

# SPOTLIGHT SYNTHESIS REPORT

THE 2030 SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
AGENDA IN BRAZIL



CIVIL SOCIETY  
WORKING GROUP FOR  
THE 2030 AGENDA



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This is a collective work produced by the Civil Society Working Group for the 2030 Agenda

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## ABOUT LIGHT AND SHADOWS

**B**razil is embroiled in a whirlpool of tensions at the very moment when it prepares to present its 1st Voluntary National Review for the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Agenda at the United Nations High-level Political Forum which will take place in July. The 2017 edition of the Forum is responsible for accompanying national progress and challenges in the implementation of resolution A/1/70, ‘Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’, which establishes seventeen grandiose goals to be achieved by all signatory countries by the year 2030.

The present publication is a Synthesis<sup>1</sup> of the Spotlight Report of the Civil Society Working Group for the 2030 Agenda – *GTSC A2030* – and was built collaboratively with the participation of various organizations focusing on the seven goals that will be the theme of the upcoming edition

of the Forum. The results reported are extremely alarming in the face of the challenges of eradicating poverty, putting an end to hunger, ensuring social-productive inclusion, guaranteeing a healthy life, achieving gender equality, constructing resilient infrastructure accessible to all persons, promoting inclusive, sustainable industrialization, stimulating innovation and protecting marine ecosystems.

In the present context of multiple crises, the distance separating us from the aspirations of the 2030 Agenda becomes glaringly apparent. We are witnessing the expansion of retrograde forces acting against sustainable development and all the efforts of the political class are dedicated to minimizing the scandals of the corruption that has devastatingly corroded Brazil’s national party political system.

The analyzed data reveal a process whereby the public good is neglected in the name of preserving the *status quo*

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1. The unabridged version of the Light-Report produced by the Civil Society Working Group for the 2030 Agenda can be accessed at <http://brasilnaagenda2030.org>.

and of dismantling all policies that seek to foster dignity, reduce inequality and actualize human rights and socio-environmental sustainability; policies that were the fruit of decades of social conquests and construction.

There is now a generalized mistrust of the political class, the judicial system and the Executive and Legislative branches. Pacts entirely devoid of ethical considerations, involving an impressively large number of authorities articulated in intricate networks of corruption at all federal levels, have been revealed to the general public and have had a strong negative impact on people's confidence in democratic institutions.

In this chaotic environment, bills and regulations in the opposite direction to that delineated by the SDGs are being hurriedly pushed through, further undermining the health, education and social security systems, contributing to exacerbate unemployment and indecent forms of labor, and hampering progress in the fields of food security and social and environmental justice. Furthermore, basic conquests in the fields of human rights, including sexual and reproductive rights, are being hastily dismantled. As usual, the most vulnerable population groups and the environment suffer the most harm, as can be seen from the incessant attacks on women, on young people, on LGBTI, negro, *quilombola* and indigenous populations (of all ages); as well as attacks on the environmental legislation and on protected areas.

There is no way that such a scenario can be considered sustainable. Accordingly, it is with serious misgivings that we look to the future of post-2015 Brazil and we would insist that after so many resolutions that the country has endorsed in the last thirty years, the country currently requires new narratives. Unlike the situation in the past, by now we have learned what needs to be done. Commitments made to the UN and internally could already have been fulfilled if the policies and legislation in all spheres of the Federation had addressed them seriously and if we had not been saddled with so many representatives benefiting from a corrupt electoral system that has contributed very little to our civilizatory evolution.

Very few steps have been taken towards implementing the SDG in Brazil. In regard to 2030 Agenda governance, one of them, which could be of fundamental importance for its implementation, was the creation of the National SDG Commission in 2016, one of the demands made by this work-

ing group. We can also underscore the positive aspect that it is the only Latin American regional mechanism (up to now) that can boast of equal representation of government and civil society. It is, without doubt, a space in which we will be demanding to see results. Parallel to that, a Mixed Parliamentary Front was formed in support of the SDGs also in response to demands from civil society organizations. Its purpose is to discuss and propose measures that reinforce the means of implementing the 2030 Agenda. However, merely creating committees or parliamentary fronts will never be sufficient as long as there is lack of transparency, access to information and monitoring of fundamentally important areas. In reality we lack effective government accountability mechanisms and presently most of the Policy Committees or Councils in the country are in a state of crisis while those who stand up for rights are killed in the burgeoning wave of institutionalized violence.

Thus, the Brazil that will be presenting its Review of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals before the UN is a country that has moved backward in relation to dearly achieved fundamental rights, immersed, as it is, in an unprecedented political crisis. And this has continuously become a powder keg in which conservative forces are expanding and gaining ground in the Executive and Legislative Branches, imposing the interests of the private sector and those of specific sectors like the religious parliamentary groups, the arms and ammunition manufacturers' lobby, and the *Ruralistas* (big landowners and agribusiness interests).

Nevertheless, that *Brazil* which civil society believes it could be – and acts on that belief – is a *Brazil* with ethical leaders, committed to the welfare of all and with a political system that collaborates to ensure that governments, social organizations and movements and the private sector adopt those structuring principles that will permit the transition to development models that contemplate the possibility of people living together in peace, with socio-economic and environmental relations that are fair and sustainable. We are well aware that ridding ourselves of our culture of privileges to embrace a culture of socioenvironmental justice and equity in a context of democracy requires that we make great changes, but we sincerely hope that the recommendations set out in this report can shed light on some of the possible, urgently needed ways forward.

Brazil, June 2017

Alessandra Nilo, General Coordinator - Gestos

Fabio de Almeida Pinto, Executive Coordinator – Democracy and Sustainability Institute  
(*Instituto Democracia e Sustentabilidade*)

On behalf of the *Civil Society Working Group for the 2030 Agenda – GTSC A2030*



## THE CIVIL SOCIETY WORKING GROUP FOR THE 2030 AGENDA

The GTSC A2030 is made up of Brazilian non-governmental organizations, social movements, forums, and foundations. The group is the result of a meeting of organizations that were accompanying the post-2015 agenda and its ramifications.

Initially, it was facilitated by the Association of Brazilian NGOs in Defense of Commonwealth and Rights – Abong – and by Gestos – Seropositivity, Communication and Gender, and was formalized as a Working Group (WG) in 2014 during the 2030 Agenda negotiations.

Since then it has been active in following up on the implementation and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG,) with an additional focus on accompanying the Addis Ababa Agenda, and has been making every effort to achieve alignment of positions with progressive sectors of civil society that accompany the Climate Agenda.

Currently the WG has more than forty participants drawn from different sectors and it seeks to influence the Brazilian State and multilateral organizations, especially the United Nations, with a goal to guaranteeing and promoting human, economic, social cultural and environmental rights, and overcoming inequalities. It acts in an articulated manner in both global and local spheres in such a way as to contribute towards:

- Promoting and qualifying the participation of Brazilian civil society organizations in the spaces of watchdog control and multilateral political advocacy reinforcing their vocation for influencing and monitoring international, national and sub-national policies;
- Mobilizing the attention of society for it to perceive the importance of the SDG contents in the formatting of the internationally agreed development model and their impact on local agendas and territories;
- Bringing together, analyzing and producing 2030 Agenda-related contents to influence the Brazilian government regarding the SDG implementation process in national and international spheres;
- Monitoring and being constantly engaged in the United Nations system, seeking to participate in all the processes related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
- Promoting sustainable development, the fight against inequalities and injustice, and the vigorous defense of indivisible, universal human rights, based on the full involvement of civil society in global decision-making processes.

## OUR PRINCIPLES:

The mission of the organizations, networks and movements associated to the GTSC A2030 is to defend common rights and assets that is to say those for which not one member of the collectivity can be excluded from enjoying the benefits. The GTSC A2030 bases itself on the following principles:



### EQUALITY:

because we oppose all forms of inequality among persons, groups or countries whether they are of economic, political, social, ethnic, racial, generational, territorial, cultural, religious, gender identity or sexual orientation origin.



### DIVERSITY:

we understand that diversity is not in opposition to equality, but, instead, they are complementary and interconnected concepts in a perspective of difference.



### SOLIDARITY:

we work collectively and cooperatively, avoiding any manifestation of competition, exploitation or hierarchized relations.



### RESPECT FOR PLURALITY:

we acknowledge and respect diversity of opinion, ways of life, and political positions as being legitimate manifestations of the plural nature of humanity and the complexity of society.



### AUTONOMY:

we are totally autonomous in regard to the State, governments, churches or political parties.



### TRANSPARENCY:

we promote access to 2030 Agenda information by supporting unrestricted sharing of and about it.



### CONFIDENTIALITY:

information that the group considers to be confidential cannot be communicated to others without the express consent of the author of the said contents or information.

Get to know more about the organizations that participate in the GTSC A2030 at:  
<http://brasilnaagenda2030.org/quem-somos-2/>



# GOAL 1: POVERTY ERADICATION

## END POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS EVERYWHERE

Addressing the problem of poverty and extreme poverty in Brazil is directly related to confronting inequality, racial/ethnic, gender, and regional inequalities veil various modalities of poverty. Up until 2014, Brazil successfully and precociously achieved the Millennium Development Goal of reducing hunger and poverty<sup>2</sup>. However, in the last few years the scene has begun to change as a result of an erroneous approach to handling the country's accumulated fiscal deficit and failure to address structural problems such as the tax reform, all of which led the country into an economic crisis and exacerbated the already high unemployment level. At the beginning of 2017, an all-time record figure of 14.2 million workers unemployed was registered.

Furthermore, since 2016, there has been a redefinition of priorities in public policies already in course, all against the background of a tremendous political crisis which is still worsening and has activated a red light warning about the chances of complying with the commitment to achieve SDG Goal 1 given that measures to deal with the public debt by reducing

the resources that ought to be classified as social investments, continue to advance. Some examples are:

- Tax adjustment determined with very little social participation, which, starting in 2015 directly affects rights that have been acquired since the promulgation of the 1988 constitution.
- The approval, in 2016, of Constitutional Amendment Bill 95/2016 which limits any increase in public spending to the variation in the inflation rate only, for the next 20 years, effectively leaving the allocation of almost all monetary resources and any real growth in social spending in the hands of a moribund political system until the year 2036.
- That constitutional alteration entirely ignores aspects of the country's demographic structure associated to life expectancy<sup>3</sup>, falling birth rates and poverty levels, and enhances the possibility of triggering growth in the poverty and extreme poverty rates given the legislative impediment to applying any policies to address that situation.

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2. A The UN Goal of reducing poverty by half was achieved in 2002 and in 2008 Brazil fulfilled its own national commitment to reduce the percentage of people in poverty to a quarter of what it was in 1990. 3. It is estimated that the elderly population will go up from 16.8 million in 2016 to 36.1 million by 2030, putting pressure on the social security insurance system the BPC benefits system and the health system.



