



Check out the news from Instituto Juruá

Stay on top of news from Instituto Juruá including how communities of the mid-Juruá are organizing themselves to face the challenges posed by the current pandemic. Also, meet the Conservation Now network and more details on the award-winning thesis by Dr. Carolina Freitas! Plus an exclusive interview with Prof. Dr. Carlos Peres, and the first of our cultural recommendations!

NEWS

Pirarucu management in a pandemic scenario

By Clara Machado

September is the traditional month for harvesting pirarucu (*Arapaima* sp.) in the mid-Juruá, but this year some adaptations were necessary to ensure safety during the pandemic. There are an estimated 600 people from rural communities involved in the annual pirarucu harvest, plus 15 members of the technical team. A fishing protocol for the COVID-19 scenario was discussed with specialists in order to guarantee safety conditions for all involved, as well as ensuring the highest quality of the harvested fish. The Municipal Health Secretariat and local leaders also participated in the process of consolidating and validating the protocol. Among the new measures, it was decided to test 100% of those in the fishery

management team 24 hours before fishing activity commenced, and to create a reserve team in case any positive tests were detected for the novel coronavirus.

Before the fishing activity, the fishers carry out the tests, applied by a technical team from the Municipal Health Department, who also accompanied the fishing teams to assist and monitor the agreed protocol. A network of organizations also participated in the donation of tests and protective masks. Approximately 850 rapid tests for COVID-19 were made available by OPAN and the Municipal Health Secretariat to ensure the testing of all Management participants.

The network of partners, coordinated by the Associação dos produtores rurais de Carauari (ASPROC), has been closely monitoring all the procedures carried out in the frontline, from the testing of the fishers to the fishing and commercialization of arapaima. In this context, we can ensure that this important activity is done in the safest way possible.

Actions against COVID-19 in the Médio Juruá region

By Clara Machado



Photograph: Eliane Soares

According to the September 29 Bulletin, 2,134 cases and 17 deaths caused by COVID-19 have been reported to date in the municipality of Carauari. In general, the cases that occurred in rural communities were moderate and recovered without the need for transfer to hospitals in the city. To help curb the spread of COVID-19 in the mid-Juruá region, local government, community leaders and institutions are joining forces. More than two thousand families covered by the campaigns, across the municipalities of

Carauari, Itamarati and Juruá, received 70% alcohol, cleaning supplies, food hampers, protective masks and face shields, plus logistical support such as fuel, and provision of boats and crews to safely navigate the meanders of the Juruá River.

Actions carried out in the rural communities follow a testing standard, with the crew performing rapid detection tests for the novel coronavirus. In addition to delivering supplies, training activities were also carried out in collaboration with local health practitioners, including the distribution of informative pamphlets developed by Universidade Estadual do Amazonas (UEA) and Fundação Amazonas Sustentável (FAS). Local seamstresses were encouraged to produce fabric masks for individual protection. These measures are helping to minimize the impacts of the pandemic, which is continuing to directly affect the region's economy through the interruption of activities and production chains, and the need to visit urban centres more frequently.

The network involves many actors, who together provide frequent support to the impacted communities. The action at the frontline is coordinated by the Associação de Produtores Rurais de Carauari (ASPROC) and has the support from several organizations, including the Associação de Moradores Agroextrativistas da Reserva de Desenvolvimento Sustentável Uacari (AMARU), Secretaria Estadual do Meio Ambiente (SEMA/DEMUC), Associação de Mulheres Agroextrativistas do Médio Juruá (ASMAMJ), Cooperativa Mista de Desenvolvimento Sustentável da Reserva do Médio Juruá (CODAEMJ), Associação do Povo Deni do Rio Xeruã (ASPODEX), Instituto Chico Mendes de Conservação da Biodiversidade (ICMBio), Prefeitura Municipal de Carauari, NATURA, Operação Amazônia Nativa (OPAN), Instituto Juruá (IJ), Fundação Amazonas Sustentável (FAS), SITAWI, Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Fiocruz), Fundação Banco do Brasil, Coca-Cola, Lojas Americanas, Fundação Avina, Serviço Florestal Norte Americano e Fundação Nacional do Índio (FUNAI).

