



Year V, v.2 2025 | Submission: 12/14/2025 | Accepted: 12/16/2025 | Publication: 12/18/2025

Base Arpão: River policing in the Amazonas Military Police as a mechanism for the social inclusion of riverside communities.

Harp base - river policing in the Military Police of Amazonas as a form of social inclusion in riverside communities

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SUMMARY

The state of Amazonas is characterized by its vast territorial extension and strong dependence on rivers as means of communication, circulation, and subsistence, especially for riverside populations.

In this context, the state's presence becomes limited and unequal, creating significant challenges for the promotion of fundamental rights. The Arpão River Base, inaugurated in 2020, emerges as an integrated public security strategy developed by the State Government in partnership with federal agencies. This article analyzes how river policing carried out by the Amazonas Military Police (PMAM), from the Arpão Base, contributes to the social inclusion of these communities, reducing vulnerabilities and expanding access to essential public services. To this end, bibliographic and documentary research and descriptive analysis are used, based on concepts of community policing, social inclusion, and the socioeconomic characteristics of riverside communities.

The results indicate that the Arpão Base, in addition to combating environmental crimes and criminal organizations, acts as an important link between the State and isolated populations, promoting social assistance, health, environmental protection, and security actions. It is concluded that river policing in the Amazon goes beyond a repressive function and constitutes an instrument of citizenship and human development.

Keywords: River Policing; Social Inclusion; Riverside Communities; Arpão Base; Public Security.

ABSTRACT

The State of Amazonas is characterized by its vast territory and strong dependence on rivers as primary routes for circulation, communication, and subsistence, especially among riverside communities. In this context, state presence becomes limited and unequal, generating significant challenges for guaranteeing fundamental rights. The Arpão River Base, inaugurated in 2020, emerges as an integrated public security strategy developed by the State Government in partnership with federal agencies. This article analyzes how river policing performed by the Amazonas Military Police (PMAM), through the Arpão Base, contributes to the social inclusion of riverside communities by reducing vulnerabilities and expanding access to essential public services. A bibliographic and documentary methodological approach is adopted, supported by theoretical concepts of community policing, social inclusion, and the socioeconomic characteristics of traditional Amazonian populations. Results show that the Arpão Base goes beyond repressing environmental crimes and criminal organizations, becoming an important bridge between the State and isolated populations, promoting social assistance, health, environmental protection, and safety. It is concluded that river policing in the Amazon region transcends its traditional role and constitutes a tool of citizenship and



Year V, v.2 2025 | Submission: 12/14/2025 | Accepted: 12/16/2025 | Publication: 12/18/2025

human development.

Keywords: River Policing; Social Inclusion; Riverside Communities; Harpoon Base; Public Security.

INTRODUCTION

Base Arpão - Coordinated by the Amazonas State Secretariat of Public Security (SSP-AM), Base Arpão was inaugurated in 2020. It is a pioneering project to combat drug trafficking, combating piracy and environmental crimes in the state of Amazonas. The base operates on the Solimões River, between the municipalities of Coari and Tefé are providing support for a series of integrated police operations in the region. Base Arpão is the result of a partnership with the Federal Government, through the Secretariat of Operations, Integrated (Seopi) of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP), (SSP-AM, 2020).

The operations involve personnel from the Military Police, Civil Police, and Military Fire Department, Federal Police and the Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (Ibama), in addition to doctors, dentists and nurses (SSP-AM, 2020).

River policing is policing using speedboats and other vessels. Medium and large-sized boats, in Amazonas the Military Police sometimes even use so-called "catraias," which are wooden canoes with outboard motors. The directive PM3-001/02/2018 (São Paulo, 2018) defines what river policing is and the locations where it is employed.

In these terms:

It is the process of policing using vessels in sea inlets, bays, rivers, canals, dikes, dams, reservoirs, estuaries and other bodies of water that concentrate fishing, leisure, tourism and transport activities, due to port facilities, marinas and intermodal terminals, aiming to provide these areas with visible policing (immediate preventive and repressive), within the competence of the State.
(São Paulo, 2018)

Riverside communities refer to people who live along the banks of rivers. They are found in various locations in Brazil, they have a strong connection to nature, including fishing. Handicrafts and hunting are the main survival activities (Instituto EcoBrasil, 2017).