- The severity of the proposed alterations to the social insurance system, insofar as it treats poor workers and those better off in the same way, unequally penalizing the former whose incomes are entirely devoted to meeting their families' vital needs. In 2014, Social Insurance benefited 78% of all elderly people<sup>4</sup>, effectively reducing poverty in that age group: only 9% were left with an income lower than half the official minimum wage; the Continuous Benefit Allowance (*Benefício de Prestação Continuada* – BPC) represents almost 80% of the income of the beneficiary families and for 47% of those families<sup>5</sup>, it is their only income; rural insurance supports

9 million families and for half of them it represents 70% of the family income<sup>6</sup>. However, other professional categories such as the military, that enjoy disproportionately greater social insurance benefits compared to most of the population, were not included in the proposal.

- The proposed changes in the labor laws represent “the prevalence of the negotiated over the legislated” and, in these times of crisis, they could lead to significant losses for workers, including effects stemming from the new laws that govern labor outsourcing.

Graph 1. **PERCENTAGE OF THE POOREST FIFTH OF THE POPULATION WITH SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AND SOCIAL INSURANCE COVERAGE**

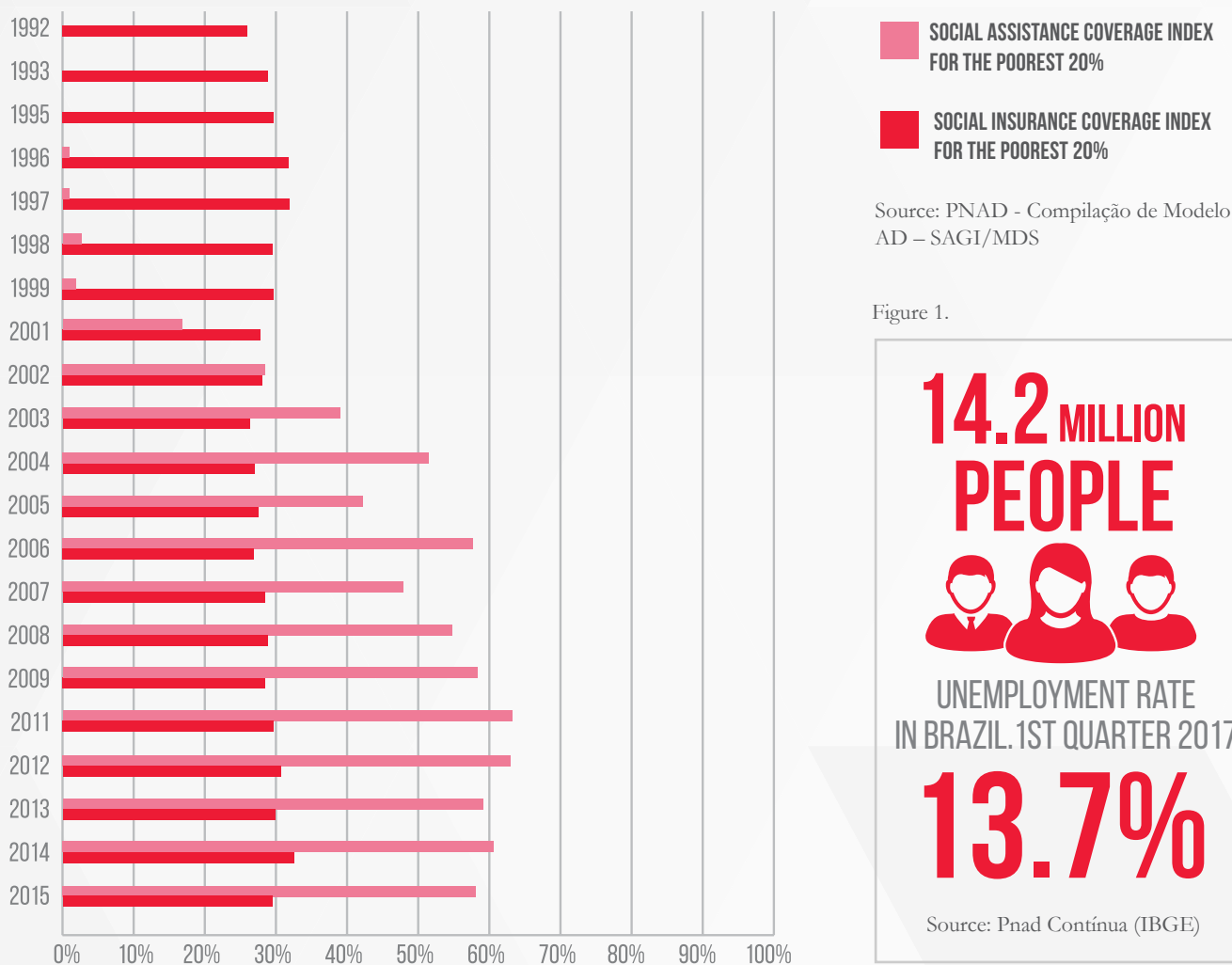
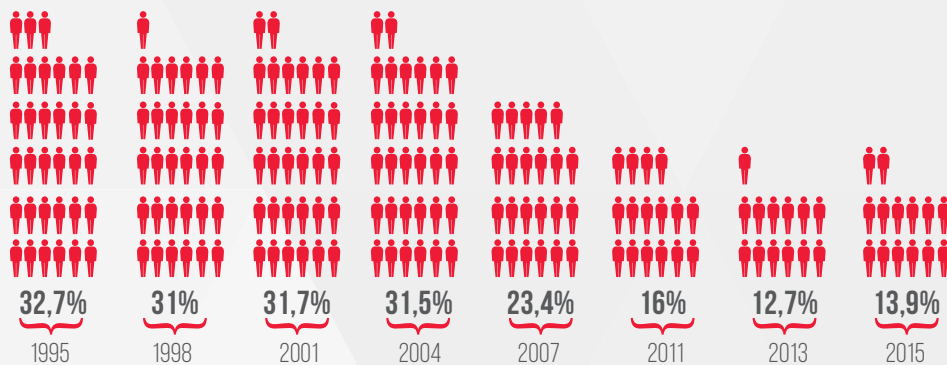


Figure 1.



4. Jaccoud, L. Aprendizados recentes no enfrentamento da desigualdade. Brasil sem Miséria. MDS, 2014 5. ibden 6. IBGE-PNAD. 2014.

Graph 2. **PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION BELOW THE NATIONAL POVERTY LINE<sup>7</sup>**



Source: IBGE - PNAD

## RECOMENDAÇÕES DA SOCIEDADE CIVIL

In order to *leave no one behind* and to reactivate progress in the income distribution and assistance policies targeting the poorest population segments, we call for a set of coordinated and interdependent actions among which:

- Investing in forms of economic development that ensure social inclusion and the creation of employment.
- Paying greater attention to inequality indicators and simultaneously identifying and intensifying policies that contribute towards reducing them.
- Practicing tax justice by changing the current regressive into a progressive tax system.
- Reducing public deficit and public debt (principal and interest) by reducing non-discretionary expenditure and ensuring fiscal justice associated to the progressive taxation mechanisms among other measures designed to ensure that the onus of the adjustment does not fall on the most vulnerable segment of the population in socio-economic terms.
- Reviewing the Constitutional Amendment that ties social investments for the next twenty years to inflation rates on pain of incurring serious retrogression of all the results achieved.
- Continuing the process of recuperating the real value of the official minimum wage.
- Preserving workers' rights in regard to the social security system.
- Boosting the Continuous Allowance Benefit and the Family Allowance Program (Bolsa Família) and stopping the process begun in 2016 of excluding families from them.
- Reactivating policies for fostering formal labor contracts and revising the recently approved legislation on outsourcing.
- Investing in public services and setting priority on populations in various situations of vulnerability.
- Strengthening housing policies to address the current deficit of housing for people with no roof and entirely reinstating the *Minha Casa, Minha Vida* (My house, my life) program.
- Elaborating and executing policies designed to reduce exposure and vulnerability to natural disasters by increasing the resilience of populations affected by them.
- Implementing an agrarian policy that makes access to land feasible for landless small farmers and ensuring their insertion in food markets and the sustainable economy.

We must stress that for Brazil to achieve SDG 1 it is not enough merely to identify the measures to be taken but it requires that the country's governance define them as priorities and allocate the financial resources needed to implement them.

7. The World Bank does not work with the poverty line concept. Accordingly the methodology adopted was that of the Brazilian SAGI/IBGE which establishes the poverty line as the equivalent of the minimum value established to qualify for the Family Allowance Program (*Programa Bolsa Família*).



## GOAL 2: END HUNGER AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

### END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Access to food for the population groups in situation of greatest vulnerability has registered significant progress in Brazil over recent decades, with a reduction in vulnerability indicators in this category to levels comparable to those in countries with the highest standards of development and guaranteed social rights. **For the first time in the history of Brazil, hunger stopped being one of country's main social afflictions.** Income increases among the poorest strata and those in extreme poverty, improvements in employment levels and formalization of labor contracts together with the acquired rights to salary raises (especially the recuperation of the real value of the official minimum wage) coupled with the strengthening of mechanisms to transfer income to the most vulnerable population groups via the Family Allowance (*Bolsa Família*) program have been of fundamental importance to people in situations of moderate to severe food insecurity<sup>8</sup>.

- In 2006 the National Congress approved the Organic Law governing Food and Nutrition Security (*Lei Orgânica de Segurança Alimentar e Nutricional - LOSAN*) which instituted the National Food and Nutrition Security System, and in 2009 a paragraph was inserted in the Brazilian constitution including the right to food among the other social rights.

- The National Food and Nutrition Security Council (*Conselho Nacional de Segurança Alimentar e Nutricional - CONSEA*), a body with joint participation of government and civil society, attached to the Office of the Presidency, has been a highly active protagonist in monitoring and proposing policies related to the issue.

- Innovative inter-sectorial policies were introduced uniting the end points of production and consumption. Institutional

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8. A national survey of the Bolsa Família beneficiaries conducted by the Brazilian Social and Economic Surveys Institute (*Instituto Brasileiro de Análises Sociais e Econômicas - IBSA*) in 2008 revealed that 87% of them spent most of the benefit on food.

food purchasing gained prominence, especially those of the Food Purchasing from Family Agriculture Program (*Programa de Aquisição de Alimentos da Agricultura Familiar – PAA*) and the National School Meals Program (*Programa Nacional de Alimentação Escolar – PNAE*)<sup>9</sup>. Both are designed to create stable, sizeable markets for family agriculture production even though the support for family agricultural production has been quite timid as shown by the reduced amounts allocated to the Family Agriculture Harvest Plan as compared to the amounts set aside for the conventional harvests.

