

Connect Forest People Institute

ANNUAL REPORT 2024





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Introduction

In 2024, the **Connect Forest People Network** established itself as safe haven, evolving into much more than just an internet access hub. We are a collective that seeks to harness connectivity as an ally in social transformation and the defense of rights. This year, we celebrated networked connection in over 1,400 communities, where the strength of forest knowledge comes together with available technologies. Culture is shaped into algorithms, making the invisible visible through actions that recognize forest peoples in public policies. For the first time, a mapping was carried out of 8,500 of these communities, who are responsible for caring for 120 million hectares of forest.

Meaningful connective becomes a powerful tool, enabling communities to organize, exchange knowledge, and share stories of resilience. The collective use of the internet becomes a thread that strengthens the social fabric, expanding access to resources and information. Challenges are everywhere, and it is our responsibility to see connectivity as an ally to climate and social justice, with an inclusive, autonomous, and community-based approach.

In 2025, we will continue our journey, with new goals and expanded training activities, while intensifying awareness regarding the importance of the forests and the people who sustain them. We are grateful for our partners, collaborators, and above all, to all the communities that make Connect Forest People a place of gathering and trust. Together, we will keep on walking the path of diversity and cultural pride, connecting our destinies toward an inclusive and vibrant future.



Executive Secretary of the Connect Forest People Network.

Photo: Dione Torquato/CNS

Toya Manchineri

General Coordinator of the Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon (COIAB)



Photo: Rafael Melgueiro/COIAB

For COIAB, it is an honor to be part of the Connect Forest People Network. This transformative initiative has already benefited more than 600 Indigenous communities in the Brazilian Amazon, bringing connectivity and opportunities where there was once isolation. Through the project, Indigenous populations have gained access to services such as telehealth, enabling remote healthcare, as well as facilitating education and work without the need for long and exhausting travels. The internet has also strenghtned communication with organizations like the National Indigenous Peoples Foundation (Funai) and the Special Indigenous Health Districts (DSEIs), ensuring that Indigenous demands are heard and their rights effectively protected.

Moreover, connectivity has been a crucial ally in territorial management, allowing real-time monitoring of threats such as wildfires, invasions, illegal mining, and deforestation. With digital tools, communities can catalog and respond quickly to environmental crimes, protecting their territories and filing reports in real time. Additionally, the project helps Indigenous peoples tell their own stories, revealing the reality and daily life within their territories.

Connect Forest People goes beyond technology: it is a project that has brought connectivity to hundreds of Indigenous people, guaranteeiring their right to communication and information, opening paths toward a fairer and more sustainable future for Indigenous peoples. Here's to many more years of achievements!



Joaquim Belo

Secretary of International Relations of the National Council of Extractive Populations (CNS)



Photo: Gerdeson Oliveira/Dzawi Filmes

For the National Council of Extractive Populations (CNS), which has spent the past 40 years fighting for the rights and identity of traditional extractivitst communities – using their ancestral territories as strategy – this journey has been one of victories and setbacks, typical of those who must constantly resist to secure the minimum dignity in a system designed to maintain the privilege of a few.

The Connect Forest People project is a powerful instrument for strengthening and giving visibility to our struggle and the identity of extractive populations. It offers a new model of digital communication – built in alignment with the communities' ways of live and shaped by their diverse needs.

Politically, the initiative plays a very important role, strengthening a broad alliance by uniting communities from hundreds of territories across nine states in the Brazilian Amazon, connecting struggles and experiences in a vast exchange.

It is important to highlight the transformative impact this project has had on community life: it fosters unity, builds bridges between inside and outside worlds, broadens perspective and voices, and promotes social inclusion – bringing people closer across different realities.



José Carlos Galiza

Executive Coordinator of the National Coordination of Black Rural Quilombola Communities (CONAQ)



Photo: Gerdeson Oliveira/Dzawi Filmes

By 2024, we had reached over 1,400 connected communities in the Brazilian Legal Amazon, including Quilombola, Indigenous, and Extractivist groups. Forest People Network is a project that has a beginning, a middle – and then a new beginning, since there is something new every day: new initiatives, new actions, and new ideas to support isolated communities throughout the region.

One of the network's most impactful contributions is telehealth. In areas considered true medical deserts, where even community health agents are often absent, online consultations become essential. They offer a lifeline for people surviving deep within the Amazon forests.

It's vital that public policies reach these territories — not only to meet their needs but to ensure communities can remain on their land, protecting local fauna, flora, and cultural traditions. When policies fail to arrive, forest peoples are forced to migrate to large urban centers, leaving behind families and ancestral ways of life. That's why a project like Connect Forest People matters so deeply: it brings connectivity hand-in-hand with training and information, enabling these communities to move forward. It empowers the peoples of the forest.



Tasso Azevedo

Chair of the Advisory Board of Connect Forest People Network



Photo: João Albuquerque/Dzawi Filmes

In 2024, the Connect Forest People Network became one of the Amazon's most powerful expressions of social innovation. Over 40 organizations joined forces to bring connectivity to the most remote communities, which are also the greatest guardians of the forest. We are currently more than 1,400 communities connected, each one with powerful stories showing how technology, when driven by community values, can become a tool for justice, dignity, and empowerment.

Throughout the year, we saw connectivity turn into healthcare for those without prior access to doctors, into education for youth who now learn and teach within their own territories, into protection for endangered forests, support for entrepreneurship, and a voice for living cultures that are now shared with the world. The Working Groups created with communities proved that digital inclusion can be shaped by those who know the territory best — its own guardians.

None of this would be possible without the engagement of grassroots organizations – CONAQ, COIAB, and CNS – alongside community leaders, dozens of partners, and the Forest People Network, which ensures the network's operation with seriousness and commitment. Each installed kit providing energy and connection is more than a point of light, it is a beacon of hope lighting paths to autonomy, organization, and belonging.

We move forward with determination and enthusiasm, knowing that this is a project with a beginning, a middle, and new beginnings every day. The forest pulses with connection — among people, knowledge, territories, and futures. And it is in this rhythm that we keep going: connecting lives to keep the forest standing and the dreams of its peoples alive.





Manifesto of The Connect Forest People Network

We acknowledge the undeniable importance of the Amazon for the economy, development, and water, energy, and climate security, as well as for the conservation of biodiversity.

We recognize the fundamental role of traditional peoples and communities — including Indigenous, Quilombola, and Extractivist groups — in protecting the Amazon and other biomes across Brazil:

We believe that the conservation of the Amazon and other Brazilian ecosystems depends on ensuring the well-being, dignity, territorial protection, and access to healthcare, education, and safety for traditional peoples and communities; and

We affirm that the internet is a powerful open platform that allows everyone, everywhere, to share information, learn, access opportunities, and collaborate beyond geographical and cultural barriers:

That is why we have created the Connect Forest People Network, to bring broadband internet in a conscious and secure way to Indigenous villages, Quilombola communities, and Extractivist settlements located in protected areas and agro-extractive territories.

