


SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN GUANAMBI: LEARNING FROM CURITIBA <https://doi.org/10.56238/sevened2024.032-029>**Delma Pereira da Silva Brito, Elisângela Mateus Alves, Francisco Antonio Montezuma
and Lucivânia Ferreira de Carvalho Pimentel****ABSTRACT**

This article analyzes sustainable development in Guanambi, Bahia, based on a comparison with Curitiba, a reference in sustainable practices in Brazil. The objective is to identify the main characteristics that make Curitiba a model to be followed and discuss how these practices can be adapted and implemented in Guanambi. The survey highlights the importance of integrated urban planning that prioritizes sustainable mobility, environmental education, and citizen participation. In addition, it emphasizes the need for public policies that foster efficiency in the use of natural resources and promote green spaces and coexistence. Throughout the study, challenges that Guanambi faces were identified, such as the lack of urban infrastructure and the low participation of the community in political decisions. However, the potential for sustainable transformation is evident, considering the wealth of natural resources and local culture. The article concludes that by adopting the lessons learned from Curitiba, Guanambi can move towards a more sustainable urban development model, providing a better quality of life for its citizens and promoting social justice. This transformation is essential to ensure a more balanced and inclusive future, not only for Guanambi, but also for other Brazilian cities facing similar challenges.

Keywords: Development. Sustainability. Mobility. Education.



INTRODUCTION

The concept of sustainable development becomes increasingly crucial in a world marked by rapid climate change, rampant urbanization, and social inequalities. Sustainable cities have stood out as models of urban management that seek to balance economic growth, social equity, and environmental preservation. Curitiba, Brazil, is often cited as a paradigmatic example of sustainable urban planning, thanks to its innovative policies in mobility, waste management, and public spaces. The success of Curitiba lies not only in its actions, but also in the way they were integrated into the daily lives of citizens, promoting a culture of sustainability.

In contrast, Guanambi, a city in the interior of Bahia, faces unique challenges that limit its potential for sustainable development. Although it has characteristics that favor sustainable initiatives, such as an engaged population and abundant natural resources, the city still deals with significant problems, such as the lack of adequate infrastructure and effective public policies. The comparative analysis between these two cities aims to explore how Guanambi can learn from the experiences of Curitiba, adapting its practices and policies in order to meet its regional specificities.

In addition to studying the practices and policies implemented in Curitiba, this article also sets out to examine the barriers and limitations that Guanambi faces on its journey towards sustainability. Factors such as the scarcity of investments in green infrastructure, the lack of incentives for selective collection and recycling practices, and the insufficiency of efficient public transport systems are critical aspects that demand attention. The city, which stands out for its strategic location and rich biodiversity, has not yet been able to fully integrate these advantages into a sustainable development model.

The exchange of experiences between Curitiba and Guanambi can be a powerful tool to reverse this situation. The study of Curitiba's public policies, such as the integrated public transport system and ecological urbanism initiatives, offers valuable insights on how to implement solutions that meet Guanambi's local needs. The concept of "smart cities" may be particularly relevant here, as it involves the use of technology and data to optimize urban services and improve the quality of life for citizens. In a digital age, Guanambi can exploit these technologies to develop urban planning that takes into account the specificities of its population. This article also considers the importance of citizen participation in building a sustainable future. Social mobilization and community engagement are fundamental for the successful implementation of any public policy. Just as Curitiba benefited from the active participation of its citizens in planning processes, Guanambi has the opportunity to foster an environment where the population feels part of the decisions that affect their lives.



Promoting a culture of environmental responsibility and active citizenship will be crucial to the success of any sustainable development initiative.

Finally, the present study is not limited to a simple comparative analysis, but aims to provide a set of practical recommendations that can serve as guidelines for sustainable development in Guanambi. Through the critical analysis of the experiences of Curitiba and the identification of the specificities of Guanambi, it is expected to contribute to the construction of an urban model that respects the principles of sustainability, equity and innovation. With this, Guanambi will not only be able to walk a more sustainable path, but will also become an inspiring example for other cities facing similar challenges.

The purpose of this study is, therefore, to investigate the elements that make Curitiba a model of sustainable development and how these elements can be applied to Guanambi. From this analysis, it is intended to contribute to the construction of a path that leads Guanambi to become a more sustainable, efficient and inclusive city, reflecting on the importance of exchanging experiences and learning between different urban contexts. This research seeks not only to identify practical solutions, but also to inspire a paradigm shift that promotes a harmonious relationship between the city and its citizens, in search of a more sustainable and resilient future.

