



CATHEDRAL OF THE QUEEN OF THE FOREST

CÉU DO MAPIÁ – AMAZONAS • BRASIL



CATHEDRAL OF THE QUEEN OF THE FOREST

Céu do Mapiá, Amazonas, Brasil





IGREJA DO CULTO ECLÉTICO DA FLUENTE LUZ UNIVERSAL
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PRESENTATION

“

*Eu venho da floresta
com meu cantar de amor
eu canto é com alegria
a minha mãe que me mandou*

”

**Mestre Raimundo
Irineu Serra**





*Center of Vila Céu do Mapiá, Purus National Forest, Amazonas in the 1990s.
Photo: Acervo CEDOC*



For the community, the church holds not only religious significance but also plays a key role in community integration, serving as the main starting point for social relations [...]

PRESENTATION

Vila Céu do Mapiá (Céu do Mapiá Village), located within the Purus National Forest in the state of Amazonas, is an intentional religious community founded in 1983 that is home to the mother church of ICEFLU – the Eclectic Church of the Flowing Universal Light, Patron Sebastião Mota de Melo. As the global headquarters of one of the main branches of the Santo Daime Doctrine, the village was founded by rubber tapper and spiritual leader Padrinho Sebastião, a follower of Mestre Raimundo Irineu Serra. Since its beginnings, the village has become a center of pilgrimage for members from across Brazil and abroad. After Padrinho Sebastião's passing into the spiritual realm in 1990, his son, Alfredo Gregório de Melo (Padrinho Alfredo), assumed spiritual leadership and continued the expansion of the Doctrine throughout Brazil and around the world.

Celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2025, ICEFLU now has affiliated churches throughout Brazil and in various other countries. This expansion has increased visits to the mother church, which, aside from needing revitalization, had long been considered too small especially during the major June and Christmas festivals. For the community, the church holds not only religious significance but also serves as a center of social integration. It is the main gathering space for community

relations and hosts events supporting the health and well-being of both residents and visitors of Vila Céu do Mapiá.

Thanks to the dedication of local leaders and the broader community, with technical support and donations from the global brotherhood, the church's expansion spanned 13 years, culminating in its pre-inauguration on the night of Saint John's Day, June 23, 2023. The event was a major celebration attended by authorities, visitors, and friends of Vila Céu do Mapiá. Engineering, logistics, fundraising, management, and

**Vídeo - Catedral da
Rainha da Floresta**
São João 2023

*Spiritual work held at the Cathedral
of the Queen of the Forest during
its pre-inauguration on the
night of St. John, June 23, 2023.
Photo: Marcos Vicentti*



**Site ICEFLU
Santo Daime**
A Doutrina da Floresta

**Throughout the
document, links
are provided to
access videos,
websites,
reports, and
other materials
produced during
this period—click
on the icons to
learn more [...]**

many other challenges were part of this intense process in the village.

Riding the wave of celebrations for the centennial of Madrinha Rita Gregório de Melo, this document aims to present an account of the main phases and activities related to the renovation of ICEFLU's Mother Church—now called the Cathedral of the Queen of the Forest—as a way to share and celebrate the vibrant, dynamic, and challenging journey of realizing the dream of bringing together the Juramidam brotherhood and sisterhood to honor and live the teachings of the Santo Daime Doctrine in the Amazon Rainforest.

The report begins with a general characterization of the Vila Céu do Mapiá community and the Purus National Forest (FLONA do Purus), followed by a summary of the project, construction phases, and outcomes, along with efforts to strengthen the community. Finally, some considerations are offered on how to maximize the positive impacts of this important material and spiritual undertaking.

Because there were so many people who contributed in various ways and at different stages of this beautiful and challenging story, individual names are not highlighted—but heartfelt recognition is extended to each sister and brother who offered their support in so many ways.

Throughout the document, links are provided to access videos, websites, reports, and other materials that illustrate and help celebrate this important new chapter in the living history of Vila Céu do Mapiá and the global brotherhood and sisterhood. Click on the links and logos to access more details about what has been accomplished so far.



*Photo of Madrinhas Rita and Júlia
during the hinário celebrating Madrinha
Rita's 90th birthday, on 06/25/2015.
Photo: Rafael Oliveira*



1 THE VILLAGE OF CÉU DO MAPIÁ

“

*Eu sou brilho do sol
Eu sou brilho da lua
Eu brilho na floresta
porque ela me pertence*

”

**Padrinho Sebastião
Mota de Melo**





*Photo of the Repartição stream, highlighting the reddish tint of its waters.
Photo: Christian Costa*

THE VILLAGE OF CÉU DO MAPIÁ

Vila Céu do Mapiá was founded on the banks of the Mapiá stream, a tributary of the left bank of the Purus River, in the municipality of Pauini, Amazonas, Brazil. Guided by the principle of a self-sustainable lifestyle in harmony with the forest, the community is currently organized through various institutions and social groups. Its intention is to foster, through communal life, the spiritual development of individuals in the light and practice of the Santo Daime Doctrine.

Revista 40 anos da Vila Céu do Mapiá
português

Over a little more than 40 years, the village has grown to include about 600 residents and has established itself as the global headquarters of the Santo Daime, following the path of Padrinho Sebastião. Immersed in lush forests, streams, and rich biodiversity, the community seeks to live and thrive in harmony with nature, serving as an inspiring place for those who seek a life in simplicity deeply connected to Mother Earth. Its residents are welcoming and hospitable, receiving visitors from all over the world to experience their culture and way of life.

Revista 40 anos da Vila Céu do Mapiá
inglês

From an economic standpoint, the community initially functioned under an essentially communal system, with no money. At that time, people organized themselves into collective work fronts to produce food, build homes, care for and educate children, and carry out religious practice. Surplus

Immersed in lush forests, streams, and rich biodiversity, the community seeks to live and thrive in harmony with nature.

goods and rubber extracted from the forest were taken to the town of Boca do Acre, where they were sold to acquire essential items such as salt, oil, and fuel. Over time, and with the arrival of new residents and visitors, labor relations evolved and the social fabric became more complex.

Today, income generation mainly comes from activities linked to religious pilgrimage, as well as from pensions, salaries of public employees, social programs, local projects, and service provision in the form of day labor and contract work. Support from the Santo Daime brotherhood and sisterhood in Brazil and abroad, through solidarity campaigns and social and -environmental projects, remains a key component in generating resources for the community—especially in matters of health and social assistance in general.

Due to its remote location and lack of conventional electricity infrastructure, Vila Céu do Mapiá relies primarily on individual energy systems such as solar panels and diesel or gasoline generators. Geographic isolation and limited government presence have led, over time, to the development of local solutions for accessing other basic services such as solid waste management, sanitation, health, and education. Thanks to the efforts of local residents and a broad support network, the community established a health clinic and the Cruzeiro do Céu State School. Initiatives such as the Santa Casa de Cura Padrinho Manoel Corrente and the Forest Medicine Center (Centro de Medicina da Floresta) help reinforce healthcare services in the community.

Since its founding, the community has carried out many initiatives aimed at sustainability on various levels. In 2004, the Community Development Plan (PDC) was created through a participatory process that helped solidify the community's vision and mission, form action groups in strategic areas,

and establish the Interinstitutional Working Group (GTI)—the main decision-making body of the community, composed of representatives from the various organizations active in the village.

In 2013, the community received the AmaGaia course, a participatory process of training and integrated planning for community sustainability. Based on the Ecovillage Design Education (EDE) curriculum developed by Gaia Education, an international organization, the course connected the community to the global ecovillage movement, and Vila Céu do Mapiá became part of the Global Ecovillage Network. Between 2018 and 2020, the AmaGaia Program took place, supporting fundraising efforts and implementing a series of actions and projects to strengthen the community in its four key dimensions: social, economic, ecological, and cultural.

Vídeo Institucional da Vila Céu do Mapiá
celebração 40 anos

Currently, Céu do Mapiá is part of the Global Ecovillage Network.



Record of the "Heirs of the Padrinho" Gathering, focused on engaging and motivating the local youth. Photo: Rafael Gomes



Aerial view of Vila Céu do Mapiá highlighting the vast forest that surrounds it. Photo: Pedro Adnet



2 PURUS NATIONAL FOREST

“

*O jardim é a floresta
que o nosso pai criou
feliz serão aqueles
que souber dar o seu valor*

”

**Padrinho Alfredo
Gregório de Melo**





*Aerial view of the vast forest cover that makes up the Purus National Forest.
Photo: Pedro Adnet*



The overall objective of the FLONA is “to promote the sustainable multiple use of natural resources and scientific research” [...]

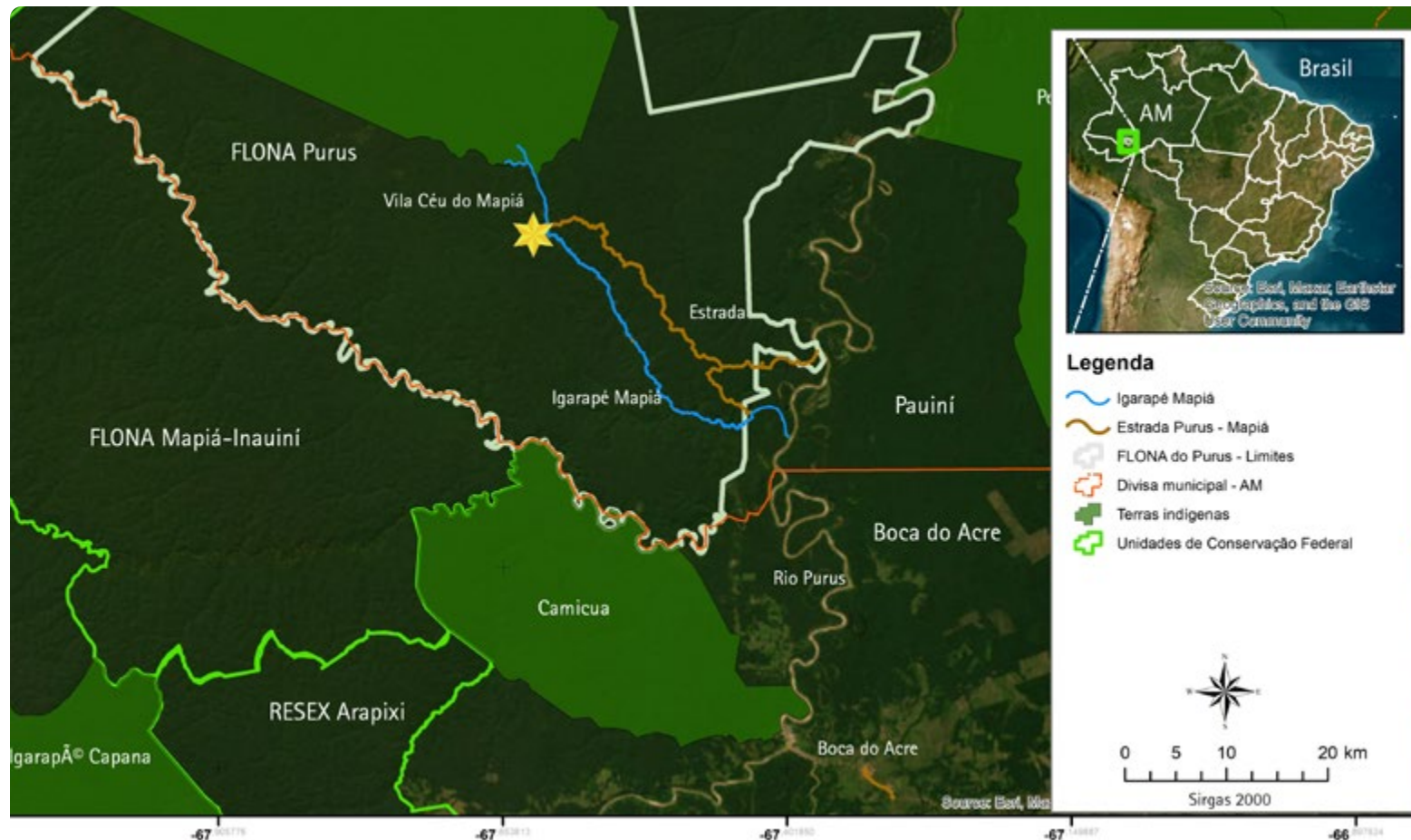
PURUS NATIONAL FOREST

Six years after the founding of the community, in 1989, the Purus National Forest (FLONA do Purus) was created, with Vila Céu do Mapiá located at its center. FLONAs are Conservation Units (UCs) within the category of Sustainable Use, consisting of public lands that allow for the presence of communities established prior to the unit's creation and for the sustainable use of natural resources. Management of FLONA do Purus is the responsibility of the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio), through its regional office in the city of Boca do Acre (AM), and must be carried out in partnership with community organizations. The objectives, guidelines, and management rules of the FLONA do Purus are determined by its Management Plan, published in 2009, which was developed with significant participation and support from friends and partners of Céu do Mapiá.

