

THE WATER ISSUE IN PUBLIC POLICIES: STUDY OF THE SUSTAINABLE LOGISTICS PLAN OF THE PERNAMBUCO COURT OF JUSTICE

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ABSTRACT

Public policies must be relevant for the drawing up and subsequent implementation of the actions of governments and other entities, with the purpose of mitigating environmental impacts, of which human activities are preponderant. In this sense, the Pernambuco Court of Justice has been taking sustainable initiatives through the institution's Sustainable Logistics Plan. In this way, this article aims to analyze public policies in dealing with the water issue, giving particular emphasis to the Sustainable Logistics Plan of the Court of Justice of the State of Pernambuco, seeking to understand the relationship with legal mechanisms for increasing water efficiency and effectiveness. The methodology focused on the documentary survey of international, national and state scope, concerning Agreements, Laws, Decrees and Norms, through critical reading. The International Agreements led by the UN have become important promoters of public policies, in facing the phenomena and factors that contribute to the occurrence of water scarcity in the world. National laws and other infra-legal instruments followed these guidelines, seeking to adapt to the global trend to promote water sustainability. On the other hand, the Pernambuco Court of Justice, through the Sustainable Logistics Plan, can be considered a case of sectoral

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benchmarking, even if the initiatives still need further deepening in the environmental, social and governance fields.

Keywords: international agreements; governance; legislation; public agency; water security

RESUMO

As políticas públicas devem ser relevantes para a elaboração e posterior execução das ações das governanças e das demais entidades, no propósito de mitigar os impactos ambientais, dos quais as atividades humanas são preponderantes. Neste sentido, o Tribunal de Justiça de Pernambuco vem assumindo iniciativas sustentáveis através do Plano de Logística Sustentável da instituição. Desta forma, o presente artigo visa analisar as políticas públicas no trato da questão hídrica, dando destaque particular ao Plano de Logística Sustentável do Tribunal de Justiça do Estado de Pernambuco, buscando compreender a relação com os mecanismos legais para aumento da eficiência e eficácia hídrica. A metodologia focou no levantamento documental de âmbito internacional, nacional e estadual, concernente a Acordos, Leis, Decretos e Normas, por meio de leitura crítica. Os Acordos Internacionais liderados pela ONU tornaram-se importantes fomentadores de políticas públicas, no enfrentamento dos fenômenos e fatores que contribuem para a ocorrência da escassez hídrica no mundo. As Leis nacionais e os demais instrumentos infralegais seguiram estes encaminhamentos, buscando adequarem-se à tendência mundial para promover a sustentabilidade hídrica. Já o Tribunal de Justiça de Pernambuco, por meio do Plano de Logística Sustentável, pode ser considerado um caso de benchmarking setorial, mesmo que as iniciativas ainda necessitem de maior aprofundamento nos campos ambiental, social e de governança.

Palavras-chave: acordos internacionais; governança; legislação; órgão público; segurança hídrica

INTRODUCTION

About one third of the world's population lives in a situation of water deprivation, and it is necessary to improve human-water interaction, with a view to guaranteeing the quantity and quality of water for the population in the future, requiring water valuation. It is imperative to promote a balance between consumption and environmental conservation, given the interdependence of the water-energy-food causal nexus. Just as, for energy purposes, conflicts in the multiple uses of the importance of the energy-water causal nexus can be denoted to subsidize formulators for efficient water use.

One of the sectors that most demand water resources is agriculture, and it is challenging to establish a balance between the various uses. Waste of various kinds and the absence of reuse systems are some common realities that can lead to resource depletion, in addition to seeking alternative sources to meet demand. There is a need for environmental rules for the conservation of water resources, in a global view, since water is essential. Thus, this interaction must involve the adoption of public policies and personal engagement. Human interest in water goes beyond the basic need to survive, as it contributes to the individual's flourishing, making it possible to fulfill personal aspirations.

In this way, this article aims to analyze public policies in dealing with the water issue, in addition to correlating with a case study, the Sustainable Logistics Plan (PLS) of the Court of Justice of the State of Pernambuco (TJPE). For that, an analysis of International Agreements regarding the water issue was carried out, a study of national and state legislation identifying the water theme and, finally, a relationship was made with the case in question. The methodology focused on a documentary survey of international, national and state scope, concerning Agreements, Laws, Decrees and Norms, through critical reading. In order to understand the relationship with the legal mechanisms that increase water efficiency and effectiveness, it was necessary in this case to give particular prominence to the PLS of the Pernambuco Court of Justice. We thus intended to contribute to the debate of the issue and the improvement of national and state public policies aimed at increasing the quality and quantity of water available for different uses, in particular, for public buildings of the federal and state governments.

