



Brazil Fish Forever Program

A Journey of Empowering Coastal Communities for Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in Brazil

REPORT 2020–2022



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Fish Forever Journey in Brazil

While implementing the Fish Forever Program, Rare Brazil has faced unprecedented challenges: political upheaval, an oil spill on the Northeast coast in 2019, and the 2020 pandemic crisis. Despite this complex reality, Rare established a network of collaborators motivated to overcome these challenges and reform the country's coastal fisheries. This network has made it possible to advance the agenda for small-scale fisheries (SSF) in Brazil and influence the legal framework to meet this sector's needs at different levels of governance.

Brazil has more than 9,000 km of coastline and more than one million small-scale fishers, meaning that one out of every 200 Brazilians is a fisher. Coastal fishing is an essential service for society. But these fisheries are facing unprecedented threats. According to FAO's 2020 [The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture \(SOFA\)](#), global fishery production continues to increase, which jeopardizes the sustainability of global stocks. In Brazil, the challenge is compounded by the fact that the fisheries ministry has not updated the country's fishery statistics since 2011, and the state of its stock, therefore, remains unclear (MPA, 2012).

The Importance of Brazil's SSF Sector

Brazil's 9,000 km coastline harbors a marine ecosystem of unique and highly threatened marine biodiversity, including 8% of the world's mangroves, and a fishing sector that provides food security for over half a million people. While fishing accounts for a relatively small portion (0.4%) of Brazil's GDP (\$2.7 billion USD), it employs over 800,000 fishers. It is estimated that over 3.5 million Brazilians are both directly and indirectly involved in producing and marketing approximately 800,000 tons of seafood per year. Coastal communities rely on local catch for food, with an average fish consumption of 52.8 kg per person per year in some areas—six times the national average.

Restoring a large and sustainable harvest from Brazilian coastal fisheries is critical to preserving food security and preventing an accelerated rural exodus from coastal communities to the slums of larger cities. Furthermore, protecting coastal habitats such as mangroves is critical for supporting fisheries and lessening the impacts of climate change.

In addition to challenges related to the lack of data for decision-making to understand if we are overfishing, Brazil's fishers also lack the rights to access their fisheries. The challenges facing more sustainable SSFs have complex and intertwined social, economic, and environmental dimensions. The Fish Forever Program, together with partners, embraces a systemic approach that aims to address this interconnectedness.

Rare launched Fish Forever 1.0 in Brazil in 2014 to advance national small-scale fisheries reform. Through Rare's signature behavior adoption campaigns, Rare reached **6,000 small-scale fishers** and over **12,000 community members** from **50+ communities** across seven Brazilian states. For additional Phase I program data and analysis, see our [Stemming the Tide of Coastal Overfishing](#) report and the final [Cohort 2015-2017 Executive Report](#).

Rare's Fish Forever 2.0 program was launched in 2019. This second phase was adapted for Brazil's changing political environment and Rare's refined strategy for sub-national governance, which emphasizes partnerships with government agencies, research institutions, and local associations. Rare pivoted from working across many states in Fish Forever 1.0 to focusing on Pará, the most promising state for coastal fisheries reform and one that will serve as a model for replication across the Brazilian coastline.

Pará is home to 25% of all fishers in Brazil (RGP, 2012) and is a critical state for small-scale, artisanal fish landings. Currently, Pará has 364,142 hectares of protected areas for sustainable use, totaling 12 coastal marine extractive reserves (Resex, the term for MPA in Brazil). These Resex aim to protect the ways of life and natural resources of local populations. The Chico Mendes Institute/Ministry of the Environment (ICMBio/MMA) manages these protected areas, which are located between the regions of

Bragantina, Salgado, and Marajó. It is estimated that there are 460 communities and 81,000 people within the Resex areas, with 50% of the total population benefiting from them. 40,000 of these people are exclusively small-scale fishers, with the majority working in the informal sector (ICMBio database, 2019 and Rare Brazil analysis, 2019).

By the end of 2019, Rare reached **4,350 small-scale fishers** and over **8,700 community members** from **53 communities** in seven Resexs and three Environmental Protected Areas (APA) across four coastal states. The [Cohort II 2017-2019 Executive Report](#) highlights the social and environmental results achieved in the country.

Rare Brazil created a collaborative network (see below for a list of partners) to (1) empower coastal communities to effectively participate in establishing managed access and marine reserves as an approach to sustainably manage local resources in the face of climate change; (2) influence the agenda to incorporate these management strategies through alliances and partnerships with key stakeholders; and (3) engage universities, government, NGOs and other audiences around implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through a national webinar series co-hosted jointly with strategic partners. This initiative was part of the partnership with the Brazil SDGs Network.

Fish Forever has also prioritized mangrove conservation, as Brazil has the [world's largest stretch of mangroves](#). Mangrove forests are critical ecosystems in the context of the global climate crisis and local livelihoods. Promoting cooperation and partnership amongst coastal communities, fishers and local leaders, governments, researchers, academia, and NGOs, Fish Forever advanced protection of this critical ecosystem and strengthened the enabling environment for effective, community-based small-scale fisheries management to improve food security and livelihoods for coastal communities.

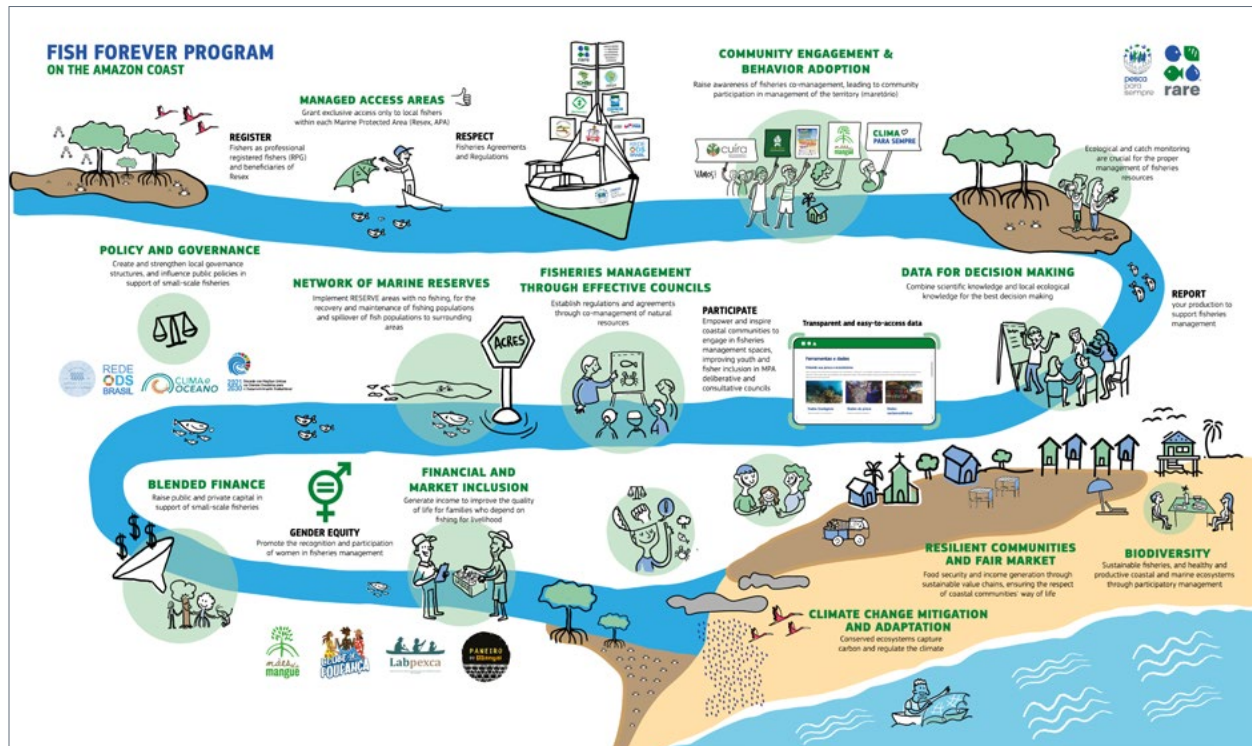
“If we don't protect, we won't have the fish stocks in abundance in the next ten years. The fishermen and fisherwomen are the guardians responsible for the protection of this heritage. The Fish Forever campaign is very important because it gives the fishers the recognition they did not have, increasing the visibility of fishers, reducing the harmful fishing practices and promoting a fairer supply chain.”

