



# Sustainable Infrastructure in the Amazon

## Strengthening Socio-Environmental Planning and Design for New Infrastructure Projects in Brazil

There is a growing global consensus that thoughtfully planned infrastructure investments can help developing countries address two critical challenges: boosting their economies and addressing the climate change crisis. Brazil, in particular, lags behind much of the world in the quality and quantity of infrastructure.<sup>1</sup> The poor quality of Brazilian infrastructure results in needlessly complex and expensive logistics for businesses and poor mobility for citizens. This increases the costs of production and reduces growth and productivity.

In response, the Brazilian government intends to implement a broad portfolio of infrastructure investments. A number of these projects are located in the Amazon, which is the world's largest tropical forest and provides vital ecosystem services that are essential for the national economy. Given the critical role infrastructure plays in the economic development and the importance of the Amazon, it is imperative to measure the social and environmental risks early on in the process and identify and design solutions to avoid, or mitigate, the risks to ensure the development of sustainable infrastructure that improves national logistics while minimizing their environmental impact.

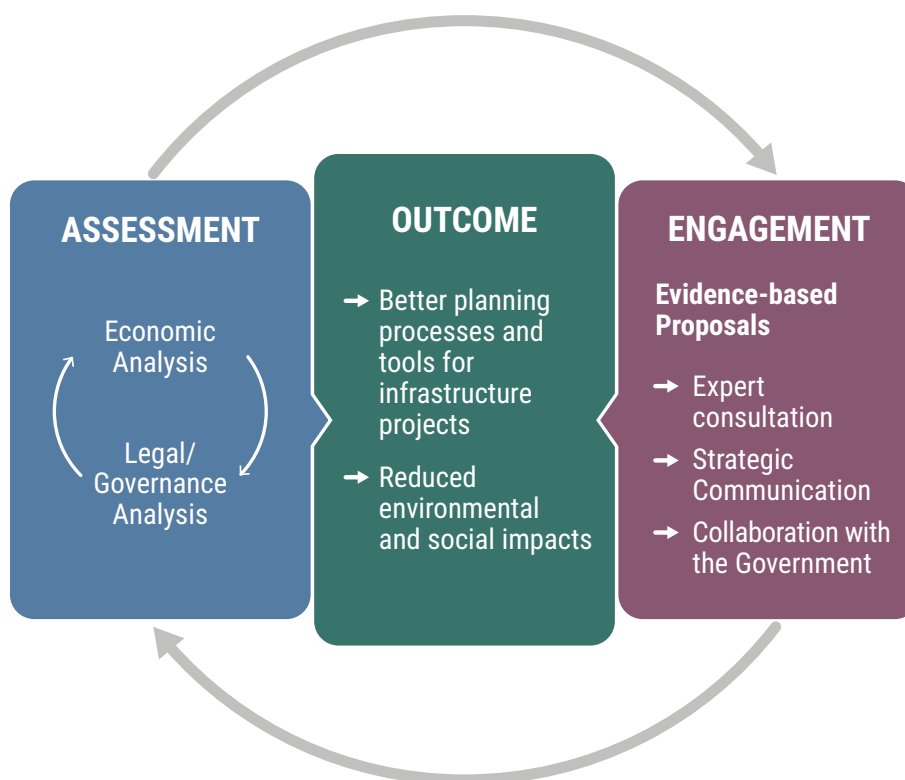
The project, Sustainable Infrastructure in the Amazon, was developed by Climate Policy Initiative (CPI/PUC-Rio) and is supported by Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. **The objective is to advance proposals for changes to current regulations and guidelines that would incorporate socio-environmental risk assessments throughout the decision-making processes and lifecycle of infrastructure projects. Guided by experts in these fields, the project will also promote dialogue with key stakeholders involved in decision-making and implementation of the regulatory proposals and guidelines.**

The project, which runs from July 2019 to December 2020, has two complimentary components. **Economic analysis** – developed by CPI as an access-to-market tool – **and regulatory and governance analysis** are implemented in parallel for assessing social and environmental risks more efficiently and strategically integrating them in the infrastructure projects' life cycle. The initiative explores the vision that the feasibility studies, currently overlooked in the public debate, could represent the ideal timing for anticipating social and environmental issues, leading to better and robust projects for advancing into implementation phases.

The project expects that the stage of feasibility studies, currently overlooked in the public debate, is an ideal moment to incorporate social and environmental considerations. By anticipating social and environmental considerations to the feasibility study phase, Brazil can ensure more robust and higher quality projects reach the implementation phase and pursue more sustainable solutions to its economic development.

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<sup>1</sup> According to the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Report 2018, Brazil scored only 3.0 out of 7.0 possible points for its transportation infrastructure quality. For more visit: <https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-competitiveness-report-2018>



## TEAM

### Juliano Assunção

#### Executive Director

Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) & Núcleo de Avaliação de Políticas Climáticas da PUC-Rio (NAPC/PUC-Rio)  
Departamento de Economia, PUC-Rio  
juliano.assuncao@cpirio.org

### Joana Chiavari

#### Associate Director, Climate Law and Governance

Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) & Núcleo de Avaliação de Políticas Climáticas da PUC-Rio (NAPC/PUC-Rio)  
joana.chiavari@cpirio.org

### Luiza Antonaccio

#### Legal Analyst, Climate Law and Governance

Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) & Núcleo de Avaliação de Políticas Climáticas da PUC-Rio (NAPC/PUC-Rio)  
luiza.antonaccio@cpirio.org

### Gabriel Cozendey

#### Research Assistant, Climate Law and Governance

Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) & Núcleo de Avaliação de Políticas Climáticas da PUC-Rio (NAPC/PUC-Rio)  
gabriel.cozendey@cpirio.org

### Ana Cristina Barros

#### Senior Advisor for Sustainable Infrastructure

Climate Policy Initiative (CPI)  
Assessora Sênior de Infraestrutura  
acbarros040@gmail.com

### Arthur Bragança

#### Head of Policy Evaluation, Sustainable Agriculture and Infrastructure

Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) & Núcleo de Avaliação de Políticas Climáticas da PUC-Rio (NAPC/PUC-Rio)  
arthur.braganca@cpirio.org

### Rafael Araújo

#### Research Assistant, Sustainable Agriculture and Infrastructure

Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) & Núcleo de Avaliação de Políticas Climáticas da PUC-Rio (NAPC/PUC-Rio)  
rafael.araujo@cpirio.org

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Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) works to improve the most important energy and land use policies around the world, with a particular focus on finance. We support decision makers through in-depth analysis on what works and what does not. CPI's Brazil program partners with the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (Puc-Rio). This project is funded by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation.

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