

# Environmental services in practice: lessons learned and perspectives from the state of Amazonas

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December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 | 11:30 AM – 13:00 PM | Madrid – Side event | Pavilion 4 - Room 4

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## OVERVIEW

The state of Amazonas has in its territory the largest portion of the Brazilian Amazon Forest, with approximately 96% of its conserved territory, and about 57% of protected areas by Protected Areas and Indigenous Territories. The Amazon rainforest is responsible for providing various environmental services indispensable for human well-being and global balance, such as water cycle maintenance, climate maintenance and stability, nutrient cycling, food supply, fiber, fuel, among others. Because of these environmental services, the Amazon plays a very important role in the context of climate change. However, it is necessary to develop legal frameworks that allow the structuring of public policies aimed at the valuation and conservation of environmental services, reconciled with the generation of social benefits, throughout the territorial extension of the state.

Given this importance, Amazonas is a pioneer state in terms of public policies aimed at the well-being of the population, linked to the conservation of the Amazon rainforest: launched the State Policy on Environmental Services, in December 2015, the platform for the transaction of environmental assets, in November 2016, the State Fund for Climate Change, Environmental Conservation and Environmental Services - FEMUCS, in June 2016, among others.

To further advance its sustainable development policy and seeking to maximize the value of its major environmental assets (the largest forest carbon stocks of the Brazilian Amazon, the largest freshwater volumes in the world - Amazon, Negro and Solimões Rivers and their mega animal biodiversity), the State Secretariat of Environment (SEMA), with support from the Sustainable Amazon Foundation (FAS), is implementing the project “Regulation and Implementation of the State Environmental Services Law of Amazonas, Brazil”, which aims to support the creation of a jurisdictional REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) strategy in Amazonas. The construction of this strategy aims - in a macro way - to contribute to the goals of reducing its GHG emissions from deforestation, as agreed in the Rio Branco Declaration and punctuated in the Brazilian NDC, at the same time, to offer economic incentives for traditional populations to develop sustainable economic activities. The project is supported by the GCF Taskforce Fund, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Instituto de Conservação e Desenvolvimento Sustentável da Amazônia (IDESAM), Fundação Vitória Amazônica (FVA) and Conservação Internacional Brasil (CI-BR)

## SIDE EVENT

The event aims to present strategies and results of Amazonas in contributing to the achievement of the Brazilian NDC. The State of Amazonas has been a leader in forest conservation and in developing innovative policies and instruments for local sustainable development with various segments of society focusing on the well-being of vulnerable populations.

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## AGENDA

11h35 – 11h40 (5')	<b>Welcome and opening remarks</b> Victor Salviati – Institutional Development & Innovation Director at Sustainable Amazon Foundation (FAS)
11h40 – 11h55 (15')	<b>Public policies directed to the welfare of the population and conservation of the Amazon rainforest: an overview of the state of Amazonas</b> Luis Henrique Piva – Executive Secretary at State Secretariat for the Environment (SEMA-Amazonas)
11h55 – 12h10 (15')	<b>The Amazonas REDD+ System: opportunities for investments in environmental services</b> Pedro Soares – Climate Change and REDD+ Manager at Institute of Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Amazon (Idesam)
12h10 – 12h25 (15')	<b>Juma Sustainable Development Reserve REDD+ Project: project pilot of the State Environmental Services Law of Amazonas</b> Gabriela Sampaio – Public Policies Coordinator at Sustainable Amazon Foundation
12h25 – 12h40 (15')	<b>Opportunities and outcomes of the private and public funds and financial mechanisms engagement to support conservation and development programs</b> Alexis Arthur – United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
12h40 – 13h00 (20')	<b>Questions from audience</b>
13h – 13h15 (5')	<b>Challenges and opportunities to REDD+ agenda take off in Brazil</b> Natalie Unterstell – Talanoa Solutions