



## INTRODUCTION

The defense and preservation of an ecologically balanced environment has a new initiative: the “Judiciary for the Environment” Program.

The program reflects a set of actions for the fulfillment of the commitment made by the President of the Brazilian Supreme Court and National Council of Justice, Chief Justice Luiz Fux, when he chose environmental protection as one of the five axes of his management.

The actions were built through participation and cooperation among the Brazilian Justice System, the civil society as well as national and international experts for the Brazilian Justice system to act on the constitutional duty of all public authorities to protect and guarantee environmental resources for the present and future generations.

The use of data science technology is present in the program and helps in the management of the procedural collection of environmental demands. There are also innovative regulations that recommend the use of information obtained by remote sensing in the body of evidence in environmental lawsuits and which provided for the inclusion of climate litigation in the National Council of Justice’s unified procedural tables.

# BRAZILIAN JUDICIARY'S PROGRAM FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

## THE PROGRAM

The "Judiciary for the Environment" Program reinforces the Brazilian Judiciary's commitment to its continuous improvement and compliance with the constitutional duty, addressed to all public authorities, to defend and preserve the ecologically balanced environment. Thus, it aims to present the National Council of Justice's actions in relation to the environmental theme.

## 1 GUIDELINES

- National Council of Justice Resolution n. 433/2021: institutes the National Judiciary Policy for the Environment; and
- National Council of Justice Recommendation no. 99/2021 guides the use of remote sensing data and information obtained by satellite in the instruction, through evidence, of civil and criminal environmental lawsuits. This initiative encourages the treatment of the theme's improvement through technology within the scope of the Judiciary body.

## 2 BRAZILIAN JUDICIARY'S OBSERVATORY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

The Judiciary's Observatory for the Environment and Climate Change was established in 2020 and aims to outline studies, develop research, projects, actions and policies based on best practices for the protection of the natural environment and climate change by the Brazilian Judiciary.



## 3 RESEARCH

- The survey "Justice and Socio-Environmental Protection in the Brazilian Amazon (2021)" was carried out in partnership with the Delegation of the European Union in Brazil.
- The research entitled "Empirical studies on the effectiveness of environmental jurisdiction in the Legal Amazon" is in progress, coordinated by the National Council of Justice's Department of Judicial Research. Fundação Getúlio Vargas, the institution in charge of its execution, was selected through a public bid for the Judicial Research series coordinated by the referred department.

## 4 SIRENEJUD

The National Interactive Panel of Environmental and Interinstitutional Data - (SireneJud) was established by the National Council of Justice and the National Council of Public Prosecutors by Joint Resolution n. 8/2021. The panel, developed through technical cooperation with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), allows the view of data from lawsuits on environmental issues and provides open data from public and private databases on the environment, procedural and geographical reports, employing GIS (Geographic Information System) technology and satellite images. SireneJud is available at: <https://sirenejud.cnj.jus.br/>.



## 5 NATIONAL TARGET 12

For the year 2021, the Superior Court of Justice, the State Justice and the Federal Justice signed Goal 12, which was approved at the 14th Meeting of the Judiciary (2020) and supported by the National Council of Justice Resolution n. 325/2020, which provides for the National Strategy for the Judiciary 2021-2026. This target was defined in order to boost environmental action processes. Target 12 was renewed for the year 2022 and percentages were stipulated for the judgment of lawsuits that refer to environmental matters distributed until 31/12/2021 to the referred courts.

## 6 AWARDS

- The "Green Justice" Award, established by the National Council of Justice Resolution n. 416/2021, aims to award actions, projects or innovative programs within the Judiciary, stimulate the productivity of courts and disseminate best practices in the provision of environmental jurisdiction. The first edition of the award will take place in 2022.
- Ordinance CNJ n. 115/2022 created the "National Contest for Judicial Decisions on the Environment". In it, categories are established to award Judges who give the best decisions at first or second instance, aimed at protecting and promoting the right to an ecologically balanced environment.



## 7 EVENTS

- 2020: Brazil-European Union International Webinar – Justice, Social and Environmental Protection Policies;
- 2021: The Brazilian Judiciary's Observatory for the Environment and Climate Change held a meeting that featured the exhibition "Amazônia", by photographer Sebastião Salgado, unprecedented in Brazil;
- In June 2022, an International Seminar will be held in partnership with the European Union, which will address the National Council of Justice's actions on the environment;
- An annual International Seminar on Justice and the Environment will be held from 2022.