



traditional community mapping in Brazil



#5 app usage report

Jan/2023 ... Jun/2023



Introduction



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We have undergone a long period characterized by acts of resistance, and now we find ourselves at a crucial moment where consolidation is paramount in order to achieve substantial progress. Despite the uncertainties that may arise along the way, our determination remains firm. We envision renewal centered on providing the rightful space and respect to the Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities (IPLCs) and Family-scale Farmers. However, it is vital to recognize that words alone do not yield tangible results. Theory and practice must be intertwined, with the communities themselves taking center stage as the protagonists in these desired advancement processes. Historically, the lack of accurate information about IPLCs and family-scale farmers has contributed to “leaving the communities behind”. Nonetheless, driven by our resolute commitment, we persist in generating knowledge that aligns with these communities. This endeavor enables us to take bold steps towards a future where the absence of information no longer serves as a vehicle to perpetuate actions that undermine the rights of these communities. Continuing our efforts, we are actively promoting the **Tô no Mapa** (“I’m on the Map”) mobile application - a free, accessible, and secure tool that empowers IPLCs to self-map their territories. This initiative is a collaborative effort by the Amazon Environmental Research Institute (IPAM), the Institute for Society, Population and Nature (ISPN), the Cerrado Network, in partnership with the Cerrados Institute (IC). The **Tô no Mapa** app has received the financial support from the Climate and Land Use Alliance (CLUA) and the Good En-





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ergies Foundation. This is the Fifth app usage report of the **Tô no Mapa** application, covering the period from January to June 2023. This report presents a brief overview of the initiative; our priority action in Maranhão state; our partnership with the Traditional Territories Platform (TTP); improvements made to the application; our interactive map; the main results in terms of population numbers in the app; and a new story in the 'Eu Tô no Mapa' section, in which we share the experiences of communities that have mapped their territories using the application. Through the release of semi-annual reports, the **Tô no Mapa** team intends to inform about the current status of the initiative and also, to support, through data, evidence and stories of communities, the struggles of IPLCs and family-scale farmers in Brazil, encouraging a more sustainable, fair, and democratic future.



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B

ackground

Tô no Mapa was launched in October 2020, and since that moment, Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities (IPLCs) and Family-scale Farmers have been registered in the application. [On the website, there is ample material](#) such as videos and tutorials that can be consulted, as well as a [FAQ section](#) with detailed explanation about the application and self-mapping. Along with producing knowledge and disseminating information about traditional populations and their territories through **Tô no Mapa**, we also promote communication actions, with [articles](#) and [booklets](#), as well as social media content. It is also possible to access, for example, the [Guide to the Formalization of Traditional Territories](#) and the [four previous editions of the Tô no Mapa reports, which are available in English.](#)

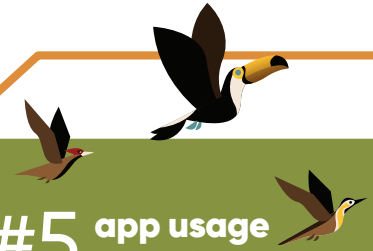
In this **Fifth report**, we now take a look at the **main results of Tô no Mapa** for the period January to June 2023.



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Tô no Mapa in Maranhão state

During the first half of 2023, a series of activities were carried out in Maranhão state, including meetings and community visits, aimed at addressing inquiries regarding the completion and submission of registrations in the **Tô no Mapa** application, as it was observed that there was a disparity between the number of communities engaged in previous workshops and the actual number of registrations submitted.

Activities also included virtual support meetings, visits to the unions and to communities in the municipalities of Santa Rita, Pindaré Mirim, and Monção. The following statistics outline the numbers of participating communities and validated registrations in the **Tô no Mapa** application per municipality in Maranhão:

Municipality	Community workshop	Validated registration
Igarapé do Meio (Pindaré)	5	1
Santa Rita	7	9
Alto Alegre do Pindaré	8	4
Monção (Pindaré region)	9	4
Santa Luzia do Paruá	11	9
Anajatuba	14	13
Itapecuru Mirim	14	14
Total of validated registrations		54

Source: **Tô no Mapa** Database



The Cerrados Institute (CI), in partnership with the **Tô no Mapa** team, supported the registration of 32 traditional territories located in the municipalities of Icatu, Anajuba, São Benedito do Rio Preto, Balsas, Brejo, and Lima Campos. The traditional segments that are being self-mapped include Quilombolas and Babaçu Coconut Breakers, in addition to Family-scale Farmers.

