Public Consultation Process to Create Protected Areas: the State Forests in Pará, Brazilian Amazon

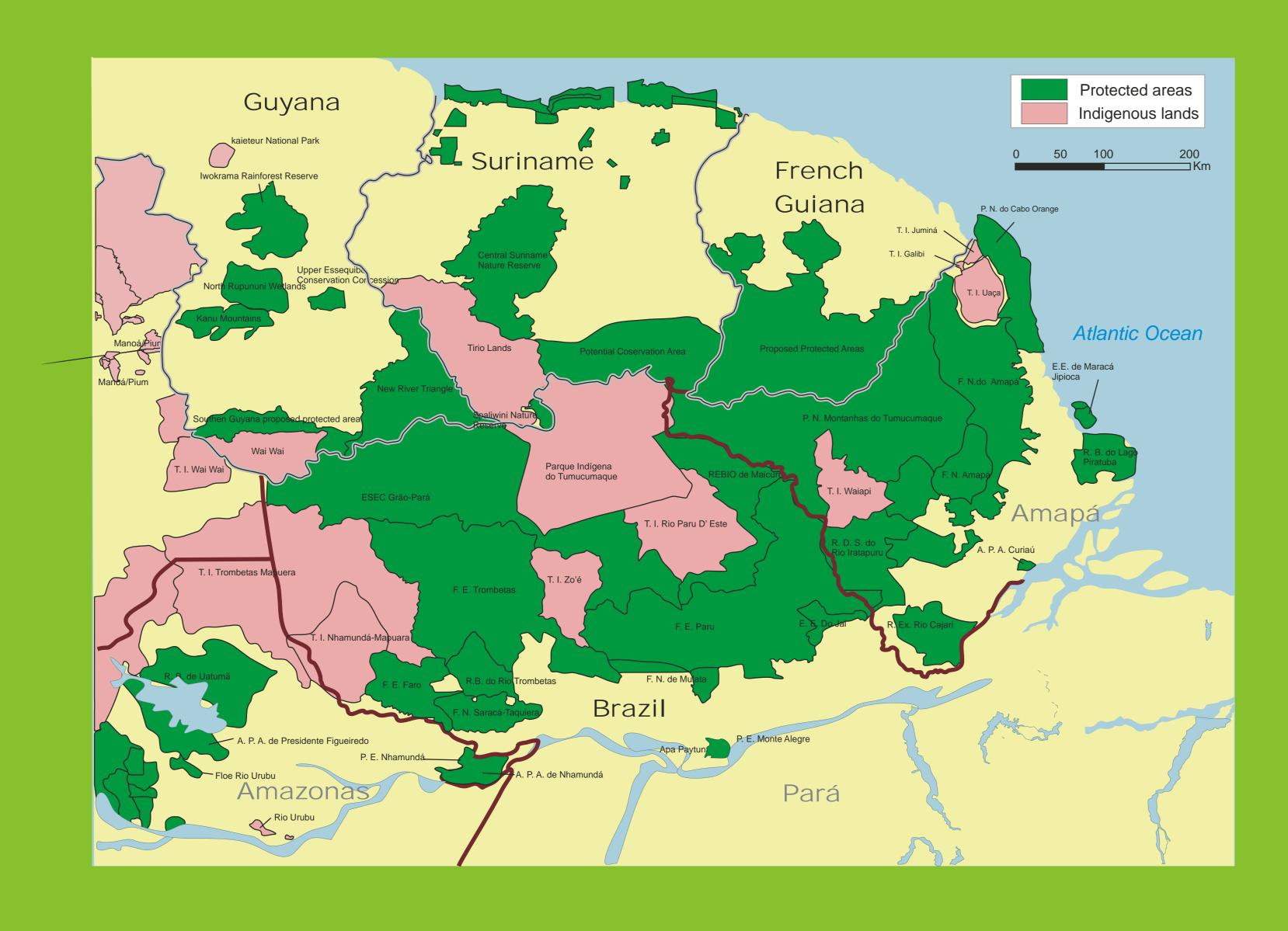
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The State Government of Pará, Imaflora and Imazon performed a public consultation process to create the three State Forests in 2006, which includes approximately 7.4 million hectares in the north of Para, in the Brazilian Amazon. Further to complying with legal requirements, the main objective was to involve the local stakeholders to verify the technical studies, and strength of the relationship between government agencies and local stakeholders, especially with communities that live within and around the area.