1 THE WATER ISSUE

The latest water data from the United Nations (UN, 2019a) reinforce the concern about the deepening of the stress situation. This scarcity stems from climatic events (severe droughts) and will expand the exploitation of this resource to meet human demand (LIN *et al.*, 2019), being the most serious threat to sustainable planetary development (LI *et al.*, 2020). Considering the recognition made by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of the United Nations (UN, 2018) that water is essential, it is inferred that this interaction must involve the adoption of public policies and personal engagement, it is observed that 31 countries in North Africa and the Middle East are water scarce (UN, 2019a), while 2/3 of the world's population, equivalent to four billion people, spend at least one month a year in severe water scarcity (MEKONNEN; HOEKSTRA, 2016; SALEHI, 2021). It is imperative to seek ways to improve the availability of this resource for current and future generations (GIMELLI, 2018; GIROLAMO *et al.*, 2019; VOS *et al.*, 2019, ZHAO *et al.*, 2019), even if it is necessary to carry out a water valuation process (GETACHEW; CHUN, 2017; AO *et al.*, 2020; YAN *et al.*, 2020).

By 2050, demand and use of water could continue to increase by 20% to 30%, in developing countries or emerging economies. Globally, water resources will be under 55% pressure from human consumption in the next decade, while currently around 25% of large cities are facing some levels of water stress (SCHLAMOVITZ; BECKER, 2021). With climate change in the affected regions, there is a possibility of worsening inequality in the distribution of this resource on the planet (UN, 2019a). Drought is already the cause of 5% of natural catastrophes, with a picture of death and economic losses. Floods accounted for 43% of natural disasters between 1995 and 2015, affecting 2.3 billion people, causing 157 deaths and a loss of US\$662 billion in the period. This reality tends to worsen the water crisis around the world in the coming years (SALEHI, 2022).

The highest percentage of water withdrawal is attributed to agriculture, livestock and aquaculture, around 70%; industry and energy generation correspond to around 20%, while private residences represent 12% (VOLLMER; HARRISON, 2021, MISHRA *et al.*, 2021). Due to the demand for energy generation and food production (OLAWUIY, 2020), there is a need to comply with water efficiency (NOURI *et al.*, 2019) and to address conflicts in the multiple uses of water (KUO; SMITH, 2018, ENTEZANI

et al., 2019; NAWAB *et al.*, 2019). On the other hand, 80% of the total of these waters is discharged into the environment without proper treatment, becoming the focus of diseases. In Asia and the Pacific, 29 countries did not have water security due to the unsustainable withdrawal of groundwater (UN, 2019a), and it is relevant to seek ways to avoid water depletion (ARARAL, 2014; OAKES, 2016; OBENG-ODOOM, 2018).

Several authors (MOLINOS-SENANTE; DONOSO, 2016; ADAPA, 2018; VOLLMER; HARRISON, 2021; MISHRA *et al.*, 2021; SALEHI, 2022) reinforce that accelerated urbanization and population growth, as well as water pollution and contamination, cause greater search for water resources. In a study by the United Nations, it was found that 65% of the Latin American and Caribbean population already had drinking water services satisfactorily assured in 2015, with water supply coverage being high by 13% in urban areas, with 96% of the population enjoying this service. These regions together (Latin America and the Caribbean) have a low level of water stress, from 0% to 10%, but depend on rainfall to produce about 60% of their food, just like 80% of arable land in other continents (UN, 2019a), and it is relevant to seek environmental rules for the conservation of water resources, in a global view (BROWN; ADGER; CINNER, 2018).

Water shortages have already occurred. Studies carried out in the United States (DJEHDIAN *et al.*, 2019), in Latin American countries (DESBUREAUX; RODELLA, 2019) and in Europe (STAVENHAGEN; BURMAN; TORTAJADA, 2018) show that this problem is present in several locations. This issue is also part of the reality of Brazil (RIO; DRUMOND; RIBEIRO, 2016; BOICO; WENDLAND; BATISTA, 2018; MERCURE *et al.*, 2019), and it is necessary to increase the understanding of this phenomenon to design effective Public Policies.

