



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

MANTIQUEIRA BIRD OBSERVATORY



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Photo: Rafaela Bisacchi

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Institutional Presentation

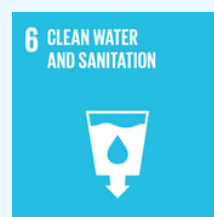
We are an independent non-profit organization for the study and conservation of Brazilian birds. Since 2018 we have worked in the Mantiqueira Highlands located in the Atlantic Forest.

As a bird observatory, we encourage **science-based conservation** by monitoring the Mantiqueira Highlands avifauna, producing and publicizing scientific knowledge, training young scientists, communicating science to the public, and carrying out environmental education. Thus, in addition to helping fill gaps in Brazilian ornithological knowledge, we work on science outreach by creating transformative experiences to inform, sensitize, and engage people.



Mission: *To build bridges between science, society and nature through education, awareness and research, promoting the preservation of biodiversity.*

As an institution committed to the **United Nation's Decade on Ecosystem Restoration** (2021-2030), OAMA's goals and objectives are aligned with these nine Sustainable Development Goals:





RESEARCH



**CAPACITY
BUILDING**



COMMUNICATION



ECOTOURISM

THE OAMA TEAM

President – Luiza Figueira

Secretary – Pedro Martins

Treasurer – Affonso Souza

ASSOCIATES

Affonso Souza

Felipe Cotrim

Julia Rodrigues

Luiza Figueira

Renata Miwa

Pedro Martins

DIRECTORS

Executive Director – Luiza Figueira

Project Director – Affonso Souza

Data Director – Pedro Martins

Director of Strategic Planning – Veronica Battezzini

COORDINATION

Monitoring and Training Coordinator – Luiza Figueira

“Ações Pró-Aves” (Pro-bird actions) Program Coordinator – Affonso Souza

Communication Coordinator – Otávio Rocha

“(Re)Forest” Contract Coordination – Luiza Figueira

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Training and Monitoring Assistant – Danielle Santos

Execution of “(Re)Forest” Contract – Veronica Battezzini

VOLUNTEERS

Science Outreach – Rafaella Ferneda

Science Outreach – Andreza Freitas

Science Outreach – Caroline Marcelino



Photo: Rafaela Bisacchi

Science Communication

One of OAMa's goals is to raise awareness of the environmental causes and disseminate information on conservation, science, and biodiversity. To that end, it is essential to have clear and compelling communication. We seek to interact with different audiences creating transformative and remarkable experiences.

In 2023, we continued the second cycle of the "Ações Pró-Aves" Program: promoting positive actions for the conservation of wild birds. We held six in-person events, seeking to inform and raise awareness about bird predation by pets, collisions with glass, wildlife trafficking and caging, as well as noise and light pollution. We created scientific content on Instagram and YouTube. Alongside other partner institutions, we shared posts for the "Jacuçara" Campaign, which highlights the importance of conserving key species in the Atlantic Forest: the Black-fronted Piping-Guan (*Aburria jacutinga*) and the juçara palm tree (*Euterpe edulis*). We also uploaded new webinars and a short documentary about OAMa's standardized, long-term bird monitoring program. The production and execution of most of the activities and materials are only possible thanks to the Volunteer Program, which is in its third year and has a team of volunteers and scholarship holders from different regions of the country.

Our communication actions (listed on the next page) are supported by **CEMAVE/ICMBio** (National Center for Research and Conservation of Wild Birds) and are aligned with the scientific dissemination campaigns of the **National Action Plan (PAN) for the Conservation of Birds in the Atlantic Forest**.





