



## **Bracell and Government of Mato Grosso do Sul Sign Commitment to Conserve Native Forests**

**Mato Grosso do Sul, August 28, 2023** - Bracell, a global leader in specialty cellulose production, reaffirms its dedication to advancing biodiversity and addressing climate change through the launch of its "1-for-1" commitment" in Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil. This pioneering initiative within the pulp industry sets an ambitious target: to protect, conserve, or restore one hectare of native forest for every hectare of sustainable plantation.

The formal agreement between Bracell and the Government of Mato Grosso do Sul was signed on Monday, 28th of August, with the presence of Governor, Eduardo Riedel; Secretary of Environment, Development, Science, Technology, and Innovation (Semadesc) Jaime Verruck; Mayor of Três Lagoas, Ângelo Guerreiro; along with Bracell's executive board including Head of Forest Operations, Mauro Quirino; Sustainability Manager, João Augusti; Director of Institutional, Government, and Community Relations, Manoel Browne; Senior Manager of Forestry Operations, José Márcio Bizon; and Manager of Institutional Relations, Marisa Coutinho.

This partnership is set to benefit the Prosa State Park and the Matas do Segredo State Park, both located within the urban boundaries of Campo Grande, directly impacted by the municipality's growth.

João Augusti, Bracell's Sustainability Manager, stated, "The commitment aids in the protection of areas within the Atlantic Forest, Cerrado and Caatinga biomes. It reflects our commitment to sustainability, aiming to innovate the pulp industry by providing diverse products from sustainably managed forest plantations."

Another conservation unit included in this initiative is the Taquari River Springs State Park, a crucial river that flows into the Pantanal plain. In June this year, Bracell and the Institute of Environment of Mato Grosso do Sul (Imasul) signed an agreement to develop fire prevention measures in the Taquari River Springs State Park, located in the northern region of the state. Services and equipment will be provided to aid in vegetation protection and direct restoration efforts across an area of 1,300 hectares with degraded soil, slated for restoration within six years.

Jaime Verruck emphasised the importance of this endeavour, saying, "The governor has made it clear that the green agenda in Mato Grosso do Sul is a top priority. Bracell's sustainability efforts are strategically aligned with the government's vision. We aim to demonstrate that our industry is expanding while embracing ESG principles. It's about thinking green, promoting sustainability, and fostering collaboration between the private and public sectors."

In addition to these regions, resources from the 1-for-1 commitment will also support the Pigeon Municipal Natural Park, which spans the border of Três Lagoas and Água Clara municipalities. This park represents the largest remaining cerrado in eastern

Mato Grosso do Sul. Furthermore, the Capivaras Municipal Natural Park is part of Bracell's conservation incentive plan, designed to preserve biodiversity.

Mayor Ângelo Guerreiro expressed his enthusiasm for the partnership, stating, "It's a mutually beneficial commitment where the municipality takes on its responsibilities while also preventing the numerous fires we've witnessed lately, which demand substantial efforts. This partnership is highly collaborative, an essential endeavour that further strengthens our community."

In 2022, the "1-for-1" initiative commenced its activities in all of Bracell's operating states in Brazil, including São Paulo, Bahia, and now, Mato Grosso do Sul. This commitment aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) outlined by the United Nations (UN). Data from the Brazilian Tree Industry (Ibá) indicates that there are 6.05 million hectares of conservation areas in Brazil. With "1-for-1," Bracell plays a vital role in expanding the protection of native forests throughout the country.

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#### **About Bracell:**

Bracell is a global leader in the production of dissolving pulp and specialty cellulose with two main mill operations in Brazil in Bahia and São Paulo. In addition to its operations in Brazil, Bracell has a management office in Singapore and sales offices in Asia, Europe and the U.S. [www.bracell.com](http://www.bracell.com)

#### **About RGE**

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Committed to sustainable development, conservation and community development, we strive towards what is good for the community, good for the country, good for the climate, good for the customer, and good for the company. With current operations spanning across Indonesia, China, Brazil, Spain and Canada, we continue to expand and engage new markets. [www.rgei.com/](http://www.rgei.com/)