To join this network, and contribute to actions against COVID-19 in rural communities, enabling the continuity of these actions, donate here. Instituto Juruá ensures that your donation reaches directly to vulnerable families, according to priority needs. Every contribution is welcome!

Instituto Juruá joins Conservation Now

By Andressa Scabin



CONSERVATION OPTIMISM

Instituto Juruá, since August of this year, is part of Conservation Now, a global network of organizations working to inspire, motivate, equip, support and empower conservationists worldwide in order to make a positive difference in nature conservation. This is an initiative by [Conservation Optimism](#) which, as the slogan says, is a “global movement for nature and people”. According to its creators, Conservation Optimism is more than a network, it is an ethical conduct that many organizations are adopting in order to build a more effective, inclusive and active future in conservation, guided by optimistic principles inspired by successful conservation initiatives.

Instituto Juruá is an organization precisely guided by values of respect for cultural differences, gender equity, and encouragement of local leadership. Its actions are based on the alliance of local knowledge with scientific knowledge, to propose more effective conservation strategies and to improve the quality of human life. That is why we see the entry of Instituto Juruá into this network as an excellent opportunity to publicize our successful experiences in the sustainable management of natural resources in the Amazon and, at the same time, to learn and bring to the Juruá positive experiences from other organizations around the world.

INTERVIEW

Prof. Dr. Carlos Peres

By Clara Machado



Photograph: Clara Machado

Professor Dr. Carlos Peres gave us an interview to talk about his career in the mid-Juruá region of the Brazilian Amazon and how far he has come from his early primatology work in the area, plus details of a year-long expedition sailing the entire length of the Juruá River and his future expectations following the recent creation of Instituto Juruá.

"We bought this boat, called the Coró-coró, in Manaus and we adapted it as a research vessel. We were a core team of about 6 people, mainly taxonomists, and that was a huge adventure. That was the very first time a major white water tributary in the Amazon was travelled by a bunch of biologists."

[\[Read more\]](#)

[\[Listen here\]](#)

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

Is fishing a woman thing?

By Clara Machado and Helder Espírito-Santo

Despite representing 47% of the global fishing workforce, women do not have the social and financial recognition they should, and fishing activities appear to be completely dominated by men. A recent scientific article led by Carolina Freitas, with the participation of other researchers from Instituto Juruá, shows that the community management of pirarucu (*Arapaima* sp.) in the Amazon can be a model to reduce the recognition gap between women and men in fishing activities. Along 1500 km of the Juruá River, 143 women were interviewed, and results show that pirarucu management provided an unprecedented opportunity for the inclusion of women into the fishing production chain, by remunerating them for their services rendered in fish processing. It seems obvious, right?

But it is not. In communities that do not manage pirarucu, most women are not paid for their participation in fishing activities, with only 8 out of 100 women receiving any income from fishing. In communities with pirarucu management, 77 out of 100 women are paid for their involvement in fishing activities. The average female income in communities with management is US\$215, contrasting sharply with the average of zero (yes, zero!) in communities without management. This financial recognition, of course, directly implies greater autonomy and empowerment for women. However, the potential effects of this change go far beyond. Studies indicate that this can have direct positive impacts on improving health, food security and quality of life for entire families. The article, entitled "[Resource co-management as a step towards gender equity in fisheries](#)", and published in the journal Ecological Economics is part of the PhD thesis by Carolina Freitas, which was awarded the prize for best thesis in Ecology at Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte (UFRN), last year.



Photograph: Carolina Freitas



IJ RECOMMENDS

[TEDx Talks with Manoel Cunha](#)

[Our YouTube channel](#)

[New video from "Sepultura" - Guardians of Earth](#)



caso você deseje remover seu cadastro de nossa lista, [cancele o recebimento](#).

[Denunciar abuso](#)