Consequently,

Article 1. This Law establishes the Statute of the Riverside Dweller, intended to regulate the rights guaranteed to riverside communities and to riverside dwellers, equal opportunities, the defense of individual rights, collective and diffuse.

Sole paragraph. For the purposes of this Statute, the following definitions apply:

I – riverside dweller: one who resides near rivers, streams, flooded forests, lakes, and whose main activity for survival is artisanal fishing, and may also cultivate small plots for their own consumption and practice extractive and subsistence activities; (Federal Senate, 2021).

Environmental policing is the responsibility of the Environmental Policing Command.



Year V, v.2 2025 | Submission: 12/14/2025 | Accepted: 12/16/2025 | Publication: 12/18/2025

with the preservation of public order and the environment under its purview, making it increasingly...

Strong fulfillment of the corporation's institutional mission. The Environmental Policing Battalion

It is the Specialized Unit of the Military Police of Amazonas for the repression of environmental crimes.

Actions to combat crimes against fauna and flora have been carried out for almost 15 years.

(PMAM, 2018).

The Environmental Policing Battalion began its activities on June 1st.

of 2008, according to Decree 27,637, of May 30, 2008, and is under the tutelage of the Command of

Environmental Policing (CPAmb), which emerged from the former Special Environmental Police Group.

(GEPA), created on October 6, 2004 and dissolved in 2005. It was created by Delegated Law No. 88, of

May 18, 2007, which, in defining the organizational structure of the Military Police of the State of

Amazonas, according to a forecast by the Environmental Policing Command and the Police Battalion.

Environmental. With the creation of the Environmental Policing Command, society began to have access to

A specialized unit within the Military Police structure dedicated to the defense and protection of the environment.

(PMAM, 2018).

The detachments are responsible for visible rural and urban policing, air patrols, and river patrols.

Preventive and repressive environmental measures with enforcement actions throughout the state. They carry out

responsibilities involving pollution, urban planning, and the state's cultural heritage, in order to

to preserve public order and the environment, strengthening the fulfillment of the institutional mission of

corporation (PMAM, 2018).

The State of Amazonas, with its vast territorial extension and rich ecological diversity,

It is home to numerous riverside communities that depend directly on the rivers for their survival.

and development. These communities face significant challenges due to isolation.

Geographic, limited access to basic services such as health, education, security, and vulnerability.

social. In the Amazonian context, river policing plays a crucial role in promoting

safety and facilitating the social inclusion of these communities, contributing to the improvement of

quality of life of its inhabitants (SSP-AM, 2021).

The choice of the theme "Arpão Base - River Policing in the Military Police of Amazonas as

The term "Form of Social Inclusion of Riverside Communities" is justified by the need for

to understand and highlight the role of security forces in promoting social well-being in areas

remote. The Military Police of Amazonas (PMAM) has been developing policing strategies.

adapted to the particularities of the region, using vessels for patrolling, providing assistance to

occurrences and implementation of social programs. Studying the impact of these actions is fundamental for

to assess its effectiveness and identify improvements that can be implemented.

The overall objective of this research is to describe how river policing by the Police...

Military training in Amazonas, conducted at the Arpão base, contributes to the social inclusion of communities.



Year V, v.2 2025 | Submission: 12/14/2025 | Accepted: 12/16/2025 | Publication: 12/18/2025

riverside communities. Specific objectives include: 2.1. Discussing the structure and functioning of River policing in the Military Police of Amazonas; 2.2. Describe the characteristics and challenges challenges faced by riverside communities in the Amazon. 2.3. Identify the strategies used by PMAM aims to promote social inclusion and public safety in riverside communities.

Thus, the research seeks to answer the following question: In what way does policing The Amazonas Military Police's river patrol, conducted at the Arpão Base, contributes to the social inclusion of... Riverside communities?

It is hypothesized that the research directs the investigation towards understanding not only the security operations, but also how these actions interact with social dynamics and economic factors of riverside communities.

The methodology adopted for this study aims to analyze the impact of river policing on social inclusion of riverside communities in the Amazon, using a mixed approach, which It combines qualitative and quantitative methods. The exploratory and descriptive nature of the research. This will allow for a deep understanding of the reality of these communities and the actions they undertake. by the Military Police of Amazonas (PMAM).

