

## Civil society participation in building resilient cities: Ipiranga neighborhood, city of São Paulo, Brazil

### Introduction

Social participation in discussing issues related to the environment is increasingly frequent, taking into account the effects caused by climate actions in cities. Groups of people seek to propose new solutions with the government to face the problems of urbanization.

### Objective

Investigate the actions of civil society to face consequences associated with floods in Ipiranga neighborhood.

### Methods

The research is carried out through the reading and analysis of the legislation and regular urban, of visits and acting with the actions of the population.

### Results

The Strategic Master Plan is the main urban planning tool in the city of São Paulo (Law nº 16.050/2014) which orders urban planning for the following years considering territorial, social, economic and environmental aspects. According to Art. 6, the SMP stipulates that “in ordering and controlling land use, excessive or inadequate soil waterproofing must be avoided” and according to Art. 214 that “micro-drainage equipment must be encouraged”. Therefore, it’s observed that urban expansion has created a large amount of waterproof public areas provided by the road system. This configuration accelerates the flow of rainwater (Figure 2) to lower areas of the city where the main urban rivers are located, generating floods and disturbances for the population. As happens throughout the city, Ipiranga neighborhood faces problems related to flooding every year. Residences are affected by the overflow of the Tamanduateí River and the Ipiranga Brook. The study points to the engagement of the local community in requalifying the asphalted space (Figure 1) in the street system at Praça Garcia Velho in a garden. Residents meet to discuss sustainable alternatives for the space. A joint articulation between the advisers of Cades Ipiranga, members of the Subprefecture Ipiranga and the neighborhood. A project was prepared with the help of architects and government technicians (Figures 5 and 6). While waiting for authorization for the implementation of the project, the community occupies the square through composting actions, stingless bee preservation, planting vegetation and recycling (Figures 3 and 4).



