

The Road to Baku: The Local Way

Paraná Local2030 Hub Local Workshop towards the Thirteenth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF13)

Paraná Local2030 Hub
Curitiba

Workshop Report
March 17th - 09h til 10h

1. Workshop Details

- a. **Title:** Workshop “Road to Baku: The Local Way”
- b. **Date & Time:** March 17th - 09:00a.m - 10:00a.m
- c. **Location:** Curitiba/PR - Brazil
- d. **Organizing Entity:** Paraná Local2030 Hub
- e. **Facilitators:** Mr. Álvaro Scheffer (CEO, Águia Florestal), Mr. Fábio Ortigara (Superintendent of Public Works, COHAPAR), Dr. Ivan Ricardo Fernandes (Executive Coordinator of Civil Defense), Ms. Ana Cristina Wollmann (President of IPPUC) Mr. Patrick Reydams (Forestry and Wood Engineer, FIEP)
- f. **Participants:** Regional and local public sector and national private sector

Background

The World Urban Forum 13 (WUF13), convened by UN-Habitat and to be held from 17–22 May 2026 in Baku, Azerbaijan, places strong emphasis on addressing the global housing crisis as a foundation for inclusive, resilient, and sustainable urban development. WUF13 provides a platform for UN agencies, national governments, local and regional authorities, civil society, academia, and the private sector to reimagine how territories are planned, designed, financed, developed, governed, and managed to confront pressing challenges and co-create innovative, locally grounded solutions.

Workshops, consultations, and dialogues organized under the Road to Baku: The Local Way aim to elevate territorial realities into WUF13 debates and outcomes, framing housing solutions within a systemic perspective of local development and SDG localization. By aligning these engagements with WUF13 focus areas, themes, and expected deliverables, the process helps stakeholders prioritize actionable solutions and contribute concrete practices and

recommendations to WUF13 discussions, roundtables, and the Baku Call for Action—through a strong SDG localization lens.

To this end, Paraná Local2030 Hub is convening a Local Workshop to bring together diverse local actors to showcase innovative, locally led, and scalable solutions, discuss challenges, and develop key messages that will feed into the Road to Baku engagement process.

Objectives

- Showcase local solutions and best practices that position housing as a catalytic entry point for advancing SDG localization, integrating social, economic, environmental, and governance dimensions;
- Promote multi-stakeholder collaboration and multilevel governance;
- Contribute to Global Processes and inspire change everywhere. Generate evidence and key messages to inform WUF13 deliberations, advocating for the integration of localization principles directly into the Baku Call for Action;
- Create a report involving public sector actors, private institutions, and the local third sector, aiming to compile data and produce a document that showcases successful and replicable initiatives related to social development in the state of Paraná.

3. Summary of Discussions

Key Themes and Challenges Identified

Civil Defense:

The Civil Defense presented a case of restoration after a natural disaster that happened in November 2025, when the municipality of Rio Bonito do Iguaçu, was strongly hit by an F4 classification tornado, with approximately 80% of buildings damaged, some partially and others completely destroyed. The main challenge in this case was on how to restore in a quick and effective way, the housing conditions of those affected to their place of residence. So the Paraná State created a legislation and coordinated with state Secretaries to promote measures of restoration of this affected area and the houses within it. The process began collecting data of building damages, then, was possible to define a percentage of destruction, determining the amounts to be paid to property owners and the final step was to issue a bank card with the purpose of purchasing construction materials and a service voucher for hiring labor, so it was possible to begin a process of land regularization with the affected municipality.

IPPUC:

To qualify housing data of the city of Curitiba for the development of public policies and customized solutions, encouraging public authorities to look beyond the city's existing average

data in order to address its challenges and maintain its status as a benchmark for quality of life and sustainable urban development. The qualitative housing deficit study mapped the distribution of families impacted by the lack of adequate housing in the municipality and also mapped on the territory based on the data from CadÚnico, the concentration of population suffering from the housing shortages, with the study it was possible to identify the problem's source: precarious housing (improvised or rustic), cohabitation, and excessive rent burden.

COHAPAR:

The housing deficit in Paraná is expressive when compared to the state's population, and is heavily influenced by migration to large urban centers, what has led to a need to seek alternatives for generating employment, income, and housing conditions within the municipalities of origin, inhibiting disorderly occupation of environmental preservation areas and public water supply sources in large urban centers. COHAPAR is responsible for the development and execution of the Casa Fácil Paraná Program, that aims to promote the production and acquisition of new housing units, providing decent housing to families that live in inappropriate, unhealthy and in substandard housing conditions areas, offering sanitation, adequate electrical energy and urban mobility, always respecting the priority of the most needy and underserved populations, providing the rescue of dignity, citizenship and better conditions of life to the Paraná's families.

