

# POLLINATING REGENERATION



# MELI BEES NETWORK gUG

Our **Social Mission** is to build **Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities** autonomy and territory **stewardship** with a global **Impact** Network.

## Impact Networks

*Build a trust  
based relation  
with 60+ IPLCs*

## Community-led Regeneration

*Mentor local  
leaders towards  
autonomy*

## Global Engagement

*Raise awareness for  
better North/South  
cooperation*



# OUR VALUES



**ENABLING AND  
CONNECTING  
COMMUNITIES**



**REVIVING  
ANCESTRAL  
KNOWLEDGE**



**PROMOTING  
WELL-BEING  
AND AUTONOMY**



**PRESERVING AND  
REGENERATING  
BIODIVERSITY**



# POLLINATING REGENERATION

Meli's **cornerstone**, this **program** is **enabling** indigenous and traditional **communities** to reclaim their **autonomy** through transformative, regenerative projects. Prioritizing **their values, needs, and culture**, we provide comprehensive **support** encompassing frameworks, training, mentorship, and **funding**. By fostering mutual understanding and exploring **synergies**, we lay the **groundwork** for a **long** lasting, **collaborative**, and impactful **partnership**.



2023/24  
POLLINATING  
REGENERATION  
PILOT PROGRAM



# IDEATION PHASE

The first step of our projects was surprisingly revolutionary:  
**listen to the communities!**

We shared a methodology for the communities to get together, reflect, raise ideas and prioritize them.

*"The experience of an **Ideas Workshop** was **new** for us. We might have talked about project ideas before, but we've never **paused** to **reflect** on and **prioritise** them. Now I suggest this methodology to all my neighbouring communities. Being **recognised as decision-makers** and putting our ideas on paper strengthens our **vision** and our **desire** to pursue **our goals**"*

*Ana Maria from Campo de Perizes foraging community*



# GEOGRAPHY & BIOMES

ALTO SOLIMÕES  
INDIGENOUS, RURAL AND URBAN AREAS  
KOKAMA AND KAMBEBA PEOPLE  
AMAZON RAINFOREST

ARARIBÓIA INDIGENOUS TERRITORY.  
GUAJAJARA PEOPLE.  
AMAZON RAINFOREST.

FREI HENRI COMMUNITY.  
TRADITIONAL PEASANT.  
AMAZON RAINFOREST.

KAMAPĀ  
INDIGENOUS TERRITORY  
APURINĀ PEOPLE  
AMAZON RAINFOREST

CAMPO DE PERIZES COMMUNITY.  
MIX OF INDIGENOUS, EUROPEAN  
AND AFRICAN ETHNIC GROUPS.  
AMAZON RAINFOREST.

LIMÃO VERDE  
INDIGENOUS TERRITORY  
TERENA PEOPLE  
PANTANAL

GALHEIROS  
INDIGENOUS TERRITORY.  
KRAHÔ PEOPLE.  
CERRADO.

CARAMURU CATARINA  
PARAGUAÇU  
INDIGENOUS TERRITORY.  
PATAXÓ HĀ-HĀ-HĀE PEOPLE.  
ATLANTIC FOREST.

ITAPUĀ  
INDIGENOUS TERRITORY.  
MBYA GUARANI PEOPLE.  
ATLANTIC FOREST.



# FOOD FOR GOOD LIVING

CARAMURU CATARINA PARAGUAÇU  
**INDIGENOUS** TERRITORY.  
STATE OF BAHIA, **BRAZIL**.  
**ATLANTIC FOREST**.  
**PATAXÓ HÃ-HÃ-HÃE** PEOPLE.

## CHALLENGE

In their **retaken territory**, the absence of a communal **gathering** space, essential to **indigenous** tradition, hinders cultural preservation and community **cohesion**.

## SOLUTION

Building a **community kitchen**, integrated with existing agroforestry, epitomizes the community's **holistic** well-being vision, nurturing indigenous health, culture, and **stewardship**.

## ACTIVITIES

Build the kitchen facility. **Prepare the site and acquire materials**. Hire essential services for construction. **Install utilities and finishing touches**. Landscape and area enhancement. **Establish a garden near the kitchen**. Incorporate produce from the local agroforestry. **Inaugurate the space**.

## IMPACT

Empowering 195 individuals directly, including 35 adults, 140 youth, and 20 children, while benefiting countless others through cultural preservation, regenerative agriculture, and environmental education initiatives.



