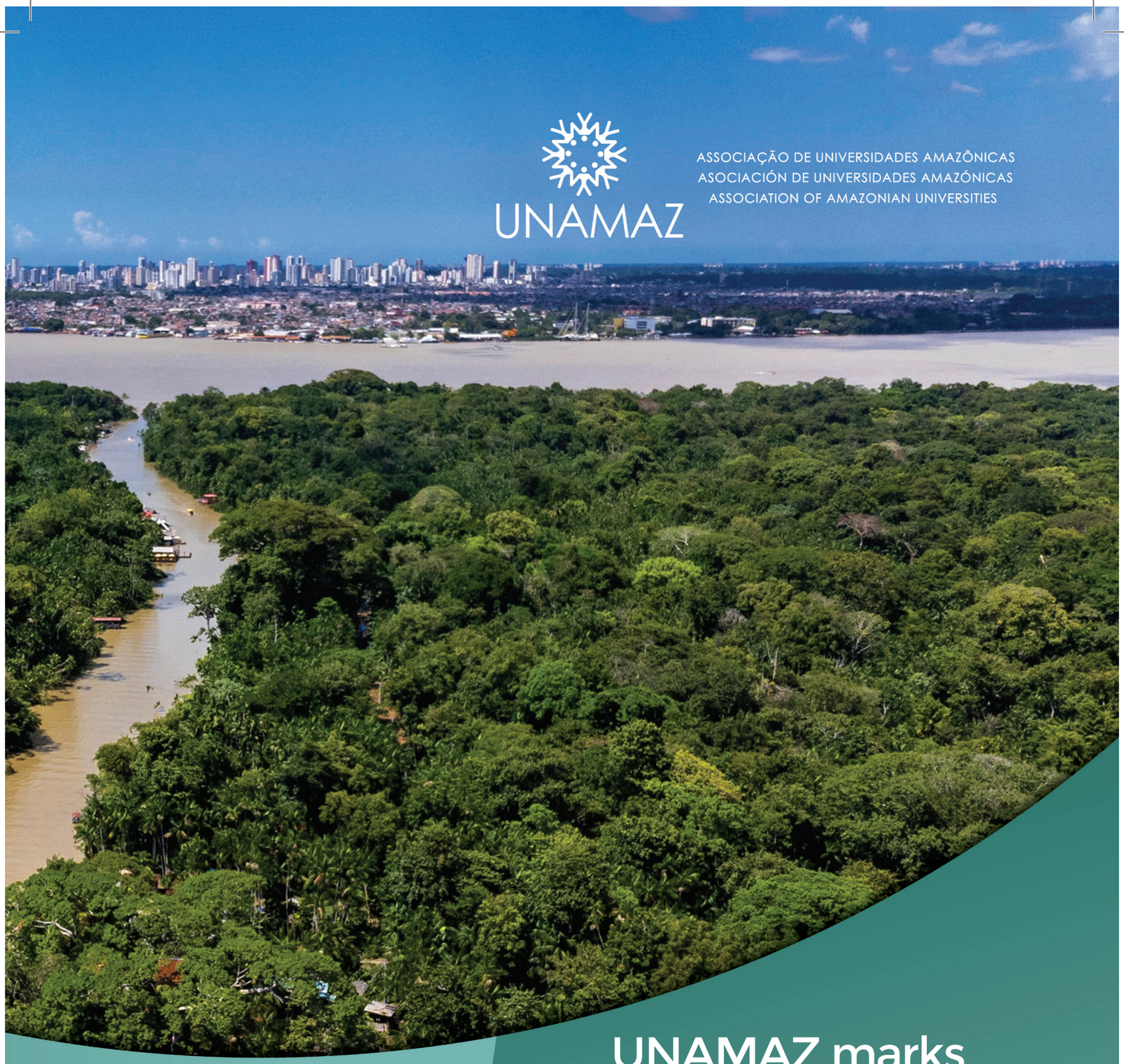

UNAMAZ

ASSOCIAÇÃO DE UNIVERSIDADES AMAZÔNICAS
ASOCIACIÓN DE UNIVERSIDADES AMAZÓNICAS
ASSOCIATION OF AMAZONIAN UNIVERSITIES

# UNAMAZ marks strong presence at COP30 BRASIL AMAZÔNIA

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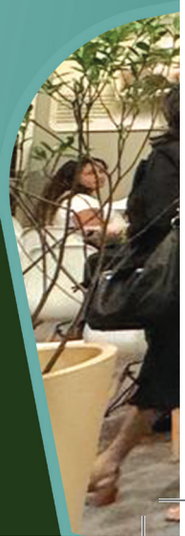


# EDITORIAL

The presence of the Amazon Universities Association (UNAMAZ), together with the BioTec-Amazônia Association, at the 30th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30), held from November 10 to 21, 2025, in the Green Zone of Belém (PA), marked a historic moment for the dissemination of scientific knowledge produced in the Amazon. The institutional stand became a strategic space to showcase innovative productive processes, developed from research committed to sustainability and the future of the Pan-Amazon region.

More than just an exhibition point, the UNAMAZ space consolidated itself as a hub for dialogue and collaboration between education, science, and traditional knowledge, showcasing to the world the intellectual and scientific strength of the Amazon. This action reaffirms the role of universities and research institutions as key actors in building global solutions based on local realities.

This special edition of the UNAMAZ Magazine – COP30 gathers the main moments of this institutional participation. At the beginning of the program, UNAMAZ presented its Strategic Plan 2025–2030, reaffirming commitments and guidelines for the coming years. Subsequently, the institution gained national recognition through an interview on Jornal Nacional, Rede Globo, highlighting the cattle traceability work developed by BioTec-Amazônia researchers, supported by UNAMAZ.

Under the leadership of UNAMAZ Pro Tempore President, Professor José Seixas Lourenço, the stand became a inclusive space for dialogue and cooperation, bringing together educators, researchers, public managers, international organizations, and civil society representatives. During the event, important partnerships were formalized, strengthening academic, scientific, and institutional cooperation networks nationally and internationally.

The program also featured prominent authorities and leaders, as well as relevant debates on climate change and public policies, with participation from international institutions such as India's Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), and strategic meetings, including a hybrid UNESCO meeting. Innovative projects in bioeconomy, social technology, sustainable food, and education were also presented, highlighting the diversity and applicability of knowledge produced in the region.

More than a debate space, the UNAMAZ stand at COP30 symbolized the union of educational institutions in defense of a new mindset: one that recognizes, values, and gives visibility to the scientific, social, and cultural intelligence of the Amazon.
We invite you to explore the following pages to discover, in detail, the dialogues, partnerships, and initiatives that marked these intense days of collective construction and affirmation of Pan-Amazonian research on the global stage.

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The participation of the Amazon Universities Association (UNAMAZ), in partnership with BioTec-Amazônia, at the 30th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30), held in Belém (PA) from November 10 to 21, 2025, represented one of the most significant moments in the recent trajectory of our institutions.

From the official opening of COP30 on November 10, 2025, our stand, located in the Green Zone of Belém City Park, was conceived as a permanent exchange space between educators, researchers, public and private institutions, international organizations, and the general public. When inaugurating our activities, I reaffirmed the strategic role of the Amazon in global climate balance and the need for continuous investments in science, education, and research as pathways to maintain the forest standing and transform its natural resources into sustainable development for the region.

Our program began with the presentation of UNAMAZ's Strategic Plan 2025–2030, representing the actions of institutions from eight Amazonian countries, highlighting our trajectory, goals, and partnerships. Over the following days, the stand hosted presentations on Amazonian bioeconomy research, technological innovation, and sustainability, as well as projects developed by universities, research institutes, and companies committed to solutions for socio-environmental challenges in the Pan-Amazon region.

We experienced important moments of institutional strengthening, such as the signing of protocols and memoranda of understanding with strategic partners, including the Brazilian Institute of Information in Science and Technology (IBICT), the GCF Task Force, the Cipó Platform, among others, and, emblematically, the Letter of Intent signed with the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (OTCA), which reinforces regional integration and scientific cooperation among Amazonian countries.

The UNAMAZ stand also consolidated itself as a high-level debate space on climate change, public policy, bioeconomy, and education, with the participation of international institutions, such as India's Council on Energy, Environment, and Water (CEEW), as well as multilateral organizations and academic networks. Innovative projects in traceability, certification, ecological economy, carbon market, bioeconomy, and valorization of environmental assets demonstrated concretely the transformative potential of science produced in the Amazon.

We were honored to receive visits from national and international authorities, Federal Government representatives, ministers, ambassadors, university leaders, and academic authorities, reaffirming UNAMAZ as a strategic intelligence network in the Amazon, currently comprising educational and research institutions from eight Amazonian countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela.

Throughout COP30, we reaffirmed that UNAMAZ goes beyond academic production: we act as articulators of knowledge, builders of institutional bridges, and defenders of an Amazon designed from its own reality, with scientific, social, and cultural solutions built by those who live and research the region.

We conclude our participation with an internal evaluation meeting, confident that the dialogues established, partnerships formed, and projects presented during COP30 strengthen our commitment to a sustainable, inclusive, and knowledge-driven Pan-Amazonia.

We invite you to explore the main moments of this intense collective journey in the pages of this publication, which reaffirms the conviction that the Amazon is not only part of the global climate problem but, above all, an essential part of the solution.


José Seixas Lourenço
Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ

INSTITUTIONAL

# INTRODUCTION TO UNAMAZ

## WHO WE ARE

A Pan-Amazonian network, unique in its kind, UNAMAZ establishes a permanent dialogue between Universities, Higher Education Institutions of Science, Technology, Education, and Innovation, and Research institutions, which form the National Chapters of the Association in each of the Amazonian countries, members of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT).

