

Analysis of Socioeconomic and Environmental Vulnerability: A Case Study in the Quilombola Community “Sucurijuquara” in the Metropolitan Region of the Paraense Amazon

Rodrigo Luciano Macedo Machado¹, Marcelo Augusto Machado Vasconcelos², Alexandre Figueiredo Santos³, Cassiano Moraes Guerreiro⁴, Elisemberg Teixeira Oliveira⁵, Paulo Celso Santiago Bittencourt⁶, José Mendes de Campos Neto⁷

^{1,3,5,7} Academic of the Geography school, Universidade Federal do Pará, Brazil

^{2,4,6} Geoprocessing technology school, Universidade Federal do Pará, Brazil

Abstract – The purpose of this article is to present the results of a Regressive Analysis on Socio-Environmental, Economic and Cultural "SEA" aspects of the remaining quilombo community of Sucurijuquara in the Mosqueiro District, Belém / Pa. For this study, qualitative and quantitative approaches were used, based on the application of semi-structured interviews, photographic records, software application (SEA) for the survey and analysis of data collected from study sites. The results point to the problem of establishing the processes of organization and empowerment in the social, economic, environmental, cultural and land aspects that are fundamental for the quilombola community. It is concluded that the land regularization is paramount, since they would grant rights with the possession of title of land, improvements in education, basic sanitation, health and housing in these spaces away from the central regions of the Metropolitan Region of the Paraense Amazon.

Keywords — Public Policies, Resistance, Identity, Culture

I. INTRODUCTION

When the construction of the quilombola identity is discussed, it is essential not to associate with the territory, in which the construction of the territory will produce the ethnic identity and the identity produces the territory as a reciprocal action of the subjects. Territorialization is due to the relation of the subject to nature that tends to move along time and space. This relation is registered by the memory, individual and collective, fruit and condition of knowledge and knowledge (MALCHER, 2006). Over time, the communities come, through strategic forms, organizing themselves so that they remain in the territory,

being necessary the official titration from the federal constitution of 1988 that sought to guarantee the rights of reminiscence to Afro-descendants. After the end of black slavery in the Brazilian territory the quilombos began to organize themselves, but what was marked was the "protest to the inhuman and degrading conditions to which the slaves were subjected" (Malcher, 2006, p.5). Being a form of ethnic resistance, to demonstrate black slave labor and exploitation, in this sense, most quilombos were formed by slaves who rebelled or fled tired of the situation of mistreatment.

In the Brazilian Amazon, the arrival of the black people occurred through a strategy of the Portuguese crown for the exploitation of the resources of the earth, through slave labor. As a way of enriching the reign, slaves were used as a bargaining chip and the way blacks were annexed in the Amazon were not different from the various regions of Brazil. This exploration is reported by contemporary studies, showing the contribution of the black people in the history of Brazil (ALBUQUERQUE; FRAGA FILHO, 2006). In this way, the bonds of solidarity and the collective use of the land formed the basis of a fraternal society free from the most cruel forms of prejudice and disrespect for its humanity (MUNANGA; GOMES 2006). In Pará, the struggles of quilombola communities were of great importance for social movements, which infers the conquest by the title of land on the federal scale and in the state, did not occur through the development of the quilombos, but was conquered through urban black movements. This union achieved good results, according to the State Planning Department of the State of Pará (SEPlan) of 2018, today Pará is the Brazilian state that

most titled areas in favor of the remaining quilombos in all Brazil.

In this sense, this article proposes to carry out an economic and social analysis, with comparative information (previously, current and prospecting) on the quilombola community of "Sucurijuquara" Metropolitan Region of the Amazon Paraense, to the point of contributing to future actions implemented by public administrations in different spheres (municipal, state and federal).