## BENEFICIARIES

Indigenous community leaders and members, local farmers, students and educators from the village state school and universities.

REBUILD

FOOD

CLIMATE

HOLISTIC

COMMUNITY COHESION

CULTURE

REGENERATION



# MA'EPUTIR

ARARIBÓIA INDIGENOUS TERRITORY.  
STATE OF MARANHÃO, BRAZIL.  
AMAZON RAINFOREST.  
GUAJAJARA PEOPLE.

## CHALLENGE

Indigenous communities in the Arariboia territory face existential threats from encroachment, resource exploitation, cultural erosion, and limited sustainable livelihood options. Rapid deforestation, land grabbing, and cultural marginalization endanger their way of life and environmental heritage.

## SOLUTION

The Ma'eputir Project empowers indigenous communities with sustainable **agroforestry** practices and **seed banks** to reclaim and protect their territories. These initiatives foster autonomy, biodiversity conservation, and resilience.

## ACTIVITIES

Community consultations and needs assessments. **Agroforestry workshops and training.** Establishment of demonstration plots. **Ongoing mentorship and support.** Knowledge exchange through networks. **Access to resources and materials.** Monitoring and evaluation. **Community events and celebrations.** Advocacy for policy changes. **Scaling successful models.**

## IMPACT

Through agroforestry systems and community-led initiatives, the Ma'eputir Project improves livelihoods for over 1,200 residents, fosters resilience, and preserves traditional knowledge and cultural heritage in the Araribóia territory.



## BENEFICIARIES

Leaders from 18 communities participated in this project: **Zutiwa**, Crioly, **Abraão**, Buritirana II, **Portugal**, Formiga, **Barreirinha**, Vargem Limpa, **Ipiranga**, Terena, **Krahô**, Suruí Aikewara, **Frei Henri**, Campo de Perizes, **PDS Roseli Nunes**, Nova Canaã, **Deus te Ama**, Dalcídio Jurandir.

CONNECTION

FOOD

CLIMATE

BIODIVERSITY

COMMUNITY AUTONOMY

CULTURE

CONSERVATION

# JATA' I RENDÁ

ITAPUÃ **INDIGENOUS** TERRITORY.  
STATE OF SÃO PAULO, **BRAZIL**.  
**ATLANTIC FOREST**.  
**MBYA GUARANI** PEOPLE.

## CHALLENGE

This community is facing a profound challenge as it grapples with the **erosion** of critical **traditional meliponiculture** and **agroforestry** practices, directly threatening their fundamental cultural, spiritual, and **economic foundations**.

## SOLUTION

**Revitalize** traditional **meliponiculture** and **agroforestry** practices by providing practical **support** and promoting **knowledge-sharing** within the Mbya Guarani community.

## ACTIVITIES

Workshops: conduct hands-on sessions. **Training: teach beekeeping and farming.** Supplies: provide hives, tools, and seeds. **Sharing: foster community knowledge exchange.** Youth involvement: engage younger members. **Evaluation: assess progress and impact.** Events: celebrate traditions together. **Collaboration: work with other groups.** Advocacy: push for supportive policies. **Documentation: preserve practices for the next generations.**

## IMPACT

Around 327 individuals in 7 Mbya Guarani villages, including the central Itapuã village with 30 families. Involving 5 village leaders and a diverse group of youth and adults, we promote lasting sustainability and community resilience.



## BENEFICIARIES

Indigenous community leaders and members, local farmers, students and educators from regional schools and universities.

MELIPONICULTURE

FOOD

CLIMATE

ECONOMY

KNOWLEDGE SHARING

CULTURE

ATLANTIC FOREST

# FOOD & MATH

KAMAPĀ INDIGENOUS TERRITORY.  
STATE OF AMAZONAS, BRAZIL.  
AMAZON RAINFOREST.  
APURINĀ PEOPLE.

## CHALLENGE

The Kamapā Village grapples with **food insecurity** due to environmental degradation and **limited access** to nutritious meals. Insufficient dietary diversity, compounded by external factors such as **deforestation**, water scarcity/pollution, jeopardizes the health of community members, particularly **children**.

## SOLUTION

Through the **innovative** integration of **ethnomathematics**, this solution harmonizes traditional indigenous knowledge with mathematical principles to cultivate **sustainable food systems** in the Kamapā Village, fostering both nutritional security and cultural preservation.

