

Territorial Impact Assessment: application of a methodological proposition to the Brazilian reality

Avaliação de Impactos Territoriais: aplicação de uma proposição metodológica à realidade brasileira

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Abstract

The urban planning process does not end in project approval or implementation. It is crucial to monitor and assess the projects continually in order to establish mechanisms for correcting strategies and goals during the management phase. For these reasons, this research aims to develop a methodology for Territorial Impact Assessment in the Brazilian context, based on models from Mexico, Chile, and the European Union. This methodology will be applied to the project *Caminho da Fé* in Salvador, state of Bahia, to determine its territorial impacts. This study allowed for the creation of a Territorial Impact Assessment methodology that enabled the identification of the territorial impacts of the project *Caminho da Fé*.

Keywords: Territorial Impact Assessment; *Caminho da Fé*; Itapagipe Peninsula; urban planning; urban project.

Resumo

O processo de planejamento urbano não se encerra na aprovação do projeto, ou na sua implementação em si. É fundamental manter esses projetos sob monitoramento e avaliações, com o objetivo de estabelecer mecanismos de correção de estratégias e metas, na fase de gestão. Por essas razões, esta pesquisa tem como objetivo desenvolver uma metodologia de Avaliação de Impacto Territorial para a realidade brasileira, baseada nos modelos do México, Chile e da União Europeia. E aplicar esse modelo no Projeto Caminho da Fé em Salvador-BA, para estabelecer os seus impactos territoriais. Este estudo possibilitou a criação de uma metodologia de Avaliação de Impacto Territorial e, a partir da aplicação dela, a verificação dos impactos territoriais do Projeto Caminho da Fé.

Palavras-chave: Avaliação de Impacto Territorial; *Caminho da Fé*; Península de Itapagipe; planejamento urbano; projeto urbano.



introduction

Thinking about the city in this century means reflecting on the impasses and challenges established by the complex relationships between the economy, society, and territory, resulting from the global economic transformations of recent decades. Urban management in large metropolises has become increasingly associated with neoliberal ideology. Thus, it is necessary to point out that neoliberalism does not necessarily imply a retreat of the state, but also the mobilization of the state itself to promote regulatory arrangements of interest to the real estate market, requiring the analysis and understanding of these new forms of action, particularly by the municipal government.

The realization of neoliberal principles is qualified differently in each territory and each historical context of the different cities, generating a varied and complex set of possibilities. Neoliberalism is understood here as the extension of the process of commodification into all areas of life, associated with particular and unequal forces of regulation, which generate great differences between scales and territories, transforming the city into a commodity (Brenner et al., 2010; Santos et al., 2021).

The implementation of public policies has paid special attention to the production of space in specific sectors and areas of the city, creating infrastructure and altering the uses and functions of these spaces. This occurs through changes in zoning, urban land parceling, spatial interventions in urban operations, and redevelopment of areas carried out through partnerships between the city government and private sectors, which influence and guide these policies (Carlos, 2015).

This often-violent transformation of urban areas where redevelopment projects are being implemented drives out residents and introduces a hegemonic aesthetic standard. Thus, urban space is reorganized by real estate developers aligned with financial strategies, fragmenting spaces for sale on the market (Carlos, 2015). One-off investments in infrastructure deepen inequalities in the metropolis, giving differential value to urban land and intensifying the contradiction between use and exchange value. These changes create central hubs that attract large public and private investments, displacing activities from old economic centers and establishing new centers of attraction.

Faced with this new form of governance, it is urgent to discuss the need for Territorial Impact Assessment, to measure and analyze the impacts caused by strategic urban planning. This is essential to enhance positive effects and mitigate negative ones, allowing for interventions that take into account the local reality, rather than reproducing globalized management and intervention techniques.

The urban planning process does not end with the approval or implementation of projects. It is essential to keep these programs under constant monitoring and evaluation, to establish mechanisms for correcting strategies and targets, according to the dynamics of the object of intervention. It is therefore necessary to have a theoretical and methodological framework to help urban planners formulate, monitor, and evaluate public policies, considering that territories differ in terms of social, economic, political, and natural resources.

For these reasons, this research aims to develop a Territorial Impact Assessment methodology for the Brazilian reality, based

on the TIA models of Mexico, Chile, and the European Union. The aim is to apply this model to the Caminho da Fé Project, in Salvador (BA), to assess its territorial impacts. This will make it possible to highlight the permanent tension between local government planning, which uses marketing strategies to promote and “sell” the image of the city, encouraging its commercialization and speculation, and the local population, which is directly affected socially and economically by these actions.

Theoretical framework

The realization of neoliberal principles is qualified differently in each territory and in each historical context of the different cities, and has generated a varied and complex set of possibilities. It is worth pointing out that the prominence of real estate capital in big cities is nothing new, but that the conflict between the use and exchange value of urban land in the city has been updated in the neoliberal context. Thus, in the current scenario of globalization, the city is changing in line with the transformation logic of capitalist accumulation, and these changes have an impact on the different social spheres of the city, with various consequences for the territorial scales in which these processes materialize.

By targeting specific infrastructure investments, the government deepens inequalities in the metropolis, interfering markedly in the forms of appropriation of space as they produce a process of differential valuation of urban land. This deepens the contradiction between exchange value and the possibility of use value. And with these

transformations, a nucleus is created in the metropolis with a strong power of attraction, with large public and private investments, creating a displacement of activities that start to compete with old economic centers, building a new pole of attraction for investments.

In this context, Brazil's metropolises have been experiencing major growth in the real estate market, which has become a protagonist in its plans and projects, increasing urban segregation and reordering the city according to its interests. This growth in the power of the coalition of private interests in the city's development can be seen in its visible articulation with local power, which is undergoing a devaluation of bureaucratic organization and characterizes current urban planning (Carvalho; Corso-Pereira, 2012). Development is understood here as the act of planning the growth of cities in such a way as to guarantee the population safe, fair, and dignified access to urban services, such as mobility, infrastructure, health, education, environmental quality, among others (Souza, 2011).

