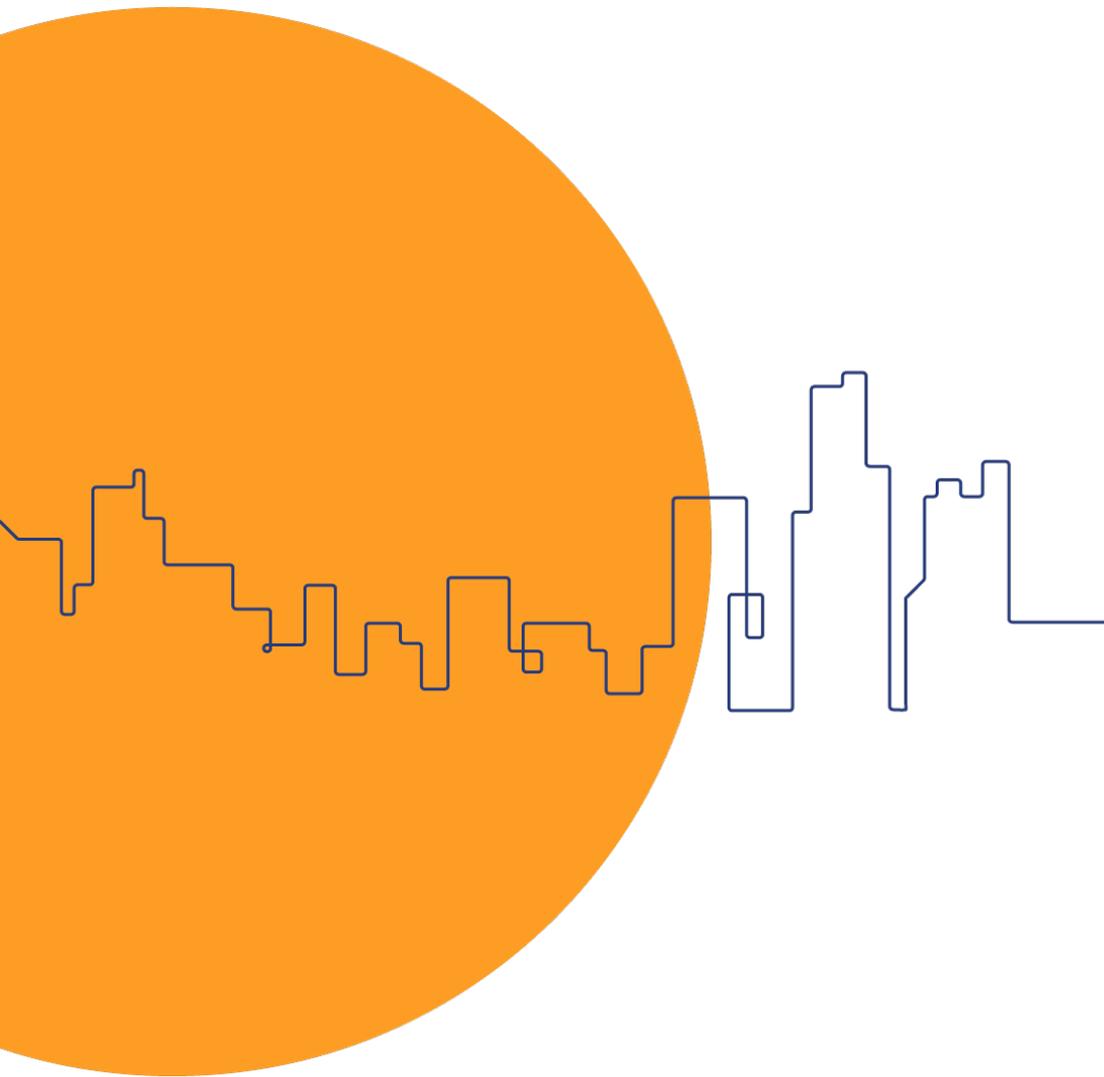


# Urban Climate Agenda

*2020 Municipal Elections*



# Urban Climate Agenda for Local Governments

*2020 Municipal Elections*

The Urban Climate Agenda arises from a collective construction process by civil society organizations and other institutions active at the local level in the climate change agenda.