Consequently:

A bibliographic research aims to explain and discuss a subject, theme, or problem based on references published in books, periodicals, magazines, encyclopedias, dictionaries, newspapers, websites, CDs, conference proceedings, etc. It seeks to understand, analyze, and explain contributions on a given subject, theme, or problem. Bibliographic research is an excellent means of scientific training when conducted independently – theoretical analysis – or as an indispensable part of any scientific work, aiming at the construction of the theoretical platform of the study. (Martins and Theóphilo, 2009).

Therefore, methodology is an important part of scientific work; it is through...

This provides the parameters to be followed in the preparation of the work. The present study It is characterized as exploratory and descriptive research: Exploratory, seeking to provide a greater familiarity with the research problem, especially with regard to the relationship between the River policing and social inclusion in a little-studied area; descriptive study aiming to describe with details on the characteristics of river policing and the socioeconomic and cultural conditions of the riverside communities. This involves a systematic analysis of how the actions of the PMAM They influence social inclusion and safety in riverside areas.

Thus, community policing, the concept of social inclusion, and the dynamics of Riverside communities in the Amazonian context. Each of these themes offers theoretical support. fundamental to understanding the relationship between river policing and the promotion of inclusion social issues in riverside communities.

Structure and functioning of river policing in the Amazonas Military Police .
River policing in the Amazonas Military Police is the responsibility of the Police Command.



Year V, v.2 2025 | Submission: 12/14/2025 | Accepted: 12/16/2025 | Publication: 12/18/2025

Environmental (CPAmb), which commands the Environmental Policing Battalion (BPAmb), which is the specialized unit of the Amazonas Military Police for the repression of environmental crimes and Riverine policing. The BPAmb, designated "Amazonas Battalion," within the organizational structure of The Military Police, administratively and operationally subordinate to the CPAmb, began its activities. operational, with two Companies: one land-based (1st Company) and one river-based (2nd Company), and currently has with the third company, Rural (3rd Company) (PMAM, 2018).

2. Characteristics and challenges faced by riverside communities in the Amazon

The riverine people of the Amazon originated in the 19th century, during the rubber boom. The promise of work was enough to attract migrants from the Northeast. The extraction of latex from Rubber production was the mainstay of the region's economy for a long time. In 1950, the rubber crisis left many... Rubber tappers were out of work, and some decided to stay in the forest. Thus, the story of the river dwellers... It includes the intermingling of native peoples and Portuguese colonizers, as well as migrants from the Northeast of Brazil. Everyone living on the banks of the rivers, in the forest, trying to figure out a way to survive with the nature. The new inhabitants adapted to life with the rivers, especially along the banks of the Rio Negro and Rio Amazonas. Despite the growing number of residents, public policies are not... They have accompanied this transformation. In this way, many of the riverside neighborhoods do not have... electricity or sewage treatment. And the river remains the main means of survival for them. Traditional peoples who live in this region, whether for food or because it serves as a means of transportation. (Redda+, 2023).

Thus, the riverine people of the Amazon are the inhabitants who live on the banks of the rivers of the Amazon. Amazon. The term "riverine people" is the way the traditional population is popularly referred to. called. The term originates from the characteristic of residing near rivers, surviving mainly rely on traditional fishing and maintain a natural lifestyle. That's why we find Riverine communities in various parts of Brazil, for example, in Pará, Mato Grosso, and Goiás. What defines them as riverside dwellers is not their state of residence, but their lifelong relationship with the river. The riverside dwellers They live on the banks of rivers, streams, flooded forests, and lakes, and their lives are governed by the seasonality of the waters. waters. (Redda+, 2023).

In the Amazon, riverside communities maintain a strong relationship with the river cycle. Despite In addition, they also survive by farming, hunting, and extractive activities. The economy of the riverside communities is linked to this. to the marketing of fruits, fish and flour to urban centers. (Redda+, 2023).



Year V, v.2 2025 | Submission: 12/14/2025 | Accepted: 12/16/2025 | Publication: 12/18/2025

3. Strategies used by the PMAM (Military Police of Amazonas) to promote social inclusion and public safety in riverside communities.