Urban planning is the set of measures taken to achieve the desired objectives, taking into account the available resources. In this way, we can say that, for urban planning to take place, it is first necessary to recognize the current scenario and its natural development trends and tendencies, so that the rules of land occupation can be established, defining the municipality's main political strategies and spelling out the restrictions, prohibitions and limitations that must be observed for there to be quality of life. To achieve the goals of planning, it is necessary to establish clear objectives, the necessary and available resources, and the context in which the objectives are to be achieved (Rezende; Castor, 2006; Duarte, 2007).

It is worth mentioning that a major innovation has taken place in urban management in recent decades, when private administration principles were incorporated into public administration. Thus, some principles of so-called “good governance”, promoted by international agencies such as the World Bank, which advocate the creation of a stable political, administrative, and social structure, with the concept of New Public Administration, have gained prominence. This sometimes conflicting innovation is finding increasing space in public spheres, regardless of the political and ideological leanings of their leaders, the so-called urban entrepreneurialism.

Urban entrepreneurialism is how local governments have sought competitive ways of inserting themselves into the globalized economy, and is therefore a necessary scenario to be analyzed (Maricato, 2000; Harvey, 2005). This involves the adoption of so-called “strategic planning”, which is a management strategy aimed at attracting “highly mobile and flexible production, as well as financial and consumer flows” (Harvey, 1985, p.5). To achieve these objectives, local authorities use, among other methods, the relaxation of rules relating to the subdivision and use of land and building codes, previously established to guide and control urban development. With the emphasis on market mechanisms and the new primacy of real estate capital, this development is consolidated in a logic that ignores and leaves in the background or even goes against the needs and demands of the majority of the population (Carvalho; Corso-Pereira, 2012).

This administration, which is subordinate to capital, views space as a commodity and thus practices the differentiated provision of services and public facilities, and this different

valuation, based on consumption patterns, creates the fragmentation of urban space. This spatial fragmentation, a product of the capitalist production of space, is revealed in the urban landscape through a diverse morphology marked by spatial heterogeneity, demonstrating a contradiction in land use, since these plots create centralities, which are endowed with better infrastructure and urban facilities, a focus for attracting investment, commerce, services and consumers. In these terms, the production of space becomes a strategic element for the accumulation of capital (Harvey, 1996; Carlos, 2002).

The insertion of this financial logic has generated contradictions in planning and public management, because as the city becomes a big business for capital, and the laws of the market start to establish the rules of urban planning, the effects become devastating for a large part of the population. Space is a general condition of existence, but in the capitalist mode of production, it is used as a means of producing surplus value, accelerating the process of valorization of spaces, which necessarily involves commodification, more specifically, the commodification of places (Lefebvre, 2000; Carlos, 2004).

For this reason, and for an effective analysis, it is necessary to define territory as compositionality, in other words, to understand it in all the dimensions that make it up (Haesbaert, 2004). As a result of this reasoning, it is interesting to note that, as a lived space, territory is always multiple, diverse, and complex, unlike the “single-function” territory proposed by hegemonic capitalist logic, especially through the figure of the modern state. Territorial production can be understood by recognizing political domination or control,

symbolic and affective appropriation, and, at the same time, economic dynamics, in the process of reproducing social domination, in which the state and the agents of capital merge historically and incessantly (Haesbaert, 2004).

As a result, “ordering” the territory has become much more complex. Territorial planning is an instrument of sectoral and institutional articulation aimed at integrated and specialized planning of public authority action. It is the territorial expression of economic, social, cultural, and ecological policies. In this sense, its understanding moves in the direction of “disciplining” the use of the territory, to make it compatible, or at least reduce any conflicts that may exist in the various public and private actions that dynamically alter the physical, social, economic and cultural scenarios contained in the territory (Figueiredo, 2005).

Land use planning necessarily requires considering possible and acceptable alternative uses. Choosing the most appropriate uses requires knowledge of the public and private agents who operate in a given territory, their interests, and their occupational practices (Coelho Neto, 2014). Thus, “territorial redevelopment” is necessarily multi-scalar and multi-territorial, in the sense of combining not simply political, economic, and cultural spaces, but the multiple scales and spatial forms in which they manifest themselves. Territorial planning aims to make policies compatible in their impact on space, avoiding conflicts of objectives and opposing guidelines in the use of places and resources. The state is seen as a regulating and harmonizing agent, and not as a generator of negative impacts (environmental, social, and economic).

To plan the territory, it is necessary to establish policies aimed at guaranteeing a balance in living conditions in the different parts of a given territory, and public actions aimed at achieving a decent quality of life, because planning must include a very important competence: that of harmonizing and coordinating the various activities that exist in a given territory. And this social process of planning begins with the establishment of legal regulations, which determine the type of instruments that will be used in different types of public or private interventions (Condesso, 2001; Oliveira, 2002).

The urban planning process does not end with the approval of the project or program, or its implementation itself. The analysis of the impacts that result from investments in projects, programs, and policies has become an important and decisive stage in various phases of the investment cycle in public policies, whether before the execution, during, or after the execution of the project/program/policy (Medeiros, 2014).

The concept of Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA) originated in the 1960s. However, this concept only gained centrality in the context of the relationship between the European Union (EU) and its member states. This need arose since many of the EU's public policies, of a regulatory or financial nature, had caused major territorial impacts, which needed to be identified and analyzed to aid the decision-making process and the redesign of these policies (Ferrão; Mourato, 2012).

The need to develop a consistent methodology for the TIA emerged during the development of the ESPD (European Spatial

Development Perspective) documents between 1995 and 1999. The version of the ESDP approved by the Ministers of Spatial Planning in 1999 refers to TIA from various perspectives, especially in cases where a difficult balance needs to be struck between different preferences or decision dimensions.