## OUR MISSION

To promote academic integration and cooperation to strengthen, as a public good, higher education, scientific research, and social integration for the sustainable human development of the Pan-Amazon, with social and environmental relevance.

## OUR VISION

To be a network of academic and scientific cooperation, a global, regional, and local leader in the integration and articulation for the training of human resources and research in the Amazon, with social and environmental relevance.

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Revitalize UNAMAZ through the establishment of its Governance in each Amazonian country. Develop integrated projects within each of the UNAMAZ National Chapters in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela.
- Reestablish Permanent Relations as Amazonian stakeholders and funding and development agencies for Amazonian Science.
- Integrate with other existing Regional Amazon Cooperation Networks.

# STRATEGIC PLAN

UNAMAZ was created with the mission of serving as a catalyst for cooperation among universities and scientific institutions in the Amazon, promoting regional, international, and interdisciplinary integration. Its purpose is to critically analyze the Amazonian reality and propose solutions to the challenges that hinder sustainable development in the region. Over its 38-year history, the Association has brought together governments, universities, and organized society around this common agenda.

Founded in 1987 and initially presided over by Professor José Seixas Lourenço, UNAMAZ has built a significant cooperation history, including the creation of national chapters in each Amazonian country that is a member. In 2010, it sought to strengthen its activities by reforming its Statute and Regulations and creating a Permanent Executive Secretariat, but its activities were interrupted for more than a decade before its recent revival.

The formal reactivation of UNAMAZ began in 2023, driven by events and debates that highlighted the importance of regional cooperation in science, technology, and education. Milestones include the 45th anniversary celebrations of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and the joint panel held during the Amazon Dialogues, which resulted in recommendations submitted to the IV Summit of Presidents of Amazonian Countries. The Belém Declaration reaffirmed the relevance of UNAMAZ, guiding the resumption of cooperation between the Association and the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (OTCA).

This direction was reinforced by Resolution 26 of the XIV Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and High Representatives of the State Parties to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT), which mandated the reactivation of the cooperation mechanism with UNAMAZ and the monitoring of its implementation. In 2024, new arrangements gathered 77 academic and diplomatic representatives from the Amazonian countries, consolidating the revitalization process. With decisive support from the Brazilian Ministry of Education, UNAMAZ is now moving toward its General Assembly in 2026, also presenting its Strategic Plan 2025-2030, built through extensive regional dialogue and aimed at implementing integrated projects.

Scan and learn about the **UNAMAZ Strategic Plan 2025-2030**

# From the Amazon to the world: UNAMAZ and BioTec-Amazônia presented solutions in science and bioeconomy at COP30

The 30th United Nations Climate Change Conference — COP30 — began on November 10, 2025, in Belém (PA), and featured a joint stand by the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) and BioTec-Amazônia, located in the event's Green Zone at Parque da Cidade.

Conceived as a space for dialogue, exchange, and the dissemination of knowledge, the stand hosted events and presentations focused on integrating educators, researchers, public managers, and institutions. The activities reinforced the understanding that education, science, and innovation are strategic pillars for the preservation of the Amazon and other biomes, as well as essential to promoting sustainable development.

During the program, the public had the opportunity to learn firsthand about the work carried out by the network of Amazonian universities and the initiatives in scientific research, innovation, and bioeconomy conducted by UNAMAZ and BioTec-Amazônia.

The Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ, Professor Dr. Seixas Lourenço, highlighted the symbolic and strategic relevance of Belém hosting COP30 in the heart of the Amazon, as well as the central role of the region in global climate balance.

"It is the standing forest that retains, absorbs, and transforms carbon into oxygen. That is why it is called the 'lungs of the world.' COP30 brings the climate debate at a moment when it has become evident that we are at the limit of gas emissions and that developed countries need to rethink their energy matrices. In this context, the Amazon takes on even greater importance," the professor emphasized.

## Amazonian scientific expertise in the spotlight

According to Seixas Lourenço, the joint participation of UNAMAZ and BioTec-Amazônia at COP30 aimed primarily to present to event participants what the so-called "Amazonian scientific expertise" has been producing in terms of scientific knowledge, innovation, and sustainable solutions.

Currently undergoing an institutional revitalization process with the support of the Ministry of Education, UNAMAZ reaffirms its mission to integrate leaders of universities and research institutes from the eight countries that make up the Amazon: Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela, strengthening academic and scientific cooperation at regional and international levels.

BioTec-Amazônia, in turn, has been working since 2016 in the management and support of public policies for research and development of Amazonian biodiversity value chains, promoting the transfer of scientific knowledge to the productive sector and to society.

"They are two arms of the same action. Here at COP we show how this integration between UNAMAZ and BioTec-Amazônia takes place," explained Seixas Lourenço. The opening of the stand was attended by the Pro Tempore Executive Secretary of UNAMAZ, Nazaré Imbiriba; members of the Advisory Council Carlos Lazary and Mariano Castro; as well as lawyer Lucas Lima Ribeiro (OAB-DF), businessman Joacir Alves, and other institutional guests.


The UNAMAZ Advisory Council member, Ambassador Carlos Lazary, highlights the role of scientific research in the development of the Amazon.

# UNAMAZ opened its COP30 program focusing on Amazonian integration and the bioeconomy

UNAMAZ launched its program at COP30 highlighting its commitment to Amazonian integration, scientific production, and the strengthening of the bioeconomy. On the first day of activities, the Association's stand hosted the presentation of the 2025–2030 Strategic Plan. The new Strategic Plan marks the beginning of a cycle of institutional restructuring, focused on strengthening cooperation among institutions from the eight countries that make up the Amazon. The proposal prioritizes joint actions in the areas of scientific research, technological innovation, and academic mobility, expanding UNAMAZ's role as a regional articulator within the Pan-Amazon context.

Among the highlights of the program was the presentation of the work developed by BioTec-Amazônia, which, in partnership with the National Center for Research in Energy and Materials (CNPEM), leads the project "Iwasa'i: Advanced Center for Research and Biotechnological Innovation of the Eastern Amazon." The initiative conducts genetic analyses of açaí with the aim of deepening knowledge about the species and identifying microorganisms with pharmaceutical potential, contributing to the development of an intelligent and sustainable bioeconomy in the region. For researcher Diego Assis, a collaborator with BioTec-Amazônia, innovation is a central element of the project. "It is necessary to understand biodiversity as a strategic asset and to promote innovation based on this natural heritage," he emphasized.

Another project presented was that of the National Institute of Science and Technology – PROBIAM (INCT-PROBIAM), linked to the Federal University of Pará (UFPA). The research uses residues from Amazonian fruits such as açaí, pupunha, and buriti to produce bio-oils with potential applications in biofuels and in the development of pharmaceuticals for the treatment of bacterial infections. According to coordinator Marta Chagas Monteiro, the project seeks to strengthen the regional bioeconomy and encourage the creation of startups and new scientific collaborations.

In recognition of the scientific and institutional relevance of the research presented, UNAMAZ awarded a Certificate of Merit to Professor Maria Paula Schneider, President of the Board of Directors of BioTec-Amazônia and Full Professor at the Federal University of Pará (UFPA). The tribute symbolizes the strengthening of academic partnerships and the impact of research developed in the Amazon.

In addition to the scientific program, the UNAMAZ stand received important institutional visits. The Vice President of the Brazilian Institute of Education in Rights and Fraternities (IEDF), Rafaela Brito, donated the book "Living Amazon: Strategies for Sustainable Development," reinforcing the convergence between education, human rights, and sustainable development.

Representatives of the Mondó Institute were also present at the stand and expressed interest in formalizing their membership in UNAMAZ. The Institute works on social transformation in vulnerable communities of the Marajó archipelago, developing studies and actions focused on local specificities and challenges.

Closing the first day of activities, UNAMAZ Pro Tempore Executive Secretary Nazaré Imbiriba positively evaluated the opening of the program, emphasizing the importance of the Association's presence at COP30. According to her, the event broadens dialogue among universities, research centers, and third-sector organizations, in addition to strengthening prospects for international cooperation and academic mobility among Amazonian countries.

# Meat traceability system highlighted on Jornal Nacional, by Rede Globo

Another innovative process presented at the UNAMAZ and BioTec-Amazônia stand was the meat traceability system, which gained significant visibility and repercussion after the broadcast of a report on Jornal Nacional, by Rede Globo, on November 10, 2025.

Geneticist Artur Silva, Scientific Director of BioTec-Amazônia, gave an interview to Jornal Nacional and explained that the Association acts as an Knowledge Hub, connecting scientific knowledge with the productive sector.

“Here at COP, BioTec-Amazônia showed what we have in the universities, the projects we develop, and what is being done in the region,” Artur stated. On the occasion, he presented the traceability project based on European Community regulations for the entry of products originating from tropical forests into the European market.

According to the researcher, several indicators point to meat production processes as one of the main drivers of deforestation. “The opening of new agricultural frontiers occurs mainly for the formation of pastures. In this sense, meat has been considered the main villain behind deforested areas,” he explained.

However, Artur emphasized that it is possible to produce meat sustainably through traceability. “By using mechanisms that the government already has, such as the Rural Environmental Registry (CAR), we are able to identify areas where the activity is permitted, avoiding unnecessary deforestation,” he noted.

He also highlighted that the technology developed at the Federal University of Pará (UFPA), in partnership with international institutions, is transferred by BioTec-Amazônia to interested organizations and companies — in Brazil and abroad — acting as a bridge between scientific production and the market.