Figure 1 - Impermeable Area



Figure 2 - Rain Runoff



Figure 3 - Leaf Sweeping



Figure 4 - People Meeting

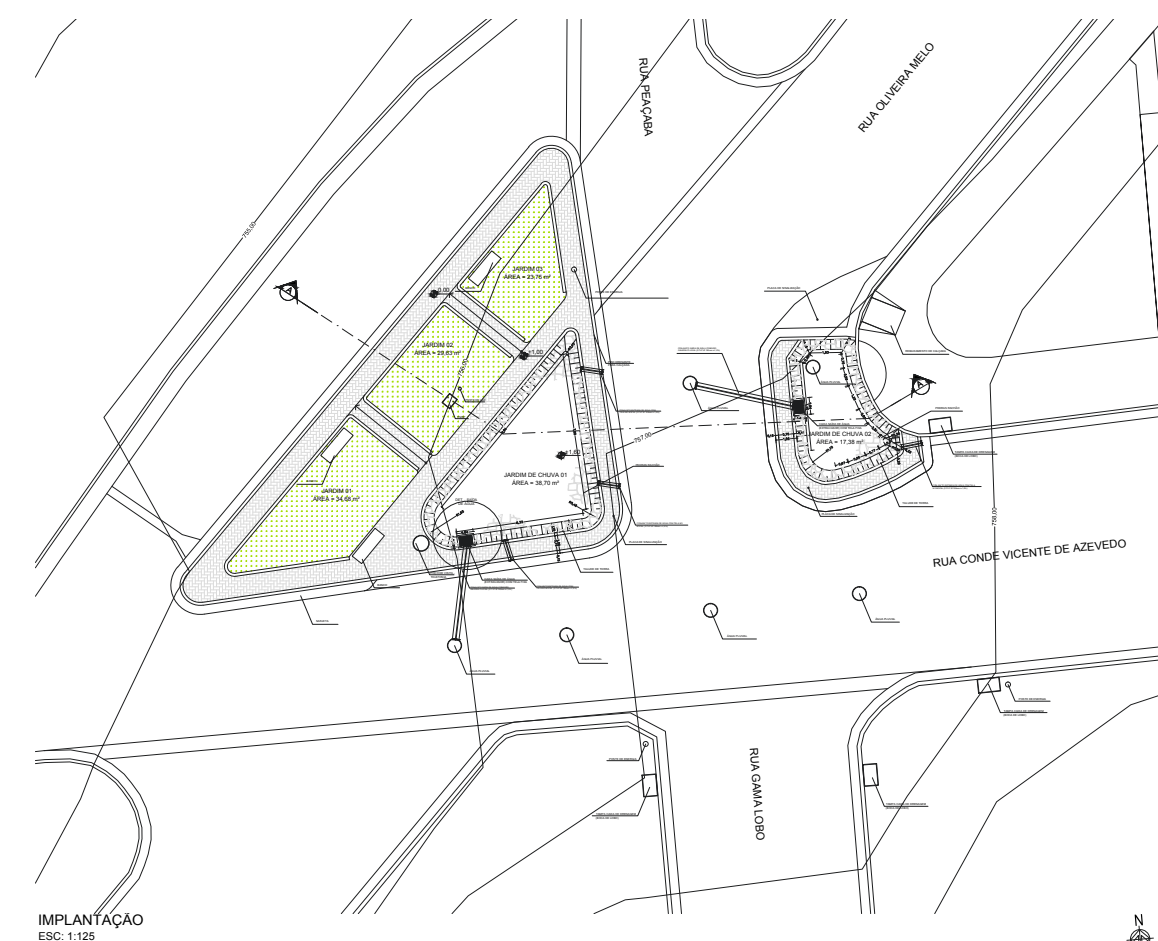


Figure 5 - Square Floor Plan

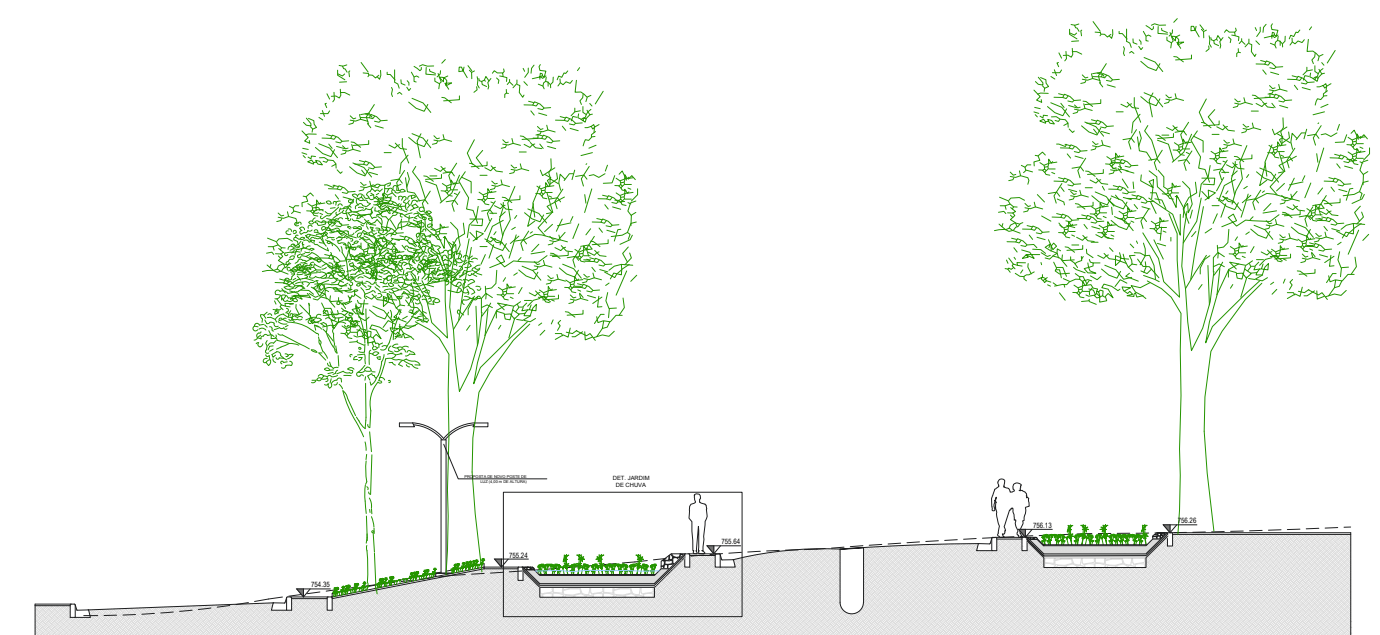


Figure 6 - Longitudinal Section

### Conclusion

This study suggests that organized civil society groups mobilize sustainable practices to mitigate the problems caused by rains. The social participation of Cades Ipiranga advisers, representative members of the Subprefecture Ipiranga and local neighborhood contribute to public policies to articulate environmental actions in confronting the effects related to climate change. Garcia Velho Square is an example of action in territory where people occupy and take care of public space. In addition, they claim the expansion of the impermeable area on the road system to become a permeable space.

### References

- BENEDICT, Mark A.; MCMAHON, Edward T. **Green Infrastructure: Linking Landscapes and Communities**. Washington, Island Press, 2006.
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