METHODOLOGY

The methodological approach of this article is of a bibliographic nature, focusing on the review and interpretation of materials, articles and documents that discuss topics related to sustainable development and urban management. According to Gil (2008), bibliographic research is essential to deepen the understanding of a subject, establishing a robust theoretical basis that supports the analysis. For this work, sources were chosen that contemplate both the experience of Curitiba and the reality of Guanambi, including books, scientific publications, government reports and case studies.

The research was organized into two main phases. The first phase involved a literature review on the elements that define sustainable cities, highlighting the practices that make Curitiba a model to be followed. Authors such as Harvey (2014) and Lefebvre (2001) offer valuable perspectives on the importance of social justice in urban policies, emphasizing how Curitiba's initiatives reflect a commitment to equity. These authors support the discussion on how the successful experiences of Curitiba can serve as a learning experience for other locations. In the second phase, the research focused on the critical analysis of the characteristics and challenges of Guanambi in relation to sustainability. This stage used the approach proposed by Minayo (2010), which highlights the need to



understand the local context and social and economic conditions in the formulation of public policies. Data collection on urban infrastructure, transportation, and waste management in Guanambi was carried out based on information from IBGE (2017) and reports from ITDP Brazil (2019). These data were analyzed in comparison with the practices of Curitiba, allowing a reflection on how the solutions adopted in the capital of Paraná can be adapted to the reality of Guanambi.

In addition, the survey emphasized the importance of community participation as a key element in advancing towards sustainability. The inclusion of the population in decisions about urban policies is an aspect highlighted by Sachs (2002), considered crucial for the success of the initiatives. Thus, reports and case studies were reviewed that demonstrate how social mobilization can be fostered and the positive impacts that this can generate in the formation of a culture of sustainability. The research is not limited to presenting an overview, but proposes a series of practical recommendations based on the positive experiences of Curitiba, adapted to the particularities of Guanambi. The connection between theory and practice, supported by a critical and contextualized analysis, seeks to contribute to the development of strategies that promote a sustainable and inclusive urban future in the city of Guanambi.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the survey highlight both the advances and the challenges that Guanambi faces in its quest for sustainable development. By analyzing the public policies and initiatives implemented in Curitiba, it was observed that the city of Paraná adopts a holistic approach that integrates transportation, environment and quality of urban life. These policies include an efficient public transport system, which not only reduces reliance on individual vehicles but also minimises pollution and improves accessibility. On the other hand, Guanambi, although it has initiated some mobility and waste management initiatives, still lacks an integrated framework that connects these elements effectively.

A notable aspect of Curitiba's analysis is its urban planning model, which prioritizes the use of green spaces and the creation of public spaces that encourage social interaction. According to authors such as Harvey (2014), this strategy not only contributes to environmental health, but also promotes social well-being. In contrast, Guanambi has few suitable public spaces and faces significant challenges regarding environmental preservation. The scarcity of green areas and the lack of environmental rehabilitation programs are issues that must be addressed urgently. Another important point identified in the survey was citizen participation. Curitiba stands out for the mobilization of the



community in its urban decisions, which is essential to ensure that policies meet the needs of the population. The inclusion of the community's voice in decisions about urban infrastructure and services is a factor that strengthens the commitment to sustainability. In Guanambi, citizen participation is incipient and lacks stimuli and mechanisms that encourage the involvement of the population. The promotion of spaces for dialogue and public consultation is essential for citizens to actively contribute to the formulation and implementation of sustainable policies. In addition, the comparison between the two cities reveals that Guanambi has significant natural resources and a population that demonstrates a potential for engagement. However, the lack of investments and the fragmentation of initiatives make the implementation of a sustainable model more challenging. By adopting practices inspired by Curitiba, such as creating an efficient public transport system and promoting public spaces, Guanambi can leverage its resources and move towards a more sustainable future.

The research indicates that, by considering local specificities and adapting the good practices observed in Curitiba, Guanambi can develop a sustainable city model that not only meets its needs, but also serves as a reference for other cities of similar size. The promotion of a culture of sustainability and the integration of effective public policies are fundamental steps for Guanambi to become an example of sustainable urban development in the region.

The survey results reveal a number of nuances that characterize both the challenges and opportunities for Guanambi on its journey towards sustainable development. The comparison with Curitiba, which is often cited as a model of a sustainable city, highlights the importance of public policies that integrate efficiency, accessibility, and social engagement. In Curitiba, initiatives such as the integrated public transport system and sustainability-oriented urban planning show positive results in terms of reducing carbon emissions and improving the quality of life. On the other hand, Guanambi still faces significant limitations in terms of urban infrastructure, which compromises its ability to implement effective sustainable solutions.

