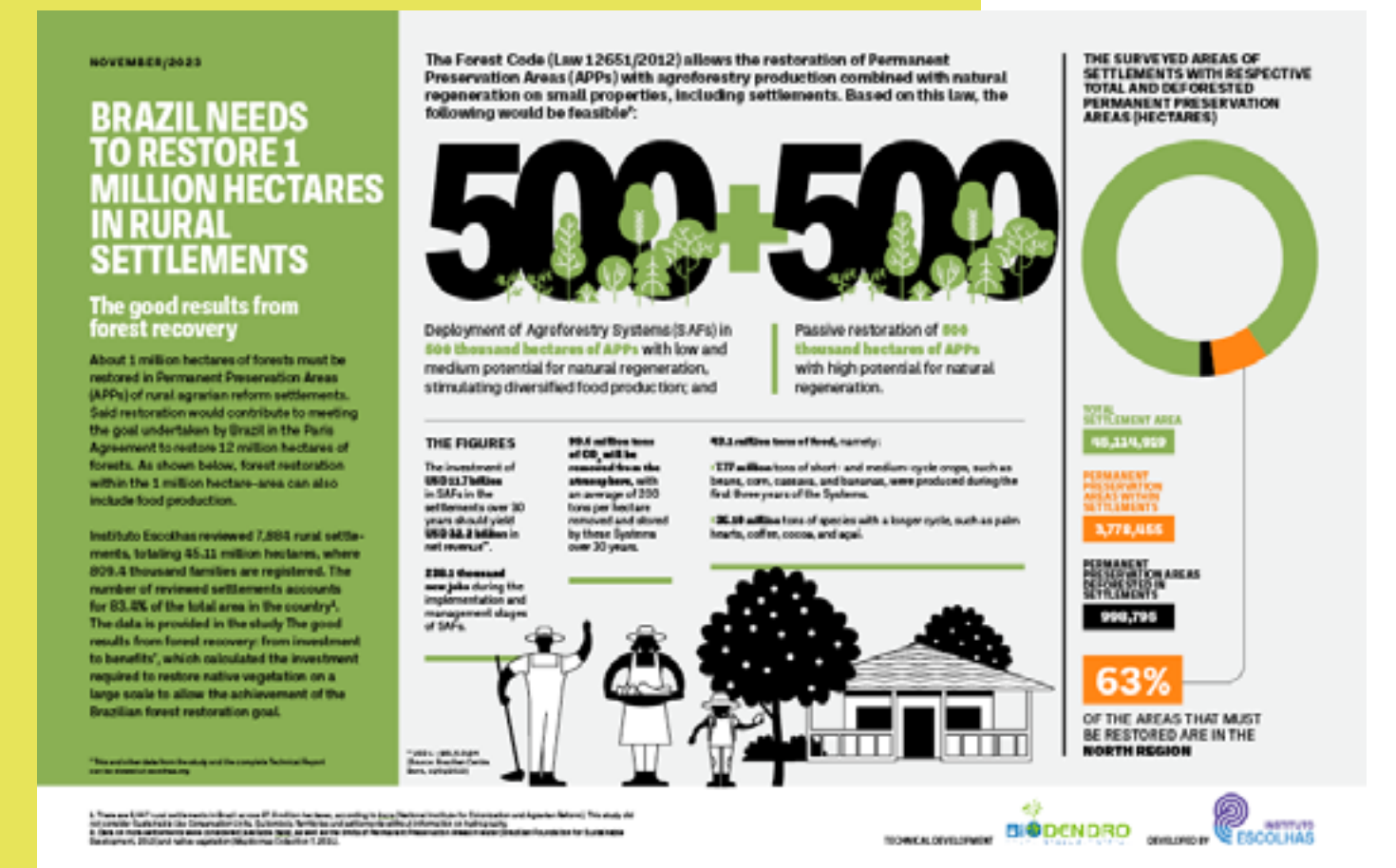
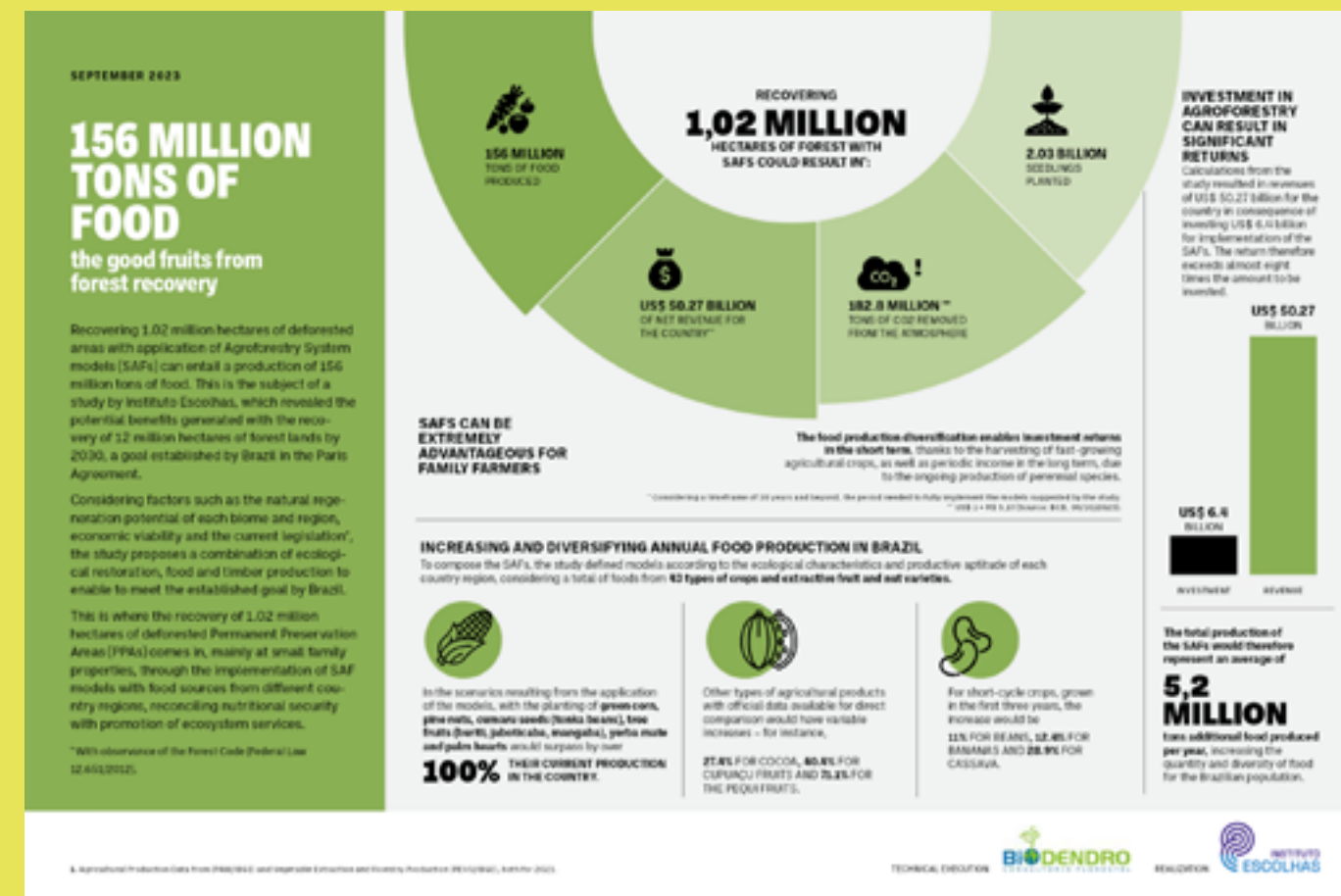
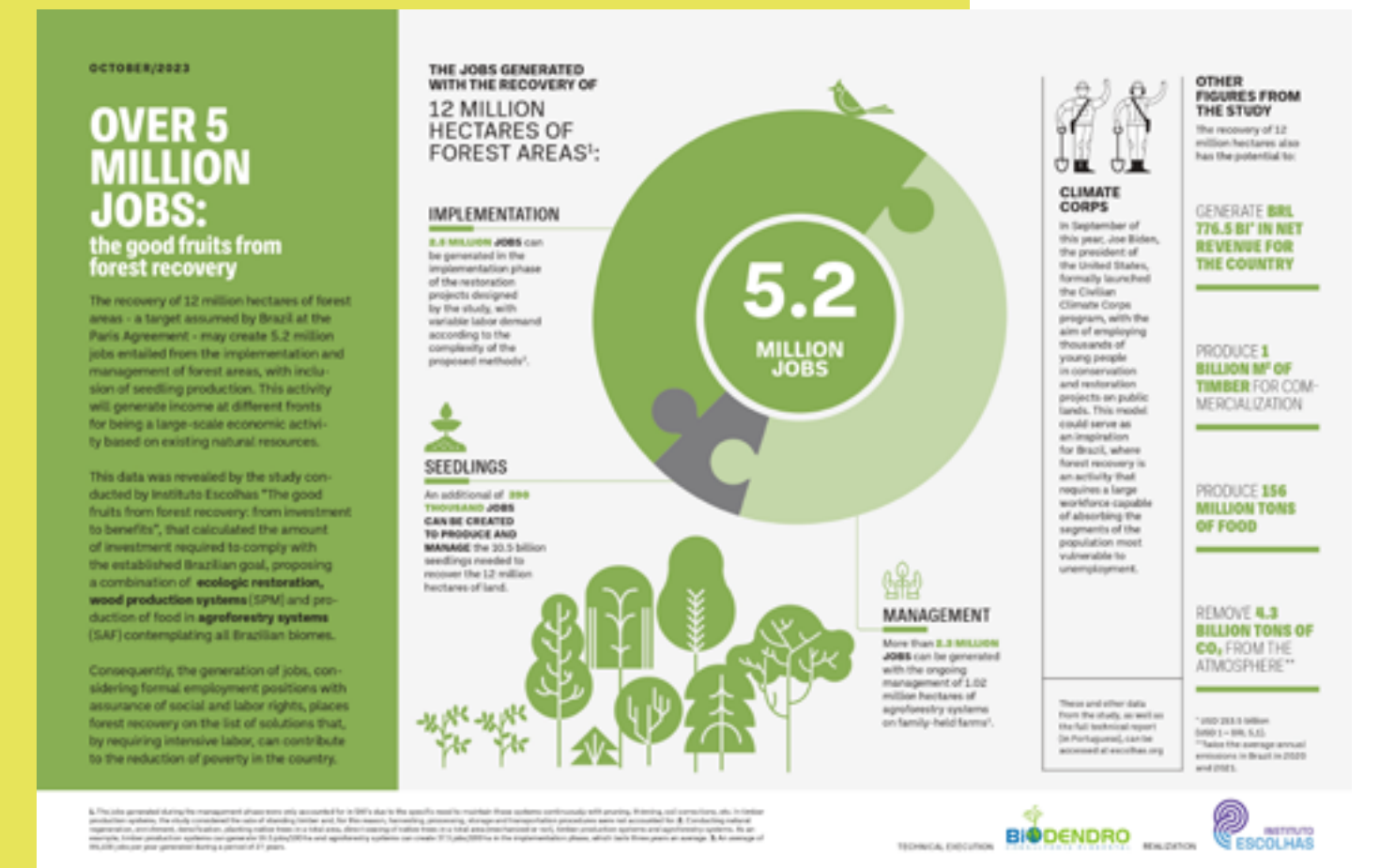
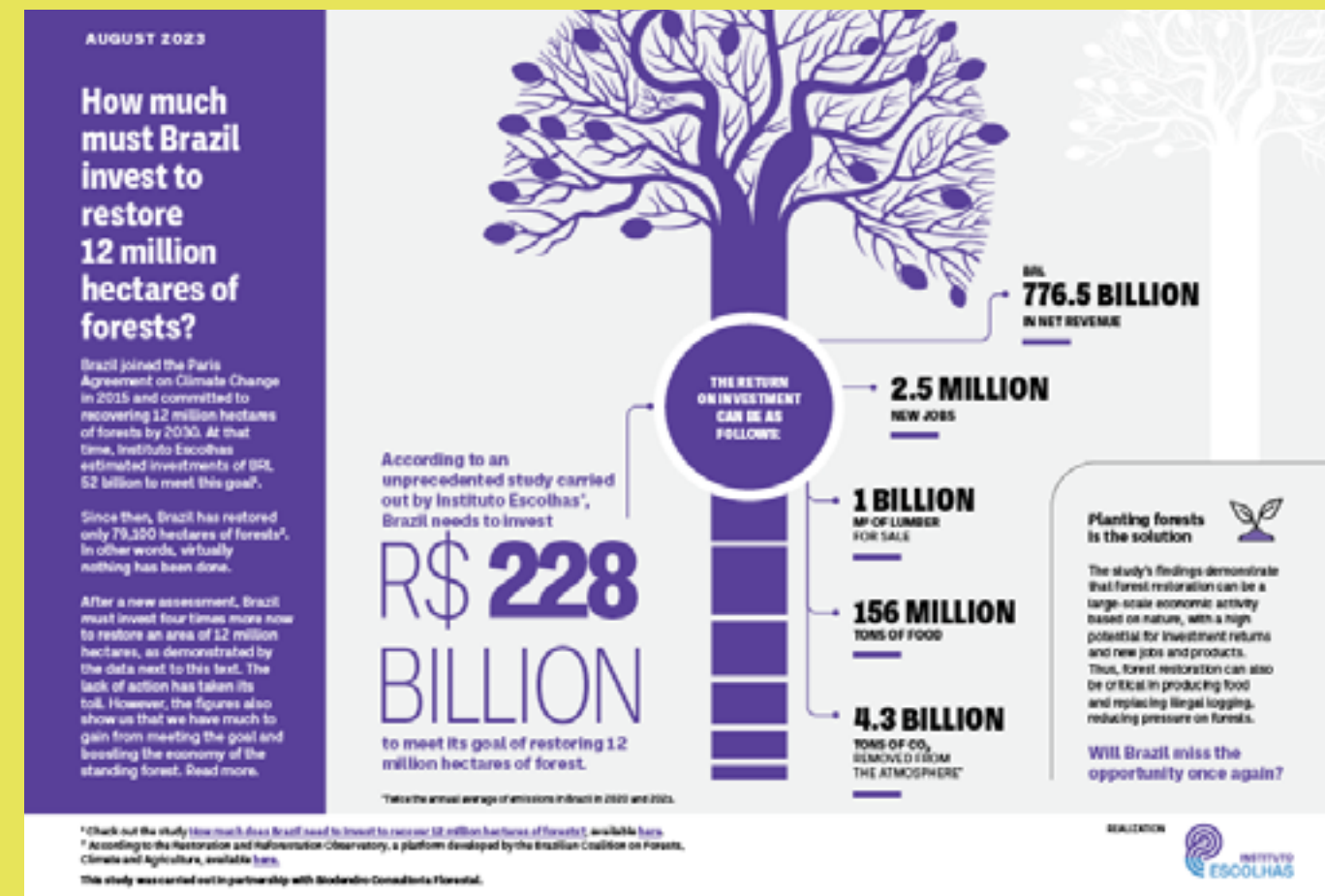
In September, Instituto Escolhas launched the study **The good fruits from forest recovery: from investment to benefits**, which estimated the total investment to restore native vegetation on a large scale to achieve the restoration and reforestation goals of 12 million hectares indicated in iNDC-Brasil*.

