



TV

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

UN IN ACTION

Release Date: May 2008

Programme No.1129

Duration: 4'55"

Languages: English, French, Spanish, Russian

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMAZON

VIDEO

TREES ARE CUT DOWN

AGENTS WALK IN FOREST

PONTES ON CAMERA

AERIAL VIEW OF PILED TREE
TRUNKS

AUDIO

NARRATION

Another tree cut down in Brazil's Amazon region. Although millions worry about too many trees being lost, some say this tree might actually help to fight the massive deforestation that threatens the Amazon. (16)

Two agents of IBAMA, Brazil's Environmental Protection Agency, are investigating criminal activities inside Brazil's first protected national reserve, Flona Tapajos. They are trying to stop illegal cutters from destroying the forest. IBAMA's Severiano Pontes: (19)

SEVERIANO PONTES: (Portuguese) **M**

"An entire tree like this one is sold for the equivalent of 25 US dollars. After processing, the timber is worth 700 dollars per cubic meter." (12)

NARRATION

That means that a 20 cubic-meter tree can be worth as much as \$14,000. A huge profit for criminals, but nothing for the people who live here.

(11)

VARIOUS SHOTS OF FOREST

The Amazon is often referred to as “the planet’s lungs” because of the critical role tropical forests play in absorbing carbon dioxide, a green house gas believed to be responsible for global warming. The forest is home to the richest diversity of species on earth and thousands of indigenous people. (22)

TREES ARE CUT

To counter the indiscriminate, illegal cutting and get everyone involved in managing the forest, a programme has been launched to reduce the impact of logging. Agronomist Edson Marcio da Cruz: (14)

DA CRUZ ON CAMERA

DA CRUZ: (Portuguese) **M**
“This operation helps growth and development as opposed to deforestation, which does away with everything. We do a selective cut of commercial timber, but we do not touch many species.” (13)

TREES ARE NUMBERED AND MAPPED

NARRATION
The impact on any one species and conservation area is controlled. A ‘tree census’ is conducted, so cutting decisions can be made ahead of time. Seed trees are spared and every cut tree is accounted for. (16)

JAINCHILL WALKS

Barbara Tavora-Jainchill is from the United Nations Forum on Forests. (5)

JAINCHILL ON CAMERA

TAVORA-JAINCHILL: (English) **F**
“There are many, many ways to use forests sustainably - many, many ways to make sure that they are going to be here; now and for generations to come.” (9)

CHILDREN PLUNGE INTO RIVER

TAPAJOS RIVER

VILLAGERS

NARRATION
There are some 10 thousand people living within Flona Tapajos, located by the Tapajos River, one of the Amazon’s largest tributaries. The 29 communities inside this protected area are now involved in a wide range of commercial activities that have a lower impact on the biodiversity of the forest. (20)

RODRIGUES CARVES TREE

Alcinei Rodrigues knows a lot about rubber trees. He extracts latex using traditional techniques and his neighbours get the raw material they need to make beautiful purses and bags sold in Brazil and exported to Europe. (14)

RODRIGUES ON CAMERA

ALCINEI RODRIGUES: (Portuguese) **M**
“Ten years ago people would go into the forest and slash and burn to plant food. // Now people mostly support themselves with their work here.” (15)

WOOD WORKSHOP

NARRATION

Sustainable projects protect the forest and improve people's lives. Manoel de Souza prefers nature's gifts, rather than timber cut by man. His wood workshops use only naturally fallen trees as raw material for hand-crafted furniture. Manoel designs his furniture to look like the animals he sees in the forest. (23.5)

MANOEL ON CAMERA

MANOEL DE SOUZA: (Portuguese) **M**

"We have 6 workshops, this one here and another 5. We put together a production line and combined our efforts so that we could fulfill the market's demand. " (11)

FEDERAL POLICE AGENTS
INSPECT LOG STOCKS

NARRATION

The Amazon and its people's way of life are seriously under threat. 17 percent of the original rainforest has been destroyed and some studies suggest that this percentage could rise up to 40 percent by 2050. (16)

FOREST CLEARINGS /
STOCKPILED LOGS

MAN WEAVES BASKET OUT OF
LEAVES / AERIAL VIEW OF
FOREST / TREE IS FELLED

Clearly those who live here must have a major say in the way natural resources are managed and preserved. They have a deep bond with the environment and understand better than anybody the risks of letting this wondrous world disappear. (15)

UN LOGO

This report was produced by Chaim Litewski and Camilo Freire for the United Nations.