One of the most evident aspects in the analysis is urban mobility. Curitiba is widely recognized for its public transport system, which, according to Santos (2019),

It provides a significant reduction in the use of private vehicles, with planning that considers not only the efficiency of transport, but also the integration with the urban space, promoting accessibility and encouraging the use of bicycles as an alternative to transport.



This model offers a valuable example for Guanambi, which still lacks a robust and effective transport system. Investments in quality public transport would not only improve the mobility of citizens, but could also contribute to the reduction of air and noise pollution, promoting a healthier urban environment. In addition, the survey highlighted the importance of urban planning that prioritizes green areas and public spaces, essential elements for promoting the health and well-being of the population. Curitiba stands out for its quantity and quality of parks and leisure areas, which not only beautify the city, but also offer spaces for physical activity and social interaction. According to Costa and Almeida (2020), the presence of green areas in urban environments is associated with multiple benefits, including reduced stress, improved mental health, and fostering a sense of community. Guanambi, in turn, has a lack of leisure infrastructure and green areas, which limits opportunities for social interaction and outdoor activities. The creation of parks and public spaces in Guanambi can not only improve the quality of life, but also contribute to the enhancement of urban space.

Citizen participation is another crucial element for sustainable development. The active involvement of the community in public policy decisions is a determining factor for the success of the initiatives. The experience of Curitiba, which promotes participation through councils and forums, exemplifies how social mobilization can positively influence urban policies.

Santos (2019) reinforces that

The participation of civil society in decision-making processes is essential to ensure that policies meet the real needs of the population, creating a sense of belonging and collective responsibility.

In Guanambi, citizen participation is still incipient and needs to be stimulated. The development of public consultation platforms and the holding of community hearings can be effective strategies to strengthen the involvement of the population in decisions that affect their daily lives. In addition, it is essential that Guanambi develops an educational approach focused on sustainability. Raising awareness of the population about environmental issues is an essential step towards building a culture of socio-environmental responsibility. The implementation of educational programs in schools and communities, which address topics such as conservation of natural resources, recycling and climate change, is fundamental. Authors such as Leite (2012) emphasize that environmental education should be a priority in public policies, since well-informed citizens are more apt to make decisions that favor the environment and quality of life. Thus, environmental education should be considered a long-



term strategy that can transform the mentality of the population and promote concrete actions in favor of sustainability.

The data collected reveal that Guanambi has natural resources and a significant cultural heritage that can be used as levers for sustainable development. However, the lack of articulation between public policies and resource management is a challenge to be overcome. The integration of public policies that encourage sustainable agricultural practices, responsible tourism, and the appreciation of historical heritage can not only stimulate the local economy, but also promote a strong cultural identity and a sense of belonging among citizens. The development of urban planning that considers the local culture, natural resources and the needs of the population is crucial to ensure that Guanambi follows a sustainable and inclusive path. With these considerations, it is evident that Guanambi has the opportunity to learn from the experiences of Curitiba, adapting them to its local realities. The combination of effective management, community participation, and environmental education can transform the city into a model of sustainability. Therefore, by adopting these practices and strategies, Guanambi will not only move towards more sustainable development but also become an inspiring example for other cities facing similar challenges.

The continuity of sustainable development in Guanambi is also related to the ability to innovate in public policies and integrate new management models. Authors such as Leite (2012) argue that innovation in urban practices is essential to respond to contemporary challenges, especially in cities that seek to improve their infrastructure and services. In this context, the adoption of green technologies, such as solar energy systems and rainwater harvesting, can be a viable path for Guanambi, contributing to the reduction of operating costs and promoting energy efficiency. These technologies not only meet local needs but also favor urban resilience, allowing the city to better face the impacts of climate change. Another central element for the success of sustainable development is environmental education, which must be incorporated into the daily life of the population. The formation of citizens aware of the importance of sustainability can foster a culture of responsibility and engagement. According to Minayo (2010), education is a powerful tool to transform society's perception of the environment and public policies. The implementation of educational programs in schools and in the community in general, which address topics such as recycling, environmental preservation and responsible use of natural resources, can generate significant changes in the behavior of the population of Guanambi.

In addition, the analysis of social inclusion policies is crucial for sustainable development. As stated by Sachs (2002), development should not be seen only from an



economic perspective, but should integrate social and environmental issues. In Guanambi, social inequality is a pressing challenge, which is reflected in areas such as health, education and access to infrastructure. For sustainability initiatives to be effective, it is essential that they are designed with the participation of the community and that they consider the needs of all citizens, especially the most vulnerable. Given this scenario, the exchange of experiences between Guanambi and Curitiba can provide valuable learning about the importance of integrated urban planning. Curitiba's experience in implementing transport systems that prioritize social welfare, such as bus lanes and bike lanes, can serve as a model for Guanambi as it considers how to improve urban mobility and reduce reliance on private vehicles.