— **Sandra Regina**
Confrem Brasil and Auremag
Association representative Resex
Mãe Grande de Curuçá



Summary 2020–2022

In 2020, Fish Forever communities in Pará continued to advance their efforts toward coastal fisheries reform despite the challenges posed by the pandemic. Rare supported all 12 Resex in Pará, providing connectivity, standardization, and capacity building. Altogether, 180 people received training and support to develop and strengthen management bodies and effectively balance the protection and production of artisanal fisheries. This innovative delivery model promoted the consolidation and operationalization of a broader partner's network to leverage the elements of the Fish Forever 2.0 program (see the "road map" figure below).



Road map of Brazil Fish Forever Program 2.0.

The program approach, outlined in the 'road map' above, always prioritizes the 4 key behaviors for sustainable fisheries: **RESPECT, REGISTER, REPORT, AND PARTICIPATE**.

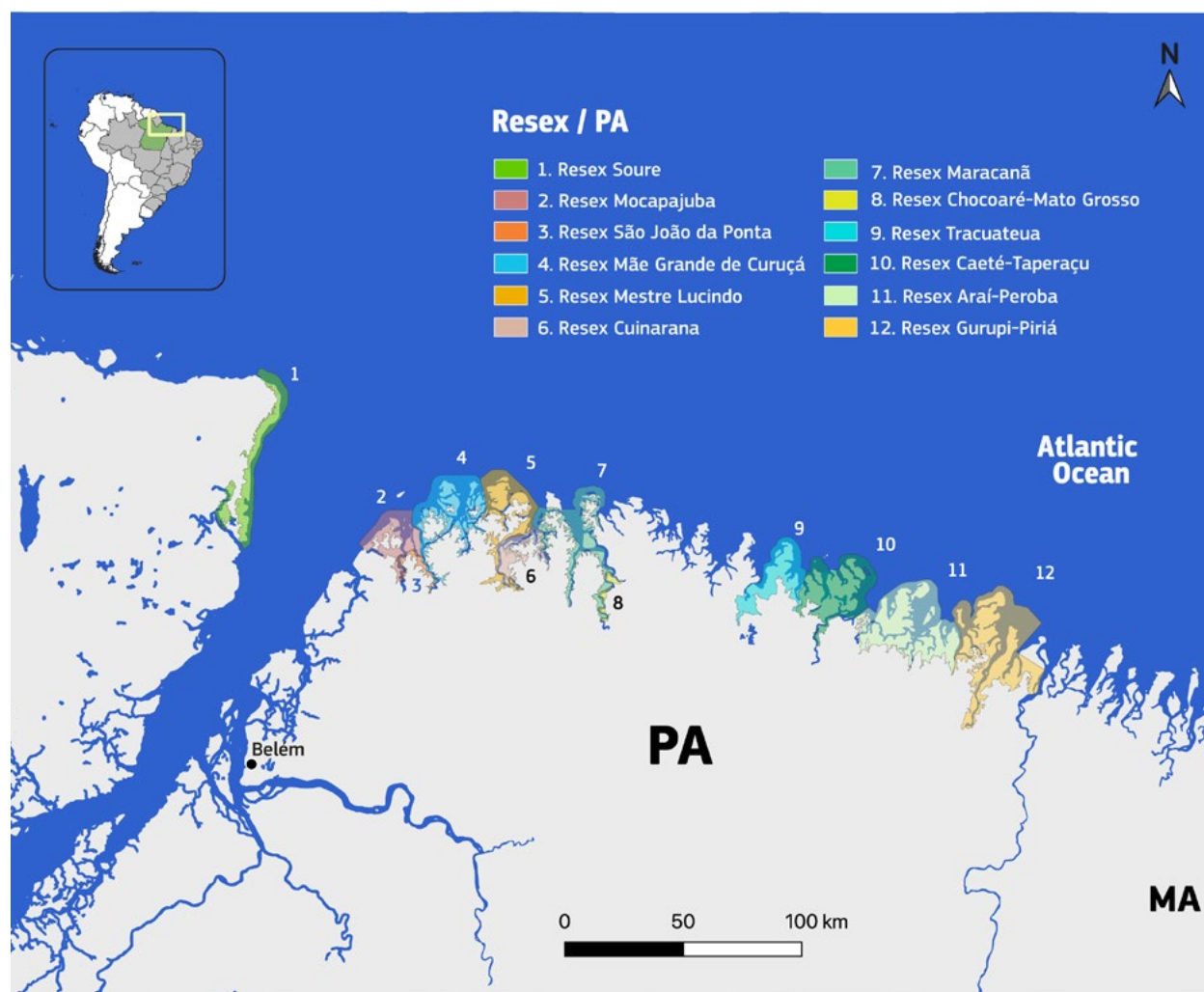
The year 2021 was a time of hope and confidence, as an improvement in the pandemic scenario in Brazil and around the world allowed us to get closer to project sites in person. This created new opportunities and enabled greater collaboration to promote sustainable artisanal fisheries. As a result, in 2020 and 2022, the Fish Forever Program catalyzed our network of partners in 13 Protected area (12 Resexs and 1 APA) located along the Amazon coast. 28,549 people directly benefited in 182 communities in Pará state by the FF program. The most significant results of these last years are provided in Sections 3 and 4.

Rare Brazil's focus on collaborative partnerships and lasting impacts for coastal communities has begun to receive broader recognition. The prestigious [Best NGOs 2021 Award](#) has the mission of recognizing and promoting the NGOs in Brazil that stand out each year for their excellence in management, governance, financial sustainability, and transparency. In 2021, Rare Brazil was chosen among the 100 best NGOs in Brazil as the best NGO in the



ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY category. This award is a great pride for the entire Brazil team at Rare, and we would like to share it with the entire network of partners that made the FF Program possible. The award belongs to all of us: fishermen, fisherwomen, leaders, associations, universities, and governments, which together have strengthened the participatory management of fishery resources in Brazil. Thank you to everyone who believes in fairer, more inclusive, and sustainable artisanal fishing.