* The intended Nationally Determined Contributions (iNDCs) record commitments and contributions from countries that are signatories to the Paris Agreement.

The study demonstrates that the investment in forest recovery has the potential to generate BRL776.5 billion in net revenue and create more than 5 million jobs in the country. Applying the models proposed by the study would also produce 1 billion m³ of wood for trading and 156 million tons of food. wood for trading and 156 million tons of food.

The results and proposals of the study were presented to the general director of the Brazilian Forest Service, Mr. Garo Batmanian, and the director of Forest Concession and Monitoring of the Brazilian Forest System, Mr. Renato Rosenberg, as the data brings solutions that can be implemented under Law No. 14590*, enacted by President Lula in May. The law expands the list of sustainable economic activities permitted within public forest concessions.

* The study **Unlocking the bioeconomy agenda: solutions to boost forest concessions in Brazil**, developed by Instituto Escolhas, was a critical input for the documents that gave rise to the enacted law.



ACCESS, USE AND MONITORING: THE TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE ASSOCIATED WITH GENETIC HERITAGE (CTA) TAKES CENTER STAGE IN THE DEBATE

Traditional knowledge about the active principles of biodiversity species is critical for developing bioeconomy research and products. Therefore, the improvement of tools to monitor the access of researchers and companies to traditional knowledge associated with genetic heritage is essential to strengthen the bioeconomy and ensure that the rights of the traditional peoples and communities that hold this knowledge are respected.

The approach to this topic by Instituto Escolhas included **a series of dialogues with representatives of traditional peoples and communities, scholars, and members of public**



**PRESENTATION OF THE STUDY TO THE
SECTORAL CHAMBER OF GUARDIANS
OF BIODIVERSITY**



MAIRA SMITH AND CRISTIANE JULIÃO



To learn more about the study, please click on the link



authorities, to present the premise to be studied and the intermediate results.

One of the starting points was using databases as a public management tool to guide researchers and companies in their research, product development and benefit-sharing activities.

The research reviewed the law and the use of CTA databases in other countries, such as Peru, India, and Spain. In the end, Instituto Escolhas proposed a database that can be used to support the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of Brazil in developing a Brazilian tool for tracking access and monitoring the use of CTA. Instituto Escolhas **delivered the proposal on August 25, 2023 to the Sectoral Chamber of Guardians of Biodiversity, an arm of the Genetic Heritage Management Council (CGen).**

Furthermore, on the same day of its release - October 18, the study **Monitoring the use of traditional knowledge: how can Brazil push this agenda?**, which guided the development of the database proposal, was presented in its entirety to the CGen in Brasília.