We commit to doing everything within our power to achieve this goal throughout the Brazilian Amazon by the end of 2026.

Along this journey, we pledge to ensure that each connected community has access to quality infrastructure, understands best practices for safe and conscious internet use, exercises local control over usage guidelines, and can benefit from programs in health, education, territorial protection, entrepreneurship, and culture.

We are the Connect Forest People Network.









The Connect Forest People Network

Who we are: The Connect Forest People Network

The **Connect Forest People Network** is a collaborative initiative launched in 2022 with the goal of connecting over 8,000 Indigenous, Quilombola, extractivist, and riverside communities in protected territories of the Brazilian Legal Amazon through broadband internet.

More than just providing connectivity infrastructure, the project strengthens forest peoples through a safe and conscious digital network, offering access to education, healthcare, entrepreneurship, territorial protection, and the promotion of culture and ancestral knowledge. The initiative is led by three grassroots organizations: **the National**



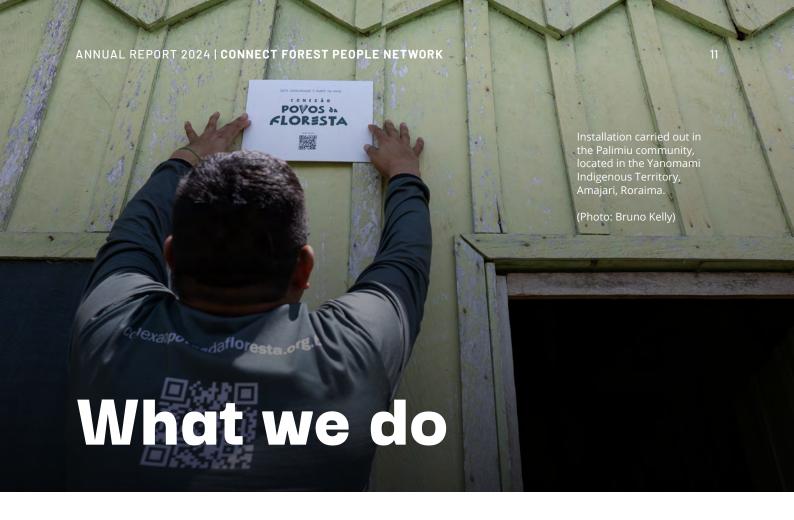
Coordination of Black Rural Quilombola Communities (CONAQ), the Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon (COIAB), and the National Council of Extractive Populations (CNS), which jointly oversee institutional coordination.

To ensure operational management, the **Connect Forest People Institute** was created and it is responsible for supporting and running the network.

The initiative also brings together more than 40 partner organizations that collaborate on implementing the project, from connectivity infrastructure to digital inclusion programs.

The Connect Forest People Network also has an official Technical Cooperation Agreement with Brazil's Ministry of the Environment and the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio), and it supports the Ministry of Mines and Energy in implementing the **Luz para Todos** program in the Amazon.





Our mission is to connect over 8,000 mapped communities in protected Amazonian territories, reaching approximately 1 million people by the end of 2026, while supporting quality of life and helping to safeguard 120 million hectares of forest.

The project focuses on three main groups: Indigenous villages, Quilombola communities, and extractivist/ riverside communities located in protected areas such as Indigenous Lands (TIs), Quilombola Territories (TQs), Extractive Reserves (Resex), Sustainable Development Reserves (RDS), National and State Forests (Flonas and Flotas), and sustainable settlement projects (PDS and PAEs).

All these communities face common challenges, including geographic isolation, lack of basic infrastructure, external pressures on their territories, and the urgent need to preserve traditional cultures in the face of modernization. The sustainability of their practices and recognition of their rights are crucial to the maintaining of their socioeconomical conditions.

To overcome these challenges, the Connect Forest People Network is grounded in **three key pillars: infrastructure**, providing access to internet and energy; **community governance**, ensuring local autonomy in managing technologies; **conscious digital inclusion**, using the internet as a tool for social, economic, and environmental empowerment.

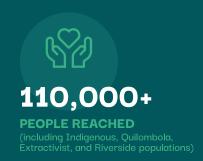


Connect Forest People Network in numbers: Our achievements so far

(as of December 2024)







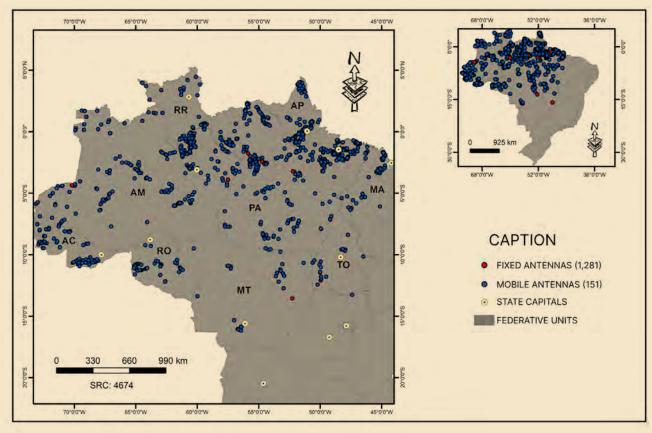
11

BRAZILIAN STATES COVERED 248

MUNICIPALITIES REACHED

Total communities connected: 1,435

(as 12/31/2024)





Testimonial

Antônio Francisco da Silva Reis

Community member from Boa Esperança, in the Amanã Sustainable Development Reserve (RDS), in Maarã, Amazonas

"When I talk about how connectivity has changed our lives, specially mine, I always say it was through the internet installed here that I was able to take several courses and improve my knowledge. It also helps us organize the community better within the Amanã Reserve.

Connectivity has improved out local health services too, since we now handle medication requests and supply needs for the community clinic (UBS – Unidade Básica de Saúde) online. We can even do remote medical consultations with a doctor in the nearest town, Maraã.

We send information, and the doctor replies with the right prescriptions for each patient. That really changed our lives."





The Connect Forest People project

Timeline



NOVEMBER 2021

The project idea is born

The idea of connecting Indigenous, Quilombola, Extractivist, and Riverside communities in the Amazon emerged during the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26), in response to demands from forest peoples themselves for land demarcation and meaningful connectivity.



Record of the first workshop of the Connect Forest People project. (Photo: Archive/Forest People Network)

FEBRUARY 2022

The network begins to take shape

The project's first working session took place from February 21–23 in São Paulo (SP), bringing together grassroots leaders and partner organizations. Participants discussed territories, their realities, and potential contributions to the project. During the discussions, grassroots organizations presented the main demands of forest peoples and how the project could support their communities. The moment also helped align expectations and strengthen the collective commitment to building the network.

From there, comparative studies of different technologies (fiber optics, radio, 5G, and satellite) were initiated to define the most suitable connectivity model in terms of technical and cost-efficiency. Over the year, connectivity and energy kits were also developed to ensure autonomy and safety in the installations. Thus began the planning of the pilot installation phase, involving communities selected by CNS, COIAB, and CONAQ.





