**Urban intervention invites society to act in the recovery of urban rivers**

This october, INCITI/UFPE will be heading to Quito, Ecuador, to share the experience “I want to swim in my river – the Machangara Beach”, an urban intervention inspired by a methodology of activation in public spaces that we have been implementing at the [Capibaribe Park project](http://inciti.org/en/parque-capibaribe/), in Recife, northeast of Brazil. The idea is to promote a recreational spot, that stimulates and encourages people to enjoy sports, music, culture in public areas but also to talk about the recovery processes of urban rivers.

The venue is part of the [Habitat III Village](https://habitat3.org/village) and will take place at the Parque La Alameda, on September 16 and 19, from 10am to 8pm. This action connects to one of the main global environmental issues, the pollution of urban waters, focusing on a local challenge, the rescue of the Machangara river. The desire to swim once again in the Machángara river is a local version of a global dream.

The idea is to prototype a symbolic beach surrounding the park lake, where information will be exchanged and citizens will be inspired to act for change. With typical Brazilian parasols and beach chairs, this event will propose a playful open public space for citizens to rescue a long forgotten dream of swimming on a local river.

The intervention is also an opportunity to be in touch with nature and occupy public spaces with picnics, games and fun for children, cultural activities, sporting, yoga, meditation, among others. *I want to swim in my river* also invites citizens to promote activities, such as the ones related to recreation, culture, health, education, environment, and so on.

**Urban Thinkers** – INCITI/UFPE will also take part at the side event entitled “Implementing the New Urban Agenda – the role of Urban Thinkers Campuses and The City We Need”. It will take place on Monday, 17 October 2016, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Room 8 / Casa de la Cultura. Circe Gama Monteiro, member of INCITI's governing board, will talk about the experience of hosting the brazilian edition of [Urban Thinkers Campus](http://unhabitat.org/urbanthinkers/). To learn more, follow: <http://utc.inciti.org>.

**INCITI** **– Research and Innovation for the Cities** is a extension and research pro-rector think-tank at the Federal University of Pernambuco (UFPE) that brings together academics committed to the quality of urban life. The team consists of architects, biologists, botanists, sociologists, psychologists, engineers, economists, designers, media professionals, computer scientists, historians, activists among others. With an interdisciplinary and systemic perspective, the team is dedicated to investigate the urban experience, analyze quality of spaces and behavior of its inhabitants, as well as to try and understand people’s daily reflections about the city. For further information: <http://inciti.org>.