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Thiago Gehre Galvao  
Henrique Zeferino de Menezes *Editors*

# The Quest for the Sustainable Development Goals

Living experiences in territorializing the 2030  
Agenda in Brazil

 Springer

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*We dedicate this book to all the people who maintained their faith in Brazilian democracy and who have fought for a more just and equitable society*

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## Foreword

Brazil is a living lab of ideas and practical experiences related to the quest for sustainable development. Certainly, the breadth of topics covered in this book is impressive, spanning from the intricacies of national governance to the specific challenges faced in various sectors of Brazilian society. As you embark on this insightful journey through the chapters, you will find a rich tapestry of perspectives, each contributing to understand the complexities of sustainable development in Brazil. Nonetheless, the Brazilian quest for a more equitable and inclusive development is one shared by many Global South countries in the world.

Each part of this book was designed to critically evaluate the steering effects of the SDGs in Brazil. The power of social agency was crucial in the struggle to implement the SDG in Brazil—the abilities and capacities of social actors to keep the country on track with the 2030 implementation despite challenging contexts. The book extends beyond the economic dimension, embracing a broad conception of SDG as a powerful force to create norms and to promote rights. Also, one of the main relevant aspects of this book is to explore a branch of innovative themes and critical assessments of the 2030 Agenda and the SDG implementation process in Brazil.

Authors such as Rodrigo Ramiro, Alessandra Nilo, Liliana Froio, and Pascoal Gonçalves provide a robust foundation of Brazilian SDG governance architecture by delving into the national and subnational landscape to focus on the role of state bureaucracies, local governments, and civil society organizations in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Meanwhile, contributors like Francisco Menezes and Henrique Zeferino de Menezes take a deep dive into the nuanced challenges of poverty, hunger, and health, illustrating how public policies can be powerful tools for change. Moreover, authors such as Louise Acciari, Andressa Pellanda, and Cristina Inoue add some freshness to the debate by focusing on the right to education, gender inequalities, and the delicate balance between environmental conservation and development in critical areas such as the Amazon.

In the final part, authors foster a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted nature of sustainable development by critically examining the progress made in implementing the SDG in Brazil. The critical assessment of SDG 16, the challenges in the Amazon, and the SDG 5, viewed from an intersectional lens, underscore the necessity for nuanced perspectives and tailored approaches. Additionally, the scrutiny of cultural dimensions,

indigenous rights, and the impact of affirmative action provides a holistic view of the journey towards a sustainable and equitable future.

As readers navigate through the diverse chapters authored by experts in their respective fields, they will gain profound insights into the intricacies of implementing the 2030 Agenda in the Brazilian context. This book serves not only as a valuable resource for academics, policymakers, and practitioners but also as a compass guiding us toward a more sustainable, inclusive, and just future.

We hope you enjoy reading this book, and its ideas could inspire people in different places and help foster alternative paths to sustainable development around the world.

Brasília, Brasília, Brazil  
João Pessoa, Brazil

Thiago Gehre Galvao  
Henrique Zeferino de Menezes



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## Preface

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 global goals adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These goals are designed to address a wide range of social, economic, and environmental challenges facing the world, with the aim of promoting a more sustainable and equitable future for all.

In a Brazilian perspective, the SDGs are highly relevant and have been progressively integrated into the country's development agenda. If we analyze the progress seen to date in the implementation of the SDGs in Brazil, we can identify a number of trends.

**No Poverty (SDG 1):** Brazil has made significant progress in reducing poverty over the past few decades, thanks to social programs such as Bolsa Família. However, income inequality remains a major challenge, and achieving SDG 1 requires continued efforts to lift people out of poverty and reduce disparities.

**Zero Hunger (SDG 2):** Brazil is a major agricultural producer, but food security and nutrition challenges persist, especially in rural areas. Ensuring access to nutritious food for all citizens remains a priority.

