

Project from the Institute for Economic and Social History receives the *Digital Humanities Prize*
at the *World Economic History Congress*

The project “Labor, livelihood, and immigration in a Brazilian plantation: the archives of the Ibicaba farm (1845-1975)” was awarded the *Digital Humanities Prize*, category *Science Outreach* at the XIX. World Economic History Congress (Paris, July 25-29, 2022).

The “Ibicaba project” was conducted by Dr. Bruno Witzel de Souza at the *Institute for Economic and Social History*, University of Goettingen. From 2019 to 2022, Dr. Witzel de Souza coordinated the creation of an entirely new archive at the homonymous plantation – one of the most important in the Brazilian history – and the digitization of its content, making all material available in an open-access and user-friendly platform: <https://meap.library.ucla.edu/ibicaba-farm>.

More than 150 thousand high-quality images were produced. The high-frequency data that will be derived from this material cover almost 150 years of the farm’s administration and of laborers’ accountings. These unique data will provide new insights into the long-run history of economic wellbeing, labor productivity, and socioeconomic inequalities for some crucial junctures of Latin American history. Another outcome of the project was the preservation of the historical documents in the Brazilian countryside. Fulfilling the goal of preserving cultural heritage in projects of Digital Humanities, the material in the new archive has already been used to foster ecological-historical tourism in the region and to foment new pedagogical tools.

The *French Association of Economic History* awarded the *Digital Humanities Prize* to the “Ibicaba Project” for its massive digitalization process and for its manifold contributions, actual and potential, to scientific outreach in education, arts, and local development.



Permanent exhibition of the Ibicaba Project in Campus Condorcet, Paris, during the World Economic History Congress.



Dr. Witzel de Souza discusses the Ibicaba Project in the finals of the Digital Humanities competition.



Prize award during the plenary session on July 29, 2022.



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