Tourism, biodiversity, and national park management in Brazil, USA, and Mozambique.

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Introduction

The national parks model emerged in the nineteenth century with creation of Yellowstone National Park in 1872 in the United States.

Brazil experienced strong influence of the American model, however, Brazil's first national park, Itatiaia, was not established until 1937.

A similar situation occurred in African countries. In Mozambique, the first national park was Gorongosa, established in 1920.

Objectives

Measure management strategies in national parks under different levels of management intensity and public use, and to measure the effect of public use on biodiversity of national parks.

National Parks in:
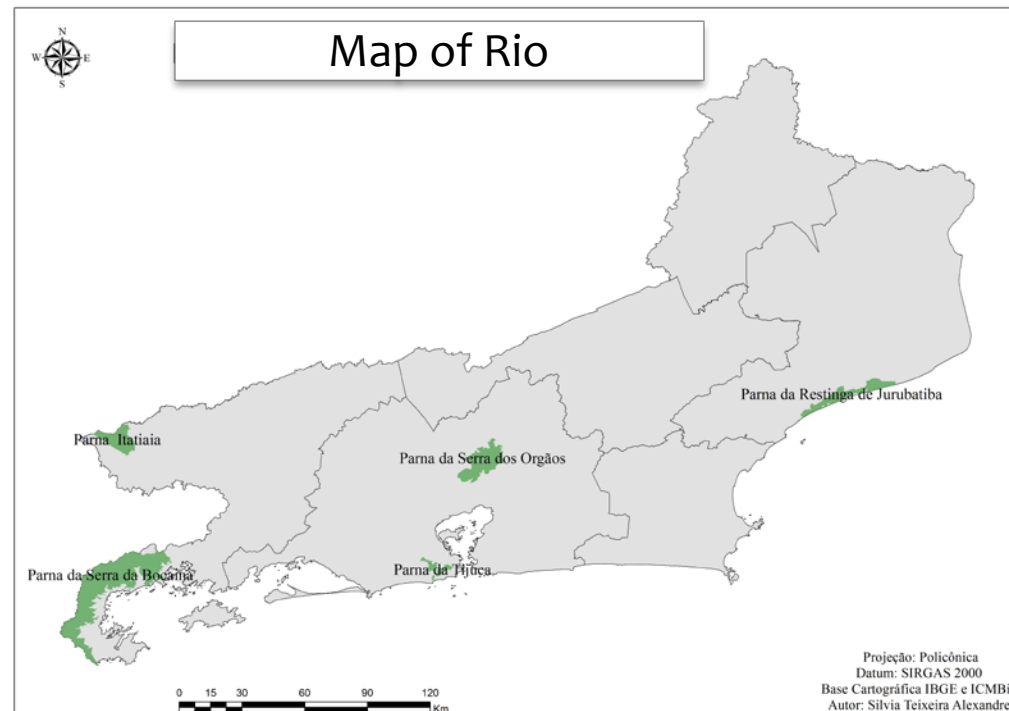 Developed economy (USA)
Emerging economy (Brazil)
Developing economy (Mozambique)

The methodology used was Rapid Assessment and Prioritization of Protected Area Management - RAPPAM (Ervin 2003)

