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FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION

**PUBLIC FOOD PROCUREMENT AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF LOCAL
FOOD SYSTEMS: EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE FROM THE POPULAR
RESTAURANTS PROGRAM IN TOLEDO, PARANÁ, BRAZIL**

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This study analyzes the role of the Popular Restaurants Program (PRP) in promoting local development and food and nutrition security in the municipality of Toledo, Paraná, based on the perceptions of family farmers who supply the program and institutional representatives involved in the arrangement. The research adopts a mixed-methods approach, with an exploratory and descriptive character, structured as a case study. The methodological procedures integrate a systematic literature review conducted according to the PRISMA protocol, field research with the application of questionnaires, and analytical triangulation through Multiple Correspondence Analysis (MCA) and the SWOT matrix. A total of 60 questionnaires were applied to family farmers and 25 to institutional

representatives linked to the management, operation, and support of the PRP. Responses were organized into thematic blocks, coded by presence and absence, and subjected to statistical consistency criteria. The results indicate that the PRP articulates production, supply, and consumption within the territory, strengthening linkages between family farming and local institutions. Farmers associated the program with income stability, the expansion of marketing channels, and the provision of healthy food to the population. Institutional representatives highlighted the relevance of public management, operational infrastructure, intersectoral coordination, and technical assistance. Challenges related to bureaucracy, logistics, institutional communication, and administrative practices were identified, as well as opportunities linked to the integration between PRP, PAA, and PNAE. It is concluded that the PRP plays a relevant role in structuring local food supply dynamics and in promoting food and nutrition security, conditioned by the strengthening of public procurement and institutional coordination.

Palavras-chave: public procurement; institutional markets; family farming; food and nutrition security; local development.