Screenshot of the Alpha version of the app, released on November 10, 2022. (Photo: Archive/Forest People Network)

NOVEMBER 2022

The Connect Forest People app is born

Throughout the year, the Conexão Povos da Floresta app was developed by SOLVED to support network management in the communities, allowing local facilitators to manage registrations and usage rules. The app's first version was officially launched in November.



Installation during the pilot phase in the Quilombola community of Carananduba, in Acará (PA). (Photo: Archive/ Forest People Network)

MARCH 2023

Start of the Pilot Phase

The Connect Forest People project began its pilot phase with the installation of the first connectivity kits in 31 communities: 10 Indigenous, 10 Quilombola, and 11 Extractivist. This phase tested the technical and operational viability of the initiative and the community-based management model, in which each community uses its own app to manage the network, define usage rules, and monitor connection use.



Installation in the Rio Branco community, Chico Mendes Extractive Reserve (Resex), Xapuri (AC). (Photo: Archive/Forest People Network)

JUNE 2023

Expansion and Consolidation Phase

Starting in the second half of 2023, the project advanced its structure by gradually expanding the number of connected communities and implementing programs in education, health, and territorial protection, highlighting the role of meaningful connectivity as a tool for social empowerment and environmental protection.





Entrepreneurship Journey held in Carananduba (PA). (Photo: Archive/Forest People Network)

SEPTEMBER 2023

1st In-Person Entrepreneurship Journey

The 1st In-Person Entrepreneurship Journey was held at the Carananduba Cultural Center in Acará (PA), bringing together Quilombola community members for a collective experience focused on identity, territory, and entrepreneurship. It was a moment of listening, knowledge exchange, and connection between the participants. At the end, all teams presented business ideas based on forest-based entrepreneurship, strengthening the sense of belonging and the view of entrepreneurship as a tool for social and environmental transformation.



Teleconsultation held in the Campina community, in the Uacari RDS. (Photo: Forest People Network Archive)

NOVEMBER 2023

Telehealth begins

In partnership with Portal Telemedicina and the Foundation for Amazon Sustainability (FAS), the Forest People network launched the pilot of the telehealth project between November 17 and 22 in the Campina community, located in the Uacari Sustainable Development Reserve (RDS), Amazonas. Training was provided for local nursing technicians and health agents, along with more than 30 heart tests (ECGs) and 25 teleconsultations. That same month, the pilot also reached the Tiningu community in Santarém (PA) and Aldeia São João (TO).



Activity from the "Standing Amazon in the Villages" program with students from the Central Karib Indigenous State School, Kaluani Paraíso Annex, in the Kaluani Village, Xingu Indigenous Territory, Mato Grosso. (Photo: Forest People Network Archive)

FEBRUARY 2024

Standing Amazon and Digital Wisdom

In the first quarter of 2024, the pilot phase of the "Standing Amazon in Indigenous Villages" ("Amazônia de Pé nas Aldeias") program was carried out. This community training and mobilization initiative strengthens Indigenous schools as territories of learning and rights advocacy. The pilot took place in 10 schools. The program combines traditional knowledge and digital technologies to train teachers and students in protecting their territories and facing climate change.

New groups also began the updated Digital Wisdom course, a required training for network facilitators, designed to ensure digital safety and empower communities to navigate the internet confidently and responsibly.





Masterclass held in partnership with the Ministry of the Environment on how to access the Bolsa Verde Program. (Photo: Archive/Forest People Network)

MARCH 2024

Forest People Network Masterclasses

In partnership with the Education Working Group, the "Masterclasses" initiative was launched. These are open virtual meetings for all community members involved in the project, held in two time slots, to address topics of interest such as Amazon wildfires, Bolsa Verde (Green Grant), entrepreneurship opportunities, child and adolescent protection, among others.



Image from one of the sessions of the Online Entrepreneurship Journey. (Photo: Archive/Forest People Network)

APRIL 2024

First Online Entrepreneurship Journey

The first Online Entrepreneurship Journey was held between April 16 and May 7, based on the methodology developed by the Amazon Entrepreneurship Center, focused on generating sustainable business ideas. The content was delivered in four online sessions, aiming to help participants structure entrepreneurial proposals rooted in their territories, knowledge, and ways of life.



Design Thinking Workshop at Porto Digital in Recife. (Photo: Archive/Forest People Network)

MAY 2024

CED Paulo Lima Planning and Design Thinking Workshop

Participatory planning for the Paulo Lima Digital Empowerment Center (CED) was carried out in partnership with RECODE and local community members to define usage guidelines for the space.

Between May 13 and 17, a Design Thinking Workshop was held in Recife (PE), bringing together community leaders, partners, and the CESAR School team to design a digital solutions platform tailored to the needs of the territories, focusing on cultural preservation, entrepreneurship, and conservation.





Mapping results. (Photo: Archive/Forest People Network)

JUNE 2024

Territory Mapping

A team of geoprocessing professionals and image analysts from various institutes reviewed over 12,000 points of communities across the Brazilian Legal Amazon, using high-resolution satellite imagery. After a validation process that began in November 2023, 8,518 points were confirmed, including Indigenous villages, extractivist, quilombola, and riverside communities.



First Connect Forest People Network Meeting in Alter do Chão, Santarém (PA). (Photo: Gerdeson Oliveira/Dzawi Filmes)

JUNE 2024

First Network Meeting and Inauguration of CED Paulo Lima

Partners, leaders, and funders of the Connect Forest People Network met in person for the first time at the First Meeting of the Connect Forest People Network, held in Alter do Chão village, in Santarém, Pará, to discuss the challenges of meaningful connectivity in the Amazon and to celebrate the project's first year of activities.

The event also marked the inauguration of the Paulo Lima Digital Empowerment Center (CED) in the Carão community (PA), within the Tapajós-Arapiuns Extractive Reserve, with the presence of network partners.



Activity from the Amazônia de Pé program. (Photo: Archive/Forest People Network)

AUGUST 2024

Amazônia de Pé and Territorial Mapping

In the second half of the year, the Amazônia de Pé ("Standing Amazon") program was expanded to 40 schools supported by the project. A total of 54 teachers were trained, and over 1,000 Indigenous students were reached. The training consisted of three months of online workshops and one-on-one mentoring with teachers, coordinated through the Conexão Povos da Floresta Network.

Also in August, a map was developed to show deforestation and degradation alerts near connected communities. The map uses data from the Real-Time Deforestation Detection System (DETER) and allows community members to view alerts for areas close to their territories. This territorial protection component also includes a dashboard with air quality data.





Installation in the Serafina community. (Photo: Archive/Forest People Network)

AUGUST 2024

One Thousand Connected Communities

The project reached a major milestone for the entire network, connecting 1,000 Indigenous, extractivist, and quilombola communities in protected areas across the Brazilian Amazon. The 1,000th installation took place in the Serafina community, in Curralinho (PA), within the Terra Grande-Pracuúba Extractive Reserve.