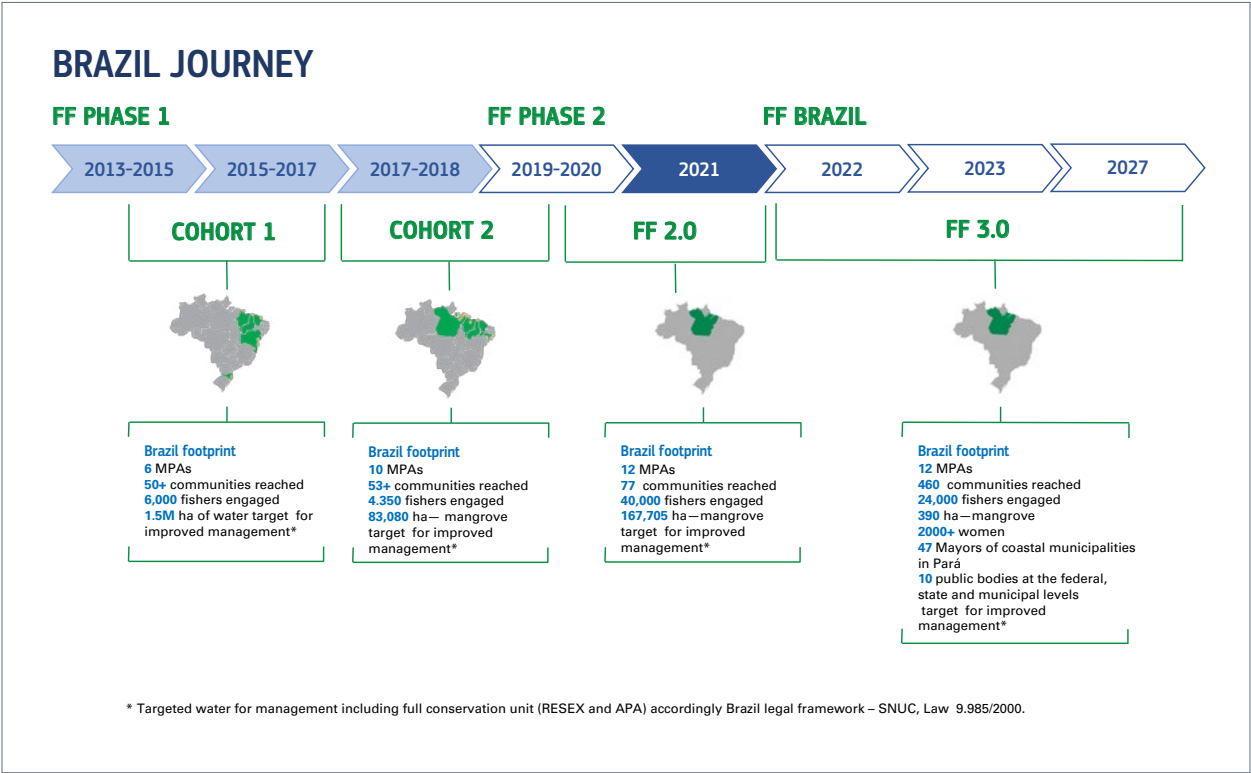
The year 2022 was celebrated as the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture with a network of more than 12,000 people impacted through the initiatives of the FF Program. Networking has enabled greater dialogue and integration to leverage collaboration to promote more sustainable coastal artisanal fisheries, always with the prominence of young people, women, community leaders, and local associations, which have been fundamental for the program results.



Map of the 12 Resex in Amazon coast of Pará state.

Rare continues the mission of connecting the program’s elements for generating impacts for coastal communities, conservation of ecosystems and fishing resources on the Amazon coast, and mitigation and adaptation to climate change, through innovative solutions that converge for replication on a larger scale in other territories.

The consolidation of the strengthened partner network has been instrumental in improving artisanal fisheries management in the country. We at Rare Brazil are very grateful and proud of the results achieved with all our partners.



Building Partnerships to Overcome Challenges

Rare has created a **network of partners and collaborators** to promote sustainable management of coastal fisheries and lay the groundwork for a stronger SSF sector in a country in constant change (for a full list of partners, visit the Network of Rare Brazil Partners section). Building trust with partners like Confrem (National Commission for the Strengthening of Coastal and Marine Extractive Reserves) has helped to pave the way for transforming small-scale fishing. Notably, strengthening the partnership with the environmental agency ICMBio and the sub-national government of Pará made it possible to influence public policies that defend coastal communities and conserve marine biodiversity.



II Workshop de Efetividade do Maretório, november 2022. Photo Credit: Eduarda Canuto.

The global crisis caused by the **Covid-19 pandemic** made it necessary to adapt the program delivery model to keep partners engaged during a period of high uncertainty about the future. Since the beginning of the pandemic, Rare Brazil has made significant human, technical, and financial investments in building the capacity of communities to overcome the crisis. For example, Rare held weekly webinars with the **Brazil SDGs Network** and the **Environment Secretariat of the State of Pará** to foster dialogue around implementing the 2030 Agenda. More than [20 webinars](#) with key actors from multiple sectors (academia, governments, multilateral agencies, community leaders, and civil society) were carried out and were featured prominently in the [Voluntary Local Report on Sustainable Development Goals in Pará](#), produced by the Pará state government and published in September 2020.

This successful initiative led to Rare Brazil's nomination to a seat on the National Implementing Committee of the UN/IOC Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. The Ocean Decade in Brazil falls under the leadership of the Ministry of Science, Information and Technology (MCTI) and UNESCO Brazil. Rare Brazil is participating in the National Advisory Committee, collaborating both with the National Implementation Plan and sub-national mobilization groups (North region). Rare is also participating in the Communication Committee, supporting the strategic plan for communicating the decade to a broad audience in Brazil. An [inspirational video](#) was produced with Mateus Solano, a famous Brazilian actor and UN ambassador, to promote ocean literacy and behavior change.



Fisher Valter Martins Pereira cast net fishing. Resex Maracanã, Curuçazinho. Photo Credit: Enrico Marone for Rare.

Facing the serious crises of Covid-19 and the oil spill that hit the Northeast Brazilian coast in 2019, the NGOs Oceana, Rare, and Conservation International signed an alliance aiming to mitigate the problems that impacted fishing communities affected by both tragedies. The initiative, called the **Alliance in Defense of Small-Scale Fishing Communities in the Northeast**, mapped the environmental and socioeconomic impacts of these crises. The Alliance envisions this will improve access to information in the public policy sphere for local communities and fishing families, many of whom belong to the informal economy, are highly vulnerable, and may see adverse impacts related to their health and livelihoods. In 2021, Rare also became a new member of the [Climate Observatory](#), a Brazilian civil society coalition that brings together more than 60 organizations and leads the movement for Brazil's climate agenda. The network holds meetings with specialists and government stakeholders to encourage the Brazilian government to make commitments to create

effective public policies that mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change. Founded in 2002, it has helped to construct the National Policy on Climate Change, with principles that include protecting and restoring biodiversity, safeguarding ecosystem health, and recognizing their importance as sinks and vital reserves of carbon, biodiversity, and water resources. Rare is also part of the working group focused on **Ocean and Climate**, advancing information on how the climate crisis damages the ocean and what mitigation and adaptation activities can be proposed for coastal and marine ecosystems.

In 2022, Rare Brazil joined the Management Committee of the State System on Climate Change ([Coges-Clima](#)) in Pará to represent NGOs with APEF, Imazon, and TNC. Among the attributions of Coges-Clima is also the administration of the State System of Climate Change, including the State Plan Amazônia Agora (PEAA), which guides the environmental policy of the state government. The Committee will count on the participation of those segments participating in the debates on climate change and the development of low carbon emissions. The State Policy on Climate Change in Pará was instituted by State Law No. 9,048/2020, prioritizing the alliance between economic development and policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions stands out.

This approach to partnership is core to Fish Forever's new operating model and has been critical to the results achieved in Pará. Rare Brazil has been able to leverage high engagement of government, academia, development agencies, coastal communities, fisher leaders and civil society toward decentralization and sustainable SSF co-management in Brazil. It is now very clear that building a network to share responsibilities and promote collaboration is the way to drive social, ecological, and economic impact. With support from partners, we have started the process of restoring social participation and confidence in all institutions involved in small-scale fisheries in Brazil, and Pará can be an inspirational model for post-pandemic recovery.

