

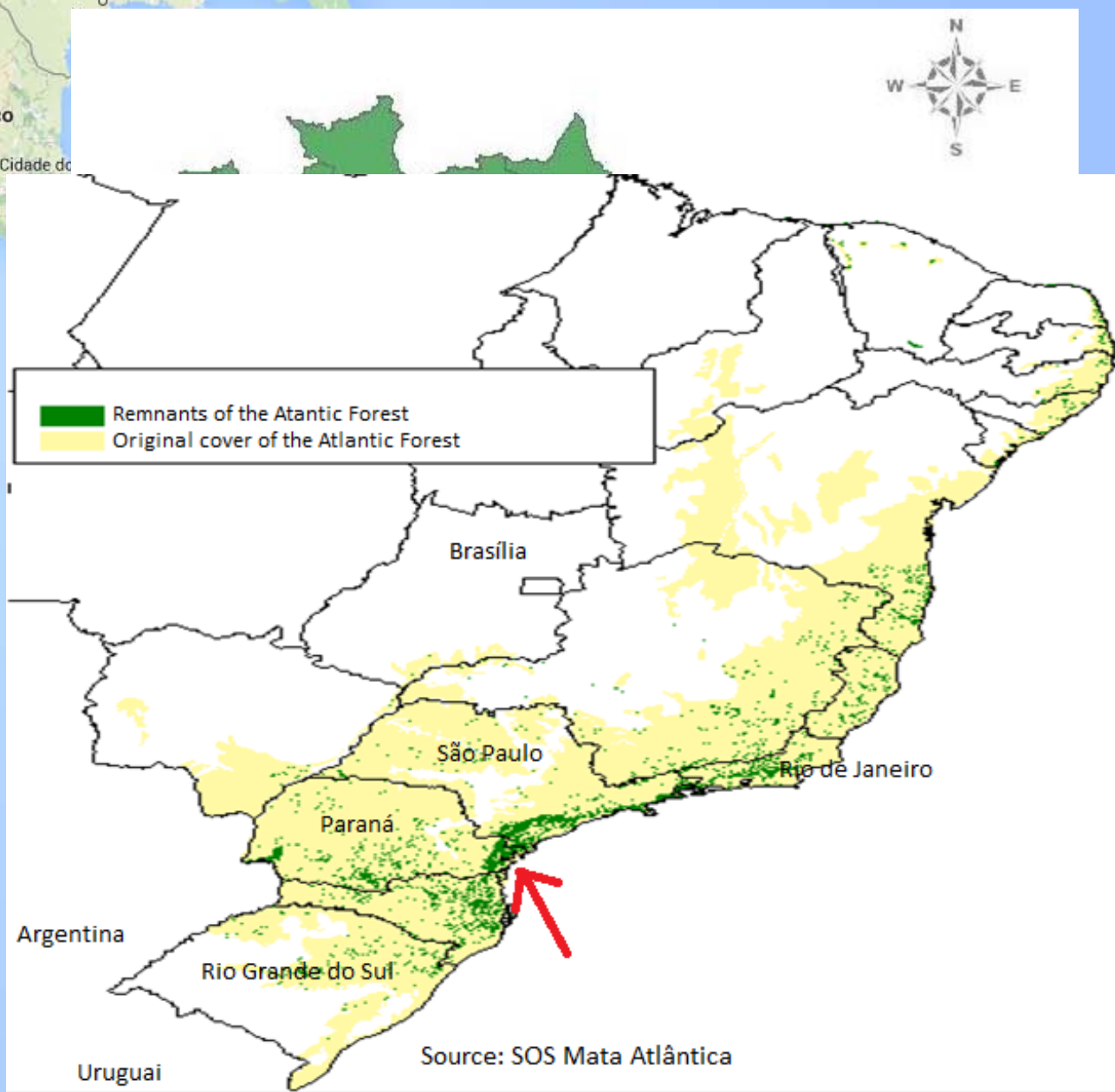


# Traditional communities in Brazil and their importance for forest conservation

Ana Paula Donicht Fernandes

Brazilian Advisor: Dr. Vitor Afonso Hoeflich  
Advisor at UBC: Dr. Harry Nelson

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Source: The Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) and the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment (MMA) (2004).

