Impact on Sustainability with a View to Climate Change in Brazil

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Abstract

Climate change significantly impacts water resources, especially in developing countries where water management faces structural and financial challenges. Increasing extreme events, such as droughts and floods, compromise water availability and quality, affecting vulnerable populations and critical sectors. Brazil, despite abundant water resources, faces diverse regional challenges due to extreme climatic variability. Addressing these issues requires incorporating water management into adaptive and cross-sectoral policies with sector-specific integration. The Water Resilience Tracker (WRT) is a tool used to help climate planners and policymakers systematically assess how water is explicitly and implicitly included in national climate plans and planning processes. It involves a questionnaire covering four critical areas: (1) Water in National Climate Plans, (2) Water in National Planning and Governance, (3) Water-Climate Connections in Specific Sectors, and (4) Links to Climate Financing and Project Implementation. In this context, the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change and the Federal University of São Paulo (Unifesp) are analyzing sixteen sectoral and thematic plans within the Climate Plan - Adaptation, which propose strategies to address climate impacts. Preliminary analysis of six plans reveals water is not treated as a connecting axis, with gaps in addressing uncertainties, climate scenarios, and a holistic vision.