It is necessary to understand the territorial impacts of urban planning to measure and analyze them through Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA). There is a vast literature base on the impact assessment process, which covers various dimensions of regional and environmental development. However, as identified in this research, through searches in academic repositories (Scielo, Google Scholar, HighBeam Research, Academia.edu), territorial impact assessment does not occupy a prominent place in international literature and does not have significant mentions in Brazilian literature.

The importance of territorial impact assessment lies firstly in the distinction between results and impacts. Results refer to the immediate effects produced by the implementation of a project, program, or policy (Medeiros, 2014). Evaluating the impacts resulting from investments in projects, programs, and policies has been consolidated as an important and decisive stage in various phases of the public policy investment cycle. It is important to note that, as this process has evolved, there has been a growing awareness of the importance of the territorial dimension in assessing impacts, encompassing all the dimensions of territorial development, which go beyond the traditional “politically correct” triangle of economy, society and environment (Medeiros, 2014).

The evaluation process must consider the impacts on territorial development and the quality of life of the populations in the area of intervention, the immediate area, and, depending on the scope, even the region it serves (Medeiros, 2014). In this sense, the concept of territorial impact assessment can be understood as a tool or procedure for assessing the impacts of spatial development activities, to identify the positive and negative territorial effects of policies, plans or programs, as well as the means to accentuate the positive effects and mitigate the negative ones (Espou, 2006).

Methodology

Territorial impact assessment consists of using procedures, techniques, and methods capable of identifying or verifying significant changes in various dimensions and components of the territory, covering one or more geographical scales of analysis (urban, local, regional, national, continental, or global). This analysis should be simplified and quantified, presenting the positive and negative impacts of the project, program, or policy being assessed. Whenever possible, it should be complemented with an analysis of collateral elements, such as multiplier, substitution, and displacement effects (Medeiros, 2014).

Land Impact Assessment in Mexico

Mexico has mechanisms for evaluating public policies that help government management, but neoliberal policies often disregard the territory

and its history as central aspects. Although Territorial Impact Studies (TIS) have been planned since the 1990s, their implementation has been limited. EITs seek to identify, assess, and correct the potential impacts of territorial and urban planning instruments, taking into account aspects such as the population, natural resources, infrastructure, and historical heritage (Zepeda, 2019).

EITs can be integrated into Municipal Development Plans, based on local territorial legislation, to ensure balance and sustainability. This tool replaces the Strategic Environmental Assessment (EAE) in land-use plans, promoting balanced development, efficient resource management, and heritage preservation, as well as encouraging public and private participation in a coordinated and strategic manner (Zepeda, 2019).

Territorial Impact Assessment in Chile

In light of the analysis of social policies in Chile, it is worth noting that there has been a recent change that has led to a shift in emphasis from thematic work to the territorial management of social programs. A thematic work culture is characterized by the centralization of previously defined issues, with the work being built around these issues. On the other hand, in a culture centered on territorial impact, the proposing institution focuses on generating changes in the defined territory, using the themes as tools to achieve them. Just as the expression “environmental impact” is used to designate the impact of an intervention on the environment, the expression “territorial impact” refers to the impact on a territory (Cauas, 2013).

According to Cauas (2013), the most relevant impact indicators were determined to estimate the most significant changes in a territory in Chile. Territory is understood here as a geographical area equivalent to a province, or a locality such as a village, urban or rural sector, made up of groups of inhabitants that may or may not coincide administratively with a neighborhood unit or that may be subunits of these (Cauas, 2013).

Cauas (2013) defined the following indicators: Impact areas - four areas were preliminarily defined according to government macro-policies: poverty, education, health, and productivity. In addition, another dimension was identified based on field experience with beneficiary groups: self-development; Impact dimensions - during the research, it was found that the categorization of impact areas was not enough to assess territorial impact. It was therefore necessary to add a new category, called “dimensions of impact”.

These dimensions are assessed as follows: Direct impact – these are the expected effects of the products of implementing a project, according to the impact area indicators. This dimension of impact is measured in terms of overcoming poverty and raising the quality of life of its inhabitants. Here, it is worth noting that the hypothesis is that every project impacts its specific area and those adjacent to it; Modifications to social networks - social networks being understood here as the social relationships created between communities within a territory.

These include a set of indicators of changes in the collective capacities of the groups benefiting from the project: mutual trust, contacts, organizations and exchanges within the community group; Synergy of impact

- this dimension describes the cohesion of the set of projects and programs with other actions in a locality, integrating the territorial management of the public entity intervening and, consequently, with its capacity to facilitate, coordinate, articulate, induce and efficiently support the articulation of interests of other entities intervening in the territory; Relevance of the impact – consists of the correlation between the needs perceived by the public body that is proposing the intervention and the needs expressed by the local people who are its clients and the target of the interventions; and Marginal impact – corresponds to the consequences of the public authority not intervening in the territory.

Initially, it was hypothesized that the impact of the projects on the macroeconomic indices would be marginal, considering that some projects, such as social projects, are aimed at groups in situations of poverty, marginality, and/or risk. Therefore, the transformations resulting from these projects would not have a quantitative impact on macroeconomic indices that is considered relevant. For example, unemployment rates, even in intervention areas, would not have a significant impact on a large part of the population (Cauas, 2013).

Some initial results have shown that this hypothesis is only valid for large urban concentrations or rural areas with economic resources. However, in poor rural areas, social interventions have such a significant impact that their absence would imply a social catastrophe.

Territorial Impact Assessment in the European Union

The Tequila methodology was designed to be a simple, operational tool for evaluating the sectoral policies of various EU programs (Espon, 2006). However, in practice, the main innovation of this study was the emphasis given to the territorial dimension in the impact assessment, to analyze the territorial impacts of different Community policies and verify: Territorial efficiency (between society and the economy): evaluates efficiency in the use of resources such as energy, land and natural resources, as well as the competitiveness and attractiveness of the local territory and internal and external accessibility (Espon, 2006).