- Other programs such as Cisterns for Human Consumption (*Cisternas para Consumo Humano*) and Cisterns for Produc-

tion (*Cisternas para a Produção*) have had a strong positive impact on the Semi-Arid Region of the Brazilian Northeast, contributing to enabling people to live better in adverse climate conditions.

- Given the parameters of the indicators for overweight and obesity, the defense of a suitable, sufficient healthy diet became the central demand of the food security movement expressed via the CONSEA and other areas of the government, such as Health. The main response based on campaigns conducted by the Ministry of Health was to stimulate the consumption of fruits, greens, and vegetables.

The National Household Sample Survey (Pesquisa Nacional de Amostra de Domicílios – PNAD)<sup>10</sup>, conducted by the Brazilian Geography and Statistics Institute (IBGE) in the five-yearly intervals of 2004, 2009 and 2013, made use of the Brazilian Food Insecurity Scale (Escala Brasileira de Insegurança Alimentar – EBIA)<sup>11</sup>. That instrument was chosen because it measures the phenomenon directly, based on the food insecurity that people are actually living under in the households. The questions that are posed refer to the ninety-day period preceding the interview. Based on the data gathered, the EBIA classifies the level of food insecurity in four degrees of intensity:

## SITUAÇÃO DE INSEGURANÇA ALIMENTAR



### 1ST DEGREE FOOD SECURITY

Household residents have permanent regular access to good quality food products in sufficient quantities without jeopardizing their access to other special needs.



### 3RD DEGREE MODERATE FOOD INSECURITY

Quantitative reduction in food consumed by adults and/or a break with normal diet patterns among adults due to lack of sufficient food.



### 2ND DEGREE SLIGHT FOOD INSECURITY

Concern or uncertainty about future access to food; inadequate quality of food due to strategies to avoid jeopardizing quantity



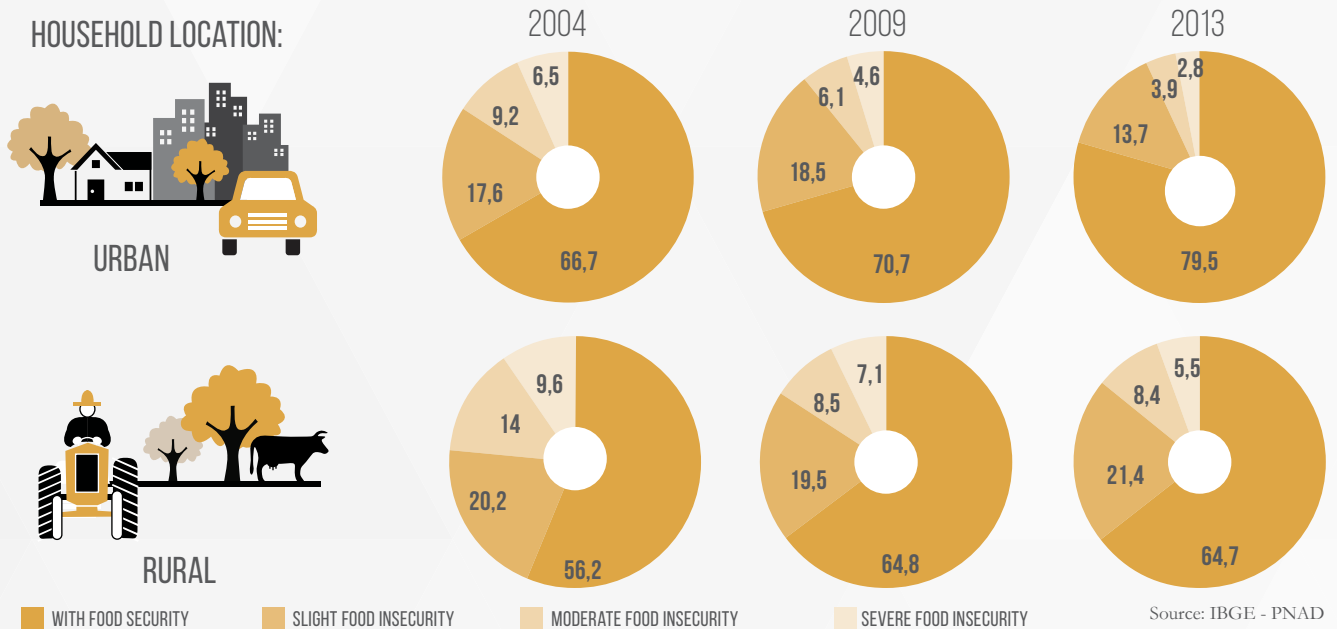
### 4TH DEGREE SEVERE FOOD INSECURITY

Quantitative reduction of food for children and/or break with normal diet patterns resulting from food shortage; hunger (when someone goes a whole day without eating, for lack of money to buy food).

Source: IBGE - PNAD

9. The PNAE determines that Family Agriculture should supply at least 30% of the food served in schools- a market for that production sector of 45 million children for 200 days a year. 10. The PNAD is based on a probabilistic sample of households. 11. The EBIA measures the families' perceptions in regard to their access to food by administering a specific questionnaire together with that of the PNAD survey.

Graph 3. **BRAZIL. DISTRIBUTION OF PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS BY FOOD SECURITY SITUATION AND TYPE OF INSECURITY, AND BY HOUSEHOLD LOCATION – IN %**



Graph 4. **BRAZIL. SHORT HEIGHT, OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY IN CHILDREN UNDER 5 IN %**

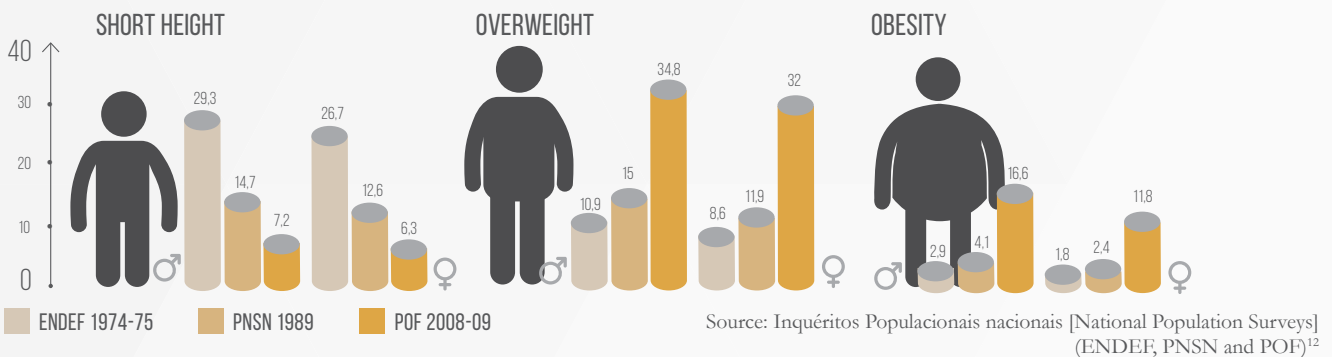
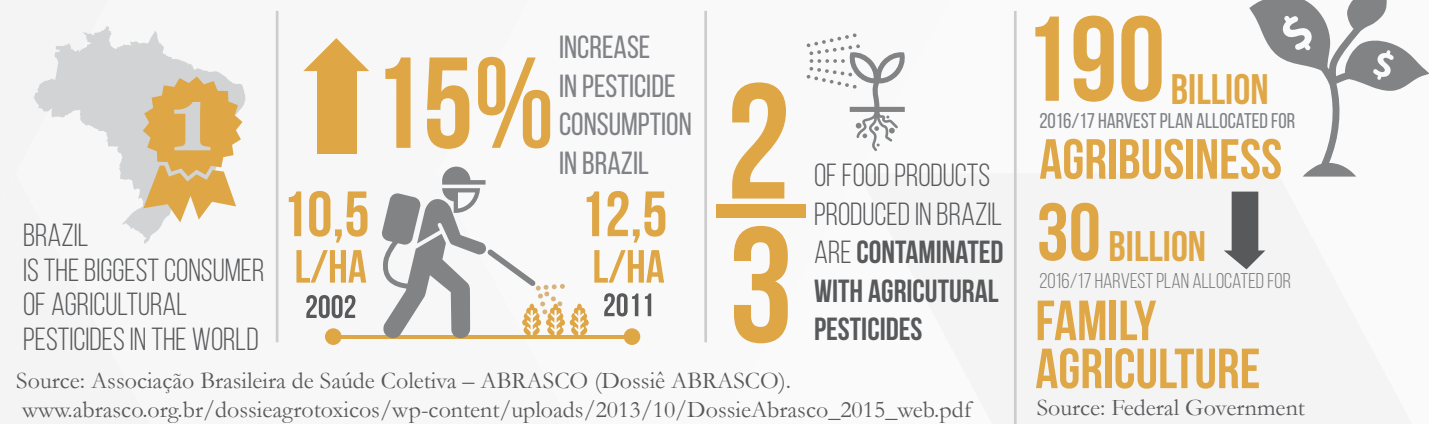


Figure 2.



12. The 2008-2009 Family Income Survey included a supplement investigating anthropometrical and nutritional aspects of children, adolescents and adults in Brazil. All participants were weighed and measured.

However, the current scenario is one of retrogression. The present government's priorities and the control exercised in the National Congress by the agribusiness caucus intensify the threats that already exist in an extremely disturbing situation marked by:

- Hegemony of agribusiness in gaining access to resources. Its production is based on the expansion of transgenic crops and the intensive use of agricultural pesticides<sup>13</sup> – we are the world's biggest consumer of agricultural pesticides and that poses a daunting challenge to achieving environmental sustainability in the field.
- Uncertainty as to the effects of freezing social expenditure, of the social insurance reform and of the labor legislation all of which could well impede very poor people's access to food and worsen the food insecurity situation, placing Brazil once more on the map of hunger.

- Increased neglect of the State in regard to traditional peoples such as indigenous communities and quilombolas, attacks on protected areas and increased deforestation.

- Sluggishness in the environmental regularization in rural areas as a result of impunity for those that violate the socio-environmental legislation, and neglect in the collection and analysis of indicators that portray the reality in the field. As an example, budget allocations for the ten-yearly Agricultural and Livestock Production Census has been reduced, thereby restricting the Census's scope this year (2017.)

- Drying up of the channels for society's participation, so that policies being implemented are increasingly distant from the priorities that emerge from the social fabric.

- Data gathered by the VIGITEL survey in 2016 reveal a 60% increase in obesity among Brazilian adults over the last 10 years. From a level of 11.8% in 2006 it had gone up to 18.9% by 2016.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Implement an inclusive sustainable development model that includes the effective materialization of the human right to food.

