

DOSSIER “ECOPAR AND INTERNATIONAL MEETING” PRESENTATION

In this edition of *Revista Paranaense de Desenvolvimento*, we present some of the articles highlighted at the XV Meeting of Economics of Paraná (ECOPAR) and the IV International Meeting on Economic Theory and Applied Economics of 2023, held at the State University of Maringá (UEM). This year, the central theme of the event was “Challenges for sustainable development”, with a focus on regional development alternatives and the actions of local and regional players, both in the public and private sectors, in the Search for greater sustainability.

ECOPAR began in 2022 and has since toured all of Paraná’s state universities and Federal University of Paraná. Historically, the event was held in Maringá (UEM) in 2002, 2003, 2011, 2017 and 2023; in Londrina (UEL) in 2004, 2012 and 2019; in Toledo (UNIOESTE) in 2006 and 2013; in Curitiba (UFPR) in 2007; in Ponta Grossa (UEPG) in 2008; in Guarapuava (UNICENTRO) in 2010; and in Apucarana (UNESPAR) in 2014.

The International Meeting on Economic Theory and Applied Economics began in 2017 at UEM and has been held in conjunction with ECOPAR. The second edition was held in Londrina (UEL) in 2019, and the third in Ponta Grossa (UEPG) in 2022. In 2024, both events will be held at UNIOESTE in Toledo.

Throughout the years, the event has promoted the exchanges between professors, researchers and academics, especially those linked to the economy of Paraná’s Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), as well as other institutions in Brazil and abroad. This fosters discussions on various topics, with the aim of disseminating research aimed at sustainable regional socio-economic development, particularly in Paraná.

The event encourages interaction between students, professors and researchers from different HEIs, both Brazilian and international, promoting partnership in future work. It thus contributes to the academic internationalization of Paraná’s HEIs, always aiming to improve the quality of research, teaching and extension.

We would like to thank the scientific committee for their collaboration in reading and selecting the papers for the event and this dossier. We also express our gratitude to the organizers and participants of the various editions of ECOPAR and the International Meeting, who have continually renewed interest in the academic debate and contributed to sustainable development in Paraná. And special thanks to the entire team at *Revista Paranaense de Desenvolvimento* for analyzing and preparing the papers.

Good reading.

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Organizer