

Beef on Track Protocols Training Workshops • 2023

Piracicaba, 03 July 2024



BEEF_{ON} TRACK

Introduction

In 2009, the country's largest meatpackers signed commitments to monitor purchases of cattle from the Amazon. These commitments meet the requirements of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office (TAC of Pará and TAC of Legal Meat) and civil society organizations (Public Commitment of Livestock in the Amazon). Criteria were presented for the signatory companies to monitor the supply chain and curb the sale of cattle products from irregular areas in the Amazon.

Through the **Monitoring Protocol for Cattle Suppliers in the Amazon – Version 1.1** (2021), officially approved by the 4th Coordination and Review Chamber (Environment and Cultural Heritage) of the Federal Public Ministry (MPF), parameters and rules for analyzing cattle purchases were established.

The commitments also define that the monitoring implemented by the meatpackers must be audited annually. In October 2021, the Audit Protocol for Livestock Commitments in the Amazon was launched. This protocol harmonizes and unifies audit procedures, making the process more reliable and transparent. Meatpackers now have a reference document that adds value to companies and generates transparency for civil society.

The audits seek to assess compliance in cattle purchases by verifying the effectiveness of the supplier monitoring system used by the company. The guidelines and procedures defined in the Protocol replace the determinations in force until then and guide independent auditing organizations in verifying compliance with the terms of the commitments assumed by the companies.

To expand the participation and involvement of meatpackers in this process, a series of workshops were organized between September and December 2023 under the Beef on track Program. The main objective was to train them in relation to the **Monitoring Protocol for Cattle Suppliers in the Amazon (PMFGA) – Version 1.1** and the **Audit Protocol for Livestock Commitments in the Amazon – Version 1.0**.

Other objectives of the workshops are also highlighted:

- Provide subsidies for future revisions of the Monitoring and Audit Protocols;
- Engage meatpackers in the implementation and improvement of monitoring processes;
- Strengthen dialogue with meatpackers and other regional entities linked to the meat production chain;
- Identify agendas of public interest for the strengthening of TAC and livestock development strategies.

The face-to-face events took place in seven cities in four states of the Amazon: Nova Xavantina (MT), Cuiabá (MT), Sinop (MT), Rio Branco (AC), Marabá (PA), Paragominas (PA),



and Ji-Paraná (RO). There were 131 participants, including representatives of meatpackers, public agencies, associations, civil society, producers, and others.

Table 1 - Number of institutions present

WORKSHOPS	Rio Branco 12/09	Nova Xavantina 13/09	Nova Xavantina 14/09	Marabá 17/10	Cuiabá 10/24	Ji Paraná 07/11	Parago-Minas 04/12	Sinop 06/12	Total
Regional association	-	-	1	-	-	3	3	-	7
Consultancy	-	1	3	3	4	-	3	3	16
Refrigerator	1	-	-	3	7	1	2	4	18
Tannery	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Public Agency	-	1	4	-	0	1	1	-	8
University	2	-	-	1	0	-	-	-	1
Civil society	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	3
Other	-	1	-	-	3	-	1	-	4
Total number of entities	3	3	9	8	15	5	11	7	61

Thus, this report seeks to present the themes addressed during the workshops along with the comments raised at each event. In addition, it takes stock of the events to promote reliable, safe, and consistent monitoring and audits on the agreements established regarding the beef chain in the Amazon.

Training Workshops for Meatpackers on the Protocol for Monitoring and Auditing Livestock Commitments in the Amazon

The workshops took place in the morning and afternoon, from 8 am to 5 pm. The events were conducted by the Beef on track team, with the participation of external guests in the workshops in Cuiabá – MT and Sinop – MT. The workshop in Nova Xavantina – MT, on 04/13, was held in a rural settlement, in partnership with the Araguaia League.

The opening of the events included a brief institutional presentation about Imaflora. Then, we contextualized the cattle ranching scenario in the Amazon, with information on cattle production, landscape expansion, and deforestation. The Beef on track Program and the history of cattle ranching commitments in the Amazon were **introduced**. At this time, dynamic activities also took place for greater public participation. The results of these activities are described in the topic "Main comments, doubts, and suggestions."