Key Program Highlights and Outputs

Since 2014, Rare Brazil has sought to build social and governance networks for collaboration that will result in better management, more sustainable fishing behavior, and improved ecological outcomes. The program has always collected quantitative and qualitative data to guide campaign design and engagement strategy, as well as track the program's effectiveness.



Aloizio do Rosário Bianco and his son Aloizio do Rosário Junior.
Resex Mãe Grande de Curuçá. Photo Credit: Enrico Marone for Rare.

In Cohort 1 of Fish Forever 1.0 (from 2015 to 2017), Rare observed that social and financial capital, as well as trust in institutions, were low enough to characterize the communities as highly vulnerable and with low capacity to overcome challenges. The results of the socioeconomic research for Cohort 2 of Fish Forever Program 1.0 (from 2017 to 2019), especially in Pará, were similar, shedding light on the issues most in need of attention. Further, participatory assessments with fishers and key stakeholders indicated a general lack of effort by stakeholders to achieve effective fisheries management. This was exacerbated by fishers' low confidence in the Resex management structures, which translated to low participation of fishers in advancing co-management.



Fish Forever 2.0 (from 2020 to 2022) was an important period to consolidate our partner network to pave a pathway for sustainable fisheries management through participatory activities like Saving Clubs, behavior adoption campaigns, and political support through the Coastal 500.

The Fish Forever program addressed these issues through a holistic approach that combined engaging fishers, communities, and associations with behavior adoption campaigns. The team successfully established and built the capacity of management bodies, set up data for decision-making systems, and improved financial inclusion. While the COVID-19 pandemic has been an immensely disruptive force, it has been catalytic in reformulating our approach to further decentralize Rare's delivery model, strengthen networks for knowledge sharing and remote support, and build new methods to deliver training to communities and partners using virtual platforms and training others already in the communities

to deliver core content. Donor flexibility allowed us to reallocate financial resources to enable connectivity for our partners, community leaders, and local associations who did not have internet access.

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, Rare participated in the *Ame Digital* and *Sumo Bem Food Collection* campaign in partnership with the Pará State Department of Justice and Human Rights (SEJUDH). A total of two tons of food were donated to Resex's families to reduce the vulnerability of this population during the pandemic. Production of masks for the safe resumption of in-person meetings and dissemination of informational materials to coastal communities.

Below are some of the key highlights and outputs for each Fish Forever element, and relevant SDG Goals:



Behavior Adoption for Sustainable Fisheries

- ☑ **First phase of the “Mother of the Mangroves”**—[The campaign](#) aims to inspire and engage communities in protecting this ecosystem, based on the participation of women and families who live in extractive reserves. The project has learned from women’s extensive experience within the mangrove forest, revealing the fundamental role of these women in sustainable solutions for climate resilience. In partnership with Purpose and 25 other organizations, 240 women mobilized to organize local events in the 12 Resex, reaching 55 hits in the local press, including online, television, and radio; and 86,904 people reached by campaign materials on Facebook and Instagram. These efforts produced [4 videos](#) and the cookbook “[Cozinha da Maré](#)”. The publication includes 24 recipes from the knowledge of the guardians of the mangroves and their families. The campaign is a partnership with [Purpose](#), [Rare Brazil](#), [CONFREM Brasil](#) and local associations, and enjoys the support of [Ame o Tucunduba](#), [Climainfo](#), [Conservação Internacional](#), [Instituto Manguelal](#), [Instituto Nova Amazônia](#), [Instituto Peabiru](#), [Liga das Mulheres pelo Oceano](#), [Oceana](#), and [Toró—Gastronomia Sustentável](#).



- ☑ **The second phase sought to strengthen the female protagonist through actions to encourage income generation.** In this sense, around 300 women from 30 communities developed community-based business ideas and income-generation activities supported by the 1st Call of the Seed Fund. This initiative invested 5 thousand reais per Resex, totaling 60,000 reais invested, in solutions to increase income, focusing on valuing products from socio-biodiversity and artisanal fishery. More than 30,000 reais were generated, 18 sales actions were carried out, and four community-based businesses were developed. In addition to strengthening female leaders, the initiative promoted the network’s activities, creating management, leadership, and entrepreneurship skills.



- ✓ **Rare launched behavior adoption campaigns to amplify key messages for protecting target species,** such as the **“Let the Crab Date” Campaign**. During the full moon from January to March, mangrove crabs leave their holes to mate and reproduce. This period is the closed season for this species, and fishing restrictions guarantee healthy stocks for the future. But fishers and buyers who don’t respect these regulations jeopardize crab stocks in mangroves. Aiming to increase awareness among fishers, Rare Brazil created a campaign to improve the behavior of RESPECT for sustainable fishing measures in Pará.

- ✓ **The first phase of Green July “Julho Verde” Campaign in 2021 raised awareness of the key behaviors of artisanal fishing,** reaching more than 1,200 people directly and 13,000 indirectly with the participation of artists and influencers like Joelma and Célia Pinho and others. A booklet, [“Guardians of the Amazon Mangroves,”](#) was published to support the Green July campaign. The second phase of the campaign was delivered in 2022 and reached more than 7,000 people in face-to-face and virtual events, reaching more than 80 communities along the coast of Pará. The events occurred in 13 municipalities, including the Pará state capital and 12 Resex. It was the first time that Rare promoted the July Green Award, which included eight categories of recognition to the “Centers of good practices in defense of Amazonian mangroves” to the local associations.



Green July Campaign at Resex São João da Ponta. Photo Credit: Enrico Marone for Rare.

- ✓ In its first phase in 2021, the training called “Cuíra: Young Protagonists of the Amazon Mangroves” focused on developing skills to improve the management of Resex;** in total, 70 young people from 10 Extractive Reserves participated in the process. Thus, the young people who participated in the training began to act directly in supporting the management of the Resex, participating in registration, monitoring, and research activities. In 2022, the second phase of the Cuíra Program began, which aims to encourage the participation of young people and renewal of community leaders in the management of the Resex through youth protagonist training. Four modules were carried out with young people in 7 Resex, culminating in the implementation of 2 chairs of young counselors (Resex Soure and Mestre Lucindo) and trained young people carried out seven action plans. Another emphasis was given to the support for registering the association’s members and the official registration of fishers, which was carried out in 4 Resex with the help of the young protagonists of the Cuíra formation. Two young Cuíras reached the final phase of LAB Jovens, and one of them was awarded.



Cuíra meeting on September 2022.

- ✓ LAB Youth is a program to mobilize Brazilian youth against water pollution and microplastics.** Participants benefited from [webinars, workshops, and virtual meetings](#), sharing experiences with peers and inspiring professionals. 10 projects were selected to receive a grant between US\$200 and \$1,000. The Rare team was invited to be a jury member in four categories of action projects: environmental education, environmental recovery, journalism and artistic proposals, and technology and research.
- ✓ We’re all a Mangrove!** In preparation for the celebration of Mangrove Day, celebrated on July 26th, Rare, in partnership with Projeto Uçá and Confrem, launched the 2020 the cultural contest “Somos Todos um Mangue.” The contest for traditional communities sought to highlight the importance of mangroves through photographs, drawings and poetry.
- ✓ Implementation of the local “Resex Forever” Campaign,** reaching more than 2,300 people directly and 9,200 people indirectly in the territories of Bragança’s Resex, with a focus on fisher registration behaviors, harvest reporting, respect for the law, and participation in decision-making spaces.



