



ENVIRONMENTALITIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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The International Seminar on Integration and Regional Development (SIDER) is an event that primarily aims to bring together Graduate Programs in the field of Urban and Regional Planning/Demography and to contribute to the development of the Programs that form the Aranduassu Network of Regional Studies. SIDER is a space for discussing research and extension activities intended to generate environmental, social, and economic effects that promote development in regions and places.

Recognizing, valuing, and learning from historically situated forms of social appropriation of ecological processes, mediated by different cultures, is what the VIII SIDER set out to do. This intention involved reflecting on – and overcoming – the hegemonic idea of ‘nature at the service of the market’, since, within this perspective, the importance of territory, contradictions, conflicts over appropriation, and the existence of social classes become invisible.

The VIII SIDER invited participants to revisit meanings and resignifications of conceptions of environment and nature, understanding that development can be grounded in dialogue with the knowledge and practices of local and regional communities. The debates sought to focus on environmentalities and their interrelationship with regional development. In this context, we understand the environment as the space in which human beings are included, not as naturalized beings, but as social beings, both products and producers of various environmental tensions (Suertegaray, 2001).

Western thought separated the human body from the earth. This separation is causing climate change and a certain transition of an Epoch that has come to be called the Anthropocene. This Epoch has created two worlds. One with people who need to live from a river, and another with people who consume rivers as a resource (Krenak, 2019). In line with this perspective, the concept of environmentalities constitutes an analytical tool capable of contributing to the field of regional development. It is grounded in the premise that nature is wealth, beyond being an element and a resource (Rodrigues, 2005).

The critique of the specific environmentalism of capitalism focuses on the privatization of common non-market space, which seeks to turn the environment into a business opportunity, celebrating the market economy, technical progress, and political consensus around the environmental issue as a universal cause referring to a single planet and a common future (Acsehrad, 2014). In studies of development and, especially, regional development, considerable

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progress has already been made in subordinating the idea of economic growth to the importance of examining inequalities. The relationship between inequalities and the environmental dimension, however, remains incipient, especially in a context of global climate change, whose effects reverberate at local and regional scales through recurring natural disasters.

It is urgent to reflect on spatial practices – the lived experience, uses, flows, and interactions that constitute and reproduce social relations in space (Lefebvre, 2000; Harvey, 2006) – within the field of regional development. Shedding light on the relationship between the environmental crisis, natural disasters, and capitalism represents a step beyond conceptions that reify technology and attribute the ecological crisis to the destructive power of techniques. Climate change and the disasters associated with it result from a hegemonic form of coordination of spatial practices based on the unequal distribution of environmental and technological risks (Acsehrad, 2021).

These reflections are supported by the articles that make up this issue. The articles address contemporary themes involving the climate crisis, the environmentalities of Indigenous communities, and family farming. The role of social control, state capacities, and social technology in building development anchored in territories is also discussed. Socio-territorial inequalities involving job creation, migration, and the commodification of nature through real-estate appreciation are also among the issues addressed.

In *O PNAE como mercado institucional: a demanda potencial e a produção de alimentos da agricultura familiar no Rio Grande do Sul*, the authors analyze the relationship between family farming production and the demand for school meals through PNAE in the nine Functional Regions of Rio Grande do Sul, in order to assess the expansion of this institutional market and its impact on farmers' income.

In the article *Vivência, Território e Resistência: Protocolos de Mediação e Investigação Ação Participativa na Comunidade Indígena Tururukari-Uka (AM)*, the authors contribute to debates on ethical and transformative research methodologies in traditional territories. They present a methodological framework based on sensitive listening and participatory action research to promote cultural and socio-environmental appreciation and political autonomy in an Indigenous community.

Trilhas de sabedoria e sustentabilidade: o jardim etnobotânico guaraní kaiowá Ka'a Porã addresses the Guaraní Kaiowá Ka'a Porã Ethnobotanical Garden, in Mato Grosso do Sul, as a space for environmental conservation, cultural appreciation, and education that integrates traditional and scientific knowledge. The initiative strengthens community participation, the protection of Indigenous knowledge, cultural tourism, and heritage education, highlighting its potential as a model of sustainable development.

Estudos sobre fluxos migratórios nos programas de pós-graduação da área PLURD no Brasil maps the treatment of migration in 322 dissertations in the PLURD field in Brazil, revealing that contemporary international flows are marginalized in favor of internal mobility. This finding highlights epistemological gaps and the need for research that is more sensitive to the inclusion of these subjects.

Lagoas para quem? Um estudo sobre alguns traços da urbanização contemporânea do município de sório (RS) reflects on the urban, socio-environmental, and economic impacts of the expansion of gated horizontal condominiums around the lagoons of the municipality of Osório (RS). The authors highlight how the commodification of nature and real-estate appreciation



intensify socio-spatial exclusion, urban fragmentation, and environmental degradation.

Following the theme of climate change, the article *Desastres Ambientais, Mudança Climática e Desenvolvimento Regional no Rio Grande do Sul: Abordagens Sociológicas para uma Reflexão Teórica no Novo Regime Climático* addresses disasters by understanding them as socially constructed phenomena related to historical, economic, and political processes. Based on a review of sociological literature, it highlights how development models, inequalities, and vulnerabilities contribute to the production of risks and disasters in Brazil.

The contributions of the Social Technology Incubator for Popular Cooperatives to the strengthening of the Solidarity Economy, based on data from extension projects and incubated enterprises, are analyzed in *Incubadoras de tecnologias social para cooperativas populares e suas contribuições para a economia solidária: o caso da incubadora ELOS-UEMS*. The results demonstrate that the incubator provided technical assistance, civic education, self-management, and the generation of employment and income, strengthening social inclusion initiatives.

Productive restructuring and employment dynamics in the Brazilian Center-West are analyzed in *Análise da reestruturação produtiva e dinâmica do emprego no Centro-Oeste brasileiro em 2010 e 2023*, highlighting changes in patterns of sectoral specialization and the redistribution of jobs, with emphasis on mining, services, and public utilities. The results reveal different capacities for adaptation among the states and point to the need for integrated policies for regional development, innovation, infrastructure, and professional training to reduce territorial inequalities.

We wish everyone an excellent reading.

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