In the afternoon, the criteria of the Protocol for Monitoring Cattle Suppliers in the Amazon were presented and discussed. In most workshops, the public already had prior knowledge about the PMFGA, so this moment was focused on talking about practical situations and suggestions for improvements to the document, with enriching dialogues. The audit process was also addressed, guided by the **Audit Protocol**, which evaluates the performance of companies in relation to livestock commitments based on the criteria and parameters of the PMFGA.

The **initial steps** of the audit were presented, with the definition of the scope and the selection of the auditing company. Preparation includes building a plan and accessing the data and information that must be shared. The **audit work itself** verifies the monitoring systems, the compliance of cattle purchases, and the consumer information procedures, based on the established criteria. The **closing stage** involves the preparation, submission, and publication of the report.

In the second stage of the afternoon, the issue of **traceability** was addressed, with an explanation of its importance in combating cattle triangulation practices. The current situation of access to GTA databases and the trends for complete monitoring of the chain, motivated by international legislation, such as the European Regulation for Deforestation-Free Products (EUDR), were discussed.

Finally, the **reinsertion of producers** blocked by illegal deforestation (TAC) and zero deforestation (CPP) in the supply chain of meatpackers was discussed. **Producer Reinsertion Programs** were presented, such as PREM (Reinsertion and Monitoring Program) in Mato Grosso and SIRFLOR (Forest Restoration System) in Pará. At the Nova Xavantina workshop (09/13), the PREM team was invited to present it, as well as at the workshops in Cuiabá (10/24) and Sinop (12/07).



Horário	Conteúdo	Temas
07:40		Boas Vindas
08:00	Apresentação Institucional Imaflora	Missão, eixos de atuação, projetos, serviços e recursos
08:30	Contexto da Pecuária na Amazônia	Dados históricos Brasil e Estado
10:00		Coffee Break
10:15	Programa Boi na Linha	Histórico, objetivos, parceiros e números
12:30		Almoço – Restaurante do Hotel
13:30	Programa Boi na Linha	Critérios do Protocolo de Monitoramento e Auditoria
16:00		Coffee Break
16:15	Rastreabilidade	Complexidade da cadeia pecuária
16:30	Programas de Reintegração de Produtores	Bases para Programas de Reintegração, PREM, SIRFLOR
17:00		Encerramento

Figure 1: Workshop agenda.

Balance of participation in the workshops

The face-to-face events were preceded by a mobilization period for companies to invite all meatpackers, with and without TAC, to participate in the training workshops. Other actors were also invited, such as rural unions, civil society organizations, and state agencies. For the Marabá workshop (10/17), a letter was sent by Imaflora to Adepará, inviting them to participate in the event, as shown in figures 2 and 4.



Figures 2 and 3: Letter sent by Imaflora inviting Adepará to participate in the Marabá Workshop, on 10/17.



Messages were also sent by e-mail and WhatsApp (figures 3 and 4). Attempts were made to contact them via telephone and, finally, there was wide dissemination through the communication channels of Beef on track.



Figure 4 Material sent by WhatsApp.

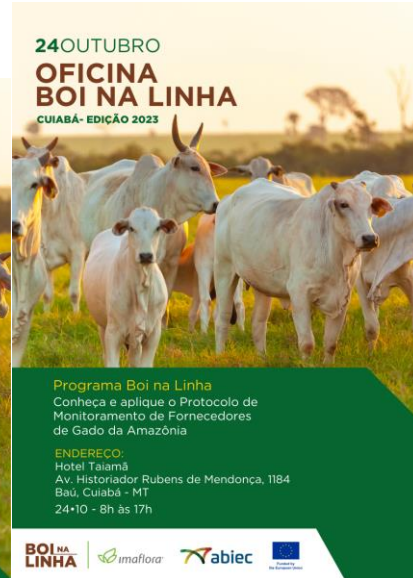


Figure 5: Material sent by e-mail.

The target audience of the events were the meatpackers, but representatives of other local institutions were also present, such as regional associations, universities, public agencies, consultancies, tanneries and processors. Chart 2 details which institutions were at each workshop. The full list of participants is in Annex I of this report.

Table 2 - Balance of the participants in the workshops.

