

# Addressing the link between drugs and crimes that affect the environment

Thematic Debate on Topic 4 of the La Paz Declaration

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Ministry of Justice - Brazilian Federal Government**

SECRETARIA NACIONAL DE  
POLÍTICAS SOBRE DROGAS  
E GESTÃO DE ATIVOS

MINISTÉRIO DA  
JUSTIÇA E  
SEGURANÇA PÚBLICA

GOVERNO FEDERAL  
**BRASIL**  
UNIÃO E RECONSTRUÇÃO

# Agenda

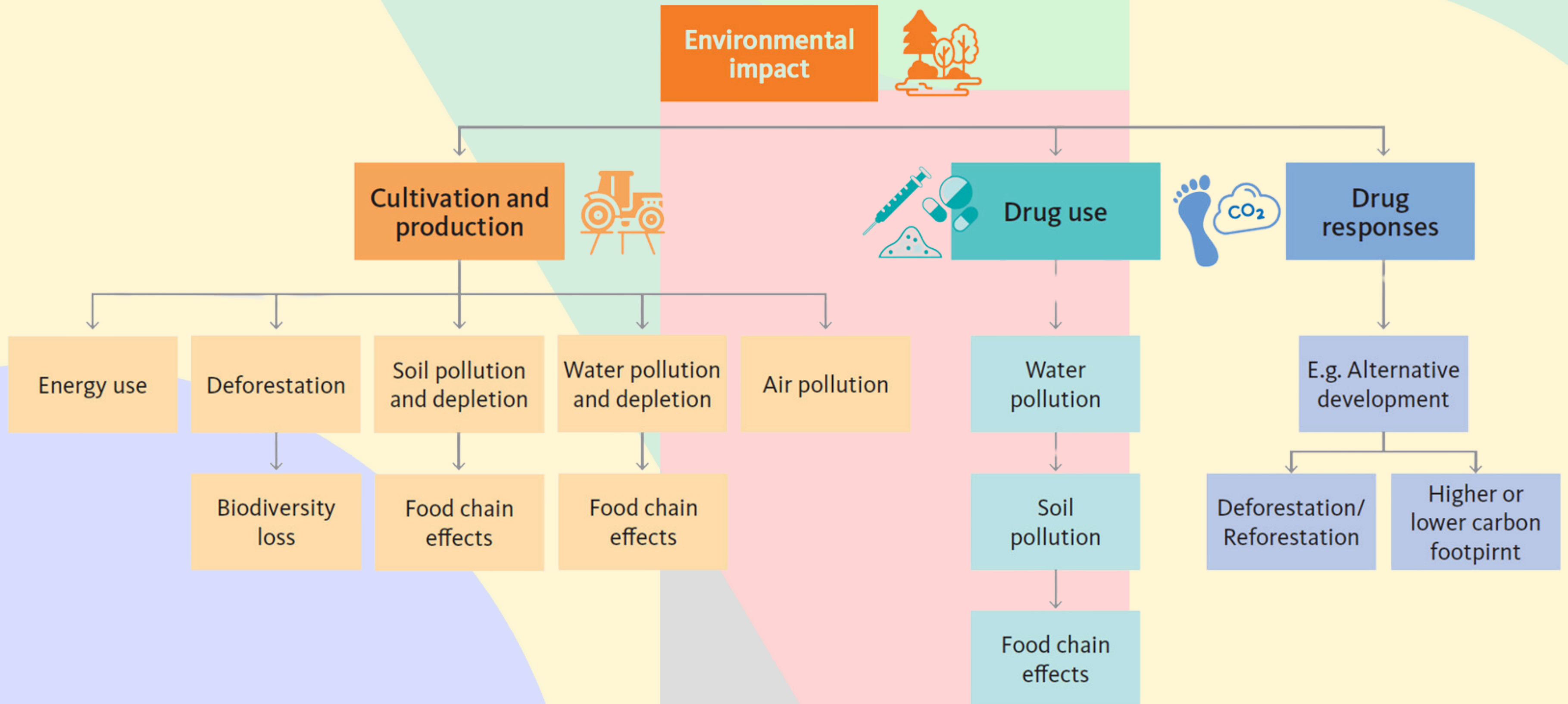
**Overview of the intersection between drugs and the environment**

