



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



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Third Meeting for the Seventh Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund
January 23-25, 2018
Brasilia, Brazil

GEF-7 REPLENISHMENT: FIELD TRIP OPTIONS

GEF-7 Replenishment Meeting

Field Visit Options

Friday, January 26, 2018

As mentioned in the notes sent to you concerning the Third Replenishment Meeting in Brasilia at the end of January, we are trying to organize some interesting field visit options for you.

It is critical to the feasibility of these visits, especially the one to the Amazon, that we confirm the number of participants that will join each activity, within a fixed deadline. Therefore, **please let us know your choice by January 3 by email to William and Ted with subject line “Brasilia Field Visit”:**
wehlers@thegef.org rschreiber@thegef.org

The first option is a visit to the Tapajós-Arapiuns Extractive Reserve in the Amazon close to the city of Santarem. This is a truly unique opportunity to visit part of one of the most recognized, praised and impactful programs in the history of the GEF: ARPA. It has the added attraction of being a chance to see the Amazon up close, the work of the program and its multiple benefits. A more detailed explanation is attached.

We expect that many of you will want to join this exciting field trip that is described in more detail in the attachment. Before you decide, however, you need to know that this is not expected to be an easy outing. It will require us to leave Brasilia just after midnight on Thursday and arrive back on Saturday at about 6am. We will have limited time for sleep and rest in the city of Santarem where everyone will be booked into local hotels. We will leave those hotels Friday morning in time to take a boat at 7am for a 3-hour trip along the river to the project site. After a few hours for the visit, we will take the boat ride back for dinner at the hotels and a few hours of rest till we take the return flight at 2am.

Bear in mind that It will be hot (31 C) and humid; it may rain; and conditions will be more primitive than you may be used to. Do bring light clothing, strong and comfortable footwear; protection for sun and insects; anything special you may need. We will do our best to provide you with a most interesting experience, in the most comfortable conditions possible, under the circumstances.

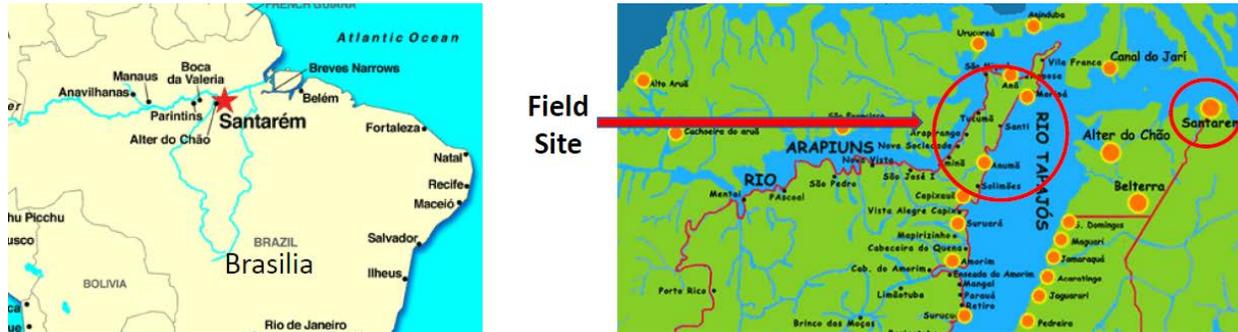
The second option will be close to Brasilia and will offer an opportunity to learn about Small Grants Program activities that exemplify how closely aligned the SGP is with the GEF overall strategies. You will see, and hear from the stakeholders themselves, examples that integrate the pursuit of global environmental benefits with social, economic, gender, private sector and scaling up. Of special interest will be the possibility to experience the Cerrado, a Brazilian biome, often overshadowed by the Amazon, but of great ecological importance, that is under very high pressure from agriculture expansion. A brief explanation is also attached.

This activity will entail departure from the hotels in Brasilia at 8am on Friday and return for a late lunch at about 2pm. Refreshments with local produce and recipes will be served at the nature center.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Field Trip Site 1

The field visit site is the Tapajós-Arapiuns Extractive Reserve, one of the target areas of the ARPA project (Protected Areas of the Amazon), the largest rainforest conservation initiative globally. ARPA was considered by the OPS6 as being one of the transformative projects of the GEF and was recognized with an award from the United States Treasury in 2013.



ARPA Project

ARPA focuses on the Brazilian part of the Amazon biome. This unique partnership comprises key groups ranging from government agencies to NGOs representing civil society and local communities, to major donors. The partnership grew out of a pledge made by the Government of Brazil in 1998 to triple the area of the Amazon under legal protection. Since the programme's start in 2003, it has set world-class standards for innovation and cooperation involving multiple sectors of society and has produced extraordinary conservation results ahead of schedule. By investing in the sound management of biologically important state and federal lands, ARPA is playing a key role in ensuring that future development in the vital Amazon region can take place on a solid environmental footing.

The Tapajós-Arapiuns Extractive Reserve

The Tapajós-Arapiuns Extractive Reserve is one of the areas supported by ARPA. It was created by a federal decree on 16 November 1998 and is administered by the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation. It is classified as an IUCN protected area category VI (protected area with sustainable use of natural resources). An extractive reserve is an area used by traditional extractive populations whose livelihood is based on extraction, subsistence agriculture and small-scale animal raising. Its basic objectives are to protect the livelihoods and culture of these people and to ensure sustainable use of natural resources.

The communities in the extractive reserve have been unusually active in developing the management plan and projects related to environmental education, improvement of infrastructure for sanitation, health and education, and sustainable extraction of natural resources, mainly rubber, Brazil nuts and açai palm fruit. The families engage in subsistence agriculture, including cassava, maize and açai, and subsistence hunting and fishing. Other fruits are extracted from the forest, mostly for family consumption but with a small surplus for sale. Most families raise chickens and pigs. The main source of income comes from cassava flour. 33.6% of households engage in crafts, mostly the women, making baskets and sieves from lianas and clay crockery, mainly for home use.

The Reserve has an approved management plan and the Protected Area Council contributes significantly to the management of the PA, two fundamental points for the consolidation of a PA.

The **Management Models for Protected Areas** subcomponent promotes the implementation of innovative management models in PAs, including integrated, shared and participatory management aimed at increasing the effectiveness of biodiversity protection and territorial management.

The **Integration of communities** subcomponent seeks to benefit communities, inhabitants or resource users of federal or state PAs.

Field Trip Site 2

The field visit site is 15km from Brasilia at the “Centro de Cerradenses” (Research center) in the Botanical Gardens. The word “gardens” may be somewhat misleading as it is a very large property within part of the Cerrado Biome. This beautiful natural setting will be the stage for presenting Small Grants Program projects that demonstrate what an integrated program can do.

The visit will be organized in 4 learning stations that explain the following:

- a) Cerrado central Cooperative: The story of the Cooperative of 30 local producer organizations set up to protect the Cerrado by making sustainable use of its biodiversity. Demonstration of products and explanation of challenges to scaling up and how they were overcome by involving other actors of the private sector.
- b) APROSPERA: Presentation of marketing strategy for local farmers; challenges or agro-ecology and benefits of a new relationship between producers and consumers.
- c) Quebradeiras de Coco Babaçu Interstate Movement (MIQCB). Shows the role of women in fighting for free access to natural resources in order to conserve the Babaçu Forest, and their strategy to prove the value of Babaçu for the environment and the economy.
- d) Cerrado ecosystem. A walk into the Cerrado to explain the characteristics of the biome and the richness and value of its biodiversity.