Local	Institutions present	Number of institutions present	Number of participants present
Rio Branco – AC (12/09)	JBS/Friboi; IMAC (Acre Environment Institute); MPF (Federal Public Prosecutor's Office).	3	5
Nova Xavantina - MT (13/09)	EMPAER (Mato Grosso Company for Research, Assistance and Rural Extension); Sicredi.	2	31
Nova Xavantina - MT (14/09)	Araguaia League; Secretariat of Administration, Finance and Family Agriculture; Department of the Environment; Nova Xavantina City Hall (Communication); SCFV; Planting Seeds; Agrícola Alvorada; Sertão Agropastoril.	8	16
Marabá - PA (11/17)	JBS/Green Offices; Rio Maria Slaughterhouse; Valêncio Slaughterhouse; Durli Couros;	8	17



	Unifesspa; Regularize Agro; MultVet Agribusiness; Biogenesis Bagó.		
Cuiabá - MT (10/24)	Frigorífico Boi Branco; Minerva Foods; JBS/Green Offices; Marfrig; Frigonelore; Naturafri; Agropam; ICV; Serasa; PCI; Agroflora; Agroturn; Environmental Branch; Sunflower; Earth.	15	25
Ji-Paraná - RO (07/11)	JBS/Friboi; Funai; Coopaiter; Garah Itxa Cooperative; Paiter people.	5	8
Paragominas - PA (12/04)	Fortefri; Mafrinorte; SEMMA Paragominas; TNC; Acripará; Adepará; Union of Rural Producers; Geomaster; Native Carbon; North Brazil; Banco da Amazônia.	11	17
Sinop - MT (06/12)	Frigobom; Frialto; Pantanal Beef; JBS/Green Offices; Agrisee; Zanardi Consulting; Restauragro.	7	12
Total		59	131

The number of participants in the events was increased compared to the last cycle of workshops in 2022, with a greater variety of institutions present. In 2022, 25 institutions and 47 people participated in 4 events, while in 2023, 61 institutions and 131 guests participated in 8 events.

To reach a larger audience, a database was created with contacts of meatpackers, tanneries, public agencies, local associations and unions, research institutions, retailers, civil society, and producers. In addition, Abiec (Brazilian Association of Meat Exporting Industries) collaborated to engage the associated meatpackers, encouraging their participation. This database is still being updated for next events, considering the challenges in communicating with some smaller meatpackers.

We expect a higher participation in the next cycle, especially in the states of Acre and Rondônia. The low adherence in these states can be justified by the reduced number of TACs signed and the recent change of MPF representatives. In Rondônia, the presence of indigenous peoples and associations guided the discussion to the problem of cattle raising within Indigenous Lands, focusing on a different content compared to other workshops. In Acre, the discussions were more focused on environmental regularization and licensing due to the participation of public agencies.

There is another challenge for the next cycle: the engagement of retailers. They were invited but did not attend, and the regions where the workshops were held have large chains that play a fundamental role in combating irregularities in the livestock chain.



For greater adhesion of meatpackers, based on the experience with the 2023 events, next year the engagement work with Abiec will have more strategic joint planning. Workshops will also be held in different municipalities near the active livestock centers. Factors as time and distance to travel to other municipalities influence the participation of this public, since it involves costs and the absence of representatives in the company.

Another factor to be considered is the resistance of many companies to adhering to the terms and requirements established in the TAC. Many have doubts about the processes but prefer to stay out of the loop (since there have been no penalties) and believe that the responsibility for inspecting the rural producer lies with the environmental agencies. They also think that the cost of monitoring and auditing is too high. However, it is considered that the engagement work is continuous, and the actions developed now will contribute to greater engagement in future actions.

Main comments, questions and suggestions

During the workshops, the participants expressed themselves in relation to the main aspects involving the PMFGA and Audit, consisting mainly of doubts and comments to be evaluated, especially by the MPF and the environmental agencies involved. Real cases are brought by the public and analyzed together, culminating in suggestions for improvements and corrections, thinking about the improvement of the next version of the Protocols (Monitoring and Auditing), and points of attention that need to be systematized for the audit process.

All manifestations were registered, and the main themes and demands were presented to the MPF and discussed in the Technical Chamber of Support to the TAC. As not all topics are similar, they will be presented below, organized by state.