National Parks Sampled Brazil

- Serra dos Órgãos
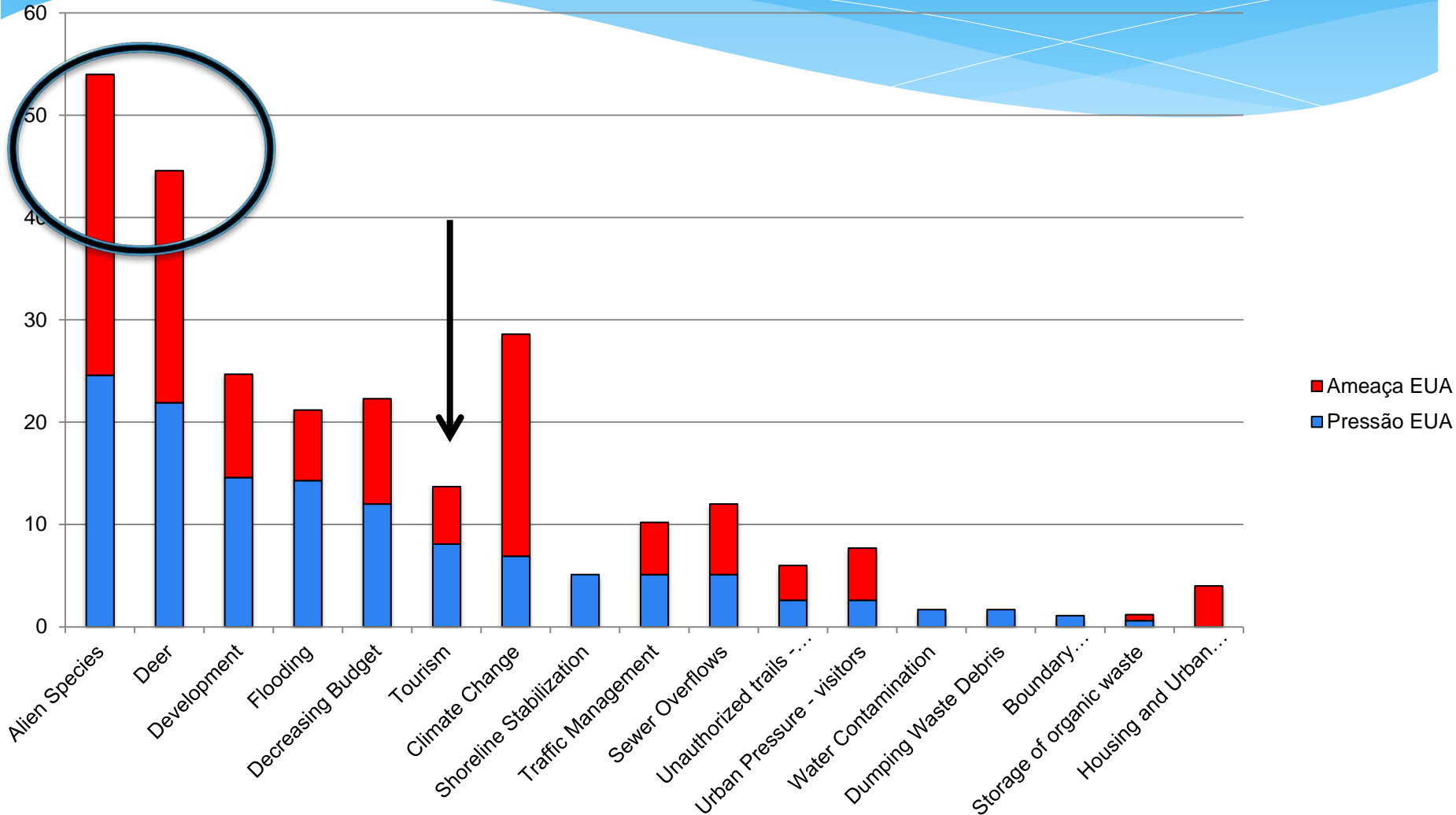- Tijuca
- Bocaina
- Itatiaia
- Restinga de Jurubatiba

