

A-Level Geography Resource Package






[Physical >> Water & Carbon Cycles >> 3.1.1.6 Brazilian Amazon Case Study]

Amazonian Rainforest Schemes

To reduce impacts on the rainforest, water, and carbon cycles...

"Deforestation Impacts on the Earth's Water Cycle & Carbon Cycles. Forests transport large quantities of water into the atmosphere via plant transpiration. When deforestation occurs, precious rain is lost from the area, flowing away as river water and causing permanent drying. When deforestation occurs all the carbon stored in trees is released into the atmosphere and carbon stores lost. The transportation and machinery used also produces carbon. Slash and burn techniques are also frequently used to clear areas which significantly increases the carbon levels released"

C.Hancock & H.Gray 2020

| Scale of successes: | Case Study: | Evaluation: |
|---|---|--|
|  | UN FAO / FCCC & World Bank development schemes [Intergovernmental Organisation]  | Adding to the amount of land that is under strict supervision (with other organisations and NGOs) and protection by the government to 10% of Brazil's Amazon basin. 25 million hectares additionally to the already protected 12 million. This has countered deforestation and, combined with re-education efforts and support schemes for the locals, teaching of the importance of the Amazon, have been very influential in reducing deforestation (credited with up to 30% of the observed reductions.) |
|  | REDD 'Reducing Emissions from Deforestation & forest Degradation' [Part NGO/IGO] | REDD have managed to reforest degraded lands with over 250,000 trees, have a 360,000-hectare conservation site and is working with not only governments, but landowners and indigenous communities. 'The Amazon Fund' was created in 2008 and aims to contribute to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. Its funding is mainly going into monitoring and combatting deforestation as this is arguably one of the biggest problems the Amazon faces <i>ENREDD + is the document that formalises to the Brazilian society and to the UNFCCC signatory nations, how the federal government has been structuring its efforts and how it expects to enhance them by 2020, focusing on coordinated actions to prevent and control deforestation and forest degradation, foster forest recovery and sustainable development</i> |
|  | Rainforest Alliance [NGO]  | This NGO aims to allow current business activity to continue in the amazon but in a more sustainable manner, thereby removing negative effects on water & carbon cycles as far as is possible. This could be influential in the future, not only does it focus on removing the environmental damage and degradation in the amazon caused by human activity, but also by supporting locals, preserving human rights and encouraging sustainable trading, which will encourage better treatment and behavior in the Amazon Rainforest on a slightly wider scale. |