Entrepreneurship Journey held in Carananduba (PA). (Photo: Archive/ Connect Forest People)

NOVEMBER 2024

Youth Gathering, Health Training, and Planning

From November 13 to 16, the Carvão community, near Mazagão (AP), hosted other regional communities for a Youth Gathering organized by CNS. The event included a presentation of the Forest People network's telehealth program, training sessions for Community Health Agents (ACS), and over 50 electrocardiograms (ECGs) performed.

In the same month, the central project team met in person to plan activities for all of the project's Working Groups for the year 2025.



Homepage of the intranet. (Photo: Archive/Connect Forest People Network)

DECEMBER 2024

Intranet Launch

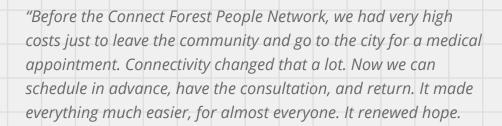
We launched the Connect Forest People Intranet, a dedicated and regularly updated platform for all community members in the network. Through this intranet, users can securely and quickly access opportunities, news, public policy updates, and a wide variety of content relevant to their territories.



Testimonial

Fátima Vidal

Facilitator from the Estirão do Rio Curumitá community, in the Tefé National Forest (Flona), Tefé, Amazonas



Another thing is that now it is faster access to information and the ability to share it with others. Before, we were very isolated. There are many communities around mine, but even so, communication was hard. Now, young people come from other communities to do research or talk to siblings studying in the city... The connection is making us grow.

Also, we are now able to share our work. Before, we would take photos, but had no way to show them. Now, we can share what we do in real time."



Our pillars of action

The Connect Forest People is built on three core pillars that ensure the sustainable implementation of meaningful connectivity in the territories: **Infrastructure, Community Control, and Digital Inclusion and Empowerment Programs**. Together, these pillars promote not just internet access, but also the strengthening of communities so that connectivity becomes a tool for social, environmental, and cultural transformation, and access to rights.



Infrastructure

The first step of the project is the installation of proper infrastructure, ensuring all supported communities have access to quality connectivity and, when needed, electricity.

Connectivity kit

Each participating community receives a connectivity kit, which includes:

- Low Earth orbit satellite internet antenna, with low latency and high speed;
- Long-range configurable router;
- Laptop;
- Cellphone;
- Project signboard;
- Community rulebook;
- Installation and facilitator manuals;
- Cables, adapters, and power supply.

This setup ensures stable internet access tailored to each community's needs.



Boxes of connectivity kits received by COIAB for installation in the Xingu and Kaiabi Indigenous Territories (TIs). (Photo: Connect Forest People)

Assembly of items included in the Connectivity Kit

Manuals



Project Signboard



Rulebook



Internet Antenna



Router, Adapter, and Connectivity Kit



Cellphone and Laptop



Infrastructure

Energy kit

In communities without access to conventional electricity, a solar energy kit — specially developed for the project in partnership with ÍON Energia — is installed. The kit includes:

- Photovoltaic solar panels;
- A powerbox with lithium batteries, inverter, protection system, and charge controller;
- A mounting structure resistant to moisture and lightning.

This plug-and-play solution can be set up in just a few hours by the project's installation technicians, ensuring energy autonomy for the connectivity system to operate.



Energy kits at the factory in Sorocaba (SP). (Photo: Archive/Connect Forest People)



Example of solar panel installation in a connected community. (Photo: Archive/Connect Forest People)



Powerbox from the solar energy kit in the Morro Verde community, Riozinho do Anfrísio Extractive Reserve, Altamira (PA). (Photo: Archive/Connect Forest People)



Community control

App

Once the connectivity infrastructure is in place, the second pillar ensures community control over the installed network and internet access. Each community defines its own collective access rules and selects one or more local facilitators, community members responsible for managing the network and ensuring that the agreed rules are followed.

Network facilitators have access to the "Conexão Povos da Floresta" (Connect Forest People) app, developed specifically for the project, which allows them to manage user registrations, set access priorities, define internet usage time and schedules, and apply filters or blocks on unwanted content.

The app is set up alongside the router, enabling remote monitoring and problem resolution.

Intranet

In addition to the facilitator's app, since November 2024, community members in general have had access to a dedicated intranet with educational content, reference materials, news, tutorial videos, and more. This platform also serves as a repository for best practices, frequently asked questions, and information about the programs offered by the Connect Forest People Network.



App in use in Auaris village, Yanomami Indigenous Territory (TI), Amajari (RR). (Photo: Bruno Kelly)



One of the app's screens — July 2024 version.





Sample homepage of the Connect Forest People Network intranet.



Digital inclusion & Empowerment: Working Groups

The third pillar of the project organizes its actions through thematic Working Groups (WGs), defined according to the priorities of the participating communities. These groups develop initiatives and training programs that expand local opportunities through connectivity. The five current Working Groups are:

- Education
- Health
- Entrepreneurship
- Territorial Protection
- Culture & Ancestry

The following section dives deeper into the work of each group.



Testimonial

Daniel Ferro

Facilitator of the São João do Rio Jaburu community, in the Itatupã-Baquiá Sustainable Development Reserve (RDS), in Gurupá, Pará.

"The arrival of Connect Forest People Network has shortened the distance between relatives who live outside our community and has contributed greatly in many aspects.

It was through this connection that families gained better access to economic resources and professional training opportunities. Additionally, the connection has been an ally in communication and in the pursuit of better healthcare resources.

Technological development is very important to us, so it is accurate to say that the Connect Forest People Network came to add value and boost the social and technological development of our communities."





2024 was a period of consolidation for our Working Groups (WGs). Through the groups, the Connect Forest People Network project strengthened significant connectivity infrastructure, trained local leaders, and defined essential focus pillars to multiply the impact of the project's digital inclusion initiatives.



EDUCATION



TERRITORIAL PROTECTION



HEALTH



CULTURE AND ANCESTRY



ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Education

The Education Working Group aims to strengthen the connection with education by promoting digital security and pedagogical management through training courses, intensive workshops, and educational materials.

The group focuses on digital training with territorial identity, with actions such as the Digital Wisdom course, a program conducted in eight online classes covering digital literacy and security. Another key initiative of the WG is the development of Digital Empowerment Centers, spaces created to host educational and cultural activities in some of the connected communities.

These initiatives expand access to quality education and strengthen the role of facilitators, youth, and local leaders as multipliers of knowledge.

