

## ESG Practices and the Port-City Interface: Pathways for Sustainable and Smart Cities

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### Introdução

Ports are central urban infrastructures, shaping mobility, environmental and social impacts, and community well-being in their cities. In Brazil, their integration remains largely insufficient, and with limited articulation in governance frameworks. This study investigates how Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) practices can foster more sustainable and resilient relationships between ports and urban environments, contributing to a broader agenda of smart and sustainable cities.

### Fundamentação e Discussão

agenda of smart and sustainable cities. Methodologically, the research draws on public reports from Brazilian Port Authorities, federal and municipal governments, and an expert interview with the experts at the Ministry of Ports. The analysis unfolds in three stages: (1) review of governance reforms introduced in 1993 and 2013 and their impact on port-city dynamics; (2) mapping of ESG strategies adopted by major public ports, with a focus on environmental education, occupational health, and emergency response; and (3) evaluation of how these practices intersect with urban sustainability agenda

### Conclusão

The study highlights the potential of ESG practices to bridge this gap, positioning ports as active partners in advancing sustainable urban development. By embedding ESG frameworks into local and regional governance, ports can move beyond legal compliance and contribute to smart city agendas through environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and technological innovation. These insights reinforce the importance of including ports-cities as a special case in the debate on sustainable and intelligent cities, particularly in emerging economies like Brazil.

### Referências

Guia de Melhores Práticas de Sustentabilidade Portuária: A Estratégia ESG" (2023, EDUFMA).

### Palavras Chave

port-city, ESG, governance

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