The National Water Agency (ANA, 2018) says that 12% of the planet's fresh water flows through Brazilian territory, about 260,000 m³/s. This situation causes a distorted perception, since economic occupations, private and public, have increased water consumption without the necessary precautions (ANA, 2018). However, water availability in the country is regionalized, as is the case in other continents.

The distribution of this water supply is unbalanced, so that there are regions with water stress, in this case the Brazilian semi-arid region, while in others there is high availability, such as in the North. In the South and Southeast of Brazil, the financial issue is preponderant for defining the multiple uses of water (EMPINOTTI; BUDDS; AVERSA, 2019), as well

as the size and number of household residents and the educational level (DIAS; KALBUSCH; HENNING, 2018). It was recorded that 3,545 municipalities (63.7% of the total) carry out water collection in a deep well and of these, 40.5% of the Northeast have water rationing (IBGE, 2010). For Mercure *et al.* (2019) and Salehi (2022), the water crisis is a management and use efficiency problem, related to local and global environmental change, in addition to the electricity sector policy directly affecting the availability of drinking water for other uses.

In this matter, it is relevant to understand Public Policies at different levels. But beyond public policies, it is clear that the water issue is challenging for state, national and transnational governments, since it is a good that goes beyond borders, requiring a deep articulation in the various spheres of governance, as well as the application of sustainable technologies by society, in particular by the public sector. In this sense, understanding International Agreements as inducers of national public policies is crucial for advancing water management.

2 INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

An event held by the UN culminated with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in Resolution 217 A III (UN, 1948), where access to water figured as an immanent right to the dignity of the human person. From there, the governances produced a set of legislative norms aimed at this end, in contribution to the reduction of the historical social inequalities that affect several human groups (ITAMARATY, 2014).

In Stockholm, the first United Nations Conference on the Human Environment took place, a framework for environmental discussions (NOGUEIRA; LIMA; ALMEIDA, 2020), where the issue of human water needs was observed in Recommendation no. 10, with the proposition that

[...] development assistance agencies should give higher priority, where justified in the light of the social benefits, to supporting Governments in financing and setting up services for water supply, disposal of water from all sources, and liquid-waste and solid waste disposal (UN, 1972, p. 8).

In Oslo, the Conference on Development and International Economic Cooperation: Environment was held, in which the World Commission on Environment and Development, which produced the report *Our Common Future*, formulated the concept of sustainability (UN, 1987). In 1992, the UN held the Earth Summit Conference in Rio de Janeiro, which

formulated the Global Agenda 21 (UN, 1992). Highlighted, the Chapter 18 brings Program 21 that deals with the search for quality and supply of drinking water, with the application of integrated criteria for collection, management and use of this good.

In developing countries such as China, Brazil, South Africa, Russia and India (BRICS), environmental pressures have risen by 87% and this has expanded the global water footprint that generates gray water, which is a term indicating the water used in the production of goods and services (ZHAO, 2019). However, the

[...] local and international agreements, water pollution regulations have been restricted to local levels only, leading to a significant dichotomy between developed and developing nations in terms of their effectiveness (INCERA; AVELINO; SOLIS, 2017, p. 1).

In order to assist in meeting the Global Agenda 21 by 2015, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were edited during the 56th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UN, 2000). The eradication of poverty was identified as one of the primary objectives (MIBIELLI; BARCELLOS, 2014), requiring normative processes with the structuring of Public Policies for this purpose (FUKUDA-PARR; GREENSTEIN; STEWART, 2013).

Continuing the MDGs, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) seek to deepen the UN 2030 Agenda (AGOSTINHO *et al.*, 2019). The SDGs are divided into 17 Goals, with 169 targets, “which combine the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental” (UN, 2015). It is a framework for the growing “universal concern about the healthy and sustainable use of the planet and its resources” (UN, 2019). Goal 6, which aims to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, is directly related to the water issue (OJUTKANGAS; ROSSI; MATINMIKKO-BLUE, 2022). For Zhao *et al.* (2022), 24 indicators closely related to SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 6, SDG 7, SDG 8, SDG 9 and SDG 11, which represent the four dimensions of education, employment, public health and infrastructure in public services, are being compromised with China’s rapid urbanization.