Main results of 2024:

400+

facilitators completed the Digital Wisdom training program

200+

enrollments in the
Digital Wisdom+ program
(an advanced version of the
course aimed at those who
have already completed
Digital Wisdom)

4,536

students impacted in 49 schools that participated in climate activism activities

13

classes completed in the Digital Wisdom course

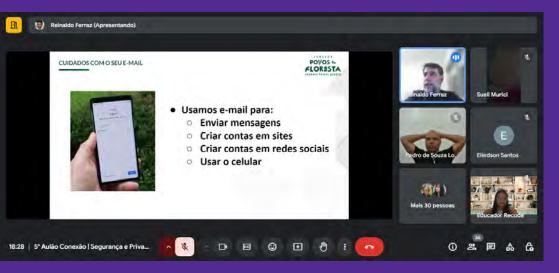
900

participants involved in 14 online thematic classes covering topics such as wildfires, digital citizenship, and entrepreneurship

30

facilitators trained in digital security

Creation of the first Digital Empowerment Center Paulo Lima, within the Floresta Ativa Experimental Center (Cefa), in the Tapajós-Arapiuns Extractive Reserve (Resex).



Online class on digital security and data privacy. (Photo: Archive/Connect Forest People Network)



Health

The Health Working Group works to strengthen the healthcare system in Amazonian communities by offering telehealth consultations, rapid diagnostics, and health education campaigns to promote the well-being of Quilombola, Indigenous and Extractive populations.

The group is currently expanding its efforts to gradually offer telehealth services to all communities connected to the Connect Forest People Network. In addition, the group is working to develop care pathways tailored to the realities of each territory and to provide training for community health agents and healthcare professionals.

Main results of 2024:

445

vital sign assessments carried out

47
health mobilizers
trained

2,050

people registered on the telehealth app

325

teleconsultations conducted

195

electrocardiogram (ECG) reports generated 47

communities benefited from telemedicine services



Example of the telehealth app in use in the Murumuru community, located in the Tapajós-Arapiuns Extractive Reserve (Resex), in Santarém, Pará. (Photo: João Albuquerque/Dzawi Filmes)



Training of health mobilizers for telehealth and ECG procedures in Amapá. (Photo: Archive/Connect Forest People Network)

Entrepreneurship

The Entrepreneurship Working Group focuses on supporting, training, and strengthening forest-based entrepreneurs through courses and workshops on entrepreneurship, opportunity mapping and public calls, building support networks, and carrying out on-the-ground actions.

The group serves as a space for connection and exchange of experiences to drive sustainable local development in each community. One of the initiatives currently underway is the creation of a platform to connect the various actors in Amazon's entrepreneurship ecosystem.

Main results of 2024:

4

groups completed the Entrepreneurship and Digital Marketing course participants completed the entrepreneurship training

64

people attended online workshops on sustainable entrepreneurship 300

active members in the Forest Entrepreneurs WhatsApp group



Entrepreneurship immersion held at Cesar School, in Recife, Pernambuco. (Photo: Archive/Connect Forest People Network)

12

entrepreneurs trained in a specialized workshop in partnership with Cesar School



Online entrepreneurship workshop held in November 2024. (Photo: Archive/Connect Forest People Network)



Territorial protection

The Territorial Protection Working Group aims to strengthen the protection of indigenous, quilombola, extractive, and riverside communities' territories. The goal is to develop solutions for risks across various dimensions of security: user digital security, physical safety of leaders and teams, internet system security, data security, and more.

To achieve this, the group has focused on two main fronts: first, mapping communities across the Legal Amazon by consolidating multiple existing data sources into a unified version; and second, developing technologies and strategies to protect territories through connectivity, such as app-based monitoring tools, alert systems, and partnerships with public institutions.

Main results of 2024:

8,517

communities mapped in the Amazon 30

participants attended workshops on territorial protection, focusing on drought and environmental security

Development of an interactive map, updated weekly, featuring alerts on deforestation, fire outbreaks, and air quality.



Interactive monitoring map with deforestation alerts, fire outbreaks, and air quality on the intranet. (Photo: Archive/Connect Forest People Network)



Mapping of over 8,000 communities carried out by the Territorial Protection WG. (Photo: Archive/Connect Forest People Network)



Culture and ancestry

The Culture and Ancestry Working Group aims to honorthememories and cultural roots of Amazonian communities by promoting the documentation of local traditions and the preservation of ancestral knowledge.

To achieve this, we have been working on two main fronts. The first is the development of a project focused on the social technology of memory, in partnership with the Museum of the Person, to record and share life stories that help safeguard ways of life in the territories and strengthen both personal and collective identity, ensuring this heritage is available to future generations. The second front is the beginning of a cultural mapping process of the connected communities.

Main results of 2024:

15

representatives participated in a workshop at the Museum of the Person

Development of the Social Technology of Memory project, pre-approved under the Rouanet Cultural Incentive Law.

Launch of the mapping of the cultural calendar of Amazonian communities



Testimonial

Hari Karajá

Facilitator from the Karajá Xambioá community, located in the Xambioá Indigenous Territory (TI), in Santa Fé do Araguaia, Tocantins



"In March [2024], we received the kits in the villages. We started thinking about how to set the rules, how the distribution would work, where the equipment would be located, and who would be responsible for it. These were all discussed among the five communities, and each one received a device and chose someone to take care of it. The community clinic gained connectivity. It now has a consultation room, medical care, an on-call nursing technician, and a nurse.

Before, when an accident or emergency happened in the village, the nursing technician was often the last to find out due to lack of communication. With the project, we created a group, and as soon as something happens in another village, a car is sent right away to pick up the patient and bring them to the health post. The patient is examined and, if needed, the municipality is contacted. The technician can make a video call to evaluate situations like wounds, exposed fractures, stingray injuries, or snakebites, and guide the proper procedure. For example, if someone hits their head and is bleeding heavily, the health car is sent and the nurse already notifies that an ambulance will be needed. That way, doctors in the city are already on standby to receive the patient. In health care, we saw a huge impact, because in these situations, minutes can mean a life.

In education, we have subjects focused on our culture, called Indigenous Knowledge. We are connected with other Karajá people who live farther south. Despite the distance and logistical challenges, the internet allowed us to create groups with them. Through these groups, we have learned how to make crafts we did not use to, and we exchange new words that emerged there but did not exist before, like 'television' and 'airplane.' These words were unknown to our grandparents and great-grandparents, so this exchange of information has helped strengthen our culture.

Young people got very excited about the arrival of the internet. They created pages for the association, school groups... When there is an issue, like a power outage at the school, they use the community clinic's internet connection to attend classes and do research. Our libraries are limited, but the internet brought us a huge range of research possibilities, both in specific fields and in cultural content."



Spreading the word: visibility and reach

Throughout 2024, the Connect Forest People Network was present in various strategic spaces for dialogue, coordination, and public visibility, reinforcing its commitment to strengthening a network of forest peoples and meaningful connectivity in the Amazon.





