

# FISHFOREVER

## BRAZIL



### Why Brazil?

98%

of Brazil's fishers are registered as independent or small-scale operators

60%

or more of total fish landings are from small-scale fisheries

80%

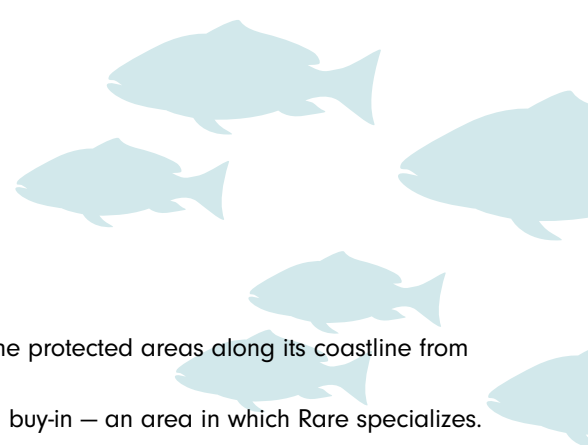
of fisheries are at unsustainable levels

50%

increase in per capita fish consumption between 2005 and 2010

Largest

fish importer in Latin America



### The Opportunity

- By 2020, the Brazilian government has committed to increasing the amount of marine protected areas along its coastline from 1.5 percent to 10 percent.
- Existing fisheries management systems rely heavily on community engagement and buy-in — an area in which Rare specializes.
- The Brazilian government is particularly receptive to new ideas for engaging fishing communities.

All Fish Forever countries have high marine biodiversity, important coral reefs and a strong community dependence on fisheries. The challenges and different fishery models specific to each will enable neighboring countries to more easily replicate Fish Forever successes.



## The Need for Change

- Protecting Brazilian reefs and mangroves is a critical step toward improving the health and biodiversity of the world’s oceans.
- Brazil is home to the third-largest mangrove area in the world, which directly supports 50 percent of its local fisheries production.
- Brazil’s essential coastal vegetation – bolstered by nearly 50,000 acres of seagrasses – provides habitat for more than 750 species of plants, arthropods, mollusks, crustaceans, fish and birds, and helps mitigate the impacts of climate change.
- Brazil’s fisheries are on the brink of collapse due to the destruction of mangroves and coastal ecosystems, and systematic overfishing. Continued mismanagement of Brazil’s fisheries will imperil the food security and biodiversity benefits they have provided for generations.

“The Ministry of the Environment looks forward to working with Fish Forever to ensure that Brazil’s fishing communities play a direct role in shaping a stronger, more sustainable and more profitable future for themselves.”

- Roberto Cavalcanti, Secretary of Biodiversity and Forests at the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment



Photo: Guilherme Dutra

## The Future

Fish Forever will achieve the following in the first five years:

- Work with coastal fishing communities to strengthen exclusive access areas (known locally as RESEX’s), covering nearly 700,000 hectares, and establish fish recovery zones within these areas.
- Increase household living standards for approximately 7,500 families by helping them gain access to new business opportunities.
- Increase fish biomass and abundance at project sites and improve catch management of critical commercial species for the country, such as skid, shrimp and lobster.
- Contribute to Brazil’s commitment to the Convention on Biological Diversity to establish protected areas in 10 percent of its waters.

# FISHFOREVER

A partnership of:



Fish Forever seeks funding partners who share a vision and commitment to recover important coastal habitat at scale. Together, we will catalyze a global movement of nearshore fisheries reform in the developing tropics.

[www.fishforever.org](http://www.fishforever.org)

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