



**The Relevance of Municipalities Joining the Verdeazul Municipality  
Program in the State of São Paulo in Light of the Sustainable  
Development Objectives of the UN 2030 Agenda**

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## SUMMARY

The aims of this paper is to describe the trajectory and criteria of the Municipality VerdeAzul Program (PMVA) and the UN's 2030 Agenda, and to identify the SDGs that are directly related to the adoption of PMVA directives. The research used the qualitative method of exploratory and descriptive character. It was verifiable that the implementation of the municipal environmental agenda, in the municipalities of São Paulo through adherence to the PMVA, articulates its 10 guidelines with the SDGs of the UN Agenda 2030, and such integration constitutes a probable improvement in health conditions, income, quality of life, as well as an indicator for verifying the maintenance of public policies or their modification aimed at achieving the evolution of the desired environmental results, and the indication of a redirection of decisions with the proposition of new plans. Finally, the relevance of joining the PMVA is highlighted as a viable alternative for the execution of local environmental management that is feasible and likely to enable the quality of life associated with sustainable development with global impacts.

**KEYWORDS:** Environmental agenda. VerdeAzul Municipality Program. Sustainable Development Goals.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

The environmental issue demands extreme and urgent attention, as “(...) the guarantee of survival, current and future, is expressed through sustainability – which is sought after and is the objective to be achieved” (Silva, 2012, p 36).

Given the growing urbanization of the contemporary population, given that a large part of the world's population is concentrated in cities, the growth of a lifestyle marked by the illusion that human beings do not depend on nature is notable, which consists of a fallacy (Pereira; Silva; Carbonari, 2011).

Thus, it is “(...) necessary to overcome the dichotomous vision, which causes a split between society and nature, and understand the human being as part of nature, no longer as a being distant and separated the VerdeAzul Municipality Program (PMVA) of the State Secretariat for the Environment, Infrastructure and Logistics (SEMIL) aims to stimulate and assist São Paulo City Halls in the elaboration and execution of their strategic public policies for sustainable development in the state of São Paulo Paulo, focusing on decentralization and valuing the local environmental agenda.

Adhesion to the program is voluntary and simplified, and participation begins with a simple protocol of a letter indicating the interlocutors (main and alternate) of the municipality with the State Secretariat for the Environment (SMA). It is also guided by the proof of a set of activities and actions from 10 (ten) different directives that are used as parameters of the local environmental agenda (São Paulo, 2023). Furthermore, by noting that each region or location has different characteristics and particularities with diverse geographic and socio-environmental reality, requiring differentiated municipal action to achieve the specific objectives of implementing public policies of socio-environmental responsibility, in 2023 there was an update of the program in the 2023 cycle, with three significant changes, referring to the grouping of municipalities with established population groups, the review of guidelines and the incorporation of the assessment of environmental liabilities into the methodology (São Paulo, 2023).

Furthermore, the geographic extension of the State of São Paulo, which covers 645 municipalities, requires differentiated attention according to the particularities of each location,

especially considering that the municipalities of São Paulo must also align their public policies with the Development Objectives of the United Nations (UN), included in the 2030 agenda.

In turn, the UN Agenda 2030, created in 2015, defined 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) broken down into 169 goals, adopted at the 70th UN General Assembly, an occasion that brought together representatives from 193 member countries of the United Nations to adopt the global agenda “Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, with a view to eradicating poverty and environmental, social and economic development, on a global scale, by 2030 (UN, 2023).

In view of the above, based on the adherence to the local environmental agenda (PMVA) and the search to achieve the SDGs, this research had the following problematization: What is the relationship between the PMVA and the achievement of the UN Agenda 2030 SDGs in the municipal management of the State from Sao Paulo?

## **2 OBJECTIVES**

As a general objective of this article, we sought to analyse the relationship between the municipal environmental agenda (PMVA) and the SDGs of the UN Agenda 2030 in the management of Municipalities in the State of São Paulo. To this end, the specific objectives of the research consisted of: Describing the trajectory and criteria of the PMVA and the 2030 Agenda, and identifying the SDGs that are directly related to the adoption of the PMVA directives.