Territorial quality (between society and the environment): assesses the quality of life and the working environment, comparable standards of living throughout the territory and equitable access to services of general interest and knowledge; Territorial identity (between the economy and the environment): highlights the presence of social capital, landscapes and cultural heritage, as well as the capacity to develop shared visions of the future, creativity, productive vocations and the competitive advantages of each territory (Espon, 2006).

The conceptual basis of the Tequila model is based on the “politically correct” triangle of the Community Space Development Scheme (ESDP), whose sides cover the social, economic, and environmental dimensions. However,

this basis proves to be insufficient given the understanding that, to the dimensions of socio-economic cohesion and environmental sustainability, the dimensions of territorial governance/cooperation and morphological polycentrality must be added, giving a truly territorial aspect (Medeiros, 2012).

Medeiros (2014) has developed a territorial impact assessment model that is easy to understand and operate, without neglecting the complexity inherent in territorial analysis. This model was called Target_TIA and, like the Tequila model, it is multidimensional, although it is based on different dimensions of the concept of territorial cohesion, such as socioeconomic cohesion, environmental sustainability, territorial governance/cooperation, and morphological polycentricity.

The two models also differ in that Target_TIA uses quantitative evaluation elements in the ex-post evaluation process, as well as using complementary evaluation elements for the positive and negative aspects of the projects being evaluated. The model should follow the following key steps, defining: What will be evaluated (establish the theme); What policy objectives should be evaluated; The territorial scale at which the theme will be evaluated (spatial scale); The time scale in which the topic will be evaluated; Whether the evaluation will be ex-ante or ex-post; The precision of the evaluation, i.e. whether the general objectives of the policies (programs) should be divided into more concrete dimensions/components that allow for a more precise evaluation; Whether the weight of each of the components of the respective dimensions analyzed will be considered, taking into account the specificities of the territory studied (regional sensitivity); Whether the intensity of the application of the

policies in the different regions will be included (regional intensity); and Whether all areas/regions of the territory analyzed will be targeted by the projects evaluated (coverage).

These theoretical/methodological examples presented here served as a basis for drawing up the proposal for the Brazilian reality. It should be noted that the literature refers to Mexico's methodology as a proposition, which can be used or not, and it is possible to find partial applications of this proposition, but not its complete application (Zepeda, 2019). Chile's methodology has been applied in specific social and governmental projects, and it is not yet possible to verify the social data resulting from its application, but there are already indicators of greater social participation in this process (Cauas, 2013).

In the European Union, land impact assessment has not only been practiced for decades, but it has also been included in legislation, making its use mandatory in all government plans and projects. The data generated by its application, presented in Espo's periodic reports, demonstrates great social gains, as this way it is possible to see the losses and errors of each project and, in addition to correcting them, avoid them in subsequent interventions (Ferrão; Mourato, 2012; Medeiros, 2012; Espo Eatia, 2012).

In the light of all the above, the need for Territorial Impact Assessment in Brazilian projects/programs/policies and the lack of an assessment in the national territory that performs this function has become evident, since the assessments applied, such as the Environmental Impact Assessment, do not take into account the territory and its relationships when assessing the space, which is seen here as a flaw, since every action in a territory, whether

planning or implementation, generates impacts for the local population and these cannot be neglected.

Adapting the methodology to a Brazilian/Bahian reality

Studies on public policies in Brazil gained momentum in the 1980s, with the democratic transition. Initially focused on institutional structures and sectoral policies, these studies evolved to incorporate impact evaluation, which is recognized as essential for adjusting policies and improving future results. Despite this, the practice of evaluation still faces limitations, such as the lack of continuity, conflicts of interest, and frequent management changes.

Social Impact Assessment (SIA), which is not yet mandatory by law, has been adopted as an important tool for measuring the effects of public projects and policies. Its methods vary between experimental, quasi-experimental, and non-experimental, depending on the resources available and the context of the project. However, SIA in Brazil is often reduced to superficial measurements, ignoring broader and deeper analyses of social impacts.

In the context of large projects, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and the Environmental Impact Report (RIMA) are mandatory and regulated by the National Environmental Policy. However, these assessments have methodological flaws, such as superficial diagnoses and the exclusion of the affected population from decisions. In addition, long-term social impacts are often neglected, reinforcing inequalities and favoring economic interests.

The Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA) methodology is presented as an essential tool for analyzing the impacts of spatial development activities in Brazil, integrating indicators that make it possible to evaluate policies, programs, and projects in a multidimensional way. The indicators, described as fundamental instruments for territorial management, promote transparency by translating scientific data into understandable information for managers and decision-makers.

Given the lack of a national methodology that takes into account the specificities of the territory and its interactions, a model adapted to the Brazilian reality was developed. This model is applicable at different scales, from census sectors to municipalities, and covers projects, plans, and programs. The proposal seeks to fill gaps left by existing tools, such as the Environmental Impact Assessment, which does not fully consider territorial dynamics and the impacts on local populations. Here are the criteria adopted to identify territorial impacts.

1) *Essential Aspects*: the Territorial Impact Assessment considers the socio-economic aspects of the implementation area and can be carried out before, during or up to 10 years after project implementation. The assessment requires an integrated approach, considering complementary qualitative and quantitative analyses, especially when specific indicators are unavailable, such as general aspects of the territory, history, and strengths and weaknesses. Different scales must be observed, with data separated by neighborhoods or municipalities, reflecting the different impacts.

The assessment highlights positive and negative impacts, focusing on relevant and long-term structural effects, and proposing

mitigating actions. The simplicity of the information presented is crucial, as is the clarity of the suggested policies. In addition, impacts may result from the interaction between the project and other interventions in the territory. Impact indicators should align macro-policy objectives with the characteristics of the affected communities, measuring significant changes in the territory and correlating them with the projects carried out..

2) *Project Description*: includes detailed information such as: Name and description of the project; Nature (project, plan or program); Teams and companies responsible for preparation and execution; Start and end years; Areas of incidence, scope and convergence, with detailed maps showing direct and indirect impacts, as well as relevant legal delimitations.