The indicators pointed out by the SDGs related to drinking water and sanitation (IBGE, 2008) are: (i) proportion of wastewater treated safely; (ii) proportion of water bodies with good environmental quality; (iii) change in water use efficiency over time and (iv) level of water stress – proportion of freshwater withdrawals in relation to the total available freshwater

resources. In order for them to be put into practice, it is necessary not to neglect the interdependence of the objectives that integrate them, needing to satisfy other relativized goals (IKE *et al.*, 2019), as well as the nonexistence of a scientifically based model that supports the indicators to measure sustainability (AGOSTINHO *et al.*, 2019). Barbier, Burges (2019) and Howe (2019) record the difficulty of establishing a coherent connection between the economic, social and environmental triad given the lack of clarity and nexus of this triad/systems. Thus, the basis of Public Policies must be well understood to support actions on the path to sustainability. However, sustainability actions do not require a strong strategy.

3 NATIONAL PUBLIC POLICIES

When looking for legal norms relevant to the use of water in Brazil, it appears that three decades after the end of Imperial Brazil, water management in Brazilian territory began to be dealt with by Decree no. 24,643 (BRASIL, 1934), which outlined the first concepts of water, as a mineral resource with economic value. Despite the name Water Code given to this Law, there was no direction towards the environmental theme. The purpose of this Code, an initiative of the Vargas Government, as Espósito Neto (2015) analyzed, was objectively the “reorganization of the electricity sector with a view to increasing the role of the Federal Government” in this topic, hitherto explored by the private sector.

In later decades, environmental events held by the UN began to declare water as a fundamental good, steering the defense of human rights towards water, when the World Bank put governance in the spotlight for environmental efficiency (IOCCA; FIDELIS, 2018). After this fact, the discussion began on the legal nature of water, between the current that understands this to be a world common good and the current that understands it to be a private good, a commodity, which for Brazilian legislation (Brazil, Law No. 9,433/77 art. 1, I and II) “is a middle ground, as it recognizes the public nature of the natural resource water and that its use must be paid for” (BOLSON; HAONAT, 2016, p. 232). This national Agenda generated a process of discussion by the Federative Units for the establishment of State Agendas, essential for deepening the understanding of the dilemmas and contradictions present in each state, and in these, in each region.

The event following the Global Agenda 21 was the edition of the Brazilian Agenda 21, maintaining and propagating among the other national

federations the concept of sustainability conceived by the UN Declarations and Agreements system. In order to promote the strategic guidelines of the national sustainability plan, it was also supported by political opportunities for the success of sustainable development programs and projects, tested in other Brazilian regions, with a view to development.

Among the priority platforms of this Agenda is the preservation of the quantity and improvement of the quality of water in hydrographic basins. Brazil is a participant in the commitments to preserve water related to the SDGs (BRASIL, 2019) and, through Decree no. 8,892 (BRASIL, 2016. Art. 1), instituted a national commission focused on implementing these Goals. With regard to water, on the website of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), SDG indicators that show adherence to the reality found in the urban area of the country stand out: (i) proportion of treated wastewater; (ii) proportion of water bodies with good environmental quality; (iii) efficiency in water use; (iv) proportion of water abstraction in relation to available water; (v) participation of local communities to improve water and sanitation management; (vii) proportion of local administrative units with established and operational policies and procedures for local community participation in water and sanitation management.

Even before this period, the Brazilian Federal Constitution (BRASIL, 1988), in item VI of Art. 26, consecrates the waters of the national territory (surface or underground, fluent, emerging and in deposits) as property of the States. In addition, other environmental demands made it imperative for the Government to “promote environmental education at all levels of education and public awareness for the preservation of the environment” (BRASIL, 1988, Art. 225, VI). For the first time, the national Constitution has a chapter entirely dedicated to the environment, which highlights this theme.

Previously, this measure was already included in the National Environmental Policy, Law no. 6,938 (BRASIL, 1981), creating principles to be pursued for this purpose. Years later, the National Water Resources Policy (BRASIL, 1997) established the hydrographic basin as the basic management unit of water management for: (i) systematic management of water resources, without dissociating the aspects of quantity and quality; (ii) adequacy of water resources management to the physical, biotic, demographic, economic, social and cultural diversities of the different regions of the country; (iii) integration of water resources management with environmental management; (iv) articulation of water resources planning with

the planning of user sectors and with regional, state and national planning; (v) articulation of the management of water resources with that of land use and (vi) integration of the management of hydrographic basins with that of estuarine systems and coastal zones (BRASIL, 1997).