The overall objective of the FLONA do Purus is to “promote the sustainable multiple use of natural resources and scientific research, with an emphasis on methods for the sustainable management of native forests, and to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of resident populations through the valorization of indigenous culture.”

One of the key elements of the management plan is zoning, which spatially organizes the territory and defines areas where

human occupation is permitted, as well as the use of forest resources, preservation areas, etc. The area corresponding to Vila Céu do Mapiá is designated as Population Zone 3, located at the confluence of the Repartição and Mapiá streams.



Map showing the location of Vila Céu do Mapiá, the Purus National Forest (FLONA), and the surrounding Conservation Units and Indigenous Lands.

A unique aspect of the FLONA do Purus is that the majority of its population are followers of Santo Daime and are responsible for preserving this ancestral cultural heritage of the Amazon, especially the traditional ethnoecological knowledge related to the use of Ayahuasca. As such, the Management Plan includes a directive to strengthen and structure activities related to the intense and growing number of ecological and religious visitors. This is in accordance with CONAD Resolution 01/2010, which states in item 4 of the conclusions of the



Resolução 01/2010 do CONAD

“Deontological Principles for the Religious Use of Ayahuasca”: “legitimate exchanges between members of religious entities and their reference communities.”

The renovation and expansion of ICEFLU's Mother Church, as central infrastructure for religious activities, is aligned with the planning established for FLONA do Purus. Since the project did not require deforestation or changes in land use, formal approval was obtained from the FLONA do Purus administration for its execution, as well as for road improvements connecting the village to the Purus River.

Plano de Manejo da FLONA do Purus vol 1

You can access the Management Plan to find in-depth information about FLONA do Purus and the communities that live within it.

Plano de Manejo da FLONA do Purus vol 2



Anuência da Chefia da FLONA com relação a obra

FLONA resident returning home via the Mapiá stream. Photo: Pedro Adnet





*Aerial photograph of the Forest Management
Unit of Vila Céu do Mapiá, Purus National
Forest (FLONA), Amazonas, Brazil.
Photo: Pedro Adnet*



3 THE NEW MOTHER CHURCH PROJECT

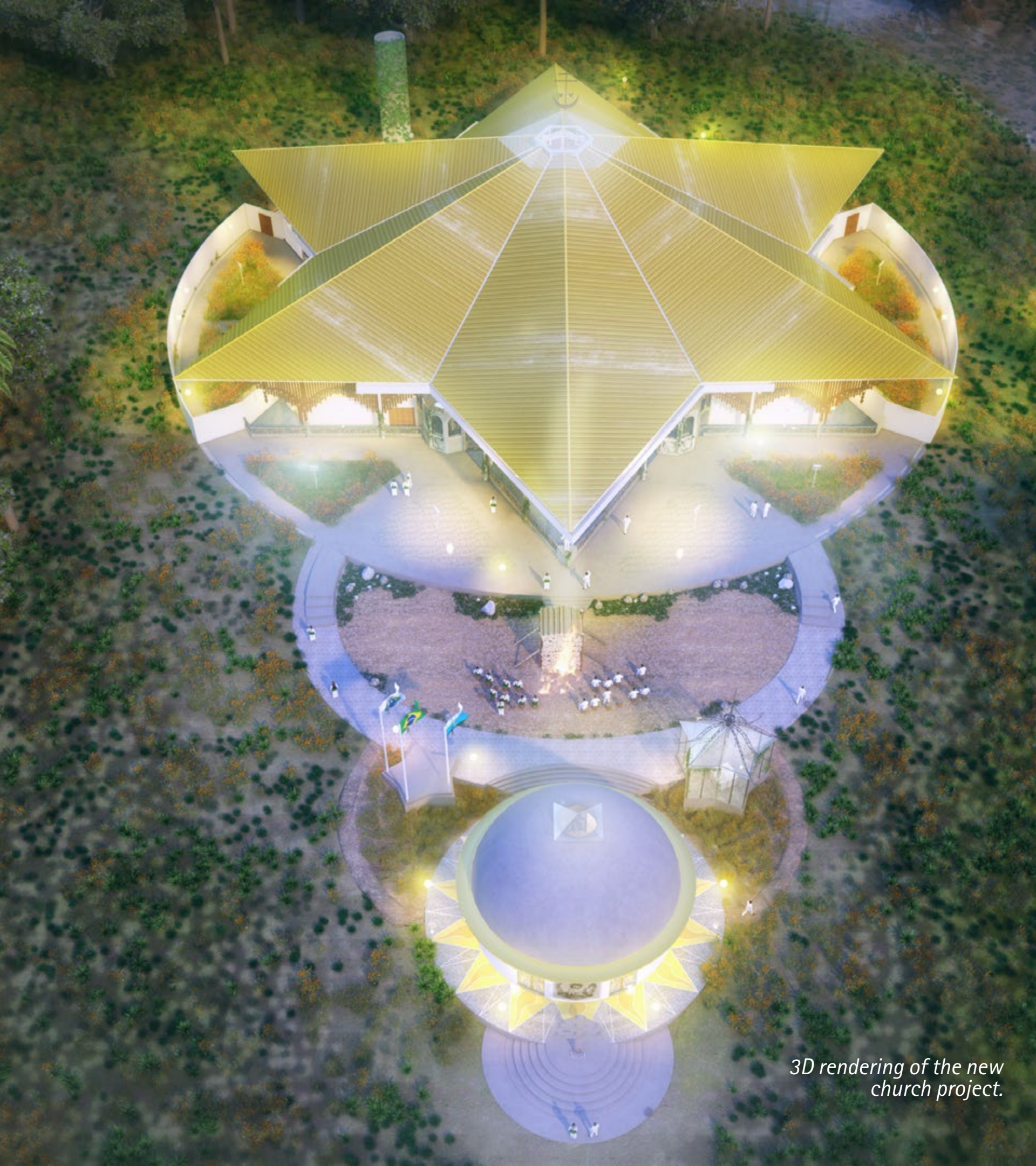
“

*Eu como filha de vós
dentro deste salão
eu quero seguir com vós
de todo o meu coração*

”

**Madrinha Cristina
Raulino**





3D rendering of the new church project.

THE NEW MOTHER CHURCH PROJECT

The Mother Church has always been a unifying element in the community life of Vila Céu do Mapiá and within the worldwide ICEFLU brotherhood and sisterhood. It hosts the main spiritual works and other significant social and cultural gatherings that foster community living. One year after the village was founded, in 1983, community members built their first church in the central square. It was a simple structure with paxiúba palm walls, a dirt floor, and a roof made of caranaí palm leaves. Due to its small size, it quickly became inadequate. Anticipating the village's growth and increasing number of visitors, Padrinho Sebastião began the construction of the Mother Church between 1987 and 1989, shaped in the form of

Vídeo CEDOC - Catedral da Rainha da Floresta



Vista aérea da antiga Igreja Matriz, construída entre os anos de 1987 e 1989. Foto: Acervo CEDOC

one of the doctrine's main symbols: the six-pointed star.

The structure was built using noble woods such as itaúba, maçaranduba, cedrorana, and cedar, which were bravely harvested, milled, and laboriously transported with animal traction along forest trails to the village.

It was a major achievement for the community, built by the hands of its own carpenters and residents. With excellent acoustics, the original temple had a central hexagonal hall with a diameter of 26 meters and a total area of 500 m², accommodating around 600 people.



Construction of the old church in the late 1980s, using local timber and labor. Photo: Acervo CEDOC.

Over the years, the tombs of Padrinhos Sebastião, Manoel Corrente, Chico Corrente, Madrinha Cristina Raulino, and Padrinho Manoel Gregório were built around the church. These are sacred spaces for Santo Daime followers, where many come to offer prayers and tributes.

Following a flourishing period of international expansion of the Doctrine, it became clear that the church structure required revitalization. Twenty years after its construction, the building

was naturally deteriorating and would eventually pose safety risks. At that point, the vision that “the brotherhood and sisterhood will grow and many will come” inspired the dream of building a larger space to accommodate more people.

Projeto inicial



Projeto arquitetônico plantas e memorial descritivo

Fotos 3D e maquete iniciais do projeto da nova igreja

In 2009, planning began for the renovation and expansion of the Mother Church. One of the goals of the new project was to remove the central column to provide an unobstructed view of the hall a so called “open span.” The original proposal included a new structure with concrete support pillars and a wooden roof frame.

The architectural design of the new church sought to minimize environmental impacts by adapting the construction to the existing space and preserving the integrity of the local landscape. Keeping the church on the same site prevented the removal of native vegetation and avoided extensive earthmoving operations. Project guidelines aimed to reduce water and energy consumption, treat and reuse wastewater, incorporate renewable energy sources, use durable and lightweight materials with appropriate technologies, and generate environmental offsets and infrastructure improvements to benefit the village.

Numerous fundraising campaigns were held among affiliated churches to raise the necessary funds for the project. Between 2010 and 2016, the construction was under the responsibility of local builders. During this time often through collective work efforts (mutirões) the foundations, footings, columns, pilasters, and reinforced concrete beams were built, forming a grand star-shaped structure.

Vídeo sobre a obra e a captação de recursos

INE develops and promotes projects aligned with regenerative and syntropic actions, aiming for a transformation focused on human development and deeper connection with nature.

When it came time to build the roof, its complexity surpassed the capacity of local builders, requiring the hiring of specialized construction companies. After technical consultations with civil engineers who are also members of the Doctrine, the construction strategy was revised, and a metal roof structure was chosen instead of wood. From that point forward, engineering firms took over various stages of the project.

This period also marked the beginning of significant investments not only in the church's construction but also in the village's overall infrastructure—thanks to financial support from the worldwide brotherhood and sisterhood, particularly the Instituto Nova Era (INE).

Beyond the construction itself, the project also led to institutional strengthening of ICEFLU, the implementation of several social and environmental projects, and infrastructure improvements in Vila Céu do Mapiá and its surrounding areas.

