

Project for Biodiversity conservation in Amazon based on a new concept of "Field Museum"

Overview

The Amazon region is the largest tropical rainforest in the world, and Manaus, the largest city located along the Amazon River, has the vast natural surroundings with diverse organisms including precious aquatic mammals in its neighboring areas. However, these are endangered due to expanding urbanization.

Muddy water of the Amazon River makes it difficult to clarify its organisms' habitats and ecosystems. Since there is no zoo or aquarium in Manaus, local people do not have enough opportunities to learn about the Amazonian nature. Therefore, the project aims at conducting research on the Amazonian ecosystems, creating a "field museum", in which several bases in the nature are connected and people can learn about research findings in a tangible way, so that a model for harmonious coexistence of nature and human will be developed.

Purpose

A field museum is established as a center for environmental conservation activities based on the results of scientific research on representative species and ecosystems in the Amazon.

Activities/Outputs

The project is assisting efforts to shed light on the Amazonian ecosystems through investigating the habitats and behaviors of unidentified species of fish and aquatic mammals, helping Amazonian manatees return to nature, and conducting research on the Amazonian forest ecosystems.

The project is also carrying out environmental education, taking advantage of Manaus' location surrounded by the nature abundant in local animals and plants. For further research and conservation activities, publicity activities have also intensively been done.

Several eco-friendly private companies have also supported the Project.



Project Site

Manaus, the capital of the State of Amazonas in the Republic of Brazil and the largest city in the Amazon River basin, and its Surrounding area

Implementing Organization

National Institute for Amazonian Research (INPA)

Duration

Jul. 2014—Jul. 2019

