

Bases of Learning

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Aiming to contribute with the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal # 4 (Quality Education), the Sustainable Amazonas Foundation (FAS – acronym in Portuguese) through the Education and Health Program (PES – acronym in Portuguese) develops since 2012 the project “Bases of Learning” for sustainable development.

The project’s strategy is applies experiential education as methodology for training elementary and initial grade school’s teachers that work in multisite classes of riverine schools, located in communities within protected areas of Amazonas’ state. The method presupposes practical learning, where teachers learn by doing the activities together with the students, following fourth steps: starting – survey – application – evaluation.

The learning material is composed by 60 Activity Guides, that approach themes such as (i) community development, (ii) human body (iii) forest (iv) local traditions, (v) health, (vi) current issues, (vii) geography (viii) history, (ix) arts and (x) pollution. The content aims to stimulate multidisciplinary learning and oral diction of multisite classes’ students in riverine communities, strengthening the commitment with the formal educational base, that has a major seek qualify and the offer of education. This action-oriented teaching method promotes many benefits to student, as their participation within subject of the teaching-learning process.

The elaboration of the Activity Guides were made through dialogues and experience exchanges between teachers, students and other social actors, in a participatory model building process that aimed to guarantee necessary knowledge and skills to promote communitarian sustainable development. All produced material was compiled in the "Bases of Learning for Sustainable Development - what did we learn today?" book, co-created by FAS and Farol Comunicação e Cultura.

The content is unique because approaches a content according to local realities - with educators’ collaboration from Amazon region – that dialogues with local elements and promotes identification and meaning to the learning process. The ludic-educational activities proposed by the project can be take inside and outside classrooms. The content of the book is adapted through regional references such as chestnut, community development, pirarucu fish, and Amazonian traditions legends, providing practical and easy-going activities for teachers and students. Approximately 100 teachers and 400 students from 5 protected areas (State Reserve Juma, Mamirauá, Cujumbim, Uatumã and Negro River) took part in the training workshops from 2014 to 2016 in partnership with the Municipal Secretariats of Education of 6 municipalities (Novo Aripuanã, Uarini, Jutai, Itapiranga, São Sebastião do Uatumã and Iranduba).