Boletim de notícias INE
edição 1

Boletim de notícias INE
edição 2



INE
INSTITUTO
NOVA
ERA

Logo of the Nova Era Institute – INE



Project model

Author: Sílvio Galvão



4 CONSTRUCTION PHASES

“

*O templo
sendo cada um
o Mestre continua ensinando*

”

**Padrinho Alfredo
Gregório de Melo**





Aerial view of the star-shaped concrete structure with the geodesic dome at its center, where many spiritual works were held during the period. Photo: Pedro Adnet

CONSTRUCTION PHASES



Vídeo - A Igreja da Floresta

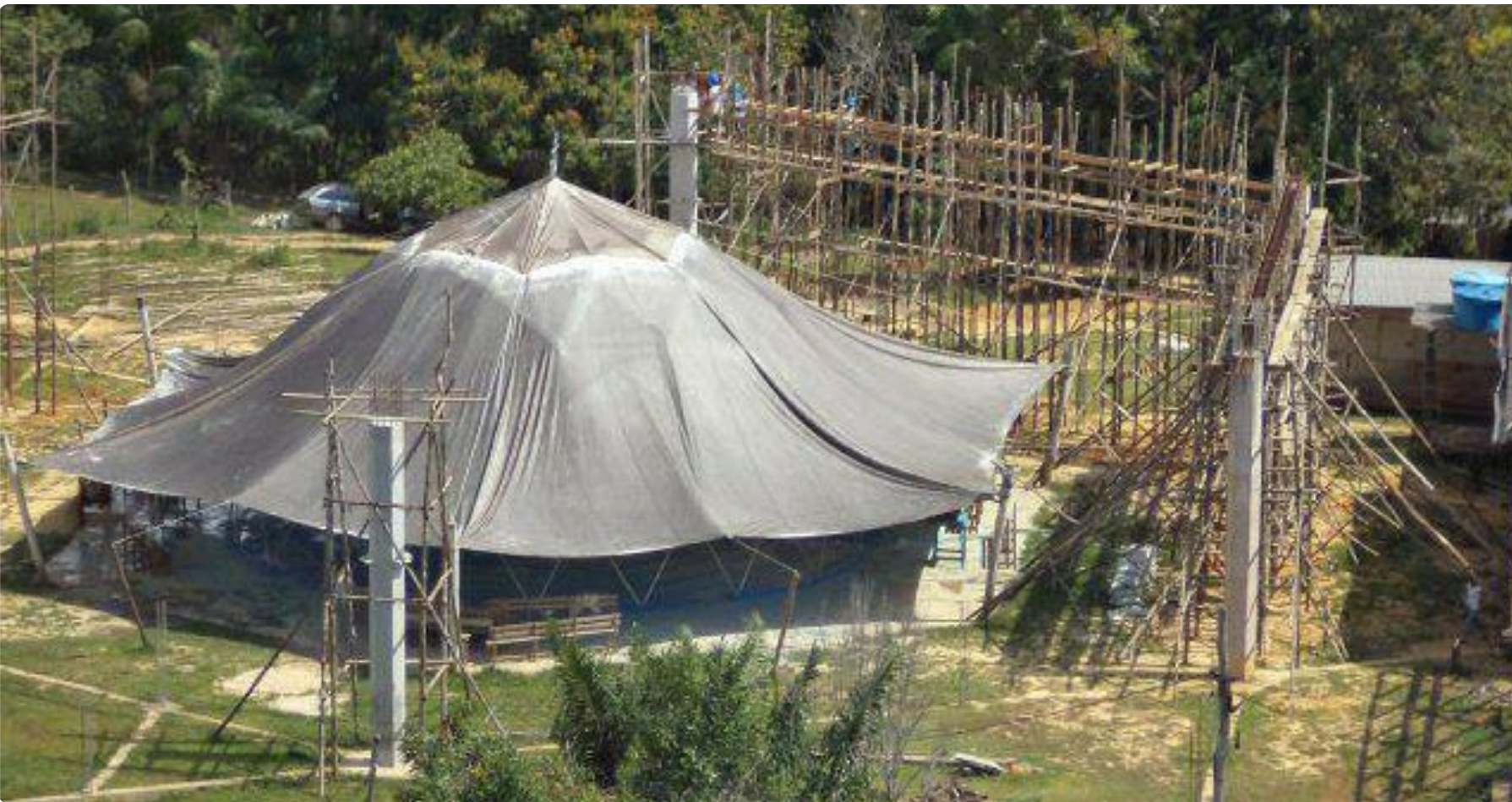
At the turn of 2010 to 2011, the last spiritual work took place in the old church. At that time, under the coordination of Padrinho Alfredo and the community's builders, the project had already begun with the dismantling of the old structure and the opening and construction of the foundations and footings. It was a grand undertaking carried out with extremely simple means—wooden scaffolding and often through collective volunteer work.

Between 2011 and 2016, spiritual works were held in a geodesic dome installed in the main hall area. Despite its simplicity, this period marked an important time of unity for the community in the effort to realize this major project.

Below is a summary of the main construction phases of the ICEFLU Mother Church, from 2017 to 2025.

Structural Project Review and Integration

Once the need for specialized engineering work was confirmed, companies were hired to begin technical studies evaluating soil stability and the integrity of the concrete structures built so far. Based on studies conducted in 2018 and 2019, technical designs were developed for resizing the foundations, repairing and reinforcing the pillars, and constructing the roof—now planned with steel profiles.



View of the concrete structure construction phase, highlighting the scaffolding made of wood. Photo: Acervo CEDOC



Vídeo - Obra da Igreja da Floresta no Céu do Mapiá

It is estimated that over 400 tons of construction materials and equipment were transported.

Preparation of Facilities for Food and Lodging

From 2017 to 2023, specialized construction companies took turns working on the site, requiring external labor about 30 workers on average over six years. A dining facility was set up by renovating and equipping the community's general kitchen and organizing a team of local cooks. Lodging facilities and guesthouses were also renovated and expanded to accommodate workers and later, visitors.

Transport of Materials and Equipment

In addition to the structural challenge posed by the cathedral's design and scale, the village's isolation about 100 km from the nearest town, Boca do Acre (AM), via river—was one of the greatest obstacles to completing the work. An estimated 400 tons of construction materials and equipment were transported.

Access to FLONA do Purus is by river, through the Purus River. From there, two routes lead to Vila Céu do Mapiá: one by water and the other by land.

Waterway Access

The water route follows the Mapiá stream for approximately 57 km from the Purus River. Narrow, winding, with submerged tree trunks and sandbanks, and surrounded by dense vegetation, the stream poses major challenges for navigation and the transport of heavy cargo.

Local logistics are directly tied to rainfall patterns. During the dry season (July to October), water levels drop so low that only small boats, such as canoes and aluminum skiffs with longtail motors, can navigate. At the peak of drought, the stream's cargo capacity drops to a maximum of 500 kg per boat.

Navigability improves from November to June, during the rainy season, but even then, only small vessels can travel along the stream, carrying up to 4,000 kg. Barges and mid-sized boats can navigate only the Purus River.

*Record of one of the many barge trips transporting materials along the Purus River.
Photo: Iberê Perissé*



In general, smaller loads were transported via the stream during higher water levels. Several community work efforts cleared fallen trees from the waterway to improve conditions. These operations required tremendous logistical effort and were only possible thanks to the work of local residents, who have deep knowledge of the Mapiá stream and the Purus River.

Overland Access

To allow the transport of vehicles, machinery, and large materials, the existing 43-km road connecting Vila Céu do Mapiá to the communities of Fazenda São Sebastião and Praia Dom João (on the banks of the Purus River) had to be repeatedly improved. However, during the rainy season, the road becomes nearly impassable.

Upgrades included opening a new access point to the Purus River at a location known as Praia Dom João; widening, reshaping, and compacting the roadbed in better sections; creating bypasses ("arrodeios") where deep mud made travel impossible; and building a new bridge in the village with reinforced structure to allow trucks and equipment to cross the Mapiá stream.

A tremendous logistical effort was required, and such operations were only made possible thanks to the work of local residents, who have extensive experience in dealing with these challenging conditions.



Vídeo - Etapa Final da Obra da Igreja Matriz do Santo Daime no Céu do Mapiá

Resumption of the Works

As materials were transported and the roof design and structural reinforcements were being finalized, construction resumed on parts of the masonry structures, side walls, access ways, support areas, and electrical and plumbing installations. The installation of windows, ceramic tiles, bathroom fixtures, and other finishes for the bathrooms and support areas were completed alongside the construction of the roof.

Construction of Tombs and Outdoor Areas

As outlined in the project, the tombs were revitalized with new shapes and finishes. They were resized, covered with marble slabs, and specially decorated. Over the tombs of Padrinhos Sebastião, Manoel Corrente, and Chico Corrente, a metallic canopy was installed to provide thermal comfort and special acoustics. For the tombs of Padrinho Manoel Gregório and Madrinha Cristina Raulino, a decorative gazebo was built and later adorned with ornamental plants.

A metal roof was installed over the tombs of Padrinhos Sebastião, Manoel Corrente, and Chico Corrente, providing thermal comfort and special acoustics.

*Aerial photographs of the construction stages of the Padrinhos' tombs and the masonry structures in the main hall.
Photos: Pedro Adnet*



Roof Assembly

After a long period of planning to meet the structural needs and aesthetic design of the cathedral, and following the manufacture, transportation, and final painting of the steel components—as well as the reinforcement of the foundations and the installation of structural pillars—the assembly of the beams, trusses, and secondary framing of the roof began. This was followed by the installation of yellow thermoacoustic metal roofing panels, known for their high resistance and durability. This stage was eagerly anticipated, as it marked the point when the church could begin to receive the finishing touches and prepare to host spiritual works.

Boletim - Obra da Catedral no Céu do Mapiá



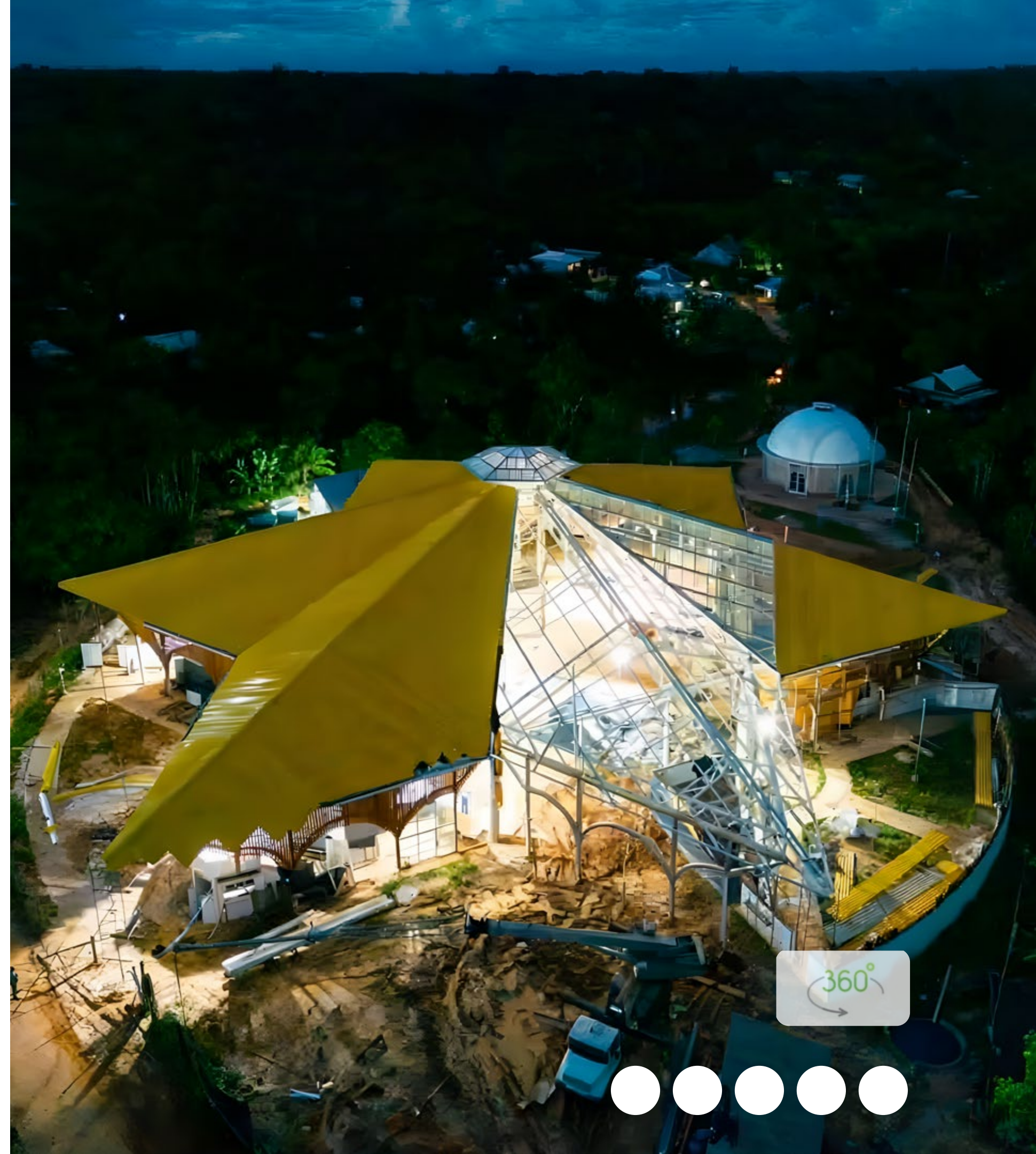
Vídeo Boletim da Obra
visita dos moradores



Vídeo Boletim da Obra
maio 2023



*Aerial photographs of the final stage of construction – installation of the metal roof structures.
Photos: Iberê Périssé*



Finishes

After an intense period of construction, the anticipation for the church's inauguration was high. With the installation of the roof, there was a real possibility of beginning to use the space for spiritual works, even though parts of the construction were still unfinished. The walls were painted, wooden decorative elements were added to the sides of the roof, and the flooring, bathroom fixtures, and windows and doors were installed in the bathrooms, office, Daime room, storage areas, mezzanine, among others.