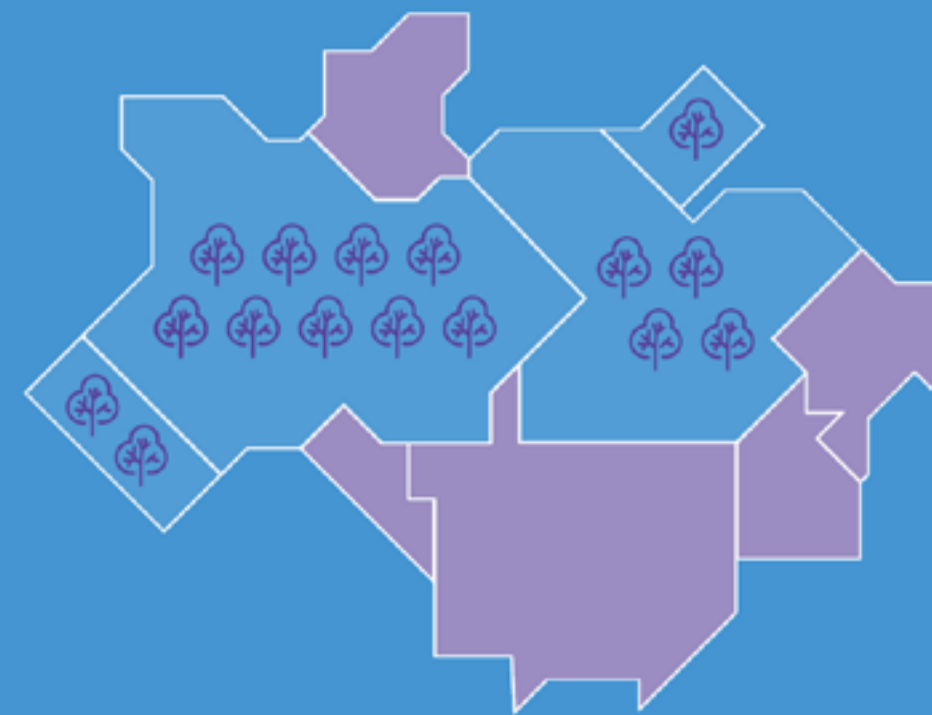
KEEPING AN EYE ON FOREST CONCESSIONS IN THE AMAZON

In May, Instituto Escolhas launched the policy brief **The wasted potential of state forest concessions in the Legal Amazon**. The data shows how the states in this region, where more than 96% of Brazil's **state public forests are located, have left aside concessions and the resources they can generate**. The publication also details the current situation of each state concerning the topic, indicating that only 551 thousand hectares are under concession with a valid contract, with nine management units in Pará and one unit in Amapá.



POLICY BRIEF

The wasted potential of state forest concessions in the Legal Amazon



MAY 2023

6

INSTITUTO
ESCOLHAS

Also in May, President Lula enacted Law No. 14590, enabling new sustainable economic activities within public forest concessions, allowing concessionaires to develop sustainable economic activities, just like the commercialization of carbon credits, besides logging.

The study *Unlocking the bioeconomy agenda: solutions to boost forest concessions in Brazil*, conducted by Instituto Escolhas, gave rise to the enacted law.

To learn more about the study, please click on the link





UJ

The Activity Report

2023

ESCOLHAS FELLOWSHIP

NEW SCHOLARSHIP

Escolhas Fellowship of Economics and Environment awarded a scholarship to **Ana Paula Magalhães da Silva** from Mato Grosso in the 2023 edition of the Call for Application. Ana Paula has graduated in Transport Engineering and is attending a master's degree program in Economics at the Universidade Federal do Mato Grosso (UFMT). The Escolhas Fellowship also awarded a scholarship to Queiroz, from Pará. He is an economist and master's degree student in Natural Resources Management and Local Development in the Amazon at Universidade Federal do Pará (UFPA).

The Escolhas Fellowship is the only scholarship program for graduate students in economic sciences who study social and economic development and its relationship with the environment in Brazil. Currently, the scholarships are intended for master's degree researchers who were born or are working in the Legal Amazon, with priority given to Indigenous people and people of African descent. Since its foundation, the Escolhas Fellowship has awarded 40 scholarships to Master's Degree and Doctoral students.

ANA PAULA MAGALHÃES DA SILVA



FERNANDO QUEIROZ



PUBLICATIONS OF THE ESCOLHAS FELLOWSHIP

To learn more about the study, please click on the link



Since its enactment, the Atlantic Forest Act (Law No. 11428/2006) has protected an area of no less than 1.6 million hectares. Said figure was disclosed in the policy brief **The Atlantic Forest Law and protection of the most endangered Brazilian forest**, by Keyi Ussami, on the same day that the Senate voted on Temporary Measure (MP) No. 1150/2022. In addition to amending the New Forest Code (Law No. 12651 of 2012), the MP also proposed changes to the Atlantic Forest Act, such as the exemption from the Prior Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and environmental compensation measures for linear enterprises (energy transmission lines, gas pipelines or public supply systems), except in Permanent Preservation Areas. The changes were later vetoed.

This was the eighth policy brief of the Escolhas Fellowship Special Series.



Instituto Escolhas supported the publication of articles **“Mapeamento da cadeia de valor do cumbaru na Baixada Cuiabana: ação de fortalecimento e desenvolvimento endógeno” (“Mapping the cumbaru value chain in Baixada Cuiabana: strengthening action and endogenous development”)**, by Graciele Sbízero, and **“O comércio internacional de biodiversidade: uma análise a partir do Sistema de Emissão de Licenças CITES” (“The international trade in biodiversity: a review based on the CITES Permit Issuance System”)**, by Juliana Brandão, both scholarship holders of the 2022 Call for Application.

Juliana Brandão was advised by Professor Harley Silva, PhD in Economics from the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG). The article by Sbízero was co-authored by Grazielle Servilha and Alexandro Rodrigues Ribeiro and presented at the 61st Congress of the Brazilian Society of Economics, Administration and Rural Sociology (Sober).

KEYI ANDO USSAMI



To read Graciele Sbízero's article, please visit the link. Available only in Portuguese



To read Juliana Brandão's article, please visit the link. Available only in Portuguese



JULIANA BRANDÃO



GRACIELE SBÍZERO



NEW DOCTORAL GRADUATES

In 2023, Instituto Escolhas celebrated the achievement of Doctoral degrees by four researchers from Escolhas Fellowship.



Denize Silva (2019 Call for Application) defended the thesis “Ensaio sobre subsídios ao transporte público urbano” (Free translation of title: **“Essays on subsidies for urban public transport”**) at the Universidade de São Paulo (University of São Paulo) (USP).



André Andrade (2019 Call for Application) defended the thesis **“Governing Climate Change in Brazil – A Governance Gap Analysis of Selected Cases”** at the University of Potsdam, Germany.



Fernanda Valente (2020 Call for Application) defended her thesis “Ensaio em estatística espacial (Free translation of title: **“Essays on spatial statistics”**) at the Universidade de São Paulo (University of São Paulo) (USP).



Ludgero Barros (2021 Call for Application) defended the thesis “Interações econômicas e agroecológicas na Amazônia: análise dos mercados alternativos da Rede Maniva de Agroecologia” (Free translation of title: **“Economic and agroecological interactions in the Amazon: a review of alternative markets of the Maniva Agroecology Network”**), at the Universidade Federal do Pará (Federal University of Pará) (UFPA).