**SENAD's Approach**

**Dialogues about the principle of shared responsibility**

# Environmental Impact caused by drug-related activities

## THE THREE ROUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT



# The phenomenon of Convergence of Crimes related to drugs and its socioenvironmental impact

**Drug Trafficking in the Brazilian Amazon Organisations as direct or indirect financiers for:**

**Deforestation & Timber trafficking**

**Land Grabbing for illicit purposes**

**Illegal mining**

**Connecting illegal activities / money laundering**

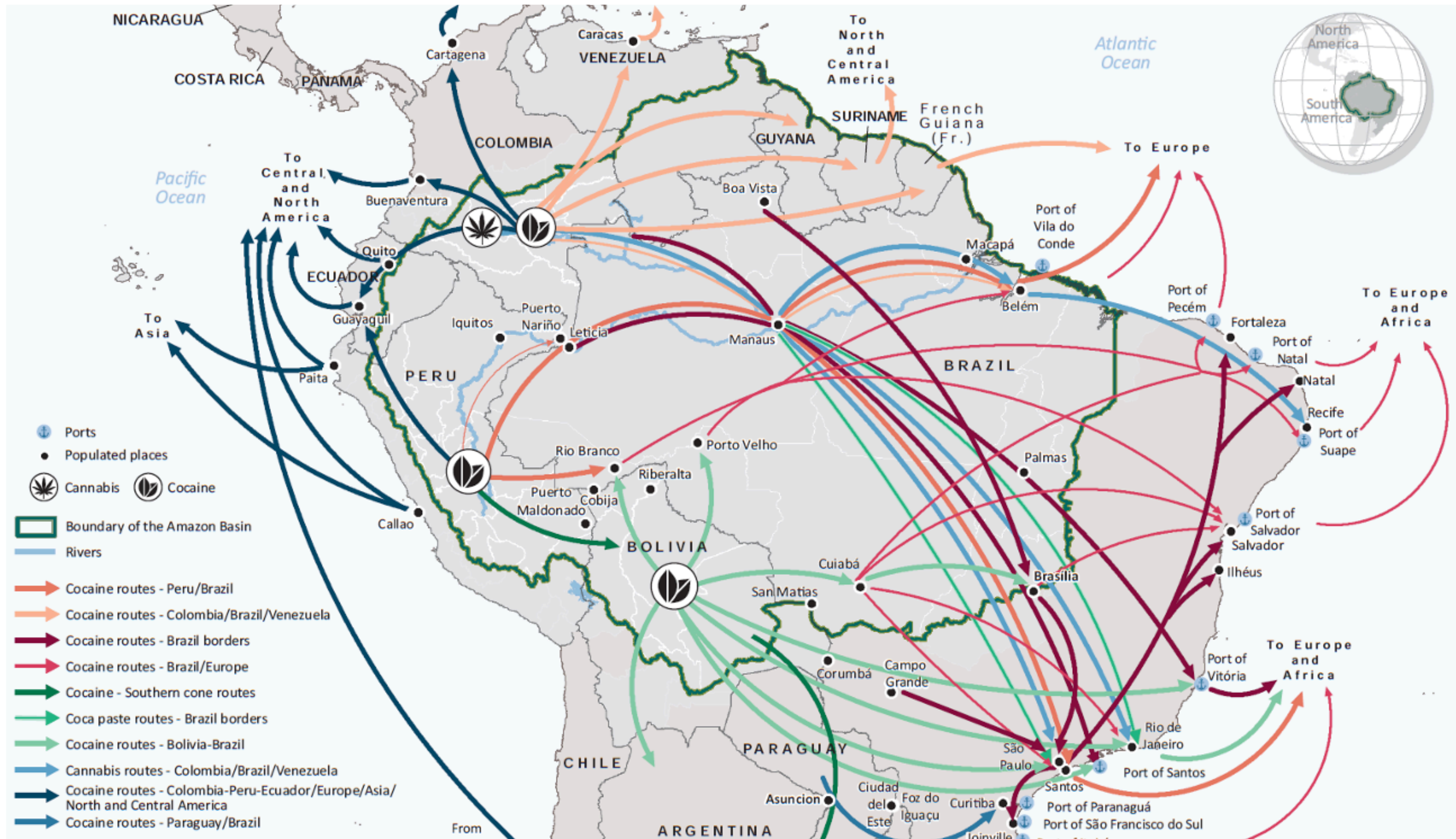
**Sharing of illegal infrastructure: illegal airstrips and deforestation**