The cathedral was then in a condition to begin operating, even if only in a "pre-inauguration" phase, and it was thus handed over to the community, with some finishing touches still pending, which require more time and resources. Noteworthy in this process were the restoration of the table and, more recently, the door of the old church—true works of art in wood sculpture.

Final steps to complete the structure, such as the installation of the floor in the main hall, garden construction, application of coverings on the pillars, and the interior decoration itself, are being continuously carried out by the community, with the support of the global ICEFLU brotherhood sisterhood.



Photograph taken during the Confession Hymn at the pre-inauguration ceremony on the night of St. John, June 23, 2023. Photo: Marcos Vicentti

Main Hall Flooring Installation

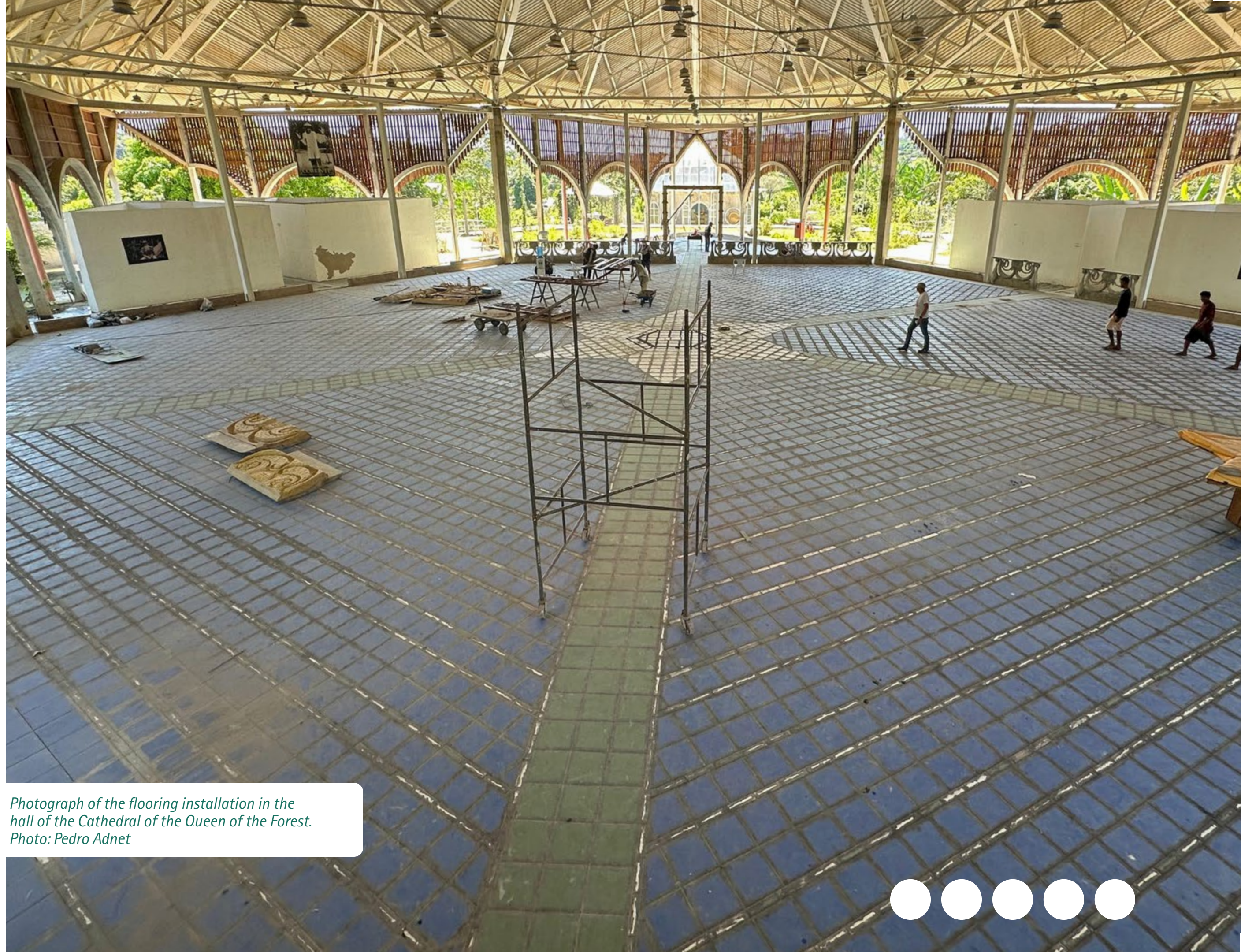
Almost two years after the pre-inauguration, the approaching celebrations of Madrinha Rita's Centenary inspired a new fundraising campaign titled "Piso firme e sigo em frente" (step firmly and move forward). ICEFLU launched this initiative among its global brotherhood and sisterhood to make this crucial stage of the cathedral's completion possible.

The chosen floor—made of industrial ceramic—was selected for its non-slip surface, high impact resistance, fine finish, and easy installation. It is also expected to enhance the building's acoustics.

The costs for this stage were significant, and every contribution is welcome!

Contribua com a campanha "Piso Firme, e Sigo em Frente"

Vídeo - Etapa de instalação do piso do salão



*Photograph of the flooring installation in the hall of the Cathedral of the Queen of the Forest.
Photo: Pedro Adnet*





*Aerial photograph of the Cathedral of the Queen of the Forest, Vila Céu do Mapiá, FLONA do Purus, Amazonas.
Photo: Pedro Adnet*





5 THE CATHEDRAL OF THE QUEEN OF THE FORESTA

“

*É com o Sol, com a Lua e as Estrelas
É na Floresta, com o vento e com o Mar
É com a Terra, com o ar e no espaço
Chamei Midam, pronto Ele aqui está*

”

**Padrinho Alfredo
Gregório de Melo**





Revista -
Pré Inauguração
da Catedral da
Rainha da Floresta

At the center is the main ceremonial hall, with a 1,200 m² area, designed to comfortably accommodate up to 980 people dancing.

*Visiting members from other churches at the Cathedral.
Photo: Pedro Adnet*

THE CATHEDRAL OF THE QUEEN OF THE FOREST

ICEFLU's new Mother Church, named by Madrinha Rita as the "Cathedral of the Queen of the Forest," has a built area of 5,700 m². Its main structure follows the shape of a six-pointed star, combining masonry and steel metal structures. At its center lies the spiritual work hall, with an area of 1,200 m², designed to comfortably accommodate up to 980 people dancing.

At the points of the star, support areas for spiritual works have been arranged, including: bathrooms, healing rooms, the Daime room, storage rooms, verandas, an office, a studio, and dedicated spaces for children, padrinhos, and madrinhas.

Outside, the extensive gardens are surrounded by access paths inspired by the shape of the new moon. The tombs of Padrinhos Sebastião, Manoel Corrente, and Francisco Corrente were revitalized with a circular design symbolizing the sun, while the tombs of Padrinho Manoel Gregório and Madrinha Cristina were built in the shape of a star. With the recent passing of Madrinha Silvia Maria in 2025, her tomb was also constructed in the church area.

A dedicated space was also set aside for the traditional June festival bonfires.

Boletim - "Nossa Catedral"
uma apresentação
gráfica da obra

Water Supply

Drinkable water is provided through a deep artesian well. A 25,000-liter tank stores water for daily use. In addition, the following systems were installed:

A 10,000-liter system for rainwater harvesting and graywater reuse for bathrooms and garden irrigation;

A 12,000-liter system for fire safety, with hydrants strategically distributed throughout the church.



*Vista do túmulo dos Padrinhos, da praça das bandeiras e da fogueira em um belo amanhecer no dia de São Pedro.
Photo: Pedro Adnet*

Vídeo - Boletim Igreja da Floresta
Portas Abertas



Vídeo - Catedral da Rainha da Floresta
98 anos da Madrinha Rita

Sanitary Effluents

Wastewater from the bathrooms that cannot be reused is collected and treated in mini sewage treatment plants consisting of anaerobic septic tanks—one for the men's bathrooms and another for the women's.

Rainwater

Given the region's intense rainfall, a drainage system was implemented to prevent erosion. It includes roof gutters, combined with channels and speed reducers that direct rainwater toward the reuse system, the pond, and the Mapiá stream.

Energy Supply

To supply electricity, two diesel generators were installed, with capacities of 188 and 54 kVA. A photovoltaic system is also being installed, and once fully operational, it will ensure that much of the church's electricity comes from solar energy.

Solid Waste Management

With the church now in use, two main types of waste are generated: toilet paper, and disposable plastic items such as cups. It is recommended that attendees bring their own water bottles to reduce the use of disposable cups. Paper waste is generally incinerated, as usually done among residents. Non-incinerated waste is disposed of along with the community's

Gardens are being created around the church, lined by pathways and enhancing the atmosphere during spiritual ceremonies.

other trash, with efforts made to separate materials that can be recycled or reused.

Solid waste management across the village remains a concern. The historical lack of government capacity to handle this issue in rural areas has led to inadequate waste disposal. There are both household solutions and a common area where waste is dumped.

During the church's construction, a Solid Waste Management Plan for Vila Céu do Mapiá was developed, which includes, among other measures, the need for a proper landfill. Another key point is strengthening local solutions, such as the Environmental Health project, which pioneered environmental education efforts focusing on waste reduction, recycling, and reuse in Mapiá. A community activity center is currently being built for the Saúde Ambiental project, which already includes a space for storing, pressing, and eventually transporting recyclable materials out of the FLONA.

Lightning Protection

To protect against lightning strikes, a grounding system was installed to safely dissipate electrical energy into the ground, preventing damage to the building and its occupants.

Landscaping

Gardens are being created around the entrances, main hall, and tombs. These serve both an ornamental and spiritual function, enhancing the atmosphere during works. Maintaining the

gardens requires ongoing care. Outdoor faucets have been installed throughout the area to facilitate watering, especially during prolonged dry periods.

Sound System

Given the cathedral's impressive size, a sound system was installed to transmit microphone audio to speakers in the upper mezzanine. Instrument and microphone signals are also routed directly to the recording studio.



View of the tomb of Padrinho Sebastião Mota de Melo. Photo: Pedro Adnet

The floor of the hall was inaugurated during the Hinário of Saint Anthony's Day, on June 12, 2025.



