

CERRADO

BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM
PARTNERSHIP FUND



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The Cerrado biome covers almost one quarter of Brazil's land area and accounts for about 60% of its agricultural production, but has already lost about 50% of its original vegetation.



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BRAZILIAN CERRADO UNDER THREAT

“The Backlands are the size of the world (...) The Backlands are like this: you push it backwards and suddenly it surrounds you on the sides all over again.”

A classic of Brazilian literature, João Guimarães Rosa’s *Grande Sertão: Veredas*, or *The Devil to Pay in the Backlands* in its English version, describes the vastness and rustic beauty of the Brazilian Cerrado, one of the world’s most important biodiversity hotspots.

The **Cerrado** biome is the cradle of the great Brazilian rivers and covers an area of 2 million km² in 11 Brazilian states – almost a quarter of Brazil’s territorial extension – but it is now reduced to only 50% of its original vegetation.

Although little known in Brazil and in the world, the Cerrado biome currently accounts for around 60% of Brazil’s agricultural production. Soybean, corn, cotton, sugarcane and coffee crops have broken successive production records, but are increasingly threatened by climate extremes, especially drought as occurred in the 2020/2021 crop year.

The expansion of agribusiness in the Brazilian Cerrado which in the 1970s was driven by technologies from Embrapa (Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation) took Brazil to the top of the ranking among major global players in the agricultural sector. However, the conversion of the Cerrado biome soil into extensive crops has led to extraordinary wealth for agribusiness but also to the destruction of a large part of the biome.

In recent decades, high deforestation rates have seriously compromised the Cerrado’s resilience and its contribution to global climate regulation due to greenhouse gas emissions and the severe impact on local water resources. The indiscriminate use of the Cerrado’s lands without proper environmental governance not only reduces the supply of clean, fresh water that irrigates eight of the 12 Brazilian Hydrographic Regions but also threatens urban and rural water supply.

The lack of a territorial planning policy has intensified conflicts in the Cerrado to the detriment of indigenous peoples and traditional communities living in the biome (quilombolas, extractive communities and family farmers), who do not have secure ownership of their lands or a formal recognition of their rights by the Brazilian government, although their rights are protected by the Federal Constitution.

The growing exclusion of traditional populations and indigenous peoples from their lands due to real estate speculation in protected territories and illegal occupation of public lands has contributed to an increase in rural poverty and the degradation of the Cerrado biome over the years.

ABOUT CEPF AND IEB

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) undertakes actions to mobilize civil society to conserve some of the world's richest and most threatened biodiversity ecosystems.

The CEPF is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan and the World Bank. A fundamental goal is to ensure civil society is engaged in biodiversity conservation by supporting the protection of unique ecosystems, also known as biodiversity hotspots, which are at risk of destruction.

The Cerrado was selected among the 25 global hotspots eligible to receive CEPF funding and \$8 million were earmarked to invest in conservation projects in the period spanning from July 2016 to June 2021 (subsequently extended until March 2022).

Between October 2014 and October 2015, Conservation International Brazil (CI-Brasil) and the Society, Population and Nature Institute (ISPN) jointly prepared the **Ecosystem Profile: Cerrado Biodiversity Hotspot** based on workshops and on the contribution from 130 institutions. During this exercise, conservation priorities were identified and a strategic framework was drawn up for the implementation of the CEPF investment in the Cerrado hotspot between 2016 and 2022.

In April 2016, the International Institute of Education of Brazil

(IEB) was selected by CEPF to act as the Regional Implementation Team (RIT) responsible for the strategic leadership of CEPF Cerrado during the implementation of the program in the Cerrado from July 2016 to March 2022.

IEB is a third sector institution dedicated to training and empowering people and to strengthening organizations in the fields of natural resource management, environmental and territorial management, as well as other sustainability-related areas. IEB works in a network, seeks partnerships and fosters interaction and exchange among civil society organizations, community associations, government bodies and the private sector.

Between 2016 and 2022, IEB and CEPF published five calls for proposals to finance projects in the Cerrado. CEPF and IEB selected 64 projects for the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of natural resources in the hotspot in different strategic directions and investment priorities as per the Ecosystem Profile's strategic framework. Three of these projects had to be terminated at an early stage, hence we will refer to 61 projects later on. These are in addition to the two grants to the IEB to act as the Regional Implementation Team and to manage the small grants mechanism.

In this publication, you will learn about the stories behind some of these projects and the results achieved by CEPF Cerrado in those six years.





Photo: Michael B. personal collection

CEPF Cerrado projects are as diverse as the Cerrado biome as they cover a wide area of the Brazilian territory – from Piauí to Mato Grosso do Sul states, a portfolio with different strategies – promoting climate resilience, protecting endangered species, supporting sustainable business and training people for territorial management with traditional populations. Furthermore, the projects forge links with a wide range of local players.

This diversity of proposals and partnerships gives CEPF Cerrado the unique challenge of promoting interactions between the Cerrado hotspot beneficiaries and communities to build synergies capable of maximizing results.

One such example is the **Consórcio Cerrado das Águas** project undertaken with coffee growers in the Cerrado Mineiro region, where the main difficulty was time. This work involves the entire production chain from field to industry, including governments, research institutes and communities. Working on a project of this magnitude and achieving the expected results is a long-term process as it requires the participation and decision of different players.

This project involved the engagement of large coffee roasting companies, cooperatives, coffee growers, public administration and researchers who worked together on protocols for resilient agriculture adapted to climate change.

The same occurred with the project to strengthen the Cerrado

INTRODUCTION

seed market conducted by the **Rede de Sementes do Cerrado**, whereby it was necessary to build an entire supply chain from scratch, from demand and supply, and prepare a business and marketing strategy.

Players, scenarios and realities all differ from each other. A meeting with a Nestlé executive is taking place in the city of São Paulo, while a biologist is trying to save a critically endangered tree frog and a cooperative is mobilizing extractive families along the baru nut supply chain. The reality of the Minas Gerais State farmers is completely different from the reality of the babassu coconut breakers in Maranhão State.

One of CEPF's main goals is precisely to incorporate all this diversity while protecting the Cerrado's natural resources and ensuring their sustainable maintenance. This is done by working alongside local people, whether they are traditional populations or coffee growers.

As well as sponsoring socio-environmental projects, CEPF and IEB are concerned with strengthening civil society in the Cerrado. The program went to great lengths to build bridges. And the outcome was highly positive.

A striking example of this is female mobilization. Women play a key role in the conservation of Brazilian biomes like the Pantanal and the Cerrado. The meetings organized by CEPF and IEB's grantees revealed similarities and opportunities for gender integration, not only in environmental issues but also in preventing and fighting discrimination and violence against women.

Awareness of the interdependence between ecosystem and socio-economic functions of the Cerrado biodiversity is one of the hallmarks of the CEPF and IEB partnership. To them, investing in strengthening civil society to incorporate biodiversity conservation into public policies and private practices is critical.

CEPF's investment in the Brazilian Cerrado have contributed to supporting the supply chains of native fruits and the insertion in the market of socio-biodiversity products, thus creating the necessary conditions for the conservation of the Cerrado biome. Furthermore, CEPF-supported projects seek to encourage sustainable agricultural practices.

Finally, it is important to highlight that in the last two years the projects have been carried out during the coronavirus pandemic and this has required an extra effort from our partners in humanitarian actions. Many of them had to reduce their execution time or had to use electronic means to contact communities.

In this publication, we present some of the activities carried out by our partners with the support of CEPF and IEB who sought to find a new path for the development of the Brazilian Cerrado. A path that is socially fair and prepared for a new climate normal.

Michael Becker

Team Leader of the CEPF Cerrado
Regional Implementation Team

INTERVIEW

PEGGY PONCELET, CEPF Grant Director

“As well as being one of the most devastated biomes in Brazil, the Cerrado offered the opportunity to work side by side with the private sector and develop an innovative, proactive model that we could learn from and replicate elsewhere. There were preconditions and attributes that allowed us to encourage civil society’s and the private sector’s engagement in preservation and conservation,” says Peggy explaining the reasons that led CEPF to choose the Cerrado biome as a priority hotspot.

In this interview, Peggy evaluates the results of the projects developed by CEPF in the past six years and says that its greatest legacy was to engage and strengthen civil society in the conservation and preservation of the Brazilian Cerrado biome.

In 2013, CEPF chose the Cerrado as one of the world’s main hotspots and invested \$8 million in projects between 2016 and 2021. What was CEPF’s motivation to choose the Cerrado?

The Cerrado was orphan from conservation attention in Brazil despite having the highest deforestation rates in the country. In 2013 when CEPF chose the Cerrado as a priority hotspot, only 3% of the biome was protected and 50% of the original vegetation was being cleared. At that time the forecast was that by 2020-2021 the original biome coverage would drop to 28%. We knew that the biggest threat would come from agribusiness. To CEPF, the Cerrado offered the opportunity to work side by side with the private sector. Civil society in that area was a little more advanced compared to other hotspots. The Cerrado, therefore, offered us the potential to significantly develop an innovative, proactive model that we could learn from and replicate elsewhere. There were preconditions and attributes that allowed us to encourage civil society’s and the private sector’s engagement in preservation and conservation.

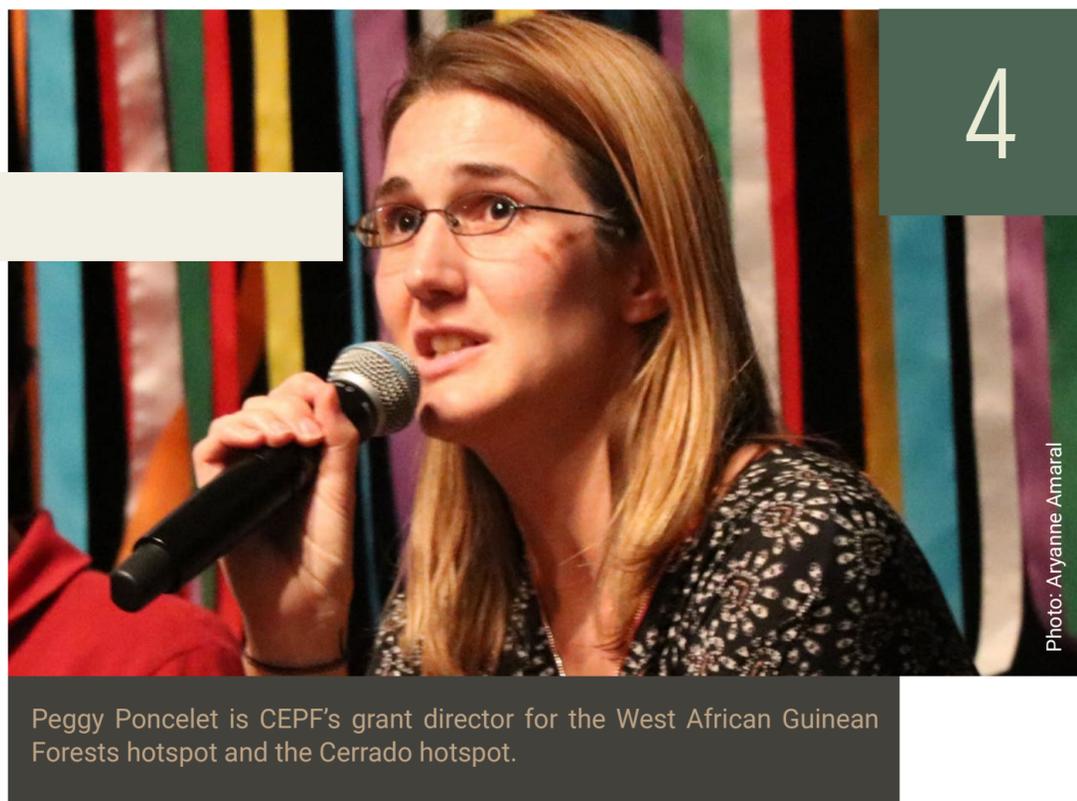
What kind of contribution can the international community make to preserve the Cerrado biome?

I believe the international community can do four things:

1. Focus national and international attention on the Cerrado biodiversity. There are no global or regional agreements for savannas as there are for forests, wetlands and oceans. This lack of international recognition limits both domestic action and international cooperation for the Cerrado ecosystems.

2. Provide support at the state level, which is where economic interest usually prevails on environmental interests. And this is especially important for the Cerrado as it comprises 11 Brazilian states and approximately 1,300 municipalities. And the trend is to decentralize from the federal level to state and local levels.

3. Finance emerging opportunities for constructive engagement between communities and companies to foster sustainable development, rather than the prevailing negative paradigm of certain agribusiness practices in conflict with traditional and indigenous communities, which usually co-exist with nature. We have to change that and work together to create sustainable development in the Brazilian Cerrado.



Peggy Poncelet is CEPF’s grant director for the West African Guinean Forests hotspot and the Cerrado hotspot.

“TOGETHER WE’RE STRONGER”

4. Bring funds as well as technical expertise to civil society organizations, for them to grow, to scale up grassroots conservation actions and to work in partnership with each other, the government and the private sector. By contributing to a broader Cerrado conservation strategy, stronger civil society leadership can emerge as a third pillar thus influencing decision-making with the public and private sectors, which are currently much stronger in Brazil.

The new IPCC report shows that we are experiencing climate change like never before, some of it irreversible. The problem of climate change is no longer a future problem. It requires quick decisions such as preventing deforestation. Brazil has great biodiversity whereas rich countries have the funds. What is the best way to advance climate justice?

You’re right, it’s not for the future, it’s happening now. We must merge the biodiversity and climate change agendas. The Cerrado helps keep a balanced water flow not only in Brazil, but also in neighboring countries. It also plays a key role in carbon sequestration. While water is more of a regional issue, carbon is an international concern that impacts both developing and developed countries. Here again, the importance of balance stands out.

Projections include higher temperatures, less rainfall and extreme weather events like frequent wildfires and extreme droughts in the Cerrado. This will cause severe impacts on its ecosystems and, as a consequence, on society. Local communities will have to work even harder to adapt to these situations. The international community has been focusing too exclusively its attention on preserving the Amazon and that needs to change. Investments need to come from the public and private sectors due to the impact “these biodiversity and climate crisis” will have on business.

The flow of funds for the conservation and restoration of the Brazilian Cerrado must be done in a way that guarantees fair benefits, also for producers and indigenous communities.

Based on the results obtained from several projects developed by CEPF in the Cerrado, what solutions do you anticipate for the future of the biome?

Building on the results from the last six years, the following solutions can be used for the future of the Cerrado:

1. Encourage public policies with conservation provisions at state and municipal levels, with for example, the Municipal Environment Defense Councils (COMDEMÁS) to promote debates and actions on biodiversity conservation and management.
2. Work with the private sector through effective engagement of farmers and other players to promote climate-smart agricultural practices adapted to local conditions accompanied by monitoring, so that we can demonstrate return on investment and social and environmental benefits.
3. Promote non-timber forest products from the Cerrado in local and international markets to foster local economic resilience, provide incentives for biodiversity conservation, and preserve cultural identity and traditional way of life. We should continue to promote local products like baru, pequi and other Cerrado fruits in local and international markets. This will bring good practices for the protection of the biome leading to financial return.
4. Restore the Cerrado ecosystems to reestablish ecosystem services that are essential for the future of Brazil and the planet.
5. And, most importantly, increase the protection of the Cerrado biome in particular through the creation of private reserves and the official registration and recognition of traditional and indigenous lands.

How do you see the strength of civil society encouraged by CEPF's activities and IEB's participation in the implementation

program?

Our partners in the Cerrado have done an incredible job and have proven to be strong and resilient to rapidly changing climate, economic and political contexts.

Six years ago when we started our investment in the Cerrado, civil society organizations were not collaborating together, partly because several networks were inactive, and had limited access to international funds due to lower capacities and opportunities.

CEPF changed that. Not only because it is the only international fund exclusively dedicated to civil society and the conservation of the Cerrado, but also because 84% of our funds went to smaller organizations, and we funded capacities building of local organizations.

We now have 60 organizations operating in the Cerrado and with experience working with international funds. These active organizations are interconnected with a wider community of 300 organizations. Around 20 partnerships and networks were forged among public players, academics, the private sector and civil society to catalyze integrated actions and policies for the conservation and sustainable development of the Cerrado. And 155 members of governance bodies and councils, such as river basin committees, protected areas management councils, state and city level councils, were empowered to participate and influence decision-making for the conservation of the Cerrado hotspot.

But all this alone would not have been enough. I would like to commend the enormous effort that the RIT put to foster collaborations between beneficiary organizations and other stakeholders around themes like restoration, supply chains, ICCAs – Indigenous Peoples and Community Conserved Territories and Areas – or around geographic hubs for a landscape approach.

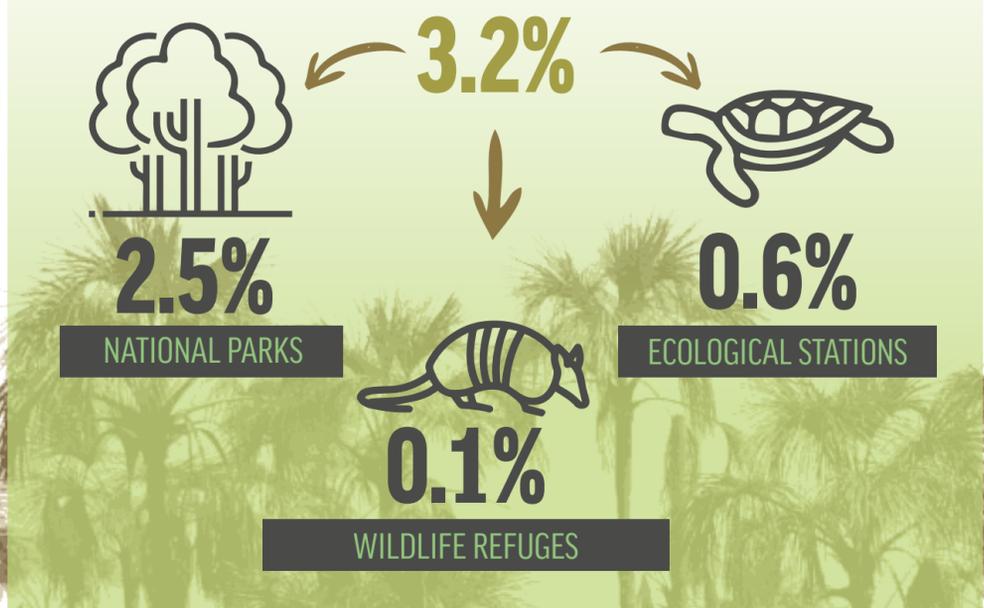
As I like to say: Together we're stronger. And this is CEPF's legacy in the Cerrado biodiversity hotspot.