- ✓ **Rare Brazil implemented the Climate Forever Campaign**, led by 12 local associations with support from the Casa Socioambiental Fund. The project conducts vulnerability research with coastal communities and an awareness-raising effort in the territories. An [animated video](#) was produced and launched during the week of *Maretório* for Climate.



Participation in the Municipal' Council (above), campaign "Resex Forever."

- ✓ **Rare Brazil started the first stage of the Climate Change Vulnerability Analysis** with community perception surveys in the 12 Resex in Pará, aiming to fill the information gap for the North coast of Brazil. The initiative also counts on the participation of more than 52 volunteers for the digital tabulation of data from the questionnaires that were applied in the 12 Resex.
- ✓ **A total of four campaign training meetings were conducted and a WhatsApp Channel** with 140 participants receiving information about Campaign actions in 7 Resex was created.



**Educational
content can be
accessed [here](#).**



**Co-creation
material can be
accessed [here](#).**

Effective Management Bodies & Community-Based Management

- ✓ **Strengthened local leaders' network governance** through training for management bodies.
- ✓ **Conducting the course "Remote Management for Protected Areas Managers"** for 50 managers with a workload of 4 hours.
- ✓ In 2021, **5 training courses in participatory management were carried out** with 40 counselors from 2 Resex: Soure and Mocapajuba. In 2022, one training module was carried out during the Resex Effectiveness Workshop for 20 representatives of local organizations from the 12 Resex; four Training Modules for Resex Soure were also offered to 50 counselors; and one training module for Resex Araí-Peroba for 21 people.
- ✓ **Delivered six training modules in identity, pride, territory, and edu-communication** for 70 young people at 10 Resex to support the actions of the deliberative council and the mother associations.
- ✓ **Helped create a management body** of the deliberative council at Resex Arapiranga-Tromaí in Maranhão.
- ✓ **Conducted virtual fisheries management and marine conservation trainings** for government partners to enhance the application of scientific evidence to fisheries management decisions. Nine training courses, totaling 18 hours with 20 ICMBio environmental analysts including members of CEPENE, Salgado and Brangantino/ICMBio Integrated Management Nucleus were conducted.
- ✓ **Registered 2,500 updated members** in the local associations of Soure, Maracanã and Tracuateua in order to facilitate access to public programs, such as retirement and closed season insurance.
- ✓ **Updated 1,300 beneficiary registries** at Resex Soure in order to promote access to fishery resources in MPAs.
- ✓ **Organized and coordinated the integrated working group** in the state of Pará with 80 people and 18 organizations.
- ✓ **Engaged 70 young people in training Young Protagonists in Amazonian Mangroves** so that young people are included in the management of MPAs through local councils and associations.
- ✓ **Updated information on the Rare Data Portal**, making research results and tools available for public access.
- ✓ **Engaged representatives from 12 Resex in two Workshops**—Paths for the effectiveness of marine Resex on the coast of the State of Pará. Engaged 100 participants, including government officials from the state level, management body members, local associations, and Resex managers, to observe best practices in other Resexs with a focus on effective co-management.



Willian Fernandes, clarifies management instruments for extractivists of Resex Mãe Grande de Curuçá during a training event on management instruments for Extractive Reserves.

Financial & Market Inclusion

- ✓ Improved the economic resilience of coastal communities by **establishing 39 savings clubs and conducting financial inclusion trainings** in Pará with 659 women and 30 men who together saved 145,800 reais.
- ✓ **Trained 655 people in the online Financial Education course.** The four-week financial education course is divided into 6 modules that are presented via WhatsApp.



Booklet and Savings Clubs meetings at Resex Soure. Photo Credit: Enrico Marone for Rare.

- ✓ **Connected 30 local leaders to the internet.** This increased capacity for community-based fisheries management by allowing leaders to use smartphones for social mobilization, and by helping them remotely access technical assistance.
- ✓ **Strengthened the crab value chain** by mobilizing 13 key actors to develop a technical proposal recommending the regularization of a processing unit located in Soure, on Marajó Island. The proposal included measures for processing crab and shrimp meat, respecting the norms of municipal sanitation inspection, and providing technical support from the consulting company Les Experts to a range of stakeholders including the Users Association of the Marine Extractive Reserve of Soure (Assuremas), Technical Assistance and Rural Extension Company (EMATER), Rare Brazil, the Soure Tourism Departments of Production and Environment. The group discussed the proposal to adapt the physical structure of the Soure Crab Fishers (ACCS) headquarters. This action provides for a long-term work plan that aims to connect with the public procurement chain in the municipality of Soure and the state of Pará.
- ✓ **Implementation of pilot “Encurtando Elos” and “Paneiro do Mangal” Initiatives, which together generated 25,000 reais for local communities.** The pilots aim to strengthen socio-biodiversity products such as fish, vegetables, seasonal fruits, tapioca starch, washed manioc flour, coconut flour, green coconut, coconut oil and free-range chicken eggs. Paneiros are now being sold by the community of Tamatateua at Resex Caeté-Taperaçu at an average price of R\$134.61 per unit. Thinking about improving communication with partners, the women of the group decided to create an [Instagram page](#) for the initiative.
- ✓ **Partnership with Gerando Falcões—Delivering of Food-Ticket Cards to Local Associations.** In October, Rare Brazil continued to catalyze the partnership of the 12 Local Associations in Pará with Gerando Falcões. 1,200 food-ticket cards were handed out (100 cards per association) at the value of US\$58 per unit, totaling a distribution of US\$70,000 for families to buy food in local markets. This partnership helps families, empowers local associations, and bolsters the local market. An excellent example of a successful partnership.

Managed Access & Fisheries Management

- ✓ **Developed a manual for fishers to understand the registration process** at national and sub-national levels, a key first step towards establishing co-management.
- ✓ In the official government fishing registration (SisRGP), Rare supported in the year 2022, **more than 500 fishers registered** with the support of the local articulator in the Resex of Maracanã. At Resex Tracuateua, in action during the Green July campaign, with support from the City Hall and association, 79 fishermen were registered in SisRGP.
- ✓ In the associations, support was given to **registering 819 new members**: 234 in Resex from Tracuateua, 410 in Resex Chocoaré Mato-Grosso, and 175 in Resex from Soure.
- ✓ To help manage access, Rare supported the **formation of community committees** in the Resex Caeté-Taperaçú, Resex Arai-Peroba, and Resex Tracuateua.
- ✓ Regarding the Beneficiary's registration at Resex Soure, **1,500 beneficiaries were registered** jointly with the Association. At Resex de Mocapajuba, Rare is part of the Beneficiary Profile Working Group, which supported workshops on the profile of beneficiaries.
- ✓ **Created eight technical proposals/publications for fisheries management** that protect target species in Brazilian fishing grounds.
- ✓ **Strengthening the Management of 12 Associations in Pará's Resex**—In 2020, Rare supported the legal, financial, and fiscal regularization of the 12 Associations. Now that they have correctly registered, obtained a digital certificate, activated a bank account, and registered with the Federal Revenue Service, associations can fundraise independently through proposals to access funds and grants. This initiative is part of the project "Strengthening Maresmório do Litoral Paraense" and is being led by the Association of Resex Mãe Grande Curuçá (Auremag). The Fundo Casa Socioambiental was a partner in this activity, approving resources for the execution of 3 projects totaling 300,000 reais managed by the associations. In 2022, Rare continued to strengthen the associations, partnering in the implementation of the second phase of the project with the associations and Fundo Casa. In this second phase, the objective was to continue training in associations, project development, and fundraising. The training was offered to the board, to youth, and women coordinators.
- ✓ **Victory for conservation of Pernambuco's coast**—The fishing communities of the Costa dos Corais Environmental Protection Area (APA), now have a legal instrument to regularize shrimp fishing and protect endangered marine fauna species. Law 1.079/2022 published on November 16, 2022, is a milestone that establishes the standards for sustainable fisheries in the largest coastal-marine protected area in Brazil. According to the new law, shrimp fishing will be done only with a single bottom trawl, and the use of the double trawl is prohibited. In addition, only vessels registered by ICMBio will be able to practice fishing. Boats should use a tracking app, which will be made available with training for use—a low-cost, high-engagement solution for fishers with great social, economic, and environmental benefits. There are also other rules highlighted in the regulations, such as the definition of the area for catching shrimp and the allowed time, from 5:00 am to 5:00 pm; and rules for the overnight stay of vessels, which should only take place outside the specific fishing ground.