Canal Jagube
Instagram



Vídeo - Madrinha Rita's Centennial
Anniversary gift from Canal Jagube

Unfinished Details

While the Cathedral is already in use by the community, some of the projected components still need to be completed. Planning and evaluation are ongoing for elements such as column decorations, mezzanine railings, and a wooden "acoustic shell" to better balance the hall's sound quality. Other finishing and decorative touches are also being budgeted and studied to enable fundraising and implementation.



Photograph of the hall shortly after the floor installation. Photo : Pedro Adnet





Photograph of the Cathedral of the Queen of the Forest on June 25, 2025, during the celebration of the Centennial of Madrinha Rita Gregório
Photo: Celeste Rosa





*Aerial photograph of the Cathedral of the Queen of the Forest in June 2025.
Photo : Pedro Adnet*





6 COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING

“

*Viva o Santo Daime
Povo da Floresta
Céu do Mapiá
Com São João Batista e
Juramidam, vamos triunfar*

”

**Padrinho Alex
Polari de Alverga**





*Aerial view of the Cathedral of the Queen of the Forest, located in the central area of Vila Céu do Mapiá.
Photo: Marcos Vicentti*



Mapa ilustrativo da Vila Céu do Mapiá

The AmaGaia program was one of the most significant actions during this period, aimed at supporting local projects based on the guidance of organized institutions and groups [...]

COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING

The community of Céu do Mapiá follows a cultural and doctrinal precept of respect for and connection with nature and, since its foundation, has sought to develop with minimal environmental impact. Even with population growth, the percentage of deforested land is just over 0.1% of the total area of the Purus National Forest (FLONA), which covers 256,121.13 hectares. On one hand, the lush forest cover, abundant water, and biodiversity represent a great wealth connected to the community's culture and well-being, with strong potential for income generation. On the other hand, isolation and the lack of basic public services pose challenges related to access to drinking water, energy generation, basic sanitation, and solid waste management.

In addition to the families of the founders—mostly family farmers and rubber tappers—the community is composed of people from various parts of Brazil and the world, creating a setting of great social, economic, and cultural diversity. The local economy was once predominantly based on extractive activities, agriculture, and livestock. Today, however, the community economy relies mainly on visitation and the inflow of external resources such as pensions, social programs, salaries, among others.

Over the years, the residents have created a set of local social organizations focused on community management, productive development, health, social assistance, education, and more. Among these organizations are the Vila Céu do Mapiá Neighbors' Association (AMVCM), the Raimundo Irineu Serra Institute for Social and environmental Development (IDARIS), the Santa Casa de Cura Padrinho Manoel Corrente, and the Agroextractive



INE
INSTITUTO
NOVA
ERA



Jornal do Céu
português



Jornal do Céu
inglês

Cooperative of Mapiá and Médio Purus (Cooperar). The Cruzeiro do Céu State School (EECC)—a result of the local movement for community-based education—also plays a central role in community life.

A construction project of the scale of the Mother Church, in such a small and remote community, inevitably brings a series of changes to both the community and the local environment. The constant presence of a predominantly male workforce, the ongoing movement of machinery, materials, and personnel in the central part of the village, the intense river transport, the stimulation of the local economy with job and income creation, and the increased circulation of money are all factors that generate impacts on the socioeconomic-cultural, biotic, and abiotic environments.

Thus, several actions were taken to reduce negative impacts and enhance positive ones—both in the lives of residents (social, cultural, and economic dimensions) and in the natural environment (ecological dimension). One of the starting points was to strengthen ICEFLU itself as a global religious institution and the managing body of the construction. A series of investments were made to improve the organizational structure and internal processes, aiming to professionalize various roles and increase the institution's capacity for action. Thanks to the support received as part of the church construction—especially through a partnership with the Instituto Nova Era—ICEFLU was able to implement efficient communication processes with its global network of churches, manage contracts with the construction companies, engage with local organizations in Vila Céu do Mapiá, and maintain dialogue with ICMBio and other levels of public administration (local, state, and national).

Community and visitors gathered during one of the AmaGaia Program meetings, "Heating the Drums." Photo: Rafael Gomes



To maximize the positive effects in Vila Céu do Mapiá, a participatory process was carried out, coordinated by the Instituto Socioambiental de Viçosa (ISAVIÇOSA), with representatives from various community sectors represented in the GTI. During this process, priority action areas and projects to be supported were identified, considering the four dimensions of sustainability: social, economic, ecological, and cultural.

Numerous actions were undertaken to strengthen local institutions, increase income generation, promote skills training, and reinforce the sense of community, all aligned with the local culture. Support for education and youth training was an essential part of this process. Through the AmaGaia Program, resources were allocated for apprenticeship scholarships for young people participating in different projects run by local organizations. In addition, numerous training courses and motivational events were held, aimed at the personal growth of participants and the development of new community leaders.

Portfólio inicial
Programa AmaGaia
2018

Relatório final
Programa AmaGaia
2020



Group of residents gathered during one of the activities of the AmaGaia Program. Photo: Acervo Amagaia.

SOCIAL DIMENSION

Community, collaborative governance; strengthening of organizations; communication, facilitation, and conflict resolution; inclusive decision-making; and holistic education and health.

ECONOMIC DIMENSION

Regenerative local economy; fair production and trade; equity and economic justice; social entrepreneurship; well-being within planetary boundaries; and prosperity, sharing, and cooperation.



CULTURAL DIMENSION

Self-knowledge and personal growth; socially engaged spirituality; a higher life purpose; organic cultural traditions; reconnection with nature; art and celebration.

ECOLOGICAL DIMENSION

Water and sanitation cycles; renewable energy; ecosystem protection; ecological construction; waste treatment; and agroecology and food sovereignty.

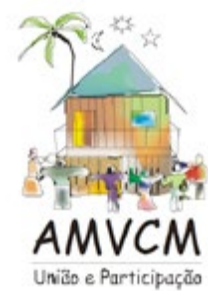
Supporting social empowerment is a long-term effort that requires creative and open approaches to address the specific challenges faced by local residents.

Between 2018 and 2020 alone, approximately 3 million reais were invested directly in local projects, involving 283 people and supporting over 40 initiatives. Additional contributions were made as part of the church construction to further strengthen the community. More recently, Instituto Nova Era, through public calls for proposals, has continued to support projects aimed at community development.

The list of projects, products, and services available in the community is extensive, and better organization of these efforts can further enhance community sectors related to visitation, education, health, and resident well-being. Summaries of the main initiatives supported by the church construction are presented below. For more details on the projects, their results to date, and ways to get involved or contribute, access the available links by clicking on the icons and logos.

Team from the Forest Medicine Center in activity in 2018 Photo: Christian Costa





AMVCM is responsible for representing the interests of the Mapiá population, working to ensure access to rights that contribute to improving the community's quality of life.

Vila Céu do Mapiá Residents' Association – AMVCM

Founded in 1987, the AMVCM is the institution responsible for representing the interests of the Mapiá population. It works with governmental and non-governmental organizations to ensure access to rights and to improve the quality of life of the community. As a member of the Consultative Council and active collaborator with ICMBio in organizing local processes related to the shared management of the Purus National Forest (FLONA), AMVCM is responsible for regulating the entry and stay of visitors, land use and occupation matters, among many other functions. The association strives to serve the population and operates almost like a municipal government, though without receiving the public funds allocated to a municipality. Even so, it consistently petitions authorities at all government levels—municipal, state, and federal—to secure the fundamental rights of the local population.

As part of the effort to strengthen the community's social dimension, AMVCM received support from the church construction project for its organizational development and operations, as well as for the direct implementation of several projects. AMVCM supported ICEFLU in managing the renovation and expansion of the Mother Church and acted as an intermediary between the project's administration and the day-to-day community dynamics. Through its executive boards and councils, AMVCM coordinated many



Padrinhos Valdete e Alfredo durante a cerimônia de inauguração da nova sede da AMVCM. Photo Kézia Marinho



of the key processes that took place in the village during the construction, including: the reactivation of the GTI (Intersectoral Working Group), numerous community meetings and consultations, organization of collective work efforts (mutirões), management of social assistance actions, oversight of visitation and public safety, dialogue with the project managers and ICMBio, integration of external workers, and coordination during the pandemic, among many others.

A Participatory Community Master Plan is currently being developed, with the aim of establishing a formal co-management agreement with ICMBio. This plan will serve as the foundation for organizing land tenure, internal regulations, re-registration of residents, and the collection of data related to socioeconomic conditions, health, education, infrastructure, environmental conditions, and more. Various surveys have already been conducted, and AMVCM now maintains a database with detailed information on residents, housing, and key deficiencies regarding access to water, energy, sanitation, and other topics directly related to human and environmental health.

AMVCM has successfully secured funding through various public calls for proposals and continues to pursue a shared management approach with ICMBio, constantly advocating for residents' rights, community development, and the enforcement of agreements for harmonious coexistence.

AMVCM meeting in the Cathedral Hall. Foto: Kézia Marinho





General Kitchen

Since its founding, the community has maintained the General Kitchen—a central space where collective meals are prepared and served during mutirões (communal work efforts), as well as other community actions and celebrations. During the construction of the church, the kitchen was renovated and reorganized to provide daily meals to the workers, becoming the official dining hall of the construction site, while continuing to serve communal events and mutirões.

[...] the general kitchen was restructured and organized to provide meals for construction workers, community work brigades, and other local events.

A group of women was mobilized and trained to carry out the kitchen activities and was responsible for feeding the workers throughout the entire construction period. This initiative not only generated income for many local families, but also offered capacity-building activities in restaurant management and improvements in kitchen infrastructure.

Support for the General Kitchen represents an important legacy for the community, as it is a culturally significant space, used weekly for the collective sharing of meals among residents and visitors alike. With the construction companies having now left the village, the kitchen continues to operate as a community restaurant whenever needed, under the coordination of AMVCM through a dedicated kitchen management team.



The community's general kitchen, located in the village center. Photo: Pedro Adnet





Raimundo Irineu Serra Institute for Social and environmental Development – IDARIS

IDARIS is a community-based organization dedicated to promoting sustainability, environmental regeneration, and the sociocultural strengthening of Vila Céu do Mapiá and the surrounding communities of the Purus National Forest (FLONA). Its mission is to implement and support initiatives that foster a fair and sustainable community life, aligned with ecological principles and the traditional culture of the region.



IDARIS
Instagram

Over the past ten years, during the construction of the Cathedral of the Queen of the Forest, IDARIS underwent a process of institutional strengthening, which included updating its legal framework, developing a strategic plan, and expanding its capacity to design, support, and manage projects in the areas of sustainability, agroecology, solidarity economy, waste management, women's empowerment, and community governance.

Sustentabilidade
Comunitária



Rede Fortes
verdes

Notable initiatives include: Local Management of the AmaGaia Community Development Program, in partnership with ISAVIÇOSA; Solidarity Economy Strengthening Network; Community Sustainability Assessment; Agroecological Production Center; Purus Agropraia Project; Support for the Environmental Health Movement; Support

for the Forest Wisdom Group (Saberes da Floresta); and Water for a Good Place Campaign (Água para um Bom Lugar).

Revista Regeneração
Comunitária Ed. 1

Currently, IDARIS continues to strengthen partnerships and implement actions in the areas of environment, education, culture, income generation, and civic participation, with the goal of establishing Vila Céu do Mapiá as a model sustainable community in the Amazon.

Support IDARIS's projects.

Revista Regeneração
Comunitária Ed. 2

Pix Key (CNPJ): 63.690.606/0001-16



Illustrative figure of the "verdes," a social currency that was piloted in the village.





Agroecology and Food Sovereignty Program

Initially managed by Cooperar and currently overseen by IDARIS, this program was created in 2019 with the aim of promoting agroecology and food sovereignty in the region, contributing to sustainability and well-being in the forest. Developed in Vila Céu do Mapiá, at Fazenda São Sebastião, in settlements along the Mapiá stream, and on the beaches of the Purus River, the program organizes and supports local farmers in planning, producing, and distributing their crops.