The **Tô no Mapa** team embarked on a visit to the territories situated in the municipalities of Loreto and Balsas with the purpose of introducing the initiative and conducting workshops on self-mapping with the local communities. A total of 31 participants from the Bom Acerto community and 20 participants from the Pretinho community actively took part in these workshops.





P

latform of Traditional Territories

Tô no Mapa played a major role in workshops and seminars organized as part of the Territórios Vivos project, which aimed to strengthen and dissemination of the Traditional Territories Platform (TTP). The TTP is a joint initiative of the National Council of Traditional Peoples and Communities, conducted by GIZ (German company for international cooperation) in partnership with the Federal

Prosecutor's Office. During these events, we introduced the **Tô no Mapa** initiative and conducted specialized training sessions with a focus on utilizing **Tô no Mapa** as a collaborative application to facilitate the transfer of self-mapped data to TTP, provided that the communities expressed interest and consent.

On January 24 and 25, 2023, in Campo Grande, we participated in the workshop "*Teko Arandu - FAIND/UFGD - Territorialidade, Tradição e Tecnologia*". The event was held at the Federal University of Grande Dourados, at the Intercultural Indigenous Degree course "*Teko Arandu*" and was attended by over 100 students from the Guarani and Kaiowá ethnic groups. During this occasion, we delivered a comprehensive presentation about the **Tô no Mapa** initiative, showcasing the functionalities of the **Tô no Mapa** application. We conducted interactive exercises in the classroom, focusing on automation, and also highlighted the potential of integrating the app with the TTP.

In April, the workshop titled "*Marés de Diálogos: inserção e visibilidade das Mulheres e seus Territórios na Plataforma de Territórios Tradicionais*" took place. This gathering saw the active participation of over 60 women who were leaders representing various IPLCs, including fisherwomen and shellfish gatherers, quilombolas, indigenous



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peoples, mangabeiras, terreiro peoples, caiçaras, retireiras of Araguaia, Andirobeiras, and gypsies. These women hailed from 10 different Brazilian states, namely SE, AL, PE, CE, PB, MA, SP, MT, SC, and AM, and diverse biomes.

The event was organized by the Brazilian Traditional Peoples and Communities Network (*Rede Povos e Comunidades Tradicionais do Brasil – Rede PCTs*) and the Coral Coast Fishing Women Network (*Rede de Mulheres Pescadoras da Costa dos Corais*). It received support from ICMBio (Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation) and involved active participation from the **Tô no Mapa** team.

As part of the collaboration with the Territórios Vivos project, **Tô no Mapa** participated in



the Regional Workshop with the Quilombola Segment of the state of Mato Grosso titled "*Territorialidade, Tradição e Tecnologia*" held from April 14 to 16, 2023, in Cuiabá. The event brought together representatives of 25 Quilombos across 11 municipalities of Mato Grosso state. Additionally, participated in the workshop two members from the Kalunga Quilombo of Goiás state, the State Secretary of Culture, Sports, and Leisure, the State Secretary of Social Assistance and Citizenship, the State Committee of Traditional Peoples and Communities, the State Secretary of the Environment, the State University of Mato Grosso, the Federal Public Ministry, and INCRA (Brazilian National Institute of Colonization and Agrarian Reform).

It is worth highlighting that **Tô no Mapa** is integrated with the Traditional Territories Platform (TTP). Consequently, communities have the option to register on the TTP directly through the **Tô no Mapa** application! The process is fast and simple, as everything can be accomplished on a smartphone. Once the registration on **Tô no Mapa** is validated, the application will provide access to a TTP form. Just complete and submit the form to the TTP!