# INTRODUCTION

- ❖ Since the beginning of the XVIII century, within the Atlantic Forest, in the Southern part of Brazil, small rural villages are found with silvopastoral activity on communal lands, and a polyculture of subsistence on individual lands, called Faxinal System<sup>1</sup>.

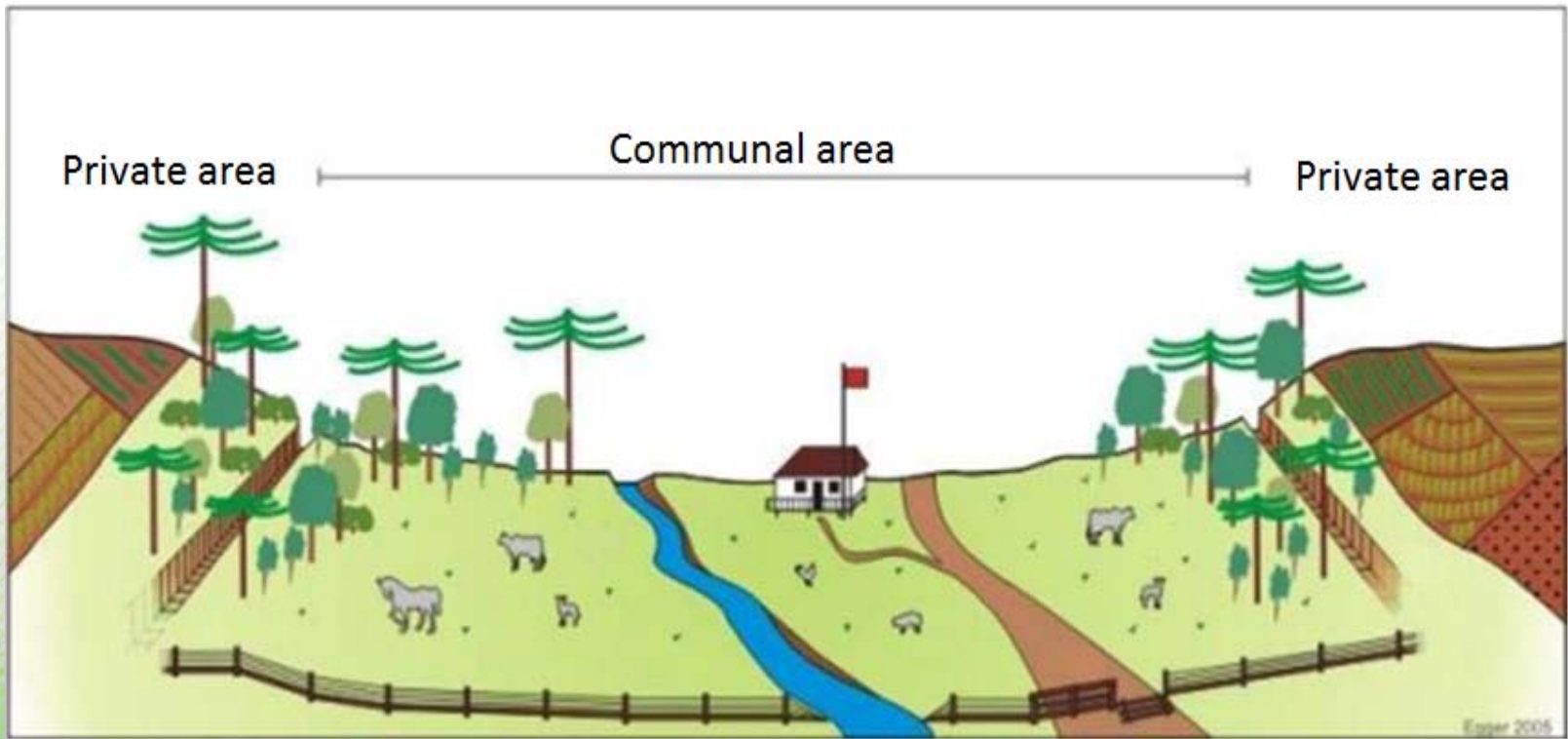


Figure 1 - Schematic profile of the Faxinal System.  
Source: MONTEIRO (2006)

<sup>1</sup> Löwen Sahr 2005.