Águia Florestal:

The panels of Engineered Wood that Águia Florestal produces, derives from planted forests and are made of short pieces that previously were treated as waste during the producing process. This wood acts as a biogenic carbon stock, enabling the decarbonization of the construction sector that is one of the largest global emitters, providing a nature-based solution that accelerates the delivery of adequate and safe housing, directly linking housing urgency to sustainability goals. The main challenges to apply this solution are: the cultural barrier in the use of wood in construction, due to Brazilian culture and model of building that is rooted in the society, the lack of technical knowledge among stakeholders (public sector, builders and communities) as well as the lack of coordinated public policies. Its main objective is to provide an economical, fast, efficient, and sustainable construction option to reduce the housing deficit.

Best Practices & Successful Approaches

Civil Defense:

The process of restoration resulted in a transfer of R\$30,000,000,00 destined for the renovation of the affected places, during 180 days that the State of Public Calamity was in effect in the municipality, which was considered a quick and effective response of the Civil Defense, regarding a climate emergency in the State. The approach and the public policy that was made in this case and implemented by the legislation can be used in similar situations throughout the Paraná State, since its model is already institutionalized inside the State. It shows that the correct planning, taking the needs, yearnings and possibilities of the affected

population to make a public policy is effective and minimizes the impact of the damage made.

IPPUC:

The development of the methodology for analysing the housing deficit of Curitiba based on the data from the João Pinheiro Foundation, that points to the impact of 35,00 families on a vulnerable situation in the city. The study demonstrated that 88% of the total of families suffer from the excessive rent burden, 10% with precarious housing and 2% live in cohabitation. The concentration of communities impacted also coincides with special housing sectors of social interests (SEHIS), localized within the territory, indicating a need for adjustments to the social housing policy of the municipality. IPPUC's study, through a successful approach, identified the problem's source, allowing new solutions to emerge from this.

COHAPAR:

With the Casa Fácil Paraná Program, more than 55.500 families have been provided with decent housing with all the infrastructure needed, and with improving the housing deficit and stopping the exodus from small towns to large urban centers. The policy has served communities in many locations, including the ones where even paved roads and basic infrastructure are still lacking. The success of the state housing policy is due to the fact that, from the beginning it was treated as a state policy, so this initiative can be easily replicated and implemented in other urban centers, the program is already a national reference to other Brazilian states and an example when it comes to the Caixa Econômica Federal, and to multilevel activities, since it integrates the local, the statal and the federal stakeholders.

Águia Florestal:

Águia Florestal manufactures sawn, kiln-dried, and planed Pinus wood products, generating short pieces that have no commercial value and were previously treated as waste in the production process. To extend the use of this material, this project was developed, which encompasses the manufacturing of an Engineered Wood Panel and the industrialization of a Housing Construction System composed of walls made from these panels that are globally known as Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT). This construction system enables cleaner building processes with reduced waste generation. The houses follow Brazilian patterns of construction (ABNT NBR 7190:2022) and some examples have been already built. To make this solution scalable it is necessary to change the logic of the construction-site to an assembly-line approach. Through public policies, the State must act as a leader among the involved stakeholders to justify, finance, and enable sustainable housing using engineered wood, in partnership with the private sector to foster technical knowledge in innovative solutions.

4. Key Messages & Recommendations

- **Policy Recommendations:**

To consolidate Paraná's progress in addressing the housing deficit, the future policies must prioritize integrated, data-driven, coordinated and sustainable approaches. Strengthening multilevel and multisector governance remains essential to align the local and state housing strategies, to ensure that emergency response, long-term planning, and sustainable construction solutions operate together to make more effective and positive impact. Improving data quality is fundamental, the experience of IPPUC demonstrates that understanding the dimensions of housing deficits enables more effective and assertive public policies, expanding data systems allows governments to make better interventions and anticipate future housing pressures. The Civil Defense model highlights the effectiveness of direct financial mechanisms on post-disaster reconstruction, and how an institutionalized policy towards it ensures that the response to emergencies will be quick and successful. Scale similar instruments, can accelerate housing delivery on emergency situations, while maintaining accountability. Fostering innovation in construction is a key point to reducing the housing deficit in a sustainable way, the use of Engineered Wood presents a scalable and low carbon alternative that significantly reduces the time on construction and the impacts on the environment.

However, some challenges still exist for its application, and the public policies could position the state as a facilitator of implementing this project. Promoting housing development in the territory is essential, as COHAPAR highlights, addressing the root causes of migration to large urban centers requires integrating housing policies with incoming generation in smaller municipalities. By linking the housing provision with local development, the state can reduce urban pressure, prevent irregular occupation of sensitive areas, and foster more resilient regional growth.

- **Call to Action:**

Aligned with the Local2030 and WUF13 agendas, the Paraná Hub and its partners reaffirm their commitment to positioning housing as a central driver for sustainable and inclusive development. The next steps focus on strengthening collaboration among the stakeholders (public sector, civil defense authorities, private sector actors, and urban planning entities) to scale successful and replicable solutions across the state and beyond.

5. Annexes

Workshop Agenda

> [Access here](#)



> [Access here](#)

Photos and Videos from the Workshop

> [Access here](#)

Materials and presentations

> [Access here](#)

Date of Report: May, 07th

For inquiries, contact:

Maria Eduarda Bortoni

mariabortoni.sgdes@ccivil.pr.gov.br

+55 41 99226-9792