Technological improvements of the app

We are thrilled to announce the release of **Tô no Mapa** application version 3.0. This significant milestone represents a major advancement in our journey, introducing new features that streamline the community registration process and enhance mapping accuracy. The updated version of **Tô no Mapa** offers improved efficiency and user-friendliness! We are pleased to highlight the key enhancements that have been implemented:



- 1. Automatic synchronization with the cloud:** **Tô no Mapa** version 3.0: provides automatic data synchronization with the cloud whenever an internet connection is available. This effortless synchronization ensures that users can update information, leading to more accurate and up-to-date decision-making.
- 2. Simplified data update and communication with the team:** **Tô no Mapa** version 3.0 is focused on simplifying the information updating

process and enhancing communication channels with the **Tô no Mapa** team. Users can now conveniently communicate directly with the team through the application, enabling them to report data status, seek clarification, and expedite the mapping process.

- 3. More accurate mapping:** this new version has brought significant improvements to the mapping process, granting users greater control. With the enhanced functionality, users can now precisely position polygon vertices and mark locations of use or conflict by interactively manipulating the map. This intuitive approach offers real-time view that simplifies the precise addition of areas on the map.

Note that **Tô no Mapa** is developed in free software. For individuals interested in technology sharing, [the code developed in Tô no Mapa is available at: https://gitlab.com/eita/tonomapa](https://gitlab.com/eita/tonomapa).





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Our **Interactive Map** shows the communities with complete and validated registrations to date.

