

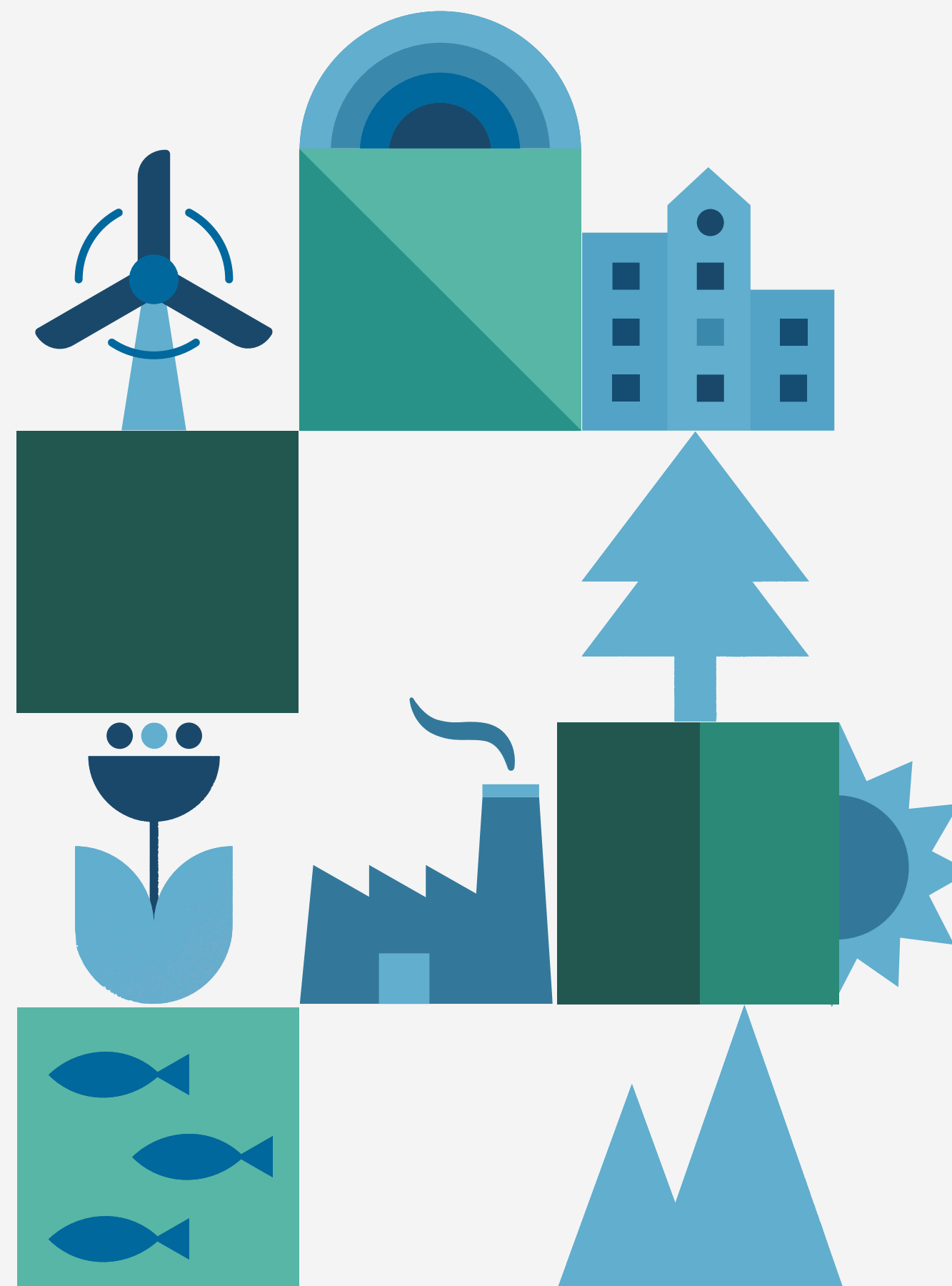
A more inclusive 2030 Agenda: challenges for incorporating the fight against racial and ethnic discrimination into the SDGs

Paulo Gadelha

Coordinator: Fiocruz Strategy for 2030 Agenda

High-level Political Forum – Side Event: SDG 18–
Ethnic–Racial Equality in the 2030 Agenda: the
Brazilian experience for the construction of a new
sustainable development goal

Jul. 2024



Why SDG 18 matters

- Racial and Ethnic Equity is fundamental to achieving sustainable development in both colonizing and colonized countries.
- Colonizing states built an economic global system based on slavery, mass eviction, environmental degradation, and huge socioeconomic inequality, while colonized countries were integrated globally through the suppression or erosion of their cultural values, increasing economic gaps, exacerbation of sociocultural differences, subjugation or even termination of original peoples.
- SDG 18 responds to a framework contemplating structural and institutional racism.
- There is a huge gap in the SDGs related to racial and ethnic themes. The challenge is how to frame the related aspirations into a universal approach, highlight values they can add to the 2030 Agenda, and integrate them into the holistic set of goals of a sustainable development agenda.