**Good Health and Well-being (SDG 3):** Brazil has a robust public healthcare system (SUS), but access to quality healthcare services varies across regions. Addressing health inequalities and improving healthcare infrastructure are key goals.

**Quality Education (SDG 4):** Brazil has made strides in increasing access to education, but challenges such as educational quality and equity persist. Achieving SDG 4 involves improving educational outcomes and ensuring that education is accessible to all.

**Gender Equality (SDG 5):** Promoting gender equality is a priority in Brazil. Initiatives to reduce gender-based violence, promote women's participation in the workforce and politics, and close the gender pay gap are ongoing.

**Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6):** Brazil is rich in freshwater resources, but access to clean water and sanitation services is uneven, especially in rural areas. Ensuring universal access to clean water and sanitation is essential.

**Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7):** Brazil has made significant strides in renewable energy, particularly in hydroelectric and biofuel production. Continuing to invest in clean energy while ensuring affordability and access is crucial.

Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8): Encouraging economic growth and decent work opportunities is a challenge in Brazil. Informal labor markets and unemployment are issues that need to be addressed.

Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure (SDG 9): Brazil aims to enhance industrialization and innovation through investments in technology and infrastructure, which can drive economic growth and development.

Reduced Inequality (SDG 10): Brazil faces one of the highest income inequality levels in the world. Efforts to reduce disparities in income, access to services, and opportunities are critical.

Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11): Urbanization is a growing trend in Brazil. Ensuring that cities are sustainable, with adequate infrastructure, affordable housing, and reduced environmental impacts, is a priority.

Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12): Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns is crucial in a country with a growing middle class and consumption rates. Reducing waste and promoting recycling are part of this goal.

Climate Action (SDG 13): Brazil plays a significant role in global efforts to combat climate change, especially because of its rainforests like the Amazon. Sustainable land use, deforestation reduction, and transitioning to clean energy sources are central to this goal.

Life Below Water (SDG 14) and Life on Land (SDG 15): Preserving Brazil's rich biodiversity, particularly in the Amazon rainforest, is essential for achieving these goals. Protecting ecosystems and promoting sustainable land and water use are key.

Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions (SDG 16): Promoting peace, rule of law, and strong institutions is important for reducing crime rates and ensuring effective governance in Brazil.

Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17): International cooperation and partnerships are crucial for Brazil to achieve many of the SDGs. Collaborative efforts with other countries, organizations, and stakeholders can amplify the impact of sustainable development initiatives.

In summary, the UN SDGs are highly relevant in the Brazilian context, and they serve as a comprehensive framework for addressing the country's social, economic, and environmental challenges while working toward a more sustainable and equitable future for all Brazilians. Achieving these goals requires concerted efforts from government, civil society, businesses, and individuals.

This book is an attempt to contribute to the implementation of the UN SDGs in Brazil. It contains a wide range of papers, which look at various aspects of sustainability, also tackling some pressing issues. It is thus a timely publication.

I congratulate the editors and all authors for their efforts and hope that this publication will catalyze more initiatives in this field, in Brazil and beyond.

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(HAW Hamburg)  
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## Competing Interests

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest.

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## Acknowledgments

We appreciate the participation and contribution of all the chapter authors who made this collective work possible. This book results from a joint effort of academics, public servants, and activists who, besides engaging in the political process and disputes for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Brazil, have critically reflected on the challenges and potentialities for overcoming our social and environmental woes. We extend special thanks to Sofia Lopes Martins for her essential academic and administrative support in completing this work. Finally, we couldn't fail to thank the Brazilian public universities for remaining as spaces for research, innovation, and critical thinking, even in times of crises and threats.

**Ethics Approval** The chapters that compose the book did not involve direct research with humans or animals.

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# Introduction—Navigating Sustainable Development in Brazil: Challenges and Progress Amidst Government (In)actions

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted during the 70th General Assembly of the United Nations in September 2015, stand as one of the most ambitious global initiatives dedicated to economic development, social progress, and environmental preservation. At their core, they aim to combat poverty, reduce inequalities, uphold human rights, and enhance the well-being of people worldwide.

