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MONITORING BIODIVERSITY FOR ACTION

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Abstract Booklet

200034 - Potential contribution of Brazilian governmental biodiversity monitoring networks to Essential Biodiversity Variables

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As the most biodiverse and one of the most unequal countries in the world, Brazil faces a huge challenge in balancing biodiversity conservation, economic growth and socioenvironmental justice. Biodiversity monitoring can be an important tool in this context. Although remote monitoring metrics, such as deforestation indexes, are well established, *in situ* biodiversity monitoring initiatives are relatively recent and isolated. This work aimed to identify and describe *in situ* biodiversity monitoring initiatives managed by the environmental federal government agencies IBAMA and ICMBio, to understand the interactions among networks and the potential of the data they collect to be used as conservation tools. Six monitoring networks were evaluated, which monitor terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems in three of six Brazilian terrestrial biomes: Amazon, Atlantic Forest and Cerrado, as well as different marine habitats along the coastline. These networks monitor 87 variables, 64 of which are state variables and relate to seven Essential Biodiversity Variables (EBVs): species distributions, species abundances, morphology, reproduction, movement, taxonomic/phylogenetic diversity, and live cover fraction. Species distributions and abundances are the EBVs with the most potential contribution from the evaluated networks. There are overlaps and interactions among networks, with similar data collected by more than one group. However, these networks are not interconnected, as each one houses data in a separate database, which makes their application limited and not user-friendly. Promoting integration and interoperability between networks is a fundamental step to allow their use as data sources for national statistics and reports, as well as to EBVs.

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Session

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