

**Conservation units seen as drivers of sustainable development in Brazil
and their correlations with the 2030 Agenda**

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ABSTRACT

Thinking about sustainable development is increasingly necessary for the continuity of all species in the biosphere. Over time, natural resources become scarcer, enabling conflicts and wars to be generated. Thus, this study aims to show the relevance of conservation units as territories that are necessary and supported by Law 9,985/2000 for the promotion of a sustainable culture in the country. But also, the aim was to prove the relationship of conservation units with the Sustainable Development Goals, proposed by the United Nations in 2015. For this study, the bibliographic and documentary research technique was used. At the end of the analysis, we can observe that the existence of conservation units and knowledge about them stimulates economic development linked to environmental care, facilitating the maintenance of social homeostasis and ecosystems. In addition to being directly linked to the SDGs and the concern for current and future generations.

Keywords: Sustainable Development. Conservation units. Sustainable Development Goals.

INTRODUCTION

Talking about sustainable development is referring to the interaction of several spheres of study, which encompasses economic, social, environmental, cultural issues, between others. First said in 1983 at a Conference in Norway, the expression sustainable development has been increasingly used in speeches by environmentalists and heads of state who really care about future generations (VEIGA, 2005).

In Brazil, through the Federal Constitution of 1988, a great achievement was achieved in relation to environmental legislation, as in the cases of articles 20 to 26 of the Federal Constitution of 88, and article 30 placing it as an obligation of the Union, of the States and Municipalities the environmental legislative competence. All these documents make clear the high relevance of environmental preservation for the well-being of all individuals in the current and future situation (FIORILLO, 2009).

In this historical logic of the rise of environmental law, Law 9,985/2000 was created, the purpose of which was to create the National System of Conservation Units that regulated the Conservation Units. This Law allowed progress in relation to the practical part of sustainable development issues in Brazil (MINISTÉRIO DO MEIO AMBIENTE, 2009).

Brazil has a territorial area corresponding to the fourth largest in the world with environmental protection, that is, to almost a million and a half square kilometers of land, behind only three countries like the United States, Russia and China (WDPA, 2009).¹

According to Sachs (2007), if we talk about sustainable development we must necessarily refer to economic growth, for the most skeptical the sustainability issue is impossible and unattainable to achieve, however although it is something really complex, as it involves numerous agents, and issues diverse, it is possible, yes, with the engagement of individuals and a cultural change solid society. More and more studies prove that protected areas collaborate to economic development and alleviate the issue of poverty in Brazil. These are territories that are possible for economic activity, in a balanced way, with a minimum of invasion and environmental damage. They are spaces that allow the generation of employment and income opportunities, promoting harmonious economic, social and environmental evolution. These Conservation Units are references for Brazilian society,

¹ World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA).

showing the possibility of creating a sustainable culture in the country (MINISTÉRIO DO MEIO AMBIENTE, 2009).

In this line of historical evolution of concern with the various social, environmental and economic issues, in 2015 the main Heads of State of the world met at the UN headquarters in order to deliberate on the new Sustainable Development Goals, it was definitely something historic as well as challenging. The goal would be to achieve all 17 (seventeen) goals by the year 2030. All these goals guided the issue of social equality, ensuring a quality of life for all, promoting sustainable management, making cities and communities inclusive and sustainable, protect and promote the sustainability of ecosystems, strengthen sustainable issues in every way globally.

Thus, constant studies are needed on these conservation units, in order to make clear the high relevance they promote in terms of social and economic development, and promotion with proof of the possibility of a sustainable culture in the country. Serving as exemplary territories, proving in practice the direct connection with the Sustainable Development Goals, making the continuity of these places extremely important.

The objective of this analysis is to achieve a deep vision of these territories as drivers and influencers, showing the importance that conservation units have in the sense of being delimited areas, and capable of modifying the fundamental pillars for an evolution social and environmental in a positive way in the sense of supporting a culture sustainable in our country, in addition to encouraging the expansion of environmental legislation Brazil as something crucial for sustainable development and the concern with future generations.

CONSERVATION UNITS AS A REFERENCE FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN BRAZIL

Conservation Units are places whose natural characteristics are essential to biodiversity, where they have the function of preserving and representing various species, habitats and the entire national biological heritage. Through the delimitation of these spaces, it is possible to ensure the sustainable use of natural resources, in addition to allowing the traditional communities involved to withdraw their economic livelihood through activities with environmental homeostasis.