The discussions surrounding the SDGs today primarily revolve around crafting effective implementation strategies. This emphasis on implementation arises from the fact that the launch of the 2030 Agenda coincided with a convergence of crises spanning various sectors. The world witnessed the rise of reactionary leaders and political movements, an economic downturn linked to nationalist policies, and the profound humanitarian and social repercussions of international conflicts, along with the most devastating global pandemic of our century. These challenges have disproportionately impacted Global South countries, and the shortcomings of multilateralism have compounded their effects, further widening the gap that separates these nations from wealthier societies.

Despite the hurdles in securing a genuine global commitment to sustainable development and the perception of limited progress, the SDGs have instigated positive change worldwide. The sense of collective responsibility and the political engagement of vital social actors have led to significant transformations.

Brazil is an illustrative example of a nation grappling with structural challenges and contradictions in its historical journey toward human and environmental development. On one hand, it has pioneered innovative public policies to address underdevelopment. On the other hand, persistent political instability threatens the socioeconomic foundations of an already precarious development endeavor. The decades bridging the inception of the Millennium Development Goals and the near-decade within the 2030 Agenda encapsulate the multifaceted spectrum of sentiments experienced in the country, ranging from optimism to crisis, from fear to hope.

This book includes chapters illuminating this contradiction and the diverse perspectives on SDGs implementation in Brazil. While the initial years of the Agenda coincided with severe political and social crises, they also highlighted the influence of various political actors beyond the Federal Government in shaping a political agenda for sustainable development. Furthermore,



recent tragedies in Brazil have acted as a catalyst for change, offering a glimmer of hope.

Between 2019 and 2022, Brazilian government abandoned the 2030 Agenda implementation, viewing the SDGs as part of a “nefarious globalist ideology.” Gender equality, access to sexual and reproductive health, environmental preservation, and human rights were regarded as threats to Bolsonaro’s ultra-conservative political project (Galvão and Ramiro 2023).

In the first year of the administration, Jair Bolsonaro enacted a Federal Law establishing the National Pluriannual Plan for the 2020–2024 period, vetoing the state’s obligation to “pursue the goals of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.” This plan guides the planning, budget allocation, and implementation of federal public policies across all sectors.

What was more concerning than the government’s aggressive rhetoric against the global sustainable development agenda was the deliberate effort to dismantle Brazil’s institutional and political framework for managing and implementing the Agenda. This includes discontinuing, reducing, or underfunding critical public policies for economic and social development and dismantling essential mechanisms for environmental protection. Deforestation in the Amazon reached record levels due to deep budget cuts in the Ministry of the Environment, particularly in areas dedicated to environmental protection and conservation.

Bolsonaro’s administration also targeted women, traditional communities, and science. Over the 4 years of his government, the budget for policies combating violence against women was reduced by 90% compared to previous years. Resources for indigenous and quilombola populations were vetoed, and funding for scientific and technological research institutes and federal universities was severely constrained.

Moreover, the government distanced itself from the participatory governance model that was being established in the country. The involvement of civil society, the scientific community, and subnational governments in formulating and implementing policy innovations is a crucial element of a governance model for sustainable development. Bolsonaro’s government dismantled political and institutional spaces for social participation and disbanded important commissions and councils responsible for crucial public policy management in the early months of his administration. The National Council for Food and Nutritional Security (CONSEA—acronym in Portuguese), a key component of Brazil’s two-decade-long fight against hunger, was abolished. Bolsonaro also terminated the National Commission for the Sustainable Development Goals, established in October 2016, symbolizing the administration’s disregard for pressing issues.

The setbacks and challenges facing the implementation of the SDGs in Brazil are substantial. The irresponsible handling of the COVID-19 pandemic epitomizes the disconnect between Brazil and the global sentiment of progress, prosperity, and development, grounded in the assurance of a dignified life for all. Brazil recorded more than 700,000 deaths amid a government that denied the risks of the pandemic.

