



DOS Opportunity Number: PAS-Brazil-FY 23-APS01
Project Title: Environment and restorative justice: handling conflicts involving indigenous peoples, quilombolas, and traditional communities in the Brazilian Amazon
Project Manager: Nirson Medeiros da Silva Neto
Contact Information: +55(93)981218656 – nirsonneto@yahoo.com.br
Unique Entity Identifier (UEI): INC-GSAFSD9272251
Date Submitted: September 11, 2023.

ENVIRONMENT AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE: HANDLING CONFLICTS INVOLVING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, QUILOMBOLAS, AND TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES IN THE BRAZILIAN AMAZON

1) Introduction to the Organization Applying:

The project will be developed by the Graduate Program in Law and Development of the Amazon¹ (PPGDDA) at Federal University of Pará² (UFPA) in partnership with professors from the College of Arts and Sciences at Governors State University in Chicago's Southland (GSU), IL, United States. PPGDDA/UFPA offers a master's degree aimed at facing challenges related to development and public policies in the Amazon. Its main objective is to train professionals capable to deal with different problematics in this region. The Program recently institutionalized the MultiverCities Clinic³, a laboratory from which the project will be developed, and which has as one of its objectives to handle socio-environmental conflicts in the Brazilian Amazon using restorative justice approaches and strategies. In turn, GSU has undergraduate and master's degrees in criminal justice with a focus on restorative justice within the College of Arts and Sciences. This university is one of the references on the subject in the US. It has meaningful academic production and experience in environmental restorative justice and outstanding professors at the national and international levels on this topic. The institution that will carry out the financial operations of the project is the Foundation for Research Support and Development⁴ (FADESP), linked to UFPA.

¹ Programa de Pós-graduação em Direito e Desenvolvimento da Amazônia.

² Universidade Federal do Pará.

³ Clínica MultiverCidades.

⁴ Foundation for Research Support and Development.



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2) Proposal Summary:

This project is a result of a partnership between PPGDDA/UFPA and professors from GSU's College of Arts and Sciences. It aims to carry out restorative justice actions in order to handle properly and non-violently conflicts involving indigenous peoples, quilombolas, and traditional communities in the Brazilian Amazon, especially in the Pará. Among its actions, interventions in conflict situations and trainings of community facilitators of socio-environmental restorative justice are foreseen. In parallel, the project aims to carry out exchanges between professors from Brazil and the US, through academic events, visits to restorative justice programs, and meetings. In addition, the project aims to be an initial step towards a work with socio-environmental restorative justice in the newly created MultiverCities Clinic, a laboratory belonging to the Graduate Program in Law and Development of the Amazon that has as one of its pretensions to carry out work that helps foster socio-environmental peace in the Brazilian Amazon.

3) Problem Statement:

Indigenous peoples, quilombolas, and traditional communities are ethnic groups directly responsible for the environmental conservation of large areas in the Amazon rainforest. Their ways of life and production, as well as their struggles against economic activities and colonization fronts that promote deforestation, are essential for the slowing of climate change affecting the planet. The protection of their territories, therefore, proves to be a first order necessity for the sustainable development in the Brazilian Amazon. However, environmental conservation and the protection of indigenous, quilombolas, and traditional territories also engage conflicts that mainly weigh on the most vulnerable individuals and groups. Not infrequently, these conflicts divide communities and foster violence, whether



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internal or practiced by external agents. Such conflicts need to be handled appropriately and non-violently following paths that strength communities and prevent harmful incidents. Restorative justice is a way of imagining, practicing, and living justice that has been experienced locally to deal with socio-environmental conflicts. It is a strategy inspired by programs developed in the United States, Canada, and New Zealand since the 1970s. These programs have been adapted in the Brazilian Amazon in order to address environmental issues, especially those affecting local communities. They have shown promising possibilities to foster human rights and nature rights, collaborating to restore the ecological balance in areas affected or threatened with environmental degradation.

4) Program Goals and Objectives:

Goals

1. Develop strategies for the protection of indigenous peoples', quilombolas', and traditional communities' territories in the Brazilian Amazon through restorative justice actions at the management of socio-environmental conflicts.
2. Exchange experiences and share knowledge on environment and restorative justice between the Federal University of Pará and Governors State University in Chicago's Southland.
3. Establish a line of work (research and action) on socio-environmental restorative justice at the MultiverCities Clinic from the Graduate Program in Law and Development in the Amazon.