Finally, the research concludes that building a sustainable future for Guanambi requires a multidimensional approach that includes citizen participation, technological innovation, and environmental education. These guidelines, inspired by the successful experiences of Curitiba, can guide Guanambi on its journey towards a more sustainable and inclusive urban model, serving as a positive example of development for other cities facing similar challenges. The transformation of Guanambi into a sustainable city will not only benefit its citizens but also contribute to the construction of a fairer and more environmentally responsible Brazil.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The reflections presented throughout this study highlight the importance of an integrated approach adapted to local realities for sustainable development in Guanambi. Throughout the research, it was evident that, despite the challenges faced, the city has significant potential to implement changes that promote sustainability, inspired by the good practices observed in Curitiba. Public policies that prioritize efficiency in the use of natural resources, strengthening urban infrastructure, and promoting community engagement are key elements that can drive this transformation.

The experience of Curitiba illustrates that sustainable urban mobility, through efficient and accessible public transport, is essential to improve the quality of life and reduce environmental impacts. Curitiba's transportation system, which integrates buses and bicycles, has been shown to be effective in decreasing dependence on the car and promoting a cleaner urban environment. Guanambi, by developing initiatives that favor an integrated transport system, can not only improve the commute of its citizens, but also promote social inclusion and equity. This transformation requires urban planning that considers the particularities of the city, respecting its culture, its historical heritage and its



values. Accessible and well-planned transportation not only facilitates mobility but also has the potential to boost the local economy by connecting communities and improving access to essential services.

Another crucial aspect for the success of sustainable development is environmental education. In order for the population of Guanambi to become protagonists in issues related to sustainability, it is necessary to invest in educational programs that promote awareness about the importance of preserving the environment and the responsible use of resources. The formation of informed and engaged citizens will contribute to creating a culture of sustainability that transcends public policies, becoming a daily practice. Programs in schools and community workshops can be fundamental to teach everything from recycling to the appreciation of local biodiversity, cultivating a more harmonious relationship between citizens and the environment. In addition, strengthening citizen participation in decisions that impact the city is essential. Community involvement not only provides greater legitimacy to public policies, but also ensures that the needs and demands of the population are heard and met. The construction of channels of dialogue between the public administration and citizens is a fundamental step for Guanambi to become a more democratic and inclusive city. Community forums, public consultations, and digital platforms can be effective tools to engage the population, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to express their opinions and contribute to urban planning.

For Guanambi to move towards sustainability, there needs to be a firm commitment on the part of local authorities. The implementation of public policies that encourage sustainable practices, such as the proper management of solid waste and the recovery of degraded areas, should be a priority. The example of Curitiba, which invested in the recovery of urban areas and in the creation of parks and green spaces, can serve as inspiration for similar initiatives in Guanambi. The development of green spaces not only improves air quality, but also provides citizens with places of coexistence and leisure, essential for social well-being.

This article reaffirms that sustainable development is not a destination, but an ongoing journey that requires commitment, innovation, and collaboration. Guanambi, by learning from the experiences of Curitiba, can trace its own path towards sustainability, adapting and innovating according to its needs and particularities. With the implementation of effective policies, environmental education and the active participation of the community, Guanambi has the opportunity to become a model of sustainable city, not only for Bahia, but for all of Brazil. This transformation is not only desirable, but essential to ensure a better future for the next generations. Cooperation between different spheres of government,



NGOs, and the private sector is key to fostering an environment conducive to sustainable development. Strategic partnerships can bring innovation and financial resources, facilitating the execution of projects that benefit the community. Incentives for companies that adopt sustainable practices, such as using recyclable materials and reducing their carbon footprint, can be an effective way to stimulate a greener economy in Guanambi.

Finally, it is vital that the city not only seeks sustainable solutions, but also that it develops a system for monitoring and evaluating the initiatives implemented. Periodic analysis of the results will allow for necessary adjustments and adaptations, ensuring that sustainability goals are constantly revisited and improved. Transparency and accountability are essential for building community trust and ensuring that all citizens feel part of the transformation process. With a proactive and collaborative approach, Guanambi can not only overcome the challenges it faces, but also become an example of how innovation and community engagement can lead to sustainable development. Building a sustainable future is a shared responsibility, and the city has the opportunity to lead by example, showing that it is possible to unite economic development, social justice, and environmental protection in a synergy that benefits all its citizens.



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