## ACTIVITIES

Engage students in math-related gardening activities. **Geometry and proportionality to plan garden infrastructure**. Supply calculations, budgeting and maintenance schedules. **Implement a herbarium to preserve traditional plant knowledge for health**.

## IMPACT

By intertwining indigenous wisdom with mathematical innovation, we address food insecurity for over 120 members of the Kamapā Village, while fostering cultural preservation. Its **recognition at the State Mathematics Fair of Acre** highlights its impact, reaching audiences beyond its immediate community.



## BENEFICIARIES

Indigenous community leaders and members from Kamapā Village, farmers, students, their families and educators from São Miguel school and regional university.

WATER

FOOD

SCIENCE

HEALTH

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

CULTURE

HERBARIUM

# BLOSSOMING IN DRY SEASON

FREI HENRI COMMUNITY,  
STATE OF PARÁ, **BRAZIL**.  
**AMAZON** RAINFOREST.  
**TRADITIONAL PEASANT**.

## CHALLENGE

Nestled between Parauapebas and Curionópolis, Frei Henri community faces **intensified** challenges during the **dry season**, including **uncontrolled fires** and **limited** access to vital **technical** knowledge, hindering sustainable **progress**.

## SOLUTION

Collaborate with **Federal Rural University of the Amazon** to implement an **academic extension program** in Frei Henri, offering **technical** support for sustainable **agroforestry**, **irrigation**, and **fire prevention** to enhance agricultural productivity and resilience while fostering environmental conservation.

## ACTIVITIES

Surveying production areas. **Identifying crops and marking locations**. Surveying plant composition. **Documenting Agroforestry Systems**. Formulating SWOT matrix. **Providing feedback to the community**. Planning future visits and activities.

## IMPACT

UFRA Parauapebas and the Frei Henri community **collaborated** to directly benefit over **50 families**, impacting around **250 individuals**. Biodiversity conservation was enhanced across **8 areas**, with **regenerative** practices promoted and cultural **exchange** fostered.



## BENEFICIARIES

Community leaders and members, local farmers, university students and professors.

SCIENCE

AGROFORESTRY

ACADEMIC  
EXTENSION

FOOD

PEASANT

IRRIGATION

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

CLIMATE

FIRE PREVENTION

# CONNECTING

GALHEIROS INDIGENOUS TERRITORY,  
STATE OF TOCANTINS, BRAZIL.  
CERRADO. KRAHÔ PEOPLE.

## CHALLENGE

Obstacles in sustainable **food production** and **communication** due to **limited** access to resources and **connectivity**. **Encroachment** on their land further exacerbates these challenges, endangering both their cultural heritage and **food security**.

## SOLUTION

The project established **traditional farming** plots and installed a **community-wide internet network** in the Galheiros Village. By training community members in sustainable agriculture and effective internet use, it enhanced food production and access to information.

## ACTIVITIES

Surveying community food production needs. **Implementing traditional Krahô farms**. Training in sustainable agriculture. **Strengthening local partnerships**. Installing Starlink Internet. **Establishing a community network**. Conducting internet usage workshops. **Implementing security protocols**. Developing financial sustainability plans. **Training in internet management systems**.

## IMPACT

The project directly benefited 72 families in the Galheiros Village, totaling over 300 individuals. Indirectly, it impacted the broader Krahô Indigenous Territory, covering 303,000 hectares, by promoting sustainable land management and biodiversity preservation.



## BENEFICIARIES

Indigenous community leaders and members of the Galheiros Village. The Cerrado biome, which is considered one of the most endangered ecosystems in Brazil.

CERRADO

FOOD

INTERNET

AGROFORESTRY

CULTURE

CONNECTIVITY

TRADITIONAL FARMING

# BEEKEEPING IN NATURE

CAMPO DE PERIZES COMMUNITY.  
STATE OF MARANHÃO, **BRAZIL**.  
**AMAZON** RAINFOREST. FORAGING  
COMMUNITY. **MIX OF ETHNIC GROUPS**:  
INDIGENOUS, EUROPEAN AND  
AFRICAN.

## CHALLENGE

Rampant **environmental degradation** and  
**economic** disparity, fueled by **uncontrolled**  
honey **exploitation** by **external** actors,  
posing a direct **threat** to both biodiversity  
**conservation** and community **prosperity**.

