



55-93- 5226401

arimarcouro@yahoo.com.br

asmiprut@yahoo.com.br



AMAZÔNIA/PARÁ  
BRAZIL

The Ecological Leather (**COURO ECOLÓGICO**)

is made by a group of artisans from the  
Maguary Community. It works as a partner  
of the local association – ASMIPRUT,  
according to the Fair Trade  
and Sustainability principles.



## ORGANIZED GROUP

The Ecological Leather (**COURO ECOLÓGICO**) is made by a group of artisans from the Maguary Community. This river dweller population has got its livelihood based on rice and bean crops and manioc flour production. Men and women are involved on producing the Ecological Leather, improving, therefore, the gender relations. The activity also values their knowledge and the local culture and incites the community organization.

## THE PROJECT

The Ecological Leather Group works as a partner of the local association – ASMIPRUT. This authentically community based initiative is structured and oriented to the sustainable development of the communities living in a Forest National Protected Area (FLONA Tapajos). It is supported by ProManejo, a specific project that promotes the sustainable management and use of the Amazonian forest resources, undertaken by Ibama-MMA, an Environment Ministry Agency. The project carries out capacity building activities for improving the processing and the product, facilities set up and equipment acquisition, technical and management assistance as well marketing and trade strategies development.



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## FOREST PARTNERS

The process of making the Ecological Leather is more economically feasible than the *in natura* rubber tree extract, so called Latex. It stimulates the ancient extractivism

tradition, conserving the FLONA Tapajos (Forest National Protected Area) and diversifying the family income.



## THE PRODUCT

The Ecological Leather is a handmade overlaying of the Rubber Tree (*Seringueira - Hevea brasiliensis*) extract, so called Latex, on cotton cloth. After sun drying it becomes a waterproof and hard-wearing material. The outcome, a product that is similar to the animal leather, has aroused the interest of artisans as well ready-to-wear clothes and footwear manufacturers.