Resex Cuinarana, Cafezal community, Marapanim River. Photo Credit: Enrico Marone for Rare.

Data for Decision Making

- ✓ **Fish Forever Data Portal**—As part of our commitment to transparency, the portal provides full access to all data and learning resources developed through the program. The Portal is now a platform for up-to-date data, detailed program guidance, and a network of local leaders committed to the Fish Forever approach. The portal features fisheries data, ecological data, socioeconomic data, program implementation, management tools, and information about Coastal500;



Left: Oyster bank monitoring at Resex Mãe Grande de Curuçá. Right: Training of young people from Cuíra at the Resex of Arai-Peroba.

- ✓ To assist the decision-making process and understand engagement in fisheries management, financial control, and fishers' livelihoods in Resex Soure, Rare Brazil presented **socio-economic research results** to management bodies. The results were obtained from interviews with 283 families, 89% of whom were fishing families. The research found that in this Resex, about 80% of the interviewed families are willing to change their behavior to more sustainable fishing, and almost 90% believe that the participation of communities in management can improve fishing for the future. This clearly evidences that the community understands the challenge and is open to contributing to the necessary changes favoring sustainable artisanal fishing.
- ✓ Ecological monitoring has been carried out at 4 Resex. Monitoring of the oyster bank in Resex Mãe Grande de Curuçá and Mocapajuba is ongoing in partnership with UFPA, the local association, and the community. And mangrove monitoring at Resex Caeté-Taperaçu and Gurupi-Piriá assesses crab stocks and vegetation in partnership with ICMBio and the community. Support of UFPA for monitoring of two fish corrals at Resex Caeté-Taperaçu.
- ✓ Realization of the campaign "One Eye on Fish and Another in the Mangrove" developed at Resex Soure to promote the behavior of reporting production, involving 120 people, including young people who were part of the training initiative "Cuíras." in partnership with Assuremas, Emater, ICMBio, UFPA, and local leaders.
- ✓ Training for public managers in partnership with ICMBio Bragança, aimed at 27 ICMBio servers and volunteers and environmental technicians from the municipal secretariats of the municipalities of Bragança, Tracuateua, Augusto Corrêa and Viseu in the "Participatory Monitoring of Biodiversity in Resex Bragantinas."

Network of Marine Reserves

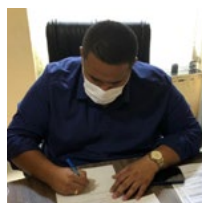
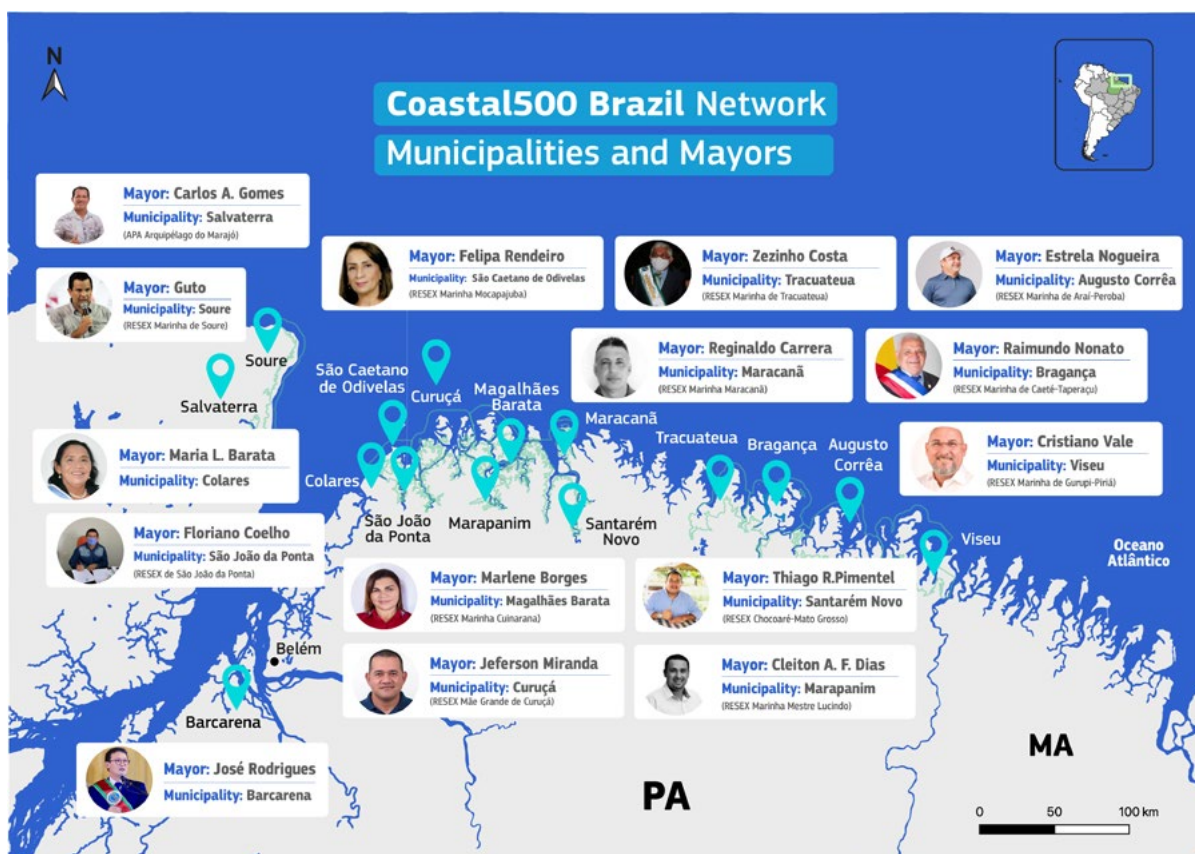
- ✓ Marine reserves are tools recognized for their proven positive effects on biomass recovery, biodiversity, and ecosystem restructuring. But a single reserve is not enough to have significant results. It is therefore necessary to build a network of reserves to sustain populations and ecosystems, functioning as an alliance between fishers and the environment. At the request of fishing communities seeking to build their knowledge and management capacity, Rare produced a [video explaining the benefits of reserves](#).
- ✓ **A local-language booklet was published** to assist the training of fishers, community leaders, and partners regarding the reserve network creation process on the Amazon coast. The story presents the journey of the characters Julia and her father José in their search for more sustainable coastal fishing.
- ✓ **Webinars were held** with the participation of researchers and government representatives. Participants included Beatrice Padovani, Jocemar Mendonça, Leonardo Messias and Mauro Maida ensured the participation of Federal University of Pernambuco, São Paulo Fisheries Institute, Centro Nacional de Pesquisa e Conservação da Biodiversidade Marinha do Nordeste—CEPENE/ICMBio and UFPA.
- ✓ **Technical report of hydrodynamic and larval dispersion modeling for Oysters** (Resex Mãe Grande of Curuçá) was developed to identify potential areas for the creation of no-take zones (reserves).