Through Law 9,985/2000 that created the National System of Units of Conservation is understood that there are 12 (twelve) different types of Units of Conservation, with its respective management plan. Each category has a mode of use and protection of natural resources that covers all spheres, municipal, state and national. Some Conservation Units in Brazil are considered by the United Nations for education, science, and culture as a World Natural Heritage Site due to the high relevance of maintaining ecosystems and the concern for current and future generations (MINISTÉRIO DO MEIO AMBIENTE, 2009).

Among the 12 (twelve) types of categories there are two groups, the sustainable use and the strict protection area. The sustainable use group subdivides into Area of Relevant Ecological Interest; National Forest; Extractive reserve; Reservation of Sustainable development; Fauna reserve; Private Heritage Reserve Natural; and Environmental Protection Area. And from the use of full protection there are: Ecological station; Biological Reserve;

National park; Natural Monument and Wildlife Refuge. All these divisions have specific objectives for the maintenance of fauna and flora biodiversity, and the quality of life of the existing traditional communities (MINISTÉRIO DO MEIO AMBIENTE, 2009).

Through the effective fulfillment of the functions of conservation units in the Brazil, you can enjoy countless economic, social, cultural, natural benefits, among others. According to Prates and Irving (2015), the specific legislation of the National System of Protected Areas is one of the most advanced alternatives for preserving biodiversity in the world. There are important strategies and challenges that protected areas must take on in Brazil in order to promote significant sustainable development, showing the beneficial basis of these regions for the country; how to expand the knowledge and participation of society in improving the management of these territories; valuing the active communities by stimulating the sale of goods and services that produce the issue of socio-biodiversity; there is monitoring of biodiversity and possible threats to ecosystems; further improve the optimization of social and financial capital for natural resources (JENKINS & JOPPA, 2009).

Disseminating science about these existing conservation areas in Brazil makes with which, more and more, participation and engagement on the part of society increases. With regard to the management of these units, in the management councils, causing individuals become key players and feel responsible for the heritage natural audience. Following this logic, this social engagement of the population would facilitate a sustainable culture in the country. Well, only through education, and the promotion of knowledge can change the cultural basis of a people.

One way of bringing the population closer to the conservation units is by through tourism, by visiting these areas, the process of learning the importance of these regions for the country, in addition to increasing contact with nature providing an understanding of the relevance of economic growth with environmental preservation.

Another way of bringing Brazilian society closer to protected areas is through management councils, which ensure that civil society interacts with local decision-making, allowing them both a consultative and deliberative character. Among the various functions of the councils are monitoring the management plan process, from its preparation to its implementation, where this is a document that aims to discuss actions not only within the preservation area, but also in its surroundings, weighing on development local and even regional, encompassing several scientific strands.

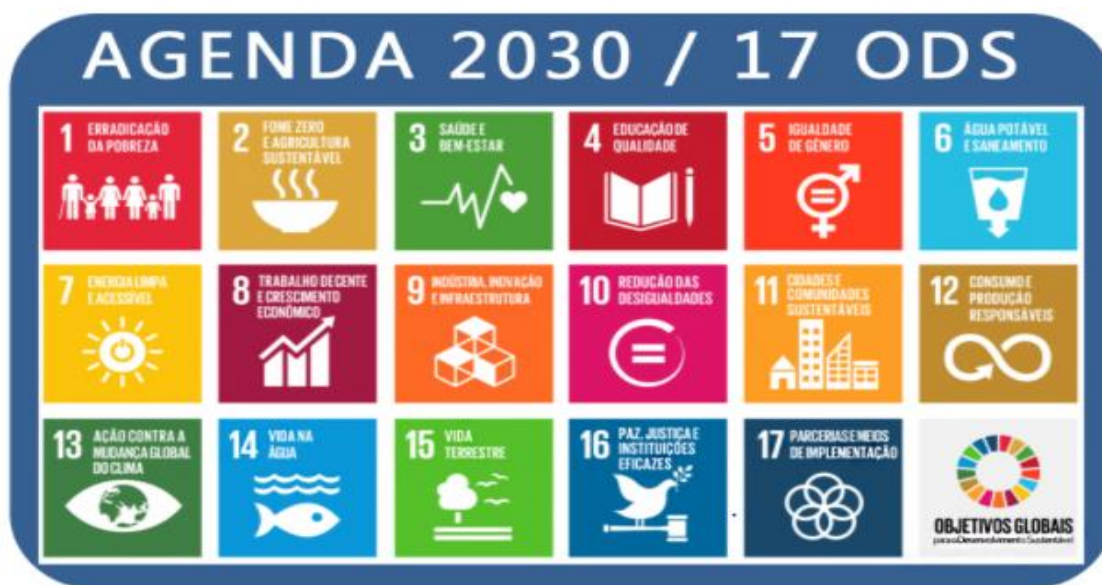
In addition, the councils promote the integration of the unit into issue with civil society organizations in order to assist in the management of the area of conservation and in case of any irregularity, remove such organization from the unit, among other functions (DRUMOND, 2009).