29 Days of Events



3 Schools Involved



+8,600 People Reached



4 Informative Posters



+420 Informative Brochures and **200** Bird Guides Distributed



3 Artistic Installations



2 Workshops



2 Citizen Science Research



1 Short Documentary



Research

Science is the central pillar of our organization, as we believe that biodiversity conservation actions must be based on scientific knowledge. Monitoring biodiversity is an essential tool for planning conservation and environmental preservation initiatives. The patterns identified from the collected data serve as environmental quality parameters and allow us to evaluate possible ecosystem changes and their consequences in the region. Furthermore, the data from the bird monitoring program contributes significantly to the advancement of Brazilian ornithological knowledge. In 2023, we completed five consecutive years of standardized monitoring of birdlife in the Mantiqueira Highlands. We used capture-mark-recapture (banding) with mist nets integrated with the listening-points method. We continued sampling at the banding stations in the Private Natural Heritage Reserve (RPPN) "Fazenda Alto da Boa Vista", in Bocaina de Minas (MG). Additionally we opened a station at RPPN "Alto Montana", in Itamonte, MG. Both reserves are part of the Mantiqueira Highlands Environmental Protection Area, in the Atlantic Forest biome.

OAMa's growing database augments studies on the natural history and ecology of local species and populations. The data is also shared and analyzed by students and partner collaborators from different research institutions, such as São Paulo University, Rio Grande do Sul Federal University, Rio de Janeiro Federal University, and Santa Catarina Federal University. In 2023, we developed seven research projects that addressed topics, such as altitudinal migration, description of molting patterns and age classification, bird phenology, survey of Mantiqueira bird species, among others.



Top 10 Captured Bird Species



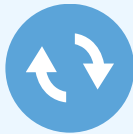
1 Black-goggled Tanager, 2 Golden-crowned Warbler, 3 Swallow-tailed Manakin, 4 White-throated Spadebill, 5 Ruby-crowned Tanager, 6 Violet-capped Woodnymph, 7 White-browed Warbler, 8 Serra do Mar Tyrant-Manakin, 9 White-necked Thrush, and 10 Scale-throated Hermit.



1,410 Birds
Captured



612 Newly
Banded Birds



603 Recaptures



195 Unbanded
Birds



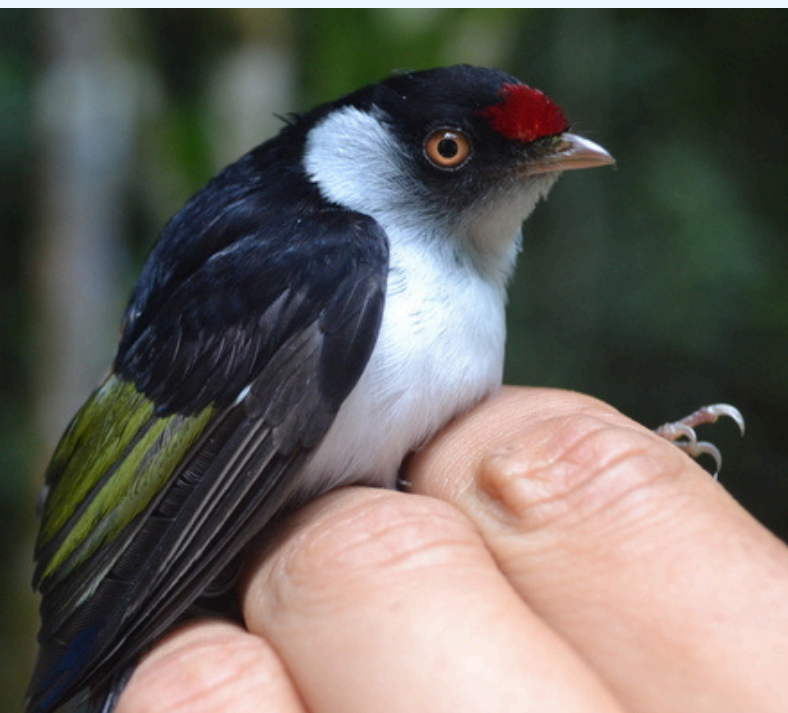
104 Bird Species
Captured



78 Mornings of
Bird Banding



7,135.05 Mist
Net*Hours



Capacity Building

We believe that promoting technical training opportunities is a way to contribute to the development of quality science in Brazil. To achieve this goal, we developed and offered theoretical and practical courses, and the opportunity for immersion training focused on bird banding techniques, ethics, bird welfare, and data quality.