Policy & Governance

- ✓ **Rare signed a cooperation agreement with ICMBio and the Secretariat for the Environment and Sustainability of Pará (SEMAS)**. The objective of the institutional cooperation is to promote the sustainable management of fishing stocks and the conservation of biodiversity, through participatory management with coastal communities. With SEMAS the proposal aims to promote the development of small-scale sustainable fishery in the territories of 47 coastal municipalities in Pará.
- ✓ **Development of the partnership agreement with *Clima de Eleição* (Climate of Election)**—A cooperation agreement was developed and signed with the organization. Through this agreement, the organization provided a course on climate change for public managers in coastal municipalities participating in the Coastal500.
- ✓ **Supporting a technical proposal to create a new MPA** (Pró-Resex) in the municipality of Rio Formoso, encompassing three municipalities in Pernambuco state, in partnership with CEPENE, IRCOS, UFPE, CPP, and local organizations.
- ✓ **Contributed to a 'Pedagogical Project for the Marine Coastal Zone' (PPPZCM)** with the objective of creating educational and institutional guidelines for developing conservation, biodiversity, and sustainability education.
- ✓ **Rare Brazil and HOB (Brazilian Oceanic Horizon) Ambassadors Project**—The [Young State Ambassadors for Social and Environmental Edu-communication Project](#) is the result of joint efforts between the Brazilian Panel for the Future of the Ocean (PainelMar) and Rare Brazil. The project seeks to strengthen the networks, leaders, and managers who work in the Brazilian coastal marine zone at the state, municipal, and/or territorial level, qualifying young leaders to act in the political agendas of their coastal states and municipalities.

- ✓ In 2021, Rare and the Network of Young Leaders in Protected and Conserved Areas of Latin America and the Caribbean (Rellac), led **“Young Voices of the Amazon to the Planet,”** a collaboration between Rare and WWF Brazil that supports young leaders to participate in global conservation, biodiversity, and climate conferences.
- ✓ **BIO2020—Brazilian Perspectives for the Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework.** The event’s main objective was the formulation of the São Paulo Charter, a document that expresses Brazilian ambitions for the definition of the new Aichi Targets for Biodiversity. Rare participated in the sustainable and wildlife-friendly production and consumption session. Key outputs include the continuous collection and monitoring of production data and promoting sustainable value chains.
- ✓ **Coastal 500 Connecting Leaders for Thriving Communities**—Network of Public Leaders for Artisanal Fisheries. In August 2021, the Coastal 500 Brazil network held its first meeting with municipalities that have committed to the network of public leadership for artisanal fishing. The Coastal 500 network comprises leaders from all over the world who favor building healthy, prosperous, and sustainable coastal communities. On November 30, the first global seminar of the Coastal500 network of mayors took place. Speeches from Mayor Raimundo Nonato of Bragança municipality represented Brazil. By the end of 2022, 15 pledges were established with mayors of coastal Para’s municipalities.



- ✓ **The Practical Guide for the participation of fishermen and fisherwomen in the 2020 and 2022 elections was launched.** This guide aims to influence and improve the discussion of priority guidelines for an artisanal fisheries agenda with elected public representatives, especially at national, sub-national, and local levels. In addition, Rare facilitated meetings with representatives of the 12 parent associations to prepare a Political Advocacy Plan delivered to candidates for the 2022 elections.



- ✓ Participated in the **review of the Coastal Management Law of the State of Pará (GERCO)**, promoting the conservation of natural resources through participatory discussion and decentralization of actions. Participated on the **Technical Committee of Coastal Management of the State of Pará (CT-GERCO)** in partnership with the State Secretariat for the Environment and Sustainability (SEMAS).

- ✓ The United Nations (UN) General Assembly proclaimed the [Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development](#) from 2021 to 2030, which is under the coordination of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO. Rare has been **participating in the Management Committee in Brazil**, collaborating with the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Information (MCTI), UNESCO Brazil and a network of partners to develop the Implementation and Communication Plans.



2021 2030 Década das Nações Unidas da Ciência Oceânica para o Desenvolvimento Sustentável

- ✓ In 2021, Rare became a new member of the [Climate Observatory](#), a network that brings together more than 60 organizations working in the socioenvironmental area, leading the movement to guide and influence Brazil's climate agenda. Rare Brazil participated in the [Working Group—Climate and Ocean](#).



- ✓ **Alliance in Defense of Artisanal Fishing Communities in the Northeast: A Coalition of Oceana, Conservation International and Rare Brazil**—With support from the Ministry of Science, Technology and Information (MCTI), the group continues to collect data aiming to map and inventory initiatives analyzing oil (Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons) contamination in fish and the environment in affected areas after the 2019 oil spill in the Northeast.

- ✓ In partnership with SDGs Network Brazil, the Environment and Sustainability Secretariat of Pará (SEMAS), The Climate Reality Project Brazil, and the UNESCO Chair for Ocean Sustainability at São Paulo University, **Rare Brazil promoted 28 webinars in 2020** to [spur dialogue](#) for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In 2021 4 webinars of the Ocean Decade series: "Towards the ocean we want and need to achieve sustainable development."

- ✓ Participated with fishing leaders from Pará in the event of the **Dialogues of Oceanic Culture**, held in Santos-SP.

- ✓ Danilo Gardunho, Secretary of Fisheries and Environment of the municipality of Bragança, at the meeting of the "Small Scale Fisheries Summit," participated in the 35th session of the **FAO Fisheries Committee (COFI35)**.

- ✓ Realization of the **Global Dialogue of Fisheries Leaders** with the participation of Sandra Regina Gonçalves, representative of AUREMAG (Association of Users of Resex Mãe Grande de Curuçá) and CONFREM Brazil, during the Our Ocean 2022 Conference that was held in Lisbon, Portugal.

Volunteer Program

Rare Brazil implemented its Volunteer Program in December 2019, opening new possibilities for civil society's participation in sustainable fishing. To start this initiative, Rare Brazil partnered with the Bloomberg Corporate Philanthropy department in the Sao Paulo office. To date, 196 volunteers have participated in Fish Forever Brazil program activities, with 250 people registered in the volunteer network. The Volunteer Program's contributions are equivalent to more than R\$ 30,000 in +1,000 hours dedicated to program activities.



In May 2020, Rare began to engage with universities and federal and state institutes to create unpaid internship and volunteer opportunities for students in the following courses: Oceanography, Fishing Engineering, Cinema, Communication, Biological Sciences, Engineering of Aquaculture, and Multimedia and Advertising. In total, 69 public institutions in the North and Northeast of Brazil were contacted. Their engagement aims to bring academia closer to field actions, and to create a network to produce scientific content with the data collected by Rare Brazil. In August we created a mandatory internship with the Fisheries Engineering department of the Federal University of Pará. Twelve students contributed 200 total hours,

and we value these efforts at approximately R\$ 2,300,000. As part of the network's engagement strategy, two volunteers accompanied the Rare Brazil team at the Tara Foundation event, part of the Young Lab project of the French Embassy.

Network of Rare Brazil Partners

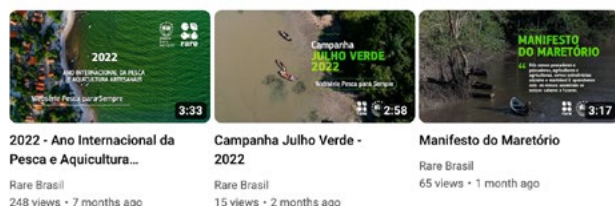


* Secretaria de Desenvolvimento Agropecuário e da Pesca / Secretaria de Meio Ambiente e Sustentabilidade / Secretaria de Assistência Social, Trabalho, Emprego e Renda.