Map of Rio

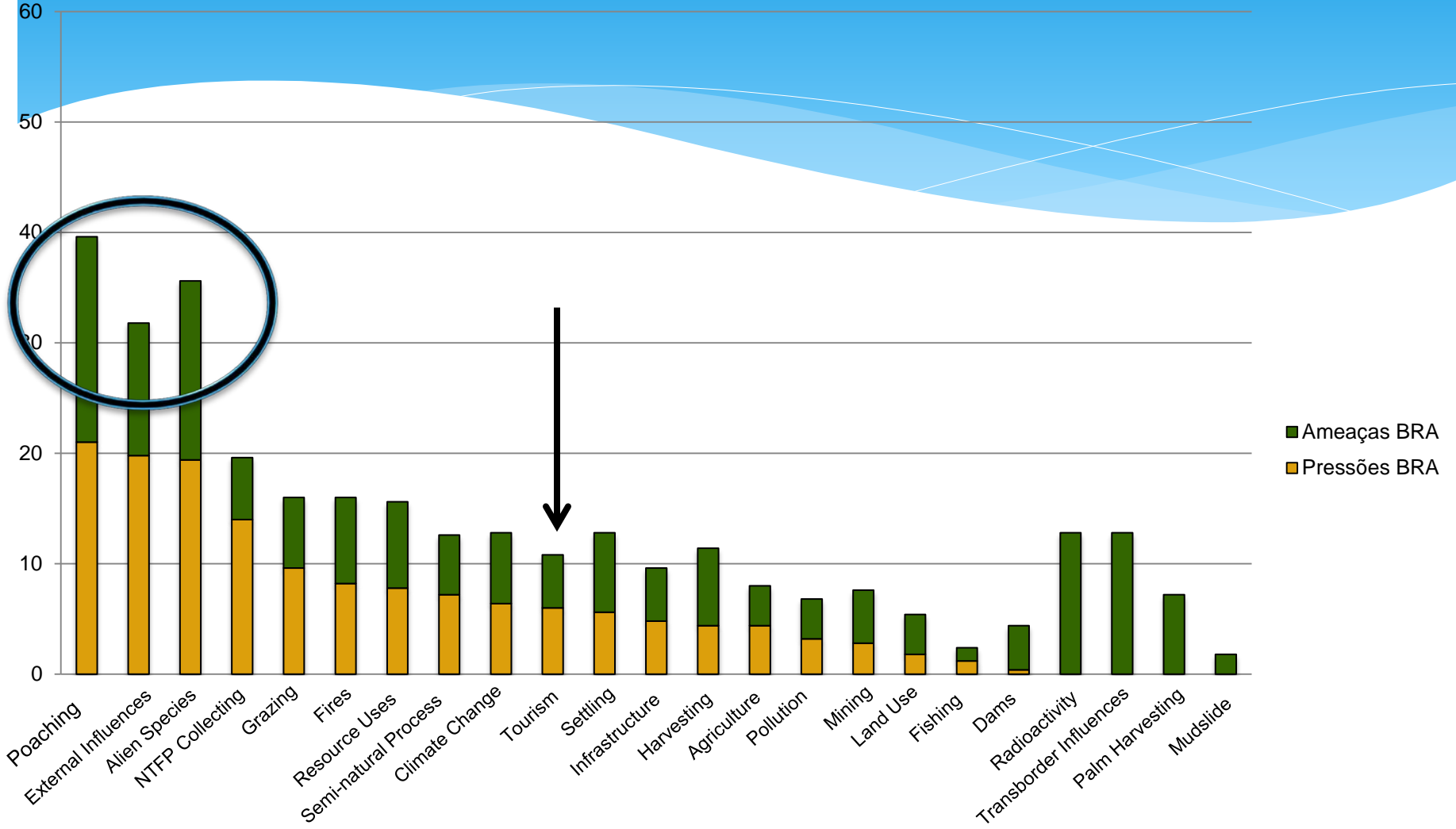Parna da Restinga de Jurubatiba

Parna Itatiaia

Parna da Serra dos Orgãos

Parna da Serra da Bocaina

Parna da Tijuca

Projeção: Policônica
Datum: SIRGAS 2000
Base Cartográfica IBGE e ICMBio
Autor: Silvia Teixeira Alexandre

National Parks Sampled

USA

- Assateague
- Catoctin Mountain
- Great Falls
- Prince William
- Harpers Ferry
- Rock Creek Park
- C&O Canal

Map of Maryland showing National Parks sampled locations including Catoctin Mountain Park, Antietam, Monocacy, Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, National Capital Parks, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Thomas Stone, and Assateague Island.

