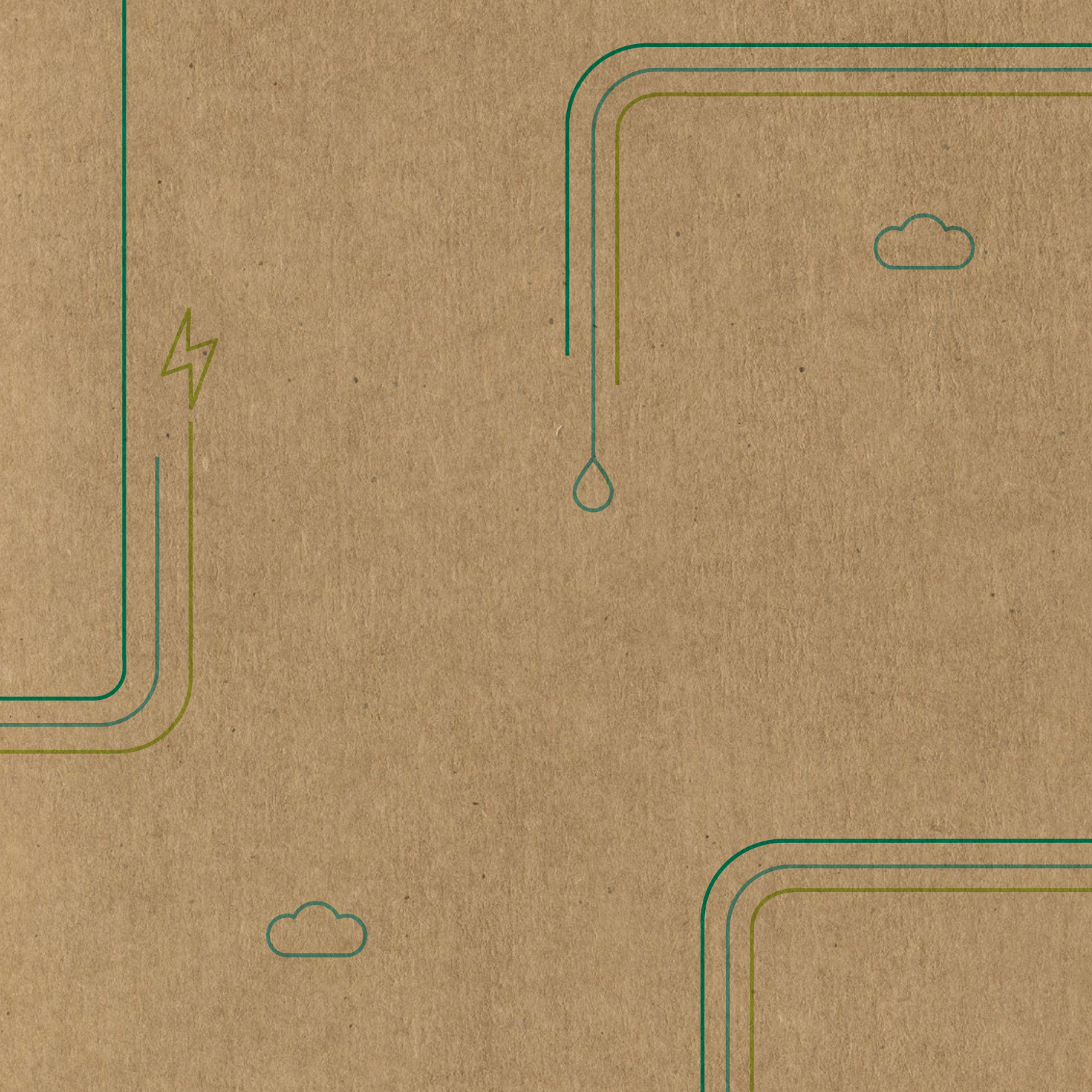
COOP IN COP30

MANIFESTO OF THE BRAZILIAN COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT FOR COP30

SistemaOCB

2025 International Year of Cooperatives



COOP IN COP30

MANIFESTO OF THE BRAZILIAN COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT FOR COP30

SistemaOCB

2025 International Year of Cooperatives

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Details of the proposals

MANIFESTO OF THE BRAZILIAN COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT FOR COP30

Together for a more prosperous and sustainable future

We are living through a crucial moment for the future of the planet, in which adaptation, mitigation and management of climate change are becoming indispensable. The cooperative movement understands that this is one of the greatest challenges facing mankind and that it requires urgent and effective action.

Internationally recognized as an inclusive and sustainable business model, the cooperative model plays a key role in combating global climate challenges by integrating innovative practices with ESG (environmental, social and governance) principles.

Cooperatives are enterprises created by people and for people, which reinforces our commitment of protecting, developing and caring for the communities where we are present. This is the true essence of sustainability. Through democratic management, cooperatives not only generate social and economic inclusion, but also strengthenlocal communities in the adaptation and mitigation of climate impacts. Their results are distributed fairly among members, promoting income generation and community resilience.

Taking advantage of Brazil's position as host of COP30 and the milestone of the International Year of Cooperatives in 2025, declared by the UN, we seek to consolidate our presence in climate discussions and reaffirm our commitment to sustainable development. Cooperatives show that valuing the common good and preserving natural resources are not just a protocol of intentions, but a reality incorporated into each of their initiatives.

It's no coincidence that more than 1.2 billion people around the world have chosen the cooperative model as a way of offering their products and services through cooperation (ICA, 2023). This is not different in Brazil. We have more than 23 million cooperative members distributed in around 4,500

cooperatives, which operate in various sectors of the economy (OCB, 2024).

In this context, the global climate agenda must recognize green as a social and economic value, promoting sustainable production and environmental preservation. Climate must be a driver of development, without creating trade barriers or limiting access to markets. Climate policies need to be centered on communities, boosting local development and productive and financial inclusion. In addition, cooperatives should be seen as a strategic way to strengthen sustainability and enable the effective implementation of this agenda.

To this end, we have centered our proposals on five thematic axes, which we highlight below:

Food security, technology and low-carbon agriculture: the growing demand for food requires a balance between productivity and sustainability. Brazil will play a strategic role in meeting the global demand for food and, at the same time, guaranteeing environmental preservation and low-carbon agriculture. Cooperatives are essential in this process, promoting technology, agricultural modernization and productive organization. To move forward, it is essential to adapt sustainable production metrics, increase investment in technology in the field, strengthen green economic instruments and ensure predictability in global trade.

Valuing communities and climate funding: climate funding needs to reach communities directly. Cooperatives, with their widespread presence, are key players in financial inclusion and access to sustainable funding. To this end, it is essential to decentralize global resources, ensure the efficiency of the carbon market and implement payment policies for environmental services, making it easier and cheaper to attract new green investments, without restricting or preventing access to existing resources.

Energy transition and sustainable development: the Brazilian energy matrix must be valued and boosted with policies that strengthen renewable energies such as solar, wind and biogas. The role of cooperatives in energy distribution is also essential for expanding access to energy in rural areas and small towns. Furthermore, the expansion of biofuels is strategic for reducing dependence on fossil fuels and strengthening national energy security.

Bioeconomy as a development driver: the bioeconomy must be consolidated as the central axis of global sustainable development. Cooperatives can leverage the transition to sustainable production models in the Amazon and other biomes, as long as they are supported by proper public policies and financial incentives. Investing in technological innovation, genetic

improvement, biotechnology and artificial intelligence is essential to increase the competitiveness of the Brazilian bioeconomy.

Adaptation and mitigation of climate risks: climate change is increasingly impacting rural and urban areas, requiring resilience strategies. Cooperatives are leading adaptation actions, such as restoring infrastructure, adopting sustainable production systems and developing technologies to deal with extreme events. Priorities include the strengthening of the ABC+ Plan, full implementation of the Forest Code, expansion of climate insurance and modernization of the adaptation infrastructure.