II. METHODOLOGY

Researches were carried out based on bibliographies referring to the history of formation of quilombos in Brazil and in the territory of Pará, based on the importance of ethnography in space, in scientific articles, works on the theme involving this context. In a quantitative way, analyzing the data referring to the socio-spatial condition of the remaining quilombo in a comparative way, added to the database available. In a qualitative way, semi-structured interviews were conducted with different groups of the quilombola community of "Sucurijuquara", in order to confirm data and identify possible changes. Thus, the qualitative and quantitative analysis are integrated in the interpretation of the results made from SEA Analysis software, as the main element of the study, based on scores with the respective meanings: (1) Very low; (2.) Low; (3.) Medium; (4.) High; (5.) Very high. The objective criteria for assigning scores related to the different parameters, this step of the method consists of an exercise subject to some degree of subjectivity. In the very contrasting evaluations could be revealed of the insufficiency in the information collection or the conceptual incomprehension by some of the evaluators, in this case the theoretical framework was used on each topic discussed.

The scores attributed to each of the parameters summarize objective information about the characteristics of those who manage Natural Resources (RN) and Environment (MA) analyzed, their Socioeconomic situation (SE) and the current process for Empowerment Analysis (AE) and Public Policy (PB). The advantage of this representation of the systemic qualities in synthetic valuations is to simplify the communication of a complex and interdependent set of variables, thus facilitating the comparative evaluation regarding time and space and in the process of changes, that is, in different phases of its development or with other perceptions of those who mainly use the NB in a given territory. In contrast, aggregate indicators, represented by means of synthetic scores composed by the processing of sets of variables, do not convey substantive information about the complexity of the socioeconomic phenomena involved. For this reason, it was essential to assign the scores accompanied by synthetic records (negative and positive points) on the objective criteria that refer to the judgments made.

The description of the criteria was an explicit reference to the information systematized in the field, and functioned as logical justifications of the defined scores. Only with these records, it is possible to create a Reference Information Base (IR) for the comparative evaluation or for the systematic monitoring of the NB and MA, SE, AE and AP. The dialogue for the analysis of the newborns and others in the same territory provided a continuous collective calibration of the criteria used in the assignment of scores to the different parameters evaluated. Being a participatory process, this exercise favored the exchange of perceptions, enriching the collective knowledge about the diversity of those who manage the newborns and others and who are present in the territory, particularly with regard to their logics of socioeconomic reproduction. Based on content, such as analysis of interviews with selected groups, combined with information from the database to investigate possible changes in the five year period between 2012 and 2017, in the management and delivery of social and environmental services in the community.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Ethnography in the quilombola Community of Sucurijuquara

In the quilombola community of "Sucurijuquara" the persistence by titling of their lands and the recognition is not very different from other communities by Brazil. The struggle of the remnants began in 2008, and since then its representatives have been participating in several lectures, movements and conferences in Belém / PA with themes about the quilombo, all to understand and argue based on documents to be sent to Brasilia so that in fact, the recognition of the community being of quilombola origin. All under the support of the members of the coordination of the associations of the remaining communities of quilombos in Pará (MALUNGU).

About the historicity and origin of the name "Sucurijuquara", this name comes from an event of date not identified. The president of the community residents' association, Roberta points out that "[...] according to reports by the community matriarch, the name comes from the junction between 'Sucuri' which refers to the species of snake commonly found in the Amazon region, 'Ju' a hole and 'Quara' to the Indian [...]" (Field interview on February 28, 2018). And she still reports that "a group of hunters went to the 'forest of the burned' to hunt and saw a lost Indian who communicated with strange sounds, there was also a large hole with a snake, and the hunters did not know how to kill it, and that they had to go through them, they then made a 'contract' with the Indian, that in case he could kill the snake and clear the way, they would then direct him to his place of origin, and it was done." on February 28, 2018). However, it can be said that with the

accelerated process of urbanization and population growth, over the years the territory belonging to the remaining quilombo community has been occupied by outsiders, which has brought some internal problems to the village, such as the illegal sale of land, violence, and the unbridled exploitation of natural resources.

3.2. Regressive Analysis Subsidiary for the Future Vision of the Quilombola Community of "Sucurijuquara"

Based on interviews with representatives of community residents, we can compare elements based on specific criteria established in the community, and were of great relevance for the quantification of the data in graphs, as we will see below (Figure 1).