PROTECTED AREAS

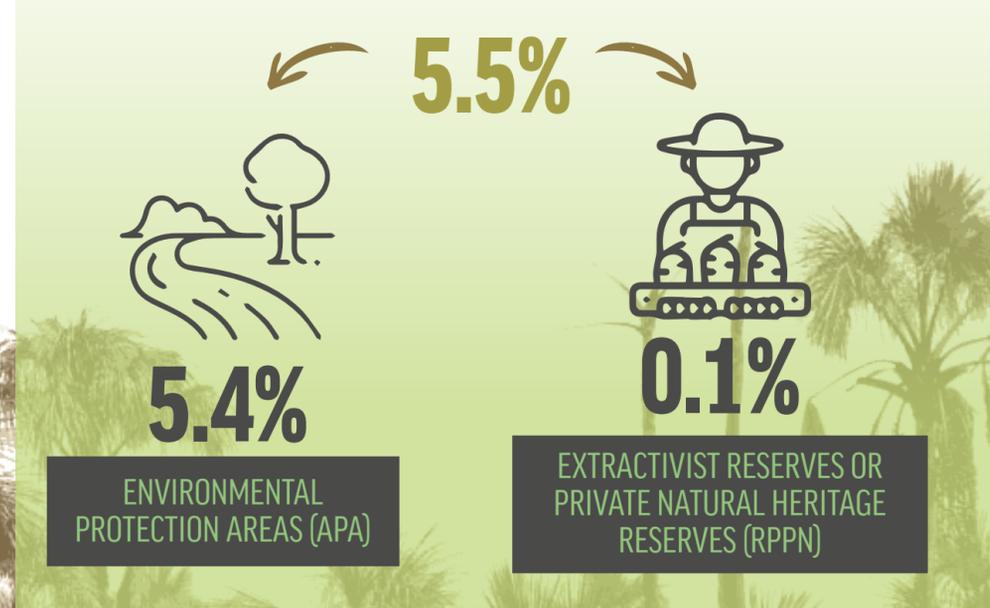


8.7% OF THE CERRADO IS PROTECTED BY CONSERVATION UNITS (UC)

PROTECTED AREAS IN THE FULL PROTECTION CATEGORY



PROTECTED AREAS IN THE SUSTAINABLE USES CATEGORY



CERRADO CONSERVATION UNITS

Source: National Register and Conservation Units of the Brazilian Minister of the Environment (CNUC), 2018



Photo: André Dib

Only 8.7% of the Cerrado biome is protected by Conservation Units with 3.2% in strictly protected areas and 5.5% in sustainable use areas.

The largest patches of native vegetation not converted into large-scale mechanized agriculture in the Cerrado (67% according to Mapbiomas) are concentrated in the region known as Matopiba, which comprises areas of the Cerrado biome in the states of Maranhão, Tocantins, Piauí and Bahia.

In recent years, Matopiba became a frontier for agricultural expansion with extensive soybean, corn and cotton crops, as well as cattle ranches. The low cost of land, when compared to the consolidated areas of the Brazilian Midwest-Southern regions and the flat topography, have attracted entrepreneurs and rural producers to the region leading to deforestation records and the exacerbation of land disputes. This scenario reflects what has been happening across the Cerrado hotspot territory for decades. After the Atlantic Forest, the Cerrado is the Brazilian biome that has suffered the most from human occupation. The huge threat from habitat loss has made these two biomes a priority for investment in biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services by CEPF.

CEPF and IEB's support for the creation of new public and private protected areas and for the effective management of existing areas has left a remarkable contribution to the conservation of Cerrado's natural resources and its socio-biodiversity.

Through our partners' initiatives, we were able to assess the scenario of Cerrado's municipal conservation units for the enhancement of local biodiversity protection policies. Not only did we increase the number of private reserves in the Cerrado biome encouraging rural landowners to invest in Private Natural Heritage Reserves (RPPNs) we also strengthened the Municipal Environment Defense Councils (COMDEMAS) to support local decisions that contribute to achieving global biodiversity conservation goals. We also worked so that the United Nations Environment Program recognized a traditional Cerrado territory – the Kalunga Historical Website and Cultural Heritage – as the first area in Brazil to integrate the ICCA (Indigenous Peoples and Community Conserved Territories and Areas) network.

These are some examples of the positive impacts we were able to achieve for the expansion and strengthening of the network of protected areas in the Cerrado hotspot.

Between 2016 and 2022, CEPF partners strengthened the protection and management of approximately 2.2 million hectares in protected areas in the Cerrado. The Private Reserves Project has created 29 Private Natural Heritage Reserves (RPPNs) under priority KBAs and across the entire hotspot. Furthermore, 21 areas have documentation filed with the environmental agencies, awaiting approval and publication of the creation decrees.

WHAT ARE KBAs?

Key Biodiversity Areas are the most important places in the world for species and their habitats and improving their management and protection is a fundamental CEPF goal. Key Biodiversity Areas are places that contribute significantly to the global persistence level of terrestrial,

freshwater and marine ecosystems. Areas that qualify as global KBAs meet one or more of 11 criteria grouped into five categories: threatened biodiversity, geographically restricted biodiversity, ecological integrity, biological processes, and irreplaceability. To learn more, look at the [Cerrado Biodiversity Hotspot Ecosystem Profile](#).

Figure 1 shows the numbers of the impacts that respond to Strategic Direction 2 (Protected areas in the priority corridors expanded and the effectiveness of their management strengthened) of the Cerrado hotspot Logical Framework (2016-2021).

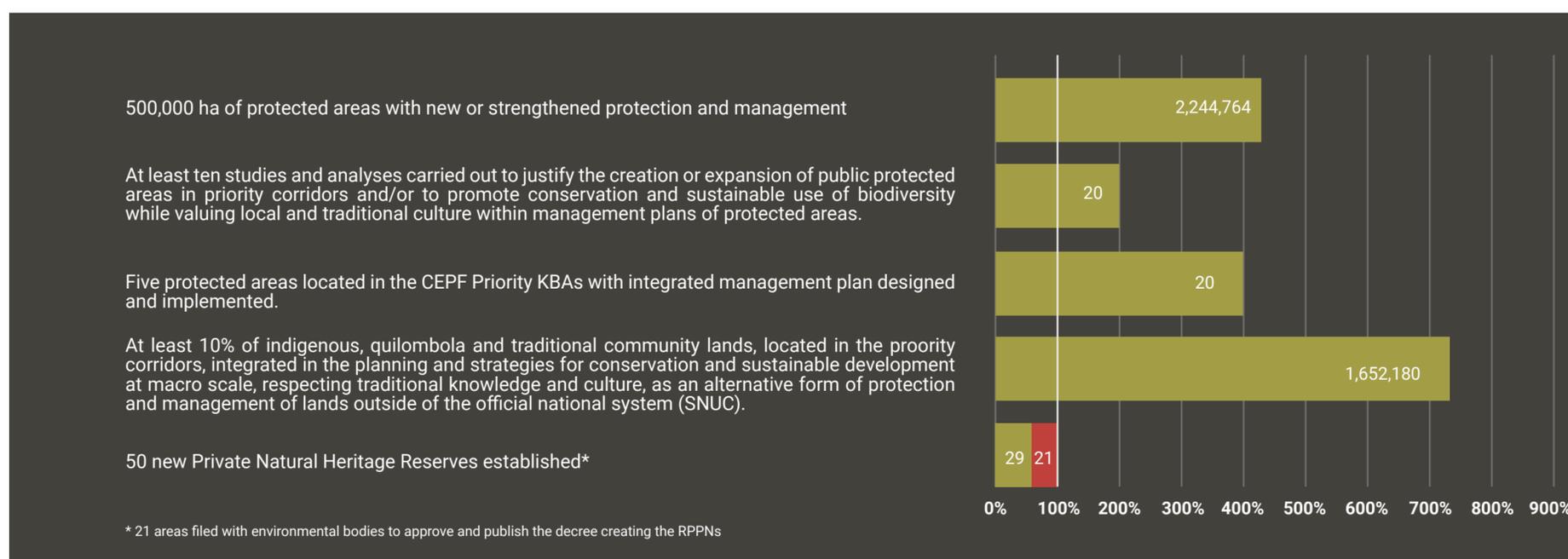


Figure 1. Impacts achieved and in progress until March 2022 in Strategic Direction 2 (Protected areas in the priority corridors expanded and the effectiveness of their management strengthened.) of the Cerrado hotspot Logical Framework (2016-2021).

¹ Mapbiomas Brasil v. 6.0. 2021. Available at <https://mapbiomas.org/>. Accessed November 19, 2021.

PRIVATE RESERVES IN THE CERRADO

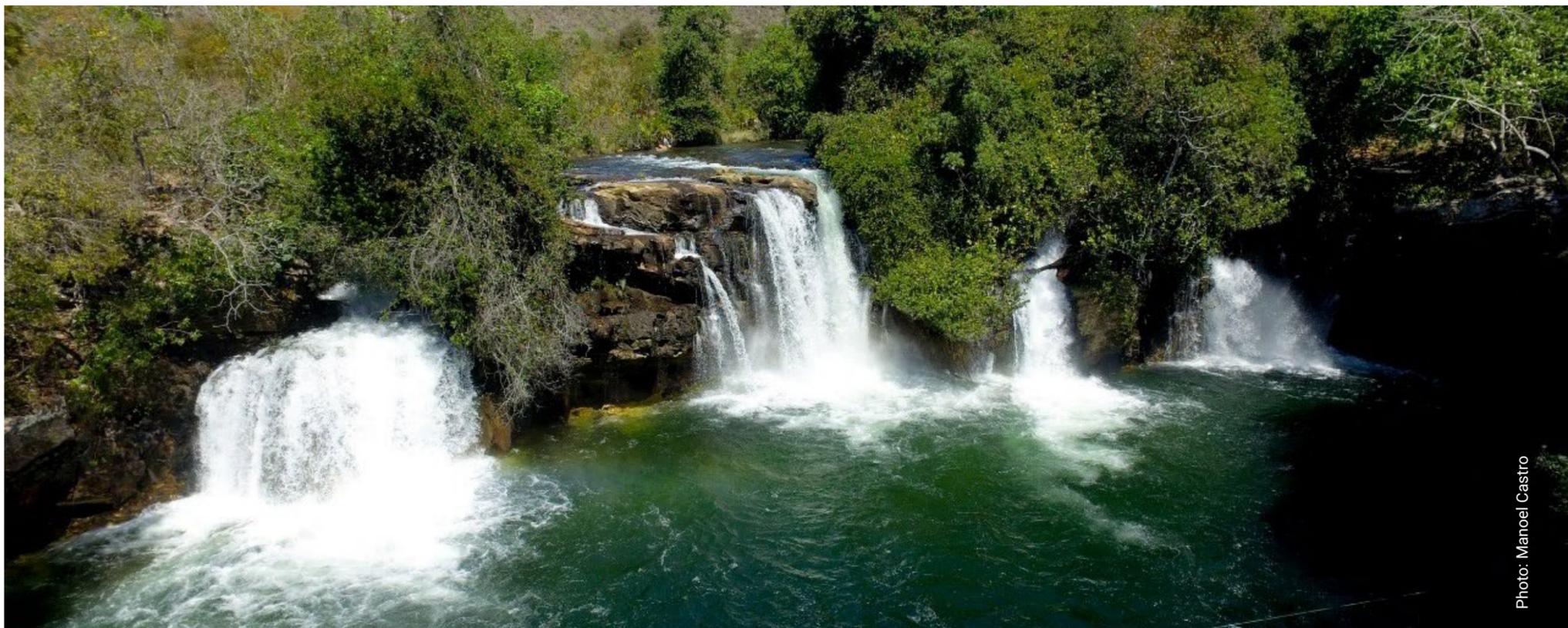


Photo: Manoel Castro

In the Cerrado biome there are about 250 Private Natural Heritage Reserves (RPPNs) which corresponds to about 200,000 hectares. "It's very little. It's not even 1% of the total. But the main thing is that today RPPNs are the only conservation units created in the last two years," says Laércio Machado de Sousa, a consultant at the Pró-Natureza Foundation ([Funatura](#)) and coordinator of the Private Reserves project in the Cerrado. The project is aimed at developing a program to encourage rural landowners to invest in private reserves with the support from CEPF and IEB.

RPPNs are established as private domain conservation units in perpetuity to preserve biodiversity. The creation of an RPPN does not affect the ownership of the property.

The Usina Coruripe Plant, which is headquartered in the state of Alagoas, has been producing sugar, ethanol and bioelectricity since 2001. In the last 15 years, it also started to set up RPPNs and the company now has more than 9,000 hectares of private reserves located in the Atlantic Forest, in the Brazilian Northeast, and in the Cerrado Mineiro region.

In these areas, as well as environmental recovery, conservation and preservation activities, Coruripe maintains animal monitoring projects for the protection and management of species, such as the Bicudo project (see page 14).

"All this was created to offset the lack of a legal reserve in the Triângulo Mineiro region. We went for it and today we have approximately 7,500 hectares of RPPNs in the Cerrado," says Usina Coruripe's Sustainability manager, Bertholdino Apolônio Teixeira Junior.

The law on the National System of Conservation Units placed RPPNs among 11 types of conservation units in Brazil. An RPPN can be set up by a rural owner with no land expropriation. When an RPPN is created, the owner is committed to nature conservation as was the case with the Usina Coruripe Plant.

"The Januária RPPN is on the border between Minas Gerais and Bahia states on the Carinhanha River basin, which is one of the

main tributaries of the São Francisco River. This region is dotted with local paths and is close to the Grande Sertão Veredas National Park," says Berthonildo.

Creating an RPPN brings several benefits to the owners, explains the project coordinator. *"There are some areas on the property that the producer does not use and that are difficult to grow crops or raise cattle. But the owner pays land tax on that area. If they set up an RPPN there, they will not pay tax. Another benefit is that they can adapt their production system to sustainable production and protect local springs. Water is key for agriculture as is pollination,"* sums up Laércio Machado.

Those who set up an RPPN have their property rights preserved, have priority in the analysis of projects by the National Environment Fund (FNMA) of the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment, and have a preference in the analysis of applications for agricultural credit concession granted by official financial institutions.

In the Brazilian Cerrado, the largest number of RPPNs is located in Goiás State in the Chapada dos Veadeiros region. According to Laércio, there are 25 RPPNs there. These RPPNs are all around the Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park, where projects combining conservation and ecotourism are currently being implemented.

For those wishing to create an RPPN the process is quite bureaucratic. Legal and legitimate documents are required, such as the Property Certification and Registration. This makes the whole process lengthy as in Brazil there is a lot of red tape concerning land title regulation.

Q&A about RPPN

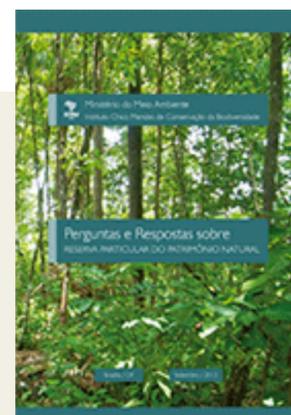




Photo: Flávio Ubaid

THE GREAT-BILLED SEED FINCH SONG RETURNS TO THE CERRADO

can cost up to \$1,900² and one of them had a price tag for \$190,000. It can sing multiple songs. The great-billed seed finch is practically extinct in nature, but there are more than 100,000 specimens in captivity,” Bertholdino points out explaining that the seed finch in Brazil is hunted down so relentlessly that the species has been nearly wiped out across the country.

The great-billed seed finch is one of the rarest and most endangered birds in Brazil and currently free-living populations are not known to exist in the country. The species was last seen in nature in late 2014 when a small population was sighted in the interior of Mato Grosso State. Since then it has no longer been seen. In the rest of the country, the great-billed seed finch is considered extinct in virtually all its occurrence areas.

CEPF and IEB’s support has strengthened the reintroduction of the bird in RPPNs through the Reintroduction of the Great-Billed Seed Finch in Key Areas for the Conservation of the Cerrado project, which was carried out by the Ariramba Institute and the **Bicudo Project**. The activities were mainly concentrated in northern Minas Gerais State, an area encompassing the Sertão Veredas-Peruaçu Corridor and the **Porto Cajueiro RPPN**.

The preservation of the great-billed seed finch, an endangered Cerrado bird species, is one of the projects undertaken by Usina Coruripe and the Ariramba Institute. The project has introduced dozens of couples in the Porto Cajueiro RPPN in Januária, northern Minas Gerais State. *“It’s a tiny black bird. Its song is regarded as one of the most harmonious in nature and similar to a flute,”* says Usina Coruripe’s Sustainability manager, Bertholdino Apolônio Teixeira Junior.

“This bird is much sought after on the market. Some of them

THE UNION OF MUNICIPAL ENVIRONMENT DEFENSE COUNCILS

Created in 1993, amidst the campaign to create the Serra da Bodoquena National Park in Bonito, Mato Grosso do Sul State, the **Neotropical Foundation of Brazil** aims to promote and carry out nature conservation activities that ensure the maintenance of different natural environments and the diversity of life on Earth.

“Since its inception, the Foundation has carried out more than 40 environmental conservation projects and in 2004 it started the Miranda Biodiversity Corridor – Serra da Bodoquena project,” says Rodolfo Portela Souza, executive head of the Foundation.

The **COMDEMAs Union - Mobilizing Players in the Miranda-Bodoquena Corridor project** seeks to strengthen Municipal Environment Defense Councils to support local decisions that contribute to achieving global biodiversity conservation goals.

COMDEMA (Municipal Environment Defense Council) is the union of public bodies, business sectors, politicians and civil society organizations. The COMDEMAs Union project activities started in 2018. More than 70 people were mobilized by the project activities in several municipalities that contain fragments of the Cerrado, Pantanal and Atlantic Rainforest biomes in Mato Grosso do Sul State.

The Council promotes debates to find solutions for the use of natural resources and the recovery of environmental damage. Its objective is to support actions and decisions aimed at local environmental issues that contribute to achieving global conservation goals.

COMDEMAs foster awareness, empowerment and unity in society on issues associated with the conservation of the Cerrado biome. They also encourage the creation of local public policies for the conservation of the biome, the expansion of municipal protected areas and the improvement in the management of existing conservation units.

The Neotropical Foundation of Brazil works with local executive bodies and COMDEMAs to assess how municipalities can generate better revenues from environmental tax, known as ICMS Ecológico. *“Despite having the potential, the ICMS Ecológico tax has generated very little revenues. The idea is to improve fundraising through this tax to be shared with those municipalities that have better environmental indices,”* says Rodolfo.

The Ecological ICMS tax is a mechanism for sharing tax revenues collected by municipalities. It is based on a set of environmental criteria established to define how much each municipality will receive from funds derived from the Tax on the Circulation of Goods and Provision of Services (ICMS), which is a state-level tax.

Financial incentives are granted to municipalities that prove their commitment to environmental conservation and correct management of urban solid waste. Of the total ICMS tax collected by Brazilian states, 25% of the tax is allocated to cities and municipalities, of which 5% is based on their area, 7% is shared equally among the states’ cities and municipalities, 5% is based on the number of voters in each city and municipality, 3% is based on the percentage of their revenues and 5% is based on environmental criteria.

² The dollar (\$) amounts presented were converted from Brazilian currency (R\$) amounts with an exchange rate of R\$ 5.2. 1 dollar (\$) = 5.2 reais (R\$)

CLIMATE RESILIENCE





Photo: Aryane Amaral

The ecosystem services provided by the Cerrado biodiversity are far greater than we can measure and they go far beyond specific locations and corridors, or even the hotspot. Natural areas maintain ecosystems, which is a necessary condition for biodiversity conservation, and the various ecosystem services. This provides a strong justification for investments, particularly to maintain water provision, to restore and to mitigate climate change.

From this perspective, CEPF Cerrado’s funding sought to strengthen strategies that went beyond biodiversity conservation and included water, climate and restoration as key action targets involving adaptation and resilience to climate change.