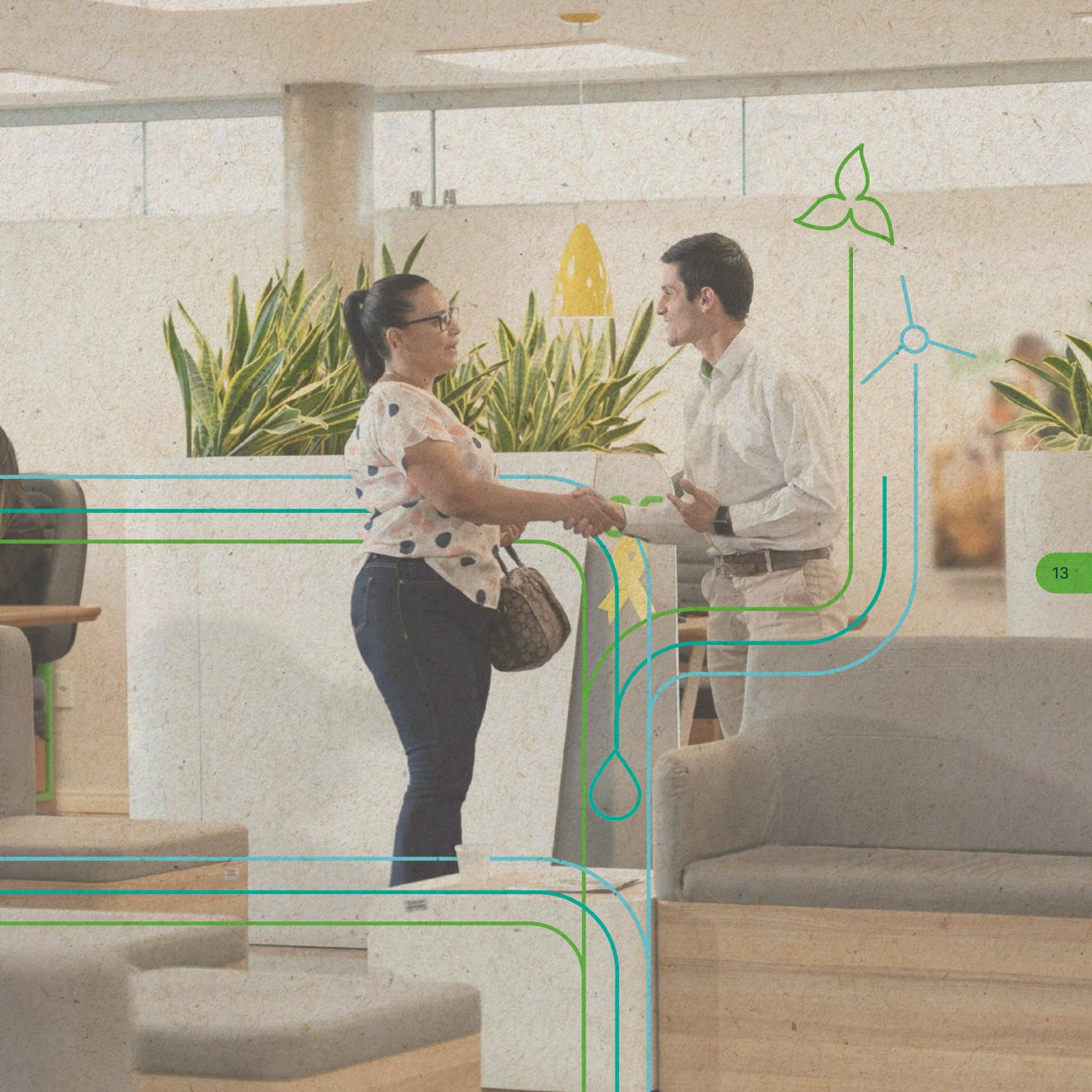
We're proud of who we are and what we are already doing. And we are ready to contribute to an increasingly sustainable future. May this be a unique moment to strengthen partnerships, consolidate commitments and ensure that cooperatives continue to play a leading role in building a fairer, more balanced and prosperous planet for all.

We call on governments, international organizations and other actors in society to strengthen policies to promote the cooperative model as a solution to climate challenges. The fight against climate change is an opportunity for economic and social transformation. We believe that through cooperation we can go the extra mile and make a difference for a better future.

OCB System
March 2025

SUMMARY BOARDS

PROPOSALS OF THE BRAZILIAN COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT FOR COP30



Proposals from the Brazilian cooperative movement for COP30

1 Food security, technology and low-carbon agriculture

a) Tropicalization of sustainability benchmarks

b) Adding value to production chains

c) Climate commitments and global trade integration

d) Protection and resilience of agri-food systems

2 Valorization of communities and proper access to climate funding

a) Decentralization of climate funding

b) Public financing funds

c) Carbon Market Regulation

d) Implementation of the Payment for Environmental Services Policy

e) Green bonds and other economic instruments

f) Brazilian sustainable taxonomy

3 Energy transition and sustainable development

a) Fostering and scaling up renewable energy production

b) Access to quality energy in the countryside

c) Expanding the use of biofuels

d) Promoting the Social Biofuel Seal

4 Bioeconomy as an opportunity for development

a) Biotechnology and sustainable development

b) Traceability and certification of the production chain

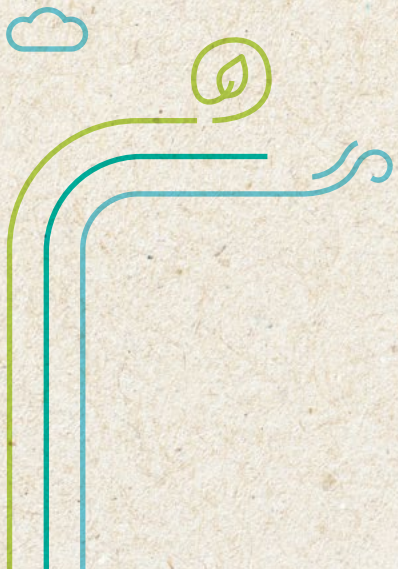
c) Sustainable territorial development

d) Development of the Amazon Region

e) Strengthening regional bioeconomies

f) Structuring the Green GDP

g) Circular economy and reverse logistics



5 Adaptation and mitigation of climate risks

a) Climate adaptation policies and strategies

b) Promoting and strengthening the ABC+ Plan

c) Dynamized CAR and Effectiveness of the Forest Code

d) Improving climate insurance policies and instruments

e) Adaptation infrastructures to climate events

PREMISES OF THE PROPOSALS

Tropicalization of the global climate agenda

The world is at a crucial moment to redefine the global climate agenda. For Brazil, this is the opportunity to present its reality in a complete way, recognizing its challenges and highlighting its unique capacities to grow in a sustainable way.

For developing countries, this is the time to move forward with the planetary commitment to sustainable growth, overcoming poverty, ensuring food and energy security, and the sovereignty of local and national projects.

On a global level, we may be facing a chance to renew dialogue and cooperation between all parties, especially with the nations located in the planet's tropical belt, where the future of mankind will begin to unfold. In our view, climate governance should therefore be organized around four fundamental principles:

Green as a social and economic value

In the tropical belt, "green" permeates all aspects of life: in the forests, conservation areas, rural properties, and in the economy of photosynthesis, which transforms the earth into an engine of sustainable production. However, on the global stage, tropical "green" has so far been treated basically as a cost and not as an intrinsic value of production. The efforts of rural producers to preserve forested areas, promote sustainable agricultural practices (such as crop rotation, no-till farming, precision agriculture, agroforestry systems, among others) and incorporate biotechnologies are often overlooked as "invisible environmental benefits". "Green" should not only be seen as an external resource to be protected, but also as an essential element in the very structure of sustainable production.

