

The 2030 agenda and brazilian internalization

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Abstract

Introduction: the Sustainable Development Goals define the goals that were defined to be achieved by the signatory member countries to reach by 2030 with the purpose of reducing indicators to promote equality and equity for all.

Objective: to describe the path taken towards the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, from its antecedents, main concepts and innovations, resulting in a fundamental and guiding element in the formulation of public policies.

Methods: study based on secondary sources of literature relevant to the topic, considering articles from national and international journals and recent productions on the Sustainable Development Goals

Results: the challenges of internalizing the Sustainable Development Goals, with the definition of national goals and indicators, addresses the challenges and setbacks in their implementation, especially with the national reorientation aimed at fulfilling the 2030 Agenda from this year onwards, especially in light of mid-cycle assessments, to take place this year.

Conclusion: the demobilization in the adoption of the 2030 Agenda at the Federal level, from 2019 onwards, as the global political scenario of successive crises has severely impacted the fulfillment of the agreed objectives, an accelerated effort to resume policies is necessary, involving public agents, civil society and academia, so that the second half of the time frame for implementing the 2030 Agenda is more assertive and achieves the proposed objectives and goals, without effectively leaving anyone behind.

Keywords: Sustainable Development Goals, 2030 Agenda, Global Development, Inequality, United Nations, UN.

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Authors summary

Why was this study done?

To present a reflection on the perspectives for Brazil of the Sustainable Development objectives and the process of internalizing the objectives and targets to be implemented in public policies.

What did the researchers do and find?

The studies and public policy programs found present us with the trajectory of the initiatives and discussions that emerge in the composition of the Sustainable Development objectives and their goals for the signatory countries to adopt and fulfill goals and objectives.

What do these findings mean?

This compilation of concepts and elements makes up the trajectories of initiatives that culminate in objectives and public policies that meet the goals of the SDGs.

Highlights

The internalization and consequent localization of objectives and targets, essential for fulfilling the agenda, took place gradually nationally, marked by technical studies carried out by both IBGE and IPEA.

INTRODUCTION

The 2030 Agenda, currently made up of 17 Sustainable Development Goals divided into 169 targets, presents the main global pact with the objective of implementing broad-spectrum universal and transformative policies, aiming from the eradication of poverty, economic development to achieving the reduction of damage to the environment¹.

In 2001, the United Nations General Assembly approved the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), a new effort to promote economic and social policies as a direct consequence of the Millennium Summit, held a year earlier. With great weight, especially due to the number of signatories (initially 189 countries, later expanded to 191) and the way in which their commitments are monitored, through goals and indicators, the MDGs inaugurate a new stage in the development agendas established by the Organization of Nations United (UN)².

The agendas proposed by the UN until then concentrated most of their efforts on economic development, proposing quantitative growth targets. Gradually, throughout the agendas, there is the insertion of the social prism, which in the MDGs gains greater relevance with the reiteration that in addition to the necessary economic growth, social objectives in education, health and employment are equally important³.

Since the conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm (1972), the perception of the unsustainability of the exploitation of natural resources and development has grown. However, it was only after the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, known as ECO-92, that the environmental prism was introduced into the international development agenda. - evolution that clearly seeks to overcome the dichotomy between environmental preservation and development³.

With the passage of time and systematic review, mainly with the inclusion of new monitoring indicators, the MDGs gained strength, arriving in 2015 with a change in focus evidenced by their annual development reports: identification of good practices in public policies and not just the analysis of the Human Development Index (HDI)².

Defined, from then on, as Sustainable Development Goals – ODS, they brought to the discussion paradigm

shifts such as the economy-environmental preservation dichotomy previously mentioned, with intense articulations, clashes and tensions, not only between the countries representing the UN, but also also from institutions, the private sector, academia, civil society organizations and representatives of international organizations, seeking to confront global problems, far beyond old restrictions on economic power. The SDGs are based on three pillars for sustainable development: environmental preservation, social development and economic growth⁴.

To do so, they need to be implemented intersectorally and transversally, defining goals, quantitative references and deadlines for achievement. The SDGs encourage signatory countries to implement policies to improve statistical and social data and to make reports available to monitor the results of their public policies².

Although global in scope, the implementation of the 2030 Agenda has suffered recurring global problems, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and wars that directly affect considerable populations and international trade, up to local demobilization, with a declared aversion to pacts. global of national governments¹.

With the recreation, on January 1, 2023, of the National Commission for Sustainable Development Goals (CNO DS) and the resumption in Brazil of discussions about compliance with the 2030 Agenda, it becomes essential to understand how the internalization process occurred of the proposed objectives and goals, as well as the background of the Agenda itself. In this context, it is necessary to observe the historical path regarding the 2030 Agenda and Brazilian internalization and its objectives to achieve all the milestones proposed in the agenda. The objective of this study is to describe this path and propose reflection on the goals.