1st Meeting of the Connect Forest People Network

The highlight of the year was the **1st** Meeting of the Connect Forest People **Network**, held from June 5 to 7 in the village of Alter do Chão, Santarém, Pará. The event brought together over 150 people, including representatives from grassroots organizations Indigenous peoples, quilombolas, extractivists, and riverside communities, as well as civil society organizations, the private sector, and government representatives. During three days of an intense program, participants celebrated the achievements of the network's first year of activities, discussed major advances made, and debated the challenges and strategies for the next steps.

The meeting also marked the inauguration of the first Paulo Lima Digital Empowerment Center in the Carão community, within the



Tapajós-Arapiuns Extractive Reserve (Resex), a symbolic and concrete milestone demonstrating the project's commitment to digital education as a tool for community transformation.

On the last day, the event held the plenary session "Forest Peoples and a Connected Amazon," featuring government representatives such as Ronaldo Santos, Secretary of Policies for Quilombolas, Traditional Peoples and Communities of African Origin, Terreiro Peoples and Gypsies at the Ministry for Racial Equality; Cristiana Camarate, advisor to the National Telecommunications Agency (Anatel); and Edel Moraes, Secretary of Traditional Peoples and Communities at the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change.











Free Land Camp (Acampamento Terra Livre - ATL) 2024

Another highlight was the participation in the **Free Land Camp (ATL) 2024**, the largest indigenous mobilization in Brazil, held in Brasília, Distrito Federal, in April. As part of COIAB'S program at the event, the project hosted a roundtable discussion on connectivity in Indigenous territories and the project's progress. This space was an important forum for dialogue, listening and recognition of the network by Indigenous leaders and organizations present.





Aquilombar

The project was also presented at the **Aquilombar event**, which brings together quilombola leaders from across the country, held in May in Brasília, Distrito Federal. It was also represented at the **COIAB Assembly**, held at Lago Caracaranã, Roraima, strengthening its connection with the grassroots organizations leading the initiative: COIAB, CONAQ, and CNS.

Glocal Amazônia

In August, Connect Forest People Network was present at **Glocal Amazônia**, an event connecting innovation initiatives, sustainable solutions, and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), held in Manaus, Amazonas. The project participated in a panel discussing the digital challenges and opportunities in the region.







Impact Investment and Sustainable Business Festival in the Amazon (FIINSA)

In October, the network took part in two panels at the 3rd edition of the Impact Investment and Sustainable Business Festival in the Amazon (FIINSA), promoted by the Amazon Conservation and Sustainable Development Institute (Idesam) and Impact Hub Manaus, also in Manaus, Amazonas. Throughout the event, direct experiences from network beneficiaries were shared, including online participation by entrepreneurs Adezio Araújo and João Rolim, who spoke live from their communities through connectivity, showcasing how the project helped boost community businesses and strengthen sustainable supply chains in the forest.







2nd Energy and Connectivity Training

In addition to events, the Connect Forest People Network also invested in training and capacity-building for the project's technical activators, such as the **2nd Energy and Connectivity Training**, held in February in Sorocaba, São Paulo, with technicians from the network's installing organizations. This training effort is essential to ensure technical autonomy and maintenance of the implemented solutions.





Check out our video about the 2nd Energy and Connectivity Training





Coverage in Major Media Outlets

In 2024, the project was also featured in major media outlets, increasing its national and international visibility. This media presence has been fundamental for mobilizing new partners, raising public awareness, and consolidating recognition of connectivity as a right and a tool for the well-being of the forest peoples.

For example, we were featured in the newspaper **Valor Econômico**, where journalist Daniela Chiaretti authored a comprehensive report detailing the initiative's progress, the coordination between grassroots organizations, and the strategic role of connectivity for the sovereignty of the forest peoples. In addition, we appeared in both print and online editions of outlets such as Folha de São Paulo, Agência Brasil, G1, Istoé, UOL, among others.



Tecnologia O maior projeto de conectividade entre povos indígenas, comunidades quilombolas e extrativistas na Amazônia nasce da filantropia e abre um mundo de possibilidades. Por *Daniela Chiaretti*, de Alter do Chão, Pará





Watch the report from TV Tapajós, a Globo affiliate in Pará, about the 1st Meeting of the Connect Forest People Network

With each space occupied, each event held, and each story told, Connect Forest People reaffirms its commitment to a connected, inclusive Amazon built by those who live in and protect it.







Testimonial

Luciene Lima

Health facilitator and multiplier in the Nova Esperança community, in the Médio Juruá Extractive Reserve (Resex), Carauari, Amazonas

"The arrival of telehealth in our region was a turning point. Before, we depended on the [previous] Telehealth project, and when that project ended, it was a moment of despair. Families had already built bonds with the professionals, and losing that access was very difficult.

Then Connect Forest People came along, with an even more robust project. Today, we have 24-hour service, including on holidays. Riverside dwellers no longer need to leave their communities and travel elsewhere to receive care. They arrive at the base, register, and can already have a consultation. This also brought more autonomy—some people can now consult directly with the doctor by themselves, as if they were talking to a friend.

With the internet and support from the project, our association, the Nova Esperança Community Association, gained strength. Before, we did very little. Now, we can generate digital passwords that provide access to social benefits like Bolsa Verde, social security benefits, and even registration with Incra [National Institute for Colonization and Agrarian Reform]. Just this year [2024], more than 400 passwords have been issued.

The internet has also paved the way for education and communication. We download short health videos and gather the community to watch them together. This creates interest and engagement. Moreover, we can develop and submit projects like Floresta+ Amazônia and Fundo Casa — all online. We receive training, workshops, and even resources via the internet. Things that were once unimaginable.

Today, in Nova Esperança, Connect Forest People's internet has become a tool for social work, health, and education. The connection is so good that residents themselves have started wanting it at home too. And that just shows how transformative this project is.

I'm very grateful to Connect Forest People. This project is changing lives in Médio Juruá."



Connect Forest People Project governance

In terms of governance, the Connect Forest People project involves six different agents, each with distinct roles and responsibilities:

The Connect Forest People Network

This body defines the project's strategic guidelines and appoints members to the Connect Forest People Deliberative Council (which also serves as the Network Coordination Committee). The Network is formalized by over 40 members and, although it does not have a legal entity registration (CNPJ), it is formalized through adherence to the Network Manifesto and its Internal Regulations.

Connect Forest People Institute

A nonprofit institute created solely to enable the implementation of the Connect Forest People project in line with the guidelines set by the Network. It is responsible for fundraising, contracting suppliers, and establishing cooperation agreements, including with organizations within the Network.

Social Donors/Investors

Responsible for philanthropic donations to the project, and they may also join the organization as Supporting Associates.

Suppliers

Partners responsible for providing technical solutions (for example, energy kits supplied by ION Energia) and technological solutions (such as the Conexão Povos da Floresta app developed by Solved), which are essential for the project's execution.