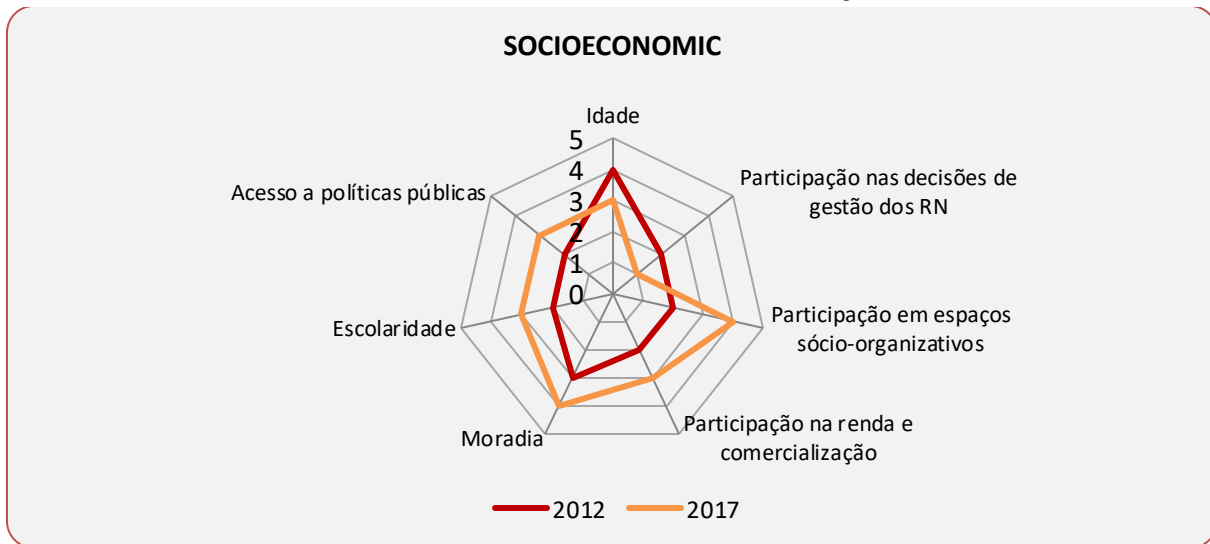


Fig.1: Socioeconomic Aspect

The chart above allows for a systemic comparison in the community between 2012 and 2017, based on scores ranging from 0 to 5 for the age group, being lower from 2012 to 2017, as well as other perspectives and analyzes to be analyzed Next.

Based on the analysis of figure 1, in the quilombola community of "Sucurijuquara" agricultural practices are traditional and of "low technological level", being developed in small areas and with rudimentary technique. Federal Government programs such as the "Bolsa Família" and retirement supplement family income in the community. Family farming is an important source of income for quilombolas in this community, as well as cultural and recreational practices on festive occasions that help the economy by selling handicrafts produced by themselves, fishing and extracting açai (*Euterpe oleracea*), as shown in figure 1, the strong growth between the years 2012 and 2017. A considerable part of the population of this community also operates outside the rural production unit, working as a maid, construction, carpentry, electrician, in the post medical and community school

among other occupations, who collaborate in the movement of income.

The recommendations for this analysis consist in the expansion of partnership with organs and institutions for the destination of the production of this community. In addition to increasing the incentive to create training courses for residents of the quilombo, as they perform functions within the community without the technical training to pursue such a profession.

Since 2003, under the "Lula" government, rural housing is now seen as a social policy, and the right to housing is now accessed by farmworkers, and is now made up of the Ministries of Agrarian Development (MDA) and Ministry of Agriculture (MC) of the first Rural Housing Program in Brazil, this program consists of two modalities, one for the settlers of Agrarian Reform and the other for Family Agriculture (STEFFENON, MOSER, 2010).

In the Quilombola community there are still problems, such as illegal sales of quilombo properties (Figure 2), but belonging to the Union, an illegal practice that merits greater oversight of public power.



Fig.2: Illegal sale of land in the community

In this sense, the importance of access to housing, through initiatives of the public power, is extremely relevant to the community, because as the quilombola population grows, there will be a need for a greater number of residences for the residents.

Analyzing the increase in the use of social-organizational spaces by the community, there is an emphasis on the benefits of this practice that not only in the field of leisure and culture, but also, in a way, strengthened the local economy, already that during the events there is an intense flow of people in the community, which drives trade.