In this Law, the Government is in charge of taking care of, regulating, disciplining and managing the use and preservation of national waters, through the National Water Resources Policy, aiming: (i) to ensure to current and future generations the necessary availability of water, in quality standards appropriate to the respective uses; (ii) the rational and integrated use of water resources, including water transport, with a view to sustainable development; (iii) to prevent and defend against critical hydrological events of natural origin or resulting from the inappropriate use of natural resources and (iv) to encourage and promote the capture, preservation and use of rainwater.

Resolution no. 357 of the National Environment Council (CONAMA, 2005) brings characteristics and classifications to the waters, which discipline the monitoring of the maintenance of the standard and the defined goals for the preservation of water quality, as well set out by the National Water Resources Policy (BRASIL, 1997). Subsequently, Resolution no. 430 (CONAMA, 2011) lists the “conditions, parameters, standards and guidelines for managing the release of effluents into receiving water bodies”. Therefore, Brazil has a consistent hydrographic legislative framework. However, forecasts in norms and water plans are not enough for a long-term service of programs and projects that increase the preservation and correct use of the water resource. So that from this need initiatives occur.

Written norms need human action to have an effect. It is necessary that public agents, economic agents and other social actors take effective actions that mitigate the consequences of predictable climatic events and that also mitigate the negative effects of unsustainable water use. Resolution no. 54 of the National Water Resources Council (CNRH, 2005) established concepts, definitions and criteria for the reuse of non-potable water at the national level, aiming to guide the Federated States in this sustainable practice of reducing water depletion. This assigned responsibilities to the bodies of the National Water Resources Management System (SINGREH) to discipline and monitor the public policy of water reuse, measuring and improving performance. After this, Resolution no. 121 (CNRH, 2010) determines new procedures for the use of non-potable water, now for

the agricultural and forestry environment. In this sense, legislation at the national level is quite consolidated, requiring state enforcement, which represents a significant advance towards the sustainable development of the use of water resources in Brazil.

4 STATE WATER RESOURCES LEGISLATION

The Brazilian Federative Units started to align themselves with this trend by developing their norms of environmental preservation. One of the first rules of the State of São Paulo focused on water management was Law no. 1,350 (SÃO PAULO, 1951), in continuation of Federal Decree-Law no. 24,643 (BRASIL, 1934), with the aim of creating and organizing the state company for the promotion of electric energy. With the creation of the State Water Resources Council (SÃO PAULO, 1987) and the State Water Resources Policy, by Law no. 7,663 (SÃO PAULO, 1991. Art. 3), principles were adopted with a focus on water sustainability: decentralized, participatory and integrated management, without decoupling quantitative and qualitative aspects and the meteorological, surface and underground phases of the hydrological cycle; combating and preventing the causes and adverse effects of pollution, floods, droughts, soil erosion and silting up of water bodies; compatibility of water resources management with regional development and environmental protection.

In addition, it also provided for actions to: (i) establish areas for protection and conservation of usable water for supplying populations; (ii) integrate the hydrographic basins, treat urban, industrial and other effluents and sewage; (iii) implement, conserve and recover permanent and mandatory protection areas; (iv) describe the zoning of floodable areas, with restrictions on incompatible uses in areas subject to frequent flooding and maintenance of the soil's infiltration capacity; (v) rationalize the use of water intended for urban, industrial and irrigation supply; (vi) treat wastewater, especially urban sewage; (vii) protect aquatic flora and fauna, as well as those of the environment (SÃO PAULO, 1991. Art. 6).

In this path of water sustainability, Ceará instituted Law no. 16,033 (CEARÁ, 2020) for the reuse of non-potable water. This conceptualized the types of water: raw, wastewater, reuse; defined the types of reuse: (i) internal: which is to reuse the water itself; (ii) external: which is the reuse of untreated water by third parties (producers of water for reuse, individuals or legal entities, private or public); (iii) provided for the users: individuals

or legal entities, of public or private law; and (iv) established guidelines: protection and promotion of public health; maintenance of ecosystem integrity; protection and preservation of water resources and the sustainable use of water. Except for human supply, the effects of this Law cover the reuse of drinking water for urban, agricultural and forestry, environmental, industrial and aquaculture purposes.