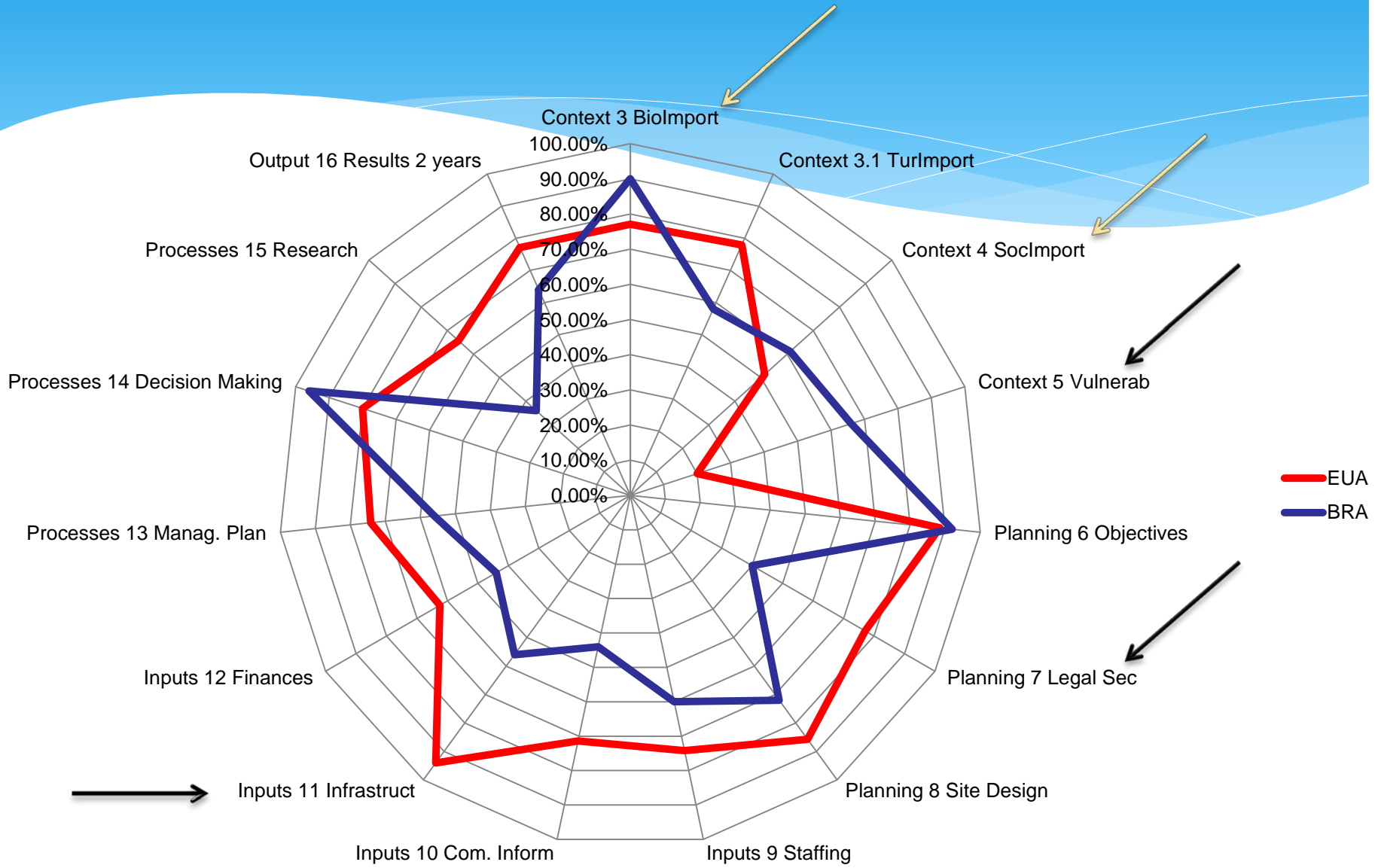# Pressures and Threats - USA

Pressure and Threats - Brazil

Park management caracteristics for Brazil and United States.

Results

- In 92% of the parks sampled, biodiversity and natural features were being maintained with the current level of public use.
- For 75% of parks, tourism was an economic benefit to park operation and maintenance.
- In 60% of Brazilian parks and 43% of American parks, tourism decreased illegal activities, such as poaching, deforestation and setting of fires.
- In 86% of USA parks and 40% of Brazilian parks, park managers could limit the number of visitors to maintain park natural features and biodiversity.
- Tourism research needs were being met in 57% of USA parks and 20% of Brazilian parks.
- Biological Importance and Socioeconomic Importance ranked higher in Brazil than in USA.
- Three management gaps were noted: Vulnerability, Legal Security and Infrastructure.

Conclusion

1. Higher level of economic development did not reduce biodiversity in the parks sampled.

2. To maintain biodiversity with increased economic development and public use, we believe the following are needed:

   - Adequate park personnel, including law enforcement staff;

   - Adequate financial resources;

   - Capability to monitor and limit public use if necessary.

3. Tourism activities were not listed as main pressures and threats from parks.

4. Comparing Research with Brazil and USA, Mozambique could increase tourism, not depleting biodiversity and bringing money, including facilities, staff and employees.

Thanks!!!
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