# INTRODUCTION

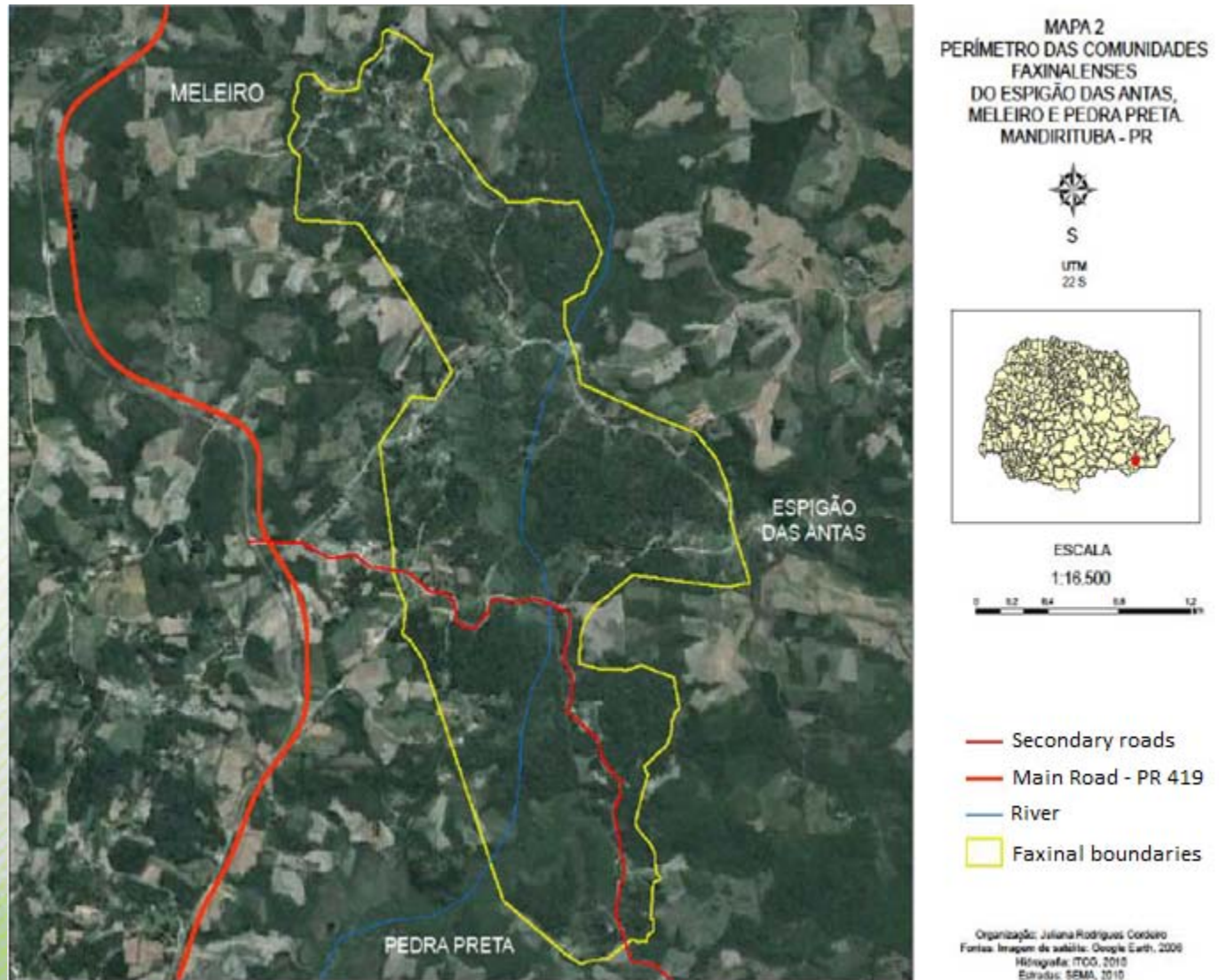


Figure 2 - Perimeter of the Faxinal communities of the municipality of Mandirituba  
Source: OLESKO (2013).

# INTRODUCTION

❖ Until 1994, 152 Faxinal communities existed in the state of Parana. 10 years later, there were only 44 active Faxinal Systems consisting of an area of approximately 26,200 hectares and involving about 3,400 families<sup>2</sup>.