BioTec-Amazônia works to enable research and develop initiatives together with funding agencies. It currently has a network of 62 researchers and entrepreneurs, in addition to a strategic partnership with UNAMAZ. With the traceability system, it becomes possible to understand production conditions and the origin of animal-based products, contributing to more sustainable and transparent practices.


The Scientific Director of BioTec Amazônia, Arthur Silva, gave an interview to journalist Pedro Bassan from Jornal Nacional (TV Globo).

Scan and **watch the full interview**

# Partnership between UNAMAZ and IBICT strengthens sustainable development in the Amazon

On the second day of the 30th United Nations Climate Change Conference — COP30 — held in Belém (PA) on November 11, 2025, leaders from BioTec-Amazônia, the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ), and the Brazilian Institute of Information in Science and Technology (IBICT) formalized a Protocol of Intentions for Technical and Scientific Cooperation.

The initiative aims to develop studies and actions focused on environmental preservation in the Amazon, based on qualified information about productive processes. These data are collected and systematized by IBICT in coordination with public authorities, the private sector, and especially with universities, research institutes, and third-sector organizations from the eight countries that make up the Pan-Amazon region.

The protocol was signed by the Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ and President of BioTec-Amazônia, José Seixas Lourenço, and by the Director of IBICT, Tiago Braga. The ceremony was attended by leaders of the involved institutions and a delegation of educators and researchers from Singapore, who visited the joint BioTec-Amazônia and UNAMAZ stand, located in the Green Zone of COP30, where the signing took place.

During the event, IBICT Director Tiago Braga, accompanied by Acting Director Cecília Leite, emphasized that the partnership will enable deeper research focused on the production and use of information as a tool for the sustainability of the Amazon biome. “From now on, we will put these cooperations into practice, identifying specific areas of action and advancing in these essential studies,” he stated.

Braga also highlighted that contemporary society is structured around information and that, although access to data has never been so broad, it is increasingly necessary to ensure the quality of the information that supports strategic decisions, the formulation of public policies, and the development of socioeconomic activities. “Qualified information is essential to generate new studies and improve products and services aimed at the population,” he added.

With 72 years of experience, IBICT has consolidated itself as a national reference in information infrastructure in science and technology. For more than two decades, the institution has developed projects focused on information for sustainability, promoting the strategic use of scientific knowledge as a foundation for the country’s sustainable development and, in particular, for the Amazon.

# UNAMAZ and the Governors' Climate and Forests Task Force sign a strategic partnership

Within the framework of the 30th United Nations Conference of the Parties on Climate Change — COP30 — the signing of a partnership memorandum between the Governors' Climate and Forests Task Force (GCF Task Force) and the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) took place on November 12, in Belém (PA).

The ceremony was held at the House of Biodiversity and Climate, located at the Vale Institute of Technology, and marked an important step toward strengthening cooperation between subnational governments and academic institutions. The initiative seeks to expand joint action by universities and research centers in the jurisdictions that are part of the GCF Task Force throughout the Amazon, promoting scientific solutions focused on sustainability and addressing climate change.

The memorandum was signed by the Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ, Professor José Seixas Lourenço; by representatives of subnational governments in the Amazon region — Manuel Gambini Rupay (Ucayali, Peru), Gladson Cameli (Acre, Brazil), Tiyua Uynkar Kaniras (Morona Santiago, Ecuador), and Luiz Francisco Ruiz Aguilar (Caquetá, Colombia) — as well as by representatives of the GCF Global Secretariat: Colleen Lyons and Jason Gray.
As established in the agreement, the signatory institutions will have until February 2026 to establish a working group responsible for drafting a joint action plan. For Colleen Lyons, Senior Director of the GCF, the signing of the memorandum represents a historic milestone.

"This is a historic moment. The purpose of this memorandum is to develop leadership and reflect on how scientific research can contribute to sustainability, addressing climate change, and the responsible management of natural resources. We will promote exchanges, research, and work jointly with secretaries and public officials. Most importantly, this is just the beginning," she stated.

During the ceremony, the Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ, Professor Dr. José Seixas Lourenço, highlighted the Association's role as a broad network of knowledge and science in the Pan-Amazon region. "Today we are about 80 associated universities and institutions. We have a 2025-2030 Strategic Plan structured around integrated projects within the Pan-Amazon network. One example is the climate change axis 'Voices of the Climate,' led by our member institutions," he explained.

Professor Lourenço also emphasized that UNAMAZ has been expanding its international engagement beyond institutions in the Amazon Basin. "We are in the process of signing a partnership with the University of Guyana in Cayenne and developing cooperation with universities in California and Colorado. We are also seeking the participation of countries from the South-South axis and maintaining dialogue with the government of Indonesia," he added.

On the occasion, José Seixas Lourenço introduced the UNAMAZ team present at the event, composed of Ambassador Carlos Lazary, Senior Consultant to the institution, and Marcelo Lima, Deputy Coordinator of UNAMAZ in Brasília.


The Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ, Professor Dr. Seixas Lourenço, celebrated the historic moment of the signing of the partnership memorandum with the GCF Task Force.


# Minister of Education reinforces UNAMAZ's role in sustainable development

On November 12, 2025, the stand of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) hosted a series of roundtable discussions organized by the Ministry of Education (MEC) during COP30, held in Belém (PA).

The activity was led by the Minister of Education, Camilo Santana, and aimed to present the National School Environmental Education Policy (PNEAE), as well as to promote debates on school meals, family farming, and sustainability, with emphasis on the National School Feeding Program (PNAE).

Upon arriving at the UNAMAZ stand, the minister highlighted the relevance of Pan-Amazonian universities in promoting sustainable development and addressing climate change.

"This is a historic moment for Brazil. The country is leading the discussion on climate issues, mainly related to recent extreme events. We have experienced serious situations, such as those in Rio Grande do Sul and, more recently, in Paraná. This is a debate that involves global commitment, and holding it here, in the Amazon, reinforces that the region is not just forest: people and communities live here," Camilo Santana stated.

The minister also emphasized the importance of public policies aimed at ensuring dignity for Amazonian populations. "It is essential to guarantee quality of life, access to education and health. Universities play a central role in this process through research, knowledge production, and the creation of opportunities. The more integrated they are into Amazonian communities, the greater their contribution to sustainability and to addressing climate challenges. UNAMAZ therefore plays a strategic role at COP30 and in discussions on sustainability in Brazil and worldwide, in partnership with the MEC," he added.

At the opening of the program, the host of the event, Professor José Seixas Lourenço, Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ, highlighted the Association's role as a "network of Amazonian intelligence," which currently brings together around 80 higher education and scientific research institutions from eight Pan-Amazonian countries.

"The presence of the Minister of Education at the UNAMAZ stand endorses the mobilization around an education committed to valuing Amazonian populations and, at the same time, to preserving this biome that is essential to the planet. The MEC's House at COP30 is the UNAMAZ Pavilion," he stated.

The Secretary of State for Education of Pará, Ricardo Sefer, also emphasized the importance of the meeting between the MEC, UNAMAZ, and educators from the Amazon region.

"Having a significant number of people reflecting on environmental issues and related topics such as education is a great honor. The presence of Minister Camilo Santana and UNAMAZ's participation at COP30 further strengthen this agenda. Pará is grateful to President Lula and to the minister's work, which has been a great partnership for basic education in the state. Universities are strategic partners of the Department of Education, especially in internship programs and other initiatives, and we are committed to strengthening new cooperation in favor of education in Pará," the secretary concluded.

EDUCATION

# UNAMAZ advocates for the unity of educational institutions in favor of a new environmental mindset

A panel by the Organization of Ibero-American States (OEI) highlights the challenges of higher education for a sustainable future.

While participating in the panel "Higher Education and Climate Knowledge: Challenges and Alliances for a Sustainable Future," promoted by the Organization of Ibero-American States (OEI) on November 12, 2025—the third day of COP30—in Belém (PA), the Pro Tempore President of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ), Professor Dr. José Seixas Lourenço, emphasized the strategic role of universities in building knowledge capable of fostering a new environmental mindset, especially among future professionals in training.

With more than 50 years of experience in the education sector, Seixas Lourenço recalled his career dedicated to sustainability and scientific research in the Amazon. During the panel, he highlighted his experience as rector of the Federal University of Pará (UFPA), a period in which he conceived and founded UNAMAZ in 1987. "My concern has always been focused on the sustainable development of the region," the professor stated.

The debate took place at the OEI stand and also included the participation of Professor Dr. Doriedson Rodrigues, representative of UFPA. In his remarks, the Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ warned the COP30 audience about the importance of the revitalization process of the network of universities, research institutes, and third-sector organizations that make up the Association, currently present in eight Pan-Amazonian countries: Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela.

"These institutions play a strategic role not only in Higher Education, but also in Basic Education, environmental education, and dialogue with youth. It is today's children and young people who need to develop a new mindset based on respect for environmental issues. The current climate change scenario demands a joint effort from our institutions and a real commitment to the future," Seixas Lourenço emphasized.


> "These institutions play a strategic role not only in Higher Education, but also in Basic Education, environmental education, and dialogue with youth. It is today's children and young people who need to develop a new mindset based on respect for environmental issues"

**José Seixas Lourenço**
UNAMAZ Pro Tempore President

# Debate on sustainability in the cosmetics industry at the UNAMAZ stand

The stand of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) also hosted, on November 12, 2025, a series of activities promoted by the Ministry of Education (MEC) during COP30, in Belém (PA).

The program included roundtable discussions on sustainability initiatives developed by the MEC for the education network, as well as debates focused on women's leadership in a just energy transition and on the bioeconomy in the Legal Amazon.

