

Food safety: school garden
Kamapã Village – Apurinã People.

Abstract:

The Apurinã people maintain a close relationship of respect and cordiality with nature and their culture. In the town Boca do Acre, south of Amazonas, there are four Apurinã communities, three of those being near the BR-317 highway. The project will directly benefit the Kamapã Village, located at the km 124 of the BR-317 highway in the Boca do Acre Indigenous Territory, where we were we developed, together with the community, an action plan identifying needs in education, health and socioeconomic development. With the construction of BR-317, the indigenous land was cut in half, causing many environmental, social, and cultural impacts, with emphasis on the difficulty in accessing the food that nature provides and even drinking water, causing serious problems of food insecurity and health.

Therefore, the Project “Food safety: school garden” was one of the proposed activities the community proposed in the ideas workshop, in which community leaders, school team, and families were present. The problem was considered regarding the low quality and variety of school meals, as well as the community's access to vegetables and other foods that can add to food and nutritional security, mainly due to the worsening of poverty in the post-pandemic period. The construction of the garden will strengthen the cooperation among the school community's, with the principle of collectivity and strengthening the cultural identity of the people. Furthermore, in the medium term it will be able to guarantee the commercialization of products and the generation of income for the community. It will also be a means of carrying out pedagogical work with indigenous children, rescuing their food culture.

Context and challenges

The Kamapã Indigenous Land has some issues common to other indigenous territories in the region, like the tackling of illegal deforestation, land conflict, impacts from urbanization and from colonization process from white people, the scarcity of access to food with the destruction of flora and fauna. Also, the COVID-19 pandemic brought social and economic consequences to the families. It is known that in the indigenous land when compared to other types of land occupation has the lowest deforestation rates. However, this reality is being altered, specially in the last decade. The town of Boca do Acre, that has already lost 11% of it's original forest coverage, is the second most deforested town in Amazonas.

The Kamapã Indigenous Land was officiated in October 30th 1991, that is, over 30 years ago. The opening of BR 317 began in the 1950s, and its paving, which began in 2000, over time resulted in negative impacts on the Apurinã indigenous lands located along the road. The construction of the road facilitated the access of non-indigenous people, great impact on fauna, flora, and specially contamination and decreased access to drinking water, which was one of the most felt by the community. Added to this is the use of pesticide by farmers, killing their

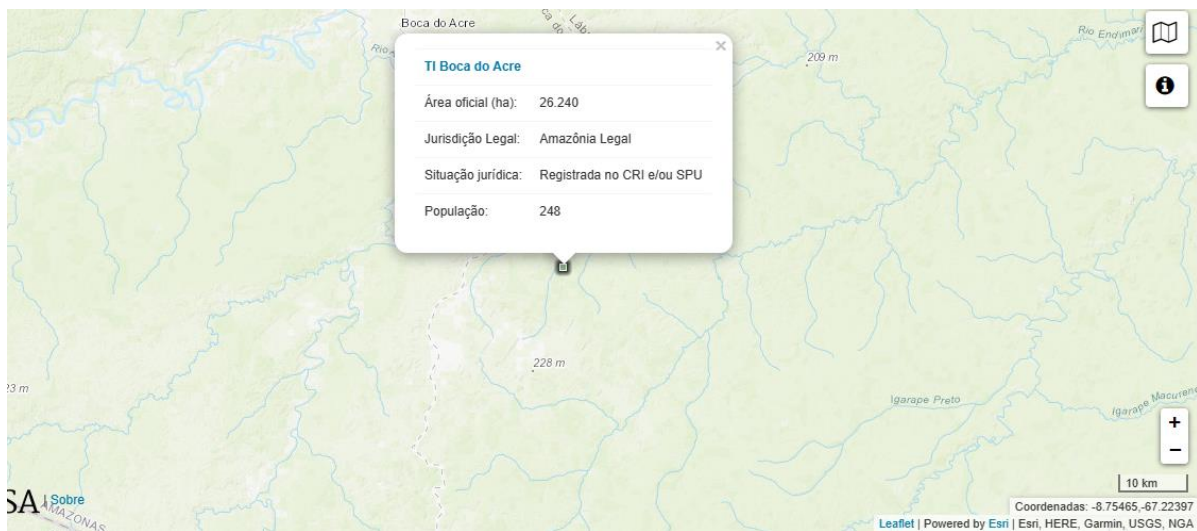
streams and, consequently, considerably reducing hunting, fishing and collecting products extracted from nature.

Guarantying the access to healthy food is the challenge that the project “Food safety: school garden” intends to solve, from a perspective of the community and local development, which respects the different dimensions, promoting the rescue of these people with their food and cultural identity. With the implementation of a school garden there will be direct results in the quality and variety of the school lunch, with production of organic food, and more food security for future generations.

In medium and long term, with the collective management it is possible to expand the project, selling the surplus production and generating income for the community, from a social, environmental, and economic management of the implemented investments.

Location

The Kamapã Indigenous Territory is located in the km 124 of Boca do Acre, southern Amazonas, officiated in October 30th 1991 (Boca do Acre Indigenous Territory)



<https://terrasindigenas.org.br/pt-br/terras-indigenas/3621>

Beneficiaries

The Kamapã Indigenous Land has an approximate population of 23 families, totalling aaround 120 people, and all the community will benefit.

Planned activities

Activities	Responsible people/partners
1.Meeting with families and school staff to begin implementing the Project	Project Coordinator/ School Team and Village Leadership
2. Workshop about family and community gardens	Project Coordinator/ School Team and Village Leadership
3. Geologic study for the construction of a well	Project Coordinator/ School Team and Village Leadership
4. Equipment aquisition	Project Coordinator
5. Drilling and construction of the artesian well	Project Coordinator
6. Construction of the School Garden Structure	Project Coordinator/ School Team and Village Leadership
7. Organic Fertilizer Workshop	Project Coordinator/ School Team and Village Leadership
8. Soil preparation and planting of seedlings	Project Coordinator/ School Team and Village Leadership
9. Fertilization and garden maintenance	Project Coordinator/ School Team and Village Leadership
10. Financial Management Workshop	Project Coordinator/ School Team and Village Leadership
11. Monitoring and technical support	Project Coordinator
12. Meeting with the school community to evaluate the Project	Project Coordinator/ School Team and Village Leadership

Period of activities

Activities	Jul	Ago	Set	Out	Nov	Dez
Meeting with families and school staff to begin implementing the Project	X					
Workshop on Family and Community Gardens	X					
Geological study for construction of the artesian well		X				
Acquisition of equipment and inputs for the Project		X				
Drilling and construction of the artesian well		X	X			
Construction of the School Garden Structure			X			
Organic Fertilizer Workshop			X			
Soil preparation and planting of seedlings				X		
Fertilization and garden maintenance			X	X	X	X
Financial Management Workshop					X	
Monitoring and technical support				X	X	X
Meeting with the school community to evaluate the Project						X

Team and partners

- Leaderships of the Kamapã territory
- Team and management of the Escola São Miguel
- Community of the Kamapã Village

Expected outcomes

- Improved food security for the students in Escola de Ensino Fundamental São Miguel and the community, providing a varied and healthy menu
- Strengthening of the school community

- Cultural rescue of food as a pedagogic activity proposal at the school
- More food and nutritional safety of the families through the food produced in the garden
- Better dietary health and awareness of good nutrition and consumption of healthy foods by the students and their families
- Reframing food, respecting the ethnic and cultural particularities of the Apurinã people
- Promotion of a supportive and cooperative economy
- Generation of income for families through the sale of surplus production