❖ It is recognized that :

✓ Small farmers do not have political power; and

✓ Both Federal and State Governments are unconcerned about financially supporting environmental and rural extension agencies.



Figure 3 - View of the communal area  
Source: The author (2014)

<sup>2</sup>Marques, 2004.

# OBJECTIVES

- ❖ Review the key features of the Faxinal System;
- ❖ Offer some suggestions for programs and policies that could support environmental conservation while increasing income and the quality of life for the Faxinal people.



# MATERIALS AND METHODS

## ❖ METHODS OF RESEARCH

- Descriptive and exploratory research;
- Using a case study approach with qualitative and quantitative methods;
- And theoretical and applied outcomes (policy recommendations).

## ❖ SOURCES OF DATA

- Secondary data;
- Interviews in three communities of the Municipality of Mandirituba in 2012.

# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

## ○ Social Aspects

- ✓ 137 families totaling 439 people;
- ✓ 303.7 hectares in which 156.2 hectares are communal area.

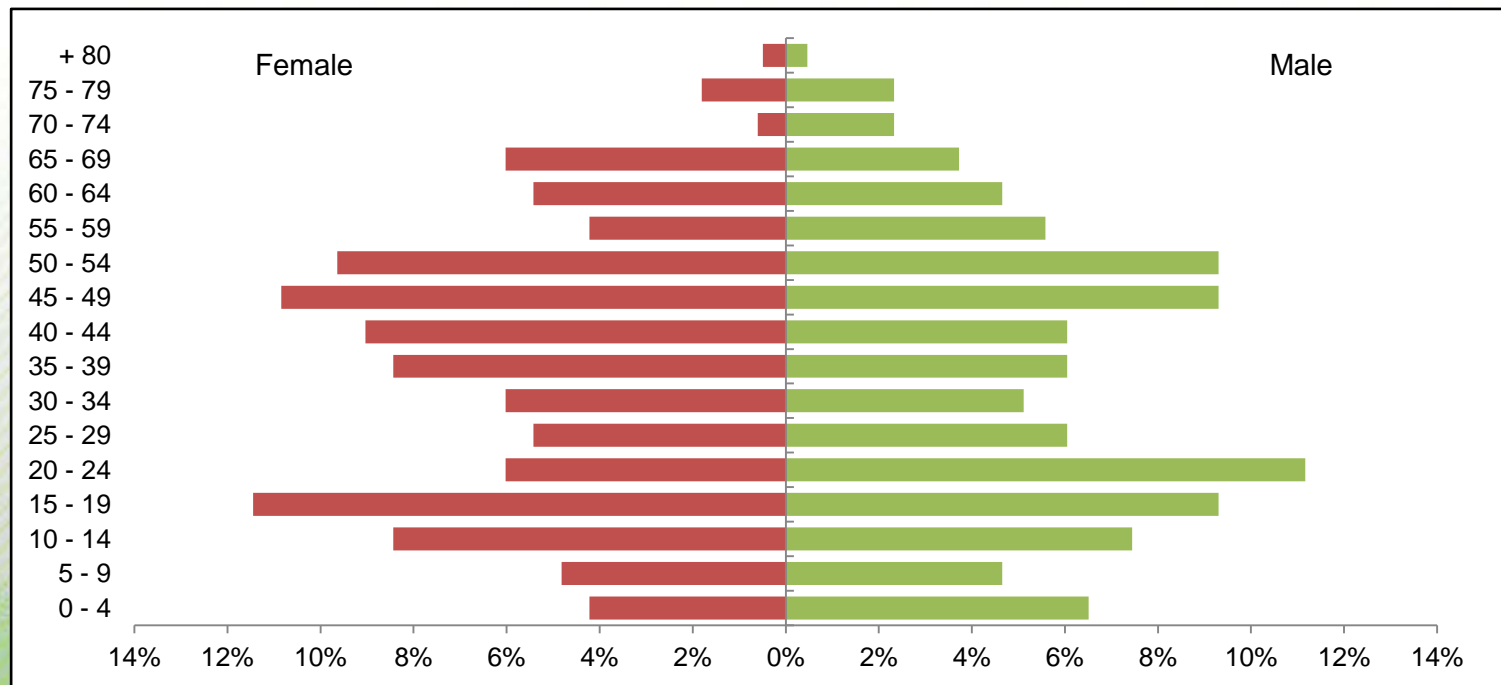


Figure 4 - Age pyramid of the Faxinal communities of the Municipality of Mandirituba