However, despite the increase in leisure activities and culture, it is necessary to make some recommendations, such as the importance of seeking partnerships, whether public or private, for the strengthening of events, for better dissemination, infrastructure etc. It is also necessary to increase the number of events (currently only four) occurring in Quilombo.

Within the federal government's integrated actions program, the infrastructure and quality of life project aims to create and expand the primary services to the community, that is, basic sanitation, however, the focus for the implementation of these systems is through sustainable alternatives. But for them to be contemplated, quilombola communities must be duly certified before the responsible bodies. All to ensure the quality of life and development of communities. However, despite the slight improvement of the "Sucurijuquara" quilombo between 2012 and 2017 (FIGURE 1), there is a need to intensify these services in the community, so that the demands are met, especially in the areas of health and social assistance.

According to the residents, there is currently only one school (E.M.E.F Angelus Nascimento) that has existed for

at least 45 years, and only meets the demands of elementary level I and II. The level of schooling in relation to the elderly is low, since most of them do not know how to read and write, while the young people, most of them go to the fundamental level, because there is a comfort for most of them, as Roberta points out.] at the time of school holidays many of them go to the várzea to harvest açaí and target this practice for commercial purposes."

As a recommendation, through projects, the president of the association seeks to bring a better quality of teaching to children and young people, she says that it would be interesting if there was the "Young Pro" (Education Program for young people of the state of Pará) in the community. There is the program that gives access to state public universities through the Special Selective Process for Quilombolas. In addition, it targets other projects such as "The Knowing of the Earth" still to be implemented, a project created by her seeking to preserve the culture, knowledge and customs that the community has, so that it is not left behind, and continues being passed from generation to generation, generation, and also the project that will help the later students to finish their studies, in primary and secondary education, in two years each, so that everyone will seek a better quality of life.

Also on recommendations to improve the quality of education, is to create more schools, especially middle schools that are still present in the community, in order to meet the demands, because there is a certain lack of interest on the part of young people in continuing the studies and often settle with the life they lead.

The visit and the observations made from the graphs enabled us to analyze in practice how the dynamics of a remnant community of quilombos take place and, in addition, enabled us to do a regressive analysis on the main social, environmental and economic changes (FIG. 2). We realize that there have been changes that have led to the improvement of the quality of life of the community, however, there is still a lot to be done, such as land titling, quality transportation service, creation of more schools and health posts.