METHODS

This article is a reflection on the 2030 Agenda and Brazilian internalization, its challenges and strategies to achieve its objectives, in sectors such as education, health and in the context of public policies. For this reflection, we opted for a study based on secondary sources of literature relevant to the topic, considering articles from national and international journals and recent productions

on the Sustainable Development Goals, the guidelines and resolutions of the United Nations, Brazilian standards and the historical trajectory of the discussion about the emergence of decision-making to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The concept of sustainable development in the United Nations document defines sustainable development, “our common future” 5 as development capable of meeting the needs of the current generation, without compromising the ability to meet the needs of future generations⁶.

According to the document, this concept brings with it two major points: firstly, the concept of need , particularly of the poorest, and secondly, the limitations imposed by the current state of technology and social organizations⁵.

On September 25, 2015, the United Nations, in its 70th year. General Assembly, adopts resolution 70/1 entitled “Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”⁷.

In the first paragraph of its preamble there is - in addition to the definition that the document is an action plan for people, the planet and for prosperity - the recognition that the great global challenge is the eradication of poverty in all its forms, in especially extreme poverty, an indispensable condition for sustainable development⁷.

Still in its preamble, the document informs the breadth of its objectives, which are built on the MDGs with the aim of achieving what they were unable to achieve, in addition to the quest to make human rights concrete. The construction of the Agenda was only possible through technical and academic production arising from previous experiences such as Agenda 21 (ECO-92), ODM, Rio+10, Rio+20, among 2 others .

The 2030 Agenda is conceived as an integrated and indivisible document balanced in the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. With the concept that “no one will be left behind”, the Agenda expands international consensus on global environmental issues and strengthens national governance processes² , as it recognizes local challenges.

Recognizing the immense challenge for sustainable development, the Agenda highlights the current growth in inequality between countries and the number of people still living in poverty and without dignity. Challenges ranging from lack of gender equality to health threats and extreme weather events. The document also points out that technological advances have brought great opportunities, as they enable more accurate diagnoses in order to support development decisions for previously less favored regions, as well as increased access to education and information⁷.

The 2030 Agenda determines that the primary responsibility for its monitoring and review lies with governments, at global, national and local levels, although it points to unified support from the United Nations system, including the mention of the subsequent construction of indicators.

The new agenda, in force for 15 years from January 2016, is consolidated into 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 associated, integrated and indivisible goals. Achieving these goals requires governments to plan, organize and implement actions that are aligned and articulated with different sectors of the government and civil society - these are the first limitations of implementing the 2030 Agenda in Brazil.



Figure 1: graphic representation of the 17 Sustainable development goals.

Source: ODSBrasil.gov.br

Between June 13 and 22, 2012, Rio de Janeiro hosts the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, known as Rio+20 to mark the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (ECO-92/Rio- 92). At this Conference, in its final document, a commitment is made to establish the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), reaffirming the importance of Agenda 21 and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), expanding them in their three dimensions: economic, social and environmental⁸.

Signatory of the 2030 Agenda, already in 2015, Brazil after a year published Decree No. 8,892/2016 which creates the National Commission for Sustainable Development Goals (CNODS) “with the purpose of internalizing, disseminating and providing transparency to the process of implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”⁹. In the decree, the Commission, linked to the Government Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic, is a collegiate body of an advisory nature. It is responsible, according to its 2nd Article , among others, to prepare an Action Plan for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Ordinance No. 81, of October 11, 2017, in turn, approves the internal regulations of CNODS, which makes it possible for it to start operating¹⁰. Still in 2017, CNODS published the 2017-2019 Action Plan whose mission is to “create institutional mechanisms that establish the appropriate conditions for the implementation of the SDGs, including strategies for territorialization, the definition of goals and indicators, participatory processes, means of implementation, monitoring and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda.”¹¹.

CNODS defines, among several strategies for implementing the 2030 Agenda, the mapping of public policies in force in ministries and in the 2016-2019 Multi-Year Plan, then underway, and the goals and objectives described in Agenda¹¹.

The Action Plan has permanent technical assistance from the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics Foundation (IBGE) and the Applied Economic Research Institute Foundation (IPEA), which have, respectively, the roles of guiding, collecting and producing global indicator data and building, defining and monitor national indicators¹¹.

As a direct consequence of the implementation of the Action Plan, two products are the result of this technical advice: the platform created and maintained by IBGE, “ODSBrasil.gov.br”, which groups Brazilian indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals and the publication, in 2018 by IPEA of the document “SDG – National Targets of the Sustainable Development Goals”.

In 2019 federal decree 9759/19, which aims to extinguish and limit collegiate bodies of the federal public administration, CNODS is closed¹². In 2023, the decree that ended the activities of the Commission and other collegiate bodies is revoked¹³ and the composition of the CNODS is changed to reflect the new ministerial disposition, in this perspective, still with the rearrangements between ministries, it is noted that the objectives and goals they must be realigned, in the search to meet expectations within a

feasible timeframe, while still remaining quiescent in all of the objectives and goals that should already be achieved .