One of the highlights was the panel dedicated to the impacts of climate change on the beauty industry, which brought together representatives of companies and sector organizations, such as the design consultancy Questtonó, the Brazilian Association of the Personal Hygiene, Perfumery and Cosmetics Industry (ABIHPEC), and the Brazilian Association of Bioinnovation (ABBI).

The debate was moderated by Luiz Ricardo Marinello, lawyer and Sustainability Coordinator of the Brazilian Association of Intellectual Property (ABPI). During the discussions, participants emphasized that innovation alone is not enough to promote concrete advances in sustainability. According to them, it is essential to implement effective actions capable of transforming productive practices, reducing environmental impacts, and preparing the industry for the challenges posed by climate change.


The UNAMAZ stand at COP 30 was the venue for debates on the implementation of actions aimed at transforming productive practices.

EDUCATION

# MEC presents an exhibition of educational projects during COP30

Students and coordinators from Federal Institutes gathered on November 13, 2025, at the stand of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) during COP30 to take part in a scientific exhibition promoted by the Ministry of Education (MEC). The program highlighted initiatives in robotics, technology, and innovative solutions developed in four states of Brazil's Northern Region.

In total, 12 projects were presented, all focused on solving social problems worsened by climate change—such as the lack of basic sanitation in remote areas and housing conditions in riverine communities. The proposals drew attention for their focus on sustainability and for the creative use of natural resources as a basis for new technologies.

By opening space for this activity, UNAMAZ reaffirmed its role as an articulator between educational institutions and initiatives in scientific and environmental education. The action strengthens the development of regional knowledge and contributes to building more sustainable pathways for the future of the Amazon.


The Brazilian Ministry of Education brought technological initiatives and debates on education and the environment to the UNAMAZ stand.


# Brazil's first lady is moved during meeting with students at the UNAMAZ booth at COP30

Students from municipal and state public schools, as well as young people assisted by third-sector institutions, took part on November 13, 2025, in a special meeting with Brazil's First Lady, Rosângela Lula da Silva, known as Janja. The activity took place at the booth of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) during the 30th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30), held in Belém.

The students were participating in a roundtable discussion with leaders and technical staff from the Ministry of Education (MEC) on the process of developing the National Policy for Environmental Education in Schools (PNEAE) when, at the end of the morning, they were surprised by Janja's visit.

Upon arrival, Janja was welcomed by the Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ, Professor Dr. José Seixas Lourenço, Executive Secretary Nazaré Imbiriba, and other association leaders. She was then greeted by the students and began interacting spontaneously with the group.

During the conversation, the students shared accounts of their daily school life in the Amazon region, highlighting challenges and expectations for the future. Janja emphasized that the Federal Government has been working to set new directions for Brazilian education, reaffirming President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva's commitment to promoting quality education and ensuring dignity for all students.

One of the most memorable moments of the meeting occurred during a conversation with student Leidiane Vitória, an 11-year-old riverine resident of the São José Stream, located on the islands of the municipality of Abaetetuba. While discussing issues related to education and the realities experienced by children in the Amazon in the context of COP30, Janja became emotional, moving the participants as well.

For UNAMAZ Pro Tempore President, Professor Dr. José Seixas Lourenço, Janja's presence reinforces the institutional relevance of the space. "Receiving First Lady Janja at the UNAMAZ booth during a Ministry of Education program is a great honor. Earlier this week, we also had the privilege of welcoming the Minister of Education, Camilo Santana. We celebrate the fact that this space, organized by UNAMAZ and the BioTec-Amazônia Association, is helping to strengthen partnerships between public authorities and our partners in favor of environmental preservation in Brazil and worldwide" he stated.

The visit highlighted the importance of dialogue and active listening in the construction of public education policies, reaffirming education as a fundamental pillar for sustainable development and social justice.

> "We celebrate the fact that this space, organized by UNAMAZ and the BioTec-Amazônia Association, is helping to strengthen partnerships between public authorities and our partners in favor of environmental preservation in Brazil and worldwide"
>
> **José Seixas Lourenço**
> UNAMAZ Pro Tempore President

# UNESCO Promotes Hybrid Meeting to Strengthen Environmental Education

The intensification of strategic actions aimed at expanding environmental education on a global scale was at the center of an international meeting held on November 13, 2025, during the 30th United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP30) in Belém, Pará, Brazil. The hybrid meeting, which brought together leaders and educators from nearly 100 countries, was promoted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and hosted at the booth of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ), located in the event's Green Zone.

The meeting included the participation of the Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ, Professor Dr. José Seixas Lourenço, as well as representatives from prominent international and national institutions. Among those present were Christopher Castel, from UNESCO's Division for Peace and Sustainable Development; Katerina Ananiadou, from UNESCO's Department of Education for Sustainability; Felipe Heimburger, Special Advisor to Brazil's Ministry of Education; Mário Piacentini, Advisor to the Directorate for Education of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD); Liesbet Steer, from Systemiq; and Jennifer Cooper, from ITUC Tungo.

During the discussions, tools and methodologies developed by UNESCO and the OECD were presented and debated, with the aim of strengthening public policies and educational practices focused on environmental sustainability. According to Felipe Heimburger, the meeting highlighted the potential for international cooperation in the field of education. "It became clear that education authorities in all countries can use—and at any time propose improvements to—the environmental education tools developed by UNESCO and the OECD. This represents a concrete step toward raising awareness among current and future generations about the care we must take of the environment," he emphasized.

For the Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ, Professor Dr. José Seixas Lourenço, holding the event at the Association's booth reinforced its strategic role on the international stage. "This rapprochement among countries, at such a special moment for the world, is extremely relevant. We had the opportunity to exchange information on initiatives aimed at energizing the educational process with a focus on environmental preservation," he stated.

The leader also emphasized that UNAMAZ is undergoing a process of institutional revitalization, mobilizing universities, research institutes, and third-sector organizations from eight countries across the Pan-Amazon region. "Having access to the knowledge shared by UNESCO and the OECD is essential for strengthening future sustainable development actions in the Amazon and worldwide," he concluded.

The meeting reinforced the importance of international cooperation and the role of education as a structuring axis for building sustainable solutions to global climate challenges.

# International participation highlights programming at the UNAMAZ stand

The stand of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ), located in the Green Zone—an area of COP30 dedicated to civil society participation—hosted an intense and high-level program with strong international participation on November 14, 2025.

The day's activities were led by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) of India, which organized a series of collaborative debates on climate change and public policies. The discussions brought together perspectives from participants from the Americas, Africa, and Asia, valuing the diversity of contexts, experiences, and realities in addressing global climate challenges.

Throughout the program, the South Korean organization Solutions for Our Climate (SFOC) also engaged with the audience, encouraging reflections on what each person considers most precious in the face of the risks posed by climate change and the urgency of collective action to protect the planet.

Concluding the day's activities, researcher Artur Luiz da Costa da Silva, Technical-Scientific Director of BioTec-Amazônia, presented the research that the center intends to develop in the post-COP30 period. The study will focus on identifying resistant microorganisms in wastewater, with analyses planned at more than 20 stations distributed throughout Belém.

The initiative seeks to expand knowledge about the collected microbiological materials, identify possible changes, and assess potential impacts on public health, reinforcing the role of Amazonian science in producing sustainable and innovative solutions.

The closing of the event was conducted by Professor Dr. José Seixas Lourenço, Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ and Chief Executive Officer of BioTec-Amazônia. In his remarks, he emphasized that recognizing the existence of intelligent life in the Amazon means valuing the work of thousands of researchers who produce cutting-edge science and develop concrete solutions to the region's environmental, social, and economic challenges.

The program reaffirmed the UNAMAZ stand as a strategic space for international dialogue, scientific exchange, and the collective construction of sustainable pathways for the future of the Amazon and the planet.

The Indian delegation occupied the UNAMAZ stand with major discussions on climate change and public policies.


# Technologies for life: portable water purifier and innovative solutions at COP30

The stand of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ), together with BioTec-Amazônia, at COP30 in Belém (PA), has consolidated itself as a strategic space for disseminating information on innovative productive processes enabled through scientific research and technological development.

Among the highlights presented to the public is a portable water purification system that is easy to operate, has low operating costs, and requires simplified maintenance. The PW5660 Plus, developed by the São Paulo-based startup PWTech, is already being used in different communities and is currently part of UN humanitarian actions in conflict areas such as Ukraine and the Gaza Strip.

According to Cláudio Silva, PWTech's factory operations manager, the equipment functions as a mini water treatment station, certified by the Brazilian Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation.

"We are UN partners in responding to extreme situations such as wars. We currently operate in Ukraine and the Gaza Strip. The equipment is in these locations through the UN, with whom we have a contract to be the exclusive suppliers of this technology" he emphasized.

Participation in COP30 has also provided PWTech with an opportunity to strengthen its partnership with the Brazilian Institute of Information in Science and Technology (IBICT). The company will take part in Institute projects aimed at providing drinking water to remote regions and populations in situations of social vulnerability.

"We are making our technology available, in addition to providing all the necessary technical support to make these actions feasible," said Cláudio Silva, who presented the portable purifier to the public at the UNAMAZ and BioTec-Amazônia stand. In addition to its efficiency, the system stands out for its simplicity of use. The equipment is fully autonomous, operating with an internal pump, a solar panel, and a battery. To operate it, one simply places the tubing in the water source to be captured; in approximately 30 seconds, the system begins releasing purified water.

The technology used is similar to that employed in hemodialysis machines, ensuring a high level of filtration and safety for human consumption.

The presentation of the portable purifier reinforced UNAMAZ's role at COP30 as a global showcase for solutions that combine science, innovation, and social responsibility. The initiative demonstrates how scientific knowledge can be transformed into applied technology capable of saving lives, reducing inequalities, and promoting dignity in contexts of extreme vulnerability.

