

Part IV: Conclusions and Recommendations from EcoRespira-Amazon

Jörg Matschullat • Roberval Monteiro Bezerra de Lima • Celso Azevedo •
Gilvan Coimbra Martins • Sophie von Fromm

This concluding part consists of two chapters, an evaluation of existing models for sustainable land use in the Amazon region (► 11) and a concluding chapter: "The aim is important, not the way you get there: A new model" (► 12). Given the fact that we are still awaiting important data from our project phase 03, the conclusions drawn here are to some extent of a preliminary nature. While the available data are certainly correct, their early interpretation is at least partly non-conclusive. Being lucky to witness and measure dynamic conditions at the same locations under very dry, humid and rather wet conditions yields the hoped-for but not planable potential of elucidating processes. This potential is currently underexplored because of the pending data.

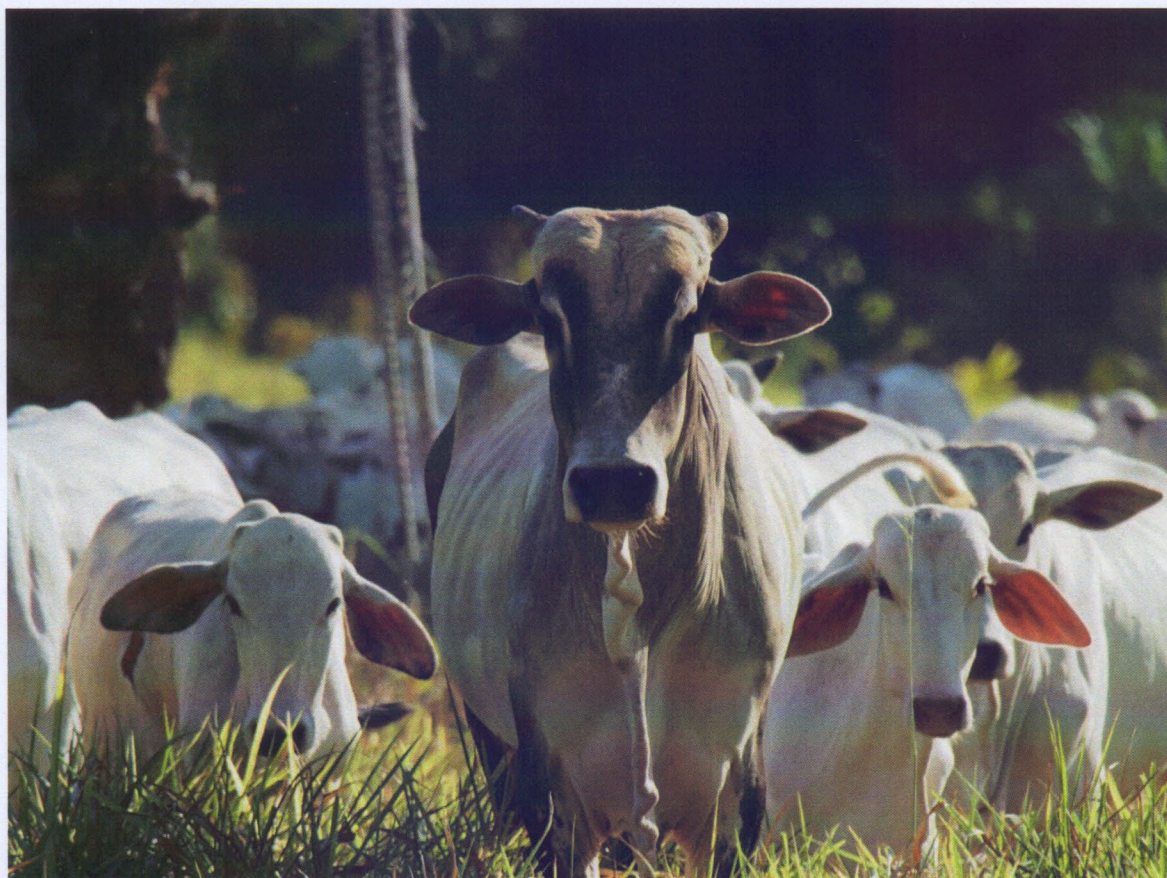
Yet, we see potential in interpreting material on the meta-level of our study. Therefore, we dare, based on our preliminary data, on many discussions with stakeholders during the three field campaigns and on general observations over an extended period of time, to interpret the situation encountered and to formulate suggestions for future action. We are well aware that one can easily argue that more data are needed to build those suggestions on a more solid database. We are also aware of the fact that current socio-political boundary conditions are not necessarily conducive to successfully implementing change towards more sustainable land use in the Amazon basin.



Small man-made forest fire near Lábrea during the extreme dry season; Phase 02.



Açaí harvest at a farm near Humaitá



Pastureland near Apuí, southern Amazonas