1. Rio Branco (AC)

1.1 General Comments

- SEMAPI monitors the PRAs. IMAC monitors environmental licenses issued, by necessity or by sampling. Priority analysis of the CAR is a prerequisite for IMAC to issue a license.
- Changes in the scenario of Acre: many cattle ranchers are migrating to soybeans and exporting to Peru. Profit from soybeans is higher than from livestock.

1.2 Critical issues

- Cattle production in the Chico Mendes Extractive Reserve.
- Producers often say they will think about doing the PRA and then look for another option for selling cattle.



- There are PRAs that take 1.5 years to be released, and the producer needs to continue selling during that time.
- Green Offices/JBS: in 2 months of work, they managed to convince only 1 producer to join the PRA.

1.3 Environmental degradation

- *Deforestation + absence of permits for deforestation = **no bank financing**.*
- *No bank financing + no private financing + no public financing + no own financing = **low financial** resources.*
- *Low financial resources + lack of technical knowledge + lack of physical resources (seeds, trained employees) = **low production pasture**.*
- *Low-yielding pasture + cattle grazing above pasture recovery capacity = **soil degradation**.*



Figure 6: Participants of the workshop in Rio Branco – AC.

2. Nova Xavantina (MT) - 13/09

2.1 General Comments

The workshop took place in a rural settlement in partnership with the Araguaia League. Therefore, most of the audience were small producers, and the issues discussed ranged



from the rules of the New Forest Code to the Beef on track Program and the programs for the reinsertion of producers.

- Environmental adequacy in the various types of property with the help of a technical partner instead of technical assistance.
- Producers are interested in exceptions to the rules of the New Forest Code.
- Explanation of collective CAR and individual CAR.
- Challenges for Mato Grosso in relation to uncertainties about the type of vegetation (Forest or Cerrado), location of springs, and consolidated use map.



Figure 7: Presentation of the Beef on track Program in Nova Xavantina – MT.



Figure 8: Workshop participants in Nova Xavantina – MT.



3. Nova Xavantina (MT) - 14/09



Figure 9: Presentation at the Nova Xavantina workshop – MT.

3.1 General comments

Held at the Rural Union of Nova Xavantina, the workshop was once again supported by our colleagues from the Araguaia League. In attendance were representatives of the municipality's environmental organisations and rural producers. The lectures were given by Lisandro Inakake, representing Beef on Track, and Bruno Andrade, from Imac (Mato Grosso Meat Institute).

- The Beef on Track Protocol.
- Imac's tools and resources.
- The state's challenges due to the presence of cattle production in different biomes.

4. Marabá (PA)

4.1 General Comments

- Public policies are a central theme for discussion, as they directly influence the chain. Land regularization is the backbone of the problem, as is the lack of access to knowledge and information. ATER (Technical Assistance and Rural Extension) is an example of this and depends fundamentally on the State.
- It is necessary a faster action from State agencies, such as Adepará, in moving forward with the regularization/adaptation of GTAs and CARs (especially in PAs). There was an evaluation on how meatpackers can join forces to pressure the public sector to unlock this agenda. Compliance with the PMFGA criteria involves costs (trained people and investments).



- It would be important for the MPF to use the same transparency platform as the meatpackers to consult blocked properties, to optimize and endorse the unblocking – that is, unifying the place for consultation.

The workshop attendants participated in a dynamic in which they listed **bottlenecks and limitations** and **opportunities** in the livestock chain. The answers are presented below:

4.2 Limitations

- It is necessary to improve communication and the language used by the sector, so small producers can understand what is being requested by the MPF, the market, and society, to facilitate engagement. Therefore, it is also important to have access to information and training for small producers (small producers are aware of the need to adapt but do not know how). Adequacy will be key to accessing markets – ways to deal with exclusion.
- Banks and investors need a unified protocol, such as the PMFGA, which focuses on meatpackers.
- The slowness of the state in cases of regularization of false positive PRODES. This also happens with Ibama in the case of embargoes and with Incra in land regularization, which has had a great impact on the advancement of the agenda. Entities are distant and isolated from this discussion.
- MPF needs to hold other meatpackers and other sectors, such as inputs, accountable.
- Environmental and land regularization and traceability: How to regularize ways to track cattle originating from areas without registration/documentation (TI, UC, Vacant Land, settlements)?
- Pressure on the State to publicly open data: meatpackers need to unite to forward this demand.
- Concernment with overlap with IT of indirect suppliers and questions about procedures (how to solve and who to activate).