Nevertheless, it is essential to recognize that the contradictions and limitations of the Brazilian development model and the chronic problems related to

underdevelopment are not new. Over the past two centuries, Brazil has experienced rapid economic growth, technological advancements, and urbanization, improving the quality of life for its citizens. However, this transformation came at a cost, including exploiting people and natural resources, exacerbating social and economic inequalities, and causing environmental pollution.

On a global scale, the world and Brazil have been working to rectify these patterns, address contradictions associated with the traditional idea of progress, and prevent an environmental catastrophe. The urgent challenge is realizing human rights beyond basic survival conditions and the imperative to combat climate change. Thus, there is an urge for holistic solutions that involve multiple aspects of the SDGs.

The chapters in this book reveal the serious problems and setbacks in Brazil's pursuit of the SDGs in various critical areas. Simultaneously, they highlight the sociopolitical initiatives and innovations by political and social actors, subnational governments, and civil society that expand the discourse on sustainable development in Brazil.

It is essential to acknowledge that Brazil's essence transcends its federal government, and it is not defined solely by the recent adversities it has faced. Despite the government's deliberate attempts to weaken the governance structure of the SDGs and its impact on marginalized communities, the Brazilian population has witnessed remarkable and inventive initiatives that have propelled the SDGs forward. These endeavors often emerged without government support and in defiance of central political power. Local governments, civil society organizations, and popular movements made the difference by keeping Brazil in the track of the 2030 Agenda by implementing innovative solutions as well as pushing other state institutions to cope with the SDG main targets (Galvão et al. 2023).

With the electoral victory of Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva on October 30, 2022, a new window of opportunity has opened. Brazil has the chance to reposition itself on the path of sustainable development and regain prominence in the fight against global inequalities. Signs of progress are already evident through the resurgence of critical public policies, the re-establishment of mechanisms for social participation in defining commitments and planning political interventions, and the reintegration of the environment into national-level political discussions. The future perspectives remain challenging, requiring robust responses and support from Brazilian society, new international cooperation mechanisms, and innovative approaches to address historical and emerging problems.

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## **Political and Institutional Aspects of the Sustainable Development Goals Implementation in Brazil**

The first part of this book delves into the critical political and institutional dimensions of implementing the SDGs in Brazil. These chapters highlight both the celebrated advancements and the pitfalls experienced in recent years. They explore questions concerning the role of civil society in shaping political priorities and strategies for the SDGs in Brazil, as well as the complexities

of integrating the SDGs across different levels of government and within Brazilian institutions.

In Ramiro's chapter, adopting the SDGs in Brazil takes center stage, emphasizing the interplay between domestic and international influences. The author identifies cyclical patterns tied to presidential terms and discusses the roles of various political actors, including civil society and subnational governments, in sustaining the sustainable development agenda and ensuring its implementation.

Alessandra Nilo's chapter delves into Brazilian civil society's activism at the 2012 UN Sustainable Development Conference and its role in crafting UN Resolution A/70/15, lauded as one of the UN's most inclusive negotiations. The chapter examines the critical role of Brazilian NGOs' citizen diplomacy on key issues for the international community.

Brazilian experiences of innovation and creativity for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), spotlighting alliances with civil society organizations (CSOs), are addressed by Galvão, Lenares, and Martins. The chapter showcases grassroots initiatives as a blueprint for the Global South, emphasizing Brazilian creativity in tackling societal issues and inspiring disruptive initiatives.

Froio and Gonçalves' chapter builds on this narrative by illustrating how Jair Bolsonaro's administration's inaction and setbacks in implementing the SDGs in Brazil empowered subnational governments. These subnational entities have played a pivotal role in integrating the SDGs into their strategies for social and economic development, and they have actively sought partnerships and international cooperation.

Barbara Cobo and Leonardo Athias tackle the challenge of producing global and national indicators for monitoring the 2030 Agenda's implementation. They critically reflect on the internalization of the SDGs in Brazil, considering the limitations of statistical capacities in developing countries, particularly regarding this technical endeavor.

