



The DPU has confirmed its participation in COP30 and launched a series of special reports

Initiative highlights actions taken by the Federal Public Defenders' Office (DPU) to protect vulnerable populations and tackle the climate crisis

Climate news is multiplying every day and shows a planet on alert: droughts, floods, fires, and extreme temperatures are already affecting millions of people. In November 2025, the world will turn its eyes to Belém, in the state of Pará, which will host the Conference of the Parties 30 (COP30), the largest conference on climate change on the planet. For almost two weeks, from November 10 to 21, global leaders, governments, institutions, universities, and social movements will meet to discuss and decide the direction of climate action. The DPU will participate reaffirming its commitment to protecting rights, reducing inequalities, and giving a voice to those who suffer most from climate emergencies.

With the aim of publicizing the institution's participation in the conference and explaining its role in the climate agenda, the DPU's Social Communication Advisory (ASCOM) has launched a special series of reports on the DPU at COP30: Climate Justice is a Right. Over the coming months, the Federal Public Defenders' Office will present prominent initiatives in defense of socio-environmental rights, highlighting how its daily work already contributes to the global climate justice agenda and how this work will be brought to the international stage at the conference.

The constitutional mission of the DPU is to protect the rights of all, with priority given to the most vulnerable—precisely those who suffer most from the impacts of climate emergencies. The institution acts in defense of indigenous, traditional communities, riverine communities and urban populations affected by floods, droughts, fires, and other environmental disasters. For the DPU, access to justice and climate justice go hand in hand: without access to justice, there are no human rights.

"The Public Defenders' Office plays a fundamental role in ensuring that the promotion of climate justice reaches the population that needs it most. It reaches the indigenous community, traditional communities, and riverine community. It reaches everyone who is impacted. It is the Public Defenders' Office that will bring a humanized perspective, a perspective that is sensitive to reality, to the way in which climate emergencies impact the lives and local traditions of each community. And it is in this sense that the DPU has strived, over time, to promote access to justice and climate justice," says Federal Public Defender General Leonardo Magalhães.

According to the defender, the DPU's participation in the conference focuses on giving visibility to inequalities, voicing the demands of vulnerable populations, and demanding that their rights be respected. "Many communities have had to change their culture, their traditions, and their relationship with the environment to adapt to the reality we are facing with climate emergencies. The Public Defenders' Office belongs to the people and is for the people, and our actions are aimed at promoting the rights of these people," he adds.

"The message we are taking to COP30 is that it is possible to promote rights in emergency situations, such as floods, droughts, fires, and environmental disasters. With the union of national institutions and civil society, it is possible to present a plan, a coordinated and articulated response to restore dignity, promote climate justice, and realize the rights of people affected by climate change. Several actions that the DPU has developed over the years are proof of this," says Leonardo Magalhães.

DPU at COP30

The Federal Public Defenders' Office will bring to COP30 the agenda of climate justice and a just transition to protect the populations that are most vulnerable to climate change and the current climate emergency.

For federal public defender Giorgi Sales, chief advisor to the DPU's Office of Environment, Climate Change, and Human Mobility, "the role of the DPU at COP30 is to present its work in relation to environmental and climate change activities in protecting the most vulnerable populations, including indigenous peoples, traditional communities, and urban populations that are also affected by disasters, both technological and climatic."

"The work of the DPU can contribute to the protection of the territory of traditional communities and indigenous peoples. These communities are essential for protecting the environment. It is within their territory that the greatest protection of the environment occurs. There are several studies that show that within these territories, whether demarcated or not, there is greater environmental protection compared to other types of exploitation of rural areas in Brazil," explains Sales.

Participation in the Green Zone

The DPU will have a booth in the Green Zone at COP30, a public space for debates, where it will present its agenda of environmental actions. There, together with national and international partners and civil society organizations, the institution will present successful cases in climate litigation and community protection, new projects, and protocols aimed at socio-environmental defense.

"COP30 is a great opportunity to showcase the actions that the Public Defender's Office has been taking to promote the rights of indigenous, traditional communities, and riverine communities, as well as people affected by floods, droughts, fires, and environmental disasters, and to show how much this work can be a major factor, a great tool in the fight against social inequalities, especially with regard to climate issues," concludes Federal Public Defender General Leonardo Magalhães.