

# Preserving native forests

Since 2010, Atos has supported its customers in their journey towards more sustainable operations and has offset each year the total carbon emissions of all its data centers. In 2018, Atos has expanded this program to cover 100% of residual emissions of its data centers, offices, and business trips. In 2019, in partnership with EcoAct, 242,986 tCO<sub>2</sub>e were thus compensated. Thanks to a new investment made in 2020, Atos has enlarged its existing support to renewable energies to carbon sink preservation projects. An important development for the preservation of the climate.

Among the projects supported, **Atos invested in a preservation project of native forests in Brazil**, as climate-science and market trends have demonstrated the importance of preserving and developing carbon sinks like forests or mangroves. A key leverage to ensure GHG emissions are still sequestered or captured, in addition to usual emissions reductions and contributing to UN Sustainable Development Goals 8,12,13 and 15.



## Project

The project aims to protect the fragile environment of the Portel region in Brazil by preventing unplanned deforestation through the implementation of a land management system. It combines a rigorous monitoring of the area and an enforcement plan managed by local villagers trained to forest management and monitoring techniques. The villagers are therefore in charge of identifying and removing illegal activities such as logging, squatting and attempts to implement pastures or cattle ranching.

The Project also provides capacity building on agroforestry systems and distribution of energy efficient cook stoves for cassava production, hence reducing even more the local deforestation and developing new sources of revenues to local population.

Among the 22 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e emissions reduction due to avoided deforestation over a 40-years period, the project offers a second environmental benefit: the natural regeneration of the native forest, increasing the amount of carbon sequestered in the trees and restoring the biodiversity ecosystems.



Project Floresta de Portel © EcoAct, RMDLT

ecoact

VCS | VERIFIED CARBON STANDARD

A Global Benchmark for Carbon

Trusted partner for your Digital Journey

Atos

# Main achievements



## Location

The project is in the state of Pará, in the northwest of Brazil, which hosts one of the most diverse ecosystems on the planet. Forests in the area are rich in wood species with large and productive trees connected to each other by lianas and parasites. This environment faces a frenetic pace of deforestation, due mainly to illegal logging, which is poorly controlled due to the lack of clarity and implementation of the country's land laws. As a result, the natural capital of this area is deteriorating from day to day. The project area comprises 177,899 ha in 17 privately owned parcels or "Glebas" adding up to a total of 194,403 ha in the Portel municipality, located in the Portel micro region, 278 km from Belem, the state capital. Population is comprised mainly of settlers known as "Ribeirinhos", who live along the rivers and along the igarapés (small streams).



those in charge of patrolling the area (30 security officers). The project also supports technical training programs to develop skills of local communities in forest preservation professions.

Also, the project positively transforms the local economic activities, traditionally comprised of timber extraction and sale, fishing and subsistence agriculture. The development of entrepreneurship projects initiated by the deployment of agroforestry generates new sources of revenues to local communities, hence raising their standard of living.

### Social positive impacts

500 extremely poor families live in the project area and are economically impacted by the overexploitation of farmers and surrounding industries in the region. A social investment was implemented to enable the local inhabitants to obtain the land title of the area where they live and over which they have legitimate possession.

The agroforestry practices implemented by the project leads to diversification of food for surrounding communities, thus an improvement in local nutrition. Also, the project provides a more energy-efficient technology for cassava farinha production through the distribution of improved cookstoves. Therefore, less time is consumed by women in this activity, and more time is dedicated to child education.



## Biodiversity Benefits

The project covers an area of an extreme priority for biodiversity. Due to the concentration of small streams (igarapés) draining the two main local rivers Xingu and Tocantins, flooded forests (Igapós and Várzeas) are abundant and provide birds, invertebrates and fish, breeding and protection areas.

The Project avoids ecosystems fragmentation and loss due to deforestation. Its implementation guarantees the conservation of the area, ensures the vegetation cover remains intact and continues to host important species such as the Cebus kaapori (Capucin Monkey), the Chiropotes satanas (black bearded Saki), the Leopardus tigrinus (oncilla) or the Pteronura brasiliensis (giant otter).

Another positive net impact of the project is the biodiversity monitoring itself. Currently, the monitoring in the Amazon forest is still incipient and fragmented. The project will add up another area of monitoring to the Amazon as a whole, and, consequently gather accurate information about the local biodiversity and ecological processes.

## Key Technical facts

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Standard                       | VCS - Methodology for Unplanned Deforestation V2.0 (VM0015 REDD) |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> party verifier | EPIC Sustainability Services Pvt. Ltd.                           |

“Atos has provided carbon-compensated services to its customers since 2011. In 2019, Atos decided to focus its global offsetting program to both wind farm projects and reforestation in a bid to achieve net-zero emissions by 2030.”

### Philippe Mareine

Head of Corporate Social Responsibility and Chief Digital & Transformation Officer, Atos



## Economic and Social Benefits

### Job Creation and economic activities development

At the local level, the projects activity has led to the creation of jobs for the surveillance of the area and the management of the land plan. 15 security houses have been created in the area to accommodate families, including

For more information: [sustainabletopics@atos.net](mailto:sustainabletopics@atos.net)

Atos, the Atos logo, AtosSyntel, and Unify are registered trademarks of the Atos group. June 2020. © 2020 Atos. Confidential information owned by Atos, to be used by the recipient only. This document, or any part of it, may not be reproduced, copied, circulated and/or distributed nor quoted without prior written approval from Atos.