> "We are UN partners in responding to extreme situations such as wars. We currently operate in Ukraine and the Gaza Strip. The equipment is in these locations through the UN, with whom we have a contract to be the exclusive suppliers of this technology"
>
> **Cláudio Silva**
> PWTech's factory operations manager

# International researcher advocates a new economic logic during debate at the UNAMAZ stand at COP30

Economic development needs to be rethought based on a collective logic capable of recognizing and addressing the social and environmental costs of production—costs that are still largely ignored by global society. This was the warning issued by Professor Dr. Jon Erickson, from the University of Vermont (USA), during his participation at the stand of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) on November 15, 2025, at the 30th United Nations Conference on Climate Change.

Author of the book The Illusion of Progress, Erickson explained that the title challenges one of the pillars of dominant economic theory for more than 150 years: the idea that economic and productive decisions are essentially individual. According to the researcher, this assumption is misleading. “These choices of the so-called ‘economic man’ are an illusion, because nothing is truly individual. Economic decisions must necessarily be collective,” he stated.

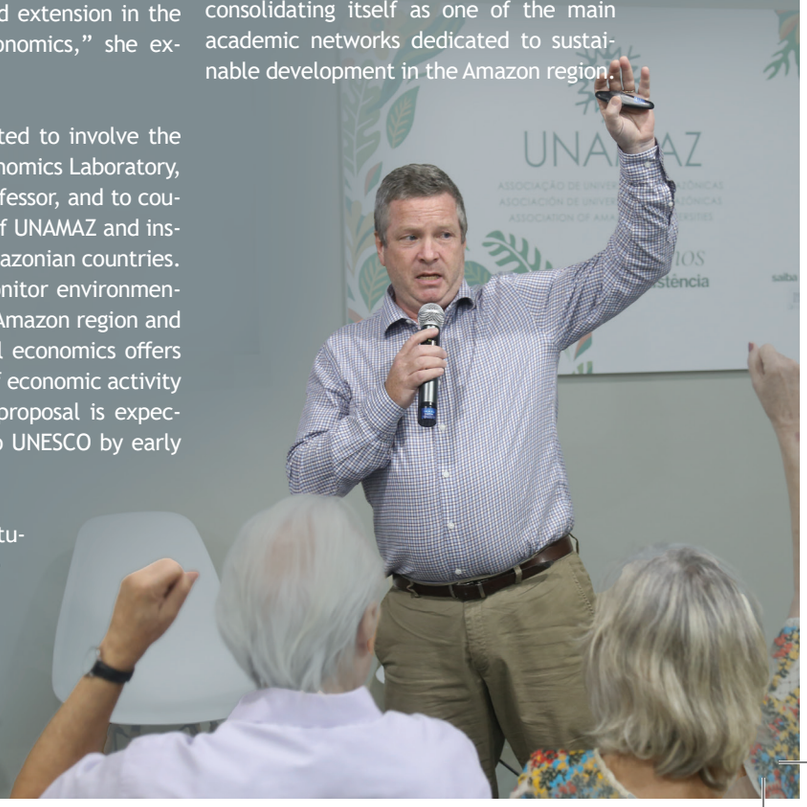
During the meeting, Erickson expressed interest in collaborating with the Federal University of Pará (UFPA) and with Brazilian and Pan-Amazonian institutions, such as UNAMAZ itself, in the construction of a new approach: the ecological economics.

The activity was attended by Professor Dr. Larissa Chermont, from the Faculty of Economics at the Institute of Applied Social Sciences of UFPA, who accompanied the researcher during the lecture and the debates with university professors and students. According to her, the visit marks the beginning of an international cooperation. “We, from the Brazilian Society for Ecological Economics (EcoEco), together with UFPA, are organizing a program that will be submitted to UNESCO as a proposal for a chair, bringing together research, teaching, and extension in the field of ecological economics,” she explained.

The initiative is expected to involve the Amazon Ecological Economics Laboratory, coordinated by the professor, and to count on the partnership of UNAMAZ and institutions from eight Amazonian countries. The objective is to monitor environmental policies in the Pan-Amazon region and analyze how ecological economics offers a more realistic view of economic activity and bioeconomy. The proposal is expected to be submitted to UNESCO by early 2026.

At the end of the lecture, Professor Dr. José Seixas Lourenço, Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ, reinforced the institutional commitment of the network. “There will be no sustainable world without a new vision of planning and actions that consider all the people on the planet. Count on us for this project,” he stated.

Founded in 1987, UNAMAZ brings together universities, research institutes, and third-sector organizations from countries such as Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela, consolidating itself as one of the main academic networks dedicated to sustainable development in the Amazon region.



# Panel at the UNAMAZ stand highlights the impacts of climate change on children and adolescents during COP30

The effects of climate change on children and adolescents in the Amazon took center stage at the panel "Climate Justice and the Impact of Climate Change on Childhood," held on November 15, 2025, at the stand of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ), during the 30th United Nations Conference on Climate Change, in Belém (PA). The meeting brought together representatives of Indigenous peoples, experts, and international institutions to reflect on the challenges faced by new generations in the context of the climate crisis.

One of the most striking moments was the testimony of 15-year-old Indigenous youth Jhanela Rodriguez Tuanama, from the Ishichiwi Pueblo Quechua people of Peru. In describing the reality of her community, Jhanela highlighted the advance of deforestation and its direct consequences. "Plants no longer grow because the soil is degraded," she stated, advocating that children and young people be genuinely heard in climate change debates.

Another powerful testimony was presented by Indigenous woman Alejandra Yuave, from the Jivi people of Venezuela. In her speech, she reinforced the importance of traditional knowledge and a harmonious relationship with nature. "We must continue working in defense of nature, living as we are, always respecting our Mother Earth," she emphasized.

According to Professor Dr. Nazaré Imbiriba, responsible for publications on Children in the Amazon (UNAMAZ/UNICEF/UFPA), the panel played a strategic role by bringing together different generations and backgrounds. "We discussed the impact of climate change on a historically more vulnerable population, which is Amazonian children and marginalized peoples," she stated, alongside Professor Dr. Mariano de Castro, a member of UNAMAZ's Advisory Council.

According to Nazaré Imbiriba, the meeting reinforces the importance of coordination between institutions and communities around a common goal. "It is essential to continue acting in defense of Amazonian citizenship," emphasized the professor, who also serves as Pro Tempore Executive Secretary of UNAMAZ.

This perspective was shared by Leobadis Gonzalez Morais, from the Indigenous Wayuu people, who highlighted the need for the exchange of knowledge between countries and generations. "We need to strengthen mobilization for the preservation of environmental assets and the culture of Indigenous peoples, especially among children," he stressed.

Closing the panel, Moa Cortobus, Technical Advisor for Climate Resilience and Anticipatory Action at Save the Children Foundation, reinforced youth leadership. According to her, although children and young people are directly affected by climate change, they are also key agents in building solutions for the preservation of the planet's biomes.

The debates were attended by Professor Dr. José Seixas Lourenço, Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ, reaffirming the institution's commitment to promoting dialogue, climate justice, and the protection of future generations.

UNAMAZ representatives Nazaré Imbiriba and Seixas Lourenço with representatives of Indigenous peoples from Brazil and Peru.


# Monetization of environmental assets as a preservation strategy

The Amazon Rainforest and other green areas can be transformed into legitimate sources of financial resources for managers committed to environmental preservation. This was the main message presented on November 15, 2025, by executives of Biosphere Projetos Ambientais (Bipasa), during an activity held at the stand of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ), within the framework of the 30th United Nations Conference on Climate Change.

The presentation highlighted technical knowledge related to the carbon market and other environmental investment mechanisms, demonstrating how preserved areas—public or private—can generate financial returns aligned with sustainable conservation.

Bipasa's president, Ciraldo Reis, explained that the company, based in Rio de Janeiro and a partner of the Brazilian Institute of Information in Science and Technology (IBICT), brought to COP30 an objective approach to the economic potential of forests. "Forests can become money," he stated, while presenting proprietary methodologies for the monetization of environmental assets, aligned with current Brazilian legislation, such as the Federal Constitution and Laws No. 14,119 and No. 14,590, which regulate the provision of environmental services.

According to Reis, environmental assets encompass all elements essential to human survival—such as water, carbon, food, medicines, soil, and subsoil. Although Brazil holds an estimated environmental heritage of around US$ 6.8 trillion, this value is not incorporated into public accounting because it is constitutionally considered an intangible asset.

The proposal presented by Bipasa is based on the concept of Payment for Environmental Services (PES), adopted by the United Nations and approved by 195 countries during COP21. This mechanism provides remuneration to providers of environmental services—public or private agents who preserve natural areas and contribute to the maintenance of ecosystems.
One example cited was that of rural landowners in the Legal Amazon, who, by law, must preserve 80% of their land. "For these territories to be effectively conserved, the UN created instruments that allow remuneration for managers responsible for this environmental service," Reis explained. "This is a viable alternative for farmers, public managers, and different levels of government, who can benefit from the financial results of these projects."

In the process of monetizing environmental assets, a Biobond is issued—an environmental compensation bond intended for providers of environmental services. With nine years of operation, Bipasa maintains a strategic partnership with IBICT and develops technical and institutional exchanges with UNAMAZ, strengthening initiatives focused on the green economy and sustainability in the Pan-Amazon region.

