

Brazil Ready to Receive 120,000 for World Social Forum

Contributed by Shirley Prestes
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Porto Alegre, state capital of Rio Grande do Sul, in the south of Brazil, is ready to host the fifth edition of the World Social Forum (WSF), which will be held from January 26 to 31.

More than 120 thousand people are expected to attend the event. 80 thousand have already enrolled.

This past weekend saw the conclusion of the 150 thousand square meters of built-up area extending for four kilometers along the banks of the Guaíba River, between the docks of the port and the Marine Park of Brazil, in the center of the city.

The executive coordinator of the WSF 2005 in Porto Alegre, Jeferson Miola, affirms that the project is both equipping and improving various public spaces along the Guaíba riverbank, mainly in the areas of lighting and informatics infrastructure.

The auditoriums were set up in structures with straw roofs and clay walls, adhering to the principles of "bioarchitecture."

"There are 203 auditorium rooms for debates and 295 enclosures for activities and services, divided into 11 thematic spaces, in addition to a full array of investments, public works, and infrastructure services," Miola pointed out.

The press center, which is expected to receive more than 3.5 thousand journalists from 60 countries, will be finished this week.

Translation: David Silberstein
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