3) *Socio-economic data*: This includes detailed information on the population and the project area, such as: the total number of people, distributed by gender and age groups (0-14, 15-64, +65 years); literacy rate, average income, demographic density and MHDl (Municipal Human Development Index); characteristics of households (private and subnormal) and available infrastructure.

4) *Territorial impacts*: the analysis of territorial impacts

Scope: determines the possibility of significant impacts, identifies their nature (mobility, health, education, etc.), and delimits the geographical scope. The general objectives of the project are subdivided into concrete dimensions to allow for a more precise assessment; *Classification of Impacts*: Direct – Expected effects that improve quality of life and reduce poverty in the impact area and surrounding areas; Synergistic – Result from the interaction between the project and other local actions, integrating

different interests and strengthening territorial management; Marginal – Consequences of the absence of public intervention in the territory; and Operational Indicators – Allow specific variables related to each impact category to be measured, ensuring a structured and detailed analysis.

Identification of Impacts: in this stage, an evaluation matrix is used to analyze the impacts previously identified, considering their magnitude, orientation (positive or negative), and temporal distribution. Impacts are given scores on the following scales: a) Positive Impacts - 3 to 4: Very Significant; 2 to 3: Significant; 1 to 2: Medium Significant; 0 to 1: Not Significant; and b) Negative Impacts – 0 to -1: Moderately Harmful; -1 to -2: Medium Harmful; -2 to -3: Harmful; -3 to -4: Strongly Harmful.

Evaluation Criteria: the analysis is based on five vectors that structure the evaluation of territorial impacts: Positive vs. Negative: Prioritizes the creation of jobs, income and quality of life; Multipliers vs. Substitution: Emphasizes the capacity to generate amplified positive effects; Sustainable vs. Ephemeral: Evaluates the sustainability of the effects in the medium and long term; Endogenous vs. Exogenous: Values the retention of wealth in the benefited territory; Territorial Integration: Measures the correlation between the effects and the social and economic characteristics of the territory.

Impact assessment: the quantitative analysis results from the arithmetic mean of the values assigned to these vectors, offering an integrated view of the potential impacts. These results are presented and discussed based on the data collected in the previous stages, allowing for the proposal of mitigating or amplifying measures.

The assessment should prioritize the most significant impacts, including long-term structural changes, to plan mitigating actions. Secondary impacts should be mentioned, but the focus should remain on the most relevant, avoiding excessively detailed or complex information. Impacts do not have to derive directly from a project, but can result from the interaction between the project and other interventions in the same territory. Impact indicators should align the macro-objectives of social policies with the characteristics of the communities benefited or influenced. Evaluation consists of measuring relevant changes in the territory and correlating them with the projects carried out. The various scales of analysis must be considered to provide an integrated view of the territorial effects of the projects being evaluated.

Results and discussions

The Caminho da Fé Project is located on Avenida Dendezeiros, in Salvador-BA, connecting two important centers of attraction: the Basílica do Senhor do Bonfim, on the Sacred Hill, and the Obras Sociais Irmã Dulce (OSID), in Largo de Roma. The OSID attracts around 2,000 visitors and more than 2,000 employees every day, while the Basilica is a historical and tourist landmark, listed by IPHAN and part of Salvador's popular tradition. The project was driven by the canonization of Sister Dulce, recognized as Saint Dulce of the Poor, in 2019

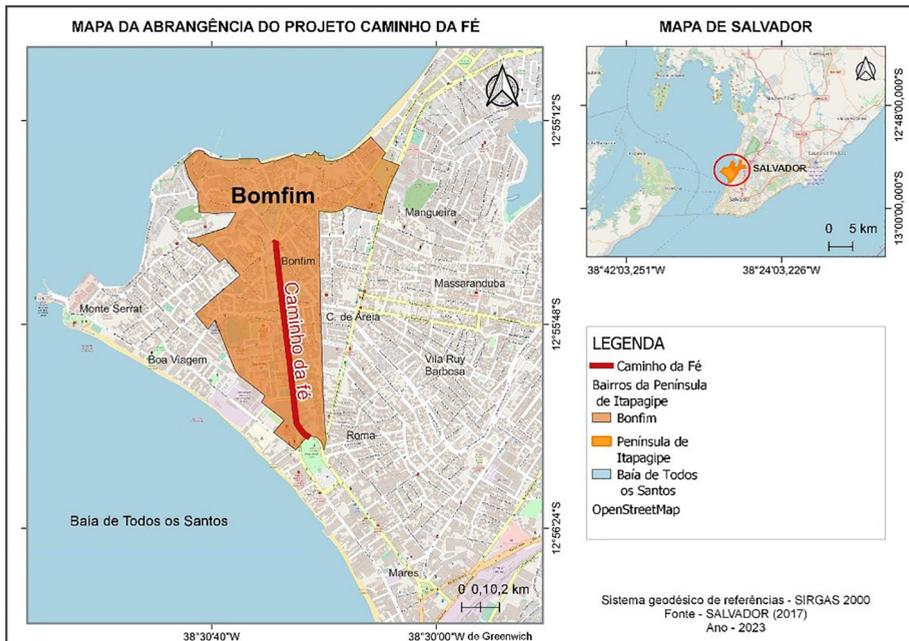
by Pope Francis at the Vatican. Born in Salvador in 1914 and died in 1992, Sister Dulce stood out for her dedication to those most in need and for creating charitable projects that continue to save lives through OSID (Salvador, 2017).

This urban planning project was designed to upgrade Avenida Dendezeiros, to add even more comfort and safety to the area, as well as boost religious tourism. The Caminho da Fé Project is a 1.1 km route linking two of Salvador's most famous religious monuments: the Santuário de Irmã Dulce and the Basílica do Senhor do Bonfim. Fourteen totems representing the Way of the Cross of Jesus Christ have been installed, as well as preserving the history of Sister Dulce and Senhor do Bonfim. Benches were installed at each of the 14 stops, serving as resting points along the way.