In 2023, we held courses on bird banding, molt analysis and age classification, and bioacoustics. We completed the second year of **the Avifauna Monitoring Training Program, a unique intensive program in Brazil, and one of the few in all of Latin America!** We contributed to the training of ornithologists from eight Brazilian states and three Latin American countries: Venezuela, Cuba, and Mexico. Furthermore, we promoted a six-month exchange between trainees from OAMa and the Klamath Bird Observatory (Oregon, USA), aiming to provide continuity of professional training without borders.

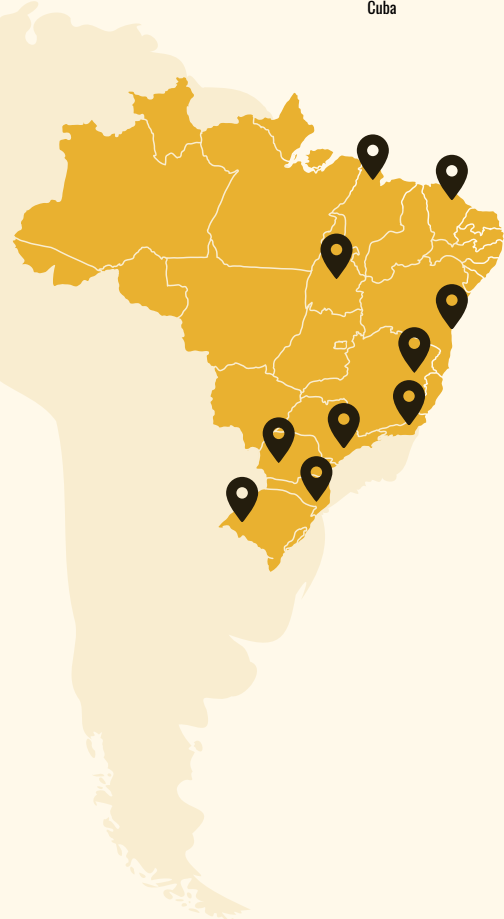




Photo: Veronica Battezzini



124 Student
Enrolled in Courses
(online & in person)



12 Resident
Trainees



7 Months of
Training



2 Exchange
Students



Photo: Martín Aguilar



Ecotourism

Ecotourism in the Mantiqueira Highlands is a unique experience, offering not only the opportunity to explore and observe, but also to take care and to learn about nature. OAMA believes in the potential of this activity as a way to promote health and well-being for people of all ages. Furthermore, ecotourism presents itself as a way of conserving the territory and financing our efforts in research and biodiversity conservation.

In 2023, we created the first pocket field guide to birds of the Visconde de Mauá region and conducted three bird walks in protected areas. We contributed to the organization of the first Resende Bird and Nature Festival. We held our first Fundraising Field Trip in partnership with the Klamath Bird Observatory (Oregon, USA), in which we guided foreign tourists through the region of Resende, Itatiaia (RJ), and Itamonte (MG). We also offered workshops on bird bioacoustics, embroidery of native bird species, and identification of wild mushrooms, in addition to contributing with a lecture for the Itatiaia National Park visitor guide course.





Photo: Julia Rodrigues



Photo: Veronica Battezzini



245 Participants in Bird Walks



12 Foreign Tourists



250 Participants at the Festival



40 Students on the Visitor Guide Course



41 Participants in the Workshops



Photo: Veronica Battezzini



Consultancy

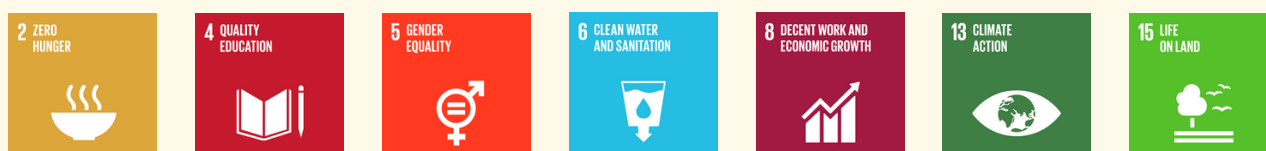
As a means to meet OAMA's fundraising and economic viability goals, we provide consulting services and project execution related to ornithological research, professional training, promotion of ecotourism, and environmental education.

