UN 2023 Water Conference Side Event

*Water Sustainability by Water-Energy-Food nexus with multisector participation*

Tuesday, 21st of March 2pm – 3:30pm (EST)

Organized by:
Consórcio PCJ and its partners,
UN Global Compact; Federal Prosecution Service, Municipality of Holambra (SP); Municipality of Analândia (SP); Sanasa-Campinas; Petrobras – Replan, The Coca-Cola Company Brazil, Coca-Cola FEMSA, CPFL Energy; Klabin; Water Governance Observatory (OGA-Brazil); International Network Basin Organization (INBO); Brazilian Network Basin Organization (REBOB); Red Latinoamericana de Organismos de Cuenca (RELOC); Water Agency PCJ; ARES-PCJ; PCJ Committees; Neighbourhood Association of Serra do Japi

**Background on the event**

This side event – in digital format – discussed about the construction of water sustainability in the Piracicaba, Capivari and Jundiaí River Basins (PCJ Basins), located in the interior of the State of São Paulo, one of the most important regions in Brazil, responsible for 7% of the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The economic and social development in this region faces challenges involving environmental issues, especially those related to water, since the region has water availability below that recommended by the UN, that is, less than 1000 m³ per inhabitant/year. The hydrographic basin management has a particularly multisectoral articulation, involving the public, private and civil society sectors. However, the impacts of climate change are challenging the urban and rural areas. Extreme hydrological events are being noted more frequently and with higher intensity. The discussion of the effects and impacts are central for the debate for future water sustainability and sustainable development for the region. The side event presented cases that are being carried out in the watershed,
culminating in a broader debate on the contingency of the impacts of climate change, through the engagement of society with the goals of the 2030 Agenda. It was exposed projects actions on reforestation, rural sanitation, reuse water market, forest conservation and environmental education that are occurred in the PCJ Basins.

**Water Action Agenda**

The PCJ Consortium is a non-profit civil association formed by municipalities and private companies. Its mission is to integrate all sectors of society towards the efficient supply of water, sanitation, and environmental management. Based on its 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 Jundiai River Basins (PCJ Basins), and in response to the United Nations' calling on 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, grouped into five major commitments: Commitments for Water and Health; Commitments for the Protection of Water Sources; Commitments for Public Policies aimed at Integrated Water Resources Management; Commitments for Environmental Education focused on Water Management; and Commitments for Universal Access to Water.

**Key Issues discussed (5-8 bullet points)**

- Forest Recovering and Rural Sanitation.
- Water Reuse and New Technologies.
- Efficient Use of Energy and Water.
- Networking between Basin Organizations, governments and civil society.
- The role of private companies in the water management implementation.
- Establishment of partnerships for raise Agenda 2030 goals, specially, SDG 06.
- Operation of the Water System and its entities in the PCJ Basins

**Key recommendations for action (5 – 6 bullet points)**

- Recover and protection of water resources.
- Join multisector actions for water management development.
- Promote Environmental Education focused on Water Management
- Increase multisectoral debates looking for joint solutions.
- Promote more studies about climate changes and Extreme hydrological events for basin plans.
- Increase debates on the water governance by basin hydrographic.