



ALIANÇA

**REFLORESTAR
DA AMAZÔNIA**





The Alliance

The Amazon Reforest Alliance is a non-profit association. Our work is carried out **in partnership with forest peoples**, with whom we collectively identify local needs and organize action plans for seed collection, nursery construction, agroforestry planting, and ongoing monitoring.

We believe that reforesting through agroforestry is one of the most vital missions of our time, as it brings together **environmental restoration, food security, social justice, and climate resilience.** Unlike conventional reforestation, agroforestry— coming from an Indigenous perspective—values both biological and cultural diversity. In addition to restoring degraded lands, it produces food, fibers, and medicinal plants that are integral to local indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge systems. We also established a network that promotes reforestation and cultural exchanges, providing support and incentives for the spread and strengthening of the forest peoples' culture.

In today's context of climate change, natural resources scarcity, and accelerated biodiversity loss, **Agroforestry Systems offer regenerative solutions, demonstrating that it is possible to heal the Earth while caring for people.**







Forest Partners

Why work in partnership with traditional communities?

As many Indigenous leaders affirm, they do not merely live in the forest — **they are the forest**. This ancestral worldview, which understands human beings as part of nature rather than separate from it, is what distinguishes forest peoples from those who seek to “develop” territories through an extractive, predatory world view.

It is these ancestral peoples who have known and cared for their territories for generations who are the **true guardians of the forest**.

The Amazon Reforest Alliance has successfully collaborated with representatives of the **Ashaninka, Kuntanawa, Nawa, Nukini, Puyanawa, and Yawanawa** peoples.

The Future and Importance of the Amazon

The largest tropical forest on Earth, the Amazon spans an extensive area across nine countries in South America, comprising approximately 60% of Brazil's territory. It plays a crucial role in the planet's climate balance. One of the environmental services provided by the Amazon rainforest is the generation and distribution of rain at local and regional levels, influencing large parts of the surrounding territory and indeed, the entire continent through the phenomenon known as Flying Rivers. Furthermore, it is home to the greatest biodiversity on the planet, as well as enormous cultural diversity. Brazil has 60% of this vast wealth of Amazon rainforest, which is both a privilege and a great responsibility. Ultimately, how do we take care of our Amazon?





NEXT STEP

NUKINI AGROFORESTRY INITIATIVE

Partnership with the Nukini people of the Recanto Verde village, on the Moa River, in the municipality of Mâncio Lima, Acre, for the agroforestry planting of 5,000 trees in an already identified area.

After several meetings with local leaders and active community outreach, the Alliance is seeking funding for the project, which will involve:

- Training in the **collection and storage of native seeds**;
- Purchase of **equipment and tools**;
- **Agroforestry planting of 5,000 trees**;
- Care and maintenance of the seedlings for two years;
- **Knowledge exchange** with other traditional peoples;
- Strengthening of local Indigenous Agroforestry Agents.

Investment:

US\$ 100k

THE NUKINI PEOPLE – RECANTO VERDE VILLAGE

The **Nukini** people are also known as the **Jaguar people**. They number approximately 900 people, divided into eight villages. The Nukini Indigenous Territory is located in Acre, in the extreme southwest of the Brazilian Amazon.

Amidst numerous historical challenges, the **Recanto Verde village currently seeks to serve as an example of rebirth and sustainability, uniting ancestral knowledge with forest protection**. This village is home to approximately 30 families, led by Xiti Nukini.

Xiti aims to reforest all degraded areas of the village using an

agroforestry methodology and valuing their Indigenous Agroforestry Agents. It was this intention and purpose that brought the Amazon Reforest Alliance together with the Recanto Verde village.

Supporting the reforestation of the Recanto Verde village is a way to show other sustainable paths and possibilities to the Nukini people as a whole, as well as their immediate neighbors, and to encourage other Nukini families to increasingly value the standing forest and protect their homes, despite numerous external incentives for land exploitation.







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WHO WE ARE

The Amazon Reforest Alliance was João Fortes' last endeavour, and became his legacy. Alice, his daughter and working partner for over a decade, is leading this initiative alongside many of the Indigenous leaders they have supported over decades of work in the Amazon rainforest.

João Fortes (*in our hearts*) was responsible for bringing the Rio-92 conference to Brazil; a producer, along with rubber tappers and indigenous people, of Amazonian vegetable leather. He founded, together with Ailton Krenak and Rodrigo Baggio, the Forest Peoples Network. He raised funds for the construction of the Yorenka Âtame Center in support of the leader Benki Ashaninka, and financed its reforestation from 2007 to 2009. He was the coordinator and facilitator, along with Ailton Krenak, of the installation of 30 Indigenous Cultural Centers in remote locations in Western Amazonia.

Alice Fortes (President)

Master of anthropology and visual arts from the University of British Columbia, Alice has been working with indigenous peoples in Brazil since 2009. She was the executive producer and general coordinator of the Aldeia SP Indigenous Film Festivals, held in partnership with distinguished Indigenous leader Ailton Krenak. She worked in the communication and strategy areas of the Alto Juruá project for the Ashaninka people, and as institutional articulation coordinator for OPIRJ (Organization of Indigenous Peoples of the Juruá Region) in the Territorial Management Project—both funded by the Amazon Fund. Alice has also provided consultancy services for the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative, led by the UN Environment and the Norwegian government. She also manages the Voo da Vespa fund that supports Indigenous leaders across Brazil.

Nina Arouca (Vice-President)

Biologist, permaculturist, and socio-environmental educator, Nina has dedicated 20 years to socio-environmental projects on NGOs, businesses, schools, communities, and villages. She has been working with forest peoples for 15 years on education and reforestation initiatives. For 12 years, she has coordinated the Sustainability area of Escola Parque in Rio de Janeiro, in addition to planting wherever she goes, in forests, schools, favelas, and city squares.



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