- Execute, in a coordinated manner, a plan to promote adequate, healthy food consumption contemplating food and nutritional education, incentives to consume fruits, greens and vegetables stemming from agro-ecological production, campaigns in favor of healthy eating habits, and to raise awareness of the risks associated to bad food consumption; give tax incentives for healthy eating and healthy food; apply more transparency in food product labelling, including information on transgenic contents and pesticide use.

- Boost family agriculture centered on agro-ecological production and its function in producing diversified food products of good quality in good quantities, thereby making an integral contribution to achieving the overall goal of sustainable development.

- Launch and finance the National Program to Reduce Agricultural Pesticide Use (*Programa Nacional de Redução de Agrotóxicos – Pronara*) jointly constructed in 2015 by organizations from society at large and gov-

ernmental bodies.

- Promote coordinated efforts to guarantee the rights of indigenous peoples and *quilombolas* in various regions of Brazil in the face of the inexorable advance of monoculture farming properties, the violence associated to that advance, and the threats to alter the land demarcation system.

- Promote the objective of achieving zero deforestation by combating the increasing loss of vegetation taking place since the new Forest Law was enacted in 2012 and, in the light of the constitutional precept of the social function of land, combat the recent efforts of the *Ruralistas* (Big landowner and Agribusiness interests) caucus in the National Congress to eliminate protected areas and centralize the processes for demarcating indigenous lands.

- Effectively implant environmental policies in the rural areas guaranteeing the sustainability of crop and livestock production and an end to deforestation while at the same time valuing the small-scale farmer and organic agriculture.

- Ensure that the general public has access to data and indicators associated to land tenure issues and land use and settlement in rural areas.

13. Brazil is the world's second biggest producer of transgenic plants.



## GOAL 3: HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

### ENSURE HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTE WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES

The implementation of the Unified Health System (*Sistema Único de Saúde - SUS*) determined by the 1988 Federal Constitution, was, in itself, a considerable advance and placed Brazil among the small group of countries with a universal public health system. Since then, there have been important reductions in neonatal and child mortality (in spite of the enormous disparities among the regions) and also a drop in the incidences of tropical disease epidemics and water-borne diseases. Nevertheless, in spite of the progress in the field of health, the SUS has been gradually debilitated by administrative insufficiency and policies designed to benefit companies financing private health schemes, to the detriment of human rights. That situation is an impediment to the possibility of achieving Goal 3 and of benefiting the broad set of the Brazilian population regardless of race, ethnicity, economic status, sexual orientation or gender identity.

- An increase has been registered in access to sexual and reproductive health services related to STI, HIV, and HPV prevention with an increase in diagnoses and access to family planning. However, even though medicines and contraceptive methods are distributed by the SUS, according to the region of Brazil there may be access difficulties; other obstacles associated to religious and ideological considerations continue to influence decisions and legislation on family planning in Brazil.

- There has been a drop in the numbers of adolescent pregnancies accompanying improved access to care and counseling, but they are still high. Indeed, Brazil has failed to achieve the Goal on maternal health in general given the high number of c-section deliveries and the low quality of the maternal medical care provision.

- In regard to HIV, the increase in testing and consequent epidemiological increase in all regions of Brazil have put the viability of the system of providing appropriate medicines in check, mainly because of the compliance with the agreements on intellectual property in that sector. There is a glaring lack of a multidisciplinary approach in the AIDS policies and there has been a great retrogression in the field of prevention, in addition to operational failures in supply.

- The tuberculosis situation is still very serious. Although it has decreased over time, some regions still have a high infection rates; there is notable variation associated to race and there is a worsening of the situation in patients with other diseases, especially AIDS. Although the incidence of malaria has gone down, there still some large pockets of high incidence and they demand that the efforts to eradicate the vector should be maintained, as well as the parasite, from the most affected regions.

- New challenges such as the appearance of Chikungunya and

Zika, viruses added to the prevalence of dengue fever, had a strong impact in regions of great social vulnerability associated to limited basic sanitation. Zika is associated to the birth of babies with microcephaly and demanded public policies allied to science and technology to address it. Last year there was drop in the infection rates but there are signs that it might be a seasonal epidemic like others that are transmitted by mosquitos.

- Chronic non-communicable diseases (chronic NCD) are those that account for the highest numbers of deaths in Brazil. In 2012, they were responsible for 74% of deaths in the country.

- There has been an increase in the numbers of deaths from cancer and cardio-vascular diseases, and an increase in cerebral ischemia, now more common than heart attacks.

- Increased numbers of suicides among adolescents and young people in the 15 to 29 age group and the consumption of alcohol, which in Brazil is far greater than the Latin American average, are the main causes of deaths in the said age bracket and constitute considerable challenges to overcome.

- The number of traffic accident deaths and injuries continues to be very high in spite of the reduction achieved in recent years resulting from government actions.

- The lack of sufficient resources to finance the SUS is exacerbated by inefficiencies in the system and diversion of allocated funds for other purposes, even though diversion may be legally admissible under the terms of fund-to-fund conversion as is the case with AIDS programs. The new financing proposal contemplates only cost defrayal and financing capital, starting in 2018, thereby eliminating the fund-to-fund arrangement. It will certainly aggravate the problem of diversion of public health financing funds for other finalities in predefined areas, and that in turn will lead to less transparency and fewer budget allocations to address specific problems.

- Private health insurance models are proliferating and that in turn inflates the services and makes access ever more difficult for most of the population.

- Ten years after the adoption of public-private partnerships to administer public hospitals, there are no notable results in terms of improving the SUS service provision.

- Bills that have recently been approved in Brazil expanding the possibilities of outsourcing to include services execution and the current labor laws reform are creating a legal space that will undermine hard-won rights and they are contradictory to the terms of SDG 8 regarding the growth of the decent employment offer and are also likely to have a negative impact on the quality of public health services.

- Investments in the area of Research and Development have ac-

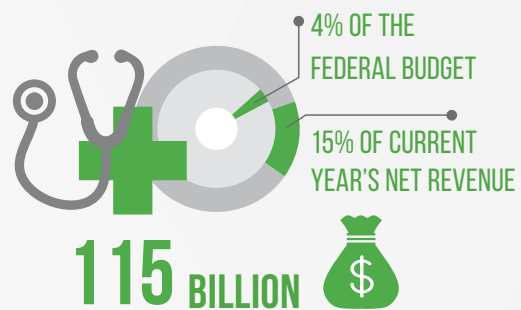
tually increased, but they are still insufficient and, furthermore, there has been a notable reduction in overall financial resources for this end in comparison with the preceding decade.

- Tobacco control mechanisms have led to a decrease in smoking in Brazil but it still has an extensive impact on public health; there are 156 thousand deaths a year from it, representing costs of BR\$ 56.9 billion a year for the health system.

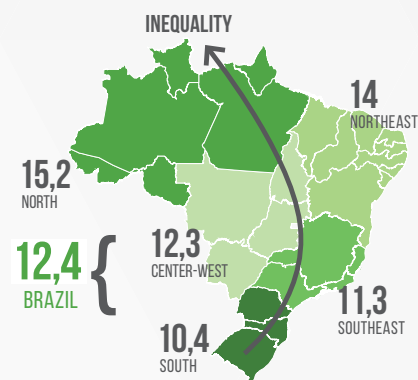
## CHALLENGES TO BE MET:

Figure 3.

### SUS FINANCING IN BRAZIL FOR 2017



Graph 5. **BRAZIL. INFANT MORTALITY RATE (UNDER ONE YEAR OLDS IN 2015), BY MACRO-REGIONS (FOR EVERY 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS)**



Source: Fundação Abrinq - Cenário da Infância e Adolescência no Brasil 2017

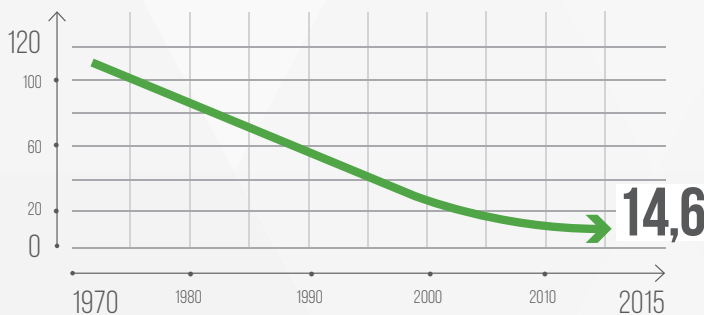
Figure 4.



Source: UNICEF.



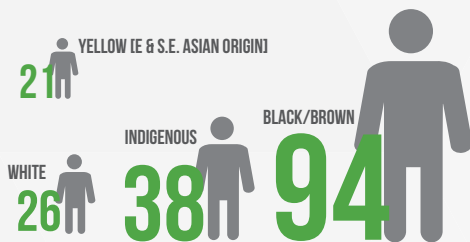
Graph 6. **BRAZIL. INFANT MORTALITY RATE, PER 100,000 LIVE BIRTHS**



The infant mortality indicators have shown a favorable tendency to reduction over the last few decades, placing Brazil among those countries that have evolved favorably in this regard in the period from 1990 to 2012, according to UNICEF. As a result, Brazil had already achieved the objectives established under the aegis of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and done so some years before the established target date.

Source: UNICEF. Child Mortality Estimates

Graph 7. **BRAZIL. COEFFICIENT OF TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE, BY RACES (2013), PER 100,000 INHABITANTS**



In regard to HIV incidence, Brazil made considerable progress up to 2015 achieving constant reductions in the rates. However, according to the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), after 2015, it began to register increases in the population living with the virus/disease, and Brazil alone accounted for more than 40% of all new cases registered in Latin America. That underscores the need to keep up an intense level of combating the disease.

Source: MS/SVS/Dasis

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Continue public policies for expanding the medical network throughout Brazilian territory by providing incentives for newly qualified university graduates.
- Strengthen the participation of organized civil society in monitoring public health services, fortifying the Health Councils and effectively abiding by their deliberations in the three spheres of public administration.
- Increase the amounts programmed for investment in the SUS in ways that will improve the quality and quantity of health services and people's access to them, and ensure the full execution of budget allocations including integral, timely fund-to-fund transfers, as scheduled.
- Increase the degree of regulation of private health insurance plans and their abusive monetization of health by reducing the indexation rate adopted for adjusting amounts charged for coverage and for changes in age group categories.
- Effectively regulate and monitor the formation of Public-Private Partnerships with social organizations in the field of health by means of responsible, trans-

parent contracting processes and regular accounting to society, reviewed by the health councils.

- Integrate the health databases in Brazil so that health data can be made readily available to enable compilations susceptible to analysis; a process that will enhance the chances of achieving the objectives contemplated under SDG 17 as well.
- Determine adequate and immediate increases in investments in research and development.
- Ensure that public health budgets include allocations of human resources and funds to maintain and strengthen current HIV/AIDS and TB policies and create prevention policies based on human rights, guaranteeing access to prevention materials and the essential medicines for treating those serious diseases and others.
- Ensure the implementation of the National Plan for combating chronic NTD and implementation of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.
- Safeguard public health policies from the commercial interests of those economic sectors that profit from the consumption of products that constitute risk factors for chronic NTD.