Partners of Digital Inclusion Programs

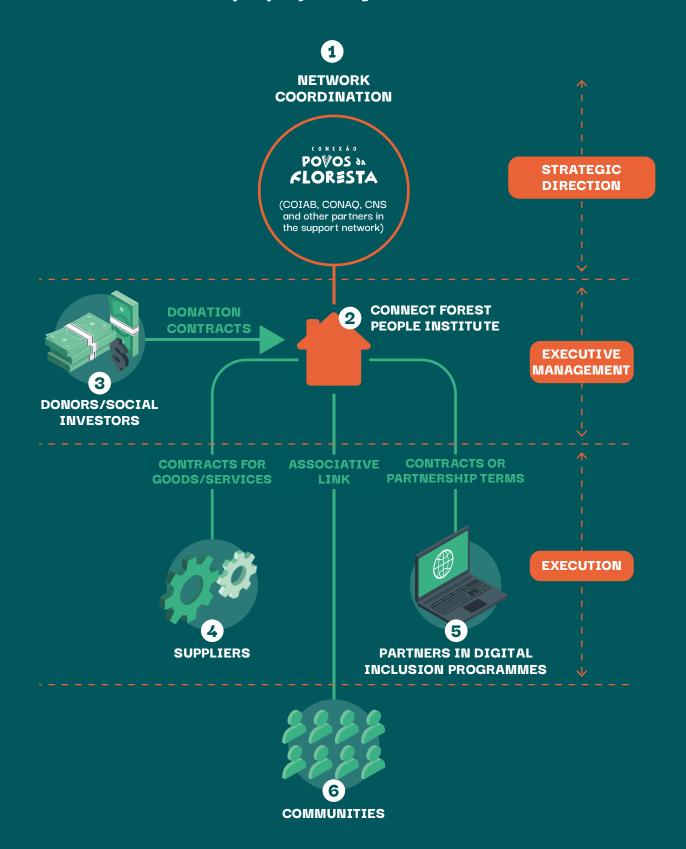
Partners that support activities carried out by the Working Groups (WGs) of the Digital Inclusion Program. These partners may or may not be part of the Network.

Communities

These form a category of associates within the network (Forest People Associates), either as legal entities or individuals, with the right to use the network and benefit from the project.



Graphical diagram of the Connect Forest People project's governance



Policies approved in 2024

Relationship policy with beneficiary communities associated with the Connect Forest People Project

The Connect Forest People project reaches communities prioritised by institutional coordination bodies (COIAB, CONAQ and CNS) by offering its services free of charge for 12 months. After this period, the community is invited to become a member of the Network, with a membership process that is structured yet flexible enough to accommodate the specific needs of each community. The **Relationship Policy** establishes essential rules to guide this process, ensuring the Network's operation and maintenance within the community and facilitating its expansion to other communities, thereby ensuring that the benefits continue to multiply.

The key lesson from the process of drafting and implementing the policy was recognising the need to enable association through both a legal entity, such as a community association, and an individual, such as a local leader. This flexibility eliminates the bureaucratic barriers that communities often face.

The policy defines criteria including the necessary documentation, adherence to the rulebook, and a symbolic financial contribution. Discounts or exemptions can be granted if justified, to give communities time to organise internally and adapt in support of the project's financial sustainability.

Data protection and access policy

As the project has matured and become increasingly complex, starting with the mapping of community locations, the generation and use of data on beneficiary communities has increased significantly. This progress has highlighted the need to establish a **Data Protection and Access Policy** to guide the security and ethical use of the information collected. This information is categorised according to the nature and sensitivity of the data, as follows:

- Sensitive data with restricted access, designed to protect the integrity of the communities and their territories;
- Non-sensitive data with public access, with the aim of guaranteeing transparency and the dissemination of relevant information.

Sharing sensitive data is subject to the consent of the communities involved, based on clear and understandable information about how the data will be used and who will have access to it. This consent can be obtained either by consulting the communities directly or by consulting their representative collegiate bodies: COIAB, CONAQ and CNS.

The Connect Forest People Institute adopts robust data protection measures, such as encryption and periodic audits, in compliance with the General Personal Data Protection Law (LGPD). In addition, it has set up a **Data Protection and Access Committee**, which is responsible for assessing and authorizing the sharing of information, particularly with public bodies, ensuring that any use is in line with the interests and rights of forest peoples.



Governance of the Connect Forest People Institute

ADVISORY BOARD

André Junqueira Ayres Villas Boas
Avanilson Ijorary Dias Aires Karajá
Decio Horito Yokota
Fabio Anderson Rodrigues Pena
Francisco Ademar da Silva Cruz
Joaquim Correa de Souza Belo
José Carlos Guerreiro Galiza
Julia Gabriela Ferreira Ribeiro
Rafael de Castro Figueroa
Renata Soares Piazzon
Rodrigo Baggio Barreto
Tasso Rezende de Azevedo (President of the Board)

FISCAL COUNCIL

Valner dos Santos Barcelos Gilberto Mifano

Independently audited by Deloitte.



WHO IS WHO

Who makes the Connect Forest People Project

On January 4, 2023, the Connect Forest People Institute was established to serve as the primary executor of the Connection Project. Since then, the project has expanded and been organized into teams, each with specific fronts, acting in a cross-cutting and integrated manner to ensure the smooth running of the initiative.

The departments are:

- Management, HR and Finance Division
- Infrastructure, Prioritization and Logistics Division
- Product, Development and Support Division
- Community Relations and Communication Division
- Digital Inclusion and Working Groups Division
- Executive Secretary

Meet the team that makes the Connect Forest People project happen, including the institute's own employees and employees from grassroots organizations and partners.



EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



JULIANA DIB REZENDE Connect Forest People Institute



CAMILA OLHER BCG



DÉBORA PASSOS Arapyaú Institute

MANAGEMENT, HR AND FINANCE DIVISION



ÉRICA DIAS Arapyaú Institute



JOÃO PELOZIO Arapyaú Institute



PAULO SENA Arapyaú Institute

INFRASTRUCTURE, PRIORITIZATION AND LOGISTICS DIVISION



GABRIEL LIMA Liderança Serviços



MARIA LUIZA DIAS Connect Forest People Institute



SABRINA COSTA

Connect Forest
People Institute



YARA CRUZ Connect Forest People Institute



INSTALLER TECHNICIANS FROM IMPLEMENTING INSTITUTIONS

(see next section)

PRODUCT, DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT DIVISION



ALESSANDRO AZEVEDO SOLVED



ATÍLIO AZEVEDO SOLVED



CESAR DINIZ SOLVED



LUIZ CORTINHAS SOLVED



RITA DE CÁSSIA

DIGITAL INCLUSION AND WORKING GROUPS DIVISION



ANA NETTO RECODE



GELSON LIMA CNS



IZI CATERINIConnect Forest
People Institute



JAMILLE SANTOS RECODE



MIRNA GRASIELLE Coiab



SUELEM VILHENA Conaq

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATION DIVISION



ANA CAROLINA YAMAGUCHI Connect Forest People Institute



ANA NETTO RECODE



GABRIEL OLIVEIRA Connect Forest People Institute



GELSON LIMA CNS



JAMILLE SANTOS RECODE



LUDIMAR KOKAMA Coiab



TAÍS LEAL Conaq

The Connect Forest People Institute receives accounting consultancy from Conaupro Contabilidade e Auditoria Ltda and legal advice from SBSA Advogados.