Particularly noteworthy are the actions carried out in Praias (beaches) Dom João and Gregório de Melo, floodplain areas along the Purus River historically important to Vila Céu do Mapiá for producing healthy and ecological foods—also known as agropraias (agrobeaches). The focus of the activities in these areas is to help farming families move out of extreme vulnerability, improve food and nutritional security, increase income generation, and enhance their overall quality of life.

After reactivating, through mutirão efforts, the operation of many community farming plots in the agropraias, at Fazenda São Sebastião, and in Vila Céu do Mapiá, the program is now focused on maintaining the operations of the Agroecological Production Center (Casa da Produção Agroecológica), which supports the distribution of locally produced food. Currently, more than 40 families supply the

[...] the current focus of the Program is the operation of the Agroecological Production House.

Come visit and purchase agroecological food produced in the region!

center with a variety of products. In 2024, over 17 tons of food were delivered between January and December.

The program continues to operate with funding from INE's public calls for proposals and resources secured through ISAVIÇOSA.

Soberania Alimentar - Boletim informativo 1 Fortalecendo a Agricultura de Praia

Soberania Alimentar - Boletim informativo 2 Casa de Produção Agroecológica

Soberania Alimentar - Boletim informativo 3 O Mutirão é a Força

Soberania Alimentar Resultados 2024



Locally produced foods arriving for sale at Céu do Mapiá. Photo: Felipe Senna





Environmental Health

Vila Céu do Mapiá receives no public support for waste collection and proper disposal, nor for basic sanitation services. The Environmental Health Movement (Movimento Saúde Ambiental) was initiated in 1997 by a group of young people with the goal of reducing the waste scattered throughout the community. Their actions included:

cleaning trails and streams (under the slogan "Trash in the Trash"), creating and installing informative materials (educational signs), and organizing awareness marches. In 2004, following the Community Development Plan (PDC), the initiative was strengthened and officially became the Environmental Health Movement. New activities were developed, such as: creative workshops for children and youth focused on environmental education and recycling, and the campaign "Clean Trash Turns into Powdered Milk," which incentivized community participation in selective waste collection. It is estimated that, at the time, around 85% of the community joined the campaign.

During the church construction, a project was developed with support to build a facility for environmental education activities and a designated site for storing recyclable solid waste. Additionally, a Waste Management Plan was drafted for Vila Céu do Mapiá.

Saúde Ambiental
Facebook

Vila Céu do Mapiá does not receive public support for the collection and proper disposal of solid waste.

Currently, through the Floresta+ Comunidade program—funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Brazil's Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MMA)—a new headquarters for the movement is being built in partnership with IDARIS and AMVCM. Once completed, this new space will allow temporarily suspended activities to resume and expand.



*Exhibition of products made from recycled materials..
Photo: Acervo Saúde Ambiental*





Forest Knowledges

Forest Knowledges (Saberes da Floresta) is a group that seeks economic, educational, and solidarity-based alternatives for women and youth in Mapiá through the production of cosmetics and ecological cleaning products that value the biodiversity of forest extractivism and the traditional knowledge of the riverside population.

The group has two research and production lines:

"SEIVAS", focused on natural aesthetics, dedicated to the artisanal production of medicinal cosmetic products.

"Mapiá Cleaning Products" is the line that promotes the inclusion of less polluting products in the hygiene habits of both residents and visitors of Vila Céu do Mapiá.



Saberes da Floresta
Instagram

Get our natural cosmetics!



Examples of soaps produced by the group. Photo: Alessandra Guerra.



Activity of the Group with young members of the community. Photo: Alessandra Guerra.





Vídeo - Capoeira na Floresta

“Lua Branca” Cultural Center and “Cipó de Ouro” Academy

As Vila Céu do Mapiá is a remote and isolated community, offering healthy activities for the youth is a fundamental pillar for personal development. With support from the church construction project, the following improvements were made: the flooring of the local gym facility was upgraded, the perimeter of the sports court received a new fence and netting, and a small playground with wooden houses was built for younger children.

The support provided for structuring the Lua Branca Cultural Center aims to foster youth integration through cultural activities, such as: Capoeira classes through the Cipó de Ouro Academy, traditional dance and martial art performances like maculelê and puxada de rede, theater productions, and film screenings, among others.



Performance by the Cipó de Ouro group.
Photo: Acervo Academia Cipó de Ouro.



For Madrinha Júlia, the Music House in Céu do Mapiá was created to encourage young people and adults to study the hinários.

Casa de Música Madrinha Júlia Gregório

Envisioned by Madrinha Júlia, the Casa de Música (House of Music) was created to provide a dedicated space for: music lessons and rehearsals, especially focusing on the hinários (hymnals) of the Santo Daime Doctrine, conducting children's spiritual works, and other related activities. During the period of the church construction, improvements were made to the infrastructure, including: finishing the main hall, completing the equipment room, and upgrading the veranda and bathrooms—all with the goal of completing the work originally initiated by Madrinha Júlia.



*Madrinha Júlia Gregório Music House.
Photos: Pedro Adnet*





Centro de Medicina da Floresta (Forest Medicine Center) – CMF

Founded in 1989, the Forest Medicine Center (CMF) is a research and education center dedicated to systematizing and disseminating traditional knowledge about the medicinal power of Amazonian plants. Its activities include the cultivation and planting of medicinal species, the production of natural remedies, and healthcare services for the community, along with training health agents in the Forest Medicine approach. One of its main lines of work is supporting the Instituto Floresta Mãe in the production of the Amazonian Flower Essences (Florais da Amazônia).



In 2015, CMF was certified as a social technology in the fields of education and health by the Banco do Brasil Foundation. Its work focuses on creating alternatives for human development in areas such as culture, education, health, ecology, and the environment, offering professional training and opportunities for social mobilization, especially for the youth of the community.

Key activities include: non-timber forest product extraction, cultivation of medicinal species, and the production of health elixirs. During the church construction period and more recently, the CMF received technical support aimed at: team training, identifying key products for commercialization, conducting pricing studies, developing label and packaging designs, as well as to initiate the development of the institution's Non-Timber Forest Products Management Plan.



Vídeo - Centro de Medicina da Floresta



Publicação FBB - CMF

One of its main areas of work is supporting the Instituto Floresta Mãe in the production of the Amazonian Flower Essences.

Get to know and support the CMF!



Training activity on botanical herbarium techniques with youth from the Forest Medicine Center (CMF). Photo: Tom Adnet





Santa Casa de Cura Padrinho Manoel Corrente

Founded in 1999, the Santa Casa de Cura Padrinho Manoel Corrente is a space dedicated to health and healing, seeking to gather, serve, and care for the community on both spiritual and social levels, collectively and individually. Its main focus is spiritual healing through integrative therapies, especially with the Santo Daime sacrament.



Vídeo - 21 anos da Santa Casa

During the construction of the Cathedral, the Santa Casa hosted a variety of activities, including: public health services, courses and immersive workshops, meetings of the Ethical-Disciplinary Council and the GTI, general assemblies of Cooperar, IDARIS, ICEFLU, and AMVCM, youth movement activities, among others.



Campanha - Programa Papai Velho Mamãe velha

Since 2018, the Santa Casa has been running the Papai Velho Mamãe Velha Program, which aims to support and improve the quality of life for the elderly founding members of the community. The program is funded through donations and prioritizes the most vulnerable individuals and urgent health needs.

Contribute to the construction of the Santa Casa and to the “Papai Velho Mamãe Velha” campaign.



Campanha - Obra da Santa Casa

From 2019 to 2023, most of the community's spiritual works took place at the Santa Casa. To this day, the venue continues to host smaller ceremonies such as birthday celebrations, giras, and other ritual events.

In 2021, a renovation process began for the kitchen, bedrooms, and bathroom, with the goal of better serving the community and its visitors. This construction project is still ongoing and needs support to be completed—your contribution is welcome!



Aerial photograph of part of the Santa Casa structure. Photo: Pedro Adnet





A dental clinic, an infirmary, and a room for endemic disease care were established—long-standing needs and dreams of the community.

Forest Health Center

During the construction of the Cathedral, the community's health center abandoned for nearly 15 years by the Municipality of Pauini was completely renovated using resources raised from the Daime brotherhood and sisterhood, through the mobilization of community residents. The facility was restructured to include a dental office, an infirmary, a pharmacy, and a disease control room—longstanding needs and dreams of the local population. To meet the demand for electricity, a solar energy system with sufficient capacity to power the equipment was installed.



Care provided at the Dental Office.

To provide healthcare for both community members and construction workers, a nurse was hired and made available for community care, performing numerous consultations. Additionally, various telemedicine appointments were carried out by health professionals from the brotherhood and sisterhood.

The Municipality of Pauini conducts occasional visits to provide medical consultations, vaccinations, and supplies of basic medications, and continues to pay for the services of a dentist, a disease control agent, and a cleaning assistant. The dental assistant is funded through donations via the Santa Casa de Cura and AMVCM. It is worth noting that the health center played a crucial role during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Forest Health Center after renovation and restructuring. Photo: Pedro Adnet





NÚCLEO DE GESTÃO INTEGRADA
BOCA DO ACRE
ICMBio-MMA



**NGI Boca
do Acre**
Instagram

ICMBio Support Base in Vila Céu do Mapiá

As a counterpart to the interventions and improvements made to the road connecting the village to the Purus River, a house was built and equipped to serve as an advanced support base for ICMBio during operations in the region. Located in a privileged area in the village center, the house was temporarily used as Cooperar's office during 2021 and 2022. It is currently under the management of ICMBio.

Although still modest in its infrastructure, the facility holds great potential for development. represents a space that may be used by local institutions to carry out activities outlined in the Management Plan of the Purus National Forest.

[...]This house represents a space that may be used by local institutions to carry out activities outlined in the Management Plan of the Purus National Forest.



ICMBio team and village residents gathered in front of the house built to serve as the ICMBio support base in Vila Céu do Mapiá. Photo: Pedro Adnet





Jardim da Natureza School of Forest Arts and Knowledge

Since 1998, the Jardim da Natureza School of Forest Arts and Knowledge has offered activities and studies focused on alternative education and income generation through the creation of handicrafts and artworks. The initiative nurtures the talents of participants using various techniques, materials, and artistic approaches. It is a space for research and the strengthening of traditional knowledge, one that values local culture and its interaction with forest products while also encouraging a healthy lifestyle and conscious consumption.

With resources obtained through the AmaGaia Program, Jardim da Natureza underwent a renovation and expansion of its headquarters and offered handicraft, culinary, and gardening workshops twice a week to 14 young apprentices over the course of one year (from June 2018 to June 2019).

Currently, in partnership with Instituto Nova Era (INE), the school is implementing the project "Encantar Floresta" ("Enchant the Forest"), which aims to strengthen skills, generate income, and promote inclusion in Vila Céu do Mapiá. The project features a wide range of training workshops, especially geared toward mothers, youth, and individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), offering practical and creative learning in areas such as: Vegetable Leather Handicrafts; Drawing and Painting; Caboclo Handicrafts; Art and Tradition; Theater; Indigenous Ceramics from the Apurinã Village.



Vídeo - Floresta em pé,
artesanato na mão

Jardim da Natureza
Instagram



A Handicraft activity taking place in the Jardim da Natureza (Nature Garden). Photo: Pedro Adnet.





Agroextractive Cooperative of Mapiá and Médio Purus – Cooperar

One of the main investments supported by the church construction project was in the productive sector, through the development of Cooperar's value chains. Founded by residents of Céu do Mapiá in 2003, the cooperative focuses on key production lines including: native cacao,

Brazil nuts, vegetable oils, and more recently, community-based multiple-use forest management, with an emphasis on certified tropical hardwood products.