# GOAL 5: GENDER EQUALITY

## ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS

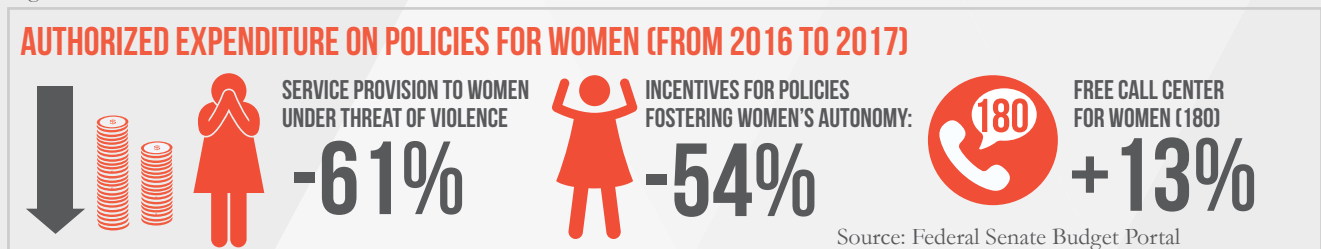
Brazil has made significant progress in formal aspects; it is signatory to all respective international treaties, has instituted a National Policy for Women Planning (replicated in the state and municipal administrative spheres,) and introduced legislation criminalizing gender violence and creating an intersectorial network of prevention, support, and investigation. However, despite the multiplication of entities responsible for policies for women and their presence today in structures in all three spheres of government administration, there are immense challenges to overcome in ensuring that those programmatic advances result in the changes foreseen in the terms of the 2030 agenda.

- Since 2015, many bodies dedicated to guaranteeing women's rights have been extinguished or have lost their

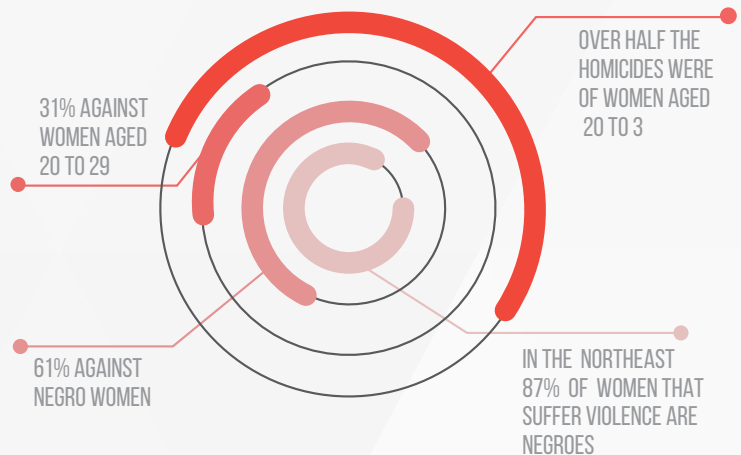
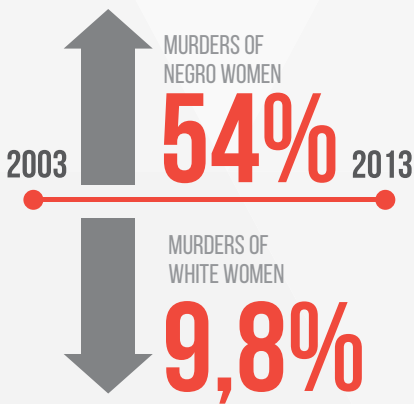
autonomy. Resources intended to strengthen women's status in family and agro-ecological agriculture are jeopardized, and the ministry formerly responsible for executing such policies has been abolished without any other federal body taking on its attributions.

- Brazil is in fifth place, worldwide, of countries with the highest numbers of female homicides and in fourth place in absolute numbers of women who married under 15, and it is the country that most murders transsexual women and transvestites. Gender violence has become banal in a society that attributes responsibility for the violence they suffer to the women and girls themselves. Girls in the 0 to 17 age group represent 70% of the rape victims. The vast majority of the perpetrators are members of the victim's family, friends or acquaintances.

Figure 5.



Graph 8. **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN/RACES**



- Every 11 minutes a woman is raped in Brazil and 70% of them are girls in the 0 to 17 age group. They are usually the victims of members of their family, friends or acquaintances<sup>14</sup>.

- The approach to women and girls' health is made in a maternal-child perspective to the detriment of an integral health approach. Some crucial aspects of sexual and reproductive health are disdained, abortion is still criminalized except in three specific situations, in spite of the fact that there are an estimated one million clandestine abortions performed every year, and that they are the third greatest cause of maternal mortality in the big cities. The risk that negro women have to face in this aspect is up to three times greater than for other women.

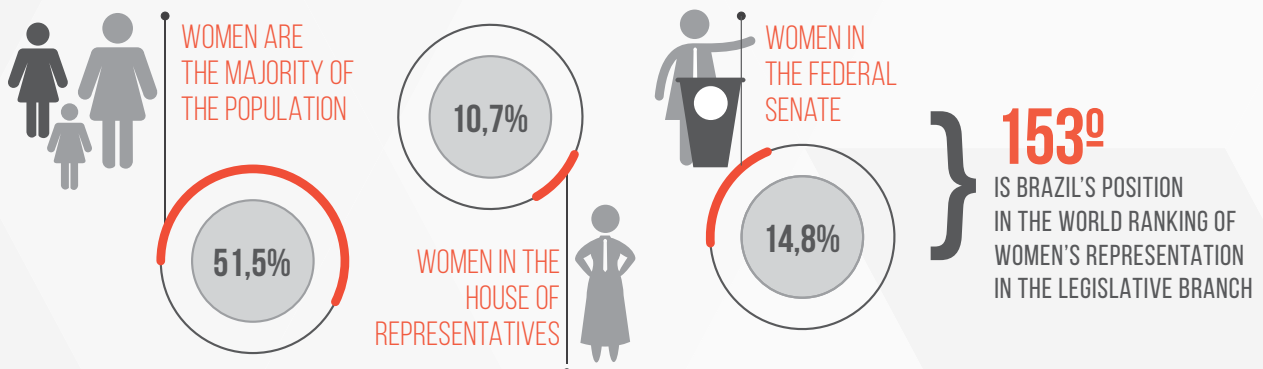
- The banality of violence and unequal gender relations impedes any open discussion of sexual and reproductive health issues and hinders women from understanding and/or negotiating HIV/AIDS and STD prevention practices or engaging in reproductive planning, as has been underscored by the ep-

idemics of Zika and other arthropod-borne viruses. In turn, congenital syphilis is on the rise with a registered increase of 150% in the last four years.

- 90% of women perform unremunerated domestic chores and care work while only half of the men do the same. Women and girls have to bear a disproportional share of the onus of making up for infrastructure and public service lacks and deficiencies which, in turn, deprive them of education, health, labor, rest, leisure, reproduction and political opportunities.

- Education has been identified as the most effective means of promoting gender equality, but legislative initiatives in the federal, state, and municipal spheres have eliminated any discussion of the themes of *gender* and *sexual diversity* from schools and some such initiatives even criminalize teachers who conduct such discussions. In April this year, the Ministry of Education, without any consultation, unilaterally determined the exclusion of the terms *gender identity* and *sexual orientation* from the National Common Curriculum Base.

Graph 9. **WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN BRAZILIAN POLITICS (2014)**



Source: [http://www.observatoriodegenero.gov.br/menu/publicacoes/outros-artigos-e-publicacoes/as-mulheres-nas-eleicoes-2014/at\\_download/file](http://www.observatoriodegenero.gov.br/menu/publicacoes/outros-artigos-e-publicacoes/as-mulheres-nas-eleicoes-2014/at_download/file)

14. Source: IPEA, 2014. [http://www.ipea.gov.br/portal/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=21842](http://www.ipea.gov.br/portal/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=21842)

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Ensure and promote discussion of gender and gender diversity in a human rights perspective in school environments.

- Guarantee the effectiveness of the Maria da Penha Act, fully and properly implementing all the elements of the inter-sector network for confronting domestic and family violence, providing adequate (human, financial, service, and equipment) resources needed to eliminate violence and promote women's rights in the fields of education, health, social assistance, labor market and others.

- Capacitate public service personnel to identify and handle the repercussions of gender, racial, class, generational and other inequalities in the lives of women and girls.

- Elaborate diagnoses of existing laws and carry out reforms that remove legal ambiguities and loopholes that permit the violation of the rights of women and girls.

- Impede the enactment of laws and regulations that promote the retrogression of the human rights agenda, especially of the rights of women, girls, the negro population and the LGBTI population, such as those that:

A) are designed to impede access to information on safe abortion,

B) seek to revoke the legal provisions concerning assistance for people in situations of sexual violence – including those that seek to make abortion a crime whatever the circumstances,

C) endeavor to restrict the concept of family exclusively to the union of a man and a woman,

D) establish the protection of life from the moment of conception, and

E) forbid any discussion of gender and diversity in schools, among others.

- Establish theoretical and technical reference frameworks to address marriage in childhood and adolescence, and raise the population's awareness of, and sensitivity to its harmful consequences.

- Empower girls and women to gain access to information and support services, to denounce violence and to acquire autonomy in regard to their own lives.

- Implement public policies endowed with due budget allocations that ensure access to good quality education, professional qualification and decent employment in equal conditions for girls and women.

- Guarantee the rights of women to participate, in equal conditions, in decisions on public policies in all areas.

- Provide integral, user-friendly, non-discriminatory health services for girls and women, especially in the aspect of their sexual rights and reproductive rights, ensuring that they have access to contraceptive methods and safe abortion.

- Make abortion legal and accessible in all situations to all women that wish for one, without stigma or discrimination.

- Ensure compliance with the electoral legislation regulating representation by sex in party or party coalition candidatures, and reform the political system to guarantee equality of participation opportunities for women in everything from the social and party political organization to the candidatures in electoral processes.

- Increase the visibility of gender inequalities by disaggregating and analyzing data in order to reduce inequalities and eliminate them from the cultural standpoint.



# GOAL 9: INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

## BUILD RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE, PROMOTE INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIALIZATION AND FOSTER INNOVATION

Developing industry and investing in infrastructure show great potential for promoting economic growth. The challenge, however, goes beyond that. It is important to ensure that they take place within parameters of sustainability, that is, that they offer solutions to the major socioenvironmental challenges that Brazil faces.

