Traditional farms and community network for the Krahô Indigenous Land, Galheiros Village

Abstract:

This project is a proposal that seeks to strengthen the sustainable food production in the Krahô indigenous community, through the integration of traditional farming practices and connectivity resources. The initiative has a predicted duration of six months and aims to positively impact both the community and the Cerrado protected by these people. Through this call, we would like to sum to the work that is already being done by the community and collaborate for the construction of a project in line with Meli's values.

Context and challenges:

The Krahô indigenous community faces challenges related to food production and the search for communication and access to information. Currently, they are committed in promoting agricultural self-sufficiency and face difficulties in accessing educational material and other relevant resources. Also, the limited connectivity impacts their capacity to search for financial support and establish partnerships to develop projects efficiently.

Location of the project:



Group of Krahô Warriors on a mission in 2021



Example of Krahio village in the shape of the Sun



In red, the Indigenous Territory Kraholândia, in relation to other Brazilian indigenous territories and urban centers

The Indigenous Territory Kraholândia is in Tocantins, Brazil. The total area of the indigenous land is 303.000 hectares (1.170 square miles) and has a population of more than 3.000 people of the Krahô ethnicity. The Krahô live in villages in the shape of the sun. They dedicate themselves to craftsmanship and subsistence farming, with highlight to cassava, corn and sweet potato cultivation. They also fish and hunt. These people have a rich culture and are an example of resistance in maintaining their ancestral traditions. They have their own language of the Jê family and are known for their dances and songs.

Like many other indigenous territories in Brazil, Kraholândia faces challenges such as the invasion of the land and the illegal exploration of natural resources. Also, the indigenous people face difficulties like the lack of access to healthcare and appropriate education.

Beneficiaries:

With the community farms, 72 families will benefit from food of Krahô species, with their own production, and the formative processes of traditional cultivation.

With the access to conenctivity, 36 families from the Galheiro Novo Village will directly benefit from training and internet access in their homes. In the Galheiro Velho Village, which is next to Galheiro Novo, 36 other families will benefit from training and good internet close by. With training, the community will be able to continue extending the internet network coverage area.

Planed Activities:

- 1. Strengthening the creation of traditional farms:
- Survey of the needs and demands of the families of the Krahô Warriors in relation to food production
- Implementation of traditional Krahô farms, from 3 to 5 bushels, in strategic locations, to guarantee the food sovereignty of the families of the 2 Galheiro Villages, in the Krahô Indigenous Territory
- Training of community members in sustainable agricultural practices and preservation of traditional knowledge
- Strengthen partnerships with local institutions, such as Funai and other regional organizations, to ensure project continuity

2. Connectivity and access to information

- Installation of the Starlink Internet system, providing cheap, high-speed internet access in the Galheiro village community
- Creating a mesh community network to distribute the internet signal to cover as much of the community area as possible
- Conducting workshops to train community members in the effective use of the internet for research, exchange of experiences and search for funding
- Establish security protocols for community use of the Internet
- Create a financial sustainability plan for the monthly payment of the Internet service provider
- Training in the use of internet filtering and control systems to manage network usage in a secure and community-based way

3. Group dialog and construction

- Conducting meetings with the community to understand their needs, demands and specific contexts
- Establishing a constant dialogue with community members to improve the project and adapt it to their needs
- Collaboration with Funai, Sesai, Rede Meli and other partner institutions to strengthen support for the project and ensure its long-term sustainability

Period of Activities:

	Week													
Activity	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14

Meeting with the community**							
Buy and prepare chainsaw							
Drilling of farm**							
Transportation of seeds*							
Fertilize with ashes**							
Planting**							
Farm maintenance**							
Internet provider contract							
Internet system installation**							
Creation of community network**							
Workshops and training**							

Costs											
	Description	Unitary value (BRL)	Units	Subtotal (BRL)	Subtotal (€)						
1	Chainsaw	2.500	1	2.500	500						
2	Food (by person)	20	100	2.000	400						
3	Fuel (Liters)	6	60	360	72						
4	Tools for farming	500	1	500	100						
5	Internet provider	1.000	1	1.000	200						
6	Router for internet network	500	3	1.500	300						
7	Tools for network installation	1.000	1	1.000	200						
	Daily rate for technician- educator	50	15	750	150						
8	educator	50	15	730	150						
9	Transportation	195	2	390	78						
	Total	10.000	2.000								

Team and partners:

Main nucleous:

- Francisco Hujno Krahô: Krahô Warrior and community leadership of the Galheiro Village
- Cruwakwyj Krahô: Teacher and community leadership of the Galheiro Village
- Luandro: development and technology teaching specialist, working with Meli Network, Digital Democracy and Coolab

We have partnerships with Funai (National Indigenous Foundation) and Sesai (Special Secretariat for Indigenous Health), in addition to the Krahô Warriors and the Galheiro village community for the logistics of face-to-face activities.

Specific goals:

- Strengthening traditional food production in the Krahô Indigenous Territory
- Improve the access to information and resources related to sustainable agriculture

• Training community members in the effective internet use and control

General goals:

- Contributing to food self-sufficiency and security of 2 Krahô villages
- Preserve the traditional knowledge and promote sustainable environmental managing
- Stablishing long-lasting partnerships and create replicable models for other indigenous communities
- Provide access to digital tools securely and in a way that meets local needs