

Welcome to our first quarterly note. The goal is to keep our friends and supporters informed of all that is going on in our efforts to protect our piece of fully preserved Atlantic Forest in Brazil. In order to achieve this goal, we started to lay the ground and plant the seeds of a number of efforts that align with our dreams and vision. Well-rooted in a strong belief in the power of knowledge and education, as well as scientific rigour and data-driven tracking, we ourselves a few milestones for this quarter, which we are happy to see coming to fruition. In this note, we would like to highlight three milestones: 1. the School of Nature and consolidation of a community of educators, 2. the establishment of a non-profit, legal entity in Brazil ('Associacao da Mata'), which we will endow the land and the projects, and finally, 3. our websites and social media accounts.

We kicked off the 'School of Nature' project, a bedrock of the Atlantic Forest Association, with the first workshop about non-traditional edible plants that included some foraging activity in the forest to identify the edible species. With 20 participants, this program was led by our first set of associate members Regina Fukuhara, André Caretta, and Lucas Ciola. It was fun, enlightening and inspiring! For more information, please check out our blog post about it!

Stay tuned to the upcoming workshops:

- Endemic Birds by Miguel Magro & Paulo Mascaretti on 22nd of July
- Indigeneous water practices with Adriano Sampaio and Pedro Guarani.
- Living foods with Claudio Lorenzo.
- Mushroom foraging with Jefferson from 'Primavera Fungi'.

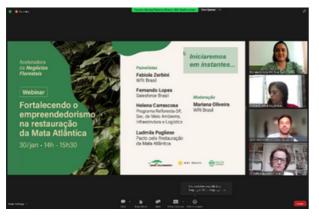
Along the workshops, we are creating and nurturing a community around educators and hope to give them a platform where they can share the incredible knowledge they possess, as well as a beautiful place to recharge and reconnect.

Establishing the legal non-profit entity and detailed bylaws required a lot of effort and detailed discussions of how we want our dream and vision to work in the long run. We care about doing things right from the start, so we put a lot of effort into designing a legal framework that cares and protects.

Associacao da Mata is now an established entity in São Paulo, in accordance with Brazilian law. The bylaws are registered on a Brazilian notary. Along with the educational purposes encapsulated in the School of Nature Project, the entity also looks to promote rigorous field research including the purpose of publishing for peer review, creating bespoke tracking methodologies for carbon capture and additionally, the creation of positive social impact for local communities via environment protection activities. Our projects are aligned with the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). will soon open up a series of tiered memberships that aims at building up community effort around preservation goals! We also developed our websites in both English and Portuguese and started our social media accounts, which we hope will inspire people to take action. We believe we all need to do our fair share of protecting our planet and we hope that our projects will inspire others to start their own initiatives or come join us on vision if it resonates.

Check out the 'Eyes in the Forest' tab on the website! Throughout last year, we started to place camera traps in the land, looking to protect the land from illegal invaders, and we were pleased to find that our land hosts a myriad of top taxonomy animals, Puma concolor, Leopardus Carnivores (e.g., guttulus, Leopardus pardalis), • Galliformes (e.g., Penelope obscure), • Lagomorpha (e.g., Sylvilagus brasiliensis), • Marsupialia (e.g., Didelphis aurita), • Passeriformes (e.g., Turdus amaurochalinus), • Perissodactyla (e.g., Tapirus terrestris), • Pilosa (e.g., Tamandua tetradactyla), Rodentia (e.g., Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris and Cuniculus paca), Squamata (e.g., Lagartos Tupinambis). It's hard to describe the joy of seeing a family of Coatis (Nasua nasua) jumping around with glee or a Puma lounging in front of the cameras. We are yet to confirm the presence of primates in the land.





We have participated in this workshop titled 'Strengthening the entrepreneurship landscape for the restauration of the Atlantic Forest' Negócios **Florestais** accelerator. The speakers were: Fabiola Zerbini (WRI Brasil), Fernando Lopes (Salesforce Brasil), Helena Carrascosa (Programa Refloresta-SP, Sec. de Meio Ambiente, Infraestrutura Logística) and Ludmila Pugliese (Pacto pela Restauração da Mata Atlântica) on the 30th January 2023.

Our Association is part of the GMRA - Grande Reserva da Mata Atlântica. A large group that unites the biggest players in the conservation of the Atlantic Forest in Brazil.

This meeting occurs once a month and is done regionally, with around 40 participants, to discuss the advancements of the program. For more info on GMRA: https://www.spvs.org.br/projetos/grande-reserva-mata-atlantica/







Dr. Elaine R. Ingham Founder, Soil Microbiologist

Given our scientific roots, we love to keep up to date with the newest scientific research. We attended the Soil Summit 2023 in March and were excited by Dr Elaine Ingham's talk on the Symphony of the Soil, the 20 Years of Ecosystem Restoration with Paul Morris, and Discussions on Regenerative Agriculture with Vandana Shiva.