## **3 METHODOLOGY**

This research adopted a qualitative approach, as this approach is focused on exploring and understanding the meaning that individuals or groups give to a social or human problem (Creswell; Creswell 2021).

In view of the research objectives, it has an exploratory and descriptive nature. Therefore, the following were defined as technical-scientific procedures: - bibliographical research, through articles and materials that deal with the PMVA and the 2030 Agenda through scientific bases; and documentary research, which was based on the legal documents of the PMVA public policy of the state of São Paulo, as well as official UN documents. And data analysis was based on the interpretative method, in order to enable an analysis of the articulation of the SDGs with the environmental policy studied.

## **4 RESULTS**

### **4.1 Contextualization of PMVA**

The PMVA was founded in 2007 by the São Paulo Department of the Environment, with a view to stimulating and assisting São Paulo city halls in the elaboration and execution of

their strategic public policies for sustainable development in the state. Its focus is linked to decentralization and the valorization of the local environmental agenda, as set out in the program's guidance manual in its most recent version (São Paulo, 2023).

Support for the development of the local environmental agenda and the establishment of partnerships with municipalities is one of the strategies used by the Secretariat of Environment, Infrastructure and Logistics (SEMIL) to improve environmental management in the state of São Paulo (São Paulo, 2023, p.3).

Therefore, with more than 16 years of existence, the PMVA has already been adopted throughout its existence by several municipalities in São Paulo. However, adherence does not always remain, as there are histories of municipalities that joined at some point and later disassociated themselves, according to the variation in their adherence to the program criteria.

Regardless of changes, temporary or permanent voluntary adherence by municipalities, it is noted that the PMVA as a municipal environmental agenda aims, with its ten directives, to encourage the presence of the environmental variable on the municipality's agenda, encouraging the local Public Power to strengthen the environmental planning in its territory, and also support the efficiency of environmental management, with decentralization (São Paulo, 2023).

In this way, the PMVA, when guiding municipal environmental actions, in order to verify whether the municipality meets the program's ten directives, a score is assigned for each item that is proven to be in accordance with the program, as well as applying any point discounts.

Table 1 – List of PMVA directives

Directives Items covered	Items covered
01 Environmental Governance (GA)	GA1 - Does it have a Municipal Environmental Council, with equal composition, duly appointed and fully operational? GA2 - Does it have municipal employees participating in the Technical Chambers of its respective Hydrographic Basin Committee, the Councils of Conservation Units or Environmental Sector Groups of the current SEMIL (former SIMA)? GA3 - Does it have a Secretariat or Administrative Structure with specific responsibility for environmental management? GA4 - Do you have a Municipal Environmental Fund?
Directive 02 Advancement in Sustainability (AS)	AS1- In the current cycle, LED public lighting was implemented in a new section of the area urban area of the municipality? AS2 - Do you carry out public purchases of inputs, materials and foods of sustainable origin, including supplying the local public fleet with biofuels? AS3 - Do you have municipal legislation that provides incentives or sustainable construction standards? AS4 - Have you expanded or improved public transport infrastructure, pedestrian travel and cycle paths/cycle lanes?
Directive 03 Environmental Education (EA)	EA1 - Does it have a Municipal Environmental Education Program, approved by the City Council and in full operation?