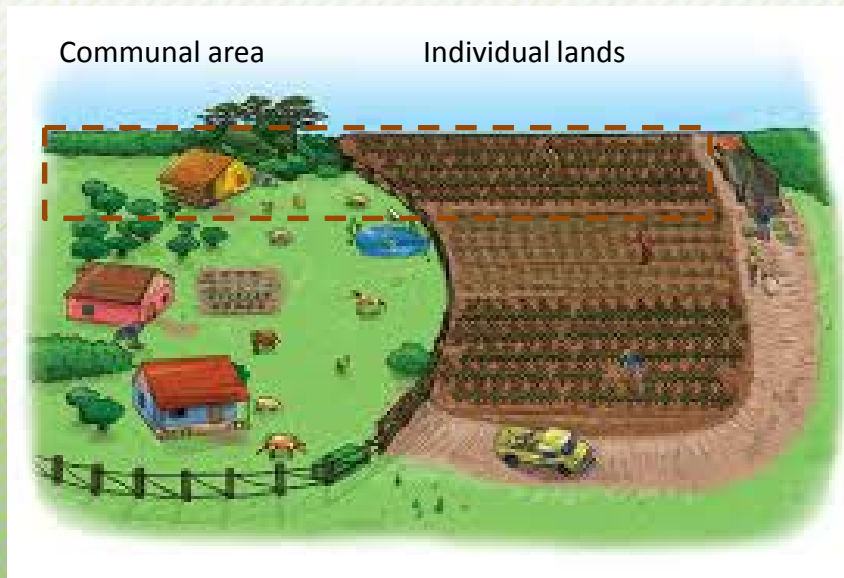


# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

## ○ Social Aspects

### ○ Structure of the land use of the Faxinal communities:

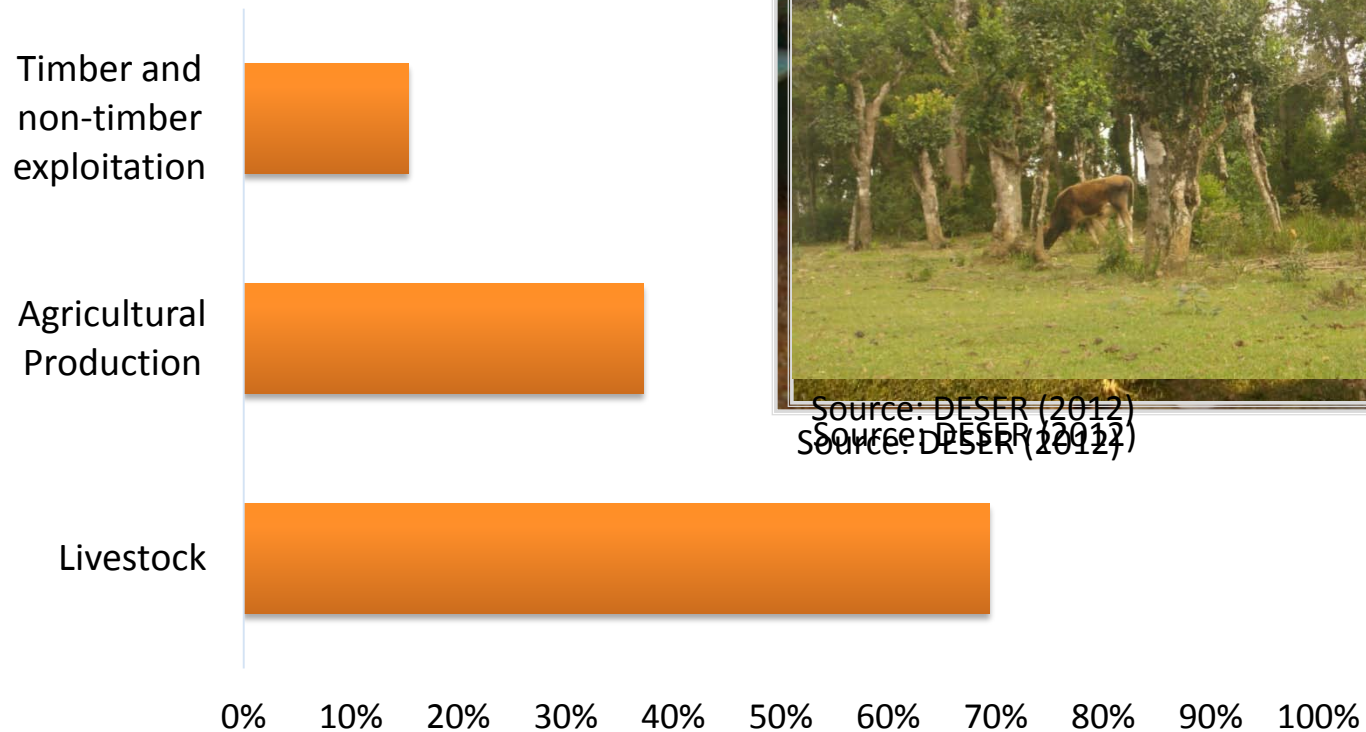
- ✓ 2.19 % live only with communal lands;
- ✓ 19.71 % don't have their land in the communal area (represented by ranchers);
- ✓ 64.34 % are living with less than 1 hectare of individual land.