The projects supported by CEPF Cerrado under this strategic axis have included the following initiatives: adoption of best practices in agriculture where coffee producers from the Cerrado Mineiro region became involved in a program that offers specialized services for the environmentally-friendly development of

their properties on three fronts: 1) Restoration, 2) Climatically intelligent agricultural practices and 3) Efficient management of water resources; sustainable enhancement of silvopastoral systems with native Cerrado trees that increase food production and nature conservation; encouragement of native seed trading across the supply chain for ecological restoration and as an income opportunity in the countryside; and promotion of sustainable productive landscapes through the implementation of agroforestry programs.

Regarding climate adaptation and resilience activities in the Cerrado, CEPF contributed to improving the management of approximately 719,000 hectares of productive landscapes for the conservation of the biome’s biodiversity or sustainable use. Furthermore, with the actions undertaken by our partners, we could foster the adoption of 44 sustainable technologies and best production practices in Brazil’s agricultural sector. This will guarantee the protection of biodiversity, the maintenance of ecosystem services and food security (Figure 2).

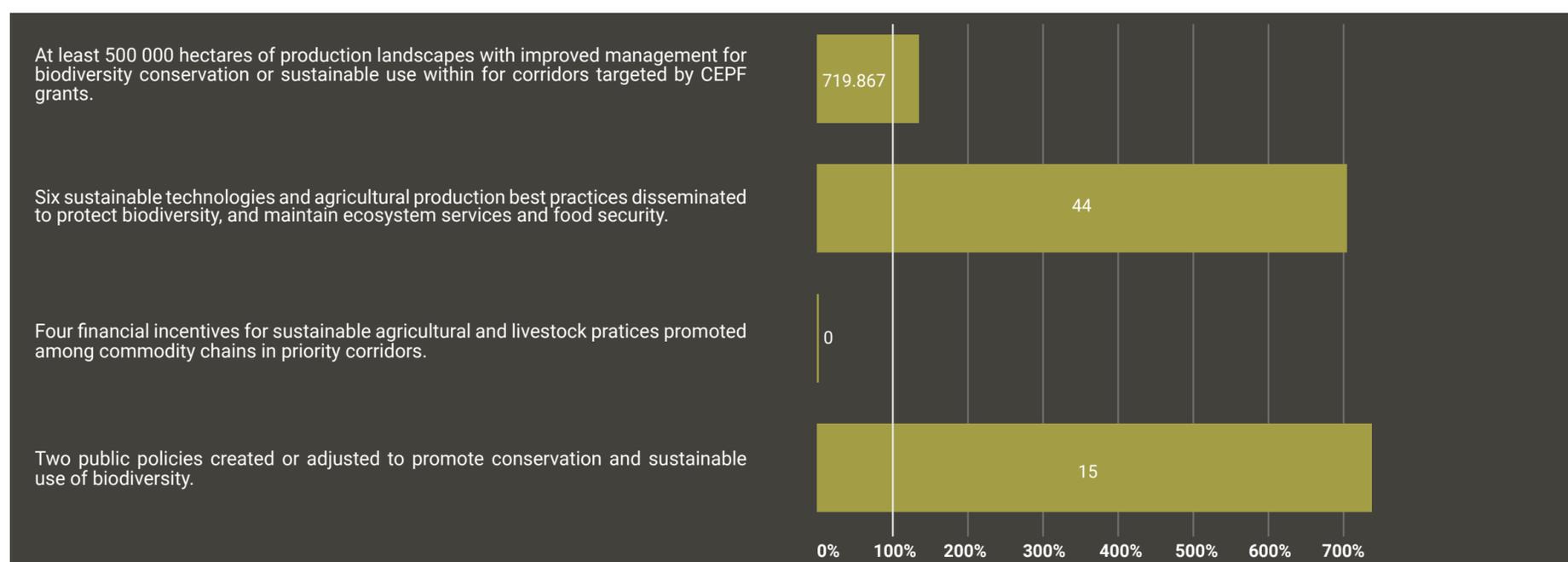


Figure 2. Impacts achieved in Strategic Direction 1 (Promoting the Adoption of Best Agricultural Practices) of the Cerrado hotspot Logical Framework (2016-2021).

CERRADO DAS ÁGUAS CONSORTIUM

Instability is an increasingly common word among the Cerrado Mineiro coffee growers. Coffee crops are subject to biennial bearing, a natural condition of the crop which alternates between fat and lean harvests. In recent years, coffee production in Brazil has also been at the mercy of the effects of climate change. In the 2020/2021 season, according to estimates by the Minas Gerais State Department of Agriculture, Arabica coffee production in the Cerrado should be reduced by up to 3 million bags due to drought and frost. The result is a loss of approximately \$1.5 billion.

According to the coffee grower Leonildo Vicente de Paula, from the town of Patrocínio, Minas Gerais State, there is at least a 50% drop in the 2021 harvest. Wary of the sudden changes in the region's climate, Leonildo joined the Conscious Producer Investment Program, one of the activities undertaken by the **Cerrado das Águas Consortium**. He planted trees in degraded areas and brachiaria grass seed to protect the soil, control erosion and provide organic matter.

"The weather has changed a lot around here. Now we have hail, wind, drought. We have suffered great losses and this has been going on for some time now. 2021 was a tough year for crops, but we didn't expect such a high drop. This was due to the drought," says biologist Fabiane Sebaio Almeida, executive secretary at Cerrado das Águas Consortium.

The consortium works as a collaborative platform and comprises the coffee production chain as well as government and civil society. Its goal is to join forces for environmental preservation and conservation to mitigate the effects of climate change.

Large companies and cooperatives from the Brazilian coffee sector participate in the consortium – Lavazza, Nespresso, Nestlé, COFCO, Expocaccer and Cooxupé, in addition to Conservation International, all working together with coffee growers for a climate change resilient agriculture.

"The question that must be asked is whether our economic, natural and political systems are mature enough to absorb the shocks of extreme weather events such as drought," says Michael Becker, CEPF Cerrado implementation strategy coordinator.

"Today's water is the result of the landscape we build" is the program's motto. The consortium's interventions on the properties are financed by funds. "The intelligent management of water resources is the main strategy of our work. Not only the health and sustainable use of hydrographic basins are a key indicator of the results of those interventions, but they are also critical in this context of water scarcity," explains Fabiane.

The pilot project started in Patrocínio, Minas Gerais State, but the goal of the Cerrado das Águas Consortium is to reach the entire Cerrado biome, which is also known as a water cradle and is responsible for supplying three large underground aquifers – Bambuú, Urucuia and Guarani – which feed large continental rivers and dams in the states of São Paulo, Minas Gerais, Tocantins, Piauí and Bahia, as well as the Federal District.

CERRADO AGROFORESTS

Every Saturday, Robinho loads his 2011 Kombi van with baskets full

of fresh vegetables, and fruits and drives 30 miles between Planaltina and central Brasília, Federal District, to deliver food to 70 customers who are part of a CSA (Community Supporting Agriculture).

Robemario Ribeiro de Souza, aka Robinho, 51 years old, is a small vegetable and fruit farmer who lives with his wife and five children on a plot of land of just 7.5 hectares in the Oziel Alves III Farm Settlement, from where he draws a monthly income of approximately \$2,200 a month.

The settlement has been successful thanks to the integration between three organizations – University of Brasília (UNB) at Planaltina, Cerrado Seed Network and the **Bartô Network**. These organizations combined their knowledge and expertise to organize and train farmers, produce food and seedlings for environmental regulation, and restore and conserve the Cerrado biome.

"The Bartô Network is a civil society organization founded in 2013 by a social movement that later became an association of communities in the northern part of Brasília. Bartô Network's chief mission is to work the socio-environmental prospects of the São Bartolomeu River Basin, one of the main basins that supply Brazil's Federal District," explains Fabricio Lima, coordinator of the project.

Agroforestry was implemented on plots of land owned by some smallholders. *"In the second phase of the project, we continued to provide training and began to plant seedlings of economic interest in agroforests,"* says Fabricio. Besides CSAs, Brasília also created RSAs or Restaurants Supporting Agriculture.

Fabricio tells how CSAs work and how they help support the settlements financially. *"CSAs are groups made up of people interested in eating better and preserving nature, while also helping keep farmers in the countryside. They sustain the settlement's food production to meet their needs. The average is around 12 to 70 co-farmers,"* he adds.

The University of Brasília helped finance an app developed by the farmers to monitor the restored areas. The Cerrado Seed Network helped train settled peasants to collect native seeds, store and improve them.

For environmental regulation, the direct seeding technique was used bringing several benefits, such as increasing the germination rate of plants and optimizing resources.

*"Our plant species survey seeks to restore the environment to the way it was before it was degraded. We use native species such as barbatimão (*Stryphnodendron adstringens*), carvoeira (*Sclerolobium paniculatum*), guariroba (*Syagrus oleracea*), ipê-roxo (*Handroanthus impetiginosus*), macela (*Achyrocline satureioides*), and mutamba (*Guazuma ulmifolia*), among many other species, all acquired from the Cerrado Seed Network,"* explains Fabricio.



MUVUCA

A feminine noun in Portuguese, *muvuca* means “noisy agglomeration of people in public places, chaos or tumult”. But among Indigenous People, and more recently among agronomists and environmentalists, *muvuca* is a technique involving the mixture of different seeds with soil to regenerate a deforested area.

The *muvuca* technique is the main activity of the **Cerrado Seed Network**, a non-profit organization created at the University of Brasília about 20 years ago. Its mission is to develop actions for the defense and recovery of the Cerrado.

“The Brazilian Cerrado only has two seasons – dry and rainy. The soil is prepared during the dry season. When the rains start between October and November, it’s time to plant. For that, you have to choose the seeds following an ecological succession – those seeds that grow first and those that take longer to grow. The trees will be planted together,” explains Camila Motta, biologist and chair of the Cerrado Seed Network.

Seeds are collected in conserved areas. They have a correct ripening point for harvesting and need to be stored properly. Seed collection is carried out throughout the year.

*“When you use the *muvuca* technique, you mix all these seeds from different species and plant them directly in the soil. There are several ways to do this, from manual to mechanical using agricultural machinery. About 50 seed species are used in *muvuca*. When we use this technique, we emulate nature,”* says Camila.

As the technique uses many different seeds, a large number of people are needed for this activity. One of the advantages of the *muvuca* technique is that it provides income to traditional



Photo: Luana Santa Brigida / Rede de Sementes do Cerrado

communities. Furthermore, the cost of planting is lower with greater efficiency and biodiversity.

*“The work with *muvuca* helps train collectors, disseminate successful restoration strategies and techniques, and it also helps strengthen native Cerrado seeds trade. For seed collection, we mobilize vulnerable communities like settled peasants and quilombolas. And our restoration training focus is on environmental technicians, consultants and rural producers,”* adds Camila.

REGENERATION OF PASTURES

Pastures occupy 29% of the Cerrado biome and can be used for sustainable intensification or restoration of native vegetation, according to researchers from Embrapa (Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation).

A project carried out by Embrapa Cenargen (Genetic Resources and Biotechnology) and the Arthur Bernardes Foundation (Funarbe) aimed at identifying and spatializing the potential of natural regeneration and isolated trees in pastures in the Cerrado.

“Our research seeks to understand how the Cerrado coexists with cultivated pastures and to verify their biodiversity potential,” says Daniel Luis Mascia Vieira, the Embrapa researcher responsible for the study.

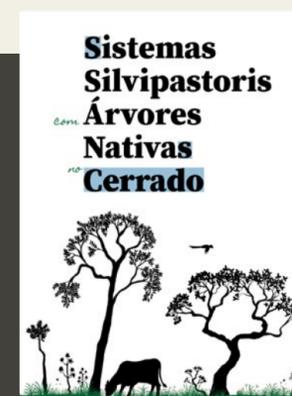
Estimating the natural regeneration potential of pastures

cultivated in the Cerrado can lead to savings of millions of dollars by identifying the costs for the adoption of restoration projects.

When mapping isolated trees, images from RapidEye satellites are analyzed to detect tree crowns and estimate the density of trees in cultivated pastures across the Cerrado biome.

The goal is to survey isolated trees and assess the potential for natural regeneration in cultivated pastures. *“The important thing is to recover degraded pastures by converting them to agriculture via integrated systems with crops and forests, or, in the case of marginal areas like slopes and rocky areas, through restoration,”* adds Vieira.

Silvopastoral systems with native trees in the Cerrado



ENDANGERED SPECIES



5%
of all species
on the planet



30%
of species in
Brazil



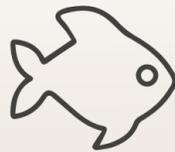
837
bird
species



120
reptile
species



150
amphibian
species



1,200
fish
species



90 mil
insect
species



199
mammal
species



12 mil
flora
species

among ferns,
angiosperms,
bryophytes and
gymnosperms

THE CERRADO IS ONE OF THE BIOLOGICALLY RICHEST SAVANNA ON THE PLANET

Source: Flora do Brasil 2020 em construção, 2020²

The Cerrado is home to more than 12,000 species of cataloged native plants, in addition to 199 species of mammals and 1,200 species of fish. The diversity of reptiles (120 species) and amphibians (150 species) is also high. Many of these species are endemic, meaning that they only occur in unique locations within the Cerrado biome. However, they are seriously threatened by increasing deforestation. The Ecosystem Profile of the Cerrado biodiversity hotspot listed 1,593 terrestrial and freshwater species identified as globally threatened by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and considered by the Brazilian environmental authorities as nationally threatened, in addition to

rare fish and rare plant species. There are still many other species for which there is insufficient data to allow a complete assessment of their status.

To ensure that the CEPF Cerrado strategy left a legacy of significant impact on biodiversity conservation in the Cerrado hotspot, some of its investments focused on specific species and priority regions. Among the 1,593 vulnerable terrestrial species a total of six were selected for their degree of threat, the existence of National Action Plans (PANs) and their relative importance for the conservation of biodiversity in the Cerrado. These species are:

³ Flora do Brasil 2020. Rio de Janeiro Botanical Garden. Available at: <http://floradobrasil.jbrj.gov.br/>. Access on November 19, 2021.

FLORA		<i>Uebelmannia buiningii</i> (cacto coroa-de-ita) and <i>Dimorphandra wilsonii</i> (faveiro-de-wilson)
BIRDS		<i>Columbina cyanopsis</i> (blue-eyed ground-dove), <i>Sporophila maximiliani</i> (great-billed seed finch) and <i>Mergus octosetaceus</i> (Brazilian merganser)
AMPHIBIAN		<i>Pithecopus ayeaye</i> (monkey-frog)

Between 2016 and 2021, CEPF's projects acted to improve the conservation status of six globally threatened species in the Cerrado, in addition to identifying priority actions in the National Action Plans related to the management and protection of their habitats.

AMPHIBIANS OF IMMEASURABLE VALUE FOR THE CERRADO CONSERVATION

With just 3.5 centimeters, the *Pithecopus ayeaye*, a *monkey-frog*, has immeasurable value for the conservation of the Cerrado. As well as its medicinal applications, this tiny amphibian serves as an indicator of water quality.

"Sometimes we see valuable things right in front of our noses and don't notice them. We only notice them when things are lost, sometimes too late," says biologist Reuber Brandão, 49 years old.

Graduated from the University of Brasília (UnB) and passionate about frogs since childhood, Brandão is a herpetofauna specialist and researches four species of the *Pithecopus* genus that are endemic to the highlands of the Brazilian Cerrado (*P. ayeaye*, *P. centralis*, *P. oreades* and *P. megacephalus*).

"As well as being charismatic, these animals are spectacular and their disappearance is alarming. As well as their importance in food chains, amphibian declines are worrisome from the human health viewpoint and have been linked to worrisome outbreaks in Central America," says Brandão.

According to him, amphibians have a powerful chemical arsenal on their skin, which evolved to protect them from desiccation, predators and diseases. "Several biologically active substances have been found in frogs' skin secretions with different uses in the development of new drugs, cosmetics and new technologies for the chemical and pharmaceutical industries," he says adding that substances with the potential to combat Chagas disease and tumor cells have already been identified in those species.

According to Brandão, the frogs also serve as warnings for climate change and as an indicator of water quality. "They tell an evolutionary history of the Cerrado and help us understand how the highlands of the biome became isolated and how this

enabled the occurrence of several endemic animals. These environments are climate islands with a little milder temperature and are a little rainier than the lowland areas," he adds.

Brandão explains that the frog species that most demands attention for conservation today is the *Pithecopus centralis*, which occurs in Chapada dos Guimarães and Barra do Garças in Mato Grosso State. The *Pithecopus ayeaye*'s home is in the southern region of Espinhaço and Serra da Canastra in Minas Gerais State. The *Pithecopus oreades* occurs in the west of Minas Gerais State, Brasília and Chapada dos Veadeiros, while the *Pithecopus megacephalus* occurs in northern Espinhaço across Bahia State.

Fieldwork consists of locating and tracking animals in nature. These species are found in the highest areas of the Cerrado and use temporary streams for reproduction. These are very fragile environments that are sensitive to erosion and landslides.

"The decrease in rainfall should reduce the number of reproductive environments for the frogs, which reproduce in temporary streams that run down the mountain. And the temperature change also poses risk to the survival of these amphibians," says Brandão.

At least 32% of amphibian species around the world are listed as threatened and it is the most vulnerable group on the planet. Brazil has a rich diversity of amphibian species, around 1,100.



Photo: Michel de Aguiar

BRAZILIAN MERGANSER, AMBASSADOR OF THE WATERS IN BRAZIL

Among the main threats to the Brazilian merganser identified by Gislaïne are the conversion of the native Cerrado vegetation to agriculture, hydroelectric projects and the siltation of rivers.

In 2018, during the World Water Forum, the Brazilian merganser was designated as the ambassador of Brazilian waters. First described in 1817 by the French naturalist and ornithologist Louis Jean Pierre Vieillot, the Brazilian merganser is one of the most extraordinary and rare animals in the Cerrado.

In September 2020, the Goiás State government created a conservation unit in Chapada dos Veadeiros. The Águas do Paraíso State Park with an area of 5,600 hectares is located in the Rio dos Couros Falls in Alto Paraíso de Goiás. The park will be the first environmental conservation unit in Brazil with a shared management model between state government and city government. One of the species in the new park in Goiás State is the Brazilian merganser.

“The park is a feeding ground and refuge for the Brazilian merganser. The first nest of this bird in the Chapada dos Veadeiros region was found in the park and the third known nest in the world. Around 50 birds of the 225 individuals remaining in Brazil live in the wild in the Chapada,” adds the researcher.

To learn more about the projects:

[Pithecopus ayeaye](#)

[Brazilian Merganser](#)

Another partner of scientists in the conservation of the Cerrado is the Brazilian merganser, a bird species that has been studied and protected by the Amada Terra Institute for Social Inclusion (IAT) and by researchers from the [Pato-Mergulhão Project](#), which is undertaken in Chapada dos Veadeiros, Goiás State.

Critically endangered, the Brazilian merganser population has been reduced to around 225 individuals and is currently considered endemic to the Cerrado, although there are records of its occurrence in the Atlantic Rainforest biome.

The researchers want to learn about the habitat use strategies adopted by this species in its annual cycle and assess the changes caused by environmental impacts on the bird's reproduction, feeding and survival patterns.

The Brazilian merganser depends on clean and crystal clear waters to survive, especially rivers and streams surrounded by riparian forests with waterfalls and natural pools. These birds are excellent swimmers and have a keen vision. They have a long, serrated beak to capture live prey when they dive into the water. So, they need to see their prey to fish.

“The bird is affected by changes in water quality. It lives in clean, transparent water environments. It needs to see its prey to be able to fish,” explains biologist Gislaïne Disconzi, a researcher who is leading the Brazilian Merganser project to preserve the species.