Claudio Fernandes underscores the vital role of financing sustainable development for SDGs implementation. He emphasizes existing bottlenecks for peripheral countries and the need for profound changes in the development financing architecture. Budget constraints on maintaining orthodox development views are identified as hindrances to Brazil's development potential.

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## **Traditional Elements of the Sustainable Development Goals in Brazil**

The second part of the book focuses on some of the traditional components of the SDGs in Brazil. These chapters address the evolution and challenges surrounding key SDGs, considering the political, economic, and social variables that impact their implementation.

Francisco Menezes' chapter addresses the persistent issues of poverty and hunger in Brazil, examining their interconnections and the necessity for inclusive public policies to reduce inequalities and human suffering while

striving for sustainable development. The text overviews recent Brazil-related developments related to these objectives and explores emerging perspectives.

In their chapter, Henrique Menezes and Luciana Correia Borges delve into the impact of vaccination policies on public health indicators in Brazil. Their analysis extends to the broader implications of these policies for economic and social development. The authors emphasize the critical role of public health as a central feature of sustainable development. They underscore the pressing need to promote universal vaccine access, strengthen healthcare systems, and foster local vaccine production capacity.

Andressa Pellanda underscores the challenges of giving education a central role in the sustainable development agenda, focusing on the narrowing of educational reforms that emphasize standardized tests for competency assessment in Brazil. This discussion raises essential questions about the broader implications for education in the country.

Louise Acciari analyzes the intersection of work and gender equality, highlighting the gendered aspect of decent work and the need for SDG 8 to incorporate a gender perspective, particularly recognizing the value of care work and women's labor. The text draws on grassroots women's groups in Brazil to offer practical suggestions for adapting this SDG with a gender focus.

Shifting toward environmental sustainability, Larissa Basso discusses the primary challenges in fully implementing SDG 7 in Brazil, employing a political economy approach to emphasize the role of critical actors and their efforts to ensure access to affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy for Brazilians.

Cristina Inoue and Vinícius Mendes explore challenges in implementing SDG 15 in the global South, focusing on the situation of the Amazon rainforest during and after Jair Bolsonaro's administration. They argue that preserving Amazon biodiversity requires a holistic approach involving other SDGs, particularly SDGs 1, 2, and 3, to pursue a safe and just planet.

Ana Flávia Barros-Platiau and her coauthors critically address the need for effective global ocean governance, highlighting Brazil's unique challenges in this field. They underscore the importance of balancing marine exploitation and environmental protection to prevent poverty and environmental degradation in pursuing SDG 14.

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## **Beyond the Traditional Sustainable Development Goals—A Global South Perspective**

The final part critically assesses the 2030 Agenda, challenging the traditional UN approach to the 17 SDGs. Drawing from a Global South international relations perspective, these chapters shed light on problems and social vulnerabilities often marginalized in the global debate on sustainable development.

João Paiva, Katiuscia Miranda, and Waldileia Amaral examine the localization of Sustainable Development Goals in Brazil's Amazon states. Their

chapter highlights the challenges in integrating SDGs into public policies, exploring some initiatives that contribute to achieving SDG 2 and SDG 5 developed by the International Institute of Education of Brazil and some collectives of agro-extractivist women in the Amazon region

Marcos Alan Ferreira and Ana Andreasi explore the negative impacts of violence and a violent state on achieving the SDGs, highlighting the dual role of the state as both a promoter and a hindrance to peace, particularly in cases such as Brazil.

Xaman Korai Pinheiro Minillo and Mariana Meriqui Rodrigues use queer critiques to challenge SDG 5 and its promotion of gender equality within the 2030 Agenda, considering its limitations and cis/heteronormative perspectives. Through the Brazilian case, the chapter underscores the ambivalence of the 2030 Agenda and suggests a more inclusive and diverse approach to envisioning the future and the crucial gender equity agenda.