The Activity Report

2023

INSTITUTIONAL PRESENCE, COORDINATION, AND ADVOCACY



PATHWAYS TO FAIR ENERGY TRANSITION

Sérgio Leitão
Diretor Executivo do Instituto Escolhas

BNDES Que podemos nos é nos tornar produtores de petróleo na margem Equatorial e ainda melhorar nossas credenciais ambientais, zerando o



MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE CENTRAL BANK OF BRAZIL, ROBERTO CAMPOS NETO



WORKSHOP PROPOSALS FOR A BRAZILIAN NATIONAL POLICY TO PROMOTE URBAN AGRICULTURE: LEARNING FROM EXPERIENCES IN CURITIBA



1ST CYCLE OF LECTURES ON MINING LAW – MINING AND ITS COMPLEX CHALLENGES



33RD STATE MEETING OF THE LANDLESS WORKERS' MOVEMENT (MST) – SÃO PAULO

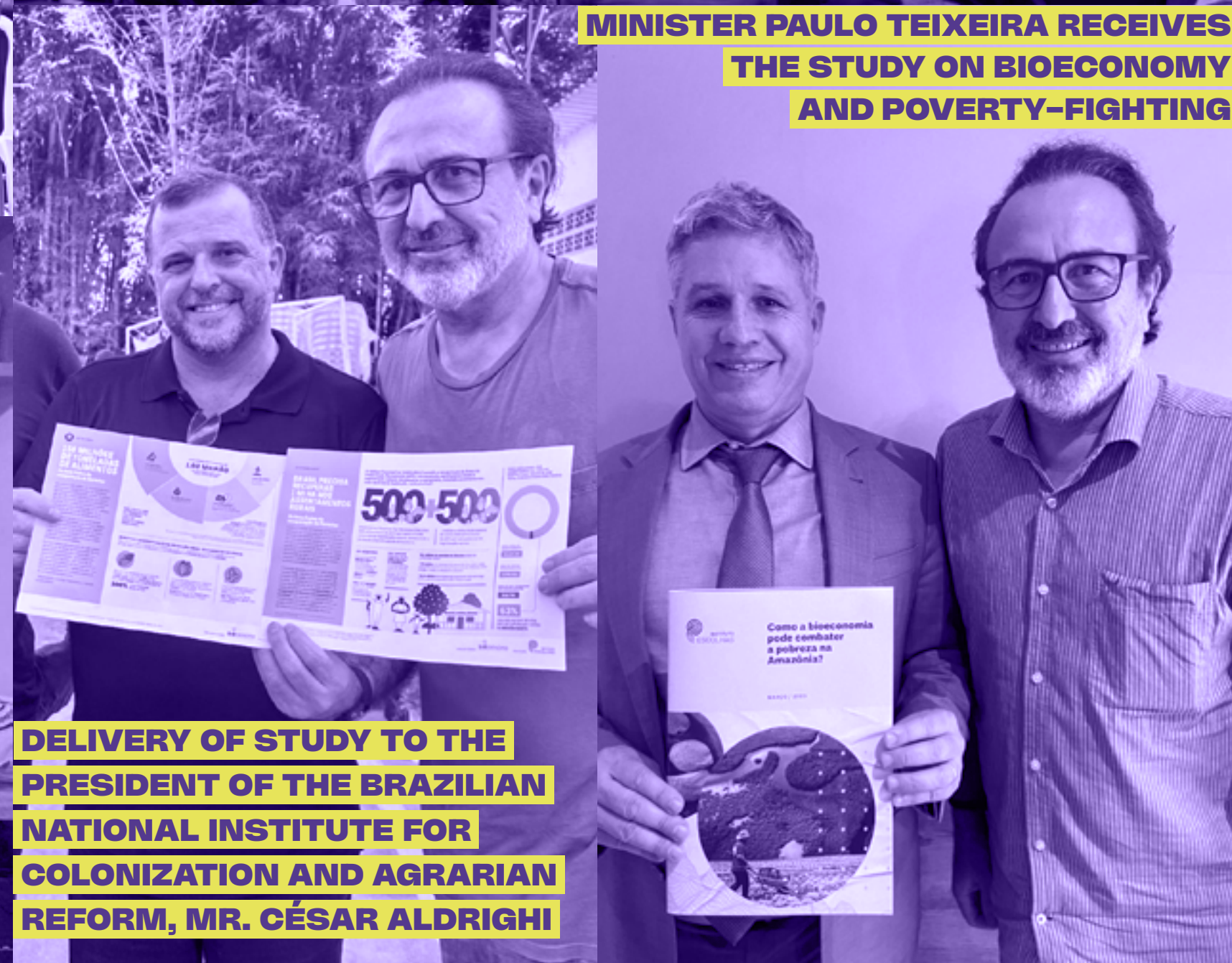


MINISTER PAULO TEIXEIRA RECEIVES THE STUDY ON BIOECONOMY AND POVERTY-FIGHTING



SEMINAR "RESUMPTION OF GREEN ECONOMY LEARNINGS FOR BUILDING THE BRAZILIAN AGENDA"

PRESENTATION OF STUDY TO THE BRAZILIAN NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS



DELIVERY OF STUDY TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE BRAZILIAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR COLONIZATION AND AGRARIAN REFORM, MR. CÉSAR ALDRIGHI



GIFE CONGRESS



MEETING WITH FEDERAL POLICE REPRESENTATIVES



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF AMAZON AND NEW ECONOMIES



DELIVERY OF STUDIES TO CONGRESSPERSON ZÉ SILVA

ESCOLHAS AT T20

In 2024, Brazil will host the G20 meeting, a group that brings together the leading economies in the world. Therefore, throughout the year, representatives from member countries will meet here to discuss topics of global relevance likely to influence the official statements published by G20 members at the end of the meeting.

In 2023, Instituto Escolhas was invited to be part of T20, an engagement group of the G20, which brings together think tanks and research centers from Member States and guest countries.

Instituto Escolhas coordinates the theme “Investments in sustainable, inclusive and resilient infrastructure, “allocated to task force 02 - “Sustainable climate action” - of T20 Brazil. The subtopic will focus on discussions on the climate resilience of cities and the financial mechanisms that make them feasible.

In partnership with international organizations (ERIA – Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia, from Indonesia, and SFOC – Solutions for Our Climate, from South Korea), Instituto Escolhas is working on the organization and composition of the different recommendations on the topic sent by think tanks from around the world, to inform and influence government decision-makers involved in the official G20 discussion process.