“It is precisely this trait that makes this species a key environmental bioindicator. The Brazilian merganser is only found in balanced ecosystems,” says the researcher.

The bird is extinct in several Brazilian states and now exists only in three locations in Brazil – Serra da Canastra (Minas Gerais State), Jalapão (Tocantins State), and in Chapada dos Veadeiros (Goiás State). *“They usually live in pairs on permanent territories. They are monogamous birds,”* adds Gislaïne.

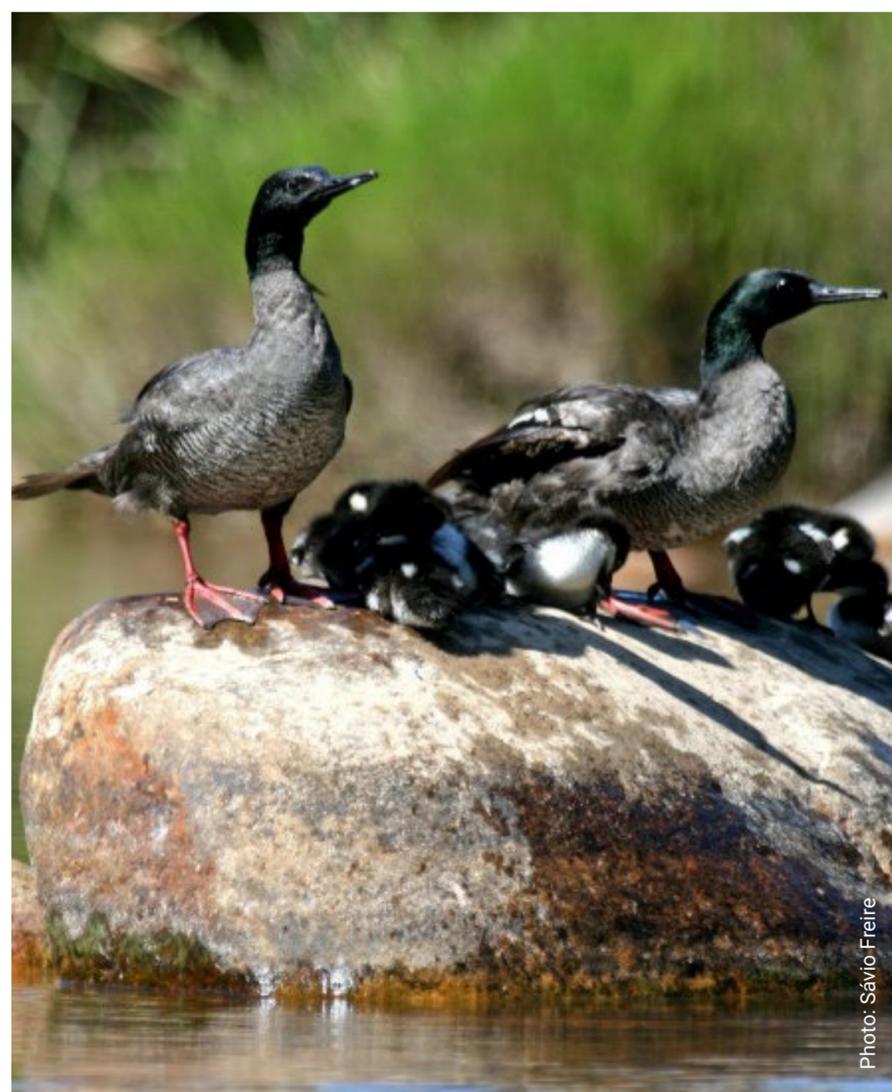


Photo: Sávio Freire

SEARCHING FOR FAVEIRO-DE-WILSON

Inspired by old western movies, in 2004 Fernando Fernandes, a researcher at the Belo Horizonte Society of Friends of the Zoo-Botanic Foundation, spread posters with the photo of the faveiro-de-wilson tree in bars, stores, universities and other establishments in the countryside of Minas Gerais State and began an unusual "hunt" for the *faveiro-de-wilson*, a rare tree species threatened with extinction, which only exists in Minas Gerais State between the Cerrado and the Atlantic Rainforest biomes.

The *faveiro-de-wilson* (*Dimorphandra wilsonii* Rizzini) was a completely anonymous tree species until the 1960s, when it was discovered by the forest guide Wilson Nascimento. In 1969, the tree was first described by researcher Carlos Toledo Rizzini, from Rio de Janeiro Botanical Gardens, who named the species after the forest guide.

In the beginning, there were only five researchers at the ZooBotanic Foundation, but in his 17-year search, Fernandes managed to mobilize an army of admirers of the *faveiro-de-wilson* tree from root healers and charcoal workers to farmers and curious people.

"We put up posters at strategic points, handed out flyers everywhere and approached local people asking if they knew the species and if they could help us find it," says the researcher.

As the *faveiro-de-wilson* is so rare, the tree is protected by Law 43904/2004 of Minas Gerais State. It came close to extinction

due to the destruction of the region's forests. Most of these tree species are found in pastures where it is difficult to reproduce.

In 2017, the Belo Horizonte Society of Friends of the Zoo-Botanic Foundation started the **Faveiro-de-Wilson Management and Protection project**. Several actions were undertaken like meetings, training sessions and visits to areas where this tree species occurs covering an extension of 5,215 km² and comprising 18 municipalities.

"The project fostered the increase in knowledge of the *faveiro-de-wilson*, environmental awareness and engagement in the defense of the environment in local communities," says Fernandes.

In December 2020, 3,000 seeds of the tree were sown in the Belo Horizonte Botanical Gardens and in the Árvores Gerais nursery at Florestal, both in Minas Gerais State, aimed at the production of seedlings for the reintroduction of the *faveiro-de-wilson* in its areas of occurrence.

Preserving the rare faveiro-de-wilson



Photo: FM Fernandes

SUSTAINABLE EXTRACTIVISM



Photo: Bento Viana



Photo: Mário Santos



Photo: TerraMar Filmes/Acervo Copelbase

Baru, pequi, macaúba, faveira, copaiba, buriti, babaçu. The rich diversity of Cerrado fruits and their diverse flavor experiences, until recently known only regionally, has been satisfying consumer taste buds in large cities.

Grocery stores and supermarkets across Brazil now sell these native fruits, which are consumed fresh or in the form of ice cream, jam, cakes, etc. They are also on the menus of high-end restaurants and are winning over markets abroad.

These Cerrado fruits are rich in protein, fiber, mineral salts, vitamins and antioxidants, and provide several health benefits.

The market growth for these Cerrado fruits has strengthened supply chains and generated income for family farmers, settled communities, smallholders and traditional people who work with extractivism and contribute to the conservation of the Cerrado.

With the support from CEPF and IEB, the Cerrado cooperatives were able to develop projects associated with extractivism, thus promoting the conservation of the biome and its sustainable development. A better insertion of socio-biodiversity products in the market has led to financial incentives that preserve the Cerrado.

To implement sustainable extractivism in the Cerrado, CEPF supported nine cooperatives directly and indirectly. Besides contributing to processing approximately 600,000kg of raw material it also provided an increase in income of \$80,000 for local communities. Furthermore, 219 local and indigenous communities were trained and directly benefited from the sustainable use of natural resources and/or restoration of ecological connectivity on a landscape scale. Thirty markets and supply chains for sustainable non-timber forest products were developed and/or enabled through direct benefit to networks or groups of women and youth.

THE BURITI AND THE CONSERVATION OF PALM-SWAMPS (VEREDAS)

In Grão Mogol, 120km from Montes Claros, Minas Gerais State, the farmer Aparecido Alves de Souza aka Cido, 53 years old, has diversified crop production spread over 170 hectares of land in the Americano Settlement.

With the help of his wife and son, he grows beans, cassava, corn and sugarcane, besides keeping a small dairy farm for cheese production. But most of Cido's income comes from extractivism working with native fruits from the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes, like pequi, buriti, fava d'anta and cagaita.

Cido is one of the 278 members of **Grande Sertão Cooperative**, which operates in 30 municipalities in the northern part of Minas Gerais State and directly serves more than 2,000 agro extractive families in 200 rural communities. Grande Sertão Cooperative has developed different production chains based on native regional products or products grown in agroecological gardens.

From the pequi, the symbol tree of the Cerrado, Cido extracts the

seed, pulp and oil. The pulp is frozen and sent to the cooperative. The oil is extracted at a small agro plant maintained by settled peasants. *"People use the pulp mainly in cooking to make rice with pequi, a typical and delicious local dish. We also work with frozen and vacuum packed seed pequi and pequi nuts,"* says Cido.

José Fábio Soares is a food engineer and technician responsible for the Grande Sertão Cooperative. He says that the cooperative's mission is to strengthen family farming and agro extractivism. The idea is to form supply chains for native Cerrado fruits aimed at connecting production initiatives with market channels and involve traditional peoples and communities in this work.

The Grande Sertão Cooperative is made up of more than 20 agro extractive communities from supply chains of araticum, murici, cajá, jatobá, pequi, buriti, coquinho azedo, cagaita and other Cerrado fruits. Honey, rapadura (sugarcane candy), cachaça (Brazilian distilled spirit made from sugarcane) and a much appreciated craft beer made from sour coconut are also produced by the cooperative.

The **Buriti – Income Generation for Youth and Women, Conservation of Palm-Swamps and Plateaus** project has helped improve the extractive production of the palm tree through the extraction and commercialization of oil from *buriti* fruit. The project also contributed to the conservation of palm-swamps within the Cerrado ecosystem where the buriti palm tree grows. The ecosystem is the cradle of springs and streams and a refuge for wild fauna.

The *buriti* tree can reach up to 15 meters in height and grows around paths, springs, swamps, rivers, streams and waterfalls. Women lead the *buriti* chain as they collect the fruit, extract the oil and pulp, dry them and pack them. The project helped them gain financial autonomy.

The growth of agro extractivism in the Cerrado has helped the Grande Sertão Cooperative to gain space in the Brazilian and international market. The women and young people involved in the *buriti* supply chain have become Cerrado conservation stewards.

BARU

The *baru* tree is one of the most majestic trees in the Brazilian Cerrado and is at risk of extinction due to the predatory extraction of the species. The *baru* tree can reach up to 20 meters in height and 70 centimeters in diameter. The *baru* nut is enclosed in a hard shell, is tasty and increasingly sought after. The fruit has about 26% of protein content and can be used in its entirety in the form of pulp, oil, flour, butter and pies.

In Arinos, northwest Minas Gerais State, Nardélio Ernesto Jacinto, 59, owns 44 hectares of land and works with his wife, Maria Aparecida Ferreira da Silva, in *baru* extractivism. "It complements our family income," says Nardélio, who, in addition to 300 native *baru* trees and 70 planted trees, also maintains an orchard with guava and acerola. He harvests about 250 to 300kg of *baru* a year. Each 50-kilogram bag of baru, after breaking, yields only 2kg of nuts.

Nardélio is a member of **COPABASE**, Cooperative for Sustainable

Family Farming Based on Solidarity Economy, which is headquartered in Arinos and has 100 members. The cooperative sells fruit pulp from the Cerrado and its flagship product is the baru nut. It produces 10 tons of nuts a year.

COPABASE runs the *Sustainable Production Practices as Promoters of Biodiversity Conservation in the Urucuiano Backlands* project. Its chief goal is to promote the diversification of agro extractive production with sustainable management through the organization of families in the Urucuia River basin, one of the main tributaries of the São Francisco River.

Dionete Figueiredo, a farmer and business administrator, has been working at the cooperative since 2008. *“I am with COPABASE since its foundation and even before the cooperative was born I helped articulate supply chains. From the beginning, we managed*

to raise funds to keep the work going,” says Dionete.

COPABASE has machineries for honey, pulp and baru processing and works with the packaging of family farming products, such as manioc flour and brown sugar.

“We have been working a long time with the organization of the chains and training of families for the sustainable management of the native areas where baru is collected,” says Dionete.

Baru is a native Cerrado fruit, but in the 1990s it was widely used to make charcoal. “Many Cerrado trees and baru trees were cut down for charcoal. It wasn’t until after 2005, when we began to organize supply chains, that extractivism developed in this region,” adds Dionete.

FAIR AND SOLIDARY TRADE

The Center for Sustainable Development at the University of Brasília carried out a research to understand how the sustainable baru supply chain network is organized.

“The objective of our project is to promote fair and solidary trade across the chain, maximize socio-economic returns for local farming communities and promote the conservation of biodiversity and the maintenance of the Cerrado ecosystem services,” says Professor Frédéric Mertens, one of the project’s coordinators.

“This is a knowledge generation project that provides support to the organization of the baru supply chain and the sustainability of productive activities in the Cerrado,” explains Mertens.

According to Mertens, the key to strengthen the baru supply chain sustainable production is to strengthen its organization in a network with coordination between the various players involved

to promote fair trade principles and values.

“Currently, baru is considered a promising product with great sales potential and is increasingly appreciated and sought after in domestic and international markets. The growing demand for baru is accompanied by an increase in the establishment of small businesses and local businesses, as well as associations and cooperatives,” adds Mertens.

The advance of agribusiness in the Cerrado led to the creation in 2000 of CEDAC (Cerrado Agroecological Development Center), a non-profit association that oversees political-community organization processes of agro-extractivists to build the Solidary Trade Network. Relying on the support from CEPF via the *Strengthening Socio-Bioproductive Chains in Networks Based on the Sustainable Use of the Cerrado* project, CEDAC enhanced the sustainable self-management process of Cerrado’s natural resources through the expansion of the community organization in a network of agro-extractivists and their enterprises thus consolidating 11 sociobiodiversity chains.

RECIPES

BARU CHOCOLATE CANDY

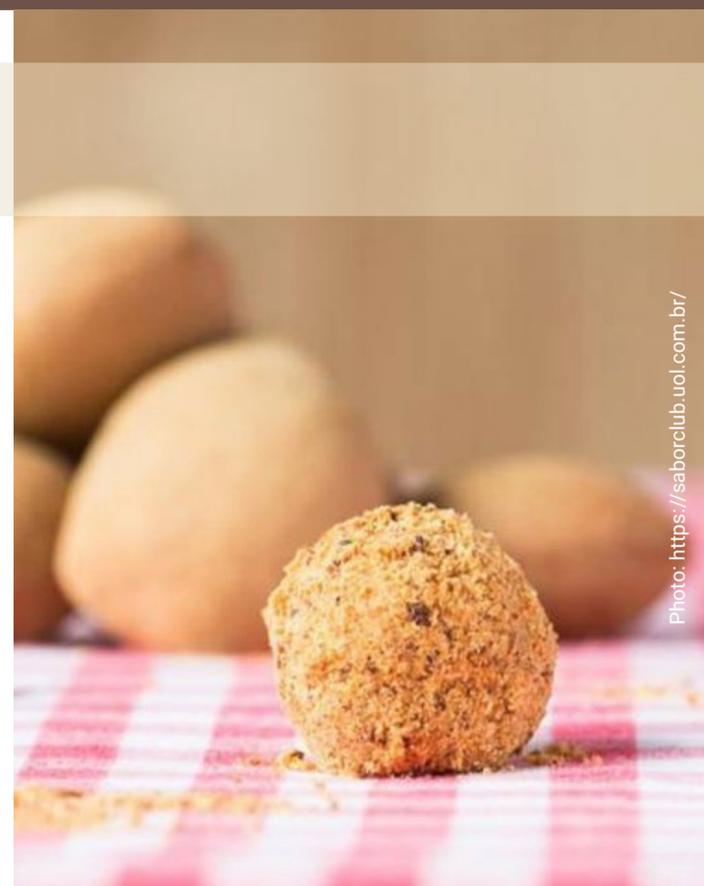
Ingredients

- 1 can of condensed milk
- 1 tablespoon of butter
- 2 tablespoons of powder cocoa
- 2 tablespoons of ground baru nuts

Directions

Heat the condensed milk, cocoa and butter in a pan. When the mixture starts to separate from the pan, remove it from the heat and add the baru. Let it cool and roll the mixture into small balls and roll the balls in the finely ground baru nuts. Place them in small paper cups and serve.

Source: MEDEIROS, Rita. *Gastronomia do Cerrado*.



PEQUI RICE

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup of oil or pork lard
- 1/2 liter of washed pequi
- 2 pressed garlic cloves
- 1 large chopped onion
- 2 cups of rice
- 4 cups of hot water
- Salt to taste
- Hot red chili pepper or chili pepper to taste
- Finely chopped parsley and chives to taste

Directions

1. Mix the pequi with the cold oil or lard (if you use the whole fruit, you don't need to cut it but be careful with the pit).
2. Add the garlic and onion and let it sauté over low heat always stirring with a wooden spoon so it doesn't stick to the pan, and sprinkle a little water when necessary.
3. When the pequi is soft and the water dries up, add the rice and let it fry a little.
4. Add the water and salt and let it boil.
5. When the rice is almost dry, add the chili pepper to taste.
6. Before serving, sprinkle the rice with parsley and chives and a little pepper.



TRADITIONAL POPULATIONS AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

9



According to the Cerrado Ecosystem Profile, traditional peoples and communities are officially defined as culturally different groups that recognize themselves as such, have their forms of social organization, occupy and use territories and natural resources as a condition for their cultural, social, religious, ancestral and economic reproduction using knowledge, innovations and practices generated and passed on by tradition. Indigenous peoples do not feel entirely comfortable within this broad official category of traditional peoples and communities and family farmers (PCTAFs), especially due to the great diversity of ethnic identities.

Indigenous peoples and traditional populations use diverse mechanisms to control and manage their natural resources in the Cerrado. Indigenous lands, where the most unspoiled areas of the biome lie, are located mainly on the fringes of the Amazon region. Many other types of traditional communities and family farmers live where native vegetation remains, mainly in the northern part of the Cerrado hotspot. These communities and farmers suffer from intense pressure for the expansion of crops and livestock in their territories. These populations are key for the conservation of the ecosystem as their landscapes, although fragmented, contain considerable biodiversity without mechanized monocultures. The largest unspoiled areas of natural vegetation in the Cerrado are situated in its 95 indigenous lands covering 96,000 km², or 4.8% of the biome, mainly to the north and west bordering the Amazon region and in the 44 Cerrado *quilombola* territories that cover almost 4,000 km², in addition to other traditional territories not yet mapped and registered.

CEPF's support managed to reach local communities of family farmers, indigenous peoples, traditional populations and civil society networks. During the preparation of the Cerrado Ecosystem Profile, the main needs identified by these stakeholders were: institutional strengthening, training, infrastructure and the implementation of technological tools. Through the contribution of CEPF partners, the projects fostered the inclusion of indigenous peoples, *quilombolas* and traditional populations by respecting and integrating their knowledge to plan the conservation and restoration of the Cerrado. The projects also helped enhance the role of leaders in the defense of their territorial rights and in the pursuit of territorial management and sustainability through an exchange of experiences, training and political advocacy.

CERRADO: A MOSAIC OF PEOPLE AND KNOWLEDGE

The Brazilian Cerrado is occupied by a rich mosaic of different types of peoples and land uses, from family farmers, large agricultural farmers, indigenous lands to *quilombola* territories, agro-extractivists and other traditional peoples.

