



## **The NHANDARA IGUAÇU PROGRAM**

**The meaning of the words that nominate the Nhandara Iguazu Program, are ancient Tupi language, Nhandara is "The one that run" and Iguazu "Deep Waters", trying to translate it to the Biodiversity Corridors of The Iguazu River.**

**It started in 2004 with the main objective to develop environment education, scientific research and to create better conditions for the Biodiversity Corridors between the National Park of Iguazu in the Unesco World Heritage list <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/303/documents/> and the Serra do Mar in the Mata Atlantica Biosphere Reserve <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0010/001037/103735e.pdf>, both sites naturally linked by the basin and micro basins of the Iguazu river.**

**The Environment Education and Scientific Research Program is developed by the NGO GARI – Grupo Ambientalista do Rio Iguazu - Environment Group of the Iguazu River [www.gari.portoamazonas.net](http://www.gari.portoamazonas.net)**

**In 2005 we did the first expedition from Curitiba till the National Park of Iguazu, going by car and boat, and since 2006 we organize the Iguazu River Expedition, going down the river by boat from Porto Amazonas to São Mateus do Sul, collecting water in 10 points to verify the level of pollution and collecting Bio indicators like animal footprints, and denouncing environment crimes like deforestation, poachers, outlaw sand seekers that destroy the center of the river. In 2008 our project was included in a GEF partnership between the Paraná Government and local NGOs.**



**In 2006 we started to search and buy land to develop our researches, because the Brazilian government was not authorizing our researches in the National and State Parks, so we found the Nhandara Guaricana 222 hectares inside the Serra do Mar Mata Atlantica Biosphere Reserve, that in 2008 was included in the SPVS Save our Forest Program [www.spvs.org.br](http://www.spvs.org.br) sponsored by the HSBC Institute, so we receive money to pay our rangers and build new structures for the reserve, link fences and others.**

**Actually the reserve was selected also by the SOS MATA ATLANTICA program to become a RPPN Reserva Natural do Patrimonio Nacional – Private Reserve of the National Patrimony.**

**Today our partnership are with the Apucarantina Kaingang Reserve, Puma Project, SPVS, SOS MATA ATLANTICA, State and Private Schools.**

**In 2007 we were invited by Dra Ziole Malhadas to become part of the CURITIBA RCE.**

**In 2010 participating of The 5<sup>th</sup> International RCE Meeting, I was invited to come to COP 10 in Nagoya.**

**GIACOMO CLAUSI  
NHANDARA PROGRAM**

**[www.nhandara.portoamazonas.net](http://www.nhandara.portoamazonas.net)**