In 2018, the Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA), a Federal Government body, as part of its technical advisory duties to CNODS, published the document “SDG – National Targets for Sustainable Development Goals”, with the aim of adapting to the Brazilian reality the goals established globally¹⁴.

The general principle adopted, of not reducing the scope and reach of what was proposed by the original goal, guides all the work and several requirements are proposed to achieve adaptation¹⁴ such as adherence to global goals, quantitative sizing and respect for the commitments assumed previously.

As part of the work, indicators are also listed that can be used to monitor national targets for the SDGs, although there is recognition that, according to the CNODS “Action Plan 2017-2019” , the task of defining and reviewing the indicators are from IBGE¹⁴ .

As a result of the effort, of the 169 goals proposed by the 2030 Agenda, only two are identified as inadequate to the Brazilian reality. Of the remaining 167 goals, 39 are maintained in their original form and 128 have adjustments made, either in the form of description or in the form of quantification. It is also proposed to add 8 new purely national goals, aiming to monitor Brazilian priorities identified by interministerial working groups, totaling 175 goals¹⁴ .

The document also classifies the goals into two sets in terms of results: final goals, which size the expected result, and implementation goals that stipulate resources necessary to achieve the expected result. It also typifies the goals into 3 levels of difficulty in monitoring, where level 1 indicates a goal that is easy to monitor, with indicators that directly measure its results, level 2, where there are no direct indicators, but indirectly there is a way to measure its results and , finally, level 3, goals for which there is still no direct or indirect way of measuring their evolution¹⁴ .

In September 2023, the meeting that marks the halfway point of the 2030 Agenda will take place at UN headquarters. Several preparatory documents have been produced and will be submitted for approval to the heads of state present. The main preparatory document, the draft Political Declaration of the General Assembly¹⁵, already explains an alarming panorama: only 12% of the SDGs are on track to achieve them and 30% are either the same or worse than when the 2030 Agenda was drawn up in 2015.

The numerous crises, ranging from the COVID-19 pandemic to escalating inflation, including the instability of wars and natural disasters, have greatly affected the ability to achieve the agreed goals, reducing international financing, especially for less developed countries¹⁵⁻¹⁷ .

But there is a call to action: the reversal of declines and effective progress towards achieving the SDGs is possible, and efforts need to be redoubled, accelerating systemic change, aiming for a “*more inclusive, fair, peaceful, resilient and sustainable world for current and future generations*”¹⁵ .

Both the demobilization in the adoption of the 2030 Agenda at the Federal level, starting in 2019, and the global political scenario of successive crises, severely

impacted the achievement of the agreed objectives. Until the discussion agenda is adopted at the Local, State, Federal and International levels, the goals presented will suffer great difficulty in advancing in an adequate and efficient way to fulfill inequalities⁴.

CONCLUSION

Ambitious and comprehensive, the 2030 Agenda is the main guiding instrument for formulating public policies at a global level that aims to implement a sustainable and inclusive development model. The internalization and consequent localization of objectives and targets, fundamental for fulfilling the agenda, took place gradually nationally, marked by technical studies carried out by both IBGE and IPEA, but internalization in

the organization of national politics is still a major obstacle to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda .

An accelerated effort to resume policies is necessary, involving public agents, civil society and academia, so that the second half of the time frame for implementing the 2030 Agenda is more assertive and achieves the proposed objectives and goals, without effectively leaving anyone to back.

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Resumo

Introdução: os Objetivos do Desenvolvimento Sustentável definem as metas que foram definidas para ser alcançadas pelos países membros signatários para alcançar até 2030 com o propósito de diminuir indicadores para promoção de igualdade e equidade de todos.

Objetivo: descrever o caminho percorrido para a adoção da Agenda 2030, desde seus antecedentes, principais conceitos e inovações, resultando em elemento fundamental e orientador na formulação de políticas públicas.

Método: estudo consubstanciado em fontes secundárias da literatura pertinente à temática, considerando artigos de periódicos nacionais e internacionais e produções recentes sobre os Objetivos de Desenvolvimento Sustentável.

Resultados: os desafios da internalização dos Objetivos de Desenvolvimento Sustentável, com a definição de metas e indicadores nacionais aborda os desafios e revezes na sua implementação, especialmente com a reorientação nacional visando o cumprimento da Agenda 2030 à partir do presente ano, em especial à luz das avaliações de meio de ciclo, a ocorrer este ano.

Conclusão: a desmobilização na adoção da Agenda 2030 na esfera Federal, a partir de 2019, como o cenário político mundial de sucessivas crises, impactaram severamente no cumprimento dos objetivos pactuados, é necessário um esforço acelerado de retomada de políticas, que envolva agentes públicos, sociedade-civil e academia, para que a segunda metade do intervalo temporal de implementação da Agenda 2030 seja mais assertivo e alcance os objetivos e metas propostos, sem deixar efetivamente ninguém para trás.

Palavras-chave: Objetivos de Desenvolvimento Sustentável, Agenda 2030, Desenvolvimento Global, Desigualdade, Organização das Nações Unidas, ONU.

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