Many of these communities do not have assured possession of their lands or formal recognition from the government, even though their rights are protected by the Brazilian Constitution and safeguarded by Convention No. 169 of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

"We get just about everything from it," says Socorro Teixeira of the babassu palm tree. Socorro is the leader of babassu coconut

breakers in Bico do Papagaio, northern Tocantins State. From the babassu nut, Socorro makes oil, milk, coconut and soap. She uses babassu coconut husk to make charcoal and the babassu palm trees, when they fall, become fertilizer. The palm straw is used for thatched houses, walls and floors. The babassu tree has many different uses.

Socorro is a character in the book *Saberes dos Povos do Cerrado e Biodiversidade* (Cerrado Peoples' Knowledge and Biodiversity), which was published by the National Campaign for Defense of the Cerrado in partnership with ActionAid, Le Monde Diplomatique Brasil and CEPF and IEB's support.

The book tells stories of the way of life and resistance of people who inhabit the Cerrado in nine Brazilian states. Those people include indigenous peoples, *quilombolas*, root healers, local people from northern Minas Gerais State, evergreen flower pickers, faith healers, Araguaia ranchers, artisanal fishermen, agrarian reform settlers, and other Cerrado dwellers.

As the president of the Cerrado Network and of the Interstate Movement of Babassu Coconut Breakers (MIQCB), Socorro and her group provide for their families with income from babassu groves but are under constant attack from land grabbers and landowners who cut down the region's babassu trees. "People don't respect the coconut breakers' struggle to protect a tree that brings fresh air and the food that feeds us," she says.

The Bico do Papagaio region, which is part of the Legal Amazon, is the most critical land dispute area in Brazil, according to the Land Pastoral Committee (CPT). Known as "Brazil's last agricultural frontier", Matopiba represents the initials of the states of Maranhão, Tocantins, Piauí and Bahia. The Matopiba region covers 73 million hectares, of which 6 million hectares are occupied by soybean, rice and cotton crops.

The development of the last agribusiness frontier has led to local communities and traditional peoples being kicked off their lands, deforestation, water contamination, extinction of native fruits and creole seeds. Traditions, wisdom and ways of life are also vanishing. The advance of agribusiness in the Matopiba region has increased pressure on land use causing conflicts not only over land, but also over natural assets such as water, soil, fauna and flora.

Data from the National Institute for Space Research (INPE) show that the Brazilian Cerrado has lost 283,366.71 km² between 2001 and 2019, while in the Matopiba region the loss of native vegetation reached 125,000 km² in the same period.

"Bacaba and buriti palm trees and swamp areas have been replaced with transgenic soybean, cotton, eucalyptus and corn monocultures. The replacement of traditional way of life with agribusiness crops is part of a project that prevents the conservation of the Cerrado and disrupts the lifestyle of traditional peoples and local communities," according to the ActionAid research.

Emmanuel Ponte, the ActionAid coordinator, explains that the National Campaign for Defense of the Cerrado has a socio-environmental footprint. "It goes beyond the environmental aspect. It does not preach environmentalism without people but highlights the dynamics of the rights of traditional peoples and communities. It seeks an identity between peoples so that there is a continuous struggle to defend the Cerrado," says Ponte.

The campaign values the biodiversity and cultures of the Cerrado peoples and communities who fight for its conservation. The motto – “No Cerrado, no water, no life” – reinforces the key role of the Cerrado in Brazil’s water supply. The campaign aims to generate applied knowledge to support the defense of territorial rights and the conservation of the Cerrado, organize movements and train local leaders.

KALUNGA HISTORICAL SITE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE, BRAZIL’S FIRST ICCA

The **Kalunga Historical Site and Cultural Heritage (SHPCK)** is the largest remaining *quilombola* community in Brazil with about 8,500 people and covers 262,000 hectares in three municipalities in the Goiás State.

It is the first territory in Brazil to be registered as ICCA – Indigenous Peoples’ and Community Conserved Territories and Areas – a global title granted by the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP-WCMC) on May 3, 2021, attributed to preserved communities and traditional territories in which the community has a deep connection with the place it inhabits. These are the so-called “territories of life” where internal management and governance processes seek nature conservation and the wellbeing of its people.

SHPCK is organized into more than 20 communities and 42 locations spread over the Goiás municipalities of Cavalcante, Monte Alegre de Goiás and Teresina de Goiás. The territory is managed by the **Quilombo Kalunga Association (AQK)**, which represents the interests of its residents in land disputes and invasions.

“From the moment the territory was recognized by the UN as ICCA, based on our customs, our crops and our way of living, it helped us to preserve our territory,” says Jorge Moreira de Oliveira, the president of AQK. The association fosters territorial management, which is critical for conservation work across all stages – from the review of bylaws and mapping natural resources to conflict management in the community aimed at ensuring quality of life.

The project includes preparing geological, geomorphological and pedological studies, soil coverage and use, as well as agricultural suitability of the land to make full use of the territory’s potential.

The Geographic Information System on the Kalunga Historical Site and Cultural Heritage was developed with the active participation of local communities in workstations equipped with geoprocessing software and connection to the main databases.

“Everything just got easier. In the past, we didn’t have internal bylaws, we didn’t have an association, we didn’t have groups of people organized to defend our territory. Today we have our bylaws, we have the association and several partners that help us knock on the right doors where we empower ourselves to solve problems within the law and within our rights,” adds Jorge.

To the Kalunga people, their land is now synonymous with

governance and sustainability and its recognition as ICCA has valued the community. With a strong tradition in agriculture, the Kalunga people practice low carbon planting and rely on ancestral knowledge to farm at the pace of nature eliminating the use of pesticides. They plant in small fields where they practice subsistence agriculture with the sale of surpluses.

To Jorge, the Kalunga territory has many riches and beauties that must be preserved. *“Our territory is rich in mineral ore, but we don’t want machines here. That’s why we work with tourism to preserve our land and generate income to our people, besides the fruits of the Cerrado,”* he says.

The project developed by AQK identified the area’s tourist attractions and defined the itineraries to be implemented to increase the families’ earnings and ensure the sustainability of the Kalunga territory.



MANAGING AND PROTECTING THE TERRITORY FOR THE AUTONOMY OF THE TERENA PEOPLE

The Terena are one of Brazil's most numerous indigenous peoples. In Mato Grosso do Sul State, they are located in seven indigenous lands extending from the Paraguai River Basin to the Miranda River Basin.

The *Poke'ixa ûti: Managing and Protecting the Territory for the Autonomy of the Terena People* project is developed in partnership with the **Indigenous Work Center (CTI)** and is carried out in the Miranda-Bodoquena Corridor in Mato Grosso do Sul State.

The project aims to empower the communities of the Buriti, Cachoeirinha and Taunay-Ipegue Indigenous Lands to plan actions capable of ensuring their active participation in processes related to the management of their territories and natural resources.

"This project's goal is to subsidize the drafting of Territorial and Environmental Management Plans (PGTAs) for the lands occupied by the Terena people in Mato Grosso do Sul State. For this, activities are carried out on topics directly related to the management of territories and natural resources, as well as territorial monitoring walks and production of georeferenced data," points out Carolina Perini de Almeida, an anthropologist and technical advisor at CTI.

Carolina explains that all the project's activities are developed together with the Terena People Council and actively involve the communities' young people, women, leaders and elders. The diagnostic and monitoring data seek to enable Terena communities to plan actions that ensure their participation in the management of territories and natural resources.

The three indigenous lands (Buriti, Cachoeirinha and Taunay-Ipegue) located in the transition zone between the Pantanal and the Cerrado biomes are undergoing regularization and demarcation after being declared Indigenous Lands by the Brazilian Ministry of Justice.

"The project started in August 2019 when we took some field trips

and attended some meetings. We're talking about a very extensive area, which together covers approximately 44,000 hectares with a population of 2,400 families. In our partnership with the Council, we understood that it was important to undertake a mobilization process. Territorial and environmental management plans cannot be done without the community's active participation," says Carolina.

According to her, the Terena have a very complex political organization. In the beginning, the project was dedicated to mobilization meetings and to building together a schedule of participatory activities. *"But just as we were going to hold the annual meeting organized by the Council and which brings together all the chiefs of the Indigenous Lands, the Coronavirus pandemic broke out. This was in March 2020 and caused us to rethink the entire project. We didn't know at that point if the pandemic would only last a few months or if it would last longer as in fact, it did,"* explains the anthropologist.

The project was readapted to provide support to sanitary interventions and to the fight against the pandemic in the Terena territory. In July 2020, the first Covid cases began to appear among indigenous people. *"It was a tragic situation. The Terena were one of the most affected indigenous peoples by the virus, second in the number of deaths. We even lost people who participated in the project. As we couldn't do the fieldwork to build the Territorial and Environmental Management Plan, we had to do everything remotely,"* says Carolina.

Therefore, the project activities were reformulated to produce audiovisual materials to raise Terena's awareness about the pandemic with a campaign on Covid-19. These activities led to the production of the film *Ká'arine mêun – The World Got Sick (Ká'arine mêun – O mundo adoeceu)* made by the Terena people's communicators and the *Mídia Índia*. Furthermore, online interviews were conducted with leaders profiting from the fact that the Terena have a good internet connection and diagnoses could be carried out remotely.

TO LEARN MORE:

Terena People Council:

<https://pt-br.facebook.com/conselhoTERENA/>

The World Got Sick:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4EGvmW8cO18>



MOTHER EARTH. THE REPOSSESSION

The Miranda-Bodoquena Ecological Corridor is one of the most devastated areas in the Cerrado. Only about 43% of native vegetation remains. The Indigenous Lands were the ones that most contributed to the preservation of the area. *"If they had more lands, we would have a wider part of the Cerrado protected. If the Terena had possession of the area they are actually entitled to, the local environmental situation would be much better than it is now,"* says Carolina.

She states that it is interesting to note nature's recovery process in some areas formerly occupied by farmers for many years and later

repossessed by the Terena people following land tenure regularization.

"In the three indigenous lands where we work – Cachoeirinha, Buriti and Taunay-Ipegue – there are areas that have been in possession of the Terena for more than 10 years after they were repossessed. The change in the landscape is dramatic with vegetation recovering and springs reappearing in places that were previously dry," explains Carolina.

The Terena call the repossession of their lands Mother Earth (*Enôe Poké'é*). The first thing they do is to till the fields to start planting. It is not a monoculture, but an agroecological garden that does not use pesticides and combines different crops. When they leave the land, the garden then turns into a scrub. They do not exhaust the soil.

CEPF measures the change in understanding and commitment to gender issues in organizations using a tracking and self-assessment tool, which can be applied to understand how gender issues have been institutionally integrated. It consists of 8

questions for a possible total score of 20 (Table 1), while the last question is not scored. The tool must be completed twice – at the beginning and end of the project. All beneficiaries are instructed to complete the Gender Tracking Tool (GTT)⁴.

Table 1. Eight questions that make up CEPF’s Gender Tracking Tool (GTT).

- 1. Does your organization have a written policy that affirms a commitment to gender equality?**
- 2. Are there people in your organization responsible for gender issues?**
- 3. Have any staff in your organization ever received training on gender issues?**
- 4. Is gender analysis built into your program planning procedures?**
- 5. Do you collect sex-disaggregated data about the people impacted by your projects?**
- 6. Does your organization monitor and evaluate how your projects and programs impact men and women differently?**
- 7. Does your organization allocate financial resources to incorporate gender into its work?**
- 8. Would your organization be interested in being contacted by the RIT to learn more or receive training about gender issues?**

CEPF Cerrado has had opportunities to support women from various groups (quilombola, family farmers, agro-extractivists, and leaders of traditional peoples and communities) through their struggles and to increase their impact within their communities.

There were a total of 82 organizations with completed and approved GTT. For analysis, a considerable increase of 74% (~ 3 points) was obtained in the assimilation and understanding of gender issues and the importance of having a diverse environment that influences the organization’s maturity.

The biggest increase in the GTTs was concentrated in the leverage of financial resources, with an increase of 111%, to incorporate gender in the activities promoted by the organizations and, then, it is worth noting that there was a 100% increase in the issues of training and qualification of members within the institution on gender-related issues. One of the goals is that this assessment allows these organizations to formulate governance policies and

manuals that reduce differences and promote an environment of equality and inclusion.

**“WOMEN ARE LIKE WATER
STREAMS; TOGETHER
THEY GROW STRONG”**

This quote opens the letter of the 1st National Cerrado Women’s Meeting, which was held in June 2019 in Luziânia, Goiás State. Organized by the **National Campaign for Defense of the Cerrado** and by the NGO **Ecologia e Ação – ECOA**, it was the first of three meetings that took place in 2019 to strengthen the political organization of women in the Cerrado biome based on the exchange

⁴ Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund. 2020. Impact Report 2001-2020. 79p. Available at: https://www.cepf.net/Websites/default/files/cepf_impact_report_2020.pdf. Accessed November 18, 2021



of experiences and knowledge and dialogue about resistance.

The 130 women who attended the first meeting in Luziânia represented the entire diversity of the Cerrado – black women, indigenous, quilombolas, feminists, peasants, settled peasants, camped peasants, landless peasants, women affected by dams and mining activities, harvesters, fisherwomen, tidewater settlers, LGBTQ+, rural workers, farmers, riverside dwellers, root healers, faith healers, and women from northern Minas Gerais State known as *geraizeiras*.

“United in our diversity, we stand here to say that the Brazilian Cerrado is like a woman! The Cerrado is a mosaic of lives and biodiversity. It is the cradle of Brazil’s waters and its fields and forests are places that feed us. That’s why we strongly support the National Campaign for Defense of the Cerrado. To understand the deep connection of this biome with our ways of life,” says the letter.

Two other meetings gave voice to women from the Cerrado in 2019. On July 2, 2019 the meeting Women from Pantanal and Cerrado was held in Campo Grande, Mato Grosso do Sul State, and brought together 50 participants to the Second Plenary of the **Cerrado and Pantanal Farming Women Network – CerraPan**. The three events were part of the Articulation of Women from the Brazilian Cerrado and Pantanal Biomes, an agenda led by ECOA in partnership with ActionAid. These meetings resulted in the publication of the national report **“Weaving a Network of Resistance by the Cerrado and Pantanal Women”** on the gender and environment agenda included in the list of 7 global highlights of the CEPF 2019 Impact Report.



Nathalia Eberhardt Ziolkowski, a sociologist and researcher at ECOA, says that the meetings provided a safe space for exchanging experiences. *“The women spoke of their experiences in their territories. There were 250 women representing 10 Brazilian states. They talked about their struggle for survival in their regions, their ways of life and knowledge, the importance of women for environmental conservation and how to maintain their territories,”* says Nathalia.

But the meetings’ agenda, according to Nathalia, went far beyond environmental problems. They talked a lot about violence. Not just domestic violence, but the various forms of violence that women face in their territories, in their communities.

CerraPan is made up of eight women’s groups that are socially organized into Traditional Communities and Local Populations of the Cerrado and Pantanal biomes. It was created in 2015 to strengthen the collective articulation of women who work with sociobiodiversity products and artisanal and sustainable management processes.

CerraPan’s mission is to empower extractive women through the political, social and economic organization of local communities. CerraPan seeks women’s autonomy, territorial resilience, environmental conservation, and improved living and working conditions.

To improve their income, women’s groups seek to increase the volume of fruits they collect like bocaiúva, pequi, laranjinha de pacu and baru and their derivatives from the Pantanal and Cerrado. The women work in cooperation to strengthen the supply chain of these native fruit species.

At Nioaque, Mato Grosso do Sul State, the **CEPPEC - Cerrado Research, Production and Training Center**, which is located in the Andalucia settlement, works with baru with ECOA’s support. Baru, aka cumbaru, is a native fruit that offers many health benefits. It is a woody vegetable, brown in color with high nutritional value. The nut can be eaten raw or roasted.

CEPPEC is a mixed-gender group, but its bylaws include a gender-specific clause – 50% plus one of its board of directors must be made up of women. There are 15 women in the settlement, but as they managed to organize themselves today there are 45 collaborating families in the region who collect baru. *“CEPPEC buys the baru production from those families,”* says Nathalia.

“The conservation of the Cerrado is important not only for women



but for life on earth. Today women play a major role in the Cerrado thanks to the overall perception of how much we can contribute and provide sustainability to our families and to the environment where we live,” says Rosana Claudina da Costa Sampaio, aka Preta, a farmer at the Andalucia Settlement and the president of CEPPEC.

The technological tools created by civil society organizations, universities and research institutes are increasing knowledge about Cerrado’s natural resources and putting communities and territories hitherto “invisible” on the map. The notion of Conservation 4.0 derives from the concept of Industry 4.0, where the term is used “to characterize the use of the latest technology to produce consumer goods”⁵. In environment conservation, the term designates the technological leap of tools being developed to promote the conservation of natural resources and the provision of ecosystem services, besides assuring territorial rights to local communities.

Geoprocessing, online platforms and apps are tools used by Conservation 4.0 projects implemented both by researchers from the Federal Universities of Brasília, Rio de Janeiro, Mato Grosso and Goiás states and by civil society organizations, such as IPAM (Amazon Environmental Research Institute) and ISPN (Society, Population and Nature Institute).

To stimulate the advancement and dissemination of these new technologies – which have contributed not only to the advancement of research and the collection of accurate data on the Cerrado, but also to field development of other CEPF strategic axes – CEPF awarded approximately \$700,000 to projects using Conservation 4.0 concept in practice, as demonstrated below.

PUTTING TRADITIONAL CERRADO COMMUNITIES ON THE MAP

A large part of the Cerrado communities is not even mentioned in official documents. To make up for the lack of official data on an area of about 32 million hectares, in 2020 IPAM and ISPN jointly with

the Cerrado Network, traditional populations and rural associations built the app *Tô no Mapa*. The app allows traditional communities and family farmers to map themselves and defend their territories.

Tô no Mapa was developed from participatory mapping workshops held in 55 municipalities in Maranhão, Tocantins, northern Goiás, Piauí and western Bahia states. The mapping identified 1,244 communities not reported in official documents.

“The app provides support to land rights of the Cerrado traditional peoples and communities that are not on the map and, therefore, are “invisible” and severely impacted by the expansion of agribusiness. These peoples are key vectors for the conservation of the Cerrado biome. The defense of their territories not only guarantees the livelihood and social reproduction of these communities but also the preservation of a critically threatened biome like the Cerrado,” says the geographer Ane Alencar who is also director of Science at IPAM.

“The Tô no Mapa app is a tool to support territorial rights and strengthen the struggles of Cerrado communities. These peoples have lived there for several generations in total harmony with forests, fauna and flora. They have in-depth knowledge of the biome, but are under threat and left to their own devices without control over their territories,” points out Isabel Castro, a researcher and project coordinator at IPAM.

According to her, the communities’ self-mapping has contributed to the conservation of the Cerrado. *“Places that local communities use and places of dispute can be mapped on the app and it helps communities to manage their territory,”* adds Isabel.

CERRADO KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM

Several Cerrado maps, including those created by CEPF partners, will supply the LAPIG (Image Processing and Geoprocessing Laboratory) database from Goiás State Federal University.

⁵ Fundação Instituto de Administração (FIA). Indústria 4.0: o que é, consequências, impactos positivos e negativos [Full Guide in Portuguese]. Available at <https://fia.com.br/blog/industria-4-0/>. Access on November 18, 2021.

Launched in November 2020, the **Cerrado Knowledge Platform** was a project funded by CEPF that has become an interactive digital space for public access. It contains a myriad of information about the Cerrado biome.

“The Platform gathers together maps and satellite images resulting from projects developed in the Cerrado and aimed at its conservation, management and planning,” says Manuel Ferreira, a professor and the general coordinator of the Platform.

