



Forest Protection, Santa Maria, Brazil

Deforestation in the world is responsible for 20% of greenhouse gas emissions, particularly carbon dioxide and methane, by-products of deforestation and forest fires. The Florestal Santa Maria project is designed to preserve the native forest in the municipality of Colniza (MT), Brazil, by reducing deforestation of the Amazon biome and mitigating the risk of fires and thus benefiting the Amazon ecosystem and the surrounding communities. Colniza ranks second in the deforestation of the Amazon (March 2013) with 1,430 km² of forest land having been deforested only between August 2012 and March 2013, corresponding to 79,000,000 tons of CO₂ emissions and earning it the name Deforestation Arch.

The Florestal Santa Maria property covers an area of over 71,000 hectares in the Amazon biome, where the extraction of raw materials from the forest is performed with a sustainable management plan, which enhances the likelihood of non-predatory use of the forest using the technique of Reduced Impact Extraction (EIR). The entire property is certified for Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®) forest management. The project is expected to avoid over 25,000,000 tons of CO₂ emissions over a duration period of 30 years.

How does forest protection help fight global warming?

Forests, especially tropical ones, store CO₂. For projects aimed at combatting climate change, there are essentially three methods for creating and sustaining forestry as a carbon sink: forestation and reforestation, sustainable forest management (where the amount of timber harvested does not exceed the amount that can grow back), and financial incentives for the protection of forestland as a carbon sink (the UN's REDD+ program), whereby the project owner must ensure that tree cover is maintained.



Contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

SDG 4 · Quality Education

The project supports schools and offers vocational training for technical jobs and sustainable forestry.

SDG 8 · Decent Work and Economic Growth

The project provides alternative job opportunities to illegal logging: sustainable forestry and monitoring activities for the conservation area and social programs.

SDG 11 · Sustainable Cities and Communities

More job opportunities, improved education and infrastructure help reduce local crime rates.

SDG 15 · Life on Land

Offering alternative income generation to logging protects the biodiversity of the Amazon rainforest.



Project standard

Verified Carbon Standard (VCS)

Technology

Forest Protection

Region

Santa Maria, Brazil

Annual volume

840,000 t CO₂e

Verified by

Rainforest Alliance

Further information

www.climatepartner.com/1023