MEETING WITH THE GENERAL DIRECTOR OF THE BRAZILIAN FOREST SERVICE, GARO BATMANIAN



WORKSHOP OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SECURITY IN CITIES



PUBLIC HEARING OF THE PARTICIPATORY LEGISLATION COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES



IV CINTURÃO CULTURAL DO TAPAJÓS (4TH TAPAJÓS CULTURAL BELT)



MEETING WITH CONGRESSPERSON CÉLIA XAKRIABÁ



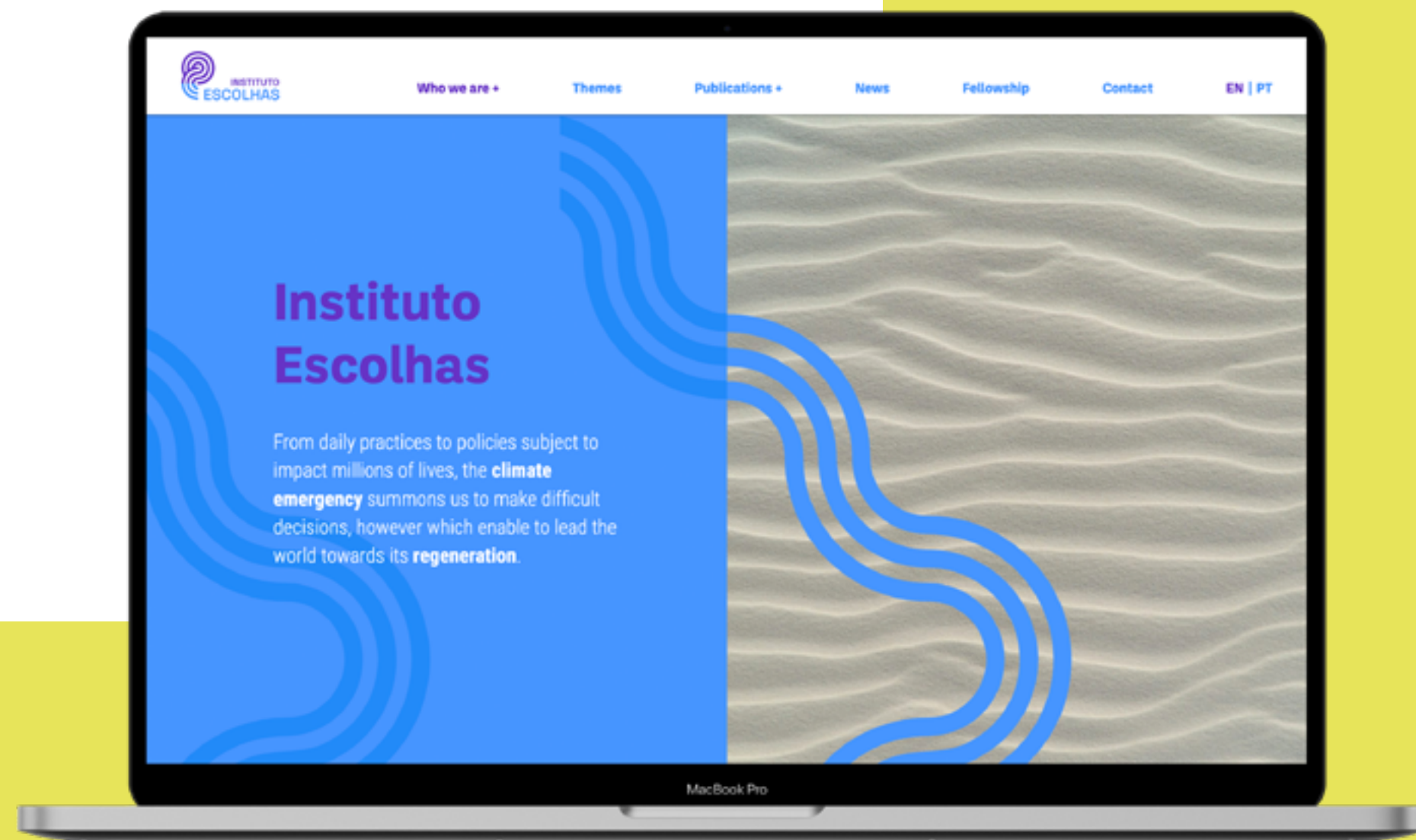
The Activity Report

2023

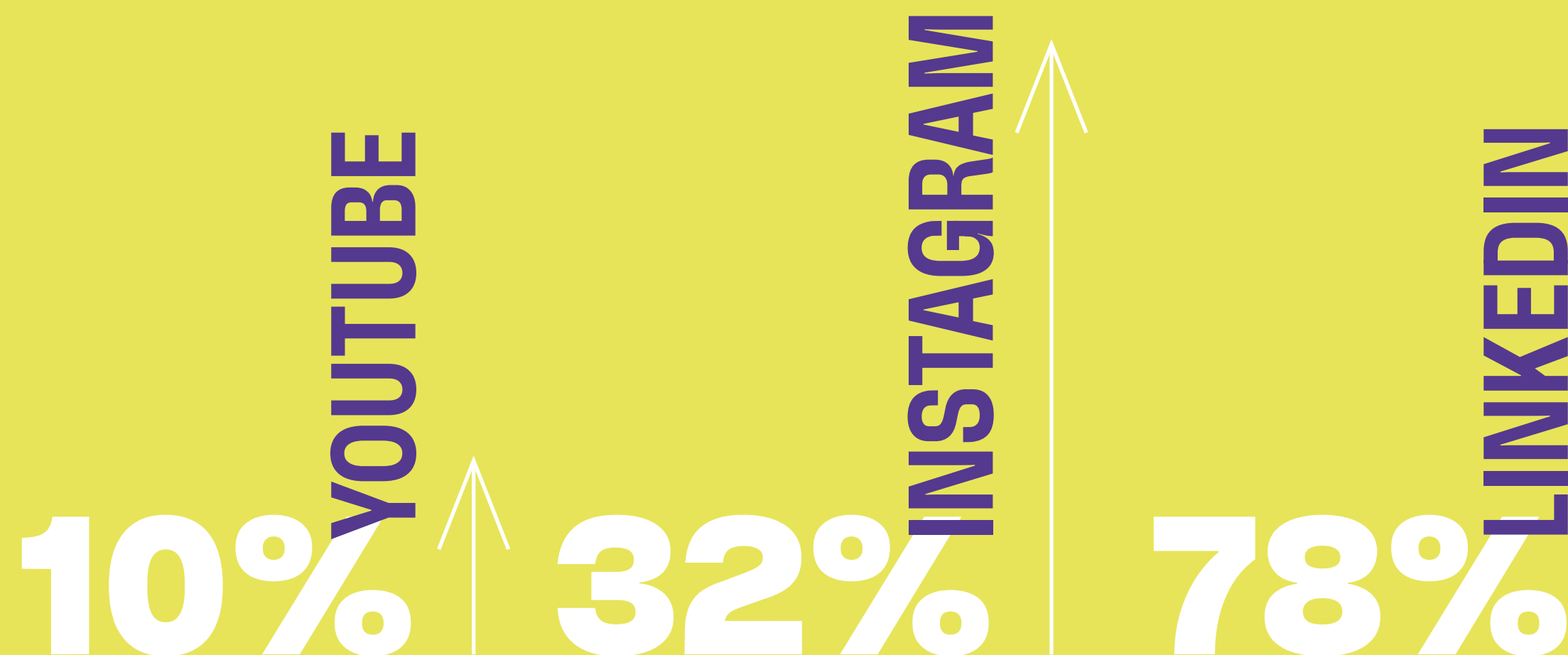
COMMUNICATION

DIGITAL PRESENCE

The year started with a new website. With an intuitive user interface, the tool provides easier access to our studies and related news. The new website also has an exclusive area for the Cátedra Escolhas, in addition to standard information, such as information about the team and institutional documents.



SOCIAL MEDIA



INSTITUTO ESCOLHAS AND NOVELO'S PODCAST

To listen to Novelo's podcast, please access the link.



In March, the podcast Rádio Novelo Apresenta posted the episode "Parecia Simples" ("It was apparently simple"), which features the story "Gelo na Amazônia" ("Ice in the Amazon"), produced in partnership with Instituto Escolhas.

The story brings data and statements about what the absence of ice in inns in the Amazon shows about the country's inequality of access to electricity. In the podcast, Larissa Rodrigues, portfolio manager at Instituto Escolhas, explains why it is bizarre that thousands of Brazilians in the North region do not have access to electricity and explains the origin of this whole situation.

Between March 9 and 23, 2023, the episode available on the Spreaker and Spotify platforms had 110 thousand downloads. Listen to the episode "Parecia Simples," which is available on apps, YouTube, and the website of Rádio Novelo.

FANTASICO
 ECONOMIST
 LE MONDE
 ESTADÃO
 MONGABAY
 +11 THOUSAND QUOTES IN THE MEDIA
 ECONOMIC
 ESTADÃO
 EXA
 FINANCIAL TIMES
 LE MONDE
 PAULO

Le Monde | S'abonner

Planète | Comprendre le réchauffement climatique

PLANÈTE • BRÉSIL

En Amazonie, face au fléau de l'orpaillage illégal, les Yanomami reçoivent le soutien de l'Etat brésilien

Le gouvernement Lula veut couper le ravitaillement des « garimpeiros », chercheurs d'or qui ont envahi et pollué au mercure le territoire de ce peuple indigène, au point d'y provoquer une famine dramatique.

Par Anne Vigna (Rio de Janeiro, correspondance)
 Publié le 02 février 2023 à 23h56, modifié le 03 février 2023 à 12h35 - Lecture 4 min - Read in English

Edição das 18h 4:02 19:20

CONSELHO REZUZ TETO DOS ARIOS DO CONSIGNADO PR

Gabriel

SÉRGIO LEITÃO