Objectives



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1. Carry out restorative justice actions in conflict situations involving indigenous peoples, quilombolas, and traditional communities, as well as offer courses on socio-environmental restorative justice aimed at the target audience.
2. Organize academic activities on socio-environmental restorative justice in Pará, Brazilian Amazon, with the participation of American professors, especially from Governors State University in Chicago's Southland.
3. Start a research-intervention on socio-environmental restorative justice from the MultiverCities Clinic, as well as a clinical residency program on the subject, receiving at least one research fellow.

5) Program Activities:

The first group of activities listed below aims to meet the goals and objectives 01 of this project, being directed to the management of socio-environmental conflicts, from two different strategies, the realization of interventions and the offer of training to prepare facilitators of socio-environmental restorative justice. The second group of activities is aimed at achieving the goals and objectives 02, being fundamental for the establishment of exchanges of knowledge between scholars from Brazil and the US on the subject of the project. The third group of activities is aimed at the achievement of the goals and objectives 03, that is, they are intended for the implementation of a line of work with socio-environmental restorative justice in the MultiverCities Clinic, recently inaugurated in the Graduate Program in Law and Development of the Amazon.

First group:

- 02 restorative interventions in conflicts involving indigenous peoples, quilombolas and traditional communities in the state of Pará.



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- 02 trainings for community facilitators of socio-environmental restorative justice.

Second group:

- 01 academic event on the environment and restorative justice at the Federal University of Pará (UFPA), Belém, PA, Brazil.
- 01 academic event on the environment and restorative justice at Governors State University (GSU), in Chicago, IL, US.
- Meetings and visits to programs and initiatives of (socio-)environmental restorative justice in Brazil and US.

Third group:

- Start 01 research-intervention project on socio-environmental justice in the Brazilian Amazon at PPGDDA.
- Start 01 clinical residency program on socio-environmental restorative justice in the MultiverCities Clinic.

6) Program Methods and Design:

The implementation of the project was designed in order to enable the three groups of activities described in the previous item. To carry out restorative interventions in socio-environmental conflicts, as well as trainings of facilitators, it is necessary to ensure the trip to the cities and communities where the meetings will take place and the permanence of the facilitators in these places for at least 05 days. To this end, tickets and *per diem* are essential for facilitators and instructors, respectively. It is also necessary to share didactic materials for the trainings, which are practical guides of restorative justice prepared by the American professors Kay Pranis and Caroline Boyes-Watson. These materials are available free of charge in



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Portuguese in Brazil with the authorization of the authors. During the execution of the project, 02 interventions and 02 trainings can be carried out. The interventions and trainings will take place in the state of Pará, preferably in the west and northeast of the state, because they are areas that are more accessible to the team that will execute the project. The focal institutions to accomplish this goal will be UFPA (in Belém) to which the Brazilian team of the project is linked nowadays.

As for the second group of activities, the academic events on restorative justice and the environment, as well as meetings and visits to (socio-)environmental restorative justice programs and initiatives, are scheduled to take place in Pará, Brazil, hosted by UFPA, and in Chicago, IL, US, hosted by GSU. The academic activities in Brazil will be attended by American professors, one of them funded by the project and another by partner universities. The activities in US will be attended by Brazilian professors, one of them funded by the project and another the other will be funded by the team member himself/herself. Therefore, it is important to buy 02 international tickets—one from the US to Brazil and another from Brazil to US (both round trips)—and *per diem* for stay during the permanence of professors in Brazil and US. The permanence of American professors in Brazil and Brazilian professors in US are estimated at 15 days (each one), being therefore necessary the payment of 15 *per diem* for each professor. The professor planned to be brought to Brazil by the project is João Salm from GSU, based in Chicago, IL, and the Brazilian professor scheduled to be brought to US is the Nirson Neto, the project manager.

Finally, the third group of activities that will be funded by the project concentrates actions that will take place at the MultiverCities Clinic at the Graduate Program in Law and Development of the Amazon, based in Belém. It is intended to start at the Clinic a research-intervention project on socio-environmental restorative justice in the Brazilian Amazon, as well as a clinical residency program on the theme of the



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project. The beginning of the research-intervention project will only entail costs related to the purchase of 01 computer to support research, interventions, and trainings, as well as the acquisition of 50 restorative justice books to be used in theoretical investigations. In this last group of activities, it is also essential to pay a 10-month scholarship to a post-graduate resident researcher who will carry out his activities at the MultiverCities Clinic, under the supervision of the Brazilian professors linked to the project. These activities, as well as those described in the previous paragraphs, are only initial steps for a long-term program. All, to some extent, will continue after the completion of the funding, being incorporated into the Graduate Program in Law and Development of the Amazon.