WHO IS WHO

Implementing institutions and technical activators

The team of technical activators is made up of more than 40 technicians working in the different Brazilian states that form the Brazilian Amazon, linked to 15 different institutions involved in implementing the technology for access to connectivity and solar energy.





























NAME	INSTITUTION	
Adimar Junior Castro dos Santos	Conaq	
Adrenilson da Silva Oliveira	CNS	
Aerisson Nogueira Freire	Instituto Sem Fronteiras	
Alexsander Borges	Foundation for Amazon Sustainability (FAS)	
Alexandre Bottini	lepé Institute	
Bruno Amir	Health and Happiness Project (Projeto Saúde e Alegria - PSA)	
Cleidinaldo dos Santos Soares	Instituto Socioambiental (ISA)	
Cristovão Negreiros Pissango	Union of Indigenous Peoples of the Javari Valley (Univaja)	
Décio Yokota	lepé Institute	
Denilson Pixi Kata Matis	Univaja	
Diogo Giotto	Opan	
Edelson Gomes	FAS	
CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE		



NAME	INSTITUTION
Edmilson Estevão Magalhães	Associação Wanasseduume Ye´kwana/ISA
Eduardo Luan Tavares Marinho	FAS
Elielson da Cunha Sousa	PSA
Francinaldo Ferreira de Lima	ISA
Gelson Lima da Silva	CNS
Gilmar Ferreira de Sousa	Transnorte Energia
Giofan Mandulão	Conselho Indigena de Roraima
Henrique Saldanha Sousa	Transnorte Energia
Israel Leal da Silva	Conaq
Israel Vale	Kanindé Ethnoenvironmental Defense Association
Jamilson da Rocha Lima	FAS
Jangle Felipe Manchineri de Sousa	Coiab
João Nascimento Sales	Conaq
Kátia Serique	FAS
Kubekakre Kayapó	Associação Floresta Protegida
Leonardo José da Cruz Sousa	Kanindé Ethnoenvironmental Defense Association
Lindones Castro	ISA
Lizandra Silva	FAS
Luiz Carlos da Silva	ISA
Orlando Possuelo	Univaja
Patricia Castanha	ISA
Paulo Junior Galvão	Coiab
Renato Nestlehner	ISA
Rodrigo Lima da Silva	CNS
Rodrigo Moreira	FAS
Rosivaldo Nascimento	Conaq
Silvanei Rodrigues Corrêa	PSA
Uirá Bentes	Coiab
Willian Marques Dias	ISA



Testimonial

Ytalo Nogueira

Facilitator of the Vila Nunes Community, in the Unini River Extractive Reserve, in Novo Airão, Amazonas

"With the arrival of connectivity, a lot has changed for the better. It was very important for us. Now we can see people, talk to our families, find out how they are.

As I also work in tourism, the internet has been very useful to me. I've been able to get in touch with people in a closed group, and that's made a big difference. It's been very important for the community, not just for tourism, but also for studies and other areas. There are people there [in the community] attending online classes for college, for example. It's been a very good project, and it's great that the internet has arrived.

I can only thank the Connect Forest People project. The importance of all this is enormous. We're using it to study, to close deals, to publicize our work and much more."





Finances

Funders

Below is a list of the 14 funders who supported our project throughout 2024, totaling **R\$ 25,364,285.00** (Brazilian Reais) received in 2024. It should be noted that funders with contracts signed in 2024, whose installments will be partially or fully debited in 2025, will be included in the report for the latter year.

FUNDERS	
Arapyaú Institute	
Bem Te Vi	
Climate and Society Institute (iCS)	
Friends of the Earth (Amigos da Terra)	
Grupo Gera	
ltaú	
Moore Foundation	
Movimento Bem Maior	
Paloma Lambranho	
Paragon	
Transnorte Energia	
Umbuzeiro Institute	
Union of Indigenous Peoples of the Javari Valley (Univaja)	
Vale Fund	
TOTAL AMOUNT RECEIVED IN 2024 R\$ 25,364,285.00	



In-kind support

Below is a list of our in-kind funders who supported the project throughout 2024:

IN KIND FUNDERS	
Azul Brazilian Airlines	
Arapyaú Institute	
Prada Consultoria	

Special thanks to our partners **Greenpeace**, **Çarê Institute**, **the Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (Ibama) and the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio)** for their logistical support for the project, as well as the various network partners who contributed resources during the installation and logistics process. Without them, the project would not have been able to achieve all the progress it has made.

2024 results

The consolidation of the Connect Forest People Institute's financial inflows and outflows can be divided into four major blocks:

- **1. Logistics:** This block includes all expenses related to logistics, including fuel, daily allowances, travel, car and truck rental;
- **2. Personnel:** This includes the costs associated with the team hired for the project, consultants, trainees, management team and technicians;
- **3. Equipment:** Covers the costs of items such as antennas, power kits, computers, routers and other equipment needed to run the project;
- **4. Others:** This section includes all other costs not specified above, such as bank fees, reimbursement expenses, among others, with entries and exits for 2024 on the same model as the fiscal council.

TYPE OF COST	IN 2024
Logistics	R\$ 580,015.14
Personnel	R\$ 1,028,995.36
Equipment	R\$ 14,533,580.11
Others	R\$ 4,387,364.94
TOTAL AMOUNT IN 2024	R\$ 20,529,955.55



Testimonial

Jailson Jacinto Pereira Juruna

Community member of Pupekuri Village, in the Paquiçamba Indigenous Land, in Vitória do Xingu, Pará

"As a leader, as president of our local association and as a resident for many years, I can only thank everyone who initiated the Connect Forest People project. Our community has received this equipment, and the arrival of the Forest People network has really helped us. Not only in communicating with the outside world, but also for filing association documents, talking to relatives, dealing with health issues, in short... everything that used to be inaccessible is now within our reach, thanks to connectivity.

In the work field, the connectivity has also made a difference. Some families are benefiting, including mine. My wife, for example, works with handicrafts and already sold them before, but now, with the internet, she has managed to triple her income. Today she has many customers not only here in Pará, but also in other Brazilian states such as São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Minas Gerais and many other places.

I also work as a volunteer environmental agent. With the Belo Monte dam, our way of life and the local biodiversity have been greatly affected. I work with chelonians, following them from spawning to the birth of their young, trying to understand the impacts these species have suffered.

I also do volunteer work with ornamental fish, something that few people do here in the Volta Grande do Xingu, another heavily impacted area. I share all of this on social media to mobilize more people and encourage actions that will help confront this major impact on the biodiversity of our region."





Expedient

EDITORIAL PROJECT

Gabriel Oliveira João Pelozio

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SUPPORT

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