

**INSTITUTE OF APPLIED RESEARCH IN SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT – IPADES**

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC FORMATION OF AMAPÁ

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The State of Amapá had its economic formation based on natural resources – mineral and forestry exploration. This condition is still very present in the economy, in development policy and in the culture of this Amazonian state.

It was a pioneer in the searching of gold in the Amazon region. In 1602, the Dutch have penetrate at the estuary of the River Amazon, more precisely in the River Maracá and there discovered gold, initiating the gold mine activity (Ferreira, 1990).

The searching of a region for gold – mineral extraction from artisanal way – as mineral extraction modality persisted until the end of the first half of the last century. The discovery of large quantities of gold in the territory amapaense, in the region of Amapá-Calçoene, attracted quick migration, Brazilians and foreigners Guyanese, increasing competition for land of disputed for Frenchman and Brazilian. This mineral cycle begins in 1882, when creoles of Guiana discovered gold in the River Flexal, to the south of the current municipality of Amapá, and settled there to develop the searching of a region for gold (DNPM, 1986).

Since the second half of the last century, the artisanal mining has been reduced, mainly due to the creation of areas that impeded the mining. However, traditional gold mine areas, such as the region of the South, and Vila Nova remain active and constitute the main economic occupation of this region. However, these areas, even with the performance of the Cooperativa de Mineração dos Garimpeiros do Lourenço (COOGAL), are in growing decline in production, according to the information of workers.

Begins the phase of the mining industry, being the Amapá again a pioneer in Amazon, with the installation of the Indústria e Comércio de Minérios Sociedade Anônima (ICOMI), in 1957 with the extraction of manganese ore discovered in Mountain of the Ship, today municipality amapaense. This industry was regarded as a lever for the development of the then Federal Territory of Amapá and a model for the Amazon. Installed a large infrastructure with industrial park, in the Mountain of the Ship, a railroad for disposal of production in Santana, today municipality and port of Amapá. The activity of ICOMI lasted until 1997 (Monteiro, 2005). Currently, the municipality of Serra of the Ship tries to take advantage of a tourism history of industrialization.

In the decade of 1970, with incentives from Programa de Polos Agropecuários e Agrominerais da Amazônia (Polamazônia), several mining companies settled in Amapá, highlighting the Caulim da Amazônia Sociedade Anônima (CADAM), that explores kaolin mine on the Hill of Felipe, in the current city of Vitória do Jari.

After a period of decline, the end of the last century, the activities of the mining industry, in Amapá, it returned to consolidate itself as the main economic activities of the State at the beginning of the present century, in virtue of the boom of mineral commodities, pulled mostly by growth of the Chinese economy. But, with the international crisis of 2008, this instrument started to be reversed.

Even so, the mining activity continues to be strong in the State. Currently there are nine districts in Amapá miners: Lourenço, Vila Nova, Amapari, Jari, Porto Grande, Macapá/Santana, Tartarugalzinho Tracajuba, Cupixi, Igarapé do Breu. They exploit: gold, chromium, iron, manganese, kaolin, bauxite, tantalite, clay, gravel, aggregates (AP, 2016).

When growth in this activity contributes greatly with the balance of trade of the State, because in addition to the payment of royalties¹, the payment of taxes and wages, and the creation of financial funds to municipalities directly affected, helps in the growth of the local economy. In addition, some companies adopt policies of social sustainability, through the encouragement of sustainable productive activities, promoting the technical training and funding projects.

However, the mining activity has period of validity, therefore, the role of the State is importante to mobilize the local society for the discussion about where and how they should be invested resources, as well as the indication of what activities could be incorporated, in accordance with the natural potential of each region. See the

example of exploitation of manganese, left in the Mountain of the Ship, which is not encouraging. Amapá has suffered from the "curse of mining", i.e., the abundance of mineral wealth, but that is not transformed into economic development.

The other extractive segment amapaense is the forest. This has always been a predatory exploratory action, account today with a plan for their exploitation. The State Government has established area of 2.4 million hectares, the Floresta Estadual do Amapá (FLOTA-AP), in four modules, which extend from the South to the north of the State. This area can be explored by means of forest concessions for extraction of timber, with sustainable management. Even being a renewable resource, the forest extraction follows the normal pattern of activity, i.e., it not answer a growing demand. The reforestation is essential.

The industrial segment mining and forestry, including the reforestation, contributed with only 10.5% of the state GDP in 2014. By their importance in the economic formation of Amapá is a small contribution. As the agricultural sector only contributed 2.1% of GDP in the same period, there is an imbalance in the economy alagoano that was 87.4% depend on the participation of the tertiary sector, and the government sector with 44.3% and the private sector with 43.1% (AP, 2017).

The economic formation based on the extraction of natural resources, has the policy of preserving that predominates in the State of Amapá. The preserved area reaches 72% of the territory, and is still under discussion, the creation of the Biodiversity Corridor, which will raise to 85% of the area of the State to be preserved.

This trend preservationist began after the II United Nations Conference on the Environment, held in 1992, in Rio de Janeiro, better known as the Rio-92. For the planners of this policy, while recognizing the low contribution which the model until then existing was not leading the State to the desired development – with economic growth, income distribution and sustainability – they opted to prioritize just sustainability.

The new model of development proposed, known as environmental model, resulted from an alliance between the environmental and social movements, in order to subsidize development alternatives which replaces the previous model, generating major economic, social and environmental impacts pted to prioritize just sustainability (Abrantes, 2014).