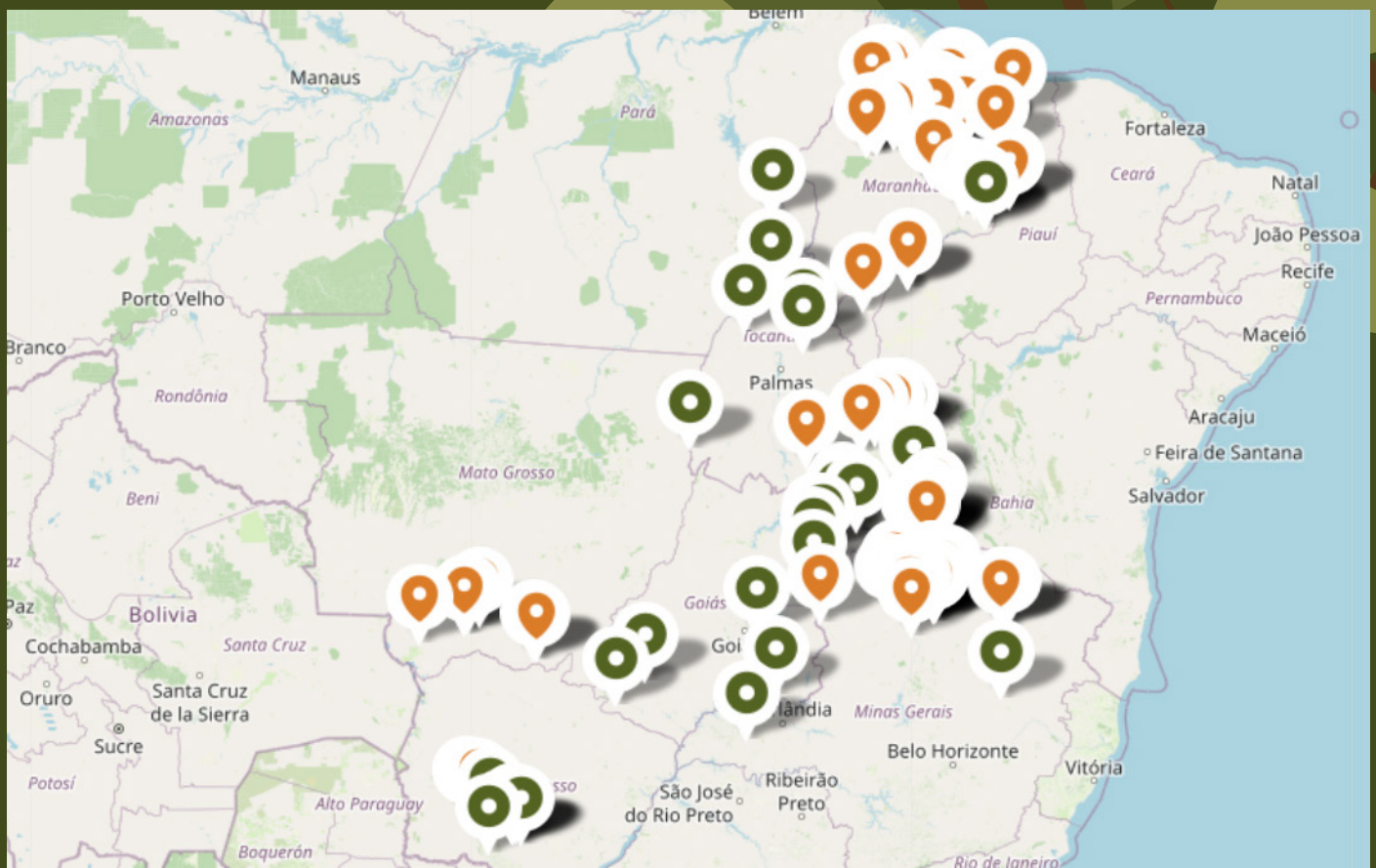


Fig 1. Interactive map of the communities, registered and validated, available on the **Tô no Mapa** website.



Outcomes

The numbers referring to the 241 registered communities are presented here!

The graph below (figure 2) shows the number of communities registered on **Tô no Mapa** per state. The state with the most communities mapped is Maranhão with 112 (46%), followed by Minas Gerais with 47 (20%), Bahia and Mato Grosso do Sul with 22 communities (9%), Goiás with 15 (6%), Tocantins with 12 (5%), Mato Grosso with 7 (3%), and Piauí with 4 communities (2%).

Tô no Mapa has successfully mapped the territories of various traditional segments of Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities (IPLCs) and Family-scale Farmers. During the mapping process, communities have the autonomy to self-identify with multiple traditional segments as they deem necessary. In Figure 3 below, there is an overview of the number of segments chosen by the 241 communities (it is important to note that each community has the option to identify with more than one segment).

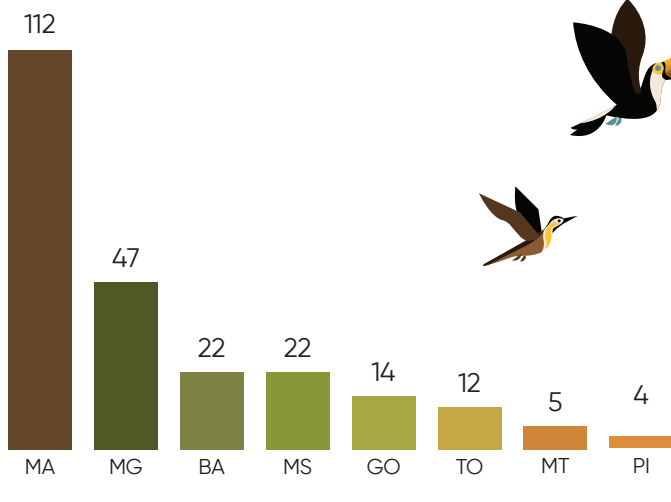


Fig 2 . Number of communities validated per state





Among the segments that were most chosen by the communities are 127 quilombolas, accounting for 53% of the total, followed by 79 communities that identified themselves as family-scale farmers, 30 extractivists, 27 indigenous peoples, 18 as artisanal fishermen, 15 as geraizeiros, 14 fundo e fecho de pasto, 13 as coconut breakers, 13 as riparians, and 11 as veredeiros.

it can be estimated that nearly 100,000 people rely on the State to safeguard their rights and enable them to live harmoniously with the environment, preserving their cultural and ancestral traditions intrinsic to each IPLC and Family-scale Farmer community. Approximately half of the total number of families live in the 112 self-mapped communities within the state of Maranhão.