Raquel Cabral and her coauthors advocate the importance of a specific SDG focusing on Culture, Art, and Communication, exploring the outcomes of interinstitutional partnerships that employ communication for diffusing peace and science principles.

Yara Martinelli and Bruno Martinelli explore the challenges of incorporating indigenous peoples and local communities in the sustainable development agenda in Brazil. They emphasize the importance of recognizing their struggles and life principles in the very idea of sustainability.

The problem of racial inequality in Brazil, affecting Brazilian society broadly, is the subject of the chapter by Dalila Negreiros and Eduardo Gomor dos Santos. The authors examine the increase of black students in federal educational institutions in Brazil over the past decade, highlighting the need for improved student assistance policies, monitoring, and greater institutional data transparency to enhance the policy's effectiveness.

The final chapter, by Ana Luisa Jorge Martins and Rômulo Paes-Sousa, critically analyzes an important discussion about the insufficiencies of the SDGs in addressing the complexity of current development challenges, emphasizing the need for an 18th goal that directly tackles the critical issue of racial equality.

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## About the Editors

**Thiago Gehre Galvão** earned his PhD in International Relations from the University of Brasília (UnB), with 21 years of experience in teaching, research, outreach activities, and educational administration. He is a member of the Postgraduate Program of the Institute of International Relations at UnB. He has working experience with public policies at the national and subnational levels. He was a special advisor in the Federative International Cooperation of the Presidency of the Republic (2011–2012), in the Subcommittee of Federative Affairs of the Institutional Relations Secretariat (SAF/SRI/PR) and the National Population and Development Commission (CNPD) (2012–2015) of the Secretariat for Strategic Affairs of the Presidency of the Republic (SAE/PR). Since 2023 he is advisor on the National Commission for the SDG (CNODS) in the General-Secretary of the Presidency of the Republic (SG/PR). He is the author of the following books on international relations: *South America: The Brazilian Idea in Motion* (Ed. Juruá 2009), *Brazil-Venezuela: A History of Partnership* (Ed. Fino Traço 2012), and *International Politics* (Ed. Contexto 2022). He was a visiting researcher at Lund University (2019/2020). He co-coordinates the international task force on education for the *Earth System Governance SDGs* <https://www.earthsystemgovernance.org/person/thiago-gehre-galvao/>. He is the creator of the UnB 2030 Strategic Program: Sustainability and Inclusive Development, at the University of Brasília (UnB).

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## About the Authors

**Alessandra Nilo** is a feminist journalist, with a postgraduate degree in Diplomacy and Trade Affairs. She is co-founder and general coordinator of *Gestos: HIV and AIDS, Communication and Gender*, an NGO created in 1993 in Brazil, which acts at local and international levels and has ECOSOC status from the UN. Currently, Gestos is the Latin America Operative Partner for *Women's Major Group* and the Civil 20 sherpa during the G20's Brazilian Presidency. In 2012, Alessandra was nominated to the High-Level Task Force of ICPD and followed all post-2015 negotiations. In Brazil, she is the co-coordinator of the *CSO Working Group for 2030 Agenda* (GT SC A2030), a network with 65 members, created in 2014, and co-editor responsible for publishing the *CSO Spotlight Report on the SDG Implementation in Brazil*, now on its 7th edition. In 2018, she received the Monique Rodrigues Award for her work on LGBTQI A+ rights, and in 2019, she was awarded by the Regional Labor Court of the Sixth Region (Merit Judiciary), as a human rights' defender. Alessandra is author of many reports and articles on the gender, HIV, communication, and sustainable development issues. She writes regularly for Brazilian newspapers and is also an award-winning filmmaker, passionate about politics, who continues to believe that a better world is possible.