The process consisted of three steps. First, we identified stakeholders. Second, we met the stakeholders individually to provide information about the proposal of the three State Forests and gathered new information about the area and suggestions about the proposal. Finally, we promoted public meetings with all the stakeholders to present the synthesis of the previous meeting, and discuss the final proposal to define the limits of three State Forests. The most important contribution to the proposal was identify and exclude the Quilombolas' territories (African descendents' territories).

This process significantly contributed to improve the proposal in technical terms, to guarantee the transparency of the process, and to solve conflicts, which would be harder to face after the creation of the three State Forests.





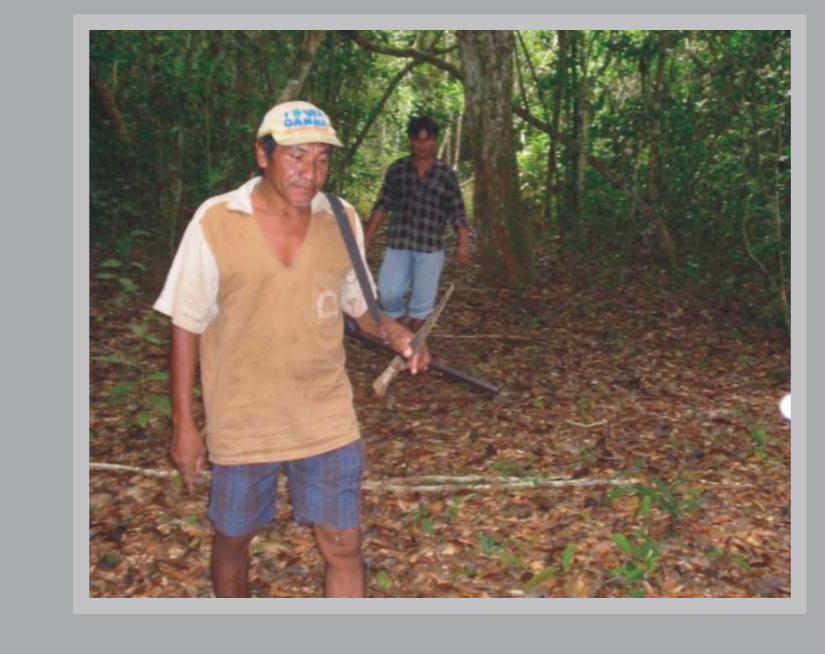






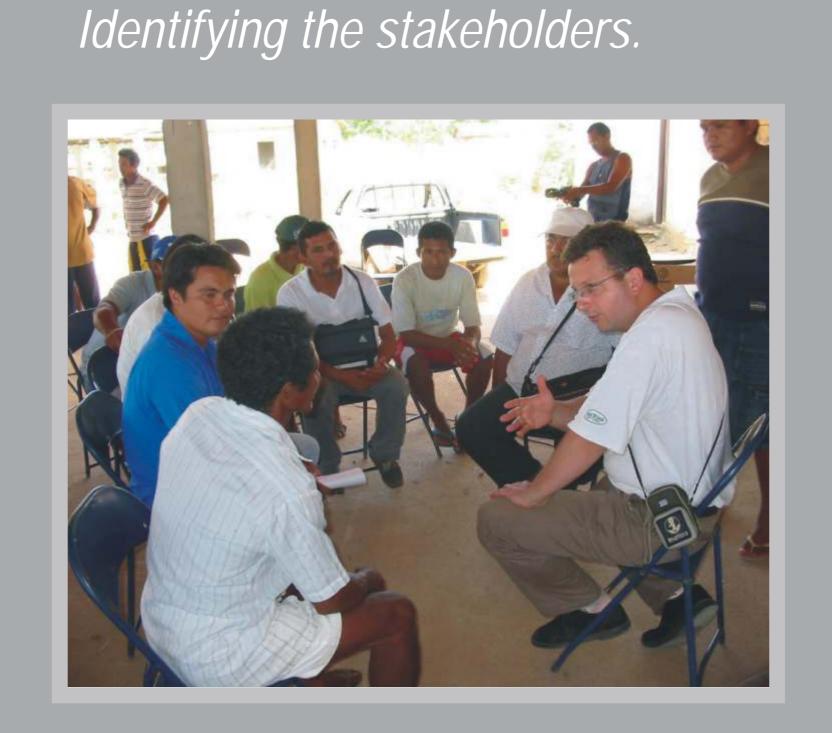
Transparency: spreading information about the State Forest by radio, TV, newspaper and others ways of mass communication.

















Promoting public meetings with all the stakeholders







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