Pernambuco's legislation for the State Policy on Water Resources (PERH) also follows the parameters adopted by national legislation, written in 1934. Law no. 11,427 (PERNAMBUCO, 1997, Art. 1, Sole Paragraph) provided for the conservation and protection of groundwater in its territory, determining the creation of a permanent program for the conservation and protection of state groundwater, which consists of the "rational use, in the application of pollution control measures and in the maintenance of its physical-chemical and biological balance in relation to other natural resources".

In sequence, there is Ordinary Law no. 12,984 (PERNAMBUCO, 2005), which regulates the State Water Resources Policy and the Integrated Water Resources Management System. Improving these instruments, State Decree no. 20,423" (PERNAMBUCO, 1998, Art. 2) established that this and other pertinent rules will serve "the conservation and protection of natural underground water deposits in the State of Pernambuco". This Decree defined groundwater, the types of aquifers and the forms of capture and exploitation in these environments, among others; assigned to the State Water Resources Council the regulation and deliberation regarding the formulation, implementation, execution, control and evaluation of the PERH, and to the Water Resources Board (DRHI), of the Pernambuco Department of Science, Technology and Environment the task of researching, studying, evaluating, registering the works of capture, granting and use of water, control of exploitation, inspection and monitoring of their interaction with surface and meteorological waters (PERNAMBUCO, 1998, Art. 5, 6).

In April 2018, the Government of the State of Pernambuco issued Decree no. 45,821 (PERNAMBUCO, 2018), with the objective of implementing the 2030 Agenda, encouraging state and municipal entities and civil society to put SDGs into practice, through articulation and dialogue. This legal instrument did not detail such Goals, which could have happened, even though they had already been disseminated in other normative moments. It limited itself to creating the collegiate State Commission, which was empowered to deal with this issue in the Pernambuco territory.

5 TJPE SUSTAINABLE LOGISTICS PLAN

Following public policy actions to promote improvements in the ecological footprints of these institutions, the National Council of Justice (CNJ) formulated Recommendation no. 11 (CNJ, 2007), to the other Brazilian State Judiciary Powers. The Pernambuco Court of Justice was in line with this guideline by editing Resolution no. 238, which created the Sustainability Nucleus, attributing managerial competences to implement the Legal Sustainability Program.

This inaugural program on the subject at the institution had the general objective of promoting actions with a criterion of sustainability and economicity in the Court's activities, to: (i) promote actions of social responsibility and sustainability; (ii) carry out educational campaigns; (iii) systematize information related to the assessment in the scope of social responsibility; (iv) formulate and implement the evaluation model of the responsibility and sustainability indicators, including the social balance; (v) develop other related activities (TJPE, 2008, Resolution no. 238, § 2, III, g, Art. 1 and Art. 80).

In 2015, the TJPE's Social Responsibility and Sustainability Center lists ten specific objectives to be pursued, from which those closest to water sustainability were extracted here: (i) Encourage actions for the rational consumption of natural resources and public goods; (ii) promote the (re) use of materials, liable to return to their production cycle, which have been rejected by Public Administration bodies or entities.

Subsequently, the PLS of 2016-2018 of the Court of Justice of Pernambuco emerged, the basis for the 2018/2019 biennium (PERNAMBUCO, 2018) which included four different Executive Groups (EG), where the water theme was allocated in the first: EG – Management of Sustainable Materials and Services, listing TJPE PLS data on water resources. In order to rationalize the use of water, the PLS uses the volume of water consumed per constructed area (m^3/m^2) as an indicator, with the goal of “reducing the volume of water consumed per constructed area by 2%. This indicator has the consumption of 0.81 m^3 as a baseline for 2014.

The actions planned for this goal range from consumption metrics to measures to avoid waste and procedural losses, the most important ones to our case being: (i) expanding information on the conscious consumption of water; (ii) inspecting units that show a variation above 25% in the monthly average of consumption; (iii) monthly evaluating each individual account;

(iv) adopting measures to avoid water wastage, such as installing more efficient flushing and faucets with energy-saving devices; (v) informing the staff of the test results; (vi) carrying out an awareness campaign on the rational use of water; (vii) monitoring the situation of hydraulic installations; (viii) carrying out laboratory tests of piped water quality.