We understand that 2020 is a crucial year for climate action and that cities play a fundamental role in the implementation of effective public policies for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and a sustainable, resilient and inclusive urban development.

The social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic make collaboration between civil society and local governments even more strategic for an inclusive, environmentally responsible and socially just economic recovery. For that, as a priority, it must take into account vulnerable families, workers, peripheral territories, local farmers, quilombola communities and indigenous peoples, who are the most affected by the current crisis and a climatic emergency.

Cities face some of the biggest emission reduction challenges, such as in the transport, waste, industrial and energy sectors, as well as the consequences and greater impacts of extreme weather events, such as floods and droughts.

The new municipal administrations will face an unprecedented challenge. The fiscal crisis that plagues the cities, added to the sanitary and political crises, form a context strong enough to stagnate the municipalities in the face of the possibilities of sustainable development actions.

More than ever, it is necessary to focus on actions that consider local realities and whose main objective is to improve the quality of life of the population, combined with economic and environmental recoveries in search of environmental justice - which requires social justice and combating structural and structuring racism in Brazil.

The formulation of this proposal, which aims to guide possible paths for climate action based on the local reality, was based on polls, research and on the aggregate work by organizations, institutions and their members who, in a deliberative process, identified three priority axes of action: **health, employment** and **mobility**.



Within these three axes, **10 priority actions** were identified, which were presented in an open letter. These actions will be disseminated throughout the electoral campaign so that candidates and future elected municipal managers incorporate them in their government plans, while also seeking to guide organizations and individuals engaged in the local electoral process in Brazilian cities, especially in capitals and metropolitan areas.

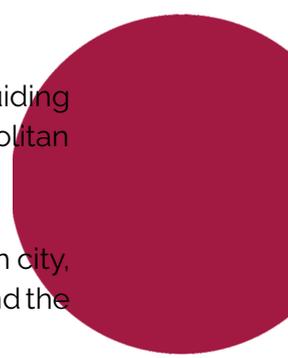
This document provides alternatives for deploying the **10 priority actions in proposals and means of implementation to be adopted locally.**

---

### **Action 01: Climate planning and metropolitan governance**

**Create municipal climate action plans with multisectoral planning and management, incorporating regional and metropolitan governances, integrated and participatory, with the aim of mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and increasing the resilience of cities.**

Urban planning and management must consider Climate Action Plans as guiding sectoral policies and integrating them. The articulation to promote metropolitan governance should consider:

- integrate climate policy with the main structural plans of the metropolis of each city, in particular the Pluriannual Action Plan (PPA) - which guides public budgets - and the Master Plans;
  - create or reactivate metropolitan and sub-state discussion forums and / or participate in existing forums proactively - such as, for example, Basin Committees; Metropolitan Councils; Consortiums, Forums and Climate Commissions etc.;
  - strengthen, through the region's municipal headquarters, planning for the metropolitan region with engagement and respect for the realities of the surrounding municipalities;
  - contribute, via municipalities and state structures, to the monitoring and transparency of public management data of metropolitan interest, especially those related to emission inventories and air quality monitoring.
- 

### **Inspirational references:**



Cities: main concepts to understand the urban environment.  
<https://bit.ly/2SACqvD>

## Action 02: Sanitation and sustainable water management

**Accelerate the expansion of basic sanitation, based on innovative management models, which expand access to drinking water and sewage treatment, reinforce drainage systems that capture and reuse rainwater, with the consequent major effects on the health and well-being of the population, while also generating jobs in the civil construction sector.**

Actions in sanitation must consider a vision of universal access to basic sanitation, with city-wide coverage, and must also take into account:

- monitoring the financial management performance and a pricing policy compatible with people's income in supply services, whether through the direct provision or contracting of state and/or private services;
- implement drainage systems that take into account extreme events, for prevention or contingency measures in relation to floods and landslides.