Climate as a driver of development

Climate needs to be reintegrated into the development agenda of nations, especially in developing countries, where the greatest collective challenges include fighting hunger, poverty and precarious living conditions. The solution to the climate crisis cannot and need not be seen exclusively from the perspective of reducing emissions: climate must be an opportunity to promote innovation and development in nations. The transition to a clean energy matrix must include the adoption of advanced technologies that enable sustainable growth, while respecting the particularities of each country. Brazil is an example of this transition with its experience in electricity generation and, above all, bioenergy. What started with sugar cane, is now being followed by corn, soy, palm and other oilseeds, as well as wheat, rice and animal protein residues, in addition to the potential for forest bioenergy.

Communities as the focus of actions

The transition to a sustainable model requires that climate funding effectively reaches municipalities and communities, guaranteeing the economic incentives needed to promote environmental preservation and development. Without this flow of investment into communities, solutions to the climate crisis will remain restricted to large centers or isolated initiatives, without generating any real impact on the productive and social activities that sustain the local economy. For climate justice to become a reality, it is essential to set up mechanisms that decentralize resources and strengthen initiatives that work directly on environmental preservation, sustainable production and climate adaptation. Cooperatives are the indispensable link to connect great ideals with the concrete reality of each community.

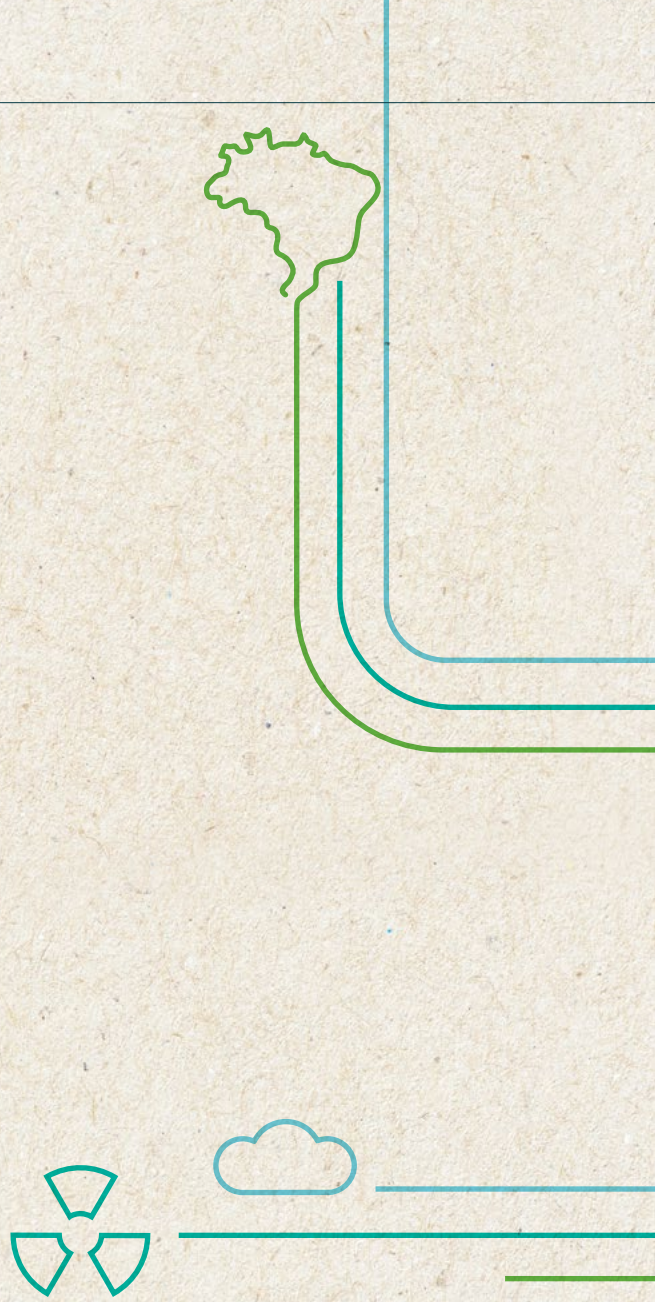
Cooperatives as a path and an opportunity

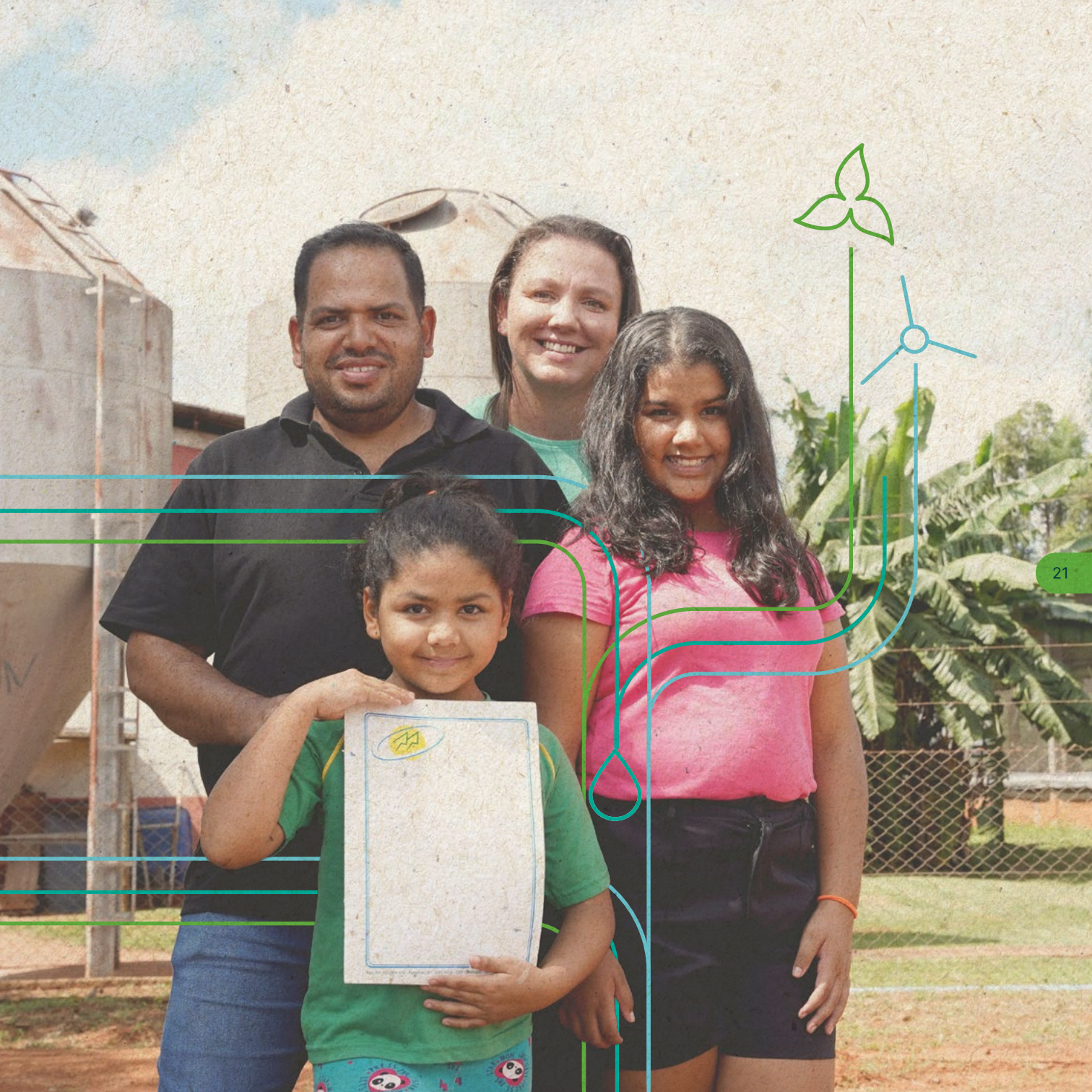
In recent years, cooperatives have become increasingly involved in the climate agenda, recognizing their importance not only as drivers of economic and social development, but also as key players in tackling global challenges for a more sustainable future.