- The current scenario in Brazil is one of deindustrialization and a chronic dearth of all modalities of infrastructure. In regard to the first point, the manufacturing industry has lost importance in the composition of the GNP and, in spite of that having been compensated to some extent by favorable moments of the construction industry, and the extractive industries in the last decade, it actually mirrors an overall loss of Brazil's competitiveness in this important area. Not even the invigoration of the internal consumption market in the years 2000 was enough to stimulate an eventual recovery in manufacturing.

- To revert the situation, in 2008 a National Champions policy was adopted focused on favoring those national corporations that were susceptible to internationalizing their activities, being benefited by loans from the Brazilian National Development

Bank (BNDES). However, those subsidies served to protect inefficient companies and jeopardized productivity and the growth of other sectors by consuming financial resources that could have been used for social policies, innovation, and other priority areas such as the small and very small enterprises (*Micro e Pequenas Empresas – MPE*). Resources for the latter have varied considerably over the last few years, but they have always remained at an average level far inferior to that allocated to the big industries. That process's total lack of transparency has now become glaringly apparent with the revelations of massive corruption stemming from the *Car Wash* investigation (Lava-jato operation by the Federal Prosecutors office) and its ramifications.

- Thus the primordial function of BNDES and part of the function of the State itself in regard to providing economic incentives and supporting investments in areas that could not count on accessing the private credit markets, but which nevertheless had great potential to bring in considerable socioenvironmental returns, were left aside.

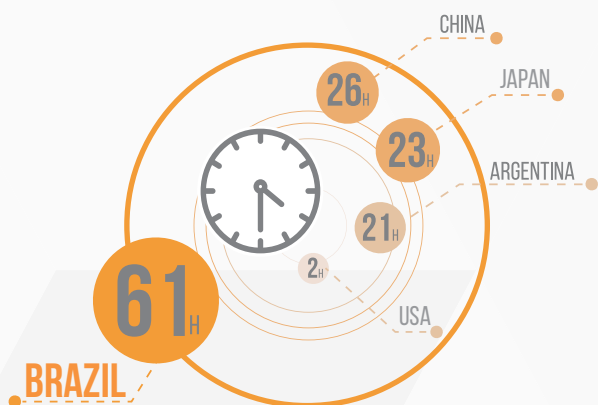
- Innovation policies have been ineffective in stimulating great-

er competitiveness of Brazilian industry. In spite of the efforts to consolidate a legal framework for the field in the 1990s, with the enactment of the Innovation Law and its mechanisms, and its later replacement by Act n° 13.243/2016, and the institution of the *Sector Innovation Funds* mechanism, this agenda is treated as a mere appendix to the science and technology agenda, with its traditional interlocutors, and not as part of the economic policy agenda. Furthermore, in spite of Brazil's entrepreneurial potential and the existence of renowned academic research centers, the lack of scale in qualifying human resources, the complexity of administrative processes and the lack of coordination among the actors involved in innovation impede any enhancement of market dynamics. As a result the number of patents produced is small and investment in research and development is very limited.

- Against this background, Brazilian productivity grew a mere 0.4% a year in the period from 1996 to 2005 and 2% from 2006 to 2011; a rate inferior to that of various other developing countries. Outstanding among the various factors affecting the Brazilian economy's limited productivity is the chronic lack of infrastructure which has a direct impact on labor productivity, especially in the aspect of urban infrastructure and of capital, and in regard to obstacles to the productivity of Brazilian production such as the aspect of logistics limitations.

- The public sector has almost always been the main sector responsible for investments in infrastructure designed to address outstanding needs and deficiencies in the field of basic infrastructure. The various phases of the Economic Growth Acceler-

Graph 10. **TIME NEEDED FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZED ENTERPRISES TO SATISFY BORDER REQUIREMENTS (EXPORTATION) (%)**

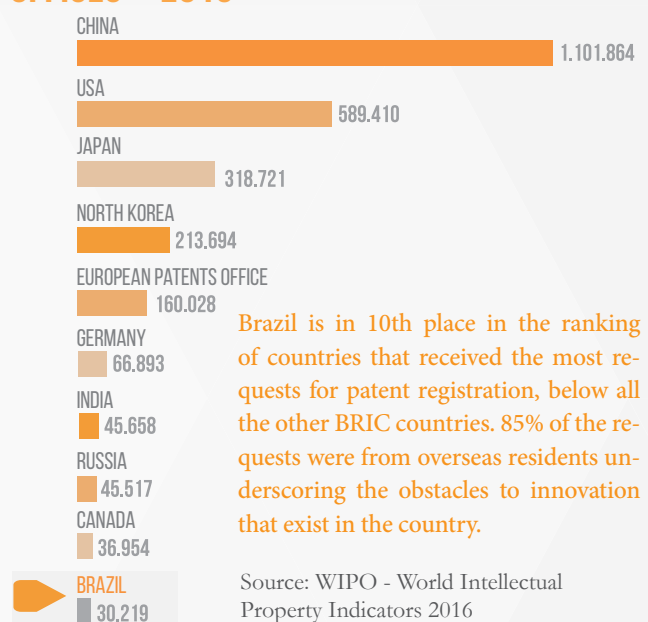


Source: DOING BUSINESS Ranking: Measuring Business Regulations – World Bank

Table 1. **THE 'DOING BUSINESS' RANKING: MEASURING BUSINESS REGULATIONS – WORLD BANK<sup>15</sup>**

NEW ZEALAND	1
SINGAPORE	2
DENMARK	3
HONG KONG SAR CHINA	4
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	5
NORWAY	6
UNITED KINGDOM	7
UNITED STATES	8
SWEDEN	9
JORDAN	118
PAPUA-NEW GUINEA	119
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	120
BAHAMAS	121
EGYPT	122
<b>BRAZIL</b>	<b>123</b>
COOPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA	124
SAINT VINCENT AND GRENADINES	125
LEBANON	126
NICARAGUA	127
TAJIKISTAN	128
BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA	187
LIBYA	188
ERITREA	189
SOMALIA	190

Graph 11. **NUMBER OF PATENT REGISTRATION REQUESTS DISCRIMINATED BY REGIONAL OFFICES – 2015**



Brazil is in 10th place in the ranking of countries that received the most requests for patent registration, below all the other BRIC countries. 85% of the requests were from overseas residents underscoring the obstacles to innovation that exist in the country.

Source: WIPO - World Intellectual Property Indicators 2016

15. The Doing Business project, launched in 2002, examines small and medium-sized national companies and analyzes the regulations that are applied to them during their life cycles. Thus it is a study that serves to measure the impact of regulations on company activities around the world. For further information access: <http://portugues.doingbusiness.org/rankings>

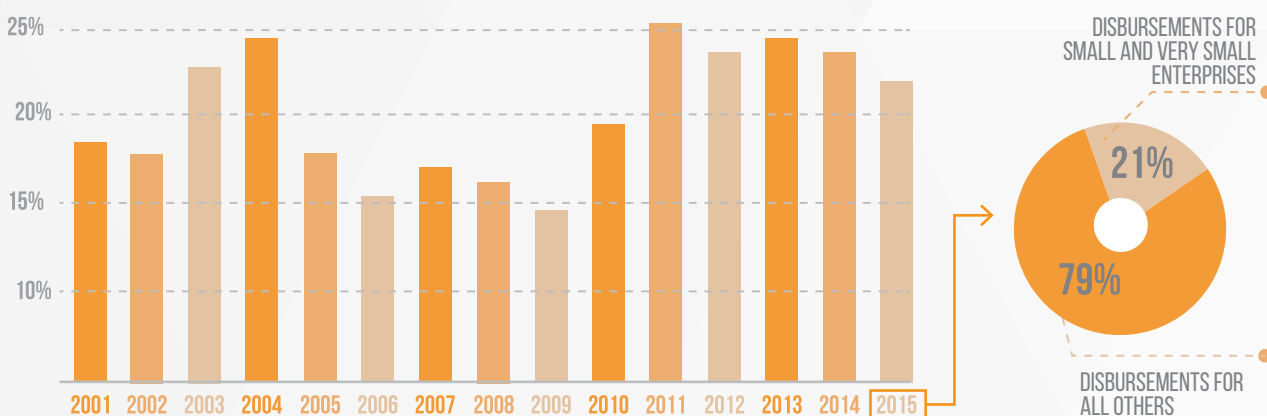
ation Program (*Programa de Aceleração do Crescimento - PAC*) endeavored to obtain progress in that direction but they proved to be insufficient and lacked a clear definition of priorities, as well as bringing in the usual low return on investment.

- Given a highly indebted State passing through a process of fiscal adjustment involving severe austerity measures, it is difficult to think about large-scale investments to solve the problem. The current strategy of the Federal Government to address that fact is the implantation of the Investment Partnerships Program (*Programa de Parcerias de Investimentos - PPI*), with a focus on conceding to private enterprise those large-scale works that are economically attractive. Once more, however, the program is shrouded in opacity in regard to the criteria for establishing priorities and it enjoys no social participation whatsoever, in

addition to totally ignoring socioenvironmental considerations. In regard to this last aspect in particular, the program comes on the scene at a moment when there is intense political pressure for retrogression in regard to the socioenvironmental agenda that would include the dismantling of the environmental licensing regulations as one of its main aims.

- Thus the overriding challenge is to promote industrial modernization and recuperation, and investments in infrastructure and innovation in this Brazil in a situation of multiple crises. At the same time there are important opportunities for a transition to a more sustainable economy. Changing the logic of current industrial processes, promoting circular economy concepts, or the emission of green bonds associated to investments that foster development are examples of such possibilities.

Graph 12. **BNDES DISBURSEMENTS FOR SMALL AND VERY SMALL ENTERPRISES (%)**



## RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Foster Brazilian industry's transition to a circular economy by articulating economic incentives and legal instruments.
- Ensure isonomy of competitive conditions in the country with the State performing its role by correcting market distortions, and doing so in the interests of social development and the preservation of the environment.
- Achieve greater coordination among the policies designed to stimulate innovation in the short-term and invest in basic education and qualification in a long-term perspective.
- Facilitate access to credit and formalization for small

and very small enterprises, including those that are working with new technology.

- Ensure the existence of a business environment associated to judicial and institutional stability.
- Direct BNDES investments to other banks fostering the development of green, inclusive infrastructure as well as stimulating innovation; both are elements capable of enhancing national competitiveness.
- Promote mechanisms that stimulate the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions on the part of Brazilian industry and all other sectors of the national economy and do so by emissions allocation or by tax incentives that guarantee investments in non-polluting, establishing transparent mechanisms that allow for social watchdog control and certification of correct use.