This year OAMA is being represented by our general coordinator, biologist Luiza Figueira, in the provision of Environmental Education services for the Pro-Management Association of the Waters of the Hydrographic Basin of the Paraíba do Sul River (AGEVAP). We were hired to lead the Environmental Education actions for **(Re)Forest, Water and Carbon, an extension project of the Water and Forest Producers Program (PAF) – Guandu/RJ**. Among the planned actions are the preparation and execution of short courses on Forests and Climate Change with the school community, training courses for rural producers in Agricultural Good Practices and Reforestation, training events for socioeconomic and environmental development, and communication and dissemination of the project and its themes of action with the public.

During 2023, we were in the second year of providing Environmental Education services to the Pro-Management Association of the Waters of the Hydrographic Basin of the Paraíba do Sul River (AGEVAP). We were hired to lead the Environmental Education and Socio-Environmental Development actions of the (Re)Forest, Water and Carbon project, an extension of the Water and Forest Producers Program (PAF) – Guandu (RJ).

Among the planned actions were the preparation and execution of short courses on Forests and Climate Change with the school community, training courses for rural producers in Agricultural Good Practices and Reforestation, training events for socioeconomic and environmental development, and communication and dissemination of the project and its themes of action with the public.

The project is carried out by AGEVAP with funding from the Guandu, Guarda and Guandu-Mirim River Basins Committee (**Guandu Committee**) and **Petrobras**, through the Petrobras Socio-environmental program.





248 People from the School Community



194 Residents of the Quilombola Community and Farmers



Conservation

Biodiversity conservation is the core goal of all our actions. For us, conservation is not only a subject, but an approach that permeates all that we do, from our methods to our aimed results. Our dedication to the **Technical Advisory Group (GAT) of the National Action Plan (PAN) for the Conservation of Birds of the Atlantic Forest** is an example of our work in this area. As active agents in the GAT, we participated in the preparation of the planning matrix and collaborated with the creation and execution of the activities planned for the second cycle of this PAN.

In October 2023, Luiza Figueira, our Executive Director and OAMA representative at GAT, participated in the face-to-face meeting to prepare the matrix of goals and officially launch the second cycle of the PAN for the Conservation of Birds of the Atlantic Forest. The meeting took place in Vargem Alta (ES). This intense immersion gathered ten GAT collaborators, including representatives from research institutions, universities and public and private sectors. They spent five days in meetings dedicated to discussion and collective construction. Many heads, with their different perspectives, think better than one!





Message from our Executive Director

Measuring the results of our conservation actions is a major challenge for OAMA. Over these few years of existence of the Mantiqueira Bird Observatory, I have often questioned whether we are on the right path, and whether we are really making a positive and lasting impact on the protection of biodiversity. With so many needs and so many battlefronts in the search for a viable future for our planet, it is easy to get lost in the demands we impose on ourselves. Will we be enough?

What I have been learning as Executive Director of OAMA is that every effort is important to achieve a greater goal. We will never be enough to fulfill all our desires for positive change. The change needed is too big for any initiative to embrace alone. However, each part, each piece, each agent of change is fundamental for us to achieve better days, with more optimistic forecasts.

Reviewing, together with OAMA's growing and always engaged team, all the actions we carried out throughout the year, and translating some of our achievements into numbers and summaries of what was done, helps me see our role in this transformation. I hope this brief 2023 annual report has conveyed to you what I feel: immense pride and the feeling that we have accomplished more than we believed possible. We remain committed to being relevant to promote a better life – for us, for the birds, for everyone.

Luiza J. Rodrigues

Support Science-based Conservation

There are several ways to support OAMa. With just a few clicks, you can significantly contribute to research, scientific communication, and biodiversity conservation.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Share our actions and expand our support network.



ALL HELP MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Donations and affiliations are the driving force that gives life to OAMa.



USE.OAMa BRAND

Purchase our products on the website or in partner stores.