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**Claudio Fernandes** is economist and creative director. He is also senior economist and co-founder of GT Agenda 2030, a national network of 60 plus organizations that work to implement the SDGs. He was economist and policy advisor at Gestos, a health, gender, and sustainable development NGO founded in Recife, in 1993. He was economist at the Global Civil Society Financing for Development Mechanism, economist member of the C20 Global Advisory Committee (2020–2021), researcher and creative director of the series Spotlight Report on Sustainable Development in Brazil, and consultant in user experience and interface design, data analysis, and sustainable development finance.

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**Fábio Henrique Granja e Barros** is a senior auditor at the Federal Court of Auditors (TCU) in Brazil since 1999. He was secretary of Social Security, Labour and Social Assistance. Formerly, he was the general director of the TCU Corporate University, coordinator of its Centre of High Studies, and secretary of the TCU REVISTA. He currently holds the position of advisor to a TCU Minister. He holds a PhD (2007) and a master's degree (1999) in economics from the University of Brasília. He is also a specialist in public finance and environmental management.

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**Juarez Tadeu de Paula Xavier** is a Black man and anti-racist activist. He holds a BA in Social Communication Journalism from the Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo (1990) and master's and PhD degrees at the Postgraduate Program in Latin American Integration: Communication and Culture at the University of São Paulo. He is currently professor at the São Paulo State University Júlio de Mesquita Filho; vice director of the Faculty of Architecture, Arts, Communication and Design [Faac/Unesp/Bauru]; and president of the Forum of Vice Directors of the São Paulo State University. He has experience on fundamentals of journalism and specialized journalism with emphasis in creative economy, Afro-descendants, racism, ethnocide, education for diversity, and systemic racism. He is a member of the Otávio Frias Filho Chair for Studies in Communication, Democracy and Diversity, a partnership between Folha de S. Paulo and the University of S. Paulo at the Institute for Advanced Studies (2021–2023), coordinated by Muniz Sodré de

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**Larissa Basso** is a researcher at the Institute of Advanced Studies, University of São Paulo and a research fellow at the Earth Systems Governance Project. She has research and teaching experience in the fields of Law and Politics, especially International Environmental Law, Environmental Governance, and Climate Politics. Larissa has a PhD in International Relations from University of Brasilia; an MPhil in Environmental Policy from University of Cambridge; a Master of Laws, International Law; and a Bachelor of Laws from University of São Paulo. She was a visiting scholar at the University of California San Diego and a postdoctoral fellow at Stockholm University.

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**Leonardo Athias** holds PhD in Political Science from Bordeaux IV University (France). He is a researcher at the Brazilian Institute of Geography

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**Leonardo Evangelista Moraes** is a biologist, holding a master's degree in Tropical Aquatic Systems and a PhD in Biological Oceanography. He is a professor and researcher linked to the Center for Training in Environmental Sciences at the Federal University of Southern Bahia (UFSB), where his research focuses on the following areas: ecology of marine and estuarine fish, pollution of coastal ecosystems by marine litter, and sustainability management in higher education institutions. Since 2018, he has been actively involved in shaping the Sustainability Policy of UFSB and currently serves as an advisor to the rector on this matter.

**Liliana Ramalho Froio** is an associate professor at the Department of International Relations and the postgraduate program in Political Science and International Relations (PPGCPRI) at the Federal University of Paraíba (UFPB). She was previously international affairs advisor at the Undersecretariat for Federative Affairs of the Presidency of the Republic of Brazil (SAF/PR) and technical assistant at the Ministry of Social Security (MPS). Today, Froio coordinates the project Decentralised International Cooperation (IDeF). Her research focuses on paradiplomacy, subnational states foreign and public policy, international cooperation, and foreign policy.

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**Luciana Correia Borges** is a Fulbright scholar from Brazil, in her third year in the Public Health Doctoral Program at the University of Nevada, Reno. Her interests sit at the cross-section of law, political science, and public health. Her multidisciplinary research focuses on understanding the decision-making processes behind countries' tobacco control policy implementation and tobacco regulatory science, including tobacco companies' corporate social responsibility claims and promotion/advertisement of "natural" and "organic" products. She has a Bachelor of Laws, a Bachelor in International