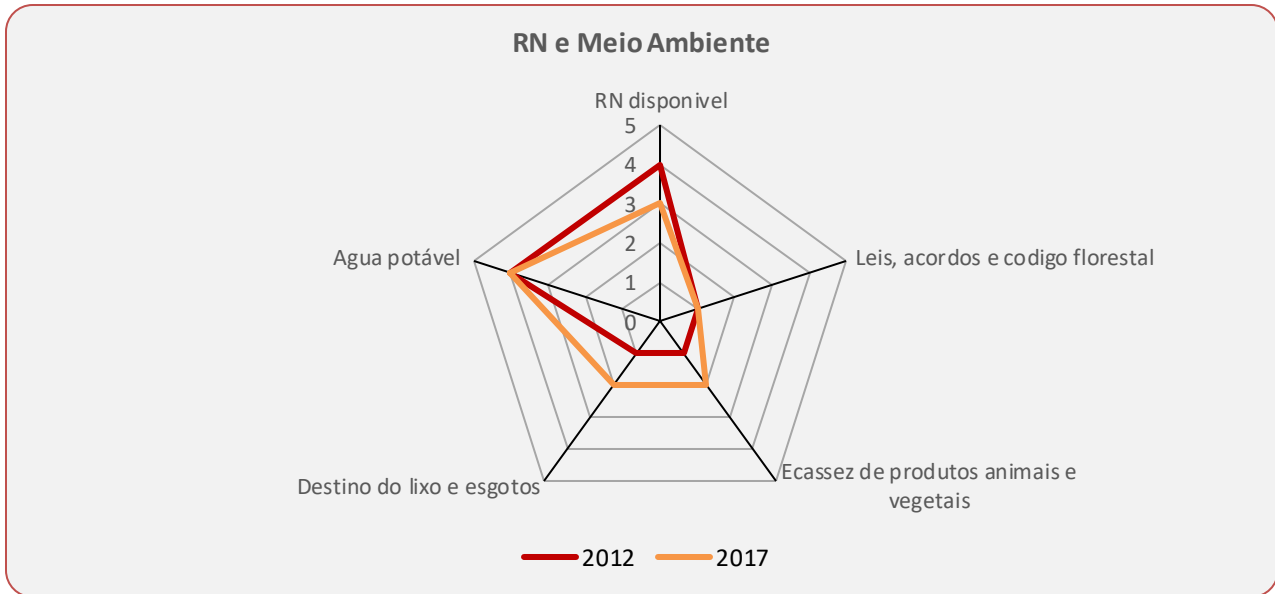


Fig.3: Natural Resources and the Environment

Based on the comparative data of figure 2, we can detect another problem caused by the progress made in quilombola areas, by the advance of agriculture and agriculture, and one of the factors that contribute to the decrease of the resources of the communities. A large area for the deforestation of a production of monoculture or cattle production that, consequently, with the forest of the forest, a loss of fauna and flora to help the subsistence of the communities with a hunting and extractivism.

Fishing has been going through the same problems as hunting, this mainly affects the quilombola communities that are located the riverbanks. The problem is very recurrent because of the contamination of the rivers that are "poisoned" mainly because of the mineral exploration that contaminates the waters of the rivers and makes them unfit for consumption as well as for the reproduction of the aquatic fauna. (BARBOSA and MARIM, 2011).

We noticed in interviews with the community that they are not aware of what is APP (Permanent Protection Area) and other programs focused on the environmental protection of the forest area that surrounds the quilombola community. So we recommend that Federal Government programs be implemented, focused on the social and environmental balance.

There should be an intensification of surveillance in the forest areas surrounding the community and lectures explaining how forest resources should be used to avoid causing environmental degradation. Especially in highlighting deforestation, due to the lack of environmental awareness, causing the decrease and even disappearance of species of animals and vegetables, which are of great importance for subsistence.

As well as the awareness of the preservation of the forest, there should also have the same attention about the rivers that pass through the community, because with the deforestation of the forest and withdrawal of the ciliary forest, there is as a consequence the silting of the rivers, that harms the own community. Like many traditional Amazonian peoples, quilombolas have a strong relationship with the rivers that are where they draw water that they use for various functionalities. As shown in figure 2, access to potable water has decreased considerably, still reinforcing the importance of preserving this resource in a indispensable way. In an interview with some quilombolas that are fishermen, we noticed the decrease of the fish, a very recurrent fact due to the illegal fishing during the insurance closed. One way of avoiding this problem would be to establish a partnership between the quilombolas and the Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA), in order to have a monitoring of the rivers during this period, and projects so that this fisherman can other forest resources.

Regarding environmental awareness, a basic work should be done with the elementary school students of the Municipal School Angelus Nascimento and how the community can take care of the environment in which they live, through the teaching of environmental education, especially with the issue of garbage, since in our walks we can observe a great amount of garbage scattered throughout the streets of the quilombola community, and this garbage could be recycled and reused for the benefit of the community itself.

Asked about the empowerment of young people and women, Ms. Roberta (Community Leader) explained to us that there is still a lot of machismo in the community, especially from the older people, however, she stressed that she is highly respected for being president of association and also by the

experience and maturity to give him / her with the pertinent subjects to the community, which corresponds, before the collected data, this differentiation throughout the periods compared (figure4).