**Between 2020 and 2022, 65% of all gold notified as originating in the Tapajós River basin region in Para state was considered illegal. In economic terms, irregular production would have generated a profit of approximately €1,17 billion during that period.**

**Also between 2020 and 2022, the socio-environmental losses summed up to €2.17 billion with damage corresponding to deforestation, river silting and mercury contamination.**



# The connection between drug trafficking and environmental harm, along with its related criminal activities



Source: UNODC



# Key Findings - Reports developed by Center for Studies on Drugs and Community Social Development (Cdesc)



**Use of rivers as one of the main routes for drug trafficking**

**Drug traffickers use the same infrastructure as illegal mining, particularly landing strips and internet/communication**

**The vastness and complexity of the region complicates state oversight and the work against the various forms of organized crime in the area.**

# Key Findings - Reports developed by Center for Studies on Drugs and Community Social Development (Cdesc)



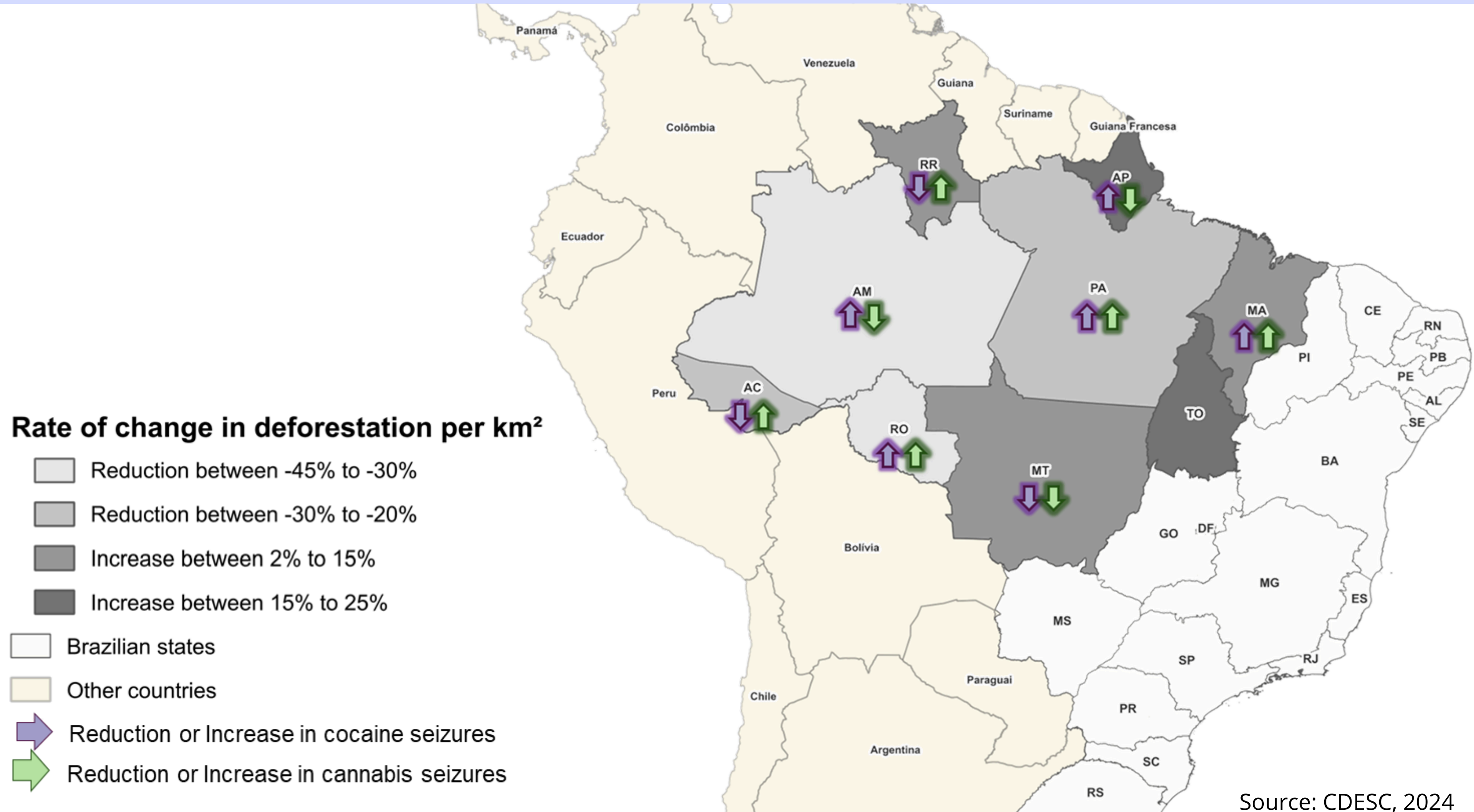
Publication compiles data on drug seizures, deforestation and airstrips in Brazil's Amazon region