3.1 Community Policing and River Policing

Community policing is a public safety approach based on proximity and collaboration between security forces and the community. Unlike traditional models, which While community policing focuses on crime suppression, it aims to build relationships of trust. Working with citizens to promote crime prevention and solve local problems cooperatively. Community policing can be understood as a strategy that seeks to involve the community directly involved in public safety issues, fostering a sense of belonging and mutual responsibility for local security. (PMAM, 2018).

Like this;

Community policing is a policing philosophy that gained traction in the 1970s and 80s, when police organizations in various countries in North America and Western Europe began to promote a series of innovations in their structure and... The functioning and approach to dealing with the problem of crime. In different countries, police organizations have promoted experiences and innovations with different characteristics. However, some of these experiences and innovations are generally recognized as the basis of a new police model, oriented towards a new type of policing, more focused on the community, which became known as community policing (Bayley; Skolnick, 2001; Skolnick; Bayley, 2002).

In the context of the Amazonas Military Police, this philosophy is applied in a way adapted to... Riverine environment through river policing. This modality involves operations in areas difficult to access, and heavily dependent on rivers for transportation and communication.

River policing in the Amazon has unique characteristics, such as the use of vessels for patrolling and the integration of security activities with social actions, meeting not only security demands, but also the basic needs of the population. riverside communities (PMAM, 2018). This form of policing goes beyond protecting physical integrity and Property policing. River policing in the Amazon adapts to the specific characteristics of the region. playing a strategic role in both conflict prevention and resolution, especially in areas where the absence of state presence would be an aggravating factor in exclusion. social. In this way, the police function expands, becoming an agent of social inclusion, by to facilitate access to fundamental rights (PMAM, 2018).

3.2 Social Inclusion

Social inclusion is a widely debated concept in the social sciences and refers to promoting equity and guaranteeing equal access to fundamental rights, such as health, Education, security, and political participation. In this way, the Military Police carries out social actions with... the purpose is to bring access to social rights to riverside communities. (SSP-AM, 2023).

In this way, we have some projects, for example:



Forming Citizens

First implemented in Manaus in 1997, the Military Police Program

Forming Citizens, today it is already present in other municipalities of Amazonas as a way of preventing or to rehabilitate young people aged 12 to 17 who are at social and personal risk, reviving their spirit. This clientele has a desire for engagement in society through studies and activities such as sports. healthy, civic and professional practices demonstrated by more than 32 military police officers trained to work in the Program.

The Military Police of Amazonas, which maintains the Program, has partnerships with several... other public bodies to carry out various other activities of an essentially social nature in The inclusion of these young people, and sometimes their own families, supporting them and providing opportunities to They provide essential services for a dignified and valued life, such as medical and dental care. often difficult to access due to multiple factors such as lack of infrastructure. in the outskirts where they usually reside.

The services offered by PMAM in the "Forming Citizens" Program to serve 425 Young people in Manaus and 220 in the interior are gathering at the Corporation's headquarters in the capital. They operate on the premises of CPA Norte (Armando Mendes), CPA Sul (Colônia Oliveira). Machado), West CPA (Compensa), East CPA (Jorge Teixeira), General Command (Petrópolis), 1st BPChoque (AM 010 Barrier), Mauazinho Neighborhood, 15th CICOM (Cidade Nova), 17th CICOM (Hiléia), 26th CICOM (Santa Etelvina), Environmental Junior Platoon (Betânia) and in the Interior, 8th CIPM (Iranduba and Cacao Pirêra District), 9th CIPM (Manacapuru) and 3rd CIPM (Rio Preto da Eva).

The initiative of the Military Police, highly valued by the State Government, serves as a beacon. for the authorities in the area of services for the care and protection of minors, such as the Council The Guardianship Office, the Juvenile Court, and the State Secretariat for Social Assistance, who believe in The funds transferred by PMAM to properly assisted clients maintain strong bonds of friendship. and collaboration, thus demonstrating one of the Corporation's main characteristics: to always act. in favor of the safety and well-being of society. (PMAM, 2018).

Thus, social inclusion is the process of removing barriers that exclude individuals or groups. full participation in the economic, social, and political life of a society. The concept is directly related to the idea of social justice, insofar as it seeks to reduce inequalities and To promote the integration of marginalized groups. (Liz Bessa, 2019).

