

## **Tradução Oficial Juramentada**

### **What is *Bolsa Floresta* (Forest Conservation Grant)?**

The Forest Conservation Grant is a State of Amazonas Government Program aimed at acknowledging, valuing and compensating the State traditional and indigenous populations – the guardians of the forest – for their role in the conservation of the forests, rivers, lakes and streams. The Forest Conservation Grant Program was designed in a participatory manner following a wide discussion involving the State of Amazonas government and non-government institutions. The funds for paying the benefits come from the interests on the existing resources from the State Fund for Climatic Change.

This benefit shall be awarded to whoever helps in avoiding deforestation. The standing forest generates environmental services.

### **What are environmental services?**

Environmental Services are benefits provided for the standing forests, such as the instability of the climate, maintenance of rainfalls, carbon storage in trees and biodiversity conservation. The maintenance of such benefits is important for the communities, for the State, Brazil and the world.

The State of Amazonas Government acknowledges, through such a program that forest conservation is the result of people's attitudes, particularly on the part of those who live along the river banks and in the jungle.

The Forest Allowance was created by a State Law on Climate Change, the first law on this theme in Brazil. With such a law, the State of Amazonas

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gives its contribution towards avoiding the forest to go up in smoke and end up contributing towards the planet's climate change.

### **What is climate change?**

The planet's climate is changing. The main cause of that is the production of green house gases, which form a kind of "blanket" that warms the earth. Human activity has contributed to the formation of such smoke particularly with the burning of fuels, such as gasoline, oil, and so on.

The main polluters are China and the United States. Brazil ranks fourth in the world due to the smoke produced by the burnings in the Amazon region. The burnings of forests in the whole world represent nearly 20% of the whole smoke currently produced.

<b>Type of Forest Grant</b>	<b>Beneficiary</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Payment</b>	<b>Use of Resources</b>
Forest Grant	Family - Wife	R\$50,00 a month	Specific Program Card	Family expenses
Community Investment Program (PIC)	Reservation Communities	Average of R\$4.000,00 a year	Straight transfer to the Community or credit in the local commerce	Investments in activities for the generation of sustainable income
Forest Grant Association	Association of the Reservation Dwellers	10% of the annual amount received by all the families of dwellers paid once a year	Transferred directly to the Association or credit in the local commerce	Expenses discussed and approved by the communities in meetings

### **Who can receive the Forest Conservation Grant?**

The first beneficiaries are the dwellers of the State of Amazonas Conservation Units. At a second stage, the dwellers of other areas will be benefited.



The homemaker is the family member who preferably is awarded this benefit on behalf of the family (except in case of widowers).

The participant of the Forest Conservation Grant is required to:

- Be a dweller of the State Conservation Unit for at least two years of proven residence. The statement of residence should be provided by the Association of Dwellers of the Conservation Unit and a Government accredited local institution. In the case of newly-married couples, the time they lived with their parents is to be taken into account.
- To keep crop and pasture areas not larger than those of the year when the Forest Conservation Grant Program was instituted, harvesting only in areas of open or resting brushwood, no inroads made into the primary forest.
- In case there are children, these should be enrolled and attending school.
- To actively participate in the Community Dwellers Association and in the construction and the implementation of the Conservation Unit Use and Management Plans, their rules being complied with.
- To sign the Commitment Agreement (per family) agreeing to complying with the Forest Conservation Grant rules.

**In this Agreement, the Government establishes its own commitments, too:**

- To monthly pay the Forest Conservation Grant Program benefit;
  - To annually invest approximately R\$4.000,00 into the communities participating in the Forest Conservation Grant Program;
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- To set aside 10% of the annual amount paid to the dwellers to the Conservation Unit Associations.

### **Important Notes:**

- In the case of adult children who have constituted new families, their crops shall not count as part of the parents'. The new couple can open primary forest area up to the limit equal to the average of the area of the individual plantations of their community.
- The Use Plan or the Management Plan shall define a maximum deforestation ceiling for the Conservation Unit.
- Should a Conservation Unit dweller be living outside for less than 1 year for a justifiable reason that is accepted by the Association and is willing to return, such dweller can be made a part of the Forest Conservation Grant Program.
- Farmers, who dwell in the Conservation Unit, can participate in the Program, provided they assume the commitment of not expanding their pasture areas.
- The dweller having an urban residence and a house in the reservation is only eligible to the Forest Conservation Grant if he/she can produce evidence that his/her main income comes from the activities developed within the Conservation Unit.

### **Registration and Documentation:**

The registration of the families in the Forest Conservation Grant Program shall be carried out in the communities by personnel authorized by the Secretariat for the Environment and Sustainable Development (SDS).

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Government institutions SHALL NOT carry out such registration at their seats or offices.

To apply, dwellers should submit CPF (Individual Taxpayer Roll numbers; Identification Document; an Affidavit proving residence in the State Conservation Unit; and a signed individual Commitment Agreement.

### **Rules of the Forest Conservation Grant Program**

The families who have deforested an area a LITTLE larger than their crops (up to 50% more), will be given a “yellow card” and shall explain to the Association the reasons for having deforested the area. Upon being heard, these families will continue in the Program for another year. Should they continue deforesting, the families will be given a “red card”, and the payment of the Forest Conservation Grant Program shall be interrupted. Whoever has deforested an area MUCH larger than their crops (in excess of 50%) shall be given a “red card” already in the first year, and the payment of the Forest Conservation Grant Program shall be terminated. The families given either two consecutive yellow cards or three in alternate years shall be excluded from the Forest Conservation Grant Program.

The deforestation inside the reservation area will be yearly field measured and monitored by a SDS team and through satellite images analyzed by partner institutions.

The Forest Conservation Grant Program will not affect productive activities. The dwellers will continue tending to their crops, fishing and managing their forests, rivers and lakes. The agroextrativist, forestal,

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handicraft and fishing activities, carried out following an ecologically correct procedure shall be supported by the Government.

As in all Conservation units, the dwellers are required to comply with the rules of the Conservation Units Use and Management Plans.

**Other State Government actions:**

- Community Investment Program – Primarily geared towards the generation of income through sustainable productive activities. E.g. forest, rivers and lakes and agroforestral systems management for the generation of income.
- Inspection and Monitoring Program – Partnership with research and monitoring institutions with the participation of community agents.

All these programs will be implemented as the State Government succeeds in attracting partners to the State Fund for Climate Change. The larger the Fund the more resources the Government will have to help improve the living standards of the communities. The State of Amazonas Government, therefore invests in the search for partners for the Forest Conservation Grant Program.

**As a sworn translator in and for the State of Amazonas, Brazil I hereby certify that this is a true and valid translation of the original document brought before me on this date – November 24,2007.**

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