

Tietê Forests, Brazil

Protecting water resources
and connecting forest remnants



Mid-year update 2024

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Project status

Over **380 hectares** under restoration

More than **760 000 trees** protected & growing



The Tietê river meanders through the Atlantic Forest Biome. It is a major water resource for the state of Sao Paulo, yet it is also one of the most polluted rivers in Brazil.

WeForest and AES Brasil are working to restore the forest on the edges of the Tietê river and its tributaries with native species, protecting water bodies from soil siltation and runoff from herbicides and pesticides. Additionally, our agroforestry programme with Dandara Rural Settlement is a way for smallholder farmers to increase their crop yields while natural resources such as soil and water are improved by the presence of the trees, which also sequester carbon as they grow.

In the 2023/2024 planting season, 8.35 ha of riverside planting took place in Reunidas, a

second rural settlement; 4.25 ha was planted in Dandara and 40 ha on AES landholdings; and a 1.36 ha silvopastoral system was started in Dandara as a pilot. All these new areas are flourishing.

Looking ahead, the final 0.5 hectares of the planned 14 hectares of agroforestry will be planted in November or December, coinciding with the start of the rainy season. As for the upcoming 2024/2025 planting season, plans are still being finalized, but it's estimated that 45 to 50 hectares will be planted.

In areas that were planted in previous years, maintenance is well underway. This includes ongoing grass control in sites planted in 2020, 2021 and 2022 that were affected by fires and cattle intrusion. In some of the more severely impacted places, where forest cover



and tree density are still below expectations, some replanting may be necessary to restore these areas to their full potential.

In April, students from Instituto Terra presented some great results from their monitoring of the Dandara agroforestry project. All of the farmers are happy with the project, and three-quarters of them are even applying agroforestry techniques in other parts of their farms!

The survey found that before starting the project, the farmers' main motivations in joining were economic and well-being; after their agroforestry plots had been

Six of the 2022 agroforestry plots have started vegetable production, with an estimated 7 tons of produce harvested, mainly lemons, eggplants, scarlet eggplants and around 17 other species. The farmers raised more than BRL 43 000 (US \$7800) from vegetable sales, with Rose and Donizete's produce alone raising BRL 28 164!

established, they also appreciated the added benefits of agroforestry systems: the importance of growing agro-ecological food in the rural settlement, and how collective activities during setup and maintenance strengthen the community.



You'll receive an annual update in March. Meanwhile, stay up-to-date with our interactive [Tietê Forests map](#), and check out the photos on [Flickr](#).

You can find an overview of all communications assets and guidance on how to communicate about your partnership with WeForest [here](#).



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