### Inspirational references:



Municipal water security.  
<https://bit.ly/2SACqyD>

---

## Action 03: Health and pollution reduction

**Reduce local pollution and emissions that impact air quality, mitigating climate change and focusing on the well-being and health of the population, by reducing sources of emissions such as forest and land fires, burning fossil fuels in the transportation of cargo and passengers, among others, improving the population's quality of life and reducing public health costs.**

Air quality affects people's health by causing respiratory diseases, especially in the most vulnerable people, but it also decreases life expectancy. Therefore, to improve this scenario, actions can be considered to:

- make resources available to expand air quality monitoring stations within the municipality, complementing local coverage and participating in the state monitoring network;
- promote a broad information campaign on air quality and the awareness of the population regarding the health effects on children, the elderly and people with respiratory problems;
- carry out studies for the implementation of low-emission zones, especially around schools and health centers.

#### Inspirational references:



RespirAR coalition campaign.

<https://bit.ly/3jzmgwX>



Open letter for air quality standards.

<https://bit.ly/2Sl2koB>



Brazilian air quality analysis and monitoring report 2019.

<https://bit.ly/3oEFmvE>



Prioritary health proposals for municipalities.

<https://bit.ly/2SACqyD>

---

#### Action 04: Food and nutrition security

**Implement public policies and partnerships to stimulate a local, accessible, sustainable and circular production of healthy foods and reducing food waste, ensuring access for all segments of the population to a regular, healthy diet, benefiting everyone's health and quality of life.**

Food and nutritional security must take into account a broad analysis of the local production and consumption process, strengthening territories while simultaneously promoting food security for the most vulnerable populations. Possible actions include:

- encourage local job creation and stimulate local communitarian processes related to production;

- recognize and strengthen local knowledge, encouraging the creation of community gardens in all neighborhoods in the city;
- create composting areas in the neighborhoods, reducing costs and emissions from waste collection while favoring organic and healthy food production;
- stimulate the consumption of locally produced food, reducing transport costs and emissions through:
  - prioritizing the supply of organic food from family farming in schools and municipal daycare centers;
  - facilitating logistics for local production and fostering neighborhood markets.

### Inspirational references:

 Milan urban food policy pact.  
<https://bit.ly/2GlnzfD>

 Agroecology in elections.  
<https://bit.ly/2VSjmue>

---

### Action 05: Solid waste

**Eliminate illegal dumps and adopt public policies to encourage the reduction of waste generation, recycling and the sustainable treatment of organic waste as well as the entire associated production chain for jobs creation and reduction of the pollution of rivers, bays and water sources.**

Regarding waste recycling, municipal administrations should:

- develop and implement a municipal waste management plan that determines the selective collection in three types of waste, destining organic waste for composting and / or biodigestion; recyclables for waste pickers' cooperatives and afterwards for the recycling chain and remaining waste to landfills;
- promote education and awareness actions to reduce the generation of waste and to increase the recycling rates of collected materials, be it food scraps, pruning residues, or recyclable waste;

- promote policies for valuing waste pickers and cooperatives to increase the separation of waste and improve their working conditions regarding the classification of materials to be sent to recycling industries, as well as to find ways to pay for the service provided.

Other possibilities regarding waste:

- encourage composting and energy generation from anaerobic digestion of organic waste;
- develop financial mechanisms to promote sustainable solutions for waste management, such as financial incentives to reduce generation and to produce long-lasting goods;
- elaboration of targets for the diversion of solid waste from landfills, through technological routes of composting, biodigestion, selective collection and sorting of recyclables with the participation of picker's cooperatives;
- create impediments to incineration practices.

#### **Inspirational references:**



Open letter against the destruction of solid waste through zero waste.

<https://bit.ly/33w6GxM>

---

#### **Action 06: Local and solidary economy with the generation of sustainable jobs**

**Encourage the generation of green jobs and innovation in sustainable technologies, taking into consideration the needs of peripheral areas and territories, with the adoption of sustainable criteria in municipal procurement and contracting processes, and generation of income in localities.**

Local and solidary economy is understood as the production of goods and services through processes that include jobs and inputs close to local neighborhoods and centralities, in associative formats, of micro-entrepreneurs and / or micro-enterprises, associated with priority consumption for local people and markets. To favor this model, it is important to:

- encourage production based on energy efficiency in processes, use of renewable energy, reduced water consumption and ecological waste management;
- defining sustainable criteria for purchases and contracting by the municipal government, encouraging the purchase of products generated by associations, cooperatives and local producers as priorities in public procurement;
- study the possibility of expanding sources of credit / microcredit and subsidies for sustainable local producers;
- support sustainable youth entrepreneurship, using public education as one of the instruments.

