

World Bank Helps Brazil's Black Quilombo Population

Contributed by Sândala Barros
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World Bank (IBRD) resources will benefit the population of the Curiaú Quilombo, through the Sustainable Communities Project, to be implemented in the state of Amapá, in Northern Brazil.

Technical experts in the Bank's Social Development Division are currently in Amapá, monitoring procedures that precede the implementation process.

The team visited Vila do Curiaú, the population of which is composed mainly of African descendents, learned about its history, and received information about the project.

The project will be developed during the period 2005-2008 in the poorest neighborhoods of some municipalities. Neighborhood associations, with the support of IBRD technical experts, will elaborate project plans which will ensure development with community participation.

According to the president of the Amapá African Descendents Council, Raimundo de Souza Pereira, project proposals focus on benefiting the community.

"Any and every action aimed at the social, cultural, and community development of the Curiaú Quilombo will be welcome. We are optimistic about the project," said Raimundo.

The action plan also foresees the inclusion of environmental and social development sub-projects through urban community investments, such as those in basic water treatment infrastructure, sewage, community libraries, sports centers, and art and culture projects.

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