Comunities

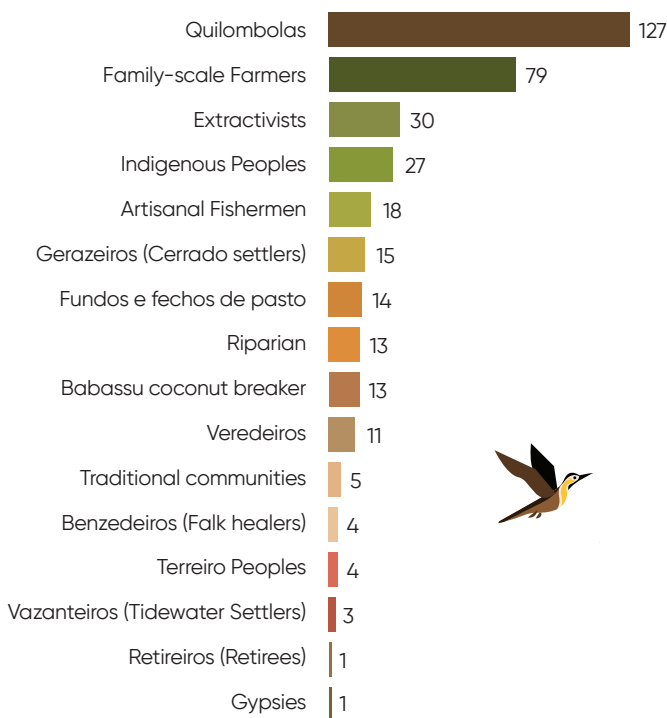


Fig 3 . Number of communities validated per segment

Another significant outcome is the number of families residing in the 241 self-mapped territories, which amounts to 24,706 families. Considering an average of four individuals per family,

Famílias cadastradas

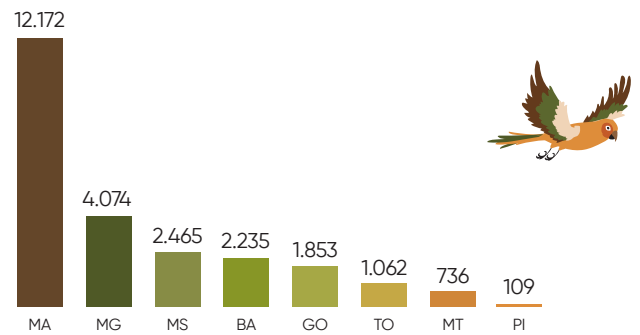


Fig 4 . Number of families in the communities validated per state

Communities exhibit diverse patterns of land use based on their traditions and specificities. Their relationship with nature is harmonious and respectful, enabling them to sustainably produce and thrive in their territories across generations. Within **Tô no Mapa**, communities have the option to choose from a pre-defined list of places of use, which are presented in the form of a list. However, they also have the flexibility to select the "Other use" option and provide additional details. Each community can add as many locations of use as they wish.

Figure 5 provides a sample of the registrations within **Tô no Mapa**, specifically focusing on the





option "Other use" selected by 30% of the communities. This option allows communities to provide additional details about their activities within their territories. Additionally, farming comprises 21% of the registrations, animal husbandry 14%, and the remaining 35% comprises various other land use categories, including conservation, fishing, extractivism, agro-ecological production, sacred places, tourism, and reforestation.

reveal that 40% of reported conflicts stem from the lack of territorial rights, 28% from land disputes, and 12% from invasions. Moreover, conflicts related to water and uncontrolled burning account for 17% each, with an additional 10% falling under the category of "Other conflicts" where communities can report unlisted issues. Among the unlisted reported case, 9% are due to contamination by agro-toxins, while deforestation represents 4% of the reported cases. Garimpo, mining, and racism each contribute to 1% of the conflicts (Figure 6).