## SOLUTION

Through this project, the locals embrace a  
**sustainable** path forward, **reclaiming**  
control over **beekeeping resources** and  
fostering environmental **stewardship**,  
**economic** empowerment, and **community**  
resilience.

## ACTIVITIES

Set up stingless bee colonies. Identify ideal  
locations for beehives. Build hive structures.  
Formalize partnerships. Training sessions.  
Acquire beekeeping equipment. Start honey  
production. Plant seedlings for environmental  
restoration. Hold evaluation meetings for  
progress tracking and strategy refinement.

## IMPACT

The project has established **10 thriving** bee  
**colonies**, engaged **community** members of  
**all ages** - 11 women and 9 men, 5 youth,  
and 4 children. In a 5-day **workshop**, we  
planted numerous **seedlings** for ecosystem  
**enrichment**, and formed **collaborative**  
partnerships with key local **stakeholders**.



## BENEFICIARIES

Community leaders and members,  
including farmers, youth, and children.

SEEDLINGS

STINGLESS BEES

FORAGING  
COMMUNITIES

HONEY

DIVERSITY

STEWARDSHIP

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

CLIMATE

BIODIVERSITY

# MOPÓ ITIVEKO

LIMÃO VERDE **INDIGENOUS** TERRITORY.  
STATE OF MATO GROSSO DO SUL.  
**BRAZIL. CERRADO. PANTANAL.**  
TERENA PEOPLE.

## CHALLENGE

The Terena community in the Brazilian **Pantanal** faces environmental **degradation**, cultural **erosion**, and economic **instability** due to insufficient **policy** support, **threats** to indigenous territories, and **outdated education** practices.

## SOLUTION

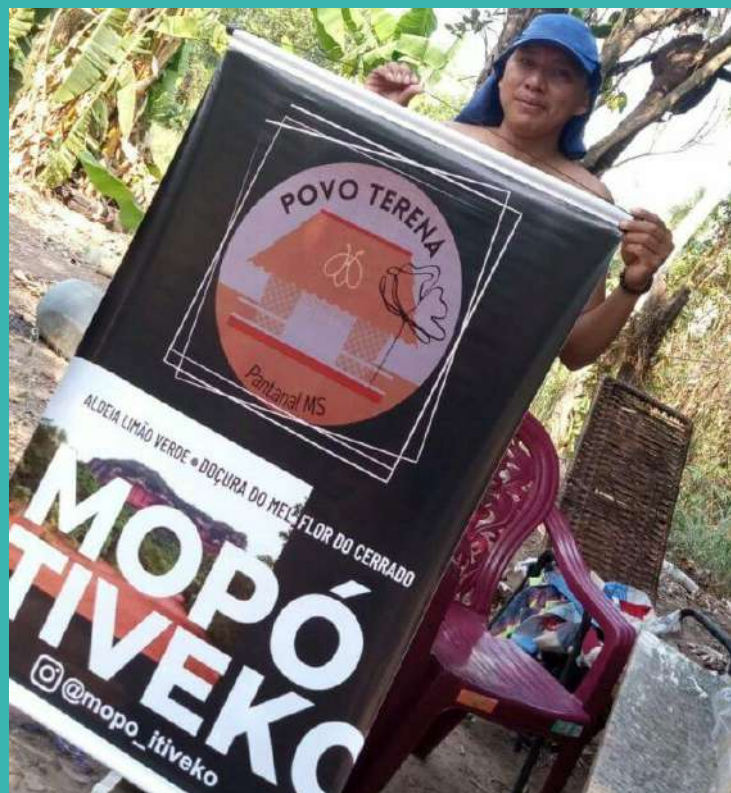
By robustly enhancing the sustainable management of **native bees**, igniting **cultural rejuvenation**, and fervently championing environmental **preservation**, this initiative not only **confronts** adversity but also embodies **resilience**, heritage, and **stewardship**.

## ACTIVITIES

Maintain and expand bee colonies. **Produce and distribute Kopenoty Syrup**. Organize community workshops. **Provide beekeeping training**. Collaborate with local partners. **Monitor and adjust project activities**.

## IMPACT

By **2025**, the "Mopó Itiveko: Honey House" project aims to **increase native bee populations by 50%**, resulting in the production of **500 liters of Kopenoty Syrup** annually. This initiative will directly benefit over **200 indigenous community members**, provide **environmental education** to **300 students**, and foster partnerships with **5 local organizations**. Additionally, through regenerative beekeeping practices, the project anticipates a **30%** improvement in local **biodiversity** preservation.