 Diretor do Instituto Escothos

Notícias ambientais

Como hortas comunitárias estão mudando o jeito de produzir comida na periferia de São Paulo

Sibélia Zanon | 9 meses ago

ROM NEGÓCIO

Recuperação de florestas pode render R\$ 13 bilhões ao Pará

Estudo mostra que investir em reflorestar 12 milhões de hectares de florestas no Brasil pode gerar 2,5 milhões de novos empregos e render em torno de R\$ 776 bilhões para a economia nacional

MEIO AMBIENTE

Estado do Pará pode ter até 6 milhões de hectares para recuperar

PARÁ ENTENDE

IMPACTOS DA RECUPERAÇÃO

ACORDO DE PAZ

RETRIBUTAÇÃO

uol | ASSINE

Estudo aponta relação entre redução da pobreza e do desmatamento

Agência Brasil | 09/02/2023 18h54

No Brasil, reduzir em 1% a parcela da população que vive com renda familiar mensal abaixo de R\$ 70 por pessoa significa diminuir o desmatamento em 4%. De outra forma, é dizer que, ao tirar 136 mil pessoas da condição de extrema pobreza, como consequência, deixa-se de perder uma área de 42,7 mil hectares de floresta. Essa é uma das associações destacadas no estudo O Combate à Pobreza Pode Contribuir com o Fim do

MAIOR TERREMOTO EM 80 ANOS
 Tremores na Turquia atingem região já devastada pela guerra na Síria

ISTO É

A ROTA CRIMINOSA DO OURO

Em seis anos, um esquema de garimpeiros ilegais que reúne quadrilhas organizadas, políticos e grandes fazendeiros extraiu 229 toneladas de ouro a partir de terras indígenas, faturando US\$ 8,2 bilhões. A maior parte desse ouro foi enviada ao exterior pelo aeroporto de Guarulhos (SP) e comercializada na Alemanha, Reino Unido e Itália.

Reuters

My View | Following | Saved

Sustainable Business

Brazil miner lobby seeks end to illegal mining that caused Yanomami tragedy

By Anthony Boadle

January 30, 2023 6:32 PM GMT-3 · Updated a year ago

An aerial view shows a wildcat gold miner, or garimpeiro, as he uses high-pressure jets of water to dislodge rock material at a wildcat mine, also known as garimpo, at a deforested area of... [Purchase Licensing Rights](#) [Read more](#)

DOMINGO 18h 4:02

DIÁRIO DO PARÁ

RECUPERAÇÃO DE FLORESTAS PODE RENDÊR R\$ 13 BI AO PARÁ

Estudo mostra que investir em reflorestar 12 milhões de hectares de florestas no Brasil pode gerar 2,5 milhões de novos empregos e render em torno de R\$ 776 bilhões para a economia nacional. (A12)

CARGOS FEDERAIS GOVERNO PREVE 10 MIL VAGAS EM 3 ANOS

QUEEDA NA FLORESTA OCUPANTES DE HELICOPTERO SÃO ACHADOS COM VIDA

VIA OFFROAD INTERNADO, FAUSTÃO PEDE ORAÇÕES

PROPOSTAS JADER APRESENTA EMENDAS AO TEXTO DA REFORMA TRIBUTÁRIA

MEIO AMBIENTE LAR, SUSTENTÁVEL LAR!