### Inspirational references:



A new economy for a new era: elements for the construction of a more efficient and resilient economy for Brazil.

<https://bit.ly/33yiZK9>

---

### Action 07: Disaster Response and Resilience

**Improve the capacity to respond to extreme events and crisis situations, based on territorial risk management and a municipal plan to adapt to climate change with a set of priority measures for resilience, social protection, and response to disasters such as landslides, floods, droughts, heat islands, rising sea levels and other climatic hazards.**

The development of the adaptation plan must carry out an analysis of climatic risks by region, including priority territorial measures for social protection, rapid response and adaptation of cities to climatic emergencies. Therefore, in infrastructure actions, it is necessary to:

- develop a green and inclusive infrastructure package, with a positive impact also on the generation of local jobs;
- consider present and future climatic impacts in future public works in the city;

- consider alternatives such as micro drainage, rainwater capture, permeable surfaces and other solutions based on nature to mitigate the impacts of extreme weather events;
- identify vulnerable areas in coastal cities, and think about actions for them with a focus on the impacts of rising sea levels.

It is also necessary to include social care measures, which in the case of the impact of extreme events resulting from climate change, consider:

- prevention and alert measures in risk areas integrated with Civil Defense actions; and providing housing security in vulnerable areas;
- social protection measures during and after extreme weather events (providing shelter for people who lost their homes, homeless people, etc.);
- rapid response to extreme event situations caused by climate change, such as floods, droughts, heat waves, landslides, rising sea levels and other issues, in order to minimize human losses and reduce the impact on critical city systems.

In addition to these measures, urban planning with a focus on resilience is necessary, promoting mixed use in central areas, decentralization of public and private urban infrastructure to the peripheries, creating jobs in the periphery and focusing on youth.

### **Inspirational references:**



Climate change and global goals: implementing the sustainable agenda.  
<https://bit.ly/2SACqvD>



Open letter young politicians on climate.  
<https://bit.ly/2SrNQSa>

## Action 08: Public Transport and Mobility

**Promote the use of accessible mass public transport, with a focus on integrating different modes and encouraging sustainable mobility alternatives (discouraging the use of individual motorized transport and encouraging active mobility with the creation of bike paths and pedestrian zones), adoption of a single fare, reduced travel times, integration of different regions of the city and reducing vehicle emissions through the use of zero emission technologies.**

Due to its structuring role in medium and large cities, proposals for public transport stand out, such as:

- modernize the public transport business and financing model based on data transparency and resource optimization while ensuring that it is fair, accessible and sustainable;
- strengthen the financing of the public transport system by increasing the costs of using individual motorized transport;
- reduce the travel time of people by expanding exclusive lanes and corridors to promote a more efficient public transport;
- implement clean technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from motorized public transport, such as the use of electricity.

Regarding mobility in general, the possibilities raised are:

- encourage the reduction in the use of private motor vehicles and reduce the percentage of use of urban road space dedicated to the exclusive use of private vehicles, through:
  - parking policies, such as charging for parking on the streets;
  - removal of street spaces to implement exclusive bus lanes and expansion of bike paths and sidewalks.
- define a parking policy that takes into account the maximum number of available spots in new public works, progressive land taxation on parking lots in certain parts of the city, etc.;

- encourage active mobility (walking and cycling) by expanding safe and accessible urban spaces, with wide sidewalks, bike paths, afforestation, public lighting and mixed land use;
- propose solutions for the integration of active mobility with the public transport system, such as the expansion of bike racks in medium and high capacity transport stations, expansion of sidewalks, better communication in public transport areas etc.;
- increase the cycling infrastructure in the city, focusing on the integration of large corridors and the adoption of transport-oriented development criteria;
- reform and expand public pavement in central and peripheral areas, including principles of accessibility, comfort and safety.

