Uncovering the quality of forest regeneration in the Amazon

From 2020-2022 | Total budget € 112,000

Naturally regenerating forests are the solution for restoring large expanses of tropical forests at low costs. The rates of recovery and the levels of biodiversity attained by such forests vary widely. For example, in landscapes severely fragmented or subject to repeated burning, regenerating forests have limited capacity to restore ecosystem services. In the Brazilian Amazon, 21% of previously deforested land is now covered by regenerating forests of unknown ecological integrity.

This project synthesises the scientific knowledge and translates it into guidelines for classifying and monitoring the ecological quality of regenerating forests in the Amazon. Protocols for field and remote sensing assessments will be designed by an international group of 20 experts from 12 institutions. The results of this synthesis will enable mapping and monitoring of the quality of regenerating forests in the Amazon and will hopefully contribute to the implementation of public policies on forest restoration.

The project is supported by the Brazilian Center of Synthesis in Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services – SINBIOSE, and is coordinated by the National Institute for Amazon Research- INPA based in Manaus, Brazil and the Forest Ecology and Forest Management Group from Wageningen University.

Contact:
Catarina Jakovac | catarina.jakovac@wur.nl
Lourens Poorter | lourens.poorter@wur.nl