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SOVEREIGNTY AND WATER SECURITY: CHALLENGE AND POSSIBILITIES
IN THE CONTEXT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**AGROECOLOGICAL EXPERIENCES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE AMIGOS DA
APA DO ARAGUAIA ORGANIZATION IN PARÁ, AMAZONIA, BRAZIL**

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This paper presents a study conducted with families engaged in agroecological practices or undergoing agroecological transition within the context of the Araguaia Environmental Protection Area (APA), in the state of Pará, in the Brazilian Amazon, a region characterized by the predominance of private landholdings and a strong presence of cattle ranching. The study is part of a broader project integrated into the IACA Center-Network, which seeks to understand and support the strengthening of agroecology, food and nutrition security and sovereignty networks, while promoting climate change mitigation

actions in the state of Pará. The research methodology was based on field interviews conducted directly with the six families involved in the production systems, encompassing three villages within the APA, in addition to a bibliographic review of the relevant literature on the topic in the region. Of these, four already have well-established or consolidating Agroforestry Systems, including a diversity of fruit species such as açai, cocoa, cupuaçu, and banana, in addition to cassava, forest species, pastures, and honey production. In the remaining two systems, cattle ranching predominates, complemented by other activities such as handicraft production and off-farm work. Although livestock production remains the main focus in these cases, the families plan to transition toward more diversified and sustainable agricultural systems. All the families share participation in an association called Nativos da APA, which has played a fundamental role in advancing agroecological ideas in the region. The organization focuses on community-based tourism as well as the production and commercialization of products derived from regional socio-agrobiodiversity. In this context, the pursuit of supportive public policies and collective action emerges as a fundamental strategy for advancing agroecology in the territory.

Palavras-chave: agroecological transition; food and nutrition security; collective action.