"Social inclusion" as the process by which society adapts in order to include, in their general social systems, people with special needs, and simultaneously, these themselves They prepare to assume their roles in society. "Social inclusion" is therefore a process. bilateral in which people, still excluded, and society seek, in partnership, to find solutions



Year V, v.2 2025 | Submission: 12/14/2025 | Accepted: 12/16/2025 | Publication: 12/18/2025

problems, decide on solutions and ensure equal opportunities for all. (SASSAKI, RK 1997).

Therefore, social inclusion is of fundamental importance, so much so that the constitution of Brazil, in its sixth article, includes social rights.

Next:

Article 6. The following are social rights: education, health, food, work, housing, transportation, leisure, security, social security, protection of motherhood and childhood, and assistance to the destitute, as provided for in this Constitution. (Brazil, 1988).

Thus, it becomes evident that constitutionalists, when drafting the constitution...

They realized the importance of social inclusion and the need to guarantee it in the constitutional text.

In the case of riverside communities, geographic isolation and conditions Socioeconomic factors hinder access to these rights, placing them in a position of Vulnerability. Social exclusion in the riverine areas of the Amazon is linked to the absence of basic infrastructure and the limited presence of government institutions, creating a scenario of Marginalization. Social inclusion, in this context, involves the creation of specific public policies that address the needs of these populations and that are implemented through agents who They understand local particularities. (Redda+, 2023).

River policing, due to its proximity to communities and the nature of its operations... Actions can be seen as one of the drivers of this inclusion. By facilitating access to public services. essential and in promoting security and citizenship, the Military Police of Amazonas, through its Riverine activities play a crucial role in reducing inequalities and promoting social equity. Police action in this format allows for greater integration between the State and the riverside communities, helping to minimize the isolation and exclusion that these communities face. They have historically suffered. (PMAM, 2018).

4. THE HARPOON BASE

Located in the Middle Solimões region of Amazonas, it is a significant example of How can river policing contribute to the social inclusion of riverside communities? Inaugurated in 2020, the base's main objective is to combat environmental crime and trafficking. Drugs, illegal fishing, and other illicit activities in the region, through joint operations between different security forces, such as the Military Police, the Federal Police, the Army, and the Navy. (SSP_AM, 2020).

Regarding the social inclusion of riverside communities, the Arpão Base plays a role. This is important, as demonstrated in the following points:

4.1 Community Safety and Security:



Year V, v.2 2025 | Submission: 12/14/2025 | Accepted: 12/16/2025 | Publication: 12/18/2025

By ensuring greater security in the region, the base allows riverside communities to...
to live and develop their economic activities, such as fishing and agriculture, in a more peaceful way.
and protected, without fear of criminal groups or predatory fishing. In addition to providing assistance to
Local communities have been affected by some environmental tragedies, such as when a large event occurred.
landslide in the São Pedro do Tauana community (SSP_AM, 2023).

This is how the journalistic material is described:

Arpão Base: SSP-AM removes and supports residents from landslide area in Coari.
September 29, 2023

Teams from the Amazonas Military Police (PMAM) and the Military Fire Department (CBMAM), which operate at the Arpão River Base, assisted, in the early hours of this Friday (09/29), in the removal of residents from the São Pedro de Tauana Community, in Coari (363 kilometers from (Manaus). The community members were surprised by a landslide which, with the help of Police officers were not injured.

The agents, coordinated by the Amazonas State Secretariat of Public Security (SSP-AM) went to the location around 1 a.m. and confirmed the incident. During the disembarkation, a A second landslide was recorded, generating waves of approximately ten meters. Two Civil servants and some riverside residents were thrown by the force of the waves, but were not injured. injuries.

The pilot of the Amaran speedboat, from SSP-AM, moved the vessel away from the area and the team returned. to the base to seek reinforcements. Security Forces agents removed the riverside residents from the perimeter. considered high risk, until the arrival of a Civil Defense team to carry out the inspection at Local residents who suffered losses due to the phenomenon received assistance from the relevant agencies. competent. According to a preliminary survey of the site, approximately eight houses were affected by the landslide.

In this way, the presence of the Harpoon base proves fundamental not only for combating crime, but also as an important support base for riverside communities.