The convergence of these crimes is contributing to deforestation in the region

Indigenous territories are under pressure and increasingly surrounded by illegal activities

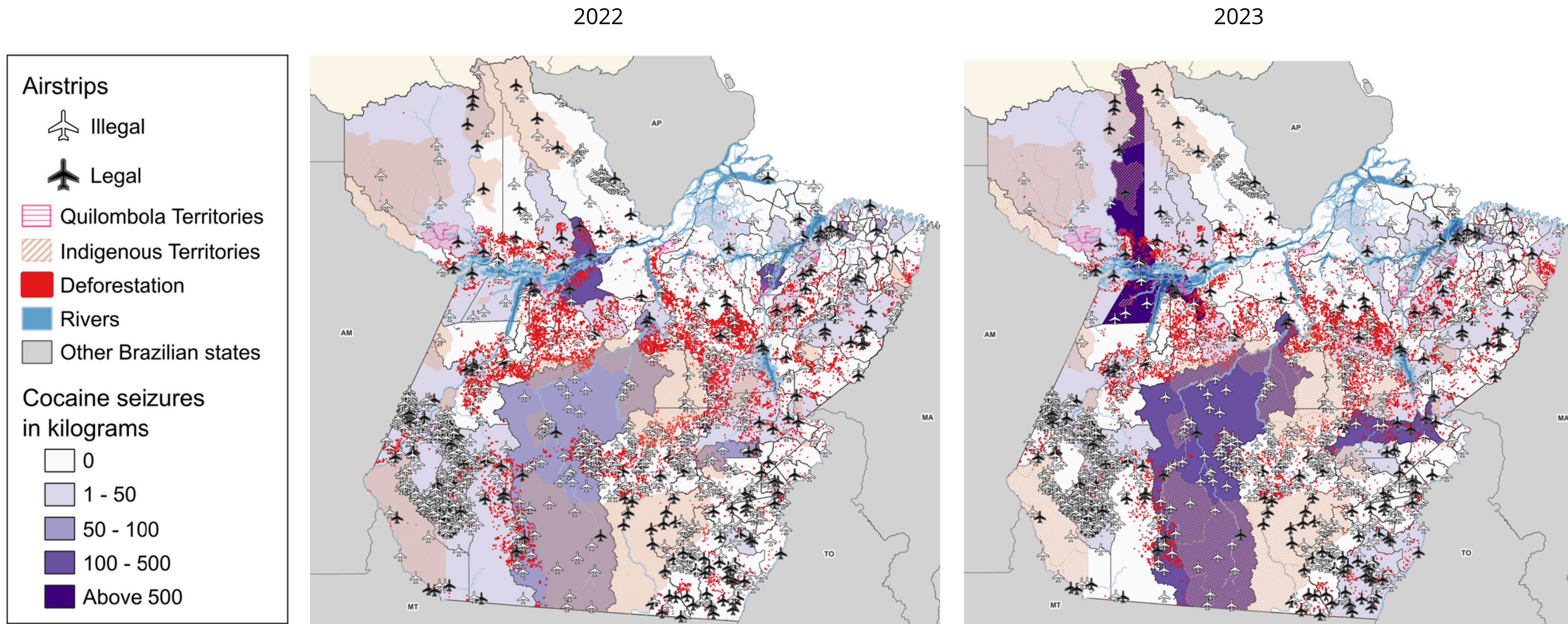


# An analysis about drug trafficking and environmental harm, along with its related criminal activities





# Deforestation, illegal airstrips and cocaine seizures in 2022/2023



Source: CDESC, 2024



# **The consequences of drug trafficking and harm for the environment for indigenous peoples and traditional communities**

**Loss of environmental protection equalizing the loss of their way of living**

**Subsequent increase of use leading to an increase of violence against women**

**Increase of the use of alcohol and other drugs among indigenous youth**

**Recruitment of youth for work for organized crime**

**Increase of violence**



# SENAD's approach towards the intersection between Drugs and the Environment, and Sustainable Alternative Development



**Creation of a National Strategy for Indigenous People in Drug Policies**



# SENAD'S Strategy for implementing Sustainable Alternative Development

RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT FOR DATA-DRIVEN ACTIONS



ACTIONS

**PRONASCI**  
juventude



**PACTAS**  
Parque Científico e Tecnológico do Alto Solimões

Advocacy and articulation with other national actors to break the silos between drug policy and environmental discussions (including other ministries, governmental bodies and civil society)

**AMAZÔNIA 4.0**  
VIVA O FUTURO COM A FLORESTA!

Development of the public policy **CAIS: Center for Access to Rights and Social Inclusion**



# Brazil's efforts to address the Transnational Organized Crime

Proposition of 3 separated new protocols within the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime

Active role on regional and bi/multilateral forums:  
It is urgent to break the silos between environmental and drug policy discussions

Wildlife trafficking

Illegal Logging

Illegal Mining

## COLLABORATIVE SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS DRUG TRAFFICKING AND ORGANIZED CRIME IN THE AMAZON BASIN: IMPACTS AND CHALLENGES

HIGH LEVEL SIDE EVENT – 67th Session of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Friday, 15th March, 11:00 - 12:30 (CET Vienna) · Room M2

Organizer: Government of Brazil. Co-Sponsors: Norway, Peru, Germany, Colombia, France, UNODC Brazil and Igarapé Institute

Concerns about the Amazon region have recently given rise to a series of studies aimed at identifying the region's various security problems and proposing new ways of dealing with them. There has been a convergence of multiple dimensions of organized crime operating in the region, that extend from drug cultivation and trafficking, crimes that affect the environment, land-grabbing, timber trafficking, illegal mining and trafficking in persons and trafficking of wild-life, to corruption, financial crimes and the victimization of those defending the environment, including indigenous populations. The situation calls for extensive and consistent dialog between countries and calls for shared responsibility, given that preserving the Amazon is critical for the future of the planet. Given the transnational nature of the phenomenon of drug trafficking, it is also necessary to intensify the dialogue with stakeholders from the countries sharing borders with Brazil in the Amazon, in order to exchange information and expertise, as well as implement joint solutions.