The ethnic and racial agenda is gaining momentum within UN fora

- Recent international efforts to operationalize the ethnic-racial issue in the 2030 Agenda:
- UN Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (OHCHR)
- Permanent Forum on People of African Descent (OHCHR)
- UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
- UN Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent: Operational Guidelines on the inclusion of People of African Descent in the 2030 Agenda
- WHO's Thirteenth General Programme of Work (GPW13): Global-level inequality monitoring of outcome indicators



However 2030 Agenda presents gaps on ethnic and racial themes

Marginalization of racial issues with lack of explicit reference in the 17 SDGs :

- E. T Achiume's , Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, criticism to the 2022 SWDR for not mentioning the Durban Declaration and Program of Action and the lack of explicit reference of SDGs indicators to race, ethnicity or nationality, citing the exemplar case of SDG 10 (Reduce Inequalities Within and Among Countries. E. T. ACHIUME, 2023)
- Risks for the principle of "Leave no one behind" for neglecting the racial cross-cutting impact on the ones left behind and making invisible the affirmative policies to reach them.

2030 Agenda: the challenge of translating aspirational values to goals, targets and indicators



- The aspirational values related to the 5 Ps (Planet, People, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership) and the articulation of economic, social and environmental approaches are broadly represented by the caput of the SDGs, which address the most relevant contemporary issues for a sustainable and inclusive world;
- In many instances, though, the potency of these goals are weakened by the selection of targets that don't fully reflect the scope of the SDGs;
- The monitoring process of the targets, which rely on sound and feasible indicators, brings a further pressure on this dilution of scope, considering the challenge of available data and indicators feasibility.
- Considering the novelty and complexity of SDG 18 these features brings a special challenge for its operationalization.

Proposals Health in the SDG 18: Target 7

Target 7: "Ensure access to quality healthcare, non-discriminatory, for Indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, as well as respect for their cultures and ancestral knowledge, ensuring the strengthening of public health."



Challenges for accessing ethnic and racial inequities

Addressing the cross-cutting nature of racial and ethnic issues in health and other fields and ensure the originality of the new health target indicators of SDG 18.

Consider indicators that expose barriers to access to services:

- Coverage
- Physical distance
- Availability of transport
- Language barriers
- Discrimination within services

Establish metrics that capture social determinants of health through data disaggregation:

- Gender
- Geographical location
- Ageism

Health in SDG 18

Review of the proposed methodology in health policies for the black and indigenous populations, and other efforts to operationalize racial issues in health.

Discussion on leveraging the thematic areas and indicators of the **National Policy for Comprehensive Health of the Black Population (PNSIPN)** as a reference. Some examples:

Thematic Areas of PNSIPN	Indicadores da PNSIPN (2017)
Access to services	Proportion of people who consulted a doctor in the last 12 months
Women's health	Proportion of Black mothers with at least six prenatal visits
Medications and hospitalizations	Proportion of people who managed to obtain at least one of the prescribed medications in public health services
Current health situation overview	Mortality rate from Chagas disease
Discrimination in healthcare services	Proportion of people who felt discriminated against or treated worse than others in healthcare services

Proposals for SDG 18: Target 7

Reassessment and improvement of the 1st preliminary proposal of indicators for target 7:

- Indicator 18.7.1. Annual percentage of public resources – budgetary and other sources – allocated to the public health system, particularly for the health of Indigenous and Afro-descendant populations;
 - Indicator 18.7.2. Percentage of the Afro-descendant population covered by primary care teams, including Family Health teams;
 - Indicator 18.7.3. Percentage of the Indigenous population covered by Indigenous Multiprofessional Health Teams (EMSI);
 - Indicator 18.7.4. Percentage of Indigenous territories (or health districts) with basic health units;
 - Indicator 18.7.5. Percentage of quilombola territories with basic health units;
 - Indicator 18.7.6. Percentage of EMSI with doctors;
 - Indicator 18.7.7. Percentage of basic care teams (or Family Health teams) in quilombola territories with doctors;
 - Indicator 18.7.8. Percentage of public resources allocated to actions aimed at valuing traditional medicine and Indigenous knowledge in healthcare.
-

The creation of the 18th Sustainable Development Goal represents a historic milestone in the fight against racial inequalities, reaffirming the global commitment to eradicate racism and promote social justice for all peoples.