Types of soil-use in communities

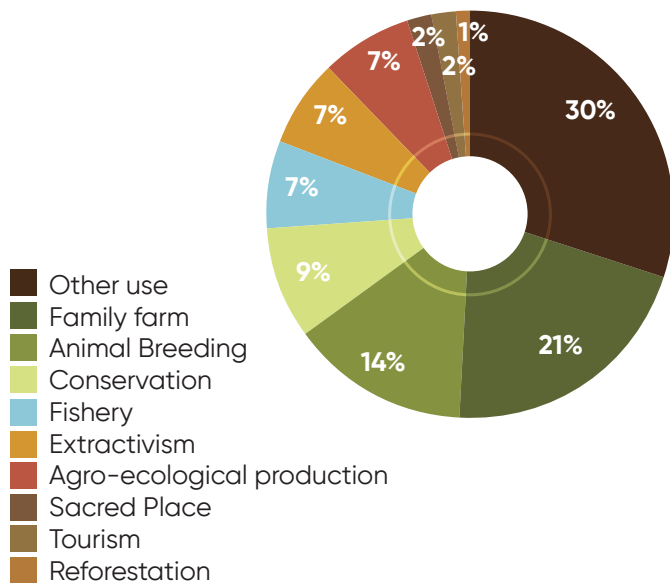


Fig 5 . Percentage of land use types registered by the validated communities

IPLCs and Family-scale Farmers face imminent threats that endanger their lives. Amidst the cultural, environmental, and social diversity, conflicts emerge, impacting not only on these populations but also on Brazil as a whole. Alarming statistics

Types of conflict

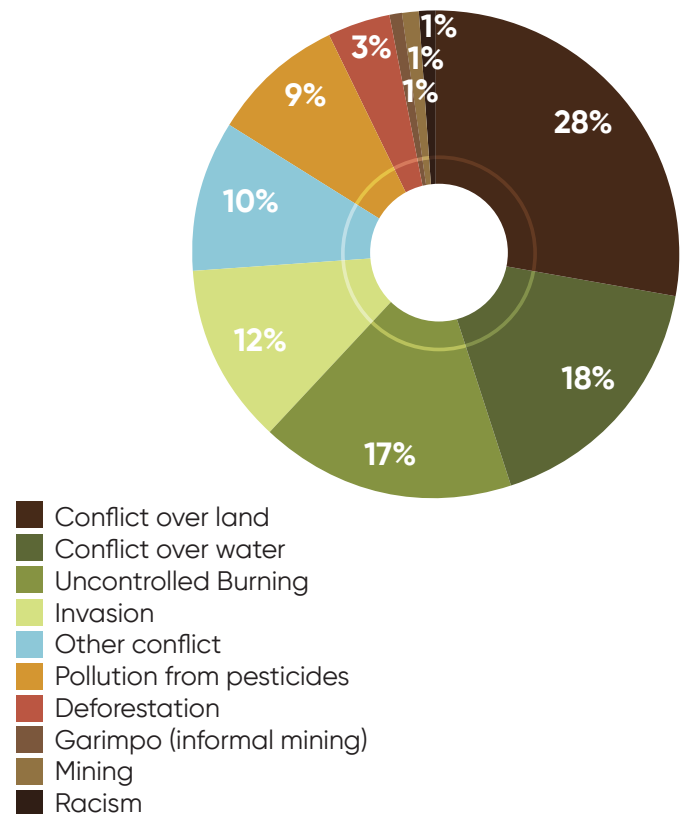


Fig 6 . Percentage of types of conflicts in the territory (inside and outside) registered by the validated communities



The figure below (fig 7) shows the number of communities and the total number of conflicts reported. Some communities reported more than one conflict in their territories.

Conflicts

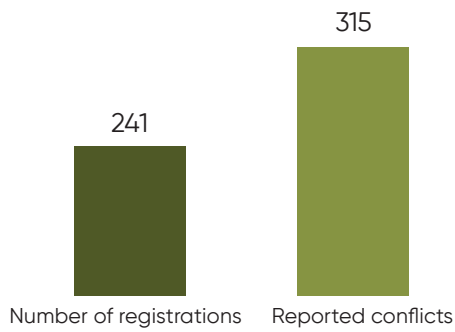


Fig 7 . Number of communities validated in **Tô no Mapa** and number of conflicts registered by these communities