4.3 Opportunities

- Participation in other workshops by input companies and other actors in the chain to increase the engagement of the sector as a whole.
- Awards for cattle breeders, for example, to reward productivity. To think about incentives that can be offered.
- It is necessary to unify the data platform of the supplier properties to avoid leakage and/or mistaken purchase of cattle with environmental liabilities. This will cause the producer to be forced to regularize their situation (Semas/Adepará have access to this information).
- To look for incentives for producers to adapt to sustainable practices. Bringing in the input sector can help engagement as an incentive for producers to get regularized.



Partnership projects with retail and universities to implement traceability pilots, ICLF restoration, as incentive, and to foster research and insertion in the market, via PPP projects.

- Integrated use of degraded pastures (AFS) to generate economic activity and restore landscapes, such as cocoa or AG Reg.
- It would be important to build an integrated system between Adepará and meatpackers to obtain real-time access and avoid problems in purchases. The productivity index can be controlled by Adepará, with a block on the purchase/movement.
- Catireiro (barter) and auctions also represent a problem in monitoring (when the cattle rancher takes the cattle from a farm where there has been illegal deforestation to a regularized property before selling). A prior consultation must be made before the auction.



Figure 10: Participants of the workshop in Marabá – PA.

5. Cuiabá (MT)

5.1 General Comments

- More restrictive markets in relation to deforestation (illegal/zero deforestation). The producer needs to evaluate which market he intends to pursue.
- Economic effect of the environmental change of the property (reduction in water consumption, increase in productivity with the reduction of pasture areas, value of the standing forest).
- Meatpackers that do not carry out audits, the focus of the MPF.
- State Decree No. 1031/2017 on SIMCAR and the environmental regularization program in Mato Grosso.



The workshop attendants participated in a dynamic in which they listed **bottlenecks and limitations** and **opportunities** in the livestock chain. The answers are presented below:

5.2 Limitations

- Some small meatpackers are starting to monitor according to the PMFGA; however, it is necessary to improve the communication and language used by the sector to facilitate the understanding, by the farmers, of the requirements of the MPF, the market, and society.
- ICMBIO claims not to know which certificate it should issue to authorize cattle ranching, which makes it impossible to comply with the rule of unlocking the PMFGA protocol. A similar situation occurs in relation to the agency that manages the APA.

5.3 Opportunities

- Participation of banking entities in the next workshops.
- In the state of Mato Grosso, small producers face difficulties in accessing knowledge and information, often without the resources to pay for regularization consulting or the rural extension programs. The State should help disseminate knowledge.
- To check if the APF (provisional authorization for rural operation) could serve as a document proving consolidated areas, since it is issued based on the CAR.
- **To verify the possibility of including in the PMFGA scores related to deforestation in cases of fires in natural vegetation and clearing of vegetation near power lines.**



Figure 11: Dynamic activity carried out in the workshop in Cuiabá – MT.





Figure 12: Participants of the workshop in Cuiabá – MT.

6. Ji-Paraná (RO)

- The issue of cattle raising within Indigenous Lands. In the *Sete de Setembro* Indigenous Land, there are approximately 1500 head of cattle, 1200 of which do not belong to the Indigenous people.
- The Paiter Suruí people would like to collaborate with cattle and suggested the creation of their own brand with a guarantee of direct sales to the meatpackers.
- IT does not have a line of credit, technicians, and infrastructure. It is suggested, due to this interest in cattle, a partnership with SENAR to monitor livestock within the IT, focusing on technical improvements.
- Individual traceability, but to do that, financing is necessary (ear tags, systems, management).
- Satellite monitoring program – DETER - to identify deforestation and fires in Indigenous Lands.
- When there is a sanction or seizure of illegal cattle in Indigenous Lands, part of the funds or the meat collected could be reverted to benefit the Indigenous Land.
- FUNAI should certify the meat from Indigenous Lands on an official basis, providing ear tags and including indigenous cattle in the official system.





Figure 13: Participants of the workshop in Ji-Paraná – RO.