SPONSORSHIP

Associate your brand with Brazilian bird conservation.



Photo: Julia Rodrigues



Photo: Rafaela Bisacchi

Donors and Affiliates

Donations and affiliations strengthen our capacity for actions and maintenance of the organization. In addition, they are also a vote of confidence that we receive with great enthusiasm and affection. Thank you for supporting our work for the research and conservation of birds and habitats!

AFFILIATES

Ilda Fátima de Deus
Julia Martins Ribeiro
Luma Amaral
Maria Denise S. C. M. Lopez
Maria Luiza Coimbra
Maria Luiza Pedrosa
Marcia dos Santos Chieriegatti
Paulo Rodrigues
Anelize Scavassa
Silvana Buzato
Ana Carolina Monteiro Almeida
Barbara Vasconcelos Abbondati
Breno Rodrigo de Araujo
Danielle Santos Silva
João Heruberto
Regina Noronha
Renata Mercedes Leite
Juliana Gurgel
Natalia Castro
Maria C. Castro

Paulo Locatelli
Rafaela Vitti
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C. J. Ralph
Ellen Campbell
Gabriel Martins
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Rafaella da Mata
Jairo Carvalho Gomes
Carolina Vannier Borges
Nina de Paula de Souza
Dirlene Ribeiro Martins
Katia Novi Castilla
Luiz Felipe Gonzaga
Nathalia D. P. M. M. SO.
Rone Fernando de Carvalho
Thayssa Alves Coelho da Silva
Sarah Henaut Jacobs

DONORS

Shannon Rio
Larissa Kan
Aran Rodrigo
João Rios
Douglas Antonio M. Barbin
Ana Paula Lepique
Eliza Tam K.
Wilma Bolso



Partners and Collaborators

OAMa is very grateful to all partners and collaborators who identify with our mission and values. We thank you for boosting our research, professional training and environmental education actions throughout 2023. This joint effort amplifies the positive impacts on the conservation of birds in the Atlantic Forest.

INSTITUTIONS

Albatroz Project

AlphaPark

Alto Montana Institute

Andirá Filmes

Antônio Quirino State School

Aves de Noronha Project

Bird Friendly Coalition (The Smithsonian Institution)

Birds Atlantic

Colabora Nóbrega Shop

Curupira Sustentável Shop

Fazenda do Mel Inn

Guigó Shop

Klamath Bird Observatory

Mico Leão Dourado Association

National Action Plan for the Conservation of Birds in the Atlantic Forest

National Center for Research and Conservation of Wild Birds - CEMAVE/ICMBio

Ornithological Collection of the Museum of Natural Sciences at PUC Minas

Pedra Selada State Park

Regional Council of Biology 4th Region

Resende Tourism Secretariat

Rio de Janeiro Federal Rural University

Serrapilheira Institute

Social Center for Sustainability and Innovation in the Visconde de Mauá Region

Sur Les Traces de Darwin - AgroParisTech Université Paris-Saclay

UFRGS Population Biology Laboratory

WindowAlert

We thank **CANVA, SLACK and GOOGLE** for granting us free professional accounts that optimize our work and strengthen our organization institutionally.

Partners and Collaborators

INDIVIDUALS

Ana Luiza Catalano
Anatole Laignel
Arnaud Andrieu
Augusto Gomes
Caio Marques
Carlos Ruiz
Chloé Cossin
Dirlene Martins
Eduardo Araujo
Emília Roberts
Ellen Campbell
Gabriel Martins
Gonçalo Ferraz
Humberto Mohr
Jorge Lucas Moreira
Karine Resende
Karoline Zamluti
Larissa Amaral
Larissa Pereira
Lino Matheus
Luísa Ritter
Luiz Ribenboim
Magela Eleutério
Marylou Petot
Matthieu Cieutat
Paulo Pêgas
Priscilla Amaral
Rafaela Bissachi
Samiris Freire
Simone Coimbra
Vinícius do Couto