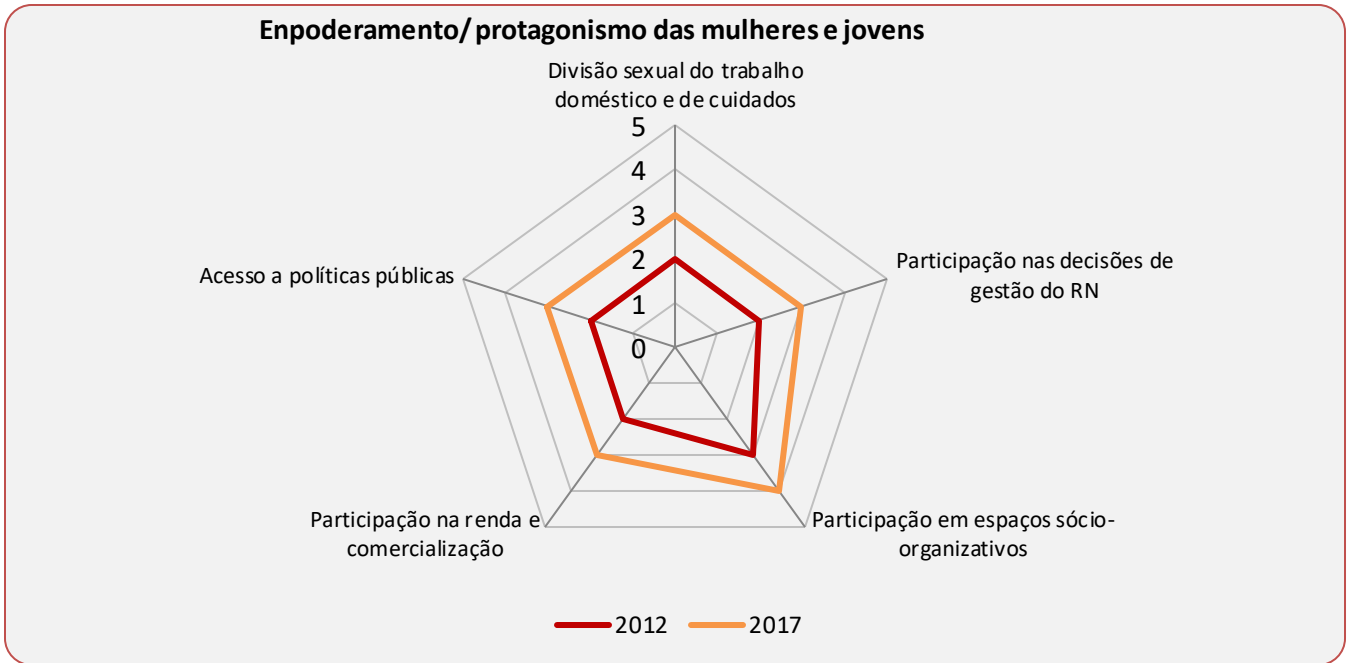


Fig.3: Empowerment / empowerment of women and youth

With the monitoring and analysis performed in the community, one can observe the intensification of access to public policies, participation in decisions, the sexual division of labor and other perspectives highlighted in figure 3, as a progressive increase from 2012 to 2017, there is still a need for greater promotion of public initiatives and the community itself for greater equity in the participation of women and young people from the quilombola community.

As an analysis, it was observed that the health services in the community are palliative, that is, the unit works only for prevention without having prompt care, causing residents of the quilombo in cases of urgency have to move to the center of the Mosqueiro District and / or the Metropolitan Region of Belém to be attended to, which is difficult because the community has many difficulties in its mobility (figure 4).