7. Paragominas – PA

7.1 General Comments

- Paragominas has special skills for innovation and sustainability initiatives. It is at the forefront of the CAR implementation, territorial planning, genetic improvement of livestock, rotation techniques, and increased productivity, among others.
- It is important to involve Imaflora in partnership with rural producers and livestock representatives, in addition to meatpackers.
- What are the advantages of traceability via decree from the government of Pará? Which market will pay the most for this?
- It is crucial to consider the ability of the producer and the land to make production decisions. In agriculture, traders offer ATER (Technical Assistance and Rural Extension) to guarantee production, acting as financiers for producers. In livestock, this assistance is not so accessible and personalized, which makes it difficult for the producers to access credit and ATER, especially in some regions. The diversification of production is essential to support small and medium-sized producers, exploring alternatives such as forestry, ICLFS, and SAF to increase income and economic independence.
- The Bank of the Amazon (Basa) is selecting producers for financing in the Green Livestock Program. It is necessary to promote initiatives aligned with the MRV system. Beef on track can contribute significantly to these projects.
- The provision of ATER in livestock is challenging due to the lack of harmonization in practices. It is essential to invest in specialized ATER that is appropriate to local characteristics. Traceability should be seen as a by-product of production management, by being able to separate better quality animals, breeding females,



among other aspects. The existing challenges are more political-bureaucratic than technological or environmental. A principled, not rule-based, approach to livestock farming is needed.

Given the priority of traceability in Paragominas, the discussion focused on the question: "How to propose processes to the State government in the face of this decree?"

- Rural producers who already implement sustainable practices on their property should have greater access to financing and credit, proving their practices and results, which would encourage investments in traceability and technology to increase productivity.
- It is essential for producers to communicate their sustainable practices to meet the sustainability agenda, seeking partnerships with banks to finance these practices.
- Traceability is seen as an opportunity to improve management and productivity on a voluntary basis, adding value and attracting new markets that value these practices/products.
- Building a coalition of symbolic figures to serve as a reference for producers.
- To mobilize producers who already adopt correct practices to boost the traceability agenda.
- Intensification to avoid the need to expand and increase productivity.
- Investment in payments for environmental services and financing for environmental and land regularization.
- Investment in training and monitoring of producers for the evolution of their production practices, with the support of Basa's ATER service for gradual and environmentally friendly implementation. The land title is required to release the credit/financing.
- Producers see traceability as an additional penalty to existing production challenges.
- Certification can be a solution to address traceability.
- Environmental regularization favors the production of commodities. What about small producers with regularization difficulties? Basa is more sensitive to the needs of the smaller producers.
- There are concerns that if Paragominas producers (via the union) do not influence the government's decisions on traceability, they may refuse to comply with the decree.
- There's a need for investment and creation of a fund to prepare producers for the implementation of good practices that increase productivity, allowing traceability as a management tool, not just monitoring of deforestation.
- To mobilize the productive sector to take a stand about the traceability agenda or any other to the government is essential to guarantee the sovereignty of producers and avoid the imposition of discordant measures.



- The government or the Traceability WG should consult with cattle producers' unions in producing regions to develop the process of implementing traceability in their state.



Figure 14: Workshop participants in Paragominas – PA.

8. Sinop – MT

8.1 General Comments:

- There's difficulty in contacting small producers, a lack of knowledge and basic information about GTA and CAR. Thus, meatpackers often prefer to negotiate with medium and large producers because they already have a structure. Small producers need environmentalization with the legislation. Cattle ranchers need to know the Beef on track. Actions to inform them must be done constantly to solidify the information between cattle ranchers.
- There are unions, like Empaer, but many times they do not work well.
- Misalignment between banks and industry.
- Difficulties in understanding the new European Union legislation (EUDR) and how they can adapt to it.
- The Beef on track guarantees the majority of the EUDR.



- IMAC (Mato Grosso Meat Institute): Formalization of adjustments to PMFGA specifications for the state of Mato Grosso with the MPF via IMAC.

The main audience of the Sinop workshop were the region's meatpackers and consultants. As the participants were already aware of the PMFGA, more in-depth discussions were held about the criteria of the protocol:

8.2 Deforestation

- Zero deforestation: There are situations in which authorized forest management is detected by PRODES. Clarify in the DZ criterion whether the property in this case should be blocked.
- Deforestation: In the case of fires, it often starts on one property and reaches another. To prepare a technical document, for example, issued by PREM for legal certainty. SEMA is co-responsible for properties without firebreaks and Imaflora cannot go beyond what is provided for by law.