The Platform is easily accessible and the data are available for download. It contains a wealth of socio-environmental, economic and environmental information, as well as bibliographies, videos and photos.

“The Platform organizes geographic information into physical, social, economic and biodiversity aspects of the Cerrado biome and is connected to Environment departments, NGOs linked to conservation, and universities, among other users,” explains Ferreira.

The Platform gathers important information for the management of the Cerrado biome and greatly helps professional fundraisers from Brazilian and international funds, researchers who publish scientific papers, lawmakers and public policy makers. *“It creates a rich and favorable environment to generate more efficient socio-environmental governance in the Cerrado,”* says Ferreira.

He adds that a restore module has recently been created on the **Platform** to monitor restoration and rehabilitation areas of native vegetation. As well as providing society with reliable information about the Cerrado biome, the Platform values cooperation and the dissemination of science in society in general. Furthermore, researchers from all over Brazil and abroad can collaborate with data to enhance the Platform. It is important to note that the Cerrado Knowledge Platform is the only one that integrates and shares a variety of data and information specific to the hotspot to better inform decision-making processes.

ALARMES PLATFORM

By using satellite data to analyze and quantify the evolution of areas affected by wildfires in the Cerrado in near-real time, the Environmental Satellite Applications Laboratory of Rio de Janeiro Federal University (**LASA-UFRJ**) also uses cutting-edge technology to benefit conservation. The laboratory works with remote sensing and climate change predictions.

Renata Libonati is a PhD in Geophysical Sciences from the University of Lisbon and is a specialist in remote wildfire sensing and a climatologist. She is involved in the development of the prototype of the **ALARMES system**, which was created by LASA-UFRJ and has been in operation since March 2020.

“ALARMES is a dynamic and early warning system to detect the extension of the areas affected by wildfires in the Cerrado. It aids environmental agencies in planning and fighting off wildfires,” says Renata. The system combines NASA satellite imagery and artificial intelligence hot spots to identify new fire-hit areas, monitoring the location and extent of burned areas on a daily basis.

The data collected from the ALARMES system is sent to the

competent bodies for planning and taking effective action. The tool has proven to be very useful both in terms of planning and fire management.

Tools such as the Alarms Platform are essential for monitoring the hotspot because fire alerts increase every year in the Cerrado and Amazon. According to **WWF-Brazil**, in 2021, the number of fire outbreaks in these biomes was the highest since 2007, surpassing May 2020, the year with the highest record of fires within a decade.

WATER RESOURCES

The **Multiscale Quality Monitoring in the São Lourenço River Basin** project was developed by the Department of Geography at Mato Grosso Federal University (UFMT) and monitors the São Lourenço River basin to help local communities to manage their water resources.

The São Lourenço River basin covers about 22,000 km², is one of the main basins of the Pantanal wetlands and integrates the hydrographic region of the Paraguai River. The project developed the **Social Participation** app for mobile phones (Participatory GIS) to disseminate information on water resources with the participation of local communities that use water from the basin.

The availability of data through Participatory GIS empowers social groups and allows their direct participation in monitoring the São Lourenço River basin conditions and managing water resources.

The basin serves different communities such as settled communities, family farmers, indigenous people and fishing families. About 2,800 families are living in 38 settlements in the basin area, almost 1,000 indigenous peoples from the Bororo group and 150 fishing families.

RADIS CERRADO

The **Interactive Technologies Applied to Environmental Restoration** project created the Radis Cerrado app to contribute to building transparent and participatory environmental management. The app was developed by the **Center for Management and Innovation of Family Farming at University of Brasília (CEGAFI/UnB)** with the support from Environment Secretariat (SEMA/DF), FINATEC, Brasília Ambiental Institute (IBRAM), EMBRAPA and Bartô network.

Small, medium and large sized farmers will have an additional benefit with the Radis Cerrado app to monitor their restoration efforts. The tool will also help implement the New Forest Code.

The **Radis Cerrado** app is available on Android and is aimed at promoting and strengthening supply chains associated with the sustainable use of natural resources and ecological restoration.

The app enable users to collect data from ecological indicators for monitoring native vegetation rehabilitation, according to Federal District regulations and socio-productive data aimed at smallholders and traditional populations. The project also provides for the launch of a web portal to systematize environmental regularization data.



Photo: Elder Miranda

The alarming data taken from the IPCC⁶ (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) report released in August 2021 reinforce the need to speed up actions to contain the destruction of biodiversity hotspots such as the Cerrado, with the urgent implementation of programs for the restoration and conservation of biomes.

The planet's temperature today is about 1.09°C higher than that recorded in the period from 1850 to 1900. According to scientists, climate change and the loss of biodiversity are closely intertwined and will only be solved if they are addressed together.

The new UN report on climate change emphasizes that reducing deforestation and forest degradation can contribute to minimizing carbon dioxide emissions from human activities by between 0.4 and 5.8 gigatons per year.

The ecological restoration of biomes is among the cheapest and quickest nature-based climate mitigation measures to implement, offering much-needed habitat for plants and animals, thus enhancing the resilience of biodiversity in the face of climate change, according to scientists.

As the projects presented in this publication demonstrate, the recovery and conservation of the Brazilian Cerrado generates business opportunities and creates jobs and income, thus benefiting traditional peoples and local communities.

Protecting and restoring the Cerrado requires socioenvironmental governance capable of generating harmony between large-scale

agriculture and agro-extractive uses, contributing to overcoming poverty and fostering social inclusion in rural areas.

According to Michael Becker, CEPF Cerrado coordinator, one of the greatest challenges facing the Cerrado today is to halt growing deforestation in areas such as Matopiba, an agricultural frontier that includes territories in the states of Maranhão, Tocantins, Piauí and Bahia and has been expanding from season to season. *"The Cerrado is not empty. There are many traditional peoples who live there and have the right to use water and land and can benefit from their traditional knowledge,"* says Becker.

Climate change proves that agribusiness in the Cerrado will not be possible without water and special care for natural resources. Drought has become chronic, harming coffee and soybean crops. *"We have to contain the expansion of new agricultural areas and make better use of the land and degraded pastures,"* says Becker. The future of the Cerrado involves greater production diversity through better use of native fruits, the biome's landscape and agro-tourism. The destruction of the Cerrado enhances inequalities as traditional populations are the most vulnerable to climate change.

But CEPF partners are bringing good examples of how to overcome challenges, like the sustainable production initiative undertaken by the Grande Sertão and COPABASE cooperatives. It is small-scale agriculture, but they know how to take advantage of everything the Cerrado yields and it is opening new markets in Brazil and abroad.

Agro-extractivism has been consolidated as an alternative income generating activity. It is associated with the context of family farming and with the economic use of socio-biodiversity products.

However, projections for the future of the Brazilian Cerrado point to an increase in droughts. More than half of its native vegetation is gone and the absence of natural vegetation strips will prevent the growth of the few corridors for life left for the biome's species. IPCC projections for Brazil's Midwest region, according to the Interactive Atlas, consider that under the most optimistic scenario the temperature is expected to rise by 2°C by 2040.

Many Cerrado scientists and researchers, like Professor Mercedes Bustamante from the University of Brasília, have warned about the urgency of carrying out work to expand the biome's protected areas.

There is still time, albeit very little time, to conserve and preserve key parts of the Cerrado, but this requires reducing deforestation rates, restoring degraded areas (the solution to environmental liabilities), and undertaking efficient management to reduce environmental and social impacts.

⁶ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). (2021). Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Masson-Delmotte, V. P., Zhai, A., Pirani, S. L., Connors, C., Péan, S., Berger, N., Caud, Y., Chen, L., Goldfarb, M. I., Gomis, M., Huang, K., Leitzell, E., Lonnoy, J. B. R., Matthews, T. K., Maycock, T., Waterfield, O., Yelekçi, R., & Yu and B. Zhou (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press. In Press.

CEPF CERRADO PORTFOLIO 2016-2022

Selected among the 25 global hotspots eligible to receive CEPF funding, the Cerrado was earmarked to benefit from a \$8 million investment by CEPF for conservation projects from July 2016 to June 2021 (subsequently extended until March 2022).

During this period, CEPF Cerrado made five open calls that supported 61 projects in the Cerrado.

CEPF Cerrado projects are as diverse as the biome itself and the Fund's strategies. The initiatives cover almost the entire Cerrado territory – from Piauí to Mato Grosso do Sul states.

Partner organizations have implemented payment strategies for

environmental services with coffee producers, set up projects to protect endangered species and undertook work with traditional populations, thus encouraging the management and good use of natural resources in their territories.

A key point for CEPF was to model its project portfolio in such a way that interactions between beneficiaries and other players in the Cerrado hotspot were reinforced, possible synergies were identified and results enhanced on a small and large scale.

All CEPF Cerrado projects can be viewed at <https://cepfcerrado.iieb.org.br/projetos-que-apoiamos/>



STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1:
Promote the adoption of best practices in agriculture in the priority corridors

Project Title	Reward Program for Conscious Producers - Restoring Ecosystem Services in the Cerrado
Beneficiaries	Consórcio Cerrado das Águas – CCA Fundação de Desenvolvimento do Cerrado Mineiro - FUNDACCER
Website	www.cerradodasaguas.org.br
Technical Manager	Fabiane Sebaio
Contact	consorcio@cerradodasaguas.org.br
Municipalities	Patrocínio (Minas Gerais, Brazil)
Main goal	Establish and implement a strategy to restore the provision of ecosystem services in the Córrego Feio basin in the long term through a process of effective engagement with producers and local actors.
Grant Value	US\$ 410,068.18

Project Title	Food Products from the Forests in the Cerrado, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Instituto Educacional Tiradentes - IET Cooperativa Agropecuária dos Produtores Familiares de Niquelândia – COOPERAGROFAMILIAR
Website	https://institutotiradentes.com.br/ https://coopeag.com.br/
Technical Manager	Manoel Alves Gomes Júnior
Contact	mjtiradentes@gmail.com; cooperagro@hotmail.com
Municipalities	Niquelândia (Goiás, Brazil)
Main goal	To recognize the role of women in rural dynamics through a set of articulated activities, stimulating their recognition as political subjects/actors in the construction of the agroecological concept, through the dissemination of the agroforestry production system.
Grant Value	U\$ 78,950.00

Project Title	Productive Backyards, Agroecology and Food Security in the Guar River Valley, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Implementation: Universidade Federal do Oeste da Bahia – UFOB Administrative management: Fundao Escola Politcnica da Bahia - FEP
Website	https://ufob.edu.br/
Technical Manager	Mario Alberto dos Santos
Contact	naturezageo@gmail.com
Municipalities	So Desidrio (Bahia, Brazil)
Main goal	Present and disseminate social technologies and sustainable practices for the agroecological production of food, for the recovery, conservation of the soil and the treatment of organic solid waste in traditional Geraizeiras communities in the municipality of So Desidrio, region of the Guar river valley, west of Bahia.
Grant Value	U\$ 33,281.99

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2:

Support the creation/expansion and effective management of protected areas in the priority corridors

Photo: Acervo WWF Brasil / Bento Viana

Project Title	Evaluating and Strengthening Municipal Conservation Units in the Cerrado, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Ambiental 44 Informação e Projetos em Biodiversidade Ltda.
Website	https://bit.ly/3pfGRJY
Technical Manager	Luiz Paulo de Souza Pinto (In Memoriam)
Contact	cacaucosta2008@gmail.com
Municipalities	Across the Cerrado hotspot.
Main goal	Evaluate the scenario of municipal conservation units in the Cerrado to strengthen local biodiversity protection policies, especially in the priority corridors of the hotspot.
Grant Value	U\$ 44,965.87

Project Title	Proposal for the creation of a conservation unit in the city of Uberaba, Minas Gerais
Beneficiaries	Associação para a Gestão Socioambiental do Triângulo Mineiro - ANGÁ
Website	www.anga.org.br
Technical Manager	Gustavo Bernardino Malacco da Silva
Contact	anga@anga.gov.br
Municipalities	Uberaba (Minas Gerais, Brazil)
Main goal	Carry out a socio-environmental diagnosis in the region of the Upper Course of the Hydrographic Basins of the Claro and Uberabinha rivers that will subsidize the creation of a Conservation Unit through a proposal that was sent to the competent environmental public bodies.
Grant Value	U\$ 40,449.57

Project Title	Poke'ixa ûti: managing and protecting our territory for the autonomy of the Terena people
Beneficiaries	Centro de Trabalho Indigenista - CTI
Website	www.trabalhoindigenista.org.br
Technical Manager	Carolina Perini de Almeida
Contact	contato@trabalhoindigenista.org.br
Municipalities	Miranda, Aquidauana, Dois Irmãos do Buriti and Sidrolândia (Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil)
Main goal	This project supported the elaboration of Territorial and Environmental Management Plans for the Buriti, Cachoeirinha and Taunay-Ipegue indigenous lands, occupied by the Terena people in Mato Grosso do Sul. To this end, activities were carried out on topics directly related to the management of territories and natural resources, as well as territorial monitoring campaigns and production of georeferenced data. All activities were developed in dialogue with the Terena People's Council and actively involved young people, women, leaders, and elders of the communities. It is expected, therefore, the collection of diagnostic and monitoring data that enable the Terena communities to plan actions that guarantee their participation in the management of territories and natural resources.
Grant Value	U\$ 47,738,69.46

Project Title	Agricultural Frontier and Nature: visions and conflicts in the Nascentes of Rio Parnaíba National Park
Beneficiaries	Implementation: Universidade de Brasília Administrative Management: Fundação de Empreendimentos Científicos e Tecnológicos - FINATEC
Website	https://ppgmader.com.br/
Technical Manager	Sérgio Sauer Karla Oliveira
Contacts	https://observatorio-matopiba.com.br/contato
Municipalities	Formosa do Rio Preto (Bahia, Brazil); Alto Parnaíba (Maranhão, Brazil); Gilbués, São Gonçalo do Gurguéia, Barreiras do Piauí and Corrente (Piauí, Brazil); Mateiros, São Félix and Lizarda (Tocantins, Brazil).
Main goal	Understand the transformation of the territory of <i>PARNA das Nascentes do Rio Parnaíba</i> and the socio-environmental conflicts established from the advance of the agricultural frontier encouraged by government actions and the MATOPIBA Agricultural Development Plan.
Grant Value	U\$ 15,855.21

Project Title	Technical support and development of a participatory process for the formulation of the expansion proposal of the Cerrado Biosphere Reserve
Beneficiaries	Greentec Tecnologia Ambiental
Website	https://www.facebook.com/GreentecBrasilia/
Technical Manager	Rogério Henrique Vereza de Azevedo
Contact	greentec@greentecambiental.com.br
Municipalities	All inserted in the Cerrado Biosphere Reserve
Main goal	Discuss with the main social actors a process of redefinition of limits for the Cerrado Biosphere Reserve, from the definition of criteria and concepts focusing on the geospatial issue, and compose a technical document to be submitted to UNESCO, for recognition purposes of this effort.
Grant Value	U\$ 10,782.75

Project Title	Integrating the Traditional Cajueiro Community in the conservation of protected areas in Januária (MG)
Beneficiaries	Instituto Para o Desenvolvimento Social e Ecológico - IDESE
Website	http://www.idese.org/
Technical Manager	Hélem Fuziel de Abreu
Contact	comunicacao@idese.org
Municipalities	Januária (Minas Gerais, Brazil)
Main goal	Integrate the traditional populations of the Cajueiro Community (Januária, Minas Gerais) in the conservation of the Porto Cajueiro Private Natural Heritage Reserve and the Cochá and Gibão Environmental Protection Area through the implementation and restoration of Sustainable Production Models which resulted in improved food security and income generation for the communities, in addition to the restoration of degraded areas and local biodiversity conservation.
Grant Value	U\$ 43,320.88

Project Title	Study of Expansion of Protected Areas in the Mosaic Sertão Veredas Peruaçu, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Associação Mineira de Defesa do Ambiente – AMDA
Website	https://www.amda.org.br/index.php/projetos/6086-projeto-ampliacao-e-criacao-de-unidades-de-conservacao-no-mosaico-sertao-veredas-peruacu
RTechnical Manager	Francisco Mourão Vasconcelos Ravi Fernandes Mariano Luiz Gustavo Nunes Vieira da Silva
Contact	atendimento@amda.org.br
Municipalities	Chapada Gaúcha, Cônego Marinho, Januária, Itacarambi, Bonito de Minas, São João das Missões and Miravânia (Minas Gerais, Brazil)
Main goal	Develop studies for the expansion and creation of conservation units in the Sertão Veredas Peruaçu Mosaic of Protected Areas through the identification of areas for the conservation of natural environments, land tenure, involvement of local rural owners and traditional communities with an emphasis on the search for protected areas that can guarantee conditions for the maintenance and strengthening of sustainable plant extraction.
Grant Value	U\$ 101,247.15

Project Title	Use of geoprocessing in the management of the Kalunga Historic and Cultural Heritage Site
Beneficiaries	Associação Quilombo Kalunga – AQK
Website	http://quilombokalunga.org.br/povo-kalunga/aqk/
Technical Manager	Damião Santos Durval Mota
Contact	aqkalunga@gmail.com
Municipalities	Cavalcante, Monte Alegre de Goiás and Teresina de Goiás (Goiás, Brazil)
Main goal	Improvement and consolidation of the environmental and territorial management of the Kalunga Historic and Cultural Heritage Site, through Geographical Information System (GIS) as a tool for territorial management, as well as the sustainable use of natural resources, aiming to guarantee an improvement in the quality of life.
Grant Value	U\$ 356,288.77

Project Title	Mosaic of Conservation Units in Sertão Veredas-Peruaçu
Beneficiaries	Fundação Pró Natureza - Funatura
Website	http://www.funatura.org.br/
Technical Manager	Cesar Victor do Espírito Santo Pedro Bruzzi Lion
Contact	funatura@funatura.org.br
Municipalities	Formoso, Arinos, Chapada Gaúcha, Urucuaia, Cônego Marinho, Januária, Itacarambi, Bonito de Minas, São João das Missões and Manga (Minas Gerais, Brazil); Mambai (Goiás, Brazil); Jaborandi (Bahia, Brazil)
Main goal	Promote the strengthening of the management of the Sertão Veredas-Peruaçu Mosaic.
Grant Value	U\$ 199,819.85

Project Title	Private Reserves in the Cerrado
Beneficiaries	Fundação Pró Natureza - Funatura
Website	http://www.funatura.org.br/ http://reservasprivadasdocerrado.com.br/
Technical Manager	Pedro Bruzzi Lion Laércio Machado de Sousa
Contact	funatura@funatura.org.br
Municipalities	Across the hotspot
Main goal	Through a strong work of communication and environmental networking, organizations and focal points were contacted in the main municipalities with strong tourist potential, sustainable ecotourism and/or with high rates of deforestation in the last 10 years. The KBAs and CEPF Priority Corridors were also one of the main criteria in choosing the areas to be recognized as Private Reserves although efforts were made in the Cerrado given the difficulty of convincing landowners. In this way, the creation of private protected areas was encouraged.
Grant Value	U\$ 262,980.24