Cooperatives promote social inclusion, territorial development and social organization in the communities where they operate. Their widespread presence and the reach of their assistance networks allow the cooperative movement to become a powerful platform for climate funding and the implementation of sustainable practices in areas

such as agriculture, renewable energy, waste management and environmental conservation.

The cooperative model is also an example of collective entrepreneurship, in which members organize themselves to implement local productive arrangements, creating sustainable and innovative business opportunities. By integrating the environmental agenda into their practices, cooperatives play a crucial role in climate justice, promoting community adaptation, mitigating environmental impacts and increasing access to more sustainable resources and technologies. In this way, we move closer to a more resilient, inclusive and sustainable future, ensuring that people, communities and the planet thrive in a fair and balanced way.





DETAILS OF THE PROPOSALS

1 Food security, technology and low-carbon agriculture

Ensuring universal access to safe and nutritious food is one of the main challenges of the 2030 Agenda, as defined by the UN. Rapid population growth requires a global effort to expand agricultural production without compromising natural resources. FAO projections indicate that demand for food will increase by 70% by 2050, and Brazil will play a strategic role in supplying 8% of this total. This context poses complex challenges, such as preserving the environment, improving production efficiency and strengthening food security for vulnerable populations.

Faced with this reality, Brazilian agricultural cooperatives are a viable solution for balancing production and sustainability. With more than one-million-member producers, 71% of whom are family farmers, cooperatives are key players in supplying food to Brazil and the world, accounting for more than 53% of the national grain harvest, according to data from the 2017 Agricultural Census (IBGE). To give you an idea of their magnitude in different Brazilian production chains, today cooperatives account for 75% of wheat, 55% of coffee, 53% of corn, 52% of soybeans, 50% of pigs, 46% of milk and 43% of beans (Censo Agro 2017, IBGE). They also make a significant contribution to the fruit, vegetable and fiber production chains and the sugar-energy sector. This productive diversity guarantees the supply of basic and strategic foods, both for the domestic market and for export, strengthening Brazil's trade balance.

Our business model brings scale and strengthens small producers, guaranteeing access to technologies, inputs and markets that would otherwise be inaccessible. This also promotes an environment of prosperity, due to the fact that, in cooperatives, the economic results generated remain and are reinvested in the community itself. A recent study by the Institute of Economic Research Foundation (Fipe) shows that municipalities with a strong presence of cooperatives register an increase of R$ 5.1 thousand in GDP per inhabitant, demonstrating how this model generates a multiplier effect in the local economy. By keeping wealth within communities, cooperatives promote a virtuous cycle of develop-

ment, benefiting not only producers, but the entire production chain and consumers.

We know that food security must go hand in hand with sustainability. The global climate crisis demands that we increasingly have agri-food systems that combine food production with environmental preservation. In this respect, cooperatives play an essential role in the transfer of technology and the modernization of agricultural activities. With 9,000 technicians working in the field at the cooperatives, 63% of rural producers receive technical assistance and agricultural extension, a figure significantly higher than the national average of 20% (Agro Census 2017, IBGE). This support is essential to increase productivity in a sustainable way, promoting greater knowledge about soil management and the use of technologies in the field, which are responsible for substantially reducing the carbon footprint of agricultural production.

In fact, the advancement of low-carbon agriculture in Brazil has been driven to a large extent by the work of cooperatives, which have acted as central instruments for due compliance with the Forest Code and in the implementation of the ABC+ Plan, through initiatives to recover degraded pastures, sustainable soil management, treatment of agro-industrial waste, conservation of environmental assets and incentives for bioeconomics. These practices not only minimize carbon emissions, but also increase the resilience of agricultural production in the face of climate change.

The bioeconomy and regenerative agriculture are also at the heart of the transformations promoted by the cooperative movement. Practices such as crop rotation, soil conservation, reducing the use of chemical inputs and valuing bio-inputs are encouraged as strategies to ensure a more sustainable agricultural future. Combined with technological innovation, these measures allow Brazil to continue to stand out as one of the world's main food suppliers, without sacrificing environmental responsibility.

COP30 will be a key moment for Brazil to reaffirm its commitment to sustainable and socially responsible agricultural production. The cooperative model can serve as a benchmark for other nations, demonstrating how it is possible to combine productive growth, technological innovation and respect for the environment.

In this scenario, tropicalizing the metrics and standards of sustainable production, as well as strengthening public policies on access to credit and other green economic incentives, fostering the adoption of new technologies and encouraging the implementation of sustainable practices are some of the paths necessary for Brazil to continue playing a central role in global food security.

a Tropicalization of sustainability benchmarks

i) **Updating sustainable production standards:** adapt international guidelines and sustainability benchmarks to the reality of tropical agriculture, based on technical and scientific knowledge, ensuring that the metrics, technologies and practices recommended are aligned with the climatic, environmental and production conditions of this region. This includes reviewing productivity parameters and recognizing technologies and good practices for carbon sequestration and soil conservation, as well as the appropriate measurement of biomethane, so that they accurately reflect the specificities of the tropical region.

ii) **Carbon pricing metrics:** promote the development of integrated economic and environmental standards, capable of recognizing and incorporating environmental and ecosystem services within the economy, starting with the most important products in Brazil's export chain. Promote the development of the Brazilian Green GDP, as provided for in Law 13.493/2017, based on tropicalized pricing metrics capable of conferring "value" on tropical greenery and projecting the advantages of Brazil's sustainable economy to the world.

iii) **Project evaluation methodologies:** stimulate the development of tropical methodologies, with high scientific rigor, to determine the generation of environmental benefits in Brazilian agricultural projects to recognize the value of the green assets of tropical production, including (i) forest reserves, (ii) sustainable techniques and (iii) tropical technologies. In this same respect, prioritize methodologies adjusted to the particularities of sectors and regions with a greater share of the global market.

iv) **Dissemination of tropical standards:** promote and disseminate tropical standards (metrics, methodologies, models, risk and development patterns) among international scientific institutions and multilateral organizations such as the UNFCCC, FAO, UNDP, IDB-Invest, World Bank and IMF, in order to correct distortions and promote accurate and fair analysis and evaluation of Brazil's economic and environmental reality, taking into account the size of its share in greenhouse gas emissions in the planet's production chain. Promote the adoption of tropical standards in trade agreements signed by Brazil with other countries.

b Adding value and sustainability to production chains

i) **Valuing Brazilian production as an ally of sustainability:** encourage greater awareness among Brazilian society and the international community about the characteristics, potential and contributions of agriculture, especially from cooperatives, to food security and the fight against hunger in Brazil and the world. A strong and sustainable productive sector is the basis for creation of jobs, reduction of inequalities, local development and preservation of the environment. With a view to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals established by the UN, we believe it is essential to promote and enhance the image of Brazilian production as a basic element of the actions and technologies in the rural areas that boost the reduction of inequalities and local and regional development, with sustainability.

ii) **Strengthening the official rural credit policy:** rural credit is the main public instrument for financing agricultural activities in the country, including those aligned with achieving climate goals. Strengthen the current rural credit policy aimed at rural producers and agricultural cooperatives, guaranteeing a volume of resources and interest rates that are compatible with the return of activities in rural areas works as a strategic factor to boost good environmental preservation practices. Given the volatility of inflation and interest rates, which at times can make access to private bonds unfeasible, official rural credit has an even more valuable role to play in giving the production chain predictability and security when financing the harvest. In this context, agricultural cooperatives increase the impact of agricultural policies by generating economies of scale and adding value to the production of small producers.