	<p>EA2 - Do you carry out environmental awareness actions with teachers, students and communities, through events, lectures, workshops and webinars?</p> <p>EA3 - Do you have specific budget allocation for environmental education activities?</p>
Directive 04 Land Use (US)	<p>US1 - Do you have a Municipal Macrodrainage Plan?</p> <p>US2 - Does it have a Municipal Microdrainage Plan?</p> <p>US3 - Perform erosion control actions?</p> <p>US4 - Does it have an organized structure responsible for assuming its obligations in implementing protection, mobilization, coordination and execution policies in favor of climate adaptation and Civil Defense?</p> <p>US5 - Does it have mapping of risk areas under municipal administration or carry out work on risk and disaster reduction, in line with the State Civil Defense?</p>
Directive 05 Water Management (GAg)	<p>GAg1 - Do you have a Municipal Sanitation Plan with targets for water supply?</p> <p>GAg2 - Is the Sanitation Plan aligned with the goals of the New Sanitation Regulatory Framework (Federal Law No. 14,026, of July 15, 2020)?</p> <p>GAg3 - Are water supply rates being met with a view to universalization, in accordance with the Sanitation Legal Framework (according to concession contracts or municipal sanitation programs or plans)?</p> <p>GAg4 - Do you have a regulatory body for water supply services?</p> <p>GAg5 - Did you present an executive summary or management report (containing at least a coverage rate with water supply service, water loss rate, number of connections and water savings and extension of the distribution network)?</p> <p>GAg6 - There is publication on the water bill of the results of basic parameters (such as, for example, color, chlorine, turbidity, total coliform and e.coli) monitored in the water distribution network, according to Annex XX of Ordinance No. 5/ 2017 from the Ministry of Health?</p>
Directive 06 Collected and Treated Sewage (ECT)	<p>ECT1 - Do you have a Sanitation Plan with sewage collection and treatment goals?</p> <p>ECT2 - Presented an executive summary or management report containing, at a minimum, coverage rate with sewage collection service, sewage sewage treatment rate, number of connections and sewage savings, extension of sewage collection network and volume of treated sewage?</p> <p>ECT3 - Is the Sanitation Plan aligned with the goals of the New Sanitation Regulatory Framework (Federal Law No. 14,026, of July 15, 2020)?</p> <p>ECT4 - Are sewage collection and treatment rates being met with a view to universalization, in accordance with the Sanitation Legal Framework (according to concession contracts or Municipal Sanitation Programs or Plans)?</p> <p>ECT5 - Do you have a regulatory body for sewage collection and treatment services?</p>

07 Solid Waste (RS)	<p>RS1 - Does it have a Municipal Plan for Integrated Solid Waste Management or an Intermunicipal Plan in accordance with the National Solid Waste Policy (PNRS – Federal Law No. 12,305, of August 2, 2010)?</p> <p>RS2 - Is the Waste Landfill Quality Index (IQR) used by the municipality, according to the CETESB report, adequate (Score above 7.1)?</p> <p>RS3 - Do you carry out work or have a public selective collection policy?</p> <p>RS4 - Have you formally joined any regionalized or consortium solution?</p> <p>RS5 - Is the municipality's Waste Management Index (IGR) completed and finalized on the SEMIL Solid Waste Management platform?);</p>
Directive 08 Air quality (AQ)	<p>QA1 - Have you carried out any action that has promoted or encouraged the use and generation of clean energy?</p> <p>QA2 - Did you make investments to replace the public transport fleet with cleaner technologies?</p> <p>QA3 - Do you carry out and require annual or semi-annual periodic inspection and maintenance of diesel vehicles in your own and dealership fleets, with smoke/opacity checks?</p> <p>QA4 - Did you join the Firebreak operation and have a Municipal Forest Fire Brigade?</p> <p>QA5 - Do you carry out educational and fire inspection activities?</p>
Directive 09 Urban Afforestation (AU)	<p>AU1 - Do you have a Municipal Urban Afforestation Plan?</p> <p>AU2 - Do you have or carry out effective work to increase the percentage of vegetation cover in the urban perimeter?</p> <p>AU3 - Do urban afforestation initiatives prioritize the use of native species?</p> <p>AU4 - Does the Municipal Plan provide for a ban on the use of invasive exotic species in urban afforestation actions?</p>
Directive 10 Biodiversity (BIO)	<p>BIO1 - Carry out incentive actions or register areas of the municipality in the area bank of the "Programa Nascentes" for ecological restoration purposes?</p> <p>BIO2 - Do you implement any public policy regarding payment for environmental services (PSA) for conservation and/or restoration?</p> <p>BIO3 - Do you have a Municipal Plan for the Conservation and Recovery of the Atlantic Forest and/or Cerrado?</p> <p>BIO4 - Carries out actions for the conservation of local wildlife, such as, for example, initiatives aimed at human-fauna coexistence and encouragement and support for the Wild Animal Triage Center (CETAS), Wild Animal Rehabilitation Center (CRAS) or Wild Fauna Release and Monitoring Areas (ASM)?</p> <p>BIO5 - Does it carry out initiatives aimed at ecological restoration, with projects registered in the Computerized Ecological Restoration Support System (SARE)?</p> <p>BIO6 - Do you carry out initiatives to promote agroecological production in your territory?</p>