As Becker (2003), the environmental model seeks the unification of social and environmental concerns in the State, to foster the development of agroforestry systems, as substitutes for agricultural activities in forest regions, through the creation

of Extractive Reserves (RESEX), Agroextrativistas Projects (PAE), And Reserves of Sustainable Development (RDS).

With these reservations try to commercialize the uses of forest environments in favor of local populations. But, in spite of the socioenvironmental model has a network of articulation rather structured and receive support from international cooperation several segments, it has been shown in practice, weak and less integrated regionally.

The environmental model, which should not be discarded, it is feasible to meet market niches, therefore, impractical as a model of development that give economic growth with distribution of income for a state or region. This proves after spending 25 years of the conference Rio-92, and the development proposed by the new model was not achieved in the development with economic support of the populations to which it proposes to meet, as well as in their own maintenance of preserved areas. These, with their respective populations continue to depend of the state support. On the other hand, the state GDP in 2014, and the socioeconomic reality of Amapá, demonstrate their effectiveness.

Agriculture and livestock amapaense always had low performance. Agriculture is characterized as a segment of subsistence, the buffalo livestock farming has low productivity in natural pastures. Only recently began to sketch out the possibility of a farming of grains on a large scale. This possibility has been occurring since 2008, with the researches of the Embrapa Amapá with soy in the Cerrado biome. The production has been occurring for producers, mainly of Mato Grosso State, who are moving to Amapá. This biome, in Amapá, occupies 986,189 hectares, but their availability for the cultivation of grains is in throne of 400 thousand hectares, in function of the legal reserve and agricultural suitability.

The area in question is cut by the BR 156, with a length of 500 km, and by two state highways, the AP 070, AP 340, and by various extensions of access to communities and rural settlements integrating the territory to the centers with more dynamic economy, favoring the entry of large economic enterprises, being a vector of attraction and mounting population and of various economic activities linked to the productive chains of grains (Oliveira, 2009).

The first soybean plantations in the region were in 2001 and involved only 200 hectares. In 2012 began the commercial plantations, in 2016 there was the first export of soybeans produced in Amapá by the port of Santana, to Rotterdam, in Netherlands. In 2017, production reached 21 thousand hectares with a turnover of R\$ 60 million, of

which the largest part of the appeal from the export of grain is applied in the local market, with the acquisition of equipment, hiring of enterprises and labor-intensive. The production extends across four municipalities: Macapá, Itaubal, Porto Grande e Tartarugalzinho. With the 400 thousand hectares cultivated with grain – soybean, maize and beans – the Cerrado amapaense will produce something around two million tons of grain.

The other segment that must be modernised is the livestock. This modernisation will occur in two senses. One is the increase of the productivity of natural pastures; another is the livestock on the area of the Cerrado with the deployment of planted pastures in the system of integration Crop-Livestock-Forest (iLPPF), with no-tillage, and biological nitrogen fixation. Amapá is already considered zone free of foot disease with vaccination, which opens the market for buffalo and bovine meat. The consolidation of agriculture and livestock will allow the establishment of the agroindustrial sector.

This new economic perspective rests not only on the agronomic technologies available and the new entrepreneurs, but the local society itself is optimistic that the economic framework of the State come to win the long awaited dynamism until today did not materialize.

These indicators and the feeling optimistic about the consolidation of productive chains of grains and the modernization of livestock in Amapá, is a reality. It is also the assessment of the author of this text, in a study conducted in Amapá, in September 2017, together with: Federação de Agricultura e Pecuária do Estado do Amapá (FAEAP), Embrapa Amapá, Secretaria de Desenvolvimento Rural do Estado do Amapá (SDR), Secretaria de Meio Ambiente do Estado do Amapá (SEMA), Agência de Defesa Agropecuária do Estado do Amapá (DIAGRO), Instituto de Pesquisas Científicas e Tecnológicas do Estado do Amapá (IEPA), Associação dos Produtores de Soja do Amapá (Aprosoja-AP), Associação dos Criadores do Estado do Amapá (ACRIAP).² People of local society were also heard: merchants, government officials and private companies, and the diocesan bishop of Macapá, Dom Pedro José Conti.

It should be noted that the existing model since the 17th century, which led to the formation of socioeconomic Amapá and its adaptation to environmental model, from the Rio-92, you will gain a new and different segment of production. This done, based on large-scale agriculture and livestock production, sustained and supported in technologies that will give sustainability. The goal is to contribute to the desired development of this State be dynamics, sustained and sustainable.

NOTE

1 Royalties, plural of royalty; in English means duties paid to royalty. In mining corresponds to the payment due to the owner of the mineral goods contained in the subsoil – that in Brazil belongs to the federal government – on the part of those who are economically exploiting the resources.

2 People Interviewed: . **FAEAP**: Francisco Rocha de Andrade, director. **Embrapa Amapá**: Jorge Alberto Gazel Yared, head; Antônio Claudio Almeida de Carvalho, adjunct head of technology transfer ; José Adriano Marini, adjunct head of research and development . **SDR**: Robério Anselmo Aleixo Nobre, Secretary of State. **SEMA**: Marco Antônio, coordinator of environmental standards and policies. . **DIAGRO**: José Renato Ribeiro, director. **IEPA**: Wagner José Pinheiro da Costa, coordinator of research. **Aprosoja-AP**: Jesus Pontes, associate. **ACRIAP**: Jesus Pontes, president.

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