The path also had its sidewalks widened, to 5 meters wide in some sections, and new crosswalks were installed at road level, as well as accessibility items. The path also received new paving, underground telephone wiring, LED lighting, drainage, landscaping, and street furniture (Figure 1).

In the PDDU, the territory of the Itapagipe Peninsula is part of the Urban Occupation Macrozone, located in the Consolidated Urbanization Macrozone, in which neighborhoods with satisfactory infrastructure conditions predominate, equipped with urban facilities and services, in which diversified activities are concentrated, with a significant supply of jobs. The Peninsula is also part of the Restructuring Macro-area of the Bay of All Saints, which is a strategic macro-area for the urban

Figure 1 – Map of the scope of the Way of Faith Project



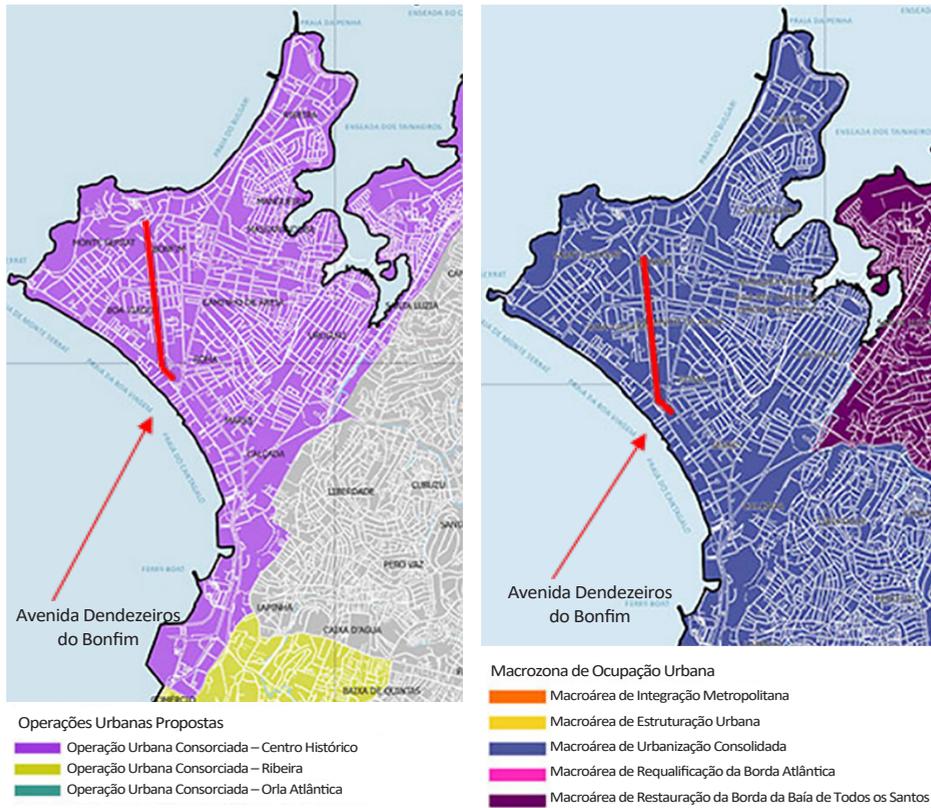
Source: the authors (2023).

development of Salvador, due to its geographical position in relation to the Bay of All Saints and the Bay of Aratu, which offer favorable conditions for nautical activities and other maritime economic activities (Salvador, 2016).

Avenida Dendezeiros do Bomfim is classified in the current Master Plan (Law n. 9,069/2016) as a Regional Corridor (CDR) and

Low-Capacity Transport Corridor, a form of passenger transport that complements the high and medium-capacity systems, which operates by ensuring the micro-accessibility of the transport system within the neighborhoods, serving demand of less than twelve thousand passengers per hour (Figure 2).

Figure 2 – Convergence Map – OUC (left) and Zoning Map (right) of the Salvador UDP 2016 (Itapagipe Peninsula section)



Source: Salvador (2016).

In the 2016 Land Use and Occupation Planning Law (LOUOS) (Law n. 9.148/2016), this avenue is considered a Municipal Linear Centrality Zone (ZCLMu), which are portions of the territory bordering structural roads, connecting neighborhoods, as well as those structured in the vicinity of medium-capacity

public transport corridors. It is also classified as Via Coletora I, whose function is to collect and distribute traffic from all the residential, commercial, service, and other neighborhoods, feeding into the nearby arterial roads and/or transport corridors.

Socio-economic data

The data presented refers to the Bonfim neighborhood, where Avenida Dendzeiros do Bonfim is located, the site of the Caminho da Fé Project. The ideal would be to present the most up-to-date data on the local population, but there is no more recent local data available, since the results of the 2022 Census have not yet been made available to the population. Therefore, data from the 2000 and 2010 censuses are presented here, so that the social advances and setbacks in the area over the last few decades can be seen.

Territorial impacts

A set of operational-level indicators is presented here for each of the impact categories defined, so that the variables can be measured. Therefore, as the economic data presented takes into account the 2000 and 2010 censuses, due to the unavailability of more current local data, this evaluation will also work with this data, in addition to field observation and informal conversations with residents, workers, students, and visitors to the Bonfim neighborhood.

Chart 1 – Socio-economic data from the Bonfim neighborhood

Indice	IBGE Data 2000	IBGE Data 2010
Population (Number of people in the area)	10.437	9.446
Men (Number of men)	45.16%	45.14%
Women (Number of women)	54.84%	54.86%
Age 0 to 14 (Number of people aged 0 to 14)	18.25%	15.76%
Age 15 to 64 (Number of people aged 15 to 64)	70.25%	70.62%
Aged 65+ (Number of people aged 65+)	11.49%	13.61%
Non-literate population	3.81%	2.31%
Average income	3.683 or 24.3 minimum wages	2.948 or 5.7 minimum wages
Private households	2.657	2.767
Subnormal households	0	0
Infrastructure	99.81%	98.59%
Population density	115.8%	104.8%
IDHM	0.742	0.854

Source: the authors (2023).