Project Title	Strengthening the Integrated Territorial Management for Protected Areas of the Mosaic Sertão Veredas Peruaçu, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Fundo Mundial para a Natureza – WWF Brasil
Website	https://www.wwf.org.br/
Technical Manager	Kolbe Soares Santos
Contact	comunicacao@wwf.org.br
Municipalities	Arinos, Formoso, Chapada Gaúcha, Urucuaia, Januária, Bonito de Minas, Cônego Marinho, Miravânia, Manga, São João das Missões and Itacarambi (Minas Gerais, Brazil); Cocos (Bahia, Brazil).
Main goal	Work on the integration and strengthening of the management of Sertão Veredas-Peruaçu Mosaic specially protected areas.
Grant Value	U\$ 187,000.00

Project Title	Integrated Creation and Implementation of Federal Private Reserves in the Chapada dos Veadeiros Region
Beneficiaries	Instituto Oca Brasil
Website	https://www.ocabrasil.org/
Technical Manager	Andreza Girardi
Contact	diretoria@ocabrasil.org; instituto@ocabrasil.org
Municipalities	Alto Paraíso, Nova Roma, Cavalcante, São João D’Aliança, Colinas and Teresina de Goiás (Goiás, Brazil)
Main goal	Foment the creation of new private reserves and support the implementation of existing ones in the Veadeiros – Pouso Alto – Kalunga Corridor in the Cerrado hotspot.
Grant Value	U\$ 121,545.99

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3:

Promote and strengthen supply chains associated with the sustainable use of natural resources and ecological restoration in the hotspot

Project Title	Seedling nursery for agroforestry production at Brejão Indigenous Land, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Associação Hanaiti Yomomo - AHY
Website	https://www.facebook.com/ahybrejao.yomomo.7
Technical Manager	Alexandro da Silva Souza
Contact	https://www.facebook.com/ahy.aldeiabrejao/
Municipalities	Nioaque (Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil)
Main goal	Include indigenous people in the community development process, aiming to guarantee a sustainable alternative in food security, the use of new social technologies, sustainable use of soil and plant species from the Cerrado, as well as the aggregation of value and income generation through agricultural and extractive products.
Grant Value	U\$ 18,080.64

Project Title	Buriti, a Palm Tree to Generate Income for Youth and Women as Incentive to Conserve Cerrado
Beneficiaries	Cooperativa dos Agricultores Familiares e Agroextrativistas Grande Sertão Ltda
Website	https://cooperativagrandesertao.com.br/
Technical Manager	José Fabio Soares
Contact	cooperativagrandesertao@gmail.com
Municipalities	Januária, São João das Missões, Cônego Marinho and Bonito de Minas (Minas Gerais, Brazil)
Main goal	Strengthen actions for the conservation of natural resources associated with the generation of work and income with traditional peoples and communities in the north of Minas Gerais, especially young people and women who often take the lead in work involving agro-extractivism and the processing of products.
Grant Value	U\$ 20,155.68

Project Title	Strengthen the Cerrado Biodiversity in Land Reform Settlement Areas, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Cooperativa de Trabalho e Serviços Técnicos - COOSERT
Website	pt-br.facebook.com/coosert.cooperativa
Technical Manager	José Bernardo Santos da Silva
Contact	coosert@yahoo.com.br
Municipalities	Caxias (Maranhão, Brazil)
Main goal	Replan productive activities within the principles of ecologically based agriculture to enable soil and water resources recovery as well as the restoration of Legal Reserve and Permanent Preservation Areas in two agrarian reform settlements: PA Buriti do Meio and PA Engenho D'Água, in the municipality of Caxias, Maranhão.
Grant Value	U\$ 19,055.60

Project Title	Miranda-Bodoquena Corridor: filling socio-environmental gaps
Beneficiaries	ECOIA – Ecologia e Ação
Website	http://riosvivos.org.br/
Technical Manager	Rafael Morais Chiaravalloti Nathalia Eberhardt Ziolkowski
Contact	ecoacomunic@riosvivos.org.br
Municipalities	Miranda and Nioaque (Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil)
Main goal	Assist in the revegetation and conservation of the Cerrado by strengthening non-timber extractivism by communities and settlers in Mato Grosso do Sul – Miranda-Bodoquena corridor.
Grant Value	U\$ 35,696.29

Project Title	Mapping of isolated trees and the potential for natural regeneration in cultivated pastures in the Cerrado
Beneficiaries	Execução: EMBRAPA Recursos Genéticos e Biotecnologia - Cenargen Gestão administrativa: Fundação Arthur Bernardes – FUNARBE
Website	https://www.embrapa.br
Technical Manager	Daniel Luis Mascia Vieira
Contact	https://www.embrapa.br/fale-conosco/sac/
Municipalities	Across the Cerrado hotspot
Main goal	Identify and spatialize the potential for natural regeneration, as well as isolated trees, in cultivated pastures in the Cerrado biome. Based on the results obtained, inform public policies on prioritizing areas for restoration and payments for environmental services or environmental certification of pastures that conserve Cerrado trees.
Grant Value	U\$ 49,188.01

Project Title	Capacity Building in Ecological Restoration in the Cerrado: Diagnosis, Methodologies and Monitoring, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Rede de Sementes do Cerrado
Website	http://www.rsc.org.br/
Technical Manager	Camila Motta
Contact	diretoria@rsc.org.br
Municipalities	Across the Cerrado hotspot
Main goal	Train the managers of projects supported by CEPF in restoration actions, as well as others involved in the restoration process, on the diagnosis of degraded areas, restoration planning, restoration techniques and monitoring of restoration results.
Grant Value	U\$ 20,171.41

Project Title	Study of Collaborative Networks: Strengthening the Baru Sustainable Productive Chain in Brazil
Beneficiaries	Administrative Management: Working – Associação de Integração Profissional Implementation: Centro de Desenvolvimento Sustentável – Universidade de Brasília Communication: Cajuí Comunicação Digital
Website	http://cde.unb.br/
Technical Manager	Frédéric Mertens Andrés Burgos
Contact	cerrado@iieb.org.br
Municipalities	Municipalities that are part of the Extractive Corridor proposal, in the states of Goiás and Minas Gerais, with small areas of influence in Bahia and Tocantins
Main goal	Understand the forms of network organization of the sustainable production chain in Baru to promote fair and solidary trade in the chain, maximize socio-economic returns for the communities of local producers and promote the conservation of biodiversity and the maintenance of Cerrado ecosystem services.
Grant Value	U\$ 35,284.93

Project Title	Agroforestry provider of ecosystem services
Beneficiaries	Associação Rede Rio São Bartolomeu de Mútua Cooperação – Rede Bartô
Website	https://www.facebook.com/redebartonascomunidades/
Technical Manager	Fabício Lima da Silva
Contact	redebartonascomunidades@gmail.com
Municipalities	Brasília, Distrito Federal, Brazil
Main goal	Benefiting communities of family farmers that are located in the Cerrado biome, in RIDE Brasília and are part of a key area for biodiversity.
Grant Value	U\$ 293,389.38

Project Title	Mirador-Mesas: sustainable extractive corridor
Beneficiaries	Central do Cerrado
Website	https://www.centraldocerrado.org.br/
Technical Manager	Mayk Arruda
Contact	centraldocerrado@centraldocerrado.org.br
Municipalities	Lago do Junco, Lago dos Rodrigues, São Luís Gonzaga do Maranhão, Bacabal, Codó, Caxias, Esperantinópolis, Santo Antônio dos Lopes, Capinzal do Norte, Coroatá, Trizidela do Vale, Pedreiras, Lima Campos, Imperatriz and João Lisboa (Maranhão, Brazil); Axixá do Tocantins, Augustinópolis, São Miguel do Tocantins and Sitio Novo do Tocantins (Tocantins, Brazil)
Main goal	Bring together organizations working in the babassu chain for the formal creation of the Consórcio Babaçu Livre, which will have the potential to develop and multiply the capacity for sustainable use of babassu trees, offering technical training in good management practices in conserved areas in the states of Tocantins and Maranhão, in addition to facilitating the production, marketing and management of products.
Grant Value	US\$ 97,731.00

Project Title	Strengthen Socio-Bioproductio Chains in Network Based on the Sustainable Use of the Cerrado, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Centro de Desenvolvimento Agroecológico do Cerrado - CEDAC
Website	https://www.facebook.com/CEDACCERRADO/
Technical Manager	Alessandra Karla da Silva
Contact	comercial@emporiodocerrado.org.br
Municipalities	São Domingos, Guarani, Mambaí, Damianópolis, Formosa, Flores de Goiás and Sítio D'Abadia (Goiás, Brazil)
Main goal	Strengthen the process of sustainable self-management of Cerrado's natural resources, through the expansion of the political-community organization in a network of Cerrado agro-extractivists and their agro-extractive enterprises, consolidating 11 socio-biodiversity chains.
Grant Value	US\$ 164,050.29

Project Title	Implementation of Environmental Reserve Quotas in Maranhão and opportunities in Tocantins and Bahia
Beneficiaries	Conservation Strategy Fund / Conservação Estratégica - CSF
Website	https://www.conservation-strategy.org/
Technical Manager	Pedro Gasparinetti Vasconcelos
Contact	https://www.conservation-strategy.org/contact
Municipalities	Maranhão, Bahia and Tocantins states in Brazil
Main goal	Help states to develop and launch the implementation of an Environmental Reserve Quota Program.
Grant Value	U\$ 104,103.03

Project Title	Sustainable production practices as promoters of biodiversity conservation in the Sertão Urucuiano
Beneficiaries	Cooperativa de Agricultura Familiar Sustentável com Base na Economia Solidária - COPABASE
Website	https://www.copabase.org/
Technical Manager	Dionete Figueiredo Barboza
Contact	comercialcopabase@gmail.com
Municipalities	Arinos, Riachinho, Bonfinópolis de Minas, Urucuia, Chapada Gaúcha, Uruana de Minas, Natalândia and Pintópolis (Minas Gerais, Brazil).
Main goal	Promote the diversification of agricultural extractivism production with sustainable management through the collective structuring of families within the Cooperative of Sustainable Family Agriculture based on Solidarity Economy - COPABASE, covering the region of the Urucuia River basin.
Grant Value	U\$ 257,455.85

Project Title	Interactive technologies applied to environmental restoration in the Cerrado
Beneficiaries	Administrative Management Fundação de Empreendimentos Científicos e Tecnológicos - FINATEC Implementation: Universidade de Brasília
Website	www.cegafiunb.com/cepf
Technical Manager	Mario Lucio de Ávila
Contact	unb.cegafi@gmail.com
Municipalities	Brasília, Distrito Federal, Brazil
Main goal	Support the processes of vegetation recomposition and environmental regularization, with the development of systems for collecting and systematizing vegetation monitoring data, in line with the rules and regulations. The use of web tools, integrating different functionalities, can help in the process of joining the Environmental Regularization Program and monitoring the restoration processes and results.
Grant Value	U\$ 72,347.00

Project Title	Innovate in Cerrado Supply-Chain through Municipal-scale Planning, Policy and Capacity Building, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Fundo Mundial para a Natureza – WWF Brasil
Website	https://www.wwf.org.br/
Technical Manager	Don Eaton
Contact	comunicacao@wwf.org.br
Municipalities	Corguinho, Rio Negro and Rochedo (Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil)
Main goal	Promote environmentally and socially responsible production chains in the rural municipalities of the Cerrado that form the headwaters of the Pantanal, in order to guarantee the conservation and restoration of the region, contributing to income generation, strengthening the local economy and maintaining essential environmental services for production areas, rural communities and regional biodiversity.
Grant Value	U\$ 288,793.16

Project Title	Cerrado das Águas Consortium: a network for the provision of ecosystem services and agricultural sustainability
Beneficiaries	Imaflora - Instituto de Manejo e Certificação Florestal e Agrícola
Website	http://www.imaflora.org/
Technical Manager	Eduardo Trevisan Gonçalves
Contact	imaflora@imaflora.org
Municipalities	64 municipalities in the Cerrado
Main goal	Influence the creation of public policies that promote the conservation and restoration of Cerrado ecosystems, improving the sustainability of agricultural supply chains.
Grant Value	U\$ 193,035.00

Project Title	Seed Market and Restoration: Providing Environmental Services and Biodiversity
Beneficiaries	Rede de Sementes do Cerrado
Website	http://www.rsc.org.br/
Technical Manager	Camila Motta
Contact	contato@rsc.org.br
Municipalities	Alto Paraíso, Cavalcante and Mambaí (Goiás, Brazil); and all municipalities in the Distrito Federal state.
Main goal	Act in the main links of the native seed production chain: seed collectors, the different types of seed buyers and the interconnection between these actors.
Grant Value	U\$ 283,231.69



STRATEGIC DIRECTION 4:
Support the protection of threatened species in the hotspot

Project Title	Conservation of <i>Pithecopus ayeaye</i>, related species and their ecosystems
Beneficiaries	Administrative management: Instituto Araguaia – IA Implementation: Laboratório de Fauna e Unidades de Conservação – LAFUC/ Universidade de Brasília
Website	https://www.lafuc.com/
Technical Manager	Reuber Albuquerque Brandão
Contact	http://www.evl.unb.br/index.php/laboratorios/fauna-e-unidades-de-conservacao
Municipalities	Pedregulho (São Paulo, Brazil); Ouro Preto, Nova Lima, Caeté, Illicínea, Guapé, Campestre, Caldas, Poços de Caldas, Alpinópolis, São José da Barra, Passos, São Roque de Minas, Araxá, Sacramento, Ibiraci, Luz, Lavras, São João Del Rey, Arantina, Cristais, Claraval, Machado, Andradas, Formoso, Jaboticatubas, Patrocínio and Luz (Minas Gerais, Brazil); Alto Paraíso, Alvorada do Norte, São João da Aliança, Pirenópolis, Caldas Novas, Cabeceiras, Cavalcante, Minaçu, Cristalina, Nova Roma, Catalão and Caiapônia (Goiás, Brazil); Chapada dos Guimarães, Juinhã, Nova Xavantina, Barra do Garça, Vale dos Sonhos, Juscimeira, Primavera do Leste and Vila Paredão (Mato Grosso, Brazil); Anagé, Igaporã, Tanque Novo and Jacaraci (Bahia, Brazil); Brasília (Distrito Federal, Brazil); Natividade and Novo Jardim (Tocantins, Brazil).
Main goal	Support the protection of endangered and endemic anuran species from the Cerrado hotspot: <i>Pithecopus ayeaye</i> , <i>P. centralis</i> , <i>P. megacephala</i> and <i>P. oreades</i>
Grant Value	U\$ 46,296.00

Project Title	Reintroduction of the great-billed seed finch bird in key areas for conservation in the Cerrado
Beneficiaries	Instituto Ariramba de Conservação da Natureza
Website	https://www.projeto bicudo.com/
Technical Manager	Flávio Kulaif Ubaid
Contact	https://www.facebook.com/projetobicudo/
Municipalities	Cocos (Bahia, Brazil); Chapada Gaúcha, Formoso and Januária (Minas Gerais, Brazil); Borebi and Lençóis Paulista (São Paulo, Brazil)
Main goal	Reestablish populations of great-billed seed finch (<i>Sporophila maximiliani</i>) in areas where it is already extinct and produce knowledge about the species.
Grant Value	U\$ 27,061.25

Project Title	An integrative approach to advancing the conservation of the biodiversity of endangered species in the Brazilian Cerrado
Beneficiaries	Instituto Claravis IUCN SSC Centro de Sobrevivência de Espécies Brasil
Website	http://institutoclaravis.org/ https://cssbrazil.org/
Technical Manager	Fabiana Lopes Rocha
Contact	csebrasil.contato@gmail.com
Municipalities	Fauna: across the Cerrado hotspot Flora: Lagoa Santa, Grão Mogol, Jaboticatubas, Santana do Riacho, Morro do Pilar, Itambé do Mato Dentro, São Gonçalo do Rio Preto, Buenópolis and Joaquim Felício (Minas Gerais, Brazil)
Main goal	Build capacity to apply the tools of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in Brazil and improve integration with international strategies, while advancing in the management of the country's natural resources, especially the Cerrado, using three strategic tools for conservation: the extinction risk assessments (red list), the National Action Plans and the IUCN Green State protocol.
Grant Value	US\$ 100,908.49

Project Title	Ecology and recovery of <i>Uebelmannia buiningii</i> Donald (Cactaceae)
Beneficiaries	Instituto Jurumi para Conservação da Natureza - IJCN
Website	https://www.institutojurumi.org.br/
Technical Manager	Suelma Ribeiro Silva
Contact	mensagem@institutojurumi.org.br
Municipalities	Itamarandiba (Minas Gerais, Brazil)
Main goal	To propose a recovery plan for <i>Uebelmannia buiningii</i> in Serra Negra, in the Espinhaço Range of Minas Gerais, based on robust ecological studies, which allow the knowledge of the impact of anthropic and natural disturbance on <i>U. buiningii</i> and the identification of the most important stages of the life history which is critical to understanding the long-term viability of the population.
Grant Value	US\$ 36,739.42

Project Title	Management and protection of the Faveiro-de-wilson tree (<i>Dimorphandra wilsonii</i>)
Beneficiaries	Sociedade de Amigos da Fundação ZooBotânica de Belo Horizonte
Website	http://www.amigosdazoobotanica.com.br/
Technical Manager	Fernando Moreira Fernandes
Contact	faveirodewilson@gmail.com
Municipalities	(Paraopeba, Sete Lagoas, Matozinhos, Lagoa Santa, Inhaúmas, Esmeraldas, Fortuna de Minas, São José da Varginha, Perdígão, Pequi, Juatuba and Maravilhas (Minas Gerais, Brazil))
Main goal	Increase protection for Faveiro-de-wilson tree (<i>Dimorphandra wilsonii</i>) and its habitat through the implementation of actions in its National Action Plan
Grant Value	U\$ 18,633.30

Project Title	Saving the blue-eyed ground dove (<i>Columbina cyanopsis</i>) and its unique habitat in the Cerrado
Beneficiaries	Associação para a Conservação das Aves do Brasil – SAVE Brasil
Website	http://www.savebrasil.org.br/
Technical Manager	Pedro F. Develey Albert Gallon de Aguiar
Contact	aves@savebrasil.org.br
Municipalities	Botumirim (Minas Gerais, Brazil)
Main goal	Promote the long-term conservation of the Cerrado in the area of rediscovery of the blue-eyed ground dove (<i>Columbina cyanopsis</i>), with special attention to the protection of this critically endangered species.
Grant Value	U\$ 122,133.38

Project Title	Preventing the Brazilian Merganser from extinction in the Veadeiros Corridor - Pouso Alto – Kalungas, Chapada dos Veadeiros, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Administrative Management: Instituto Amada Terra de Inclusão Social – IAT Implementation: Projeto Pato-mergulhão - Chapada dos Veadeiros
Website	https://mergusforever.com.br/
Technical Manager	Gislaine M.S. Disconzi
Contact	projetomerguscv@gmail.com
Municipalities	Alto Paraíso de Goiás, Cavalcante, Colinas do Sul, São João D’Aliança and Teresina de Goiás (Goiás, Brazil)
Main goal	Propose actions to avoid the extinction of the Brazilian merganser (<i>Mergus octosetaceus</i>) in the Veadeiros - Pouso Alto - Kalungas Corridor, in Chapada dos Veadeiros, Goiás, to evaluate and quantify the influence of the dispersion process on the choice of habitats used by the critically endangered species.
Grant Value	U\$ 206,832.18