Source: prepared based on the PMVA Manual (São Paulo, 2023).

In this sense, it is clear that when using the PMVA manual as a basis for its concrete action, the municipality, with the adoption of the local environmental agenda, has clear guidelines, which according to Girão (2021, p. 60) “stimulates the improvement of the quality of local life; increases the availability of financial resources for the environmental area; provides positive visibility to the municipality; continually strengthens municipal environmental management.”

#### **4.2 Contextualization of the 2030 Agenda**

Throughout history, humanity had not been effectively concerned with the limits of natural resources and the impacts of human interference in the environment until the advances of the industrial revolution, especially in the 1960s. This long period of excessive exploration generated many environmental disasters and gave rise to previously unthinkable environmental awareness.

The concept of sustainable development was used for the first time in 1987, in the Brundtland Report entitled “Our Common Future”, however it is worth highlighting that sustainability was already being discussed through eco-development and disseminated, mainly by Sachs (Morales, 2012). Said report was prepared by the World Commission on Environment and Development, created by the United Nations General Assembly. The concept of sustainable development according to the document defines it as “development that seeks to meet the needs of the current generation, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (World Commission on Environment and Development, 1988, p. 46).

In this way, sustainable development constitutes the possibility for people in the present and in the future to reach a satisfactory level of social and economic development and human and cultural fulfillment. According to Menezes (2019, p.11):

The year 2015 was an important moment for global development. At the same time that the period defined for the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) was ending, important political debates and international negotiations were launched that defined the fundamental milestones of the new global development agenda. As a major outcome, the year marked the conclusion of the negotiations that led to the approval of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the 70th General Assembly of the United Nations (UN).

As Roma (2019) states, the SDGs made progress in the period from 2000 to 2015, but from this experience and with the improvement of objectives and targets, comes the debate in 2015 on the 2030 Agenda promoted at the UN with the expansion from eight to seventeen SDG and 169 targets (as described in table 2). This agenda and its objectives are a legacy of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and Agenda 21 itself. Furthermore, according to the UN, the applicability of the Objectives and targets of the 2030 agenda encourage action by the year 2030 in areas of crucial importance for humanity and the planet, being called the 05 Ps: people,

planet, prosperity, peace, partnership, therefore consisting of a call for collective collaboration, and which foresees significant transformations for development in a global school (UN, 2023).

Table 2 – Description of the 17 SDGs (2030 Agenda)

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES SUSTAINABLE SDG GOAL	OBJECTIVES
1 - Eradication of poverty	Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms, everywhere
2 - Zero hunger and sustainable agriculture	Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture
3- Health and Well-Being	Objective 3. Ensure a healthy life and promote well-being for everyone, at all ages
4 - Quality education	Objective 4. Ensure inclusive, equitable and quality education, and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5 - Gender equality	Objective 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
6 - Drinking water and sanitation	Objective 6. Ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for everyone
7 - Clean and affordable energy	Objective 7. Ensure reliable, sustainable, modern and affordable access to energy for everyone
8 - Decent work and economic growth	Objective 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
9 - Industry, innovation and infrastructure	Objective 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation inclusiva e sustentável e fomentar a inovação
10 - Reducing inequalities	Objective 10. Reducing inequality within and between countries
11- Sustainable cities and communities	Objective 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
12 - Responsible consumption and production	Objective 12. Ensure sustainable production and consumption patterns
13 - Action against global climate change	Objective 13. Take urgent measures to combat climate change and its impacts (*)
14 - Life in the water	Objective 14. Conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
15 - Life on land	Objective 15. Protect, restore and promote the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt the loss of biodiversity
16 - Peace, Justice and Effective Institutions	Objective 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
17 - Partnerships and means of implementation	Objective 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development



Source: Prepared based on the UN (2023).