8.3 Indigenous Lands

- Situation of increased ownership (purchase of area, CAR change) to circumvent overlapping rule with IT.

8.4 Conservation Units

- Difficulties in getting official letters from the agencies.

8.5 Environmental embargo

- There are cases in which the state agency withdraws the infraction notice after the defense, but Ibama resumes the infraction notice at a federal level. The approach in the protocol needs to be defined.
- There's bureaucracy of the environmental agency to remove the embargo from the system. A document has been issued proving that the embargo has been regularized, but it remains on the agency's platform. See about the possibility of the document being an unblock rule.

8.6 Changes in the boundaries of the CAR map

- To change the criteria so that the lock/unlock rules overlap with all other criteria, not just PRODES polygons.



8.7 Rural Environmental Registry (CAR)

- When is the exact moment for presentation and validation of the CAR. In the protocol, it is the date of purchase, but for the audit, meatpackers are presenting the CAR situation on the date of registration, purchase, shipment, and slaughter. An alignment must be made with the auditors in relation to the date analyzed.
- The divergences in the status of the state and national CAR. The most up-to-date state sends the information to the national one. Therefore, in case of divergence, use the information from the state CAR. It is necessary to check how it is in the protocol and how it is being treated in the audits.

8.8 Productivity

- For the current calculation of the productivity index, the consolidated alternative uses the declared area in the current CAR or a percentage estimate the consolidated area based on the Forest Code of the total area declared in the CAR. Specific suggestion changes for Mato Grosso: To use the productive area to calculate the index, so that it is possible to insert an area with authorization for deforestation. In Mato Grosso, State Decree 1,031/2017 talks about Areas of Anthropized Land Use (AUAS), which are areas of anthropized land use, degraded areas, and altered areas, with or without authorization from the environmental agency. To differentiate legally opened areas from illegally deforested areas, the following information should be used: productive area = areas opened with a license after 2008 + areas consolidated until 2008. Information is available on the MT Geoportal.
- There is a failure in the productivity criterion, because each company evaluates the productivity index of the farm without information about other companies. That is, the producer can sell 3 head/ha to one company and another 3 head/ha to another company, and the total sale is higher than the established index.

8.9 Audits

- Auditors need to be better trained. In audits, there are divergences in interpretation between monitoring companies, auditors, and the company's legal team.
- Auditing companies are charging more than what is established in the protocols.
- Highlight to the auditors time frame: date of purchase.





Figure 15: Participants of the Sinop – MT workshop.

Conclusions

The workshops happened in strategic areas of the Amazon, focused on the Amazon Cattle Supplier Monitoring Program and the Audit of Livestock Commitments in the Amazon, representing crucial opportunities to bring together representatives of various meat processing companies and others interested in strengthening a more sustainable meat value chain in the biome. Although most participants are signatories to the Conduct Adjustment Agreements (TAC) and/or the Livestock Commitment, it is always essential to revisit the protocols, discussing new aspects for improvement and continuous progress.

The comments, doubts, and suggestions were noted and systematized, and can serve as a basis for discussions on changes in the PMFGA. Additionally, there's a need for improvement in auditors' training, due to failures in the alignment in the evaluation of some criteria.

We expected greater participation of meatpackers; however, engagement actions in partnership with Abiec are being planned to increase adherence to the next events, especially medium and small ones. The significant increase in the number of participants compared to previous years is noteworthy, but we recognize the opportunity to expand even more. There were also discussions about the participation of other actors in the chain, such as financial institutions, producers, retailers, and public agencies, since the workshops are crucial spaces for debating different perspectives.

It is important that the workshops address current issues, such as traceability and reintegration of producers. The content must be adapted according to the region of the



event, considering its specificities. For example, in Rondônia, the focus was on the indigenous issue, while in Sinop, the discussions were more in-depth due to the greater familiarity of the meatpackers with the PMFGA criteria.

Thus, the workshops represent an important form of engagement and approximation to the livestock actors. This contact not only disseminates knowledge but also provides continuous learning to the Beef on track Program team, contributing to the constant improvement of the Monitoring and Auditing Protocols, in addition to the training involved and practical knowledge in the field.

