

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) seek to address economic, social and environmental issues in a sustainable manner underpinned by good governance. For the 15-year period the SDGs are covering, the world population is projected to increase by 1 billion people and two-thirds of those will be living in cities. In Brazil, although its indicators for sustainable cities have improved, there are challenges regarding to reduce inequalities and promote peace and justice. Those challenges vary greatly from a place to another, and each city has its own particular capacity to meet these goals and its own lessons to learn from the others.

In this paper, we suggest an in-depth look at the performance of each 20 metropolitan area in Brazil in the proposed 17 goals, in order to **enhance local policies and institutional coherence**. This study compares how the 20 largest cities in Brazil are performing relative to SDG targets, based on the [SDG Index](#) methodology and on the created dashboard profile. The premise is if policy-makers have a detailed profile of the strengths and weaknesses of the individual municipalities regarding SDGs, they will be able to design and implement local sustainable-oriented policies for their cities.

From the 17 SDGs, this paper synthesizes data available across 34 indicators spanning 8 of the 12 SDGs defined as having Social and Environmental profile. The data for each indicator was ordered from worst to best and colored as “green,” “yellow,” or “red”, according to created thresholds, indicating whether the area has already achieved the goal (green), is in a “caution lane” (yellow), or is expressively far from achievement as of 2015 (red). This dashboard made possible to compare each metropolitan area and highlight the strongest and weakest SDGs for each one.

Results show that all MAs have far to go to achieve most of the SDGs, especially regarding inequalities (income and gender). Inequalities of performance are also observed among the large regions in the country into a clear north-south distinction: the GDP richest regions performing better to achieve the SDGs. However, cities performing better on education (SDG 4) are less unequal (SDG 10), indicating interrelations between SDGs. In addition, despite of the inequalities, MAs are doing well on reducing poverty (SDG 1) and providing water and sanitation (SDG 6). The SDG Dashboards for Brazilian MAs can be used as framework for action and help urban leaders address implementation challenges across cities. This paper serves as basis for expanding the SDG Dashboard to all 17 SDGs and for building a metropolitan SDG Index for Brazil in future.