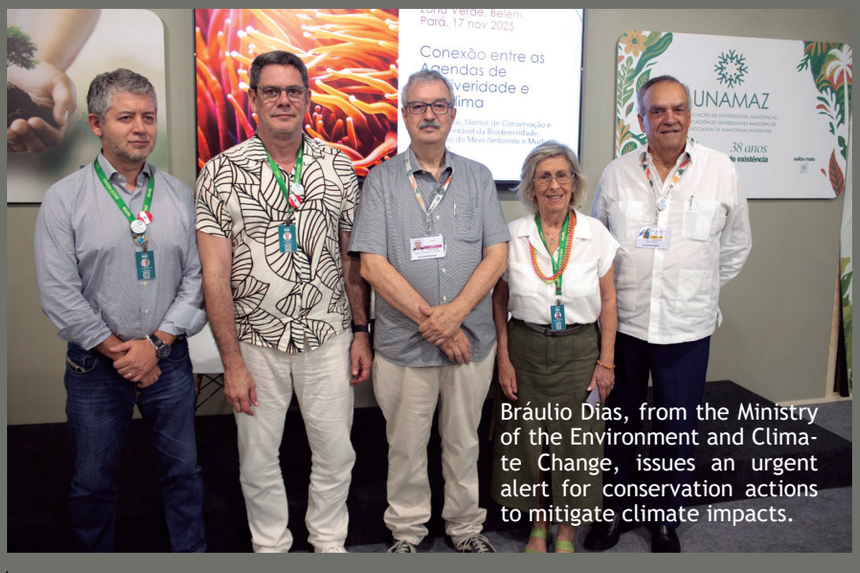
The presentation reinforced the role of financial innovation as an ally of environmental conservation, pointing to concrete pathways to reconcile biome protection, income generation, and sustainable development.

# Accelerated climate change threatens biodiversity, warns MMA researcher

Rapid climate change poses a growing risk to the planet's biodiversity. The warning was issued by Bráulio Dias, director at the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA), during a lecture held at the booth of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ), in partnership with BioTec-Amazônia, at COP30 in Belém.

According to the researcher, biodiversity can adapt to climate change, but not at the current pace. "When change happens too quickly, the result can be devastating, with massive destruction of flora, fauna, and microorganisms," he stated. He cited recent examples in Brazil, such as droughts and wildfires in the Amazon, impacts on the Pantanal, and the major floods in Rio Grande do Sul.

Bráulio Dias emphasized that conservation and restoration actions are strategic to mitigating climate impacts, noting that Brazil maintains an extensive system of protected areas and has set a goal to restore 12 million hectares by 2030, focusing on the most degraded regions of the Amazon.




Bráulio Dias, from the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, issues an urgent alert for conservation actions to mitigate climate impacts.

## Bioeconomy, science, and cooperation

At the panel on biodiversity and climate, geneticist Artur Silva, from the Federal University of Pará (UFPA) and Director of BioTec-Amazônia, highlighted the urgency of preserving Amazonian microorganisms, which are essential for the development of new pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and industrial solutions. Lawyer Luiz Ricardo Marinelli reinforced that conservation is fundamental to the sustainability of production chains.

The UNAMAZ booth also hosted presentations of bioeconomy projects, such as the Maniva Tapajós Project, from the Federal University of Western Pará (UFOPA), which strengthens the cassava production chain in western Pará, as well as research conducted by LABTECS/UFPA, focused on the biotechnological use of açaí residues and other Amazonian fruits through supercritical technology.

Closing the program, a debate on scientific cooperation brought together representatives from the Federal University of Pará (UFPA), the University of São Paulo (USP), and Instituto Amazônia+, who highlighted UNAMAZ's coordinating role in strengthening national and international partnerships at a strategic moment for the Amazon and Brazil.

# UNAMAZ and the Saberes Sociobio Project advance a partnership for amazonian sociobioeconomy

The Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) signaled a strategic partnership with the Saberes Sociobio Project to strengthen sociobioeconomy initiatives in the Amazon. The invitation was made by UNAMAZ's Pro Tempore President, José Seixas Lourenço, during the presentation of the project's research booklets at the Association's stand at COP 30.

Developed over 16 months by 18 Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers, Saberes Sociobio brings together ancestral and academic knowledge to promote an inclusive bioeconomy, generating value and fair benefit-sharing. According to Seixas Lourenço, UNAMAZ and BioTec-Amazônia are making their network—comprising universities, research institutes, and entrepreneurial researchers—available for joint actions on a pan-Amazonian scale.

Researcher Floriana Breyer highlighted that the project brings together publications on climate change, gender, financing, and methodology, and also foresees the creation of Interknowledge Laboratories in universities and research centers. "UNAMAZ's invitation broadens the initiative's reach and strengthens cooperation among Amazonian institutions," she stated.

Indigenous researcher Elizângela Baré, from the Upper Rio Negro (AM), emphasized that Saberes Sociobio promotes the integration of Indigenous and academic sciences, focusing on "well-being " and an integrated relationship among territory, forest, water, and biodiversity.

The partnership reinforces UNAMAZ's role as an articulator of scientific and socio-productive initiatives aimed at the sustainable development of the Amazon.


# Unamaz and OTCA sign a letter of intent and strengthen reciprocal cooperation for the sustainable development of the amazon

The 30th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30), held in Belém, Pará, strengthened ties between public agencies, institutions, and organizations dedicated to preserving the world's biomes. In this context, a significant milestone took place on November 18, 2025, at the stand of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) and the BioTec-Amazônia Association: the Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ, José Seixas Lourenço, and the Secretary-General of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (OTCA), Martin Von Hildebrand, signed a Letter of Intent aimed at strengthening cooperation between UNAMAZ and OTCA for the sustainable development of the Amazon.

To achieve this goal, the institutions will promote joint actions in the fields of science, technology, innovation, intercultural education, knowledge management, and human resource development.

"This is a very important moment because eight countries are building a partnership for the sustainable development of the Amazon—that is, a partnership between OTCA and UNAMAZ. We have many projects to carry out, and in this dynamic, the participation of UNAMAZ is essential, as it provides spaces for reflection and analysis. Universities can think and guide us toward the most appropriate path," emphasized Martin Von Hildebrand.

"The signing of this Letter of Intent with OTCA marks a milestone in the process of resuming UNAMAZ's activities, initiated in 2023 by decision of the member countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty. It also takes place symbolically at the first COP held in Brazil, in the Amazon and in the state of Pará. From now on, through this partnership, we will work in several fields of knowledge in search of new achievements for the development of Amazonian peoples," stated Professor José Seixas Lourenço.

The signing ceremony included in-person and virtual participation by leaders from OTCA, UNAMAZ, and Brazil's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including former OTCA


> "The signing of this Letter of Intent with OTCA marks a milestone in the process of resuming UNAMAZ's activities, initiated in 2023 by decision of the member countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty"

**Martin Von Hildebrand**
Secretary-General of the OTCA

Secretary-General and former President of Ecuador, Rosalía Arteaga. Also present were Vanessa Grazziotin, Executive Director of OTCA; Edith Paredes, Administrative Director; Ángel Viloria, Coordinator for Science, Technology, and Education; Freddy Mamani, Coordinator for Indigenous Affairs; Nazaré Imbiriba, Pro Tempore Executive Secretary of UNAMAZ; Ambassador Carlos Lazary and Mariano Castro, members of the UNAMAZ Advisory Council; Ambassador João Marcelo Galvão de Queiroz, Director for South America at Brazil's Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Counselor Wagner Alves, representing the Secretary-General of Foreign Relations, Ambassador Maria Laura da Rocha.

## Strategic Action

OTCA is an intergovernmental organization headquartered in Brasília (DF), composed of eight Amazonian countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela. These countries, members of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT), form the only international organization headquartered in Brazil.

UNAMAZ brings together eighty institutions, including universities, research institutes, and productive sector organizations from the eight Amazonian countries. In August of this year, during the Fifth Meeting of Presidents of the ACT States Parties, held in Bogotá, Colombia, the process of reactivating cooperation mechanisms between UNAMAZ and OTCA was defined.

As the focus of the ACT is to promote harmonious development among Amazonian countries, with emphasis on environmental preservation and the rational use of natural resources, the signing of the Letter of Intent at COP30 holds special significance, as highlighted by Professor José Seixas Lourenço.

The areas of cooperation outlined in the Letter include academic and scientific exchanges and integration, promoting synergies among research, teaching, and extension programs aligned with institutional agendas. They also include capacity building, with special attention to young researchers, Indigenous peoples, Afro-descendant populations, and local communities, as well as the promotion of intercultural education and the appreciation of traditional knowledge.

The partnership also encompasses the management, exchange, and dissemination of scientific and technological information and knowledge, as well as the identification and promotion of joint initiatives and projects in areas of common interest defined in the OTCA Agenda and the UNAMAZ Strategic Plan, covering topics such as climate change, biodiversity, water, forest resources, public health, and innovation for sustainable development.

# Unamaz highlights Brazil–Japan cooperation in sustainable solutions at cop30

The Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) highlighted the importance of Brazil-Japan cooperation for the sustainable development of the Amazon during a program held on November 18, 2025, at its stand at COP30. On the occasion, the Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ, Professor Dr. José Seixas Lourenço, honored the Ambassador of Japan to Brazil, Hayashi Teji, in recognition of the Asian country's historic contribution to sustainable initiatives in the state of Pará.

One of the highlights of the event was the presentation of the Tomé-Açu Agroforestry System (SAFTA), a national benchmark in sustainable production. Developed by Japanese immigrants and their descendants, the model integrates native Amazonian species with crops such as cocoa and açaí, promoting high biodiversity, soil recovery, and increased productivity without environmental degradation.