iii) **Encouraging family farming and cooperatives:** guarantee, in regulations and in the Annual Budget Law, the continuity of government procurement policies for family farming, especially the National School Feeding Program (PNAE), the Food Acquisition Program (PAA) and other forms of public procurement, with a focus on promoting sustainable production, food processing and industrialization and valuing the role of cooperatives. In addition, in partnership with the National Cooperative Learning Service (Sescoop), support cooperatives in professionalizing their management and governance, facilitating business opportunities, strategic partnerships and access to markets and technological innovations.

iv) **Adding value and generating knowledge in the countryside:** expand and modernize technical assistance and rural extension programs, guaranteeing continuous training for producers, especially small and medium-sized ones, with a focus on adopting more productive, sustainable and technological practices. To this end, it is essential to strengthen knowledge and innovation networks in the rural area, through partnerships between cooperatives, state cooperative organizations, Embrapa, CNPq and other research institutions, universities and the public sector.

v) **Development and expansion of sustainable technologies:** raise public investment levels in agricultural research to levels equivalent to those of the main players in the international market, through Embrapa, CNPq, universities and other research centers, improving the management tools of public bodies and strengthening public-private partnerships, including with agricultural cooperatives. The promotion of research must be aligned with the criteria of high performance and efficiency, driving the development of technologies that strengthen the decarbonization of Brazilian production, promote greater sustainability and increase the competitiveness of the agricultural sector.

vi) **Strategic investment in infrastructure and sustainable logistics:** prioritize investments in infrastructure and logistics based on the volumes transported, ensuring greater efficiency in the flow of production, recognizing the routes of the main ports in the distribution of these investments. To this end, the unrestricted adoption of governance and compliance requirements is essential, in order to guarantee the neutrality of environmental impacts, energy efficiency, respect for socio-biodiversity and care for the communities impacted by the works. Thus, the concession model for highways and railroads must increasingly prioritize the most modern green infrastructure practices, such as ecological corridors, low- environmental-impact paving materials, sustainable drainage and real-time environmental monitoring.

c Climate commitments and global trade integration

i) **Participation of the economic sector in the formulation and implementation of the Brazilian NDC:** ensure the effective participation of the economic sector in the formulation and implementation of climate commitments, such as the Nationally Determined Contribution (Brazilian NDC) and the Climate Plan, and in the distribution of responsibilities in sectoral plans, so that

there is proper engagement of the sectors responsible for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Brazil. To this end, we propose that the federal government seek the participation of economic sectors throughout the process of defining and implementing national targets, ensuring methodological transparency and the engagement of the actors involved.

ii) **Generating data on the reality of Brazilian production:** improve the database, in an integrated manner, on Brazilian agricultural production, covering carbon emissions, productivity, environmental conservation and socio-economic impacts. Encouraging partnerships between Embrapa, CNPq, research institutions and government agencies will allow reliable information to be consolidated, helping to inform public policies, private decisions by investors and buyers, as well as international negotiations.

iii) **Integrating global trade:** shape the debate on a just climate transition, based on methodologies suited to local realities in terms of calculating and accounting for carbon footprints, to prevent unilateral measures from having the effect of non-tariff barriers. International trade must be recognized as an ally in the transition to a low-carbon economy, and is essential for enabling food security, sustainable development, access to technologies and environmental services that are crucial to global decarbonization.

d Protection and resilience of agri-food systems

i) **Rural insurance and risk management:** establish, in regulations and in the Annual Budget Law, the guarantee of adequate resources and predictability in the schedule for the approval of the Rural Insurance Premium Subsidy Program (PSR), through long-term planning that takes into account the agricultural calendar. The contracting of rural insurance should be guaranteed with a subsidy from the PSR at strategic times, such as when the producer is buying inputs or contracting pre-cost financing. In addition, the regulation of the Catastrophe Fund (LC 137/2010) should be evaluated in order to provide stability and reduce the systemic risks of the PSR, as well as the implementation of measures that encourage the contracting of agricultural insurance, helping to increase coverage in relation to the area planted in the country.

ii) **Regularity of supply:** guarantee sufficient and timely resources for the operation of the instruments of the Minimum Price Guarantee Policy (PGPM) and improve, through regulation, the mechanisms adopted for the commercialization of agricultural production through government, such as the Equalization Premium Paid to the Producer (Pepro), the Federal Government

Acquisition (AGF) and the Product Flow Premium (PEP), including with regards to the operational bureaucracy of these programs.

iii) **Strengthening the supply chain:** promote the planning of the agricultural inputs sector over the coming decades, in order to guarantee an environment of security and predictability for national production. As an important link in the transfer of technologies, storage and supply of inputs to rural producers across the country, agricultural cooperatives are strategic players in the implementation of the National Fertilizer Plan (PNF) and have been working hard to find effective solutions to resolve possible gaps in the supply chain and reduce dependence on international products. In addition, bio-inputs are playing an increasingly important role in Brazilian production, bringing together cost savings for producers, a reduction in dependence on chemical products and the sustainability of farming activities.

2 Valorization of communities and proper access to climate funding

Access to finance is central to climate governance and is a major catalyst for the economy of the future. COP29 ended with a commitment from developed countries to finance US$ 300 billion a year to support climate transition and adaptation in developing countries, but the amount needed exceeds US$ 1 trillion (Global Stocktake, COP28). As part of the Baku to Belem Roadmap, Brazil was tasked with structuring proposals to expand this financing, making room to strengthen the role of credit unions in the transition to a low-carbon economy.

With 768 single cooperatives and more than 17.9 million members, credit unions have proved essential to Brazil's economic and social development. According to data from the Central Bank, in 2023 their credit portfolio exceeded R$388 billion, representing a strategic opportunity to finance renewable energy, low-carbon agriculture and energy efficiency projects. In addition, credit unions are present in more than half of Brazil's municipalities, being the only financial institution in 368 of them (BCB, 2024). With more than 9,000 service units, they have the largest physical network in the country, facilitating access to credit for small producers and entrepreneurs who would otherwise find it difficult to finance sustainable initiatives.

While international public funding faces challenges, such as bureaucracy and inefficient allocation of resources, private funding has been gaining momentum, driven by investment funds and companies with climate neutrality targets. In this scenario, credit unions can act as decentralized and efficient agents, connecting public and private investors to sustainable projects in communities. Their structure allows for the efficient mobilization of climate finance, ensuring that resources are directed towards solutions that promote climate resilience, carbon neutrality and long-term sustainability.

The advance of the carbon market and other green economic mechanisms opens up new opportunities for cooperatives, which can support their members in complying to climate regulations and adding value to sustainable projects and initiatives. To this end, the regulation of the carbon market in Brazil must ensure that cooperatives are one of the key players in the transition to CO_2 neutrality, promoting both carbon sequestration and offsetting emissions. It is essential that the new regulatory framework is economically attractive, encouraging sustainable initiatives, ensuring adequate governance and facilitating access to national and international financial resources.

Brazil's new Nationally Determined Contribution, presented at COP29, calls for a 59% to 67% reduction in emissions by 2035, based on 2005 levels. To achieve this goal effectively and fairly, pricing emissions and encouraging sustainable practices are key. Cooperatives, which already adopt energy efficiency and environmental preservation actions, can benefit directly from a well-structured carbon market, monetizing sustainable practices and financing decarbonization projects without compromising their competitiveness. A transparent and regulated market will guarantee access to fair compensation and incentive mechanisms, further strengthening participation of cooperatives in the transition to a low-carbon economy. Thus, public policies that enable the efficient governance of this market are essential to consolidate the role of cooperatives in the national climate agenda.

a Decentralization of climate funding

Promote the decentralization of climate finance, guaranteeing cooperatives direct access to global resources for sustainable transition. Today, cooperatives can hardly access resources from global funds such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), among others. Current climate finance mechanisms face bureaucratic barriers, which undermine access for small producers and local communities.