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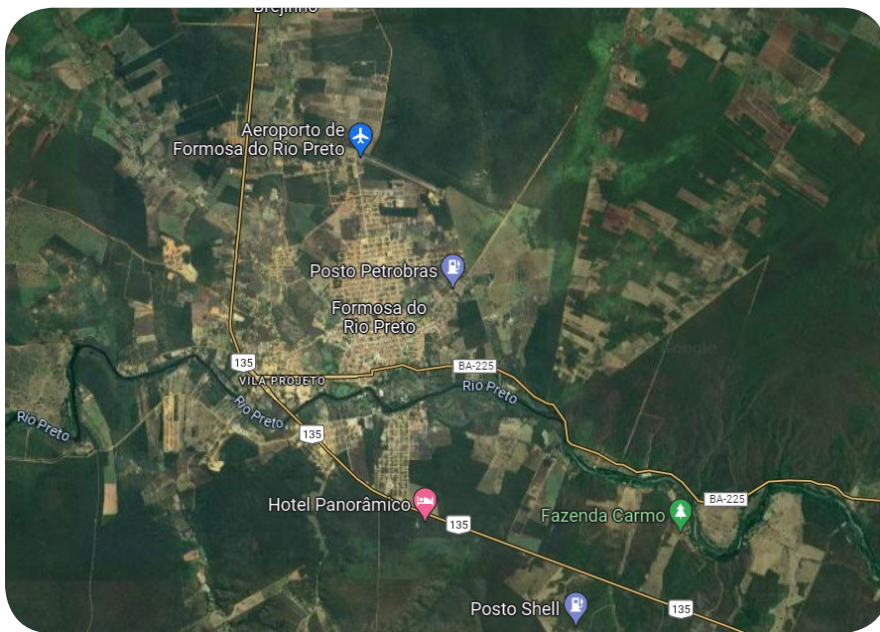
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am on the Map

Stories about Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities and Family-scale farmers are featured on **Tô no Mapa's** blog!



Municipality:

Formosa do Rio Preto (BA)



Community:

Arroz de Cima

Segment:

Geraizeiros (traditional peoples of the Cerrado biome)



May they see the communities with better eyes

Rosivaldo Cunha invites city residents and representatives of public power to interact with traditional populations to understand them with a sense of humanity

He is a geraizeiro from the Arroz de Cima community, in the region of Formosa do Rio Preto, Bahia. They have established themselves in the territory and today there are more than 200 residents of the same family.

“The message we convey to the communities affected by agribusiness and its significant presence is that their struggle extends beyond just one community—it is a collective struggle that encompasses all communities affected by these





circumstances. We advocate for society to view these communities through a lens of empathy and understanding. This perspective should not be limited to our own community but should encompass all communities”.

We believe that the judicial system, along with other institutions, should take an active role in addressing these issues, recognizing these individuals as fellow human beings. And, if they were born and raised in those areas, their desire to remain rooted in their communities should be respected. It is common to see externals proposing projects that

“

Tô no Mapa has emerged as a testament to our profound understanding of our own community, a reality that often goes unnoticed by those outside. Its purpose is to assist us in showcasing our presence and significance within our community

”



Rosivaldo Cunha

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involve relocating communities from their lands. However, if the communities choose to stay, if they do not wish to move to urban areas, it is crucial that their wishes and decisions be honored respected”.

The Arroz de Cima community self-mapped their territory using **Tô no Mapa**. According to the community members who



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have faced recurrent challenges of land invasions by local landowners, by utilizing the platform, they aim to enhance their ability to protect their territory from such encroachments.

Within the Cerrado region, numerous traditional peoples and communities thrive, each with their distinct cultural, religious, lifestyle, and work practices. However, what unites them all is their deep-rooted connection with the Cerrado biome. The reverence and respect traditional populations hold for nature have played a vital role in preserving the Cerrado, ensuring that Brazil still has the Cerrado biome alive to call its own.

"To preserve the Cerrado is essential for the well-being of all. Beneath its surface lies a network of water basins, and deforestation causes the silting up these basins. However, when the natural springs continue to flow, it benefits not only the surrounding communities but all people. Alive and standing, the Cerrado biome holds greater promise for the future compared to a deforested landscape".



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Continue reading this story and watch the video on **Tô no Mapa's** blog.