The Minister of Agrarian Development and Family Agriculture, Paulo Teixeira, stated that the National Productive Forests Program will adopt experiences from Tomé-Açu as a reference for the regeneration of degraded areas, highlighting SAFTA as a solution to climate change, food insecurity, and job creation with social inclusion.

UNAMAZ emphasized that advances such as SAFTA reflect long-term cooperation between Brazil and Japan, based on the integration of traditional knowledge, innovation, and community engagement. BioTec-Amazônia also honored former Minister of Agriculture Roberto Rodrigues, recognizing his contribution to strengthening Brazil's agro-environmental sector.

UNAMAZ honors the Ambassador of Japan to Brazil, Your Excellency Hayashi Teji.

# UNAMAZ presents its 2025–2030 Strategic Plan and honors Thomas Mitschein at COP30

The Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) presented its 2025–2030 Strategic Plan on November 19, 2025, during COP30, in Belém. The agenda highlighted technical and financial cooperation for science, technology, innovation, and human resources training aimed at the sustainable development of the Amazon.

The Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ and CEO of BioTec-Amazônia, José Seixas Lourenço, emphasized the importance of coordination among public authorities, institutions, and organizations to enable projects across the eight countries that make up the network. UNAMAZ currently brings together 80 universities, research institutes, and organizations from the productive sector in Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela.

The Strategic Plan structures the Association's activities around priority thematic axes shared by the Amazonian countries, such as climate change, biodiversity, health and the environment, forest and water resources, education, sustainable local development, and integrated knowledge platforms on the Amazon.

## Tribute

During the event, UNAMAZ paid tribute to professor and sociologist Thomas Mitschein, from the Federal University of Pará, recognizing his contribution to key structural issues in the region, such as the environment, sanitation, and agricultural production. With notable involvement in the Poverty and Environment in the Amazon Program (POEMA), Mitschein thanked UNAMAZ for the honor and stated that he feels part of the Amazon.

Professor Thomas Mitschein receives an honor from UNAMAZ.

# UNAMAZ and Green Terre Foundation establish partnership for youth training

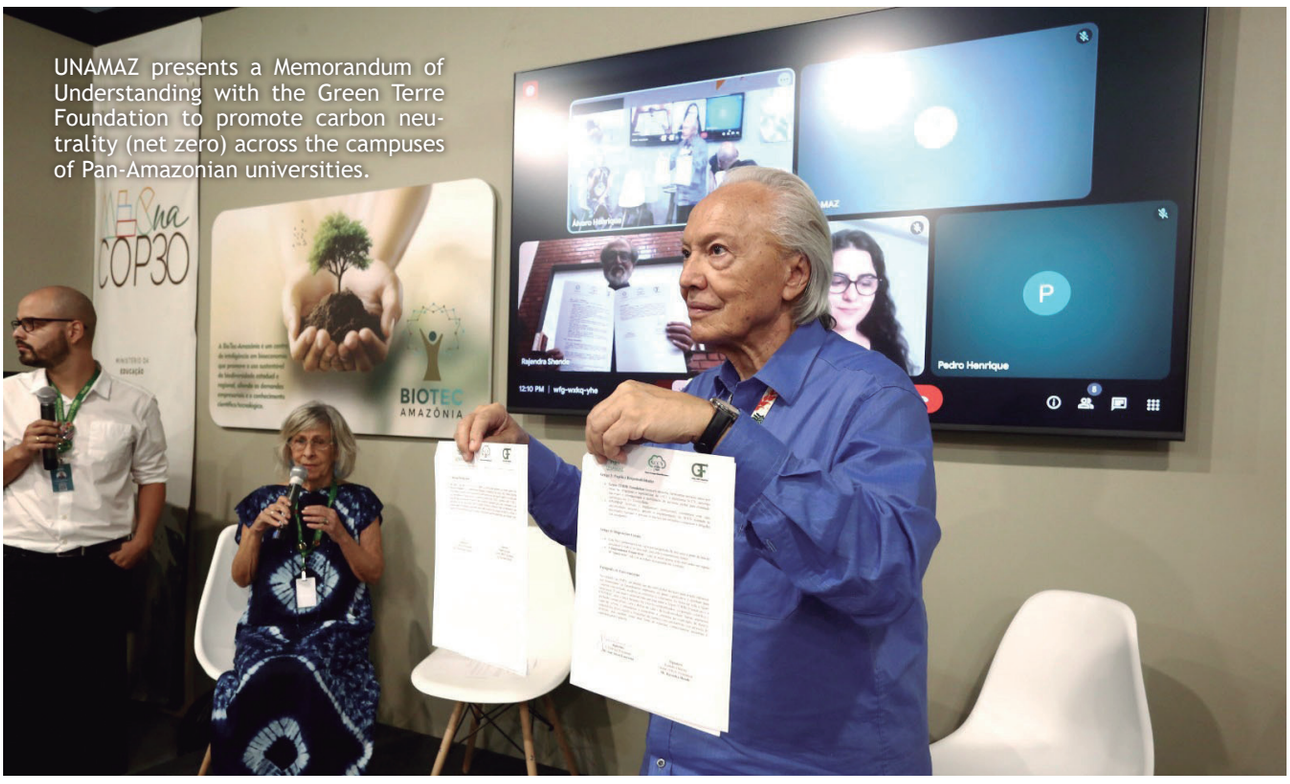
The Pro Tempore President of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ), José Seixas Lourenço, and the Director of the Green Terre Foundation, Rajendra Shende, Nobel Peace Prize laureate in 2007, signed a Memorandum of Understanding on November 19, 2025, in Belém (PA), aimed at the transfer of technologies focused on training young university students to promote carbon neutrality (Net Zero) on university campuses in the eight countries that make up UNAMAZ: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela.

The ceremony was held in a hybrid format, with Rajendra Shende participating directly from India, connected to the team present at COP30. During the event, the Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ highlighted the Association's extensive reach and the importance of exchange between students from Amazonian and Asian countries, reinforcing the commitment of new generations to environmental preservation.

Rajendra Shende stated that he was pleased to participate in COP30, especially at a decisive moment for safeguarding the planet's environmental conditions. According to him, despite the recurring focus on technology, financing, and public policies, the training of human resources is essential for countries to meet their climate goals.

In 2007, Shende was working with the United Nations Environment Programme and served as one of the lead authors of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. That year's report, which for the first time established a direct link between ozone layer depletion and climate change, received the Nobel Peace Prize, awarded jointly to the IPCC and then U.S. Vice President Al Gore.

José Seixas Lourenço also emphasized that the initiatives developed through this partnership are being presented at COP30 because it is a strategic space for disseminating ideas and practices aimed at the sustainable development of the Amazon. "We celebrate this moment in which society can learn about concrete proposals to generate jobs, income, and quality of life for those who live in the region," he concluded.




UNAMAZ presents a Memorandum of Understanding with the Green Terre Foundation to promote carbon neutrality (net zero) across the campuses of Pan-Amazonian universities.

# “Universities turn knowledge into action,” highlights Aldenize Xavier, from UNAMAZ Brazil Chapter

The role of universities in promoting sustainable development in the Amazon was among the central themes debated during COP30, held from November 10 to 21, 2025, in Belém. For the Pro Tempore President of the Brazil Chapter of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) and Rector of the Federal University of Western Pará (UFOPA), Professor Aldenize Xavier, higher education institutions play a strategic role in transforming knowledge into concrete solutions for the region.

“It is precisely through universities that knowledge is transformed into action. Traditional knowledge is essential for environmental preservation, and the university is the pathway to convert this knowledge into effective practices,” she emphasized.

The professor highlighted that the integration between ancestral knowledge — from Indigenous peoples, quilombola communities, and riverine populations — and academic research has proven both possible and effective, as demonstrated by projects developed within the scope of UNAMAZ. According to her, these initiatives have promoted new sustainable productive models in territories historically marked by deforestation.

“In areas where forests were traditionally cleared for pasture or subsistence farming, it is now possible to keep the forest standing while producing honey with native bees, fishing based on riverine knowledge, among other productive processes,” Aldenize Xavier exemplified.

According to the rector, projects conducted by Amazonian universities align local community demands with scientific knowledge, increasing productivity and ensuring income generation. “There is no point in talking about biodiversity and environmental protection if this does not result in a real improvement in the quality of life of people living in the Amazon,” she reinforced.

## UNAMAZ’s Legacy

Founded in 1987 and currently chaired by Professor José Seixas Lourenço, UNAMAZ brings together 80 universities, research institutes, and productive-sector institutions from the eight Amazonian countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela. The Association’s 2025–2030 Strategic Plan includes 18 structuring projects that integrate traditional and scientific knowledge.

For Aldenize Xavier, UNAMAZ’s participation in COP30 was a strategic opportunity to highlight the intellectual capital already consolidated by its member institutions. “UNAMAZ showed that there is an established and mature scientific production. In Brazil alone, there are 65 accredited institutions, and this legacy is already producing concrete results,” concluded the Pro Tempore President of the UNAMAZ Brazil Chapter.

# BioTec-Amazônia conducts genetic research in partnership with the Ministry of Health, PAHO, UFPA, and UNAMAZ

Belém welcomed around 50,000 participants from several countries during the 30th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 30). Taking advantage of the intense flow of people, researchers from Pará launched an innovative study based on the collection of biological material from sewage systems to analyze DNA structures, focusing on human resistance to bacteria and viruses. The initiative began prior to the conference, held from November 10 to 21, and continues during and after the event.

The project brings together university professors and students through a broad partnership involving BioTec-Amazônia, the Brazilian Ministry of Health, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Federal University of Pará (UFPA), and the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ). The project was presented as a highlight by leaders of BioTec-Amazônia and UNAMAZ during an institutional visit to Grupo Liberal on the morning of November 21, 2025, when a partnership was established to disseminate scientific projects developed in the Amazon across the group's multi-platform media outlets.

