

Amazonas State Has US\$ 17 Million at 1.5% for Brazilian Green Entrepreneurs

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Amazonas state governor has announced that his administration will supply, beginning next year, 30 million Brazilian reais (US\$ 17.1 million) to finance producers in the state that work with fruit, fish, cassava paste, ethanol and biodiesel, and fuel for autos and trucks made of vegetable oils or animal fat.

The action is part of the Amazonas State Program for Attracting Agroindustries (ProAgro), which proposes a sort of society to the participating cooperatives, associations, and companies.

The partnership provides for the state government to finance up to 49% of expenses, with the remaining 51% to be invested by the benefited parties.

Financings can be paid in up to ten years, at an annual interest rate of 1.5%, starting 12 months after the partnership has been established.

The president at the Amazonas Development Company (Ciama), Aluísio Barbosa, informs that in order to be eligible, interested parties must be linked to companies, cooperatives, or associations, as the funding cannot be directly supplied to natural persons. He explains what those interested should do.

"Interested parties should fill the form available at the Websites of the Secretariat of Rural Production (Sepror) and of Ciama and, depending on the type of deal that they are willing to close, they will be requested to provide further detail, to specify what market they wish to cater to, what raw material they are going to need, how much funding they are going to need, and after filling up this consultation letter, they should outline a simple business plan, one that specifies their intentions, financial objectives, and any guarantees that they might have," said Barbosa.

All of the projects proposed will be analyzed by a mixed commission including representatives of government organizations, members of the Federal University of Amazonas, and of the National Institute for Research on the Amazon (Inpa).

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