Chart 2 – Impact category indicators

(To be continued)

DIRECT IMPACT	
income	
Poverty	There has been an increase in poverty, and this is visible with the growth in the number of street vendors in the area, but it should be borne in mind that this is much more related to the Covid-19 pandemic in recent years than to the project itself.
Occupation	There has been a decrease in the number of formal jobs, and this is visible in the growth in the number of street vendors and informal workers in the area, but it should also be borne in mind that this is much more related to the Covid-19 pandemic in recent years than to the project itself.
Economic insecurity	With the rise in the unemployment rate and the increase in informal jobs, the anxiety and insecurity caused by economic problems have grown.
Quality of life	
Education	There has been a decrease in the illiteracy rate and, at the same time, an increase in the number of people with higher levels of education, i.e. undergraduate and postgraduate degrees
Health	The health indices are positive with the increase in life expectancy, with more people over the age of 65 living in the area.
Environment	As it is a localized neighborhood with no subnormal household rates, the rates of infrastructure, water distribution, garbage collection, and sewage disposal are high.
The sector's economic process	It is an area with well-established commerce, with a variety of products and services on offer along its main roads.
Better infrastructure	There have been major changes to the infrastructure of Avenida Dendzeiros do Bonfim, with new paving, underground telephone wiring, LED lighting, drainage, landscaping, and the installation of street furniture.
IMPACTO MARGINAL	
Overview of municipal programs	This neighborhood is part of the Itapagipe Peninsula, which is classified in the current Master Plan as an area subject to a consortium urban operation, and even though Salvador City Hall has dispensed with the OUC process for this project and has contracted it directly, this delimitation in the master plan, which aims to ensure its vitality through policies to enhance its social and cultural diversity, urbanized spaces, built heritage, landscape and cultural manifestations, keeping it attractive for housing and economic activities, especially tourism, makes the city council's intentions for the area explicit.
Vision of government programs	In 2020, the state government, through Conder, carried out urban development work around the Church of Bonfim, which is located on the Sacred Hill of Bonfim, at the end of the Path of Faith. The new road linking Porto da Penha and Pedra Furada has increased mobility in the area, renovated the square and leisure areas, with a bike path, soccer field, and multi-sports court. The area also now has a new lighting system with LED luminaires. The redevelopment involved an investment of around 10 million euros.
Comparative view of services	In 2020, the GeoCombate group, formed by members of the State University of Bahia (UFBA), prepared 4 technical notes with warnings and proposed actions based on geospatial analysis of the Itapagipe Peninsula, and in these notes, they reveal the state of vulnerability of these communities in the face of Covid-19. The Municipality of Salvador, through the FMLF, drew up the Itapagipe Peninsula Neighborhood Plan in 2021, with popular participation (residents, shopkeepers, residents' associations, fishermen, OSID representatives) presenting the main problems perceived in the locality and pointing out future actions.

Chart 2 – Impact category indicators

(Conclusion)

SYNERGETIC IMPACT	
Projects and programs	The actions of Salvador City Hall through the FMLF and the Bahia State Government through Conderin in the Bonfim neighborhood, especially in the area where the Caminho da Fé Project is located, are in line with each other
Local reality	In the public consultation for the Itapagipe Neighborhood Plan, the population highlighted historical heritage, religious tourism, and natural beauty as strengths, while suggesting improvements in sanitation, mobility, safety, and urban requalification. Although Caminho da Fé has promoted improvements to Bonfim's main thoroughfare, the project focuses on one tourist site and does not address the needs of the neighborhood as a whole, creating a scenario geared towards tourists and the media, without considering the local community.
IMPACT RELEVANCE	
Effectiveness	The main objective of the Caminho da Fé Project is to boost religious tourism, which has been happening, according to data from the Bahia Tourism Secretariat (Setur), in the current year, the growth in trips motivated by faith in Salvador was almost 10%, and this intensifies even more on occasions such as tributes to Saint Dulce of the Poor. Another objective of this project was the urban requalification of the site to increase comfort and safety. Urban requalification has increased the walkability of the site for pilgrims of faith, which is also enjoyed by local residents and passers-by, but in terms of safety, there are no significant improvements.
Relevance of impact	The impact of tourism is very positive, as it increases employment and income and has a direct impact on consumption (food, travel, souvenirs) and accommodation, thus benefiting local businesses. Urban redevelopment has improved sidewalks, paving, lighting, and furniture, but has resulted in the removal of street vendors and informal workers. Despite the improvements, security has not increased significantly, generating fear among residents, students, and workers who frequent the avenue.
IMPACT ON CAPACITIES	
Openness to change	When drawing up the neighborhood plan, the local population put forward their suggestions and expectations for improvement.
Participation	The drafting of the neighborhood plan was widely participated in by the public and the various representatives of civil society, which demonstrates the community's desire to participate. The local population presented their suggestions and expectations for improvement in the drafting of the neighborhood plan.
Increasing unity	The local community came together to support the canonization of Saint Sister Dulce and to demand improvements for the neighbourhood.
Increased confidence	The installation of the project has increased the desire for significant improvements in the territory, and is a hope for interventions on the part of the local government.
Increased activity	People as well as local associations have mobilized and demanded action from the government to improve urban planning and local security.

Source: the authors (2023).

Identification of impacts – the purpose of this stage was to complete an impact assessment matrix showing the magnitude, orientation and temporal distribution of the impacts defined in the previous stage, with the following scores being assigned to each of the established impacts:

The average of the positive and negative impacts was 2.1, characterizing them as significant positive impacts, so the quantitative data shows that there were more gains than losses in the implementation of the Caminho da Fé Project. There have been improvements in the quality of life in and around the project site.