According to tradition, Padrinho Sebastião, upon arriving in the region, expressed that one of his missions—and that of his companions—was to help the humble people living along the floodplains and streams of the Purus River. Cooperar has embraced this mission.

Now 22 years old, Cooperar operates from two strategic locations: its headquarters in Vila Céu do Mapiá, and a branch office in Boca do Acre. With significant regional impact, Cooperar currently has more than 180 members spread across nearly 1,000 km along the Purus River. The floodplains of the Médio Purus region are rich in cacao and native oilseed species, which represent one of the region's main geo-economic vocations. Since 2003, Cooperar has worked to develop these production chains by supporting family production and building a processing structure (agroindustry) in Boca do Acre.



Vídeo institucional da Cooperar



Cooperar Instagram

Whatsapp da Cooperar [Compre aqui!](#)

Become a customer and supporter of Cooperar as well.

Connect through their networks and get in touch!

The AmaGaia Program and Banco do Brasil Foundation (FBB) played key roles in accelerating and structuring this agroindustry, which led to: registration with MAPA (Ministry of Agriculture) and ANVISA (National Health Surveillance Agency), and the ability for the cooperative to legally market its products.

With all legal documentation in order and a trained team, Cooperar launched its products on the market, aiming to reach high quality standards. The expectation is for the cooperative to establish itself in the market for premium products based on regional socio-biodiversity.

For more information, access their social media or the institutional video available here.

PValue-added products from the Agroindustry ready for sale. Photo: Carolina Farias





Mapiá Florestal – Community Forest Management of Vila Céu do Mapiá

In Vila Céu do Mapiá, the main productive axis supported was Community Forest Management, which is responsible for the sustainable harvesting of timber used in community construction projects and part of the church's demands.

From the beginning, the community has sourced from the forest many of the essential elements for its survival, such as: food, medicines, wood, fibers, stories, and traditions. With a strong local vocation tied to the abundance of natural resources, the forest has historically been used intuitively and according to need.

Born from a collective dream, forest management has become Cooperar's main business line at its headquarters, seeking to unite traditional community knowledge with reduced-impact forest management techniques, and to add value through wood processing into various products. This model promotes training, work, and income for community members and contributes to the conservation of the forest.

Forest Management seeks to combine the community's traditional knowledge with reduced-impact logging techniques and the processing of timber into various products.

Resumo público sobre o Manejo Florestal Comunitário



Relatório de gestão do Manejo Florestal Comunitário



Vídeo – Manejo Florestal Comunitário



Forest Inventory activity in the Community Forest Management Unit of Vila Céu do Mapiá. Photo: Christian Costa





Part of the timber was used in the construction of the cathedral, part in a major cycle of building and renovation of community structures and the homes of longtime residents, and part was stored to be processed into various products.

In summary, the sustainable forest management system involves conducting a detailed inventory and technical planning to carefully harvest only part of the large trees and other resources, ensuring that remaining trees are protected. One of the objectives of the Sustainable Multiple-Use Forest Management Plan is to organize and regulate extractive activities, establishing a sustainable forest production model tailored to local realities.

Certified by FSC since 2019, the Forest Management group supplied part of the wood used for the construction of the new church and for the building or renovation of several community structures and elder residents' homes, including: Jardim da Natureza; Telecentro Nova Ideia; ICMBio field base; AMVCM headquarters; Cemetery Chapel; Vô Nel's Flour House, Producer's House, Health Post, Santa Casa de Cura, CMF's Garden, Lua Branca Cultural Center, Forest Management School Workshop, Pousada Seringueira, Pousada Jardim da Floresta, Hospedaria 2000. Part of the harvested wood was stored to be processed in the Carpentry Workshop, which has been under development since 2018.



Certified wood with traceability tags indicating its origin. Photo: Pedro Adnet





Forest Management School Workshop (Oficina Escola de Manejo Florestal)

To make this value chain socially, environmentally, and economically viable—from raw material extraction in the forest to the marketing of value-added products the church construction project supported the development of a processing and training structure.

The Forest Management School Workshop was created with a focus on developing productive processes associated with vocational training in carpentry and the multiple-use management of forest resources.

The goal is for wood processing to also occur under a cooperative model, adding value to products in creative ways while generating training, work, and income. The approach follows a sustainable and continuous improvement perspective that respects the community's characteristics, interests, and needs.

In 2025, coinciding with Madrinha Rita's centenary, after an intense structuring period, the School Workshop is being inaugurated. It will launch its first training classes and begin the production of rustic furniture and small wooden objects.

Projeto Oficina Escola

Catálogo das árvores do Manejo Florestal

Catálogo da Avifauna da FLONA do Purus



Young community member participating in the Workshop School activity. Photo Pedro Adnet



Examples of the first prototyped products. Photos: Pedro Adnet.





The farm residents are responsible for agricultural planting in upland areas and agro-beaches along the Purus River, which serve as an important source of food for the region.

Fazenda São Sebastião – Association of Producers of the Lower Igarapé Mapiá (APROBIM)

Located in the buffer zone on the border with the Purus National Forest (FLONA), the community of Fazenda São Sebastião has strong ties with Vila Céu do Mapiá and serves as an important support point for travel between Mapiá and the town of Boca do Acre, as it is the last settlement before the Mapiá stream (igarapé) meets the Purus River. During the construction of the cathedral, the Fazenda played a key logistical role in transporting materials, both via the stream and the access road.

As in Céu do Mapiá, the community of Fazenda São Sebastião is united by the Santo Daime Doctrine. The Fazenda hosts the main plantation of rainhas (*Psychotria viridis*) used in the production of Santo Daime in Vila Céu do Mapiá. Coordinated for decades by Padrinho Francisco Corrente, the community is composed of families from the Purus River region who have long faced, and still face, high levels of social vulnerability—totaling around 20 families and 120 individuals (exact numbers not provided).

The residents of the Fazenda are responsible for agricultural cultivation in upland areas (terra-firme) and agropraias on the Purus River, which are important sources of food for the region.



*Farm residents gathered in a collective effort to produce manioc flour (farinhada)
Photo: Felipe Senna*





Video - Cooperar
homenagem Chico
Corrente

As a legacy of "Tio Chiquinho's" work, the Friends of Chico Corrente Cooperation Network was created to support the Fazenda São Sebastião community after Chico Corrente's passing in 2012. The community's needs are supported through APROBIM, which manages a fund overseen by the Instituto Socioambiental de Viçosa (ISAVIÇOSA), based in Minas Gerais.

Even before the cathedral construction, these networks helped—alongside other partners—to:

Visit and support the initiatives in favor of Fazenda São Sebastião.

build a new church at the Fazenda, renovate the school building, install a solar power system that supplies some community infrastructure, and more recently, establish a satellite internet connection point.

During the church construction, the community actively participated in the Agroecology and Food Sovereignty Program, receiving incentives and technical support to increase local food production and consumption. Youth from the Fazenda were also supported with apprenticeship scholarships and funding



Jardim da Natureza
Instagram

to attend training events in Vila Céu do Mapiá. APROBIM received multiple forms of financial and technical assistance to stay active, support community work efforts, and carry out initiatives for the benefit of the Fazenda families.

Recently, in a partnership between ICMBio, Jardim da Natureza, and Cooperar, a trail mapping and signage activity was carried out to identify trails with tourism potential, aiming to promote nature-based tourism on the Fazenda.



Male residents of Fazenda São Sebastião gathered for a collective workday as part of the Food Sovereignty Program. Photo: Felipe Senna





CEDOC – Documentation and Memory Center

Throughout history, many visitors who came to explore the forest communities and the Santo Daime rituals made audiovisual records and conducted studies on the doctrine and local culture. This resulted in a wide array of materials that today are considered historical and memory archives for the brotherhood and sisterhood, researchers, and others interested in the legacy.

Based in the Céu da Montanha community in Visconde de Mauá, Rio de Janeiro, CEDOC is coordinated by Padrinho Alex Polari, a member of the ICEFLU's Higher Doctrinal Council, and supported by a team of professionals from various churches.

CEDOC's mission is to rescue, catalog, digitize, describe, and preserve these dispersed archives. Among the mapped materials are: photographs and negatives, videos, audio recordings, and documents that portray the Santo Daime Doctrine and the history of Vila Céu do Mapiá in its many dimensions and moments.



CEDOC-ICEFLU
Instagram

Support CEDOC!

Contribute financially and with your historical records of photographs, documents, and videos!



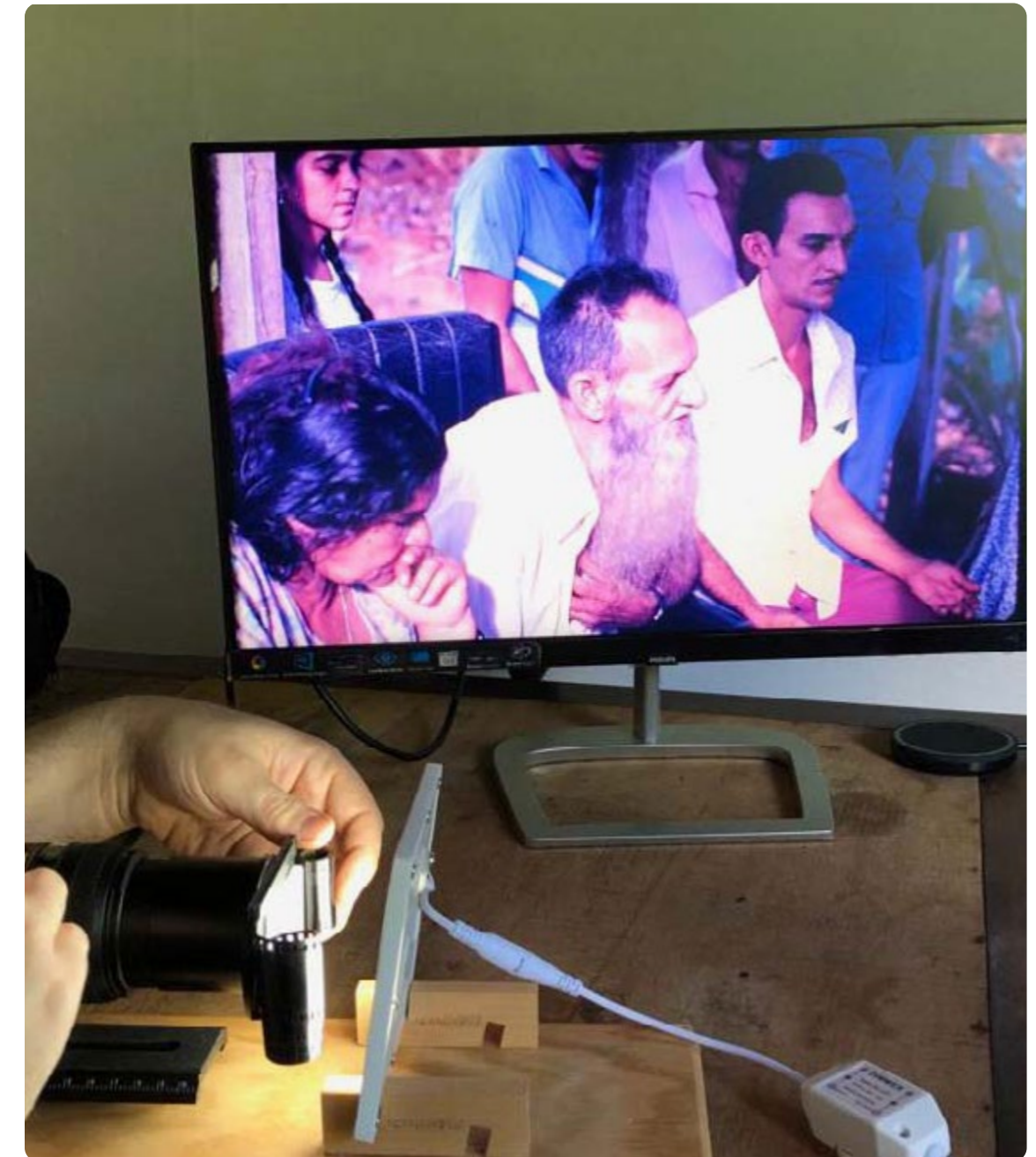
CEDOC - Santo Daime
Youtube



Vídeo - Institucional
CEDOC



Vídeo - CEDOC
Catedral da Rainha da Floresta



*Digitization of historical photographs of the Santo Daime Doctrine.
Photo: Acervo CEDOC.*