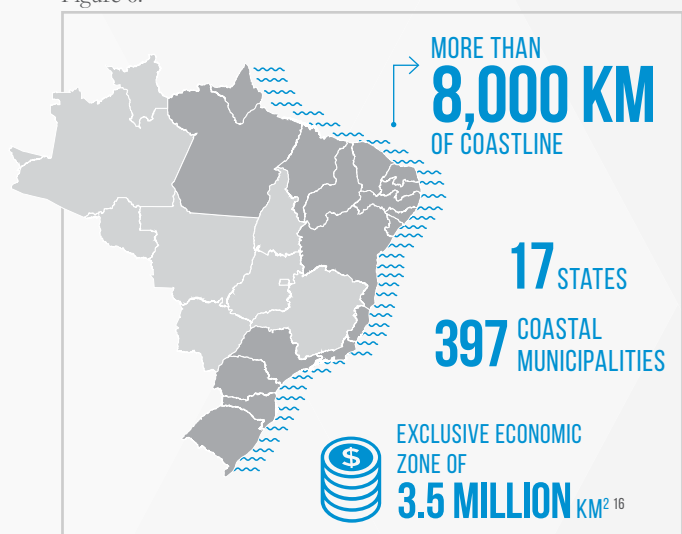


# GOAL 14: LIFE IN THE WATERS

## CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Brazilian people and the government agents are not fully aware of the strategic role and importance of Brazilian seas. Brazil's marine waters have a coastline that extends for more than 9,000 kilometers and they include an Exclusive Economic Zone of 3.5 million km<sup>2</sup> and a continental shelf with an area of 912 thousand km<sup>2</sup>. Those impressive figures show the true dimension of this tremendous historical, cultural and environmental heritage but they also indicate the enormity of the task of developing suitable governance mechanisms that will ensure the evolution of a low-carbon, highly sustainable *blue economy* for Brazil. Those mechanisms need to integrate the sustainable development of the coastal land areas with the limitations and needs of the South Atlantic Ocean and the planet as a whole. The agenda contemplated by SDG 14 must mobilize Brazilian society with that in view.

Figure 6.



16. Established by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) the Exclusive Economic Zone extends for up to 200 nautical miles out from the shore (equivalent to 370 km).



- The first report issued by the World Ocean Assessment (Dec. 2015) organized by the UN indicated alarming levels of degeneration in the marine ecosystems of Brazilian waters and the South Atlantic, and revealed that there are very few coordinated efforts being made to understand how global climate change affects this region compared to other oceanic regions of the world.

- In Brazil, the new structures being created to implement this agenda need to be constituted on the basis of promoting solidarity partnerships based on science, sustainability, dignity, a stable economy, and social justice and, above all, valuing vulnerable groups and future generations.

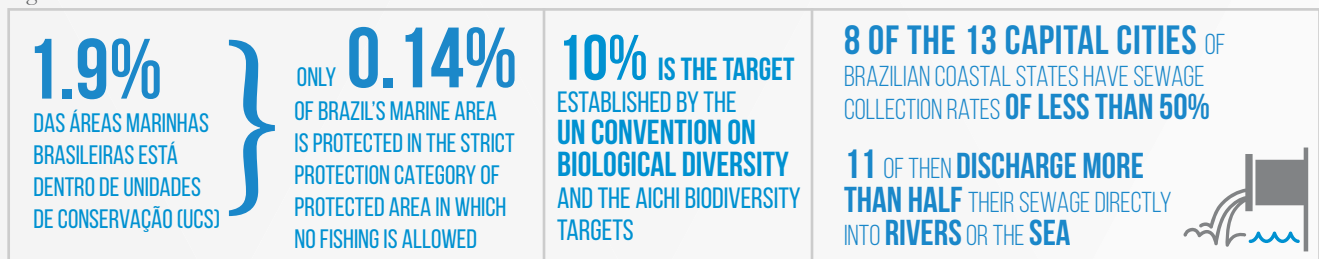
- The targets set under the heading of Goal 14 are all highly important for the sustainable development of the oceans. However, implementing the goal will require a joint effort to propose indicators that are more clearly defined and more measurable, especially in the case of targets 14.2, 14.4, 14.a and 14.c.

- In the current set of targets there is a notable absence of social objectives specifically concerning equality, or egalitarian access or efforts to plan marine spaces or improvements in governance.

- There is a lack of clarity regarding the financial means for achieving the targets that makes it difficult to effectively implement the agenda.

- The approach to conservation of marine resources should be cross-cutting with other socio-environmental issues. The lack of basic sanitation in coastal cities and disasters like the bursting of the dam in Mariana are examples of large-scale events with great impacts on the possibilities of Brazil complying with its commitment to achieve the SDG 14. Accordingly, strengthening instruments such as the Brazilian National Basic Sanitation and Solid Waste Disposal policies as well as the environmental licensing mechanisms, is absolutely necessary to ensure marine sustainability.

Figure 7.



## RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Define indicators for the targets that are susceptible to accurate monitoring.
- Elaborate and implement a system to monitor those indicators.
- Ensure watchdog control of public policies that have an interface with SDG 14.
- Increase the participation of civil society organizations and scientific organizations in decision-making processes for the implementation of mechanisms related to SDG 14 in the municipal, state, and federal spheres.
- Strengthen dialogue at the national level on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda among representatives of government bodies, of civil society, and of the Coastal Administration Integration Group (*Grupo de Integração do Gerenciamento Costeiro - GI-GERCO*).

- Implement participative spaces in the domain of the Inter-ministerial Marine Resources Commission.
- Discuss concepts definitions, guidelines and regulations for the Shared Use of the Marine Environment (CIRM Resolution nº 1/2013).
- Strengthen the regulatory framework exclusively directed at seas and oceans and define concrete administrative measures, especially those associated to the themes embraced by the 2030 Agenda.
- Establish a consistent dialogue agenda for the implementation of the National Guidelines for Artisanal Fishing in alignment with the recommendations of the Pesca Vital report elaborated by fishermen and women from all over Brazil.
- Promote transverse connections with other socio-environmental policies and the conservation of marine resources.



# GOAL 17: PARTNERSHIPS AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

## STRENGTHEN THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND REVITALIZE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

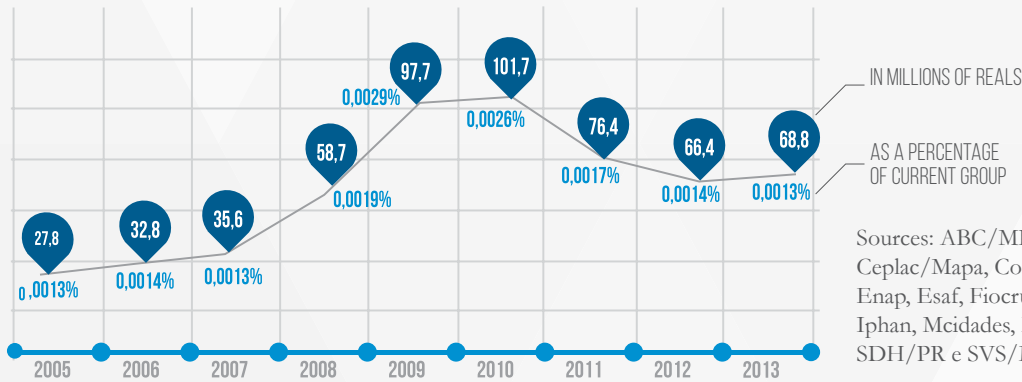
Resource mobilization and partnerships are fundamental mechanisms for achieving the 2030 Agenda Goals worldwide. SDG 17 sets out the means of implementation in detail and the conditions required to achieve all the other goals. In addition to the need to ensure that public administrations and all the various other sectors of society incorporate the 2030 Agenda, Brazil must also address the considerable challenge of contributing to its progress in the international sphere and, to that end, it must enhance its regional leadership role and reactivate its former protagonist performance in South-South relations.

- In the field of International Development Cooperation, Brazil's main actions are: contributing with disbursements to meet the upkeep costs of international bodies, providing humanitarian aid, participating in peace-keeping operations and in technical, scientific-technological and educational cooperation. Although that appears to be a substantial agenda, in spite of having set up the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (*Agência Brasileira de Cooperação – ABC*), actual expenditure in 2013, the last year for which information is available,

was 857.3 million Real, a mere 0.018% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Only a quarter of that technology to increase development in other regions. Again, in the aspect of technology sharing and diffusion, there has still been no progress in creating a database of sustainable technology in Brazil, with the exception of some sporadic civil society initiatives. The Technological Facilitation Mechanism (*Mecanismo de Facilitação Tecnológica – MFT*), a proposal that Brazil defended as part of the Addis Ababa Agenda, but there has been no progress in that direction in the sphere of the United Nations after two years of its inception.

- Brazil has a great opportunity for cooperation in the field of climate change given its enormous renewable energy potential and its experience in successfully curbing deforestation in the second half of the 2000 decade. If the social programs that lifted millions of people out of extreme poverty and contributed to reducing hunger are considered, then it could be said that Brazil could play a leading role in achieving the sustainability agenda as a whole. However, external commitments are meeting fierce resistance in the current political regression,

Graph 13. **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION (2005 - 2013) (IN MILLIONS OF REALS AND AS A % OF CURRENT GDP)**



Sources: ABC/MRE, Aisa/MS, Anvisa, CAIXA, Ceplac/Mapa, Conab, CPRM, DNPM, Embrapa, Enap, Esaf, Fiocruz/MS, Ibama, Ibram, Inmet, Iphan, Mcidas, MDS, MME, MTE, MTur, SDH/PR e SVS/MS. Elaboração Ipea.

with constant threats to human, economic, social, cultural, and environmental rights and even threats to the continued existence of highly successful past initiatives

- Over the last few years, with the exception of some sporadic initiatives in specific sectors, Brazil has hardly exploited its potential for global integration at all. Its greatest efforts have concentrated on opening markets and trading regulations in the multilateral level, in the sphere of the World Trade Organization, and on establishing preferential agreements with developing countries. Meanwhile, preferential agreements have been proliferating worldwide in the light of the stalemate in the negotiations under the aegis of the Doha Development Round.

- An example of that drift towards isolation is Brazil's protectionist stance in regard to import tariffs whereby a complex list of taxes levies on some products to as much as 70% of their original value. The coming into force of the Trade Facilitation Agreement is considered to be positive but insufficient to revert the tendency to a drop in the balance of overseas trade and the accentuated dependence on raw products in the country's export portfolio. The deterioration of the balance of trade allied to other factors such as the low productivity levels of Brazilian industry, and the accumulation of tax deficits have led to a substantial increase in the country's debt and the onus of servicing that debt.

- Internally, the fiscal crisis is exacerbated by structural issues that limit the mobilization of resources needed to achieve the 2030 Agenda targets. An example is the regressive taxation system which disproportionately penalizes labor and consumption in comparison with wealth and capital. In other words, the tax burden is proportionally greater for poorer people, configuring a policy of concentration of wealth. Furthermore, if we analyze the misuse or inefficient

use of public financial resources, the low return in the form of services for the efforts expended to provide them, it debilitates the system. Budget cuts and austerity measures further deteriorate services quality and do nothing to staunch the drain on resources provoked by the low returns on public investments.