By allowing **cooperatives to directly access these funds**, it will be possible to accelerate investments in sustainable practices, renewable energies and climate resilience, ensuring that **resources reach those who need them most.**

By allowing cooperatives to access these funds directly, it will be possible to accelerate investments in sustainable practices, renewable energies and climate resilience, ensuring that the resources reach those who need them most. COP30, which will take place in Brazil, represents a unique opportunity to advance this debate and consolidate cooperatives as one of the target audiences for international climate finance.

b Public financing funds

i) **Proper access for credit unions to constitutional funds:** increase the participation of credit unions as on-lenders to the Constitutional Financing Funds (FCO, FNE and FNO) in volumes appropriate to the demands presented by the segment, as a way of strengthening the National Regional Development Policy (PNDR) and the productive and financial inclusion of rural producers and small businesses in the Midwest, North and Northeast regions.

ii) **Cooperatives as beneficiaries of regional development funds:** boost the participation of agricultural and infrastructure cooperatives as beneficiaries of regional development fund resources (FDCO, FDNE and FDA), ensuring investments in infrastructure, logistics and the structuring of productive and technological ventures with great capacity for economic development in the Midwest, North and Northeast regions, as the basis for an inclusive economy focused on sustainable production chains.

iii) **Allocation of the Climate and Amazon Funds:** broaden the access of cooperatives and local communities to the Climate and Amazon Funds is fundamental to maximize social and environmental impact. To do this, it is necessary to reduce bureaucracy, decentralize the allocation of resources and invest in technical training for beneficiaries, guaranteeing inclusion, efficiency and strengthening of local governance in the fight against climate change. In partnership with the BNDES, Brazilian cooperatives are a key player in driving integrated and inclusive climate actions, going beyond the provision of credit and playing an essential role in technical guidance and in the management and governance of resources.

iv) **Access to the FNDCT by cooperatives:** allow cooperatives to be direct beneficiaries of the National Fund for Scientific and Technological Development (FNDCT), in partnership with Finep and technology centers, in projects aimed at the sustainability of Brazilian agribusiness; research and technology to guarantee food security for the Brazilian population; technologies for generating energy from sustainable sources; innovations for energy storage; projects for capturing, storing and/or using CO_2; investments in the circular economy and solid waste treatment; among others.

c Regulation of the carbon market

i) **Transparency and integrity in the Carbon Market:** guarantee transparency and integrity in the carbon market, ensuring that credits are linked to effective projects to reduce or stop GHG emissions. Encourage national certifiers and strengthen independent audits and standardized verifications to guarantee the credibility of credits. Implement robust traceability by means of a global platform that tracks the life cycle of credits, preventing greenwashing practices. Harmonize standards between regulated and voluntary markets to avoid double counting and facilitate integration between systems, promoting a more reliable and accessible market for rural producers and sustainable sectors.

ii) **Market integration and regulation of private credits:** facilitate integration between national and international carbon markets, ensuring clear rules that promote greater liquidity and international validation of credits generated in Brazil. Regulate the use of private credits in market mechanisms between countries, encouraging voluntary actions in line with climate commitments, especially after the regulation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement at COP29 in Baku. Strengthen the participation of the productive sector in the transition to a low-carbon economy, increasing the attraction of foreign investment. Use credit unions as a strategic channel to democratize access to the carbon market, ensuring compensation for environmental practices and promoting a just and inclusive transition.

iii) **Metrics and practices adapted to tropical realities:** adapt Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) methodologies to the realities of tropical ecosystems, ensuring that carbon sequestration in Brazilian forests, soils and production systems is recognized and promoted. Develop local technologies, such as geolocation and artificial intelligence, to facilitate the monitoring and traceability of carbon emissions, making them accessible to cooperatives and rural producers. Avoid artificial barriers in market regulation, ensuring a fair, transparent and appropriate system for Brazilian conditions, strengthening the country's position in the transition to a more sustainable economy.

d Implementation of the Payment for Environmental Services Policy:

Regulate Law 14.119/2021, which establishes the National Policy for Payment for Environmental Services (PNPSA), with due recognition of the environmental preservation and recovery initiatives carried out by rural producers and cooperatives. In the regulatory sphere, it is also necessary to set up monitoring and transparency mechanisms to create

a favorable environment in the country for investments in the sector. To this end, it is pertinent to use the experience of states that have already developed Payment for Environmental Services (PES) initiatives as a reference, analyzing best practices for federal regulation. Strengthening payment mechanisms for environmental services can turn environmental conservation into a real economic asset for communities. Recognizing the role of cooperatives in the conservation of strategic biomes can encourage productive practices that reconcile agricultural production with environmental preservation.

e Green bonds and other economic instruments

Diversify the issuance of green bonds in Brazil, which today is still concentrated in the renewable energy sectors and in certified forest products activities in the pulp and paper chains. To this end, it is necessary to structure a national green investment portfolio that includes the practices and technologies covered by the ABC+ Plan, as well as disseminating official data on possible sources of funding, including cooperatives from all economic segments, in order to bring together national and international investors and asset managers. In addition, strengthen green economic instruments in agricultural activity, with greater return and value for sustainable practices, which take into account climate resilience patterns and tropical agriculture.

f Brazilian sustainable taxonomy

Develop a National Sustainable Taxonomy, with the aim of establishing incentives for private investment, such as tax benefits and financial incentives for companies and cooperatives that adopt sustainable practices, increasing the volume of resources earmarked for the green economy. To this end, it is essential that the taxonomy acts as a reference tool for diversifying investments, making it easier and cheaper to attract new green investments, without restricting or preventing access to existing resources.

3 Energy transition and sustainable development

The energy transition is one of the most urgent challenges of global climate governance, requiring solutions that guarantee security, expand renewable sources and reduce inequalities in access to energy. The right to sustainable development, enshrined in the Rio 92 Declaration, depends on equitable access to energy, promoting innovation and collaboration, rather than restrictions that deepen social and economic disparities.

With a privileged and predominantly renewable energy matrix, Brazil plays a strategic role in this scenario. COP28 in Dubai marked a significant step forward by proposing, for the first time, the "transition away from fossil fuels". This global commitment reinforces the need to accelerate energy diversification, promoting solutions that combine innovation, inclusion and sustainability. During COP30 in Belem, Brazil has the opportunity to lead the debate on the energy transition in a just, orderly and equitable way, in order to achieve the goal of tripling global renewable energy capacity and doubling energy efficiency by 2030.

This process involves gradually replacing fossil fuels with clean and sustainable sources, promoting energy efficiency and modernizing infrastructures. The path to change depends not only on technology, but also on social and economic transformation, ensuring that no group is left behind in this process. The transition must be planned in an inclusive way, taking into account the needs of different countries and communities, especially those that still face challenges in accessing energy, such as peoples and communities in remote locations in Brazil.

Cooperatives can contribute by allowing communities to organize themselves to produce and consume renewable energy, promoting a decentralized and accessible model. In 2023, 736 cooperatives generated their own energy, a significant increase compared to 2022, when 582 cooperatives

generated part of their energy. The highlight was photovoltaic plants, with 3,523 projects, as well as bioenergy and hydroelectric initiatives (OCB, 2024).

In addition, cooperatives play an essential role in bioenergy innovation, taking advantage of sustainable local sources. In Brazil, bioenergy production is complementary to agriculture, guaranteeing a balanced carbon cycle. Furthermore, bioenergy represents an economic opportunity for small producers and agricultural cooperatives, allowing for greater diversification of activities and adding value to rural products. In order to move forward, scientific, economic and regulatory developments are needed, eliminating barriers that limit the expansion of this matrix.