This framework of effective action in favor of SDGs has served as a guideline for the preparation of Sustainable Logistics Plans since then, on which, obviously, the Judiciary of Pernambuco has been relying to implement sustainability in the jurisdictional scope. The goals in the PLS for the 2018/2019 period are (i) periodically evaluating differences in the history of consumption in the Judiciary buildings in order to identify the main consumers and treat them differently; (ii) awareness campaign and conscientious consumption regarding the use of water; (iii) production and dissemination of videos with guidelines for conscious water consumption; (iv) permanence of multidisciplinary teams (plumber, electrician and bricklayer) in the main buildings, neutralizing non-conformities when problems are identified.

Ordinance no. 07 (TJPE, 2018b) comprehensively provides the guidelines for the purpose described in the PLS, without specifying the procedures that are in line with the goals of SDG no. 6 Drinking Water and Sanitation, in order to “Ensure the Availability and Sustainable Management of Water and Sanitation for All” (UN, 2015). In this sense, the TJPE is aligned with International Agreements, National Policies, seeking to increase water efficiency and effectiveness in its units, and can serve as a benchmark.

However, it is observed that the main focus of the Sustainable Logistics Plan of the Pernambuco Court of Justice, regarding the confrontation with water scarcity, presents actions and goals that were restricted to the economic issue of the triple bottom line (internal consumption and expenditure of water), not addressing such extremely relevant issues as governance (telemetric management forms for technical/administrative decisions in real time), environmental issues (measuring impacts arising from capture and effluents, use of cleaner and more sustainable technologies such as reuse of gray water, capture of rainwater, aiming at reducing the water footprint) and social issues (identification of the different understandings of the water issue among employees and outsourced workers, permanent awareness campaigns, establishment of strategies to increase the environmental perception of the water problem).

Even so, the TJPE can be considered a sector leader in the water issue,

serving as a sectoral benchmark, given the initiatives that have been taking place in the construction of new buildings, where the sustainability theme has been one of the focuses for the internalization of cleaner construction technologies, forms of water economy and understanding of the water issue in the location of each unit of the Court. In this way, it is believed that the TJPE will deepen the understanding of this theme, aligning institutional initiatives with the determinations of the PLS and aiming to achieve SDGs.

CONCLUSIONS

Water poverty in the world is a fact. Being aggravated by climate change and the inequality in the distribution of water on the planet, economic production activities have a greater share in this case, because they demand large amounts of this resource. This situation is enhanced by population growth, which increases water consumption and also affects water bodies with pollution.

With a view to tackling the problem at the international level, entities focused on the field of public policies have been the protagonists in the drawing up of agreements to guarantee access to water for all at present. These policies seek to ensure the preservation of water resources for future generations, so that they help to conserve hydrology, protect peoples' well-being and progress. In this way, they also strive to maintain a pattern of sustainable economic growth and, for this, it was necessary to establish action plans based on the triple bottom line, internalizing the concept of environmental, social and economic development.

Referring to the national scope, there was also a marked inequality in the country's hydrology, which causes an imbalance in water distribution, so that there are regions of Brazil that are affected by water scarcity more intensely. In this sense, since the International Agreements are inductors of Public Policies, the country's environmental legislation has become robust, with regulations focused on the perspective of increasing the quantity and quality of water. This vision reinforced the conviction that this natural resource is essential for the development and maintenance of life, in all social strata. This had national repercussions in the enactment of a specific set of Laws, Decrees and Norms, with the States and Municipalities having established complementary legislation.

The sustainable logistics of the Pernambuco Court of Justice, in order to face water scarcity, presents actions and goals that were restricted to the

economic issue of the triple bottom line (internal consumption and expenditure of water). There is a gap to be filled by the institution, in social and environmental terms. To this end, the focus should be on reducing the water footprint, with proposals for reuse and rainwater harvesting for some of the Jurisdiction's buildings. Even so, the TJPE can be considered a sector leader in the water issue.

More effective actions are recommended at this institutional level, in order to obtain greater knowledge of the parameters contained in the Environmental Agreements, Laws and Norms, in order to make determined progress on the issue of water security. This would even contribute to raising the education of condominium populations, through the example of water reuse and rainwater harvesting.

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