### Speakers:

**Opening remarks:** **Marta Machado**, National Secretary for Drug Policy in Brazil

**Norway:** **Ellen Rønning-Arnesen**, State Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Care Services

**Colombia:** **Camilo Eduardo Umaña Hernández**, Vice Minister of Criminal Policy and Restorative Justice

**Peru:** **Carlos Figueroa**, Executive President of the National Commission for Development and Life Without Drugs (Devida)

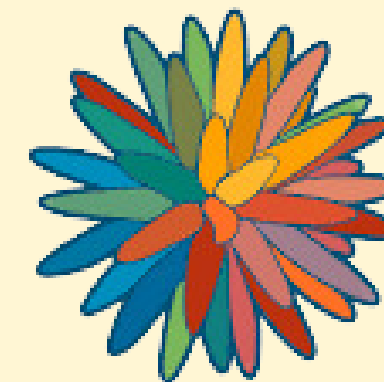
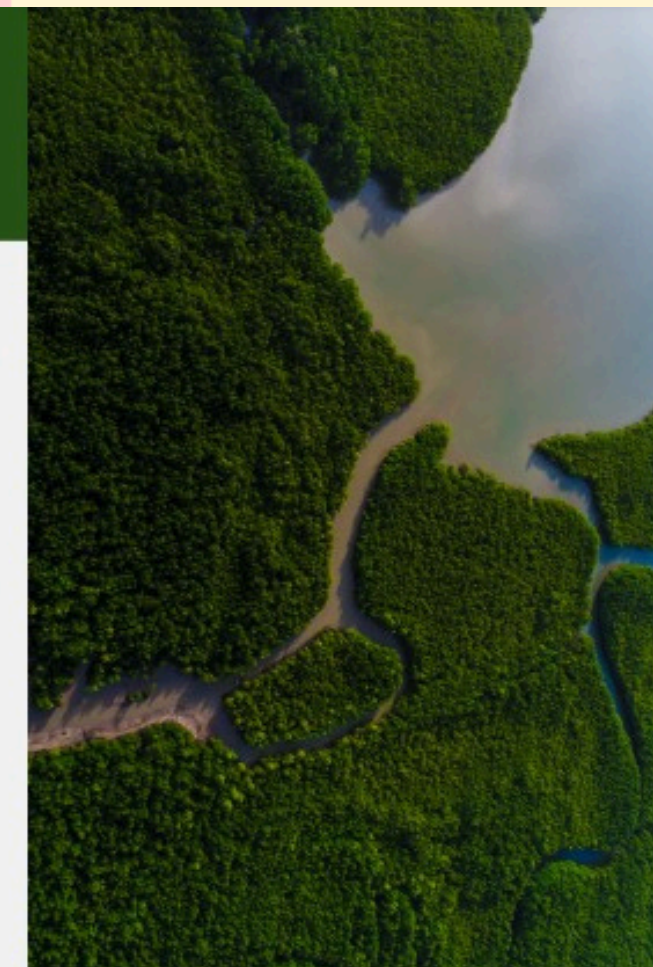
**Germany:** **Burkhard Blüner**, Commissioner of the Federal Government for Drug and Addiction Policy

**France:** **Amélie Delaroche**, Head of the Division on the Fight Against Terrorism and Organized Crime, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs

**UNODC:** **Bo Mathiesen**, Officer-in-Charge, Division for Operations

**Department of Federal Police (Brazil):** Priscila Macorin, Technical Assistant of the Directorate of Investigation and Combating Organized Crime and Corruption

**Igarapé Institute (Brazil):** Vivian Calderoni, Program and Research Coordinator



**COP16**  
COLOMBIA  
Paz con la Naturaleza



# Access Cdesc's Publications



**Cdesc Publications**



# Thank you!

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**Marta Machado**

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