- The political and economic moment is mirrored in the data collected by various public data gathering institutions. There is no integration among the various databases. Recent budget cuts and the reduction of the operational capacity of the Brazilian Geography and Statistics Institute (*Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística - IBGE*) responsible for the census and the economic indexes is placing at risk the leading source of official data available for assessing progress towards the targets set out in the 2030 Agenda.

- That vacuum in governance reinforces the important, challenging space in which the civil society organizations perform. It was only in 2016 that the Regulatory Framework for Civil Society Organizations (*Marco Regulatório das Organizações da Sociedade Civil - MROSC*) finally came into existence, establishing the foundations for regulating relations between the State and the social organizations when establishing partnerships and/or responding to official calls to do so.

- It is of fundamental importance, in that regard, to underscore organized civil society's political participation in the field of international cooperation, contributing in collective global monitoring of resolutions, action agendas, declarations, and communications of multilateral governance bodies in the diplomatic geopolitical context. In Brazil, it can be said that it is some of the civil society organizations that adopt the stance of a more progressive force, establishing equilibrium in the design, planning, and implementation of efficient actions aimed at fostering sustainable development.

- On the other hand, there is a notable failure to prioritize adequate, effective, and transparent functioning of the collegiate bodies charged with responsibility for public policies in the social, economic and environmental fields, especially those associated to the fulfillment of the terms of international agreements that Brazil is signatory to.

Figure 8.

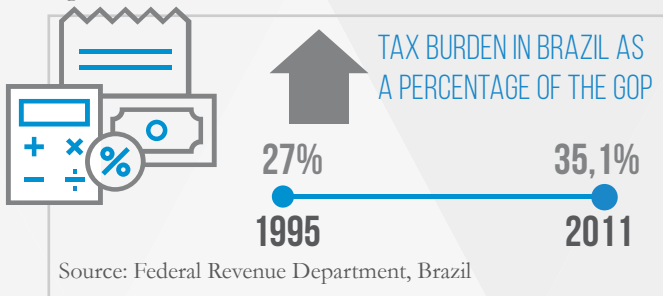


Figure 9.



Figure 10.

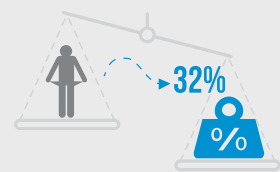
**IN BRAZIL, THE TAX BURDEN IS HIGHLY REGRESSIVE AND 2/3 OF TAXATION IS INDIRECT.** THIS IS THE REVERSE OF THE SITUATION IN **SOCIALLY MORE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, WHERE THE SAME 2/3 COMES FROM TAXATION OF INCOME AND ASSETS**



Source: Ipea / OCDE

Figure 11.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT **POOREST 10% OF BRAZILIAN FAMILIES** SPEND 32% OF THEIR AVAILABLE INCOME ON TAXES WHILE **THE RICHEST 10% OF FAMILIES** SPEND 21% OF THEIR INCOME ON TAXES



Source: Pesquisa de Orçamento Familiar (POF) de 2008/2009 - Ipea

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Increase South-South cooperation efforts in areas with potential for cooperation and with a focus as well on innovation and increasing national productivity.
- Ensure transparency and accountability in the cooperation agreements Brazil engages in.
- Align public planning and administration instruments such as the Pluriannual Plans and Budgets and the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Take on a regional leadership role in the implementation of the Paris Agreement, aligning internal policies with the formal commitments made.
- Guarantee sovereignty, transparency and principles of sustainability in the processes for integrating Bra-

zil intoglobal and regional value chains and establish agreements in due alignment with human rights and socially just and inclusive, and environmentally responsible development.

- Implement reforms fostering simplified, transparent and impartial taxation that is fair and based on the principles of progression, thereby ensuring the mobilization of financial resources needed to achieve the 2030 Agenda targets.
- Strengthen environmental education processes guided by the precepts of the Treaty on Environmental Education for Sustainable Societies and Global Responsibility. Bring back, strengthen and value participative methodologies like the Local Integrated Sustainable Development Forum, the territorial Nuclei for the Millennium Development Goals and the local Agenda 21 processes.

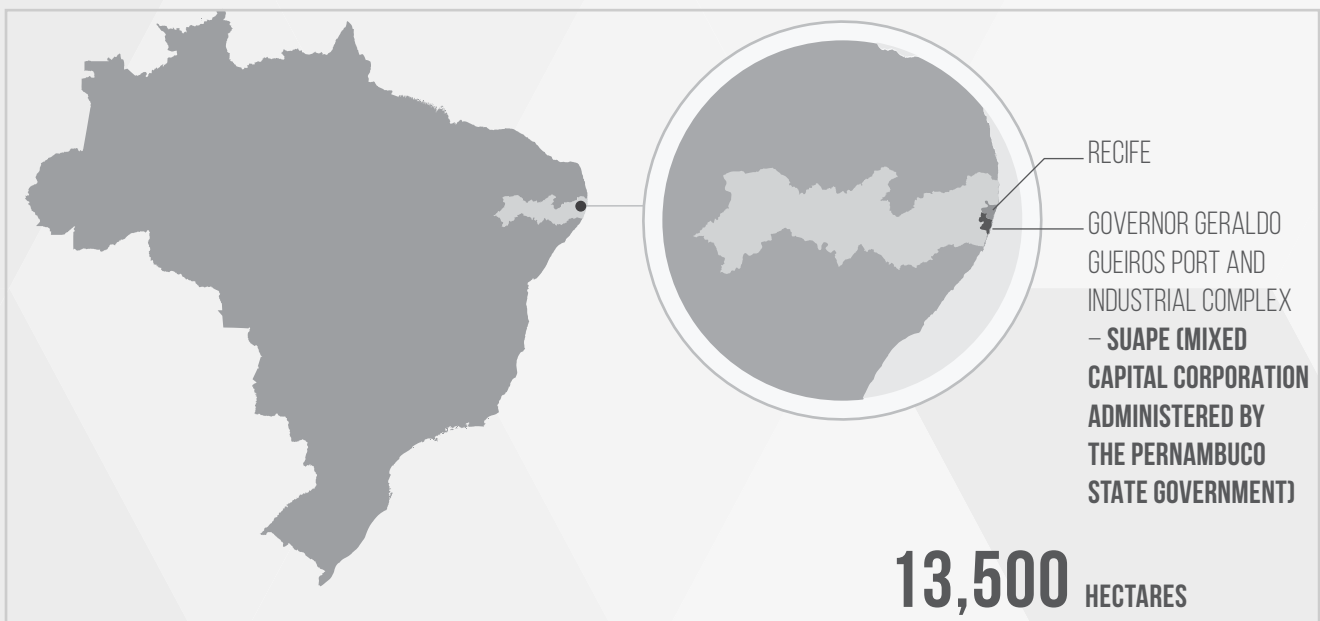
# A CASE STUDY

## THE CHALLENGE OF TERRITORIALIZING THE SDGS IN THE GOVERNOR ERALDO GUEIROS PORT AND INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX (SUAPE)

Forty kilometers from Recife, in the municipalities of Cabo de Santo Agostinho and Ipojuca, around 6,800 small farming and fishing families<sup>18</sup> have been suffering systematic attacks on their land stemming from the installation of the Governor Eraldo Gueiros Port and Industrial Complex – SUAPE (a mixed capital corporation administered by the Pernambuco State government) – in an area of 13,500 hectares where people have been living for generations in close interdependence with the environment.

From the inception, the project has been the ‘Apple of the State Government’s Eye’. Its implementation was intensified during the 1990s and from the year 2000 on it was modernized and expanded, taking on gigantic dimensions. It is estimated that around forty thousand people came in from all over Brazil for temporary jobs in the complex venture construction. The only justification offered for all the negative impacts on the environment and the lives of the native communities in the region and all the indirect im-

Figure 12.



pacts caused by the sudden swelling of the population was resumed in the promise of progress and the creation of jobs and income.

The complex has been installed in an estuarine region that was originally covered with mangrove vegetation, and various interconnected rivers flowed through it. Extensive chains of reefs offshore along the coast maintained a natural connectivity with the mangrove formations so that region was abundant in fish and generated a rich source of income for a large population of artisanal fishing. In addition, former sugarcane estates, traditionally occupied by smallholder families were a rich source of income and food products produced by the farming families there.

However, the installation of the SUAPE Port and Industrial Complex drastically transformed the environment and the changes had, and continue to have, serious negative repercussions on the traditional ways of life of communities residing there, infringing on their rights to a place to live, to food, to water, to health, to mobility and to an environment in ecological equilibrium.

It should be noted that the option to install the venture in a region traditionally inhabited by negro communities with reduced access to formal education was a clear expression of institutional racism on the part of the State when it surmised that it would be easy to remove them from their lands.

Implementing and expanding the Complex meant displacing those local populations *en masse*; infringing on their rights and wounding their dignity. Furthermore, the resettlement policy applied by the company to the more recently expelled families was inadequate and failed to comply with the regulations governing such processes. There was no prior consultation with the communities and the rural families, fishermen, and farmers with their own specific means of livelihood, were reallocated to be housed in forty square meter housing units in an urban area far from any mangrove swamps, from the sea and from agricultural land, thereby depriving them of any possibility of carrying on their traditional ways of life.

In turn, families remaining in the area have suffered constant abuses at the hands of company security guards, pressuring them to abandon their land and at times they have been prevented from planting or from refurbishing their houses. Fishing communities also report how they have been forbidden access to areas where they have always fished, including the mangrove swamps, and they were threatened and intimidated by armed security guards who have even gone to lengths of stealing whatever fish they have managed to catch when they have entered the area.

Thus Suape is a glaring case of the violation of human, economic, social, cultural and environmental rights.

## RECOMMENDATION:

- In addition to the Port and Industrial Complex, the multinational companies that have established themselves there must respect the guidelines of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development – OECD – concerning corporate co-responsibility and accordingly they must guarantee the execution

of compensatory mitigating and reparatory measures in regard to the negative impacts of the venture on local populations and on the environment.

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18. Information obtained from the company itself in 2009. Available at [http://www.suape.pe.gov.br/images/publicacoes/Portaria/regulamento\\_exploracao\\_porto\\_SUAPE\\_2016.pdf](http://www.suape.pe.gov.br/images/publicacoes/Portaria/regulamento_exploracao_porto_SUAPE_2016.pdf). Accessed on March 10th, 2017. Any previous study has not been reported or acknowledged, but it is well known that people's expulsion started some years back, what shows that the amount of families that lived there before was much larger than informed.





Organizations that are signatories to this publication



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