The multipliers and substitution vector had an average of 1.6, which is an indicator of average positive impacts. Thus, the positive impacts do not have a great chance of being multiplied in the area covered by the project, essentially showing more benefits at the site of its implementation than for its surroundings.

The sustainability of the implementation of this project obtained an average of 1.5, indicating that the impacts are medium positive, so the positive effects are a little more sustainable than ephemeral in the medium and long term, which could be enhanced by state actions on the ground.

Table 1 – Matrix of territorial impacts of the Way of Faith Project

Impact	Positive X Negative	Multipliers X Substitution	Sustainable X Ephemeral	Endogenous X Exogenous	Integration Territorial	Average
Income	2	1	2	3	1	1.8
Occupation	1	2	1	2	1	1.4
Economic insecurity	1	1	1	1	1	1
Education	3	2	2	2	3	2.4
Health	3	3	2	2	1	2.2
Environment	2	2	2	1	1	1.6
Economic process of the sector	3	2	2	3	3	2.6
Better infrastructure	3	3	2	3	3	2.8
Vision of municipal programs	3	1	1	1	1	1.4
Vision of government programs	2	1	1	1	2	1.4
Comparative vision of services	2	1	1	1	1	1.2
Projects and programs	3	2	1	1	3	2
Local reality	1	1	1	1	1	1
Effectiveness	2	1	1	1	2	1.4
Relevance of impact	2	2	2	2	2	2
Openness to change	1	1	1	1	1	1
Participation	1	1	1	1	1	1
Increased unity	1	1	1	1	1	1
Increased confidence	1	1	1	1	1	1
Increased activity	1	1	1	1	1	1
Average	2.1	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.7

Source: the authors (2023).

The endogenous and exogenous data scored an average of 1.6, indicating average positive impacts, because the degree of retention of the wealth generated in the Caminho da Fé territory is not high, and local commerce could be strengthened by adding services so that resources are retained in the territory.

Territorial integration had an average score of 1.7, showing average positive impacts, so the correlation of the positive effects is not having an effective impact on the social and economic reality of the territory; there is a need for actions to encourage local development, adding local economic activities, culture, sport, and leisure.

The overall average of the quantitative evaluation of the Caminho da Fé Project is 1.7, showing average positive impacts, so the impacts need to be boosted so that the territory has sustainable and distributed gains, with actions that strengthen the local community and return the gains of this investment to society.

Impact assessment – here, the potential impacts are pointed out, considering their positive or negative significance. Here the analysis will be described based on the data from the previous stage.

Because of the qualitative and quantitative evaluations, it is clear that the most important impacts of the Caminho da Fé Project are the changes to the infrastructure and the economy generated by tourism. The infrastructure of Avenida Dendezeiros do Bonfim has been modified, generating improvements for the whole neighborhood, as this is the main access route to the area.

The impact on the economy of the increase in tourism was also evident, but this benefit raises the question: is the income generated benefiting the area where the project is being implemented and its catchment area, or is it just making a profit for the big tourism companies in the city of Salvador? And how can the territory benefit from this economy, what local actions are needed to make local benefit a reality, because the path designed by Saint Sister Dulce was one of actions generated and fundraising to benefit the territory of the Itapagipe Peninsula, with the neighborhood of Roma as her choice of place to welcome the needy, which today has become OSID, and today is her legacy being used to benefit the people of the locality or just the economy of faith?

Conclusion

The urban redevelopment has transformed Avenida Dendezeiros do Bonfim into a visual spectacle, a cinematic area, presented as the Way of Faith, to make it more comfortable to walk between two icons of the Catholic faith in Salvador, the Irmã Dulce Social Works and the Sacred Hill of Bonfim, where the Senhor do Bonfim Basilica is located.

But this scenario was created exactly on the entire route of the main avenue of a common neighborhood, Bonfim, where workers, shopkeepers, students, workers and passers-by use every day as a route for their daily activities, a place to access public transport and a place where one of the largest

SUS hospitals in Salvador, military schools, public and private educational institutions and public agencies are located.

To address these issues, this paper proposed a Territorial Impact Assessment methodology for the Brazilian reality, based on the observation that the public policy impact assessment models used in Brazil, such as the Environmental Impact Assessment, Social Impact Assessment and Socio-territorial Impact Assessment, do not take the territory and its relationships into account in the spatial assessment. This tool is made up of qualitative and quantitative indicators corresponding to a set of logical steps aimed at previously analyzing the advantages and disadvantages, and impacts of Brazilian projects/programs/policies.

The methodology was divided into four stages. In the first, the essential aspects that will guide the evaluation are defined, including scale, timing, and application criteria, with a focus on relevant problems and a clear explanation of the proposed measures. In the second stage, the project is described, defining areas of incidence, scope, and convergence, in order to map the spatial impacts. The third stage deals with socio-economic data, making it possible to assess whether the project improves or harms local indices, as well as verifying its consistency with the reality of the territory. Finally, the fourth stage identifies the impacts through complementary qualitative and quantitative analyses. In the case of the Way

of Faith, the overall quantitative assessment was 1.7, indicating moderate positive impacts, mainly on local infrastructure and tourism, with a need to further enhance the benefits.

Thus, the Territorial Impact Assessment methodology proposal aims to make the territorial impact assessment procedure feasible, but in a simplified way, to identify the main territorial impacts of a project, program, or policy. However, it intends to broaden the understanding and use of this type of assessment so that the classification of a project goes beyond positive and negative.

It is important to note that this Territorial Impact Assessment model is not a finished product; on the contrary, this proposed assessment method is intended to be dynamic and adaptable to various scales and territorial realities. The method used in this research needs to be improved and can be used on other scales, so that it can be adapted to different realities.

The recommendation for the future is the need to carry out territorial impact assessments at different scales, establishing this practice as a premise in Brazilian public policies, while also adding a more participatory dimension. Its limitations imply the need for an increase in the planning team or a longer implementation time for the plan or program, but the analysis of existing methodologies has shown that the social gains are greater than the losses in the process.

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