Furthermore, Brazil, through Decree No. 8,892/2016, aiming to fulfill this agenda, that year, established the National Commission for the SDGs, composed of representatives from governments, public institutions, legislative and judicial bodies, Civil Society and the private sector. From this decree, the SDGs received special attention for action plans and monitoring of goals established by the UN (Schneider; Pezella, 2017).

#### 4.3 Relationship between adherence to the PMVA and the achievement of the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda

According to studies by Schneider and Pezella (2017, p.374):

It is believed that the more awareness on the part of the municipal parliament and the executive branch about municipal autonomy and the importance of good governance, transparent, participatory and also, with public policies to achieve sustainability and dialogue with new technologies, the activity administrative decision-making (administrative acts and processes) may bring the municipality even closer to implementing social rights policies.

In this context, it is clear that the implementation of the municipal environmental agenda, in the municipalities of São Paulo through adherence to the PMVA, links its 10 guidelines with the SDGs of the UN 2030 Agenda, especially SDGs 3, 4, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, and SDG 17 (and related goals), as shown in table 3.

Table 3 – Relationship between the PMVA Directives and the SDG targets of the 2030 Agenda

PMVA Directives - 2023	SDGs of the 2030 Agenda	SDGs Goals
01 Environmental Governance	16	16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.
02 Advancement in Sustainability	07	7.2 By 2030, substantially increase the share of renewable energy in the global energy matrix.
03 Environmental education	04, 12	4.7 By 2030, ensure that all students acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, equality of gender, promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and valuing cultural diversity and the contribution of culture to sustainable development. 12.08 By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature.
04 Land Use	03, 11, 13	3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals, contamination and pollution of air and soil water. 11.3 By 2030, increase inclusive and sustainable urbanization, and capacities for the planning and management of participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlements, in all countries.

		<p>11.6 By 2030, reduce the negative per capita environmental impact of cities, including paying special attention to air quality, municipal waste management and others.</p> <p>11.b By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements by adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans for inclusion, resource efficiency, climate change mitigation and adaptation, disaster resilience; and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels.</p> <p>13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related risks and natural disasters in all countries.</p>
05 Water Management	03, 06	<p>.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from dangerous chemicals, contamination and pollution of air and soil water.</p> <p>6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe drinking water for all.</p> <p>6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, and end open defecation, with particular attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.</p> <p>6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing the release of chemicals and hazardous materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.</p> <p>6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supplies of fresh water to address water scarcity, and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.</p> <p>6.5 By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including via transboundary cooperation, as appropriate.</p> <p>6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes.</p> <p>6.a By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity building support for developing countries in activities and programs related to water and sanitation, including water collection, desalination, water use efficiency, effluent treatment , recycling and reuse technologies.</p> <p>6.b Support and strengthen the participation of local communities to improve water and sanitation management.</p>
06 Sewage Collected and Treated	06	<p>6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing the release of chemicals and hazardous materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and reuse secure globally.</p> <p>6.b. Support and strengthen the participation of local communities to improve water and sanitation management.</p>
07 Solid Waste	11, 12	<p>By 2030, reduce the negative environmental impact per capita of cities, including paying special attention to air quality, municipal waste management and others.</p> <p>12.4 By 2020, achieve environmentally sound management of chemicals and all waste, throughout their entire life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release into air, water and soil, to minimize their negative impacts on human health and the environment.</p> <p>12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.</p>

08 Air quality	03	3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from dangerous chemicals, contamination and pollution of air and water.
09 Urban Afforestation	15	15.5 Take urgent and significant measures to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.
10 Biodiversity	15	15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounting systems. 15.b Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide appropriate incentives to developing countries to promote sustainable forest management, including for conservation and reforestation.

Source: The authors.