Communication Material

New episodes of the [FF web video series](#) (English version) were produced showing the progress of the program. We invite you to watch the episodes, which seek to bring us closer to the territory and its protagonists through short videos about sites and elements of the FF program according to the list below:

Websérie Pesca para Sempre - Temporada 3 ▶ Play all



Websérie Pesca para Sempre - Temporada 2 ▶ Play all



Websérie Pesca para Sempre - Rare Brasil Temporada 1 ▶ Play all



Fish Forever Web Video Series Season 1

1. Participatory Management of Small-Scale Fishing
2. Sustainable Fishing in Marine Extractive Reserves
3. Fisheries: How far have we come?
4. Marine Protected Areas - What are they, and what are they for?
5. The mating ritual of the Mangrove Crab
6. São João da Ponta Marine Extractive Reserve
7. Mãe Grande de Curuçá Marine Extractive Reserve
8. Caeté-Taperaçu Marine Extractive Reserve
9. Gurupi-Piriá Marine Extractive Reserve
10. Cururupu Marine Extractive Reserve
11. MPA Delta do Parnaíba
12. MPA Coral Coast
13. Rio Formoso—Pro-Resex
14. The Decade of the Ocean in Brazil in partnership with UNESCO Brazil
15. Covid-19 video in Fishing Communities

Fish Forever Web Video Series Season 2

1. Mother of Mangrove- Network of Women Conservation Leader
2. Fair Market for Small-Scale Fisheries
3. Amazonian Mangroves and Climate Change
4. Coastal 500—A Network of Public leaders working for Small-Scale Fisheries
5. Fish Forever Collaboration Network
6. Marine Reserves Network (motion graphic)
7. Four Sustainable Fisheries Behaviors (motion graphic)
8. Climate Change and Fisheries (motion graphic)

Fish Forever Web Video Series Season 3

1. 2022 – International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture
2. Green July Campaign
3. Mangrove's Manifest
4. Blue Carbon

Extra Videos

Mother of Mangrove—4 episodes produced in partnership with Purpose

A Vision for the Future: Small-Scale Fisheries in Brazil

Rare Brazil is proud of the lessons learned and results achieved between 2020 and 2022. We are excited to continue the work in the state of Pará, and confident in our plan to go forward. Rare believes that with an ecosystem of partners, implementation will be more effective, scalable, and coherent with the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda (2030 SDGs).

Rare's vision pursues a world where coastal communities are valued, resilient, and prosperous through maintaining their way of life and sustainably managing marine ecosystems. This mission promotes a program that empowers and inspires collective actions by communities, leaders, and other stakeholders to sustainably manage coastal-marine ecosystems at local, sub-national, national, and global levels.



Aldenora Soares de Brito harvesting shellfish (*Carib pointed-venus Anomalocardia brasiliensis*) in Resex Mestre Lucindo, Vila do Camará. Photo Credit: Enrico Marone for Rare.

With the support of the partners' collaborative network, Rare seeks impactful results promoting: (i) resilient communities—strengthening food security and income generation with a fair market in sustainable value chains, ensuring the respect of the way of life of coastal communities; (ii) biodiversity and territory—fostering sustainable fisheries and conserving coastal and marine ecosystems through participatory management; (iii) mitigation and adaptation to climate change - promoting the conservation of ecosystems such as mangroves to capture carbon and maintain the climate.

In 2020, the UN proposed the Ocean Decade to raise awareness among the global population about the importance of the oceans. This agenda arose due to the urgency of managing essential services provided by the ocean, like food security and climate regulation. In this national and global context, Rare Brazil continues to participate in major forums, and alliances related to the theme, such as the UN Brazil Ocean Decade, Climate Observatory, and Alliance CI-Oceana-Rare. This is an important foundation for scaling our footprint and linking Fish Forever to climate adaptation in Brazil. We see an opportunity to strengthen the role of coastal communities as guardians of the coastal zone, particularly the mangrove ecosystems that store four times more carbon than other tropical forests (Source: 2022 State of the World's Mangroves—Mangrove Alliance).



The year 2022 was the [International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture \(IYFA\)](#), created by the FAO (United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization) to highlight the importance of small-scale fisheries worldwide. IYFA “aims to focus world attention on the role that small-scale fisheries, fish farmers and fish workers play in food security and nutrition, poverty eradication and sustainable natural resource use—thereby increasing global understanding and action to support them.” Rare considered 2022 an unparalleled opportunity to elevate awareness of small-scale fishers' important contributions to global challenges like climate change, biodiversity loss, and sustainable development.

Over the coming months, Rare will continue to identify venues to elevate small-scale fisheries voices, connect with local leaders, and demonstrate the value of small-scale fisheries as a key solution in addressing global issues, including in United Nations events like the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Given our previous experience in the national context, during the next three years, from 2023 to 2025, Rare Brazil plans to continue improving the governance structure for small-scale fisheries on the coast of Pará. Our challenge will be to go deep in one state, working with 12 Resexs at various levels of development, +90 communities out of approximately 460 in the Resex area (20% of the total area), to benefit 30,000 people (around 500 families per Resex and four people per family of the community). We will also support the state in (i) operationalizing the climate change state plan; and (ii) pursuing the implementation of new protected areas in order to protect the amazon coastline from Pará State.

Rare Brazil will pursue a transition to scale and replicate the program in other territories using Pará's model. We will implement this vision through four integrated strategies:

1. Foster the **financial and market inclusion** of artisanal fishers and support scale bioeconomic enterprises that reach formal markets that would enable them to transition to nature-positive, low-carbon, sustainable economic activities, and livelihoods.
2. Support the establishment and strengthening of **community-based management** to effectively conserve and manage these coastal resources.
3. Support the improvement of **policy and governance** to protect and sustainably manage the mangrove forests and surrounding waters.
4. Influence **future financing opportunities** that have the potential to invest in a low-carbon, blue bioeconomy based on high-ethical standards attached to blue carbon accreditation processes.

Rare Brazil team will also leverage the **new operating model** of working at the state and municipal levels. With the support of working groups composed of fishers, local leaders, academia, government representatives, and other stakeholders related to the SSF sector in Pará, these groups have formed an integrated task force at the sub-national and local level that facilitates implementation of behavioral adoption campaigns and strengthens action networks. It will also continue to highlight the alignment of Fish Forever's monitoring and evaluation plan with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Rare Brazil links the focus on SSF to public policy commitments and priorities, facilitating political and financial support for SSF reform in Brazil. In this manner, Rare has been promoting the Coastal 500—a global Network of Mayors and local government leaders who have all pledged to work towards thriving and prosperous coastal communities. The network recognizes that collective action and local leadership serve as a motivating force for effective change. This approach aims to inspire commitments, policies, and priorities to effectively govern the Amazon coast. In Pará, 14 municipalities have signed the pledge and are committed to combining local efforts to protect critical habitat with effective co-management for coastal fisheries; doing so can ensure food security, support the productive economy, safeguard livelihoods, and contribute to achieving national and global sustainable development goals. Rare Brazil is convinced that a collaborative approach was fundamental to establishing the program along the Brazilian coast and creating a network of strategic partners to consolidate a path for continued coastal fisheries reform.

Rare Brazil plans to continue to empower and support both governments and communities to establish effective local management bodies in Resex and then coordinate these network management actions to create a broader social and political movement replicable in other regions.



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