Cooperatives are also essential in the development and use of biofuels, strengthening sustainable production chains. Sources such as ethanol, biodiesel and biogas are strategic alternatives for replacing fossil fuels, especially in transport and decentralized energy generation. Cooperatives enable the local production of these inputs and fuels, generating jobs, strengthening the rural economy and reducing carbon emissions.

Therefore, the active participation of cooperatives in the energy transition represents a path towards a more sustainable and inclusive future, ensuring universal access to energy, boosting local development and strengthening climate resilience.

a Fostering and scaling up renewable energy production

Develop public policies that encourage the growth of renewable energy cooperatives, including photovoltaic, wind and biogas sources. Throughout the country, there are already countless examples of agricultural cooperatives converting the environmental liabilities of their agro-industries into biogas, guaranteeing energy security and self-sufficiency, as well as cooperatives from various economic segments investing in solar panels to generate their own energy in urban and rural areas. There are many advantages to this model: a significant reduction in production costs, a gain in scale, better conditions for acquiring infrastructure and inputs, an increase in productivity and the adoption of more sustainable production processes. Given this scenario, it is essential that public authorities strengthen the sector, promoting the diversification of the national energy matrix as a positive externality. This requires a balance in the allocation of costs, ensuring that the advancement of the proposal does not generate disproportionate impacts on the Brazilian population.

b Access to quality energy in the countryside

Recognize and promote the role of electricity distribution cooperatives as key players in access to electricity in rural areas and cities, especially in communities and municipalities further away from large urban centers. Energy distribution cooperatives need to be treated appropriately by the public authorities, since they are mostly located in rural areas and in municipalities in the countryside, and their characteristics include a low density of consumers per kilometer of network and a lower economic margin in rural production. Economic diversification and modernization in the agricultural production and services chains bring with them the need for more efficient regulations for the adequate supply of energy.

c Expanding the use of biofuels

Encourage the gradual transformation of the Brazilian energy matrix, through scientific, economic and regulatory innovation for the expansion of bioenergy and biofuels, with more efficient, sustainable and accessible solutions for the population. Strengthen bioenergy as a strategic driver for the energy transition, taking advantage of renewable sources of biofuels, in accordance with the Fuel for the Future Act (Law 14.933/2024) and the Energy Transition Act (Law 15.103/2024). Encourage the production of biofuels in cooperatives and security for investments in the agro-energy sector, in order to ensure greater price stability for commodities such as soy, corn and animal protein, as well as reducing dependence on fossil fuels.

d Promoting the Social Biofuel Seal:

Maintain and improve the Social Biofuel Seal (SBS) program with a focus on organizing the family farming production chain through cooperatives. The SBS is a public policy aimed at promoting the acquisition of raw materials from family farming for the production of biofuels. The Seal helps both sustainability and the productive and social inclusion of family farmers who supply raw materials for biofuel production. Agricultural cooperatives are key players in instrumentalizing the program by creating the conditions for marketing their members' production, in volume and quality, to biodiesel companies. In return, they receive support so that they can provide adequate and targeted technical assistance to their producers.

4 Bioeconomy as an opportunity for development

The bioeconomy has established itself as one of the main paths towards sustainable development, balancing social inclusion, technological innovation and environmental conservation. Around the world, this concept evolves and adapts to different realities. In Brazil, the bioeconomy ranges from the valorization of biodiversity and non-timber forest products to the application of biotechnology and bioenergy in structured production chains. In other words, the bioeconomy seeks to transform biodiversity into sustainable production opportunities, guaranteeing the preservation of natural resources and promoting environmentally responsible value chains.

To make this model viable, practices such as the circular economy, the use of bio-inputs and the transition to renewable energies are adopted. Biofertilizers and biopesticides reduce dependence on synthetic inputs and their environmental impacts, promoting regenerative agriculture and ecological balance.

The bioeconomy is not a regional privilege; on the contrary, each part of the country must develop its own model, aligning intelligence, technology and advanced practices with local skills and ancestral knowledge. The Amazon, for example, is home to the greatest biodiversity on the planet, with immense potential for structuring an inclusive economy based on innovation and the sustainable development of its production chains. The Cerrado is home to the most advanced tropical bioeconomy, the result of a combination of technology, entrepreneurship and the efficient mobilization of natural resources, especially sustainable tropical agriculture.

In this context, cooperatives are a key player in promoting the active participation of local communities and strengthening climate resilience. Based on principles such as democratic management, education and concern for the community, the cooperative model ensures that economic development takes

place in an inclusive and sustainable manner. In addition to strengthening local economies and promoting climate justice, cooperatives increase environmental protection, ensuring that keeping the forest standing generates direct benefits for the people who depend on it. They also allow the benefits of the bioeconomy to reach small and medium-sized producers, promoting the dissemination of knowledge and facilitating the adoption of new technologies in the field.

COP30 is a strategic opportunity for Brazil to consolidate the bioeconomy as a structuring axis for national development and a reference model for other countries. In order for the cooperative model to reaffirm itself as an instrument of sustainable development, specific public policies and financial instruments are needed to encourage the transition to more sustainable modes of production, ensuring that the bioeconomy fulfills its role in building a more balanced and inclusive future.

a Biotechnology and sustainable development

Encourage research and the development of new technologies in the field, without neglecting the potential of biodiversity products and the traditional knowledge of the communities present in each of the biomes. It is therefore necessary to increasingly promote solutions that improve the competitiveness of the Brazilian bioeconomy by adopting more sustainable and productive practices in the field and in the industry, through training, investment in genetic improvement of native crops, biotechnology and artificial intelligence applied to agriculture. In addition, it is essential to strengthen the technological hubs of the bioeconomy, connecting Embrapa, CNPq, universities, research centers and cooperatives.

b Traceability and certification of the production chain

Promote compliance, encourage sustainable practices and enhance the value of Brazilian agricultural production through traceability mechanisms and certification of production chains, without increasing costs or creating non-tariff barriers, in order to increase the competitiveness of Brazilian products in the global market. In addition, it is important to encourage the recognition and expansion of seals for bioeconomy products, adding value to sustainable production activities and the efficient use of natural resources, as well as products with Geographical Indications (GIs), with a view to strengthening local production chains and access to specialized markets.

c Sustainable territorial development

Digitalize and integrate public and private land databases to optimize land management in Brazil, using geotechnologies to support land regularization and protect territories of public interest. Land and environmental regulation policies must be complementary: while the titles to public and private land facilitate mechanisms for access to credit and accountability for illegal deforestation, it is essential to guarantee environmental safeguards to protect native vegetation in the land regulation process, as provided for in the Forest Code (Law No. 12.651/2012). Furthermore, encourage the structuring and strengthening of local productive arrangements, through access to rural credit and government purchases from family farming, in order to strengthen sustainable development and the economic, social and environmental resilience of communities in regional development territories.

d Development of the Amazon Region

Promote the bioeconomy as a central point for the sustainable development of the Amazon region. Therefore, the region needs to engage in a dialog with the fight against hunger and the reduction of inequalities, with the strengthening of basic local infrastructure, responsible land regularization and ensuring better living conditions for local people. The bioeconomy in the Amazon should be based on boosting the value of biodiversity and extraction of non-timber forest products, such as the açaí, Brazil nut, rubber, babassu and cupuaçu chains, and on stimulating other production chains with economic potential for the region, as long as they are based on sustainable practices. It is also necessary to connect the region and integrate it with internal and external commercial centers, with the construction of communication infrastructure and multimodal transport, including regional aviation and waterways. As an instrument of financial and productive inclusion, cooperatives can be the agent for mobilizing and organizing these communities, putting the economic development of the population on an equal footing with the need to preserve the environment. Finally, throughout the Amazon, it is imperative to defend the sovereignty of the territory and combat land grabbing, illegal deforestation and organized crime.