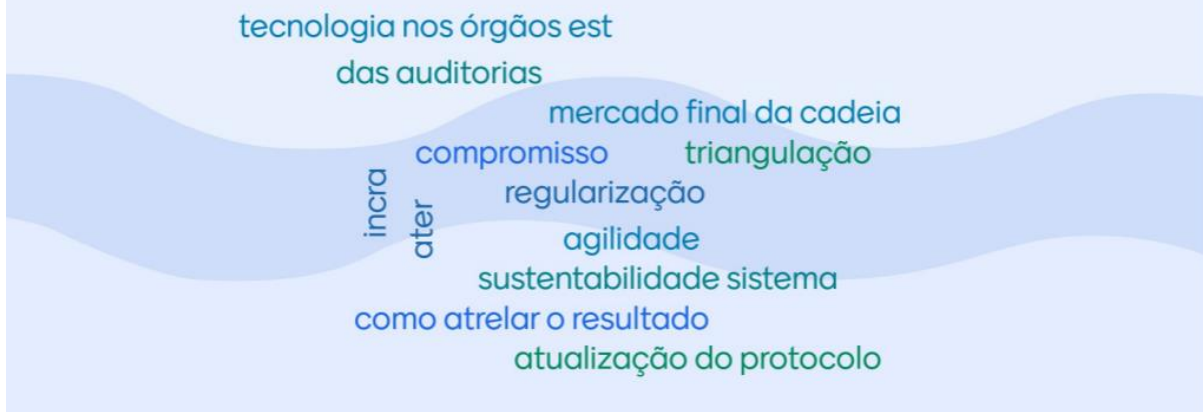
ANNEX I - Evaluation of the Workshops

The following are the evaluations and comments made by the participants in the workshops in Marabá, Cuiabá, and Sinop. There was no final evaluation in the other events.

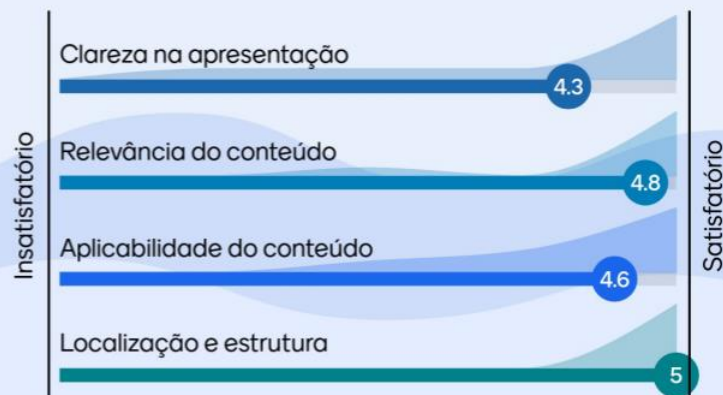
1. Marabá – PA



Que assunto não foi abordado nesta oficina, mas seria importante ser?
12 respostas



Avaliação



2. Cuiabá - MT

Qual foi o assunto mais útil nesta oficina?

42 responses

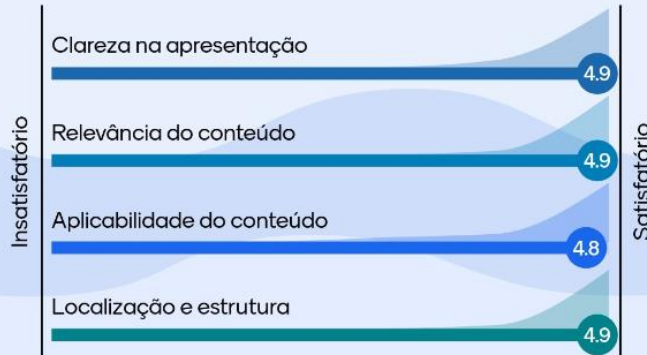


Qual assunto não foi abordado nesta oficina, mas seria importante ser?

17 responses



Avaliação



3. Sinop - MT

Qual foi o assunto mais útil nesta oficina?
31 respostas



Qual assunto não foi abordado nesta oficina, mas seria importante ser?
13 responses