EDITORA
REVIVER

Books related to the Santo Daime Doctrine

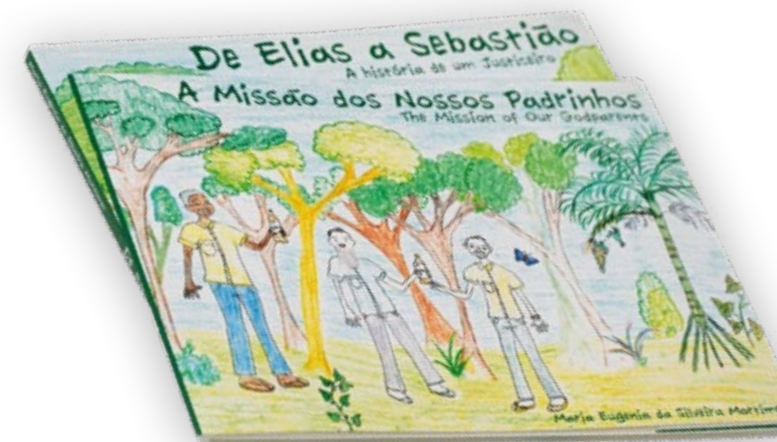
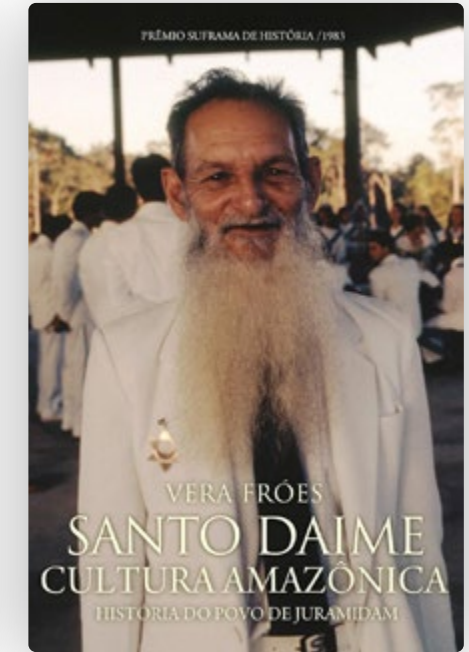
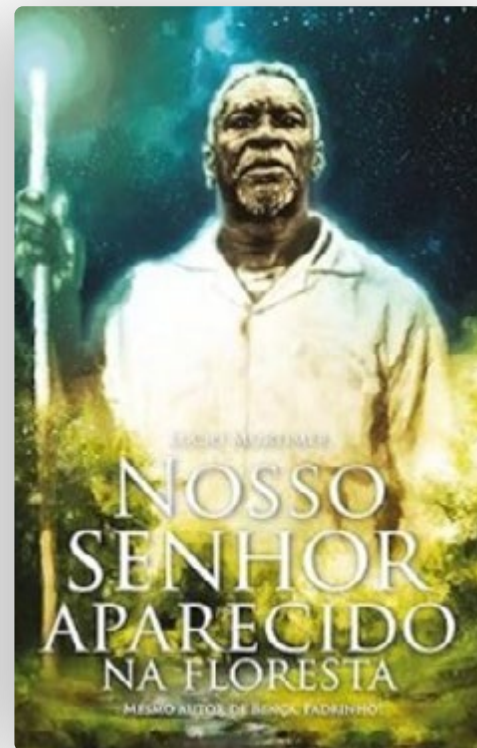
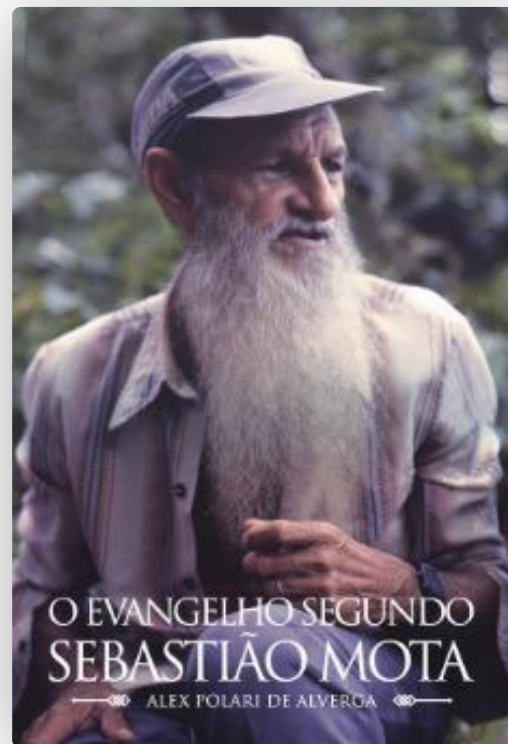
Another important investment made as part of the construction of the Mother Church and the institutional strengthening of ICEFLU was the support for the publication of new editions of books written by fardados and fardadas of the Santo Daime Doctrine. This process involved: reviewing and expanding previously published works, translating several of them into multiple languages, and publishing previously unpublished materials.

These books are of great value to the godchildren of Padrinho Sebastião and Madrinha Rita, and are part of the legacy of the doctrine. Click on the books to view purchase options and access the points of sale.

Purchase and enjoy these works of great significance to the many godchildren of Padrinho Sebastião and Madrinha Rita.



Vídeo - Nova edição do livro **Evangelho Segundo Sebastião Mota**
Alex Polari



Releases and new edition of books inspired by the Vila Céu do Mapiá Community and the Santo Daime Doctrine.





Rádio Jagube

Founded in 1997, Rádio Jagube is known as the “voice of Mapiá integration”, being the first local communication channel established in Vila Céu do Mapiá. Initially, it featured programs aimed at strengthening the community, including live broadcasts of spiritual works held in the old church, allowing those at home to participate in real time.

During the church construction, Rádio Jagube received significant investments in: equipment, infrastructure, and financial resources to support a permanent team. It played a crucial role in community communication and in maintaining the bond with the broader Daime brotherhood and sisterhood.

Together with Canal Jagube, Rádio Jagube forms the Jagube Communication Network, which connects the global brotherhood with the spiritual works in the Forest, promotes and honors the Daimist Calendar, and works to strengthen community communication.

Together, Rádio and Canal Jagube form the Jagube Communication Network!



Rádio Jagube
Youtube

Rádio Jagube
Soundcloud



Rádio Jagube
Facebook

Rádio Jagube
Instagram



*Team gathered after a meeting at Rádio Jagube
Photo: Acervo Rádio Jagube*





Canal Jagube

Formed by young people from the community along with Daime-affiliated communicators, filmmakers, and videographers, Canal Jagube was created in 2017 with the goal of becoming a tool for integration, memory, and reflection—addressing the Ayahuasca culture from the perspective of the Santo Daime Doctrine, and portraying community life in Vila Céu do Mapiá and in other related communities throughout Brazil and the world.

A result of a partnership between ICEFLU and ARICA Cinematográfica, Canal Jagube was responsible for the audiovisual coverage of most activities carried out during the construction of the Mother Church. This included the creation of a local team made up of young residents of Vila Céu do Mapiá, who have contributed to:

the production of diverse audiovisual content, and the real-time broadcasting of spiritual works in the Cathedral and other community activities.

In the fertile context of the Santo Daime Doctrine, Canal Jagube has taken on a leading role in producing and sharing: videos, hinário recordings, and broad social interaction with the global Daime brotherhood and sisterhood.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the channel was especially active, organizing numerous livestreams, including those celebrating the Centenary of Padrinho Sebastião.



Support
the Jagube
Communication
Network!

PayPal

Teaser -
Documentário
Sou Luz, Dou Luz

Canal Jagube
Youtube

Canal Jagube
Soundcloud

Canal Jagube
Facebook

Canal Jagube
Instagram



Canal Jagube providing support during one of the livestreams. Photo: Acervo Canal Jagube.





Hotel Floresta

As one of the final structuring actions related to the construction of the Cathedral of the Queen of the Forest, the renovation of Hotel Floresta represented the main investment made in the town of Boca do Acre. The hotel, located in a privileged position on the banks of the Purus River, near the mouth of the Acre River, has once again become an important support point for travelers heading to Vila Céu do Mapiá.

Hotel Floresta
Instagram

Stay at Hotel
Floresta

You are most
welcome!



View of the facade of Hotel Floresta after the completion of the renovation. Photo: Pedro Adnet



View of one of the rooms at Hotel Floresta. Photo: Pedro Adnet





*Photograph of the sunset at the meeting of the Acre and Purus rivers, in the city of Boca do Acre..
Photo: Pedro Adnet*





7 VISION FOR THE FUTURE

“

Vou seguir nessa Doutrina de brilhantes pedras finas assim o mestre falou

Para seguir nessa Doutrina de brilhantes pedras finas é preciso ter amor

”

**Padrinho Valdete
Gregório de Melo**





Aerial photograph of the Cathedral of the Queen of the Forest, Vila Céu do Mapiá, Amazonas, Brazil. Photo: Pedro Adnet

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Beyond its religious significance, the Cathedral of the Queen of the Forest is a cultural and community landmark for Vila Céu do Mapiá and the Santo Daimé Doctrine around the world. Its construction represents a collective effort by the community and the global ICEFLU brotherhood and sisterhood to create a sacred and welcoming space for religious ceremonies, cultural events, and community gatherings.

There is still much work to be done. As always, the invitation is to come together in harmony, love, truth, justice, and deep peace!

After 15 years of work, the pre-inauguration in 2023 marked the beginning of activities in the hall. Even with many finishing touches still pending, the sense of accomplishment among the residents is evident as they witness the church taking shape, community infrastructure being revitalized, and increased visitation by brothers and sisters from affiliated churches. The grand celebration of Madrinha Rita's Centenary in June 2025—marking the installation of the Cathedral's floor—is another milestone in this remarkable journey.

There is clear hope among all members and friends of the community that many meaningful moments will be experienced in this new temple, at this new time.

To enhance the positive impacts of increased visitation—and to minimize potential negative effects—it is essential to engage and raise awareness among both residents and visitors.

Vídeo Manifesto
Santo Daime -
Somos Midam



Campanha Somos Midam

Various sectors such as travel services, transportation, food, lodging, tours, arts and crafts, spiritual works, and others require support for continuous improvement and integration. This is necessary for Céu do Mapiá to continue being a place of inspiration, learning, and healing for all who arrive. There is still much work to be done. As always, the invitation is to unite!

In 2021, ICEFLU launched a living call from Padrinho Alfredo, focused on institutional strengthening through the campaign “Somos Midam” (“We Are Midam”), which aims to encourage engagement from brothers and sisters interested in contributing directly to the development of ICEFLU's actions and those of its partners in Vila Céu do Mapiá and throughout the world.

VIVA O **CENTENÁRIO DA MADRINHA RITA!**

VIVA A **CATEDRAL DA RAINHA DA FLORESTA!**

VIVA O **CÉU DO MAPIÁ!**

VIVA **TODAS AS IGREJAS!**

VIVA **TODA A IRMANDADE!**

VIVA **A UNIÃO!**

FAÇA PARTE DA IGREJA DO
PADRINHO SEBASTIÃO



SOMOS
MIDAM
ICEFLU - SANTO DAIME



25.06.2025

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