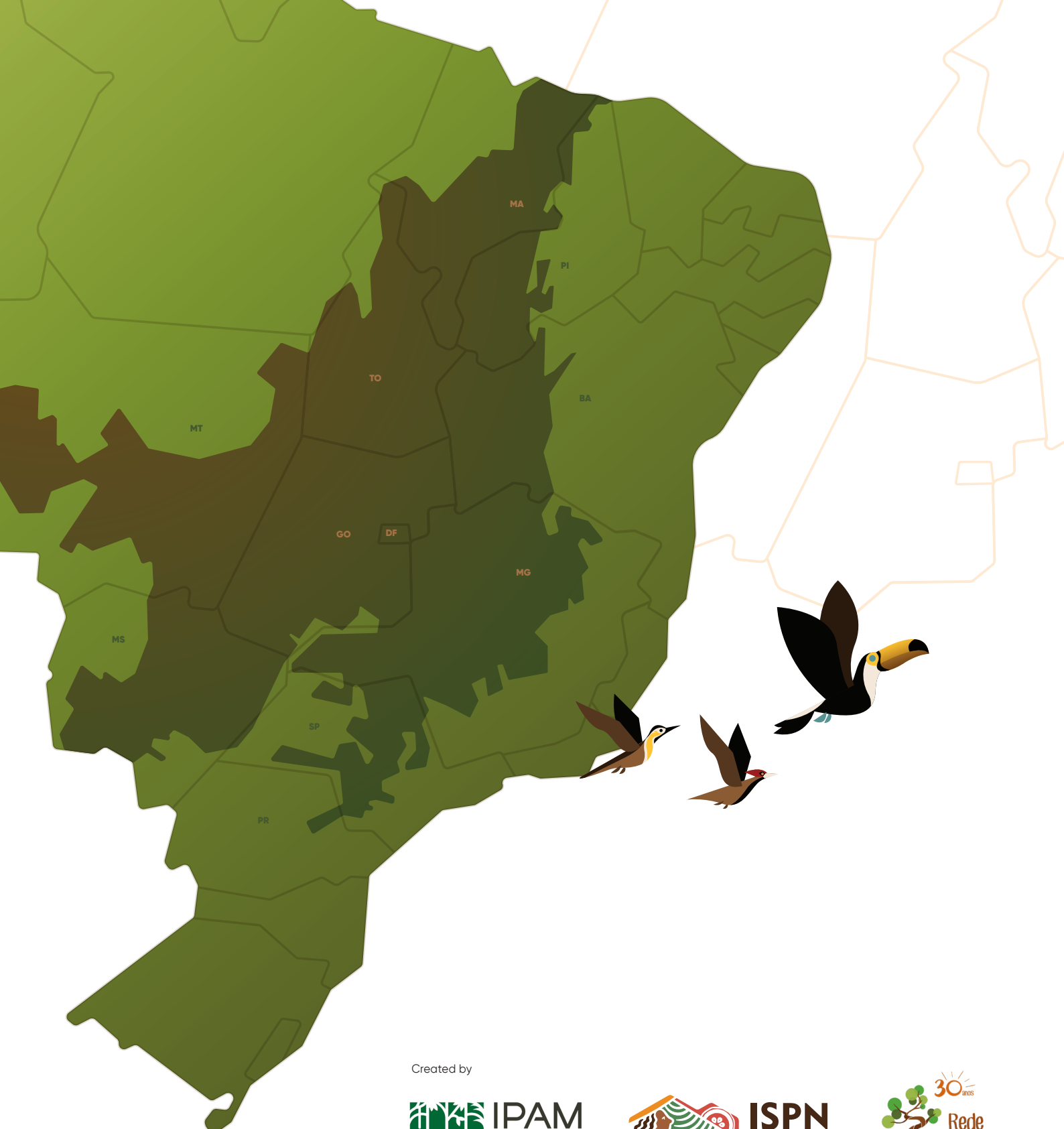
241 completed and validated registrations on **Tô no Mapa**

759 thousand hectares of traditional territories mapped

40% of conflicts mapped relate to **land conflicts** or **territory invasions**

+ de 24 thousand FAMILIES registered in the application





Created by



Supporting partners



Funding

