

INFORMATIVE BRIEF 02

CÉU DO MAPIÁ MOTHER CHURCH

**Technical Visit
Engineering Team**



May 2017

The previous Informative Brief (01) related the main events about the reform of Vila Céu do Mapiá Church, from October 2016 until February 2017. During this period, the *Project Sectors* were created (Logistics, Lodging, Food, Medical Post and Financial Resources) , and the first *Technical Visits* were carried out to collect data pertinent to the Church's cement structure and the construction site.

In March 2017 the administrative management began the search for engineering companies capable of issuing Technical Reports which will initially establish the guidelines for the Executive Projects, and later the plans for completion of the Church's renovation.

After two months searching in different regions of Brazil, the SOBROSA company, based in São Paulo, was chosen. Factors such as the quality of the technical scope, the understanding of the specifics of the project and the history of other projects in the company's portfolio were fundamental for this choice.

Between May 22 and 29, 2017, a Technical Visit was made by the Engineers of SOBROSA to the worksite in Vila Céu do Mapiá. The team was formed by professionals specialized in the following areas:

- Soils and foundations
- Concrete Structure
- Civil Engineering
- Topography

The SOBROSA team was accompanied by ICEFLU representatives from São Paulo, along with members of the socio-environmental institute ISA Viçosa, totaling 13 people.

Before arriving in Vila Céu do Mapiá, the team stayed in Boca do Acre to evaluate the infrastructure of the city and evaluate the possibilities with respect to transportation of materials.

During the days onsite, the conditions of the foundations were verified, through the opening of ditches and samples collected from the soil. Visual inspections and measurements were carried out in the structure to evaluate the condition of the concrete, as well as a topographic survey of the Church and its surroundings.



Engineers analyzing soil and foundations, and measuring concrete structure.

The exchange of information between local workers and engineers was essential for the excellent performance of the team. The engineers gave guidance on the terrain characteristics and conservation techniques for the concrete structure. Additionally, they received detailed explanations from workers and community members about the construction of pillars, columns and beams completed in November 2016, with the pouring of concrete for the sixth and final tip of the star.



Interaction between the engineering team, community and local workers.

The work of the locals was highly praised by the engineers, who were impressed with the knowledge and the technique used to build the structure, amidst the adversities of the region. The architect Gabriela Dias (ISA-Viçosa) accompanied all the visit checks, bringing important information about the conception of the first projects to enlarge the Church. With her specialization in bio-construction techniques, she enhanced the importance of adopting sustainable materials and technologies appropriate to the reality of the Amazon Rainforest, in accordance with the Purus National Forest Management Plan.

In addition to the data collection, the Technical Visit was important for the engineers' integration with the existing infrastructure in the Village, especially with respect to the land and water access and the services offered, such as lodging and food, to receive the workers responsible for the assembly of the roof and completion of the construction.

The team visited Madrinha Rita, who was excited and very attentive to the information about the Church's construction, and met with some members of the ICEFLU's Board to provide an update about the success in meeting the trip's objectives.



The team visiting Madrinha Rita.

Apart from the planned work during the Technical Visit, the engineers had the opportunity to take a kayak tour through the igarapé and to visit important places such as the Santa Casa, the Center for Forest Medicine (CMF) and the Daime production facility (Casa de Feitio). They also visited the Community School and the Residents' Association (AMVCM) where they registered as guests and bought souvenirs locally produced at Casa de Ofícios.

On the last day, the community performed a Spiritual Work so that the visitors could have an introduction to the Ritual and the Sacrament of the Santo Daime. The hymnals 'Nova Era' and 'Lua Branca' were sung for this occasion.

The team was pleased with the outcome of the visit and very grateful for the hospitality of the community. After returning home, everyone was very enthusiastic to move forward with the project plans.

The Technical Reports were delivered by SOBROSA at the end of June, and now begins the next stage, which is the development of the Engineering and Architecture/3D modeling projects.

The schedule of projects and continued news about the Church's construction will be updated in the next *Informative Brief*.