

CLIMATE agenda: Cross-border cooperation in Brazil's Legal Amazon [BLA]

From a
GERMAN
perspective

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Interview data with **strategic German stakeholders** in the context of cross-border cooperation projects in **BLA**¹ that deal with climate from a subnational approach.

WHICH ARE the main themes and challenges perceived by the interviewees when it comes to cooperation projects from a subnational approach?

■ Top Themes

Bioeconomy | REDD+² | Empowerment of Traditional Communities & Indigenous People

■ Top Challenges

Local political order | Local technical capacity | Local articulation capacity

>> PERSPECTIVE

Comparing the "top themes" perceived by the interviewees as a priority to the **programs foreseen** in the Climate State Policies in BLA, **there is a certain compatibility, at least for the REDD+ programs and Environmental Services scopes**. On the other hand, the weight they give to "the Empowerment of Traditional Communities & Indigenous People" is not reflected in the state policies analyzed: only 2 of the 29 programs are explicitly dedicated to that aim³.



SUBNATIONAL APPROACH

When asked **for which state** they have heard about and/or are somehow familiar with an existing Climate State Law in BLA, they mainly cited the State of **Amazonas**, followed by **Pará**.

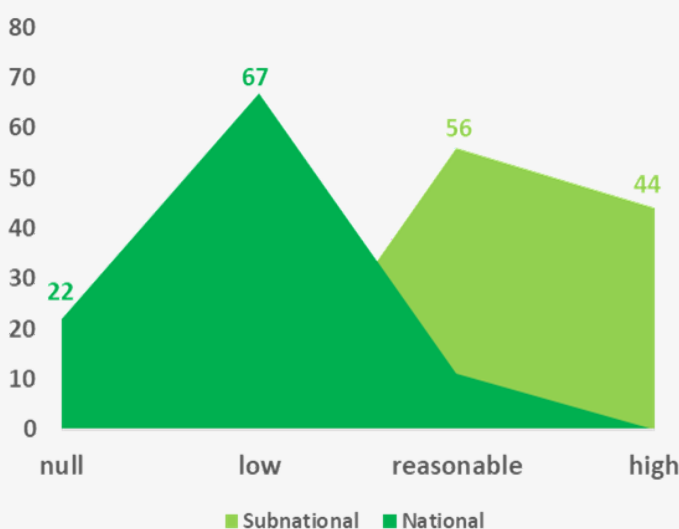
Around **11%** had **no awareness** at all of any subnational climate law in place for the region.



>> NEAR FUTURE

The graph shows the level of **"Reliability & Optimism"** among the German interviewees concerning the Brazilian government's actions and commitments - on both a federal and a subnational level - to face the climate crisis in BLA. Responses like "reasonable" and "high" were mostly made regarding a subnational level.

Optimism level [%] from a subnational and national perspective



CONSIDERATIONS

Although topics considered to be priorities vary from one actor to the other, it is clear that there is **plenty of room to continue cross-border cooperation between Germany and Brazil**. This research sheds light on the possibilities of doing so considering a **subnational approach**, which in fact seems to be a more **promising channel** for the moment based on the interviews carried out and as reflected in the graph opposite.

1. BLA comprises 9 states: Acre, Amazônia, Amapá, Rondônia, Pará, Mato Grosso, Roraima, Maranhão, and Tocantins.
2. REDD+ means Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation, plus the sustainable management of forests, and the conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.
3. You can find an overview of these programs in my article, available at https://publications.iass-potsdam.de/rest/items/item_6001597_2/component/file_6001632/content (for best viewing, use Adobe Reader).

Background

This study is part of my research project on "Subnational Climate Governance Policies in the Brazilian Amazon - challenges and opportunities of cross border transformative co-creation", carried out at the IASS Potsdam. To access my article, access <https://www.iass-potsdam.de/en/output/publications/2021/subnational-climate-policies-brazils-legal-amazon-glance>.

The opinion of the German stakeholders interviewed does not necessarily reflect the position of the organizations they belong to. People I talked to come from: the Amazon Investor Coalition, the Brazilian-German ATTO Project, the German Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection, the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, independent consultancy to the German Government, the German Embassy in Brazil, the German Agency for International Cooperation, and KfW Bank.

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