The delegation included the Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ and CEO of BioTec-Amazônia, Professor José Seixas Lourenço; Executive Secretary Nazaré Imbiriba; Ambassador Carlos Lazary, member of UNAMAZ's Advisory Council; and BioTec-Amazônia directors Artur Silva and Sérgio Alves. The group was received by Grupo Liberal's Marketing Director, Ney Messias Júnior, who presented the conglomerate's integrated platform projects aligned with the concept of bioeconomy.

Founded in 1987, UNAMAZ's mission is to articulate institutions focused on sustainable development in the Amazon. It currently brings together 80 universities, research centers, and productive sector entities from eight Pan-Amazonian countries. BioTec-Amazônia, founded in 2016, operates as a bioeconomy knowledge hub, bringing together 62 entrepreneurial researchers and structuring projects, including DNA traceability initiatives for meat and gold aimed at combating deforestation and illegal mining.

During the meeting, José Seixas Lourenço emphasized that the region's socioeconomic development is only possible with environmental preservation, supported by continuous investments in education, science, and technology. "There is, indeed, intelligent life in the Amazon," he stated, highlighting UNAMAZ's 2025–2030 Strategic Plan, which includes 18 structuring projects for Amazonian countries. Ney Messias Júnior positively assessed the partnership, emphasizing the role of communication in translating scientific knowledge for society.

The Director of Grupo "O Liberal", Guarany Júnior, receives representatives from UNAMAZ and BioTec-Amazônia to formalize a partnership aimed at promoting, through Grupo "O Liberal", the dissemination of scientific research produced in the Amazon.

PLANNING

# UNAMAZ holds meeting at COP 30 and advances strategic agenda for 2026

Leaders of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) used the institution's booth during COP 30, in Belém, to hold a hybrid meeting with members of the Executive and Advisory Councils, with the aim of advancing the planning of actions for 2026. Among the decisions taken was the scheduling of the next UNAMAZ General Assembly for May of next year, in Brasília (DF).

UNAMAZ's governance structure is composed of UNAMAZ International, chaired by Professor José Seixas Lourenço, PhD, with Nazaré Imbiriba as Executive Secretary. The structure also includes the National Chapters — Brazil, chaired by the rector of the Federal University of Western Pará (UFOPA), Aldenize Xavier, as well as representatives from universities in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela. These chapters form the Executive Council, while the Advisory Council is made up of former Secretaries-General of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO/OTCA) and former Executive Directors of the Association.

The meeting, held on November 21, brought together representatives of UNAMAZ International, the Executive Council, and the Advisory Council, who assessed the activities carried out since June, with emphasis on the institution's participation in COP 30 — the first Climate Conference ever held in the Amazon.

According to Ambassador Carlos Lazary, a member of UNAMAZ's Advisory Council representing Brazil, the meeting made it possible to analyze the results of the Association's presence at the event. "We discussed what took place at COP 30 and the success of the UNAMAZ Pavilion and the BioTec-Amazônia Association, with the presentation of projects, visits, meetings, as well as the agreements and strategic partnerships signed, which highlight the knowledge produced by Amazonian universities," he said.

UNAMAZ leaders confirm that the organization's next General Assembly will be held in May 2026, in Brasília.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

# “There is indeed intelligent life in the Amazon,” declares Seixas Lourenço at the closing of the UNAMAZ Pavilion

At the closing of COP30, held on November 21 in Belém, the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) presented an institutional assessment highlighting that the Amazon must take the lead in its own development. For the organization, the moment is decisive, as the region is increasingly recognized globally as central to the planet’s climate future.

UNAMAZ emphasized that universities, research centers and Amazonian organizations hold the experience, territorial knowledge and legitimacy necessary to understand the complexity of the forest, traditional populations, and local production chains — essential elements for building sustainable and long-lasting solutions.

For the Pro Tempore President of UNAMAZ and CEO of BioTec-Amazonia, Professor José Seixas Lourenço, responses to climate and economic challenges must originate within the region itself. According to him, it is in the Amazon that pathways are being consolidated to add value to biodiversity, transform traditional knowledge into biotechnology, promote the bioeconomy, and develop climate adaptation solutions, generating direct benefits for Amazonian peoples and their territories.

During COP30, UNAMAZ and BioTec-Amazonia worked in an integrated manner at an exclusive pavilion, which hosted debates, presentations, and the formalization of strategic agreements. Key outcomes included the signing of a letter of intent with the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (OTCA), creating a permanent channel between science and climate policy; a partnership with Plataforma Cipó, expanding dialogue between academia, startups, and the productive sector; and a memorandum of understanding with the Green Terre Foundation, aimed at implementing carbon-neutral campuses at affiliated universities.

The pavilion also showcased strategic projects such as DNA-based traceability of meat, geochemical-signature traceability of gold, the Tomé-Açu Agroforestry System (SAFTA), the Maniva Tapajós Project, and the Saberes Project, integrating science, innovation, and sustainability.

The program included the presence of federal authorities, including the Minister of Education, Camilo Santana; the Minister of Agrarian Development and Family Farming, Paulo Teixeira; and Brazil’s First Lady, Janja Silva.

At the end of COP30, José Seixas Lourenço summarized the organization’s position: “The Amazon is not just a territory that needs to be saved; it is a territory capable of saving itself.”

# Maniva Tapajós Project strengthens fight against “Witches’ broom” in Western Pará

Cassava (Manihot esculenta Crantz) production, a cornerstone of Amazonian agriculture and a staple food for millions of people, is facing a new phytosanitary threat: the pest known as “witches’ broom”. Introduced to Brazil via Amapá, the disease is advancing toward Pará, demanding swift responses. In this context, the Maniva Tapajós Project emerges as a strategic initiative to contain the problem and protect the production chain.

The initiative is carried out by researchers from the Federal University of Western Pará (UFOPA), in partnership with technicians from BioTec-Amazônia and the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ), a bioeconomy intelligence center. The project receives financial support from FINEP/MCTI, MDA, and BNDES Bioinputs, among other institutions.

Coordinator of Maniva Tapajós, Professor and researcher Eliandra Sia, emphasizes the seriousness of the situation. “We are facing a serious problem with the cassava pest, “witches’ broom” which is spreading from Amapá to Pará. Emergency actions need to be intensified,” she states. According to her, UFOPA has been working for over a decade to combat crop diseases and is preparing new research fronts as soon as the pathogen reaches productive areas.

Over 11 years, Maniva Tapajós has achieved significant results, especially in combating Cassava Root Rot, which previously compromised planting material availability for family farmers. In partnership with Embrapa, four tolerant varieties were identified, alongside the application of biopharmaceuticals, distribution of cassava stems, and strengthening of production areas, with impacts already observed in the field.

Data highlights the urgency of the response. Cassava is the world’s second most important energy crop, after rice, supporting around 1 billion people. According to FAO, approximately 100 countries produce cassava; Brazil accounts for 5.7% of global production, ranking fifth worldwide. Nationally, cassava is among the main agricultural products in terms of area and production value.

## Highlight at COP 30

Maniva Tapajós was presented at COP 30 in Belém (PA), at the UNAMAZ/BioTec-Amazônia Pavilion in the Green Zone. The project’s actions already benefit over 300 families in 21 communities across municipalities in Western Pará, such as Santarém, Mojuí dos Campos, Belterra, Óbidos, and Juruti. The focus is on transferring social technology to ensure food security, increase productivity, generate income, and strengthen the cassava production chain. Upcoming goals include modernizing Flour Houses, expanding biofortified flour, territorial project expansion, and strengthening the technical and operational agenda.

Representatives of the Maniva Tapajós Project present data and solutions to protect the cassava production chain in the Amazon.

**Brazil accounts for**

**5,7%**

**of global production of cassava, ranking**

**5ª worldwide.**

NEGOCIAÇÃO

# Unamaz and indian authorities exchange information on environmental development in Belém

Leaders of the Association of Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) and authorities from the Government of India met in Belém during COP 30 in a meeting that could lead to future joint actions aimed at the sustainable development of the Amazon. The agenda included technical activities at the UNAMAZ/Bio-Tec-Amazonia stand and an institutional meeting between Professor José Seixas Lourenço, President Pro Tempore of UNAMAZ, and Arunabha Ghosh, CEO of CEEW and COP 30 Special Envoy for South Asia.

Based in New Delhi, the CEEW (Council on Energy, Environment and Water) is a public policy think tank that acts as a bridge between technical-scientific knowledge and government decision-making, with a focus on sustainable development. The institution produces independent research to support policies in the areas of energy, climate, water, and the environment.

According to José Seixas Lourenço, the meeting was a first step toward deepening cooperation. “We exchanged information on the actions developed by each institution and, from this initial dialogue, we will identify paths to build joint initiatives that reconcile economic development and environmental preservation,” he said.

Climate specialist Arunabha Ghosh told the Brazilian press that Brazil, India, and South Asian countries are among the world’s largest producers of ethanol and solar energy, which expands opportunities for strategic partnerships among emerging nations facing similar environmental challenges.

During the Climate Conference in Belém, the 3rd CEEW Leaders’ Dialogue at COP 30 was also held, featuring workshops and roundtables on global issues. A highlight was the Plenary of Special Envoys, led by Ghosh, which addressed climate finance, urban resilience, sustainable agriculture, water security, Brazil-India and South-South international cooperation, as well as metrics for climate co-benefits.

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# YES, THERE IS INTELLIGENT LIFE IN THE *Amazônia*



# IMAGES THAT


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