Ntfp foundation

Beekeeping in the Amazon

harvesting the sweet gold of the amazon rainforest

About our foundation

Since NTFP is the abbreviation for Non-Timber Forest Products, we focus entirely on goods derived from forests other than wood stemming from fruits and honey. Other services we are involved include reforestation as well as erosion and spring protection.

The NTFP Foundation operates in Haiti and Brazil as there are long-term and close relationships to local communities in these countries. These close partnerships are a prerequisite to the trust we receive and the root cause for the success we achieve.

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our mission

According to the motto:“ Use it or loose it!” this beekeeping initiative is targeting the people who still live in the rainforest to encouraging them to live in a sustainable manner with and from the biodiversity surrounding them.

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our goal

The aim of the initiative is to provide the Amazonian settlers (especially to the young and the woman) a low tech but **reliable income source** for their households with the endangered stingless bees. The beekeeping is a very **sustainable activity** that fosters the fructification of the forest and the honey as its main product is a very **healthy and nutritious** good for the dwellers and its demand on the market is very high.

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our values

The riberinhos, the rural settlers in the Amazon region also known as *Trabalhadores rural* or *Caboclos* are more and more lacking an alternative to either abandon the forest for living in a slum or to deplete the rainforest resources. This leads to the situation, which no one is enabled –not to mention motivated - to preserve the rainforest. To struggle against this trend, it is crucial to explore new ways for these settlers to gain their income from the rainforest in a sustainable manner. If they succeed in doing so, they are motivated to take care about this most sensitive and unique biosphere as well. One example of a promising product is honey.

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history

2019

Amazomel is about to get the official Licence to sell the honey products Nationwide

2018

We spread our iniciative to **Maués** and its region involving six communites

2017

We got introduced to Amazomel, a small business selling honey and propolis products and started to fund the construction of a honey processing plant

2016

After a lot of trial and errors we finally felt comfortable to spread the beekeping pilot and apply it to other communities and started in **Urucará**

2013

Introduction of the beekeeping in **Caicubi** where we iniciated the first pilot project wit 30 beehives involving 8 community members

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milestones

2019 — 03

- 11 communities
- 450 beekeepers
- 2280 beehives

2017 — 02

- 6 communities
- 240 beekeepers
- 480 beehives

2015 — 01

- 1 community
- 37 beekeeper
- 180 beehives

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Our sites in Brazil

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out look

honey production

Our new honey production plant is in its final phase where the equipment gets installed. By next year we start the opperation. This will be the completion of the economical sustainability so that the beekeeping is able to fund itself and not only meeting the honey demaind but increasing it.

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next steps

upscaling

This beekeeping initiative is the biggest in the Brazilian amazon and is continuing to spread

production

By 2020 the construction of the honey bottling plant will meet all the regulations and standards in honey and propolis processing.

business

By enabling the rural settlers a new income stream, we expect to do a turnover of roughly 12 to 16 tons of honey by the end of 2020

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dieter bratschi

founder

as a Swiss Forest engineer Dieter started his first research task in the Amazon in 1995 and is ever since engaged in the rainforest and its conservation.
Beside the Amazon he was living and working in Bhutan and Haiti.
He lives in Switzerland doing Business analytics for living and volunteers the project as supervisor

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joão fernandez

ceo amazomel

João studied Biology when he discovered the bees. Since many years he and his wife are producing honey. Most of it from their own bee hives that they rescued from deforestated areas thanks to an aggreement with the loggers.

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jonilson laray

project manager

Jonilson is Brazilian from Urucará. He learned the beekeeping from his Vather, who was a pioneer in Meliponicultura. His knowlege got even aprechiated by the Amazon research Institute INPA. He is the driving force of the beekeeping project as he knows the region and ist people as well as the bees.

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contact

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