7) Proposed Program Schedule:

First group of activities

1st Intervention: falls 2023.

2nd Intervention: spring 2024.

1st Facilitator training: winter 2024.

2nd Facilitator training: summer 2024.

Second group of activities

Academic event, meetings, and visits in Brazil: spring 2024.

Academic event, meetings, and visits in the US: summer 2024.

Third group of activities

Beginning of intervention-research project: October 2023.

Clinical residency program starts: November 2023.

8) Key Personnel:



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- Nirson Medeiros da Silva Neto – Associate professor at UFOPA and UFPA.
- Josineide Gadelha Pamplona Medeiros – State judge, doctorate student at UFOPA and collaborator at UFPA.
- João Salm – Associate professor at GSU, Chicago.
- Ben Almassi – Full professor at GSU, Chicago.

9) Program Partners:

- College of Arts and Sciences at Governors State University in Chicago's Southland.

10) Program Monitoring and Evaluation Plan:

The monitoring and evaluation of the project will be done by the team of Brazilian professors and will occur continuously throughout its development. At the end, a report will be produced with reflections on the effectiveness of the actions developed as a result of the project. The indicators for the monitoring and evaluation of the project will consider the following questions:

- Were there at least 02 interventions in cases of socio-environmental conflict involving indigenous peoples, quilombolas and/or traditional communities? Was there any agreement, even a partial one in each case?
- Were at least 02 trainings offered to facilitators of socio-environmental restorative justice? Have the facilitators been certified?
- Were 02 academic events held, one in Brazil and one in the US, on restorative justice and the environment?
- Were there meetings between professors from Brazil and the US on restorative justice and the environment?
- Were there visits to restorative (socio-)environmental justice programs in Brazil and/or the US?



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- Has a research-intervention project on socio-environmental restorative justice been initiated at the MultiverCities Clinic?
- Has a clinical residency program in socio-environmental restorative justice been initiated at the MultiverCities Clinic?
- Was a resident researcher hired to receive a 10-month scholarship? Has he/she completed his/her cycle of studies and presented a final report of activities?
- Were 01 computers and 50 books on restorative justice purchased to subsidize the project's activities? Were these supplies effectively utilized by the project team?

The degree of success of the project will be evaluated considering the positive or negative answers to the above questions.

11) Future Funding or Sustainability:

The funding of the US Embassy in Brazil will be just a starting point for the development of a long-term program of research and intervention in socio-environmental conflicts in the Brazilian Amazon from the MultiverCities Clinic at PPGDDA/UFPA. Future funding will certainly be needed to ensure the continuity and sustainability of the program. These funds will in part be offered by the university in which the project will be carried out, but may also be earned through external sources, from other calls from the US Embassy in Brazil, the Brazilian government, and other organizations that finance environmental conservation projects and protection of territories of indigenous peoples, quilombolas, and traditional communities. As the project is part of a graduate program that offer a master's degree in Law and Development of the Amazon, there is a prospect that many other researches and interventions will be incorporated into it in the future, related to professors' and students' investigations, and the MultiverCities Clinic may become one of the local and regional references in the treatment and study



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of socio-environmental conflicts in the Brazilian Amazon from restorative justice perspectives.

12) Participants and Audiences:

The target audience of the project is especially the indigenous peoples, quilombolas, and traditional communities from the Amazon region in Brazil. The project will focus on ethnic groups located in the state of Pará, one of the most affected by deforestation. These peoples and communities have been severely impacted and traumatized by the intensification of economic activities such as monoculture of corn, soybeans, palm, and eucalyptus, construction of ports, extraction of wood (legally and illegally), commodification of land, large projects, construction of roads, industrial parks, among many others. Despite being the main stakeholders reached by environmental harms, they are also important foci of resistance against deforestation and all kind of environmental pollution in the Brazilian Amazon. They were chosen to participate in the project because they already have a long-standing relationship with the UFPA and they need to be in the core of environmental justice actions. In addition to them, students and faculty members from the Graduate Program in Law and Development in the Amazon and from Governors State University in Chicago's Southland, will also benefit from the project. The project's results may also and indirectly reach other audiences, not foreseen in the original proposal, given that it is a field that has aroused great interest, although it is still little explored, requiring theoretical and methodological innovations.



PROJETO Nº 1/2024 - PPGDDA/ICJ (11.35.21)

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DEIVAN CRISTIAN RODRIGUES DE SOUSA

ASSISTENTE EM ADMINISTRACAO

ICJ (11.35)

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