

Strengthening community engagement: promoting the SDG in condos

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Abstract

Condominiums can be an important arena to apply Sustainable Development Goals. The condominiums it is a consolidated model of housing promoting comfort and safety for the residents. New kinds of social ties were developed in this kind of community organization. Considering the millions of people living in this sort of organization, it is emergent consider how the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) can be applied. Initiatives of education can share SDG awareness that can be shared in other organizations creating a sense of sustainable society.

The research considers how the Sustainable Development Goals can be applied to condos. This study was based in the condominium Residencial Vila Verde in the city of Natal, Rio Grande do Norte State, Brazil. The condominium presents 4 tower buildings of 19 floors presenting 296 residential units.

Related to poverty avoidance, the condo will develop lectures on conscious consumption, in small stores of the neighborhood, influencing the local economy; Contract of service providers in the area; partnerships with garbage processing social organization to recycling waste destination. Associated with the Goal 2 (Sustainable agriculture) and Responsible consumption (SDG 12), it is proposed a weekly fair for organic produce from local farming communities; Incentive to planting vegetables at home and creation of the community garden of Vila Verde. Related to good health, some initiatives are possible: Installing fitness equipment; To promote the practice of physical exercises (water aerobics, dance, functional training, yoga, etc); sports championships between residents and neighborhood; Installation of playgrounds and holiday; Submit monthly health and wellness reports to residents.

Related to promote quality education, it is suggest create a "Reading Space" to stimulate reading; Create a kids space with video library in the building; Foster the library of the condominium with donations of books by the residents; Encourage the continued study of condominium residents and employees, for the latter reserving 1 hour per day for study; Promotion of courses and lectures in the condominium facilities. About save water (SDG 6), it is suggested implement rainwater collection and storage system and reuse of the water of the swimming pools for the garden of the condominium.

Associated with save and clean energy and innovations (SDGs 7, 9 and 11), it is suggested the use of solar panels, the change all the bulbs of the condominium by LED lamps and use a systems of building automation to monitor water and energy consumption with activation of control systems. Related with economic growth (SDG 8), it is viable promote the business fair with the residents selling services and products and keep updated the business opportunities board. It is also suggested plant more trees (SDG 13 and 15), Committee for conflict resolution and enforcement of penalties (SDG 16) and promote integration among neighborhood condominiums by sharing sustainable development objectives by helping each other to implement them (SDG 17). The next step of the research will be pursuing to apply the SDG in condos, considering the city of Natal (Brazil) as the locus of action-research methodology.

1 Introduction

Condominiums can be an important arena to apply Sustainable Development Goals. The condominiums it is a consolidated model of housing promoting comfort and safety for the residents. New kinds of social ties were developed in this kind of community organization. Considering the millions of people living in this sort of organization, it is emergent consider how the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) can be applied. Initiatives of education can share SDG awareness that can be shared in other organizations creating a sense of sustainable society.

2 Methodology

The research, considering how the Sustainable Development Goals can be applied to condos, was based in the condominiums in the city of Natal, Rio Grande do Norte State, Brazil. The condos are becoming each day more popular worldwide. Some authors of this research lives in condos and observed innovations that would be applied to this kind of housing.

The essence of a case study is tries to illuminate a decision or set of decisions: why they were taken. how they were implemented, and with what result. (Schramm, 1971). The case study inquiry, according to Yin (2000),

- copes with the technically distinctive situation in which there will be many more variables of interest than data points, and as one result;
- on multiple sources of evidence, with data needing to converge in a triangulating fashion, and as another result;
- benefits from the prior development of theoretical propositions to guide data collection and analysis.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) operated in geographic organizational local ecosystems had been studied in Brazil by Rezende (2017) in case studies. His studies was considered in the theoretical review and observation of topics to be observed in the present research.

3 Condos and the relevance of SDGs

The first condominium law passed in the United States was in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in 1958 (POLIAKOFF: 2009). Considering this information, during 2018 is celebrated 60 years of this kind of housing.

In 1960, the first condominium in the Continental United States was built in Salt Lake City, Utah. The legal concept had spread to the United States from Europe via the Caribbean (Puerto Rico and Cuba) but throughout the 1960s it was widely and erroneously reported that the concept had arisen in the United States directly based on an Ancient Roman model. In fact the concept of an estate in the air was antithetical to

Roman Law and there is no evidence of an ancient Roman "condominio" (NATELSON: 1987).

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), according United Nations (2017), are:

Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere;

Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture;

Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;

Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all;

Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls;

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all;

Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;

Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all;

Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation;

Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries;

Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable;

Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns;

Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts;

Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development;

Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss;

Goal 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;

Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

The synthesis of the previous goals can be perceived in the next Figure.



Figure 1. Sustainable Development Goals.

Source: SDG Compass (2017).

Examining all the Sustainable Development Goals, it is an effort identifies which SDG are applied to condominiums. This is the richness of this research. In The next topics are considered possible activities related to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

4 Results: examining the SDGs in condos

Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere - related to poverty avoidance, the condo will develop lectures on conscious consumption, in small stores of the neighborhood, influencing the local economy; Contract of service providers in the area; partnerships with garbage processing social organization to recycling waste destination.

Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture and Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns - associated with the Goal 2 (Sustainable agriculture) and Responsible consumption (SDG 12), it is proposed a weekly fair for organic produce from local farming communities; Incentive to planting vegetables at home and creation of the community garden of condominium.

Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages - associated to promote healthy lifestyle, some initiatives are possible: installing fitness equipment; to promote the practice of physical exercises (water aerobics, dance, functional training, yoga, etc); sports championships with residents and neighborhood; Installation of playgrounds and celebration of holiday; Submit monthly health and wellness reports to residents.

Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all - Related to promote quality education, it is suggested create a "Reading Space" to stimulate reading; Create a kids space with video library in the building; Foster the library of the condominium with donations of books by the residents; Encourage the continued study of condominium residents and employees, for the latter reserving 1 hour per day for study; and promotion of courses and lectures in the condominium facilities.

Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls - Related to Goal 5 is considered presents opportunities in contracts and jobs of condominium with women.

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all - About save water (SDG 6), it is suggested implement rainwater collection and storage system and reuse of the water of the swimming pools for the garden of the condominium.

Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation and Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable - Associated with save and clean energy and innovations (SDGs 7, 9 and 11), it is suggested the use of solar panels, the change all the bulbs of the condominium by LED lamps and use a systems of building automation to monitor water and energy consumption with activation of control systems.

Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all - Related with economic growth (SDG 8), it is viable promote the business fairs with the residents selling services and products keeping updated the business opportunities board.

Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts and Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss - It is also suggested plant more trees (SDG 13 and 15).

Goal 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 and Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development – Was proposed a Committee for conflict resolution and enforcement of penalties (SDG 16) and promote integration among neighborhood condominiums by sharing sustainable development objectives by helping each other to implement them (SDG 17).

Conclusion

The condos are place where members of this kind of organization can do a lot of things collectively. The Sustainable Development Goals are an unique opportunity for the development of new skills and identify the SDGs presents a higher sense of collaboration. The condos can be a microcosm of a new way to organize the society in the cities and metro areas. The next step of the research will be pursuing to apply the SDG in condos, considering the city of Natal (Brazil) as the locus of action-research methodology.

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