

WATER ACTION AGENDA

Commitments of the PCJ Consortium towards Sustainable Water Management Pactos Hídricos or Water Pacts: Commitments to Sustainable Water Management

The PCJ Consortium is a non-profit civil association made up of municipalities and private companies. Its mission is to integrate all sectors of society in favor of efficient water, sanitation, and environmental management. Founded in 1989, the PCJ Consortium aims to contribute to a more just, economically viable, and sustainable society that respects water in all its uses and potentials, in response to climate change. The entity's activities are guided by values such as transparency, impartiality, commitment, redefinition, integrity, innovation, agreement, uniqueness, and synergy.

Based on the document "Water Sustainability Goals" produced in 2015 during the worst water crisis ever experienced in the Southeast region of Brazil, which severely impacted the Piracicaba, Capivari, and Jundiaí River Basins (PCJ Basins), and in response to the United Nations' call for the global community to commit to water management in the face of climate change, the PCJ Consortium has developed its Water Action Agenda, the Water Pacts, as outlined below:

Commitments for Water and Health:

- Achieving universal sanitation by 2035 - 100% collection and treatment of sewage and 100% water treatment;
- Promoting the fight against water losses, with the goal of reducing them to 20% by 2035;
- Expanding the monitoring of watercourses (quality and flow);
- Seeking the reclassification of watercourses for better quality classes, aiming to increase the water supply of the PCJ Basins;
- Encouraging the storage of raw and treated water, considering the variation in river flows and the frequency of rainfall caused by climate change;
- Stimulating the use of new technologies and investments to expand Rural Sanitation;
- Conducting training meetings on the topic of One Health, raising awareness of the need to ensure the health of people, other living beings, and the entire planet.

Commitments for the Protection of Water Sources

- Encourage the revitalization of streams and canals, transforming them into areas with preserved riparian forests.

- Expand green areas in urban and rural areas, especially in groundwater recharge areas.
- Increase the number of forest nurseries for the production and distribution of native trees, aiming for local and regional scale plantings.
- Promote the mapping of deforested areas and reforestation efforts.
- Encourage the connectivity of forested areas to benefit the biodiversity of fauna and flora.
- Stimulate the creation of Environmental Services Payment Programs.
- Promote training and projects focused on the dissemination of social technologies and Nature-Based Solutions.
- Encourage proper forest management to control invasive species and replace them with native species.

Commitments for Public Policies aimed at Integrated Water Resources Management

- Promote the creation of laws that define strategies for financial support to ensure the sustainability of projects aimed at revitalizing and preserving water resources,.
- Assist municipalities in developing and implementing Municipal Plans for Water Resources, Basic Sanitation, Environmental Education, and Climate Action.
- Intensify Public-Private Partnerships, to effectively execute the plans for Watershed Management.
- Elevate water as a national security issue within the context of public policies.
- Furthermore, work towards reducing gender inequality in decision-making spaces, which are currently dominated by men.

Commitments for Environmental Education focused on Water Management

- Intensify our environmental education campaigns to reduce the average water consumption in the region to 110 liters per person per day.
- Raise awareness among the community about the impacts of climate change on daily life and the availability of water.
- Encourage young people to participate in the Hydrographic Basin Committees and other institutions focused on water resource management.
- Promote awareness-raising actions for conscious consumption, considering the 5 Rs: "Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle", promoting sustainability through circular economy.

Commitments for Universal Access to Water

- Reduce social inequality caused by the lack of access to treated water;

- Increase the participation of civil society in debates involving public policies for water resource management;
- Ensure cooperation and sharing of water between public supply, industrial, and rural sectors;
- Promote the training of professionals in the sanitation, water resources, and environmental fields, with greater access to technical, undergraduate, specialization, master's, and doctoral courses;
- Encourage research centers focused on improving and developing new technologies for water management;
- Guarantee access to water and sanitation for the most vulnerable populations, with the expansion of programs for the implementation of social tariffs and the construction of safe housing.