In addition to the direct articulation demonstrated in table 3, it is essential to take into account that the SDGs, even those not mentioned, can be achieved reflexively, since the Global Agenda itself has a bias towards a clear systemic nature, as the achievement of one target of an SDG can directly or indirectly influence the achievement of another target of the same or another SDG. However, in addition to demonstrating the possible conformation and articulation between the PMVA Guidelines and the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda, the existence of the articulation of the PMVA Guidelines and the SDGs that actually exist at the local/municipal level, can be used as an indicator of possible strengths and weaknesses with a view to supporting the decision-making of local managers in the formulation and implementation of sustainable environmental public policies, in order to verify how much the locality/municipality still needs to work to achieve any items contained in the PMVA guidelines and goals foreseen in the 2030 Agenda with the ultimate aim of achieving environmental sustainability at the local level.

As already described, the implementation of the Município VerdeAzul Program in the State of São Paulo scores the municipalities according to previously established criteria and their respective scores are more or less close to the expected efficiency of meeting the items contained in the directives. The objective of the classification aims to verify the potential of each Municipality in terms of exploring its capacity to execute the planning and management of participatory, integrated and sustainable human behaviors capable of contributing to sustainable development (São Paulo, 2023).

Along this path, the PMVA, which was created as a tool to encourage municipal management complemented by the responsible actions of public and private agents in the locality, is one of the key pieces for achieving the SDGs on the global environmental agenda, starting from local to global actions.

However, it cannot be expected that simply adhering to the PMVA by municipalities will be the panacea for environmental problems, as it is not, especially since not all municipalities are able to meet their targets.

According to Dantas and Passador (2020, p. 848):

Despite the innovative nature of the PMVA in decentralizing and promoting the sharing of a minimum environmental agenda, the level of adherence to this policy and the scores in the IAA signaled the existence of obstacles in the long-term planning of

municipal environmental systems. The results characterized the diversity between the regions of the state in terms of continuity in participation in the PMVA and environmental performance, as well as in the amount of public environmental spending, without there being a minimum standard established for this issue within the budget dynamics. Such variability can be discussed within the scope of traditional disparities in the Brazilian Federative State, coexisting disparate social, cultural, economic and demographic realities that can influence development and municipal management structures.

Therefore, the importance of adhering to the PMVA as an environmental agenda capable of providing effective results to municipalities and their residents, given the inseparable relationship between the quality of the environment and quality of life, is intrinsically linked to the achievement of the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda of the UN.

Thus, the results obtained indicate that the Municipality's classification as VerdeAzul and the integration of the local environmental agenda with the global agenda (SDG) means much more than the possible achievement of a prominent position in a state ranking. It constitutes a probable improvement in health conditions, income, quality of life, as well as an indicator for verifying the maintenance of public policies or their modification with a view to achieving the evolution of the desired environmental results, and if necessary the indication of a redirection of decisions with the proposal of new plans.

In periods of profound transformations as experienced today, a viable path to building a more environmentally just, dignified and supportive society requires everyone's participation in the deliberation, implementation and supervision of socio-environmental action programs.

The guidance experienced can give rise to new practices that make it possible to think about a more promising and less threatening future for Planet Earth and all its species, including humanity, which, due to its rationality, has responsibility for the search and broad implementation of all SDGs included in the UN 2030 Agenda.

## **5 FINAL CONSIDERATIONS**

From the 17 SDGs on the UN 2030 agenda, the need for governments to adapt their public environmental policies to these objectives is still verifiable.

In this context, the environmental agenda proposed by the PMVA of the State of São Paulo, as a guide to the responsible action of public managers in dealing with local environmental issues, which is intrinsically linked to the achievement of the SDGs of the UN 2030 agenda, enhances the transformative power of municipal socio-environmental initiatives in accordance with sustainability to be achieved at its maximum level (environmental, social and economic) in a local and global context.

Consequently, joining the PMVA can be a viable alternative for implementing local environmental management that is feasible and capable of enabling the quality of life associated with sustainable development with global impacts, going beyond local limits.

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