Photo: Julia Rodrigues



Photo: Verónica Battezzini

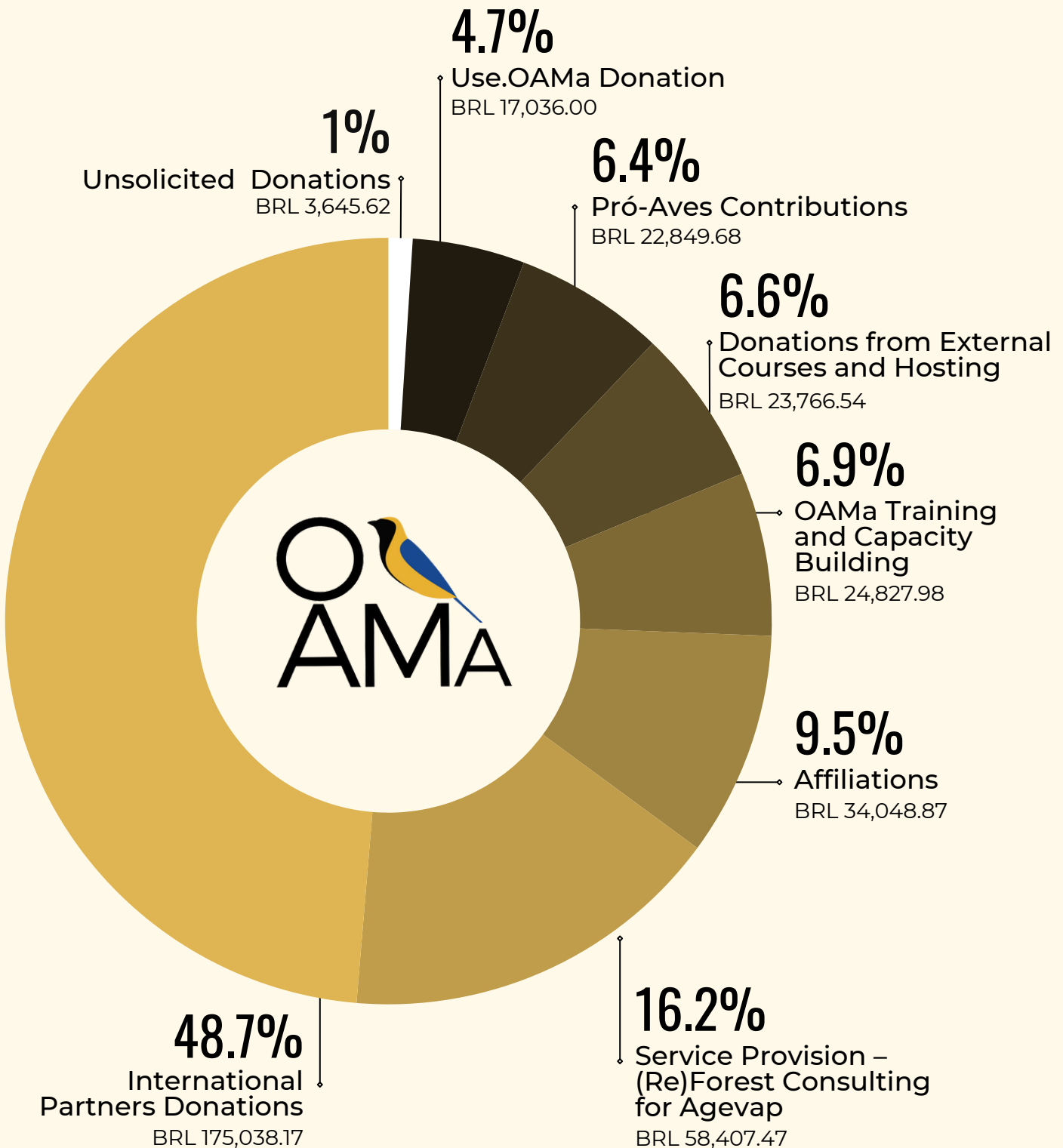


Photo: Afonso Souza

Financial Statement

2023 Income

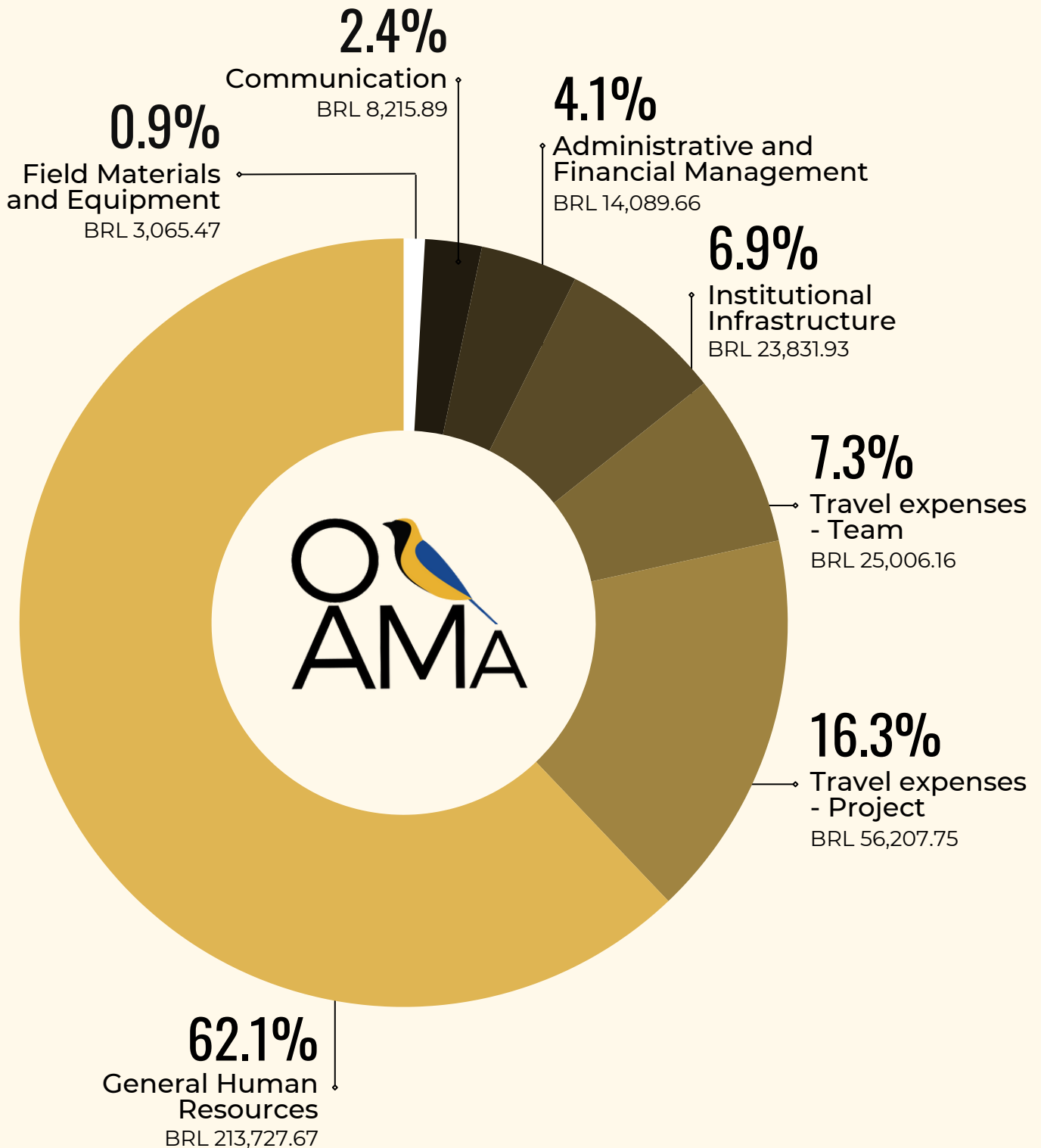
Total raised
BRL 359,620.33



Financial Statement

2023 Expenses

Total spent
BRL 344,144.53





SCIENCE-BASED CONSERVATION

RESENDE - RJ - BRAZIL

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