### Inspirational references:



Sustainable mobility in the elections campaign.

<https://bit.ly/36ARGAQ>



Thematic Guide: a look at mobility and the right to the city

<https://bit.ly/2SACqvD>



Guide: How to have an efficient, fair and quality public transport.

<https://bit.ly/2GsNd8B>



Open letter to society and the candidates in the 2020 municipal elections  
– a project for the post-pandemic cities.

<https://bit.ly/33z6Apq>



Guide for the inclusion of an oriented development for sustainable transport  
in urban planning.

<https://bit.ly/36RxUkN>



Agenda Rio 2030.

<https://bit.ly/34wyuRW>



Mobility Guide – Ethos Institute.

<https://bit.ly/2l1wQAn>

## Action 09: Green areas

**Increase the offer of green areas in cities to all citizens and in all regions, including the creation of parks, the afforestation of roads, green roofs and walls, protection of conservation units and reforestation actions, aiming to increase carbon capture, reduce heat islands and mitigate environmental inequality.**

Possible actions include:

- revitalize and create public parks and squares, promoting the adequate management of existing conservation units;
- consolidate local integrated systems of green areas, incorporating territorial planning tools such as Master Plans and Integrated Urban Development Plans;
- include the integration of ecosystemic services in the supramunicipal perspective;
- implement solutions based on nature as adaptation and mitigation measures to climate change;
- provide accessible, safe and qualified open areas for the entire population;
- promote afforestation with suitable species and in appropriate places, with engagement and environmental awareness programs.

### Inspirational references:



ISE Approach (integration of ecosystemic services).

<https://bit.ly/33wPjwQ>



Nature-based cities.

<https://bit.ly/3grkEWz>

## Action 10: Energy and energy efficiency

**Adopt measures to promote the distributed generation of renewable energy, such as solar and wind, and actions to increase energy efficiency in existing buildings and new constructions. Energy represents the second most relevant sector in terms of greenhouse gas emissions in Brazilian cities and has a great potential for job creation.**

The possibilities for implementing the energy efficiency proposal are:

- expand distributed generation of solar electric energy from photovoltaic systems;
- create fiscal and tax incentives for the use of renewable energy in homes, commercial and industrial facilities;
- prioritize the contracting of photovoltaic energy to supply public institutions;
- promote the reduction of energy consumption in the city through energy efficiency measures;
- privilege sustainable materials that generate energy efficiency in all new constructions when contracting public works, including for the construction of popular housing;
- develop policies to encourage energy efficiency and fuel substitution in the residential, public, commercial and industrial sectors;
- promote energy efficiency certification programs with the definition of annual certification goals;
- elaboration of an energy expansion and modernization plan for public lighting, contemplating:
  - 100% implementation of LED lamps in public lighting;
  - expansion of public lighting points, considering the influence on public security.

### Inspirational references:



Energy efficiency in buildings.

<https://bit.ly/2HZTaKG>



Project 3E – Transformations in the energy efficiency market.

<https://bit.ly/34q24lQ>



The **Urban Climate Agenda** is the result of collaborative, collective and nonpartisan work and is not linked to specific electoral candidacies. This content aims to support municipal administrations. Reproduction is permitted for non-commercial purposes, provided the sources of information are mentioned.

---

## Signatory organizations and institutions:

**abema**  
associação brasileira de entidades  
estaduais de meio ambiente



CASA  
**FLUMINENSE**



**clima**info



INSTITUTO  
**ETHOS**



**idec**  
Instituto Brasileiro de  
Defesa do Consumidor

**I.C.L.E.I**  
Governos  
Locais pela  
Sustentabilidade



MOSSA  
**AMÉRICA  
VERDE**

**NossaBH**



**Projor** | Instituto para  
o Desenvolvimento  
do Jornalismo



**UNEafro**

INSTITUTO  
**UPDATE**



[www.agendaurbanadoclima.com](http://www.agendaurbanadoclima.com)