4.2 Social Inclusion of Riverside Communities: The work of

the River Police of the Military Police at the Arpão Base not only combats crime and criminal organizations, but also plays a crucial role in the social inclusion of riverside communities by carrying out social actions aimed at local communities. An example is the action carried out in the Lira community, located on the banks of the Solimões River in the municipality of Coari and published by the Amazonas State Public Security Secretariat (SSP_AM, 2023).

Thus, Base Arpão: Police officers carry out social action for children in the Lira community in Solimões River, April 14, 2023

Members of the Arpão River Base carried out a social action this Friday (April 14th).
for children living in the Lira community, on the Solimões River, near the municipality
from Coari (363 kilometers from Manaus). The action included the distribution of school supplies, toys, and...



Year V, v.2 2025 | Submission: 12/14/2025 | Accepted: 12/16/2025 | Publication: 12/18/2025

chocolates.

The initiative of the Integrated Border and Boundary Management Office (GGI-F), of the Secretariat The Public Security Secretariat of Amazonas (SSP-AM) aims to bring public security agencies closer to... community, at a time when the attention of these bodies is focused on security and well-being of children and adolescents in the region.

The action was carried out in reference to Easter, and reinforces the SSP-AM's attention to the social aspect. in the education of children and adolescents in all areas of the state, in addition to the extensive work that This is already done daily by members of the Arpão Base.

This is the 33rd team that makes up Base Arpão, with agents from the Military Police, Civil Police, Military Firefighters, Brazilian Navy, and National Force, coordinated by the SSP-AM (Secretariat of Public Security of Amazonas).

In this way, demonstrating the importance that river policing carried out at the Arpão base has for riverside communities through the social actions provided to these communities.

4.3 Access to public services:

In their operations, security forces frequently carry out assistance actions. social services, such as medical care, distribution of medicines, and educational activities. This leads essential services for these communities, which often face difficulties accessing resources. health and education issues due to geographic isolation. (SSP_AM, 2023). For example, when the The team provided assistance to a woman in labor.

In Coari, a team from the Arpão River Base assists a woman in labor.
November 23, 2023

The team from the Arpão River Base, in Coari (363 kilometers from Manaus), assisted a A woman in labor, on the morning of this Thursday (November 23), on the Solimões River. A resident of In the New Jerusalem community, at Lago do Catoar, in that municipality, the woman gave birth inside A canoe was rescued with the assistance of the Amazonas Military Fire Department (CBMAM). Mother and baby of Females are doing well.

The teams reported that, around 7:30 am, two people arrived at the Arpão Base in a boat, where there was also a pregnant woman about to give birth. The pair informed the on-duty team... that the woman's gestational sac (water bag) had ruptured and she needed help.

The military firefighters, who are part of the Arpão River Base team, quickly took action. The initial medical assistance was provided, and they decided to take the pregnant woman to Coari due to the urgency. Despite the Agility: the baby was born inside the boat.

After the birth, the baby girl and her mother received all the necessary pre-hospital care until... They arrived at the town's port, where an ambulance was already waiting for them.

According to the team, mother and baby were taken to the hospital in Coari, where they are receiving treatment. necessary precautions.

Thus, the importance of river policing carried out by the Police becomes evident.



Year V, v.2 2025 | Submission: 12/14/2025 | Accepted: 12/16/2025 | Publication: 12/18/2025

A member of the Amazonas military works with riverside communities, even providing pre-hospital care.

hospital care for people who live along the riverbank.

4.4 Incentive for sustainable development:

The Arpão Base also works to raise community awareness about conservation.

Environmental awareness and the sustainable use of natural resources. These actions are fundamental for inclusion.

social, as they promote economic development that is aligned with the preservation of the way of life.

traditional life of riverside communities. Among the various actions carried out by the Military Police of

In terms of environmental preservation and sustainable development, the Amazon region is undergoing a rescue operation.

wild animals.

A jaguar cub was rescued by police officers from the Arpão River Base in Coari.
September 18, 2024

The State Secretariat of Public Security (SSP-AM), through the Military Police (PMAM) rescued, this Wednesday (09/18), a jaguar cub, during an action by police officers.

in operation at the Arpão 1 River Base, in Coari (363 kilometers from Manaus). According to the

Commander of the Independent Canine Company (CipCães), Major Marcelo Arruda, the animal did not

He had no injuries.