## BENEFICIARIES

Indigenous community members, mainly youth and students from the Pascoal Leite Dias Indigenous State School, women, children and elders

ECONOMY

SYRUP

PANTANAL

TRAINING

SUSTAINABLE BEEKEEPING

CULTURE

MELIPONINI

# HEALING WITH NATURE

IPLC IN SÃO PAULO DE OLIVENÇA, STATE OF AMAZONAS, **BRAZIL**.  
**AMAZON** RAINFOREST.  
**MIX OF ETHNIC GROUPS:** INDIGENOUS, EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN.

## CHALLENGE

**Drug issues** are **compounded** by its **remote** Amazonian **location**, **limited** infrastructure and economic **incentives**, porous **borders** facilitating **trafficking**, and recent challenges of severe **heat** and **drought**.

## SOLUTION

Leveraging **stingless beekeeping** and **agroforestry** programs, holds promise in **rehabilitating drug users** and fostering **economic** and **environmental sustainability** in São Paulo de Olivença.

## ACTIVITIES

Launch **beekeeping** and **agroforestry** projects with **training**. Provide resources for **community-led** initiatives. Collaborate with Fazenda da Esperança in their **rehabilitation programs**. Conduct **awareness** campaigns on **drug abuse** and **environmental conservation**.

## IMPACT

**Economic empowerment** through **diversifying income** streams. **Rehabilitation** and **reintegration** support for recovering **drug users**. Environmental **regeneration**/conservation and local **food** sovereignty.



## BENEFICIARIES

ASPROLUZ: Association of Traditional & Native **Family Farmers with 50 families**, spanning ages 18 to 70. Fazenda da Esperança: **Young adults** in **drug addiction recovery**, engaged in native forest preservation. Kokama Monte das Oliveiras Association: **60 indigenous families** (**children**, **young adults**, and **seniors** up to 70).

STINGLESS  
BEEKEEPING

HONEY

DIVERSITY

REHABILITATION

COLLABORATION FOR IMPACT

CLIMATE

AGROFORESTRY



# MELIPONINI & EDUCATION

MULTIPLE **INDIGENOUS** TERRITORIES. STATE OF AMAZONAS. ALTO SOLIMÕES. **BRAZIL**. **AMAZON** RAINFOREST. **KOKAMA** AND **KAMBEBA** PEOPLE.

## CHALLENGE

**Insufficient** environmental **education** and limited sustainable livelihood **opportunities** for **indigenous** communities in Santo Antônio Do Içá, lead to **cultural erosion**, **social** and **economic** instability, and environmental **degradation**.

## SOLUTION

Implementing **environmental education** for **children** and establishing **meliponaries** as a cultural and **economic** activity will foster **understanding** and **cohesion** among the diverse communities in Santo Antônio Do Içá, laying the groundwork for **broader** sustainable development initiatives.

## ACTIVITIES

Establish meliponaries. **Environmental education for children**. Facilitate community dialogue. **Sustainable economic training**. Build local leadership capacity. **Monitor and adapt activities**.

## IMPACT

This project has the potential to empower **1000 individuals** across **5 communities**, spanning **500 square kilometers**, by fostering cohesion among diverse villages and ethnicities through culturally relevant **environmental education** and **sustainable** livelihood initiatives. It will serve as a **seed** for **long-term planning and strategy**, ensuring holistic regional development and **community autonomy**.



## BENEFICIARIES

**Kokama:** Village of São Pedro do Lago do Miriti (Rural Area). Association of Sto. Antônio do Içá (Urban Context Community). Village Roots of Ayahuasca (Rural Area). Community São José (Within the City). **Kambeba:** Community Brother Sun and Sister Moon (Urban Area).

