

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE WATER SECTOR WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL INTEGRATION: BRAZILIAN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE, IRRIGATION AND CIVIL DEFENSE - INTERAGUAS



Code: 4129-00

Country: Brasil

Starting year: 2013

Year completed: 2025

Objective

Improve the implementation of integrated management of water resources and their multiple uses in Brasil.

NBS ANSWERS

How has IICA integrated NbS into its projects?

This project integrates Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to a limited extent, since most of its actions do not directly use natural systems or are not associated with ecological restoration or conservation. However, it is worth mentioning the incorporation of NbS in the preparation of the Disaster Management Manual, which proposes preventive solutions to natural disaster risks and public calamities, including measures such as partial or total diversion of rivers through canals or galleries, improvements in the riverbed and control of vegetation cover in watersheds, actions that use natural ecosystems to mitigate risks and their consequences. In addition, the project conducted feasibility studies for a waste recycling unit that would produce poles to fence Permanent Preservation Areas (PPA), such as riparian forests and river headwaters, with the objective of preserving forests in the Legal Amazon, recovering headwaters and reforesting riparian areas, an action that can be considered NbS if it is directly linked to ecosystem restoration and generates measurable environmental benefits.

What lessons learned can you share about working with farmers to implement NbS?

From this technical experience, we perceive that farmers can contribute to the mitigation of natural disasters such as floods, by implementing the conservation of vegetation cover on their properties as a Nature-based Solution (NbS). With the implementation of conservationist practices in land use and the preservation of the remnants of native vegetation, the vegetation cover of the soil increases and, consequently, the infiltration capacity of rainwater, mitigating the effects of extreme weather events.

What examples of innovation in NbS can you share from your experience at IICA?

The use of recycled wood in direct environmental restoration activities is an example of innovation in NbS. Its implementation avoids the more common use of native wood in fencing, thus contributing to the preservation of the remaining native vegetation.

How are you promoting NbS education and training among farmers?

Visual resources were produced with the results of the studies carried out for the dissemination of information. Among the materials produced is the Disaster Management Manual, which provides inputs for the field study, the management of related activities, and the continuous education and training of protection and civil defense agents, in addition to providing information for society in general.