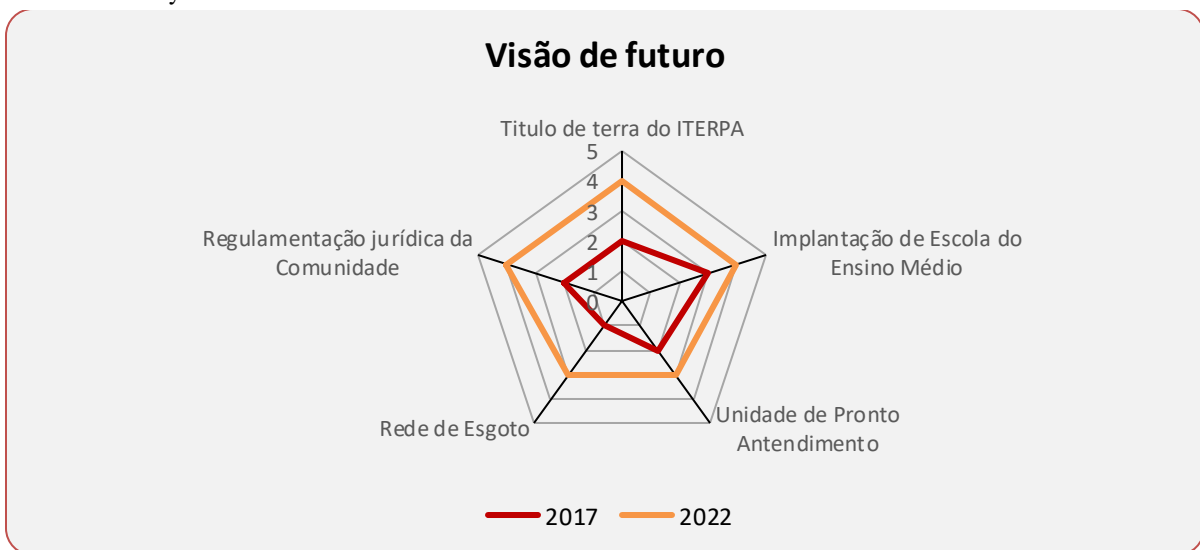


Fig.4: Future vision

In order for this demand to be met, quality health services should be expanded within the quilombo, through the implementation of Emergency Care Units (UPA). The greater number of schools, especially with modalities also focused on secondary education, sanitation and sewage and regulation on the title of land of the population of the community.

The Federal Government's integrated actions program foresees sanitation for the quilombola communities, which comes through the National Health Foundation (FUNASA), however, the quilombola community of "Sucurijuquara" has no sewage network and water supply. Having the need to mitigate such a program, community leaders need to update the responsible bodies on the quilombo sanitary situation, promoting a dialogue so that improvements can be found through the implementation of the sanitary sewage system, the largest number of schools, especially with modalities also focused on secondary education and regulation on the land titling of the community population.

IV. CONCLUSION

In the face of the analyzes carried out in the quilombola community of "Sucurijuquara", it is concluded that it is important to highlight elements pertinent to culture, practices and the various difficulties in the quilombo, as well as regularization of the same since ten years have passed since the moon by the titling of their lands, and from the information collected can make a future vision of the quilombola community with the regularization of the land in which they would have greater conquests for rights with the possession of title of land, improvements in education, basic sanitation, health and housing, which up to the present time, due to lack of titling of land, the acquisition of community land is carried out in a disorderly manner. Therefore, this socioeconomic analysis can subsidize and contribute to effective initiatives that can be taken to ensure better conditions and practices in the quilombola community of Sucurijuquara.

REFERENCES

- [1] ALBUQUERQUE, W. R.; FRAGA FILHO, W. Uma história do negro no Brasil. Salvador: Centro de Estudos Afro-Orientais; Brasília: Fundação Cultural Palmares, 2006.
- [2] CANALI, H. Com 53 áreas tituladas, Pará é o Estado que mais reconhece comunidades quilombolas. Belém: Secretaria de Estado de Planejamento do Governo do Estado do Pará, 2018. Disponível em <<http://www.seplan.pa.gov.br/com-53-%C3%A1reas-tituladas-par%C3%A1-o-estado-que-mais-reconhece-comunidades-quilombolas>> Acesso em 16 out. 2018.

- [3] BARBOSA, M. B. C.; MARIM, R. E. A. Manejo e uso comum dos recursos naturais em populações quilombolas no vale do Rio Capim-PA. *Novos Cadernos NAEA*, v. 13, n. 1, 2011.
- [4] MALCHER, M. A. F. Identidade Quilombola e Território. *Comunicações do III Fórum Mundial de Teologia e Libertação*. Belém, 2009. Disponível em <<http://www.wftl.org/pdf/046.pdf>> Acesso em 10 out. 2018.
- [5] MUNANGA, K.; GOMES, N. L. O Negro no Brasil de Hoje. São Paulo: Editora Global, 2006
- [6] STEFFEN, R.; MOSE, L. A moradia Rural nos Assentamentos da reforma Agrárias, caso do Assentamento Quiguay Passos Maia. Santa Catarina, 2010.