Project Title	Research and development to generate a daily alert system of burned areas for the Cerrado
Beneficiaries	Financial Management Fundação COPPETEC Implementation: Laboratório de Aplicações de Satélites Ambientais da Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (LASA-UFRJ)
Website	https://lasa.ufrj.br/alarmes/
Technical Manager	Renata Libonati
Contact	lasa@igeo.ufrj.br
Municipalities	Across the Cerrado hotspot.
Main goal	Use satellite data to analyze and quantify the evolution of the fire-affected area in the Cerrado in near-real-time.
Grant Value	U\$ 39,059.67

Project Title	Mapping water resources in the Chapada dos Guimarães corridor
Beneficiaries	Financial Management: Fundação de Apoio e Desenvolvimento da UFMT - UNISELVA Implementation: Laboratório de Sensoriamento Remoto e Geotecnologias -UFMT
Website	http://www1.ufmt.br/ufmt/un/labsensor
Technical Manager	Gustavo Manzon Nunes
Contact	cerrado@iieb.org.br
Municipalities	Acorizal, Chapada dos Guimarães, Cuiabá, Jangada, Nossa Senhora do Livramento, Poconé, Santo Antônio do Leveger and Várzea Grande (Mato Grosso, Brazil)
Main goal	Mapping, identifying, differentiating, and diagnosing the water resources and wetlands (Veredas, Campos Úmidos, Marshes and Riparian Forests) existing in 3 KBAs of the Chapada dos Guimarães Corridor, which will support management and decision-making with federal and environmental agencies involved.
Grant Value	U\$ 43,298.30

Project Title	Multiscale Water Quality Monitoring in the São Lourenço River Basin, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Administrative management: Fundação de Apoio e Desenvolvimento da UFMT - UNISELVA Implementation: Departamento de Geografia - GEO-UFMT
Website	http://www.geografiaufmt.com.br/index.php/pt-br/ http://www.fundacaouniselva.org.br/novoWebsite/
Technical Manager	Emerson Soares dos Santos Peter Zeilhofer
Contact	https://ufmt.br/curso/geografiacba/pagina/contatos/4832
Municipalities	Municipalities in the São Lourenço River Basin
Main goal	Directly subsidize short-term and medium/long-term priority goals, as presented in the Paraguay River Water Resources Plan, through the monitoring of water and sediment quality, together with hydrological modeling, interaction with social groups and the development and dissemination of a participatory GIS.
Grant Value	U\$ 186,648.00

Project Title	Cerrado Knowledge Platform
Beneficiaries	Administrative Management: Fundação de Apoio à Pesquisa da Universidade Federal de Goiás - FUNAPE Implementation: Laboratório de Processamento de Imagens e Geoprocessamento da Universidade Federal de Goiás - LAPIG/UFG
Website	https://cepf.lapig.iesa.ufg.br/#/
Technical Manager	Manuel Eduardo Ferreira Elaine Silva
Contact	lapig.cepf@gmail.com
Municipalities	It covers 1,389 municipalities, covering the entirety of the Distrito Federal and a large part of the states of Goiás (97%), Maranhão (65%), Mato Grosso do Sul (61%), Minas Gerais (57%) and Tocantins (91%) and smaller portions of other states: Mato Grosso (40%), Piauí (37%), São Paulo (33%), Bahia (27%), Paraná (2%) and Rondônia (0.2%)
Main goal	Share data, information and knowledge among the various stakeholders in the biome, directly and indirectly, related to the CEPF Cerrado project and empower civil society through reliable information and monitoring tools for Cerrado ecosystems.
Grant Value	U\$ 138,001.25

Project Title	Mapping “Invisible” Traditional Communities to Support Cerrado Conservation in Brazil
Beneficiaries	Instituto de Pesquisa Ambiental da Amazônia – IPAM
Website	https://ipam.org.br/pt/ https://tonomapa.org.br/
Technical Manager	Ane Auxiliadora Costa Alencar Isabel de Castro Silva
Contact	https://ipam.org.br/fale-conosco/
Municipalities	Across the Cerrado hotspot
Main goal	Identify and map areas of social and environmental relevance for the conservation of the Cerrado.
Grant Value	U\$ 300,000.00



Foto: Durval Mota / Aceso/AOK

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 6:
 Strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to promote better management of territories and natural resources and to support other investment priorities

Project Title	CEPF Cerrado's Communication
Beneficiaries	Agência Fato Relevante
Website	https://agenciafr.com.br/
Technical Manager	Brunos Moraes Bruno Blecher Cristina Maiello
Contact	atendimento@agenciafr.com.br
Municipalities	Across the Cerrado hotspot
Main goal	Develop a Communication Plan for the dissemination of information about the Cerrado within the scope of CEPF, its strategic directions and its financed projects.
Grant Value	U\$ 45,622.74

Project Title	Cerrado Women's Meeting
Beneficiaries	ECO A – Ecologia e Ação
Website	https://ecoa.org.br/
Technical Manager	Nathalia Eberhardt Ziolkowski
Contact	ecoacomunic@riosvivos.org.br
Municipalities	Across the Cerrado hotspot.
Main goal	Hold three events aimed at strengthening, articulating and visibility of the socio-political and economic organization of women in the Brazilian Cerrado. The Cerrado Women's Meeting, led by the National Campaign in Defense of the Cerrado; II CerraPan Meeting – Women Producers from the Cerrado and Pantanal; and a debate during the celebrations related to the National Day of the Cerrado.
Grant Value	U\$ 16,322.86

Project Title	Grande Sertão - Extractivism, Conservation and Income Generation in the Cerrado, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Cooperativa dos Agricultores Familiares e Agroextrativistas Grande Sertão Ltda.
Website	https://cooperativagrandesertao.com.br/
Technical Manager	José Fabio Soares
Contact	cooperativagrandesertao@gmail.com
Municipalities	Bonito de Minas, Chapada Gaúcha, Miravânia, Cônego Marinho, Januária, São João das Missões, Brasília de Minas and Montes Claros (Minas Gerais, Brazil).
Main goal	Enhance the sustainable use of native fruits from the Cerrado biome and strengthen the economies of agro-extractive communities, aiming at the best management and conservation practices in the “Sertão Vereda-Peruaçu” hotspot.
Grant Value	U\$ 48,985.93

Project Title	Cerrado Links
Beneficiaries	Instituto Cerrados
Website	https://www.cerrados.org/
Technical Manager	Yuri Botelho Salmona
Contact	administracao@cerrados.org
Municipalities	Across the Cerrado hotspot.
Main goal	The Elos do Cerrado event aims to be a space for qualified debate on the means and challenges for the preservation of the Cerrado.
Grant Value	U\$ 32,010.15

Project Title	Integrated strategic communication of the Seminar Strategy for Conservation, Recovery and Sustainable Use of natural resources in the Cerrado biome
Beneficiaries	Instituto Terra em Desenvolvimento - ITD
Technical Manager	James Allen Paranayba
Contact	cerrado@iieb.org.br
Municipalities	Across the Cerrado hotspot.
Main goal	Support the integrated strategic communication of the “Strategy Seminar for the Conservation, Recovery and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources in the Cerrado Biome”, through the planning and execution of spontaneous media and promotion on social media, internal coverage, and dissemination of the results.
Grant Value	U\$ 4,792.34

Project Title	I FENACO: First Forum of Environmental Organizations of Central-West Brazil
Beneficiaries	Rede Nacional de Combate ao Tráfico de Animais Silvestres - RENCTAS
Website	https://www.renctas.org.br/
Technical Manager	Raulff Ferraz Lima
Contact	cgeral@renctas.org.br
Municipalities	Cuiabá (Mato Grosso, Brazil); Campo Grande (Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil); Goiânia (Goiás, Brazil) and Brasília (Distrito Federal, Brazil).
Main goal	To train, expand and strengthen the participation of organized civil society in the Central-West region in the federal decision-making process, especially in CONAMA – National Council for the Environment, through the organization of five events: four state meetings and one regional, the 1st Forum of Environmental Entities from the Midwest.
Grant Value	U\$ 47,510.77

Project Title	Caring for the Cerrado and promoting life
Beneficiaries	Sindicato dos Trabalhadores Rurais de Riacho dos Machados - STR
Website	https://www.facebook.com/sindicatoriachodosmachados/
Technical Manager	Joeliza Aparecida de Brito Almeida
Contact	strriacho@gmail.com; strriachords@gmail.com
Municipalities	Riacho dos Machados (Minas Gerais, Brazil)
Main goal	Train approximately 70 farming families - geraizeiros - distributed in 06 rural communities within the municipality of Riacho dos Machados, which make up the area planned for the creation of the Tamanduá and Poções Sustainable Development Reserve.
Grant Value	U\$ 45,080.87

Project Title	Networking and social participation for the conservation of the Cerrado
Beneficiaries	ActionAid
Website	http://actionaid.org.br/ https://www.campanhacerrado.org.br/
Technical Manager	Emmanuel Ponte Helena Rodrigues Lopes
Contact	atendimento@actionaid.org.br; comunicacerrado@gmail.com
Municipalities	Gilbués, Santa Filomena, Bom Jesus, Balsas, São Raimundo das Mangabeiras, Loreto, Carolina, Riachão, Babaçulândia e Wanderlândia.
Main goal	Strengthen a national network of organizations concerned with the future of the Cerrado and its peoples, through the National Campaign in Defense of the Cerrado. The campaign seeks to value the biodiversity and cultures of the peoples and communities of the Cerrado, who fight for their conservation, where the theme "Cerrado: no water, no life" reinforces the central role of the Cerrado in supplying water in the country.
Grant Value	U\$ 162,453.96

Project Title	Preserving the Cerrado of the North of the State of Minas Gerais through the Sustainable Management of Traditional Territories
Beneficiaries	Centro de Agricultura Alternativa do Norte de Minas
Website	https://www.caa.org.br/
Technical Manager	Carlos Alberto Dayrell
Contact	caa@caa.org.br
Municipalities	Montes Claros, Rio Pardo de Minas and Riacho dos Machados (Minas Gerais, Brazil)
Main goal	Enhance the performance of leaders in the defense of their territorial rights and in the pursuit of environmental, cultural, economic, and social sustainability of traditional territories through theoretical-practical training on related topics, the exchange of experiences and the development of specific skills of leadership and political advocacy.
Grant Value	U\$ 149,999.50

Project Title	Articulation of the Timbira peoples for the implementation of the National Policy for Environmental and Territorial Management of Indigenous Lands (PNGATI)
Beneficiaries	Centro de Trabalho Indigenista - CTI
Website	https://trabalhoindigenista.org.br/home/
Technical Manager	Juliana Noletto
Contact	contato@trabalhoindigenista.org.br
Municipalities	Montes Altos, Lajeado Novo, Sítio Novo, Fernando Falcão, Barra do Corda and Amarante (Maranhão, Brazil); Tocantinópolis, Itaguatins, Goiatins and Itacajá (Tocantins, Brazil).
Main goal	Foment the implementation of the National Policy for Environmental and Territorial Management of Indigenous Lands in the Cerrado, through the consolidation of a network of Timbira indigenous peoples to reinforce the role of these peoples and their territories as important areas for the conservation of natural resources and associated socio-biodiversity, respecting generational and gender issues.
Grant Value	U\$ 195,399.99

Project Title	Union of the Municipal Councils of the Environment (COMDEMAs): Mobilizing Actors in the Miranda-Bodoquena Corridor, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Fundação Neotrópica do Brasil
Website	http://www.fundacaoneotropica.org.br/
Technical Manager	Rodolfo Portela
Contact	neotropica@fundacaoneotropica.org.br
Municipalities	(MS) Anastácio; Bodoquena; Bonito; Dois Irmão do Buriti; Guia Lopes da Laguna; Jardim; Miranda; Nioaque; Porto Murtinho; Rochedo e Terenos
Main goal	Fortalecimento dos COMDEMAs, a fim de subsidiar decisões locais que contribuam para alcançar metas mundiais de conservação da biodiversidade.
Grant Value	U\$ 168,099.91

Project Title	Establishing a Network to Safeguard Brazilian Cerrado Protected Areas
Beneficiaries	Fundo Mundial para a Natureza - WWF-Brasil
Website	www.wwf.org.br
Technical Manager	Mariana Ferreira
Contact	comunicacao@wwf.org.br
Municipalities	Across the hotspot.
Main goal	Strengthen the articulation and capacity of civil society to identify, and when appropriate, oppose the processes of alterations of protected areas in the National Congress and state assemblies, in addition to expanding initiatives of engagement and appreciation of Cerrado conservation units.
Grant Value	U\$ 140,000.00

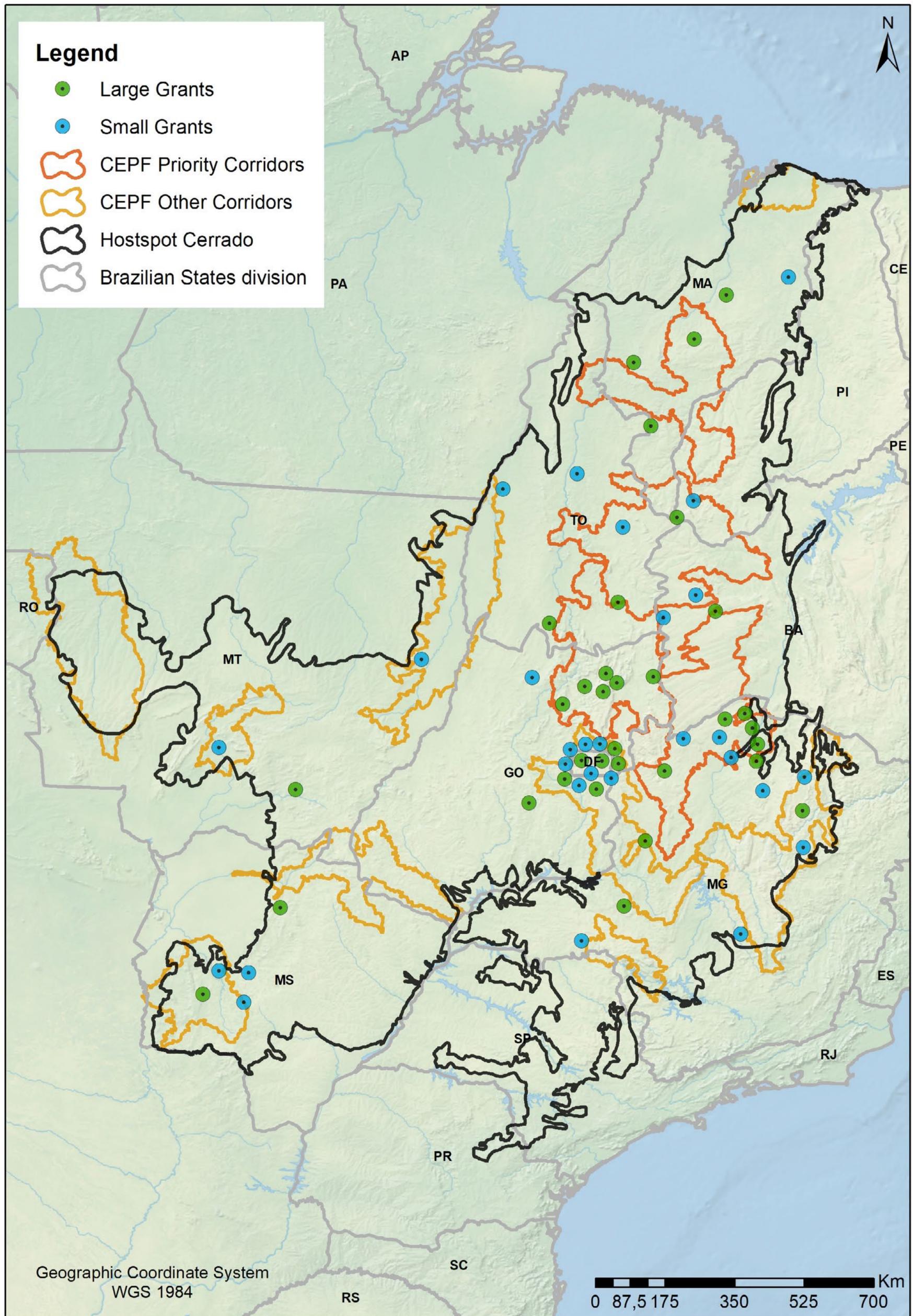
Project Title	Accelerating Sustainable Tourism in the Environmental Protection Area and Peruaçu Caves National Park, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Instituto Ekos Brasil
Website	http://ekosbrasil.org/
Technical Manager	Ana Cristina Moeri Iago Paniza Rangel
Contact	instituto@ekosbrasil.org
Municipalities	Januária, Itacarambi, São João das Missões, Cônego Marinho, Bonitos de Minas and Miravânia (Minas Gerais, Brazil)
Main goal	Develop, strengthen, and accelerate Sustainable Tourism in the Vale do Rio Peruaçu region (APA and PARNA Cavernas do Peruaçu), through the qualification of the technical and management skills of local community organizations, as a way of promoting employment, income and appreciation of environmental attributes and biodiversity conservation.
Valor do apoio	U\$ 121,079.01

Project Title	Activism to Enhance Conservation of the Cerrado in Western Bahia, Brazil
Beneficiaries	Instituto Sociedade, População e Natureza - ISPN
Website	http://www.ispn.org.br/
Technical Manager	Isabel Figueiredo
Contact	instituto@ispn.org.br
Municipalities	Formosa do Rio Preto, Santa Rita de Cássia, Riachão das Neves, Barreiras, São Desidério, Correntina, Baianópolis, Jaborandi, Cocos, Santa Maria da Vitória, among other municipalities in Bahia state, Brazil.
Main goal	Fortalecer a atuação da sociedade civil na defesa do bioma Cerrado por meio da aplicação de metodologia de fortalecimento de organizações e lideranças em uma região altamente ameaçada pelo agronegócio.
Grant Value	U\$ 271,342.08

Project Title	Acelera Cerrado: Program for Strengthening Civil Society Organizations
Beneficiaries	Impact Hub Brasilia
Website	https://aceleracerrado.com.br/
Technical Manager	Natalia Teichmann
Contact	acelera.cerrado@impacthub.net
Municipalities	Across the Cerrado hotspot.
Main goal	Train 40 civil society organizations working for the conservation of the Cerrado in 11 relevant topics to strengthen their capacities to achieve positive results, related to the missions and purposes of the institutions.
Valor do apoio	U\$ 99,912.28

Project Title	Disseminating Information About Cerrado Hotspot Conservation Models and Threats
Beneficiaries	Mongabay Org. Corporation
Website	https://www.mongabay.com/
Website	http://cepfcerrado.iieb.org.br/projetos/disseminando-informacoes-sobre-o-hotspot-cerrado/
Technical Manager	Willie Shubert
Contact	https://www.mongabay.com/contact/
Municipalities	Across the Cerrado hotspot.
Main goal	Produce timely, accurate and reliable information and disseminate it to key decision-makers, including Brazilian officials, foreign donor agencies and the private sector, among others.
Grant Value	U\$ 71,289.62

Project Title	A Strengthened Network for the Conservation of Cerrado (REFORCE))
Beneficiaries	Rede Cerrado
Website	http://redecerrado.org.br/
Technical Manager	Kátia Fávilla
Contact	contato@redecerrado.org.br; secretariaexecutiva@redecerrado.org.br
Municipalities	Across the Cerrado hotspot.
Main goal	Increase the political influence of the Cerrado Network in the elaboration, implementation and monitoring of public policies related to the promotion of sustainable development for the rights of family farmers, peoples, and traditional communities.
Grant Value	US\$ 224,577.68



Distribution of CEPF Cerrado projects across the Cerrado from 2016 to 2022. The projects were supported by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund - CEPF.



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