CHILDREN

STORYTELLING

COOPERATION  
FOR STEWARDSHIP

HONEY

SUPPLY CHAINS

# THE SEEDS OF A NEW CYCLE

*Enjoy our new movie:*



# POLLINATING REGENERATION

## INVESTORS



L'OCCITANE  
EN PROVENCE

+ individual donations via Meli's website

## PARTNERS



Digital  
Democracy



PAWANKA FUND  
INDIGENOUS WAYS OF KNOWING AND LEARNING

*Thank you for materializing the dreams of the communities we serve!*



# MELI - 2023

## INVESTORS



Im Auftrag des



Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung



A cooperation between



*Thank you for materializing the dreams of the communities we serve!*



# POLLINATING REGENERATION AWARD



*The Ashoka and HSBC Green Changemakers Challenge is a global innovation challenge open to changemakers with solutions that are equipping others with the mindset and capabilities to contribute towards building a sustainable and equitable world.*



# THANK YOU!

*"It's really touching for all of us to know that there's someone out there, like you, looking out for us. We're not used to being cared for, especially not with so much love and kindness."*

*Cacica Joana, Kokama Female Leader*





# TRANSPARENCY

Meli is a **non-profit** organisation


Meli's **Financial Flow** in **2023** was

**€128.025,27**

**82%** of Meli's Financial Flow was **consumed** in **2023**

In 2023 Meli **raised** **€ 89.623,47**

**100%** of the Funds raised in 2023 were **consumed**

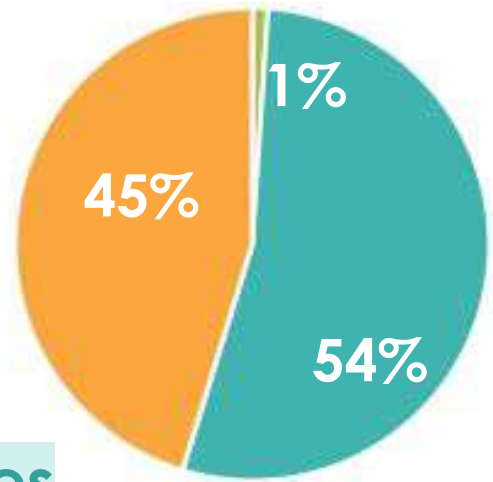


# POLLINATING INVESTMENT

(program's intermediate finance report)

- Direct services provided to the territories ●
- Indirect services provided to the territories ●
- Administrative expenses ●

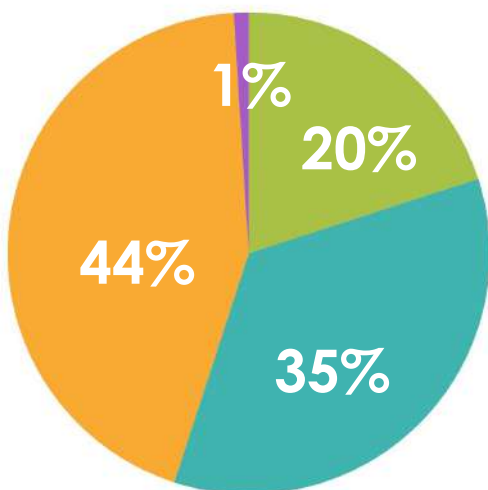
54%



of the Program expenses went **directly to the territories** **99% in services** (direct + indirect)

## MELI 2023 GLOBAL

- Mandatory expenses in 2023 ●
- Direct services provided to the territories ●
- Indirect services provided to the territories ●
- Administrative expenses ●



79%

of Meli's total expenses in 2023 were allocated to **services provided to the territories**





**12+** different Brazilian  
**Indigenous Peoples** and **Local  
Communities** engaged and  
positively impacted

in 2023 we worked for  
**climate justice**  
in **4** of Brazil's 6 **biomes**

more than **3.617**  
**individuals** involved and  
**benefited**



Meli's **ethnic diversity** is a **commitment** to **cooperation** and **cohesion** for **stewardship**.

Santo Antônio do Içá

**Pataxó Hã-Hã-Hãe**

Araribóia

**Krahô**

Roots of Ayahuasca

**Apurinã**

Campo de Perizes

**Kambeba**

Brother Sun and  
Sister Moon

**Foraging  
Communities**

Galheiros

**Mbya Guarani**

Limão verde

**Terena**

São Pedro do Lago do Miriti

**Guajajara**

São José

**Kokama**

Frei Henry

Kamapã

Caramuru Catarina Paraguaçu

**Quilombola**

Jejy'ty

**Traditional Peasant**

We are extremely **grateful** for **each territory** that **trusts** and **works together** in a **collective** and **participatory** way on the projects **developed**.





# JOIN US!

[www.meli-bees.org](http://www.meli-bees.org)



*All pictures in this document are authored by Meli members and partners.*

## LEARN MORE AT:

<https://www.meli-bees.org/pollinating-23-24/>