ORFELHOS, DESEM LEVANDO

CAPIVAL DOS BROTICOS VAMOS PARA O BAR!

NATURAL / BIG VANG / TECNOLOGÍA / SAI | SUSCRIBETE

2 EL DESARROLLO DEL ÁREA DEL RÍO Bioeconomía, el futuro de la Amazonia

• Manaus busca un modelo económico alternativo para combatir la delincuencia medioambiental

Comando Vermelho. Estas iniciales, escritas en el camión, son las de un cartel de narcotraficantes que ha empezado a operar en el Amazonas en el tráfico de cocaína (Andy Robinson)

PUBLISHED ARTICLES

PLENAMATA

Concessões florestais como pauta urgente no Congresso Nacional

07 março 2023 as 08:00

Compartilhe nas redes sociais



FOREST CONCESSIONS: AN URGENT AGENDA AT BRAZILIAN CONGRESS

Stella Pieve e Jaqueline Ferreira

O GLOBO

Passou da hora de controlar o garimpo na Amazônia

É imprescindível que a Agência Nacional de Mineração cancele 6ª rodada de disponibilidade

07/03/2023 00h05 · Atualizado há um ano



IT'S RIGHT TIME TO CONTROL AMAZON WILDCAT GOLD MINING

Larissa Rodrigues

NEXO POLÍTICAS PÚBLICAS

OPINIÃO

CATEDRA JOSUE DE CASTRO
DE SISTEMAS ALIMENTARES RURAIS E SUSTENTÁVEIS

Por que fortalecer a produção de alimentos também nas cidades

Jaqueline Ferreira 12 de Maio de 2023
(atualizado em 28 de Dezembro de 2023)

Estimular a produção local de alimentos é um desafio que ultrapassa as possibilidades e capacidades isoladas dos municípios, uma vez que exige recursos financeiros, humanos e de coordenação entre diferentes instâncias e áreas da administração pública.

WHY TO FOSTER FOOD PRODUCTION ALSO INSIDE THE URBAN SPACES?

Jaqueline Ferreira

O GLOBO

Brasil precisa de Lei de Responsabilidade Fundiária

Não se pode mais aceitar que políticos cheguem a postos eletivos carregados nos braços da invasão de terras

Por Larissa Rodrigues e Sergio Leitão
07/09/2023 00h05 · Atualizado há 9 meses



BRAZIL NEEDS A NEW LAND TENURE POLICY

Larissa Rodrigues e Sergio Leitão

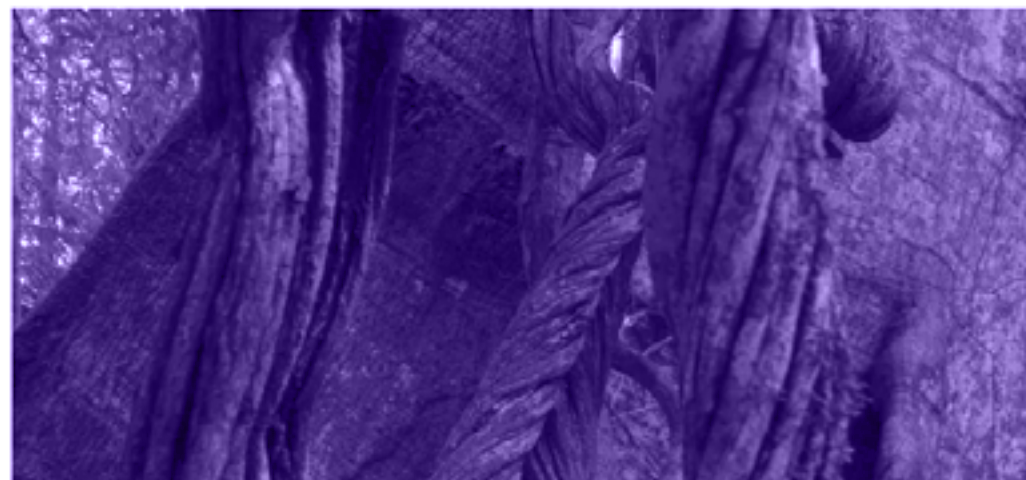
PUBLISHED ARTICLES

Recuperar florestas, um investimento lucrativo

Para cada R\$ 1 investido na recomposição das matas nativas exigida por lei na Amazônia, o país poderia obter, em retorno, cerca de R\$ 3,40

Por P. Pinheiro e V. Antonioli

12/09/2023 05h03 · Atualizado há 3 meses



RESTORING FORESTS IS A GOOD INVESTMENT

Por P. Pinheiro e V. Antonioli

O GLOBO

Transformação Ecológica, mas com que planos?

Programa não dá a devida atenção a outra anunciada prioridade do presidente Lula: o combate à pobreza

Por Sérgio Leitão*

25/11/2023 04h31 · Atualizado há 6 meses



ECOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION IS NICE, BUT... WHAT IS THE PLAN?

Sergio Leitão

CNN BRASIL

Ao vivo Política Economia Esportes Pop

OPINIÃO

Crise climática e o setor de alimentos: qual a parte do Brasil nesse debate?



CLIMATE CHANGE AND FOOD CHAINS: WHAT BRAZIL COULD DO?

Jaqueline Ferreira

O GLOBO

Terra que mal paga imposto

Imposto Territorial Rural é um tema que não poderia ter ficado ausente da reforma tributária aprovada na sexta-feira

Por Sergio Leitão

19/12/2023 00h05 · Atualizado há 5 meses



BARELY TAXED LAND

Sergio Leitão



The Activity Report

2023

TRANSPARENCY

6

Check out our
2023 Financial
Statements.

PLEASE
ACCESS THE
STATEMENT
VIA THE [LINK](#)
OR QR CODE



THE 2023 ACTIVITY REPORT HOW MANY CHOICES ARE INCLUDED IN ONE SINGLE SOLUTION?

[CLICK HERE AND ACCESS OUR WEBSITE](#)