Source: Revista Globo Rural (2010).

# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

## ○ Economic Aspects



Source: DESER (2012)  
Source: DESER (2012)

Figure 5 – Types of activities developed within the Faxinal System

# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

- Average revenue of agricultural activities - 74 families

Table 1. Production and revenues generated by principal activities per year

	<b>Production</b>	<b>Unit Value (US\$)</b>	<b>Total Revenue (US\$)</b>	<b>Revenue per Family (US\$/year)</b>
<b>Poultry</b>	873 heads	1.24	1084.73	14.66
<b>Bovines</b>	38 heads	39.87	1515.13	20.47
<b>Caprine animals</b>	20 heads	21.35	426.99	5.77
<b>Swines</b>	585 heads	12.36	7231.32	97.72
<b>Eggs</b>	1.294 dozen	0.65	839.83	11.35
<b>Araucaria nuts</b>	1.050 Kilogram	2.56	2690.01	36.35
<b>Yerba Mate</b>	1.000 Kilogram	2.95	2946.20	39.81
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>16734.20</b>	<b>226.14</b>

# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

- Average revenue of non agricultural activities - 117 families

Table 2. Measurement of resulting economic benefits

Non Agricultural Activities	Revenue by family (US\$/year)
Retirement	4,874.88
Government Assistance for low-income families	1,009.44
Urban Jobs	6,323.52
External agricultural work	3,002.40
Provision of service	1,567.80

Agricultural activities in the communal area = US\$ 226.14

Non-agricultural => Government Assistance = US\$ 1,009.44



## **Green Grant Program** (Environmental Conservation Support Program)

The Program grants a quarterly benefit of US\$ 128.10 to families:

- income lower than US\$ 29.89 per capita;
- be beneficiaries of the Social Assistance Federal Program;
- develop sustainable use of natural resources in Sustainable Use Units.

Table 3 - Quantification of the economic benefits

<b>Instruments and Policy Programs</b>	<b>Revenue (US\$/year/family)</b>
Ecological ICMS	476.84
Exemption of ITR	27.04
Green Grant Program	512.38
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,016.26</b>



# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

- ❖ Integrating Faxinal lands into the National System of Conservation Units could lead to an increase in average annual household income of US\$ 790.12:
  - Current average annual household income US\$ 226.14;
  - Average annual household income resulting from the integration US\$ 1,016.26
- ❖ This increase in the average annual household income is close to 350%.

# CONCLUSIONS

- The Faxinal System in its current form, which is not recognized under the national or state conservation schemes, does not guarantee the economic, social and environmental sustainability of traditional resident populations or the conservation of the forest cover.
- Traditional populations are discouraged from continuing their way of life, as there is no economic incentive to stay on the land, and the current model of environmental policy ignores the conservation potential of these lands.
- The agricultural income through livestock production within the communal area was marginal in terms of total family revenues, while creating conflict with the conservation of forest resources.
- Integrating the Faxinal System into the National System of Conservation Units could represent an increase in the average annual household income of approximately 350% over current revenues.

# Thank you

[anapauladfernandes@yahoo.com.br](mailto:anapauladfernandes@yahoo.com.br)