The commander reported that the animal was located during a patrol.

in the Itapéua community, when they received information from a resident that he had found a

A jaguar cub. Immediately, the community member signaled to hand the cub over to the Military Police.

The jaguar cub was found in the backyard of the witness's residence. The cub was handed over to them.

police officers who escorted him to Arpão 1 Base. According to the major, the veterinary assistant of

CipCães examined the animal and found no injuries.

"They voluntarily handed over the animal. We brought it here to Base Arpão for the..."

"Administrative measures," the commander informed, adding that the cub will be sent to

Manaus and then delivered to the Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources.

(Ibama).

This is yet another case that demonstrates the importance of river policing carried out by the military police and the benefits it brings to the local population, to the preservation of wildlife and the environment.

4.5 Combating crime: By curbing

drug trafficking, smuggling, and other crimes in the region, the base contributes to...

The reduction of violence and illegal exploitation, in addition to having already caused millions in losses,

criminal organizations. This strengthens communities' confidence in the presence of the State.

promoting a sense of inclusion and protection. Several operations have been carried out by state and federal security

forces. For example, Operation Horus, Operation Safe Waters, among others.



Year V, v.2 2025 | Submission: 12/14/2025 | Accepted: 12/16/2025 | Publication: 12/18/2025

Which bring significant results for public safety, causing millions in losses for the criminal organizations.

Similar to the seizure carried out by the Military Police of Amazonas in Operation Águas "Seguras," published in articles on the website of the Public Security Secretariat of the State of Amazonas:

Operation Safe Waters: PMAM locates more than 58kg of narcotics in the hold of a vessel.

August 27, 2024 | 09:08

Two men, aged 40 and 31, were arrested and more than 58 kilos of narcotics were seized. Cocaine and cocaine base were seized on Monday morning (August 26).

The seizure was carried out by the Military Police of Amazonas (PMAM), during an approach to a vessel, at the Arpão 1 River Base, in Coari (363 kilometers from Manaus), as part of Operation Safe Waters, coordinated by the State Secretariat of Public Security (SSP-AM).

According to Major Thiago Viana of the PMAM (Military Police of Amazonas), the teams boarded the speedboat Glória de Deus, around 10 am. The vessel had departed from Tabatinga (1,108 kilometers from Manaus) with Destination: the city of Manaus. "On this same vessel, we had already seized drugs the previous week." "These past actions, which together total losses of around 8 million to organized crime," the major recalled.

During the approach, at the Arpão Base, Havana, a female dog from the Independent Company of Police with Dogs (CipCães) indicated the presence of narcotics inside the hold of the vessel. A witness informed the police that the drugs had been hidden there. part of the crew.

After the inspection, the police found 51 packets of substances, 40 of which were cocaine. and 11 of cocaine base paste.

The boat's crew and all the illicit material were handed over to the Civil Police (PC-AM), which is part of the riverine unit. With the seizure, the SSP-AM estimates damages of R\$ 4,062,250. Millions to crime.

Therefore, the Arpão Base not only reinforces security in the region, but also plays a role. a crucial role in promoting citizenship and social inclusion of riverside populations by creating a safer and more sustainable environment for these communities to develop their activities and to have access to basic services.

5. FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Arpão River Base represents more than just a security apparatus: it constitutes a strategy. Interdisciplinary approach to state presence in isolated regions of the Amazon. Its actions demonstrate that... River policing, when combined with social and environmental policies, promotes:

- reduction in crime;
- Strengthening citizenship;



Year V, v.2 2025 | Submission: 12/14/2025 | Accepted: 12/16/2025 | Publication: 12/18/2025

- expanding access to basic rights;
- protection of traditional communities;
- Reducing social vulnerabilities;
- Integration between the State and the riverside population.

It is concluded that the Arpão Base and River Policing in the Military Police of Amazonas
It contributes significantly to the social inclusion of riverside communities, serving as
A model for formulating public policies focused on the deep Amazon region.

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Year V, v.2 2025 | Submission: 12/14/2025 | Accepted: 12/16/2025 | Publication: 12/18/2025

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