In Brazil alone, there are approximately 516 million hectares of natural forests, corresponding to more than 60% of the Brazilian territory, making our country the second largest forest area in the world, second only to Russia. In addition, our wealth is immeasurable because we have the richest flora on the planet, and the greatest biodiversity already existing, with more than 20% of the total species on earth and the main way to preserve our forests are with conservation units (SERVIÇO FLORESTAL BRASILEIRO – MINISTÉRIO DO MEIO AMBIENTE, 2009).

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN BRAZIL AND THEIR RELATIONS WITH CONSERVATION UNITS

With the definition of the 17 (seventeen) Sustainable Development Goals proposed in a meeting in 2015 at the headquarters of the United Nations, an arduous process began for all nations, including Brazil. It originated a kind of call to society at a global level to put into practice actions to improve life in all spheres of our planet.

Figure 01: The Sustainable Development Goals



Fonte: IPEA, 2018.

Where all individuals play key roles in promoting an earthly balance. The 17 (seventeen) global goals are: Eradicate poverty; Zero hunger and sustainable agriculture; Health and wellness; Quality education; gender equality; clean water and sanitation; clean and affordable energy; decent work and economic growth; industry, innovation and infrastructure; reduction of inequalities; sustainable cities and communities; responsible consumption and production; action against global climate change; life in water; terrestrial life; peace, justice and effective institutions and partnerships and means of implementation.

In the case of the National scope, targets were guided by the Brazilian regions and states for the articulated application of the objectives with the existing planning instruments, using sustainable development strategies according to each specific need (IPEA, 2018).²

In this way, the direct relationship between sustainable development objectives and the existence of Conservation Units is clear, both having a common objective, which is the promotion of sustainability. Mainly with regard to the objectives: sustainable cities and communities; action against global climate change; water life and terrestrial life.

² Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA).

Where the maintenance of conservation units promotes the preservation of communities and cities through the protection of traditional peoples, balancing economic, social, cultural and environmental issues. Another objective directly connected to protected areas is action against global climate change, due to the maintenance of forests influencing the temperature of a given region.

In addition, the conservation units are linked to the preservation of both aquatic and terrestrial life, through the concern with the existence of species, natural habitats, both fauna and flora, among others, as stated in objectives 14 and 15. By this is the crucial importance of the continuity of these conservation units, in order to contribute to the balance of the entire Brazilian ecosystem and to propulsive influence on sustainable development in Brazil, and thus assist in the process of achieving global sustainable goals in the Brazilian territory.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

According to Leff (2009), the excessive exploitation of natural resources facilitates the ecological landslide process. The more indiscriminate the extraction of the greater the possibility of social conflicts due to the scarcity of raw material. In an Angolan social scientific journal, the authors Lourenço and Machado (2013), claim that this use of natural resources also promotes degradation environmental. Thus, it is increasingly necessary to understand the importance of sustainable development, especially in our country, where it has an undeniable natural wealth, capable of being explored in a conscious and balanced way.

Conservation units emerge as real and sustainable examples to be followed by the Brazilian population and often as international references for promoting sustainability and the concern to leave a legacy of conscience for the next generations.

We know that planet earth is dynamic, and global changes exist and are considered normal, the issue is the acceleration process of these changes due to malefic anthropic actions. Nature does not need the human species to survive, but the human species is totally dependent on it and its natural resources. So, we must preserve our environmental wealth, yes, if we are not thinking about the environment, let it be for ourselves, for our species, so insignificant compared to the others (FAIRCHILD, 2000).

Therefore, it is essential to value sustainable culture, especially in the Brazil, where they hold an immeasurable biodiversity capable of transforming a society in a positive way, adding economic value, with environmental preservation. The Brazilian Conservation Units are in fact a great leap towards enabling a culture of sustainable development in our country, mainly because they are fully aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals in Brazil.

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