e Strengthening regional bioeconomies

Encourage cooperative bioeconomy models that value the diversity of Brazilian biomes. The growth of bioeconomic chains must be associated with productive integration between different sectors and biomes, stimulating innovation and organizing

local productive arrangements that guarantee predictability and security for investments. Each region of the country has the potential to develop solutions adapted to its specific realities. It is therefore crucial to strengthen the role of agricultural cooperatives in order to gain scale, access to new technologies, technical assistance and rural extension, as well as for the processing and industrialization of agricultural products in all biomes. In addition, it is necessary to disseminate the cooperative model as an instrument for generating employment and income, accessing domestic and foreign markets, diversifying trade channels and increasing production efficiency in the different regions of Brazil. Finally, it is fundamental to encourage improvements in the management and governance of cooperatives, so that they can become even more central links in the country's bioeconomy and regional development.

f Structuring the Green GDP

Build the infrastructure for calculating and monitoring "green" national accounts at the IBGE, even in partnership with other Brazilian and international scientific institutions. Start by developing satellite accounts, aggregated to the GDP, which calculate and reveal the economic value of ecosystem services of biodiversity, water, forest stocks and clean energy. Use, as a reference, a set of guidelines and benchmarks produced by international organizations, such as UN-ECLAC. Secondly, to integrate the "natural capital", expressed in the satellite accounts, into the national GDP, showing, in an integrated way, the "green" contribution of the Brazilian economy to the planet. By doing so, Brazil can be a pioneer in creating tropical economic and environmental benchmarks for the world.

g Circular economy and reverse logistics

Promote the efficient management of domestic and industrial waste, through its reuse, reconditioning, recycling or proper disposal. In this process, cooperatives play an essential role in various links of the production chain, collecting and processing recyclable materials. For this initiative to succeed, it is essential that the public sector strengthens incentive policies that make the use of recycled raw materials more attractive than virgin raw materials. In addition, it is vital to develop programs that highlight the role of recycling cooperatives as a strategic partner in the various production chains, collaborating in the implementation of reverse logistics and circular economy programs.

5 Adaptation and mitigation of climate risks

The global climate agenda has evolved over the last 30 years to prioritize the challenge of "mitigating" greenhouse gas emissions. The Paris Agreement of 2015 places the task of climate adaptation alongside mitigation. The Global Stocktake, concluded at COP28 in Dubai, pays special attention to adaptation policies, determining that countries include national adaptation commitments in their NDCs. By COP30 in Belem, countries are expected to renew their NDCs with commitments until 2035. It is also expected that the new commitments will incorporate, in an increasingly direct and qualified way, national climate adaptation commitments.

The effects of climate change have become more frequent and impactful – especially on populations and productive activities that are more "exposed" to nature's designs. In Brazil, 94% of municipalities have been impacted by natural disasters in the last decade, directly affecting almost 5 million people (CNM, 2024). The impacts of these extreme events are exacerbated by the low adaptive capacity of many territories, especially in the most vulnerable regions. Agriculture has also been impacted by excessive rainfall, changes in precipitation patterns, droughts and pests, which compromises global food and nutrition security.

In this context, cooperatives are an instrument of sustainability and resilience. With their wide reach and operations in strategic sectors such as agriculture, infrastructure and credit, cooperatives have the potential to develop local and scalable responses to climate change. In other words, the capacity of cooperatives to lead climate adaptation and mitigation processes is evident in initiatives aimed at recovering infrastructure, adopting sustainable production systems and developing innovative techniques to deal with extreme events.

a Strengthening climate adaptation policies and strategies

Promote investments in resilience, technological innovation and sustainable infrastructure, ensuring proper funding for preventive actions related to the impacts of climate change. Incorporate adaptation into national and local strategic planning, encouraging the implementation of climate monitoring systems, the efficient use of natural resources and the construction of infrastructure adapted to extreme events. Develop regional and sectoral strategies that respect territorial specificities, encouraging decentralized solutions and the active participation of cooperatives. Encourage partnerships and knowledge exchange to strengthen climate resilience and boost local economies in a sustainable way.

b Promoting and strengthening the ABC+ Plan

Value even more the extraordinary role of the Sectoral Plan for Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change for the Consolidation of a Low-Carbon Economy in Agriculture (ABC+ Plan) as a public policy for sustainable development to be implemented in all countries. In addition, recognize cooperatives as central productive arrangements to scale up and disseminate the technologies and practices adopted by the ABC+ Plan. As an example, it is possible to mention the various successful initiatives experienced within the scope of public policy by the cooperatives in actions to recover degraded pastures and environmental conservation, such as the promotion and dissemination of Integrated Crop-Livestock-Forest systems (iLPF) , Agroforestry Systems (SAFs), techniques such as no-till farming, biological nitrogen fixation, among others. Also within the scope of the ABC Plan, cooperatives are protagonists in the treatment of animal waste and agro-industry residues to reduce methane emissions, produce organic fertilizer and generate clean energy through biomass, in order to help the country meet its commitments to reduce methane gas emissions into the atmosphere.

c Dynamized CAR and implementation of the Forest Code

Finalize, in all the states of the Federation, the procedures necessary for the analysis of the Rural Environmental Registry (CAR), which will also make it possible to implement the Environmental Regularization Program (PRA), according to the reality and characteristics of each state. Recently, the Brazilian Forest Service (SFB) launched the Dynamic CAR tool, which uses remote sensing mechanisms to speed up the analysis of registrations. The cooperative system supports the initiative and considers it important to implement the Dynamic CAR tool in

all states, as long as it is done responsibly, with predictability and without creating legal uncertainty for producers, in order to fully apply the guidelines of the Forest Code and strengthen the unrestricted fight against illegal deforestation in the country.

d Improving climate insurance policies and instruments

Expand and strengthen climate insurance mechanisms, guaranteeing the financial protection of cooperative members and communities against the impacts of extreme events such as droughts, floods and storms. This includes improving rural insurance, allowing greater coverage for small and medium-sized producers, as well as developing insurance for critical infrastructure, ensuring the continuity of productive activities and rapid recovery after disasters. In addition, it is essential to create parametric insurance models, which offer automatic payments based on predefined climate indicators, reducing bureaucracy and speeding up compensation for losses. Finally, it is important to promote the democratization of advanced financing and insurance instruments on the stock exchange, with hedges and options, combined with support and premium subsidies for cooperatives.

e Adaptation infrastructures to climate events

Promote climate resilience networks through advanced monitoring and early warning systems, enabling identification and rapid response to extreme events. This includes the expansion of meteorological systems, environmental sensors and data analysis platforms, guaranteeing accurate information for decision-making. In addition, it is important to integrate territorial planning with risk management, ensuring that land occupation and infrastructure are designed to mitigate the impacts of natural disasters. Nature-based solutions such as ecological corridors, watershed restoration and green infrastructure should be encouraged to increase the adaptability of territories. Furthermore, strengthen emergency response requires the development of sustainable and adaptable structures, such as strategic operational centers, resilient shelters, stockpiles of supplies and access to credit for small businesses, agriculture and infrastructure in crisis situations.

Relevance of cooperatives in Brazil and worldwide

International Scenario

3 million
of cooperatives in the world

1 billion
of cooperative members (12% of mankind)

280 million
of jobs created

US$ 2,4 trillion
(300 largest cooperatives in the world)

If the 300 largest cooperatives in the world were a country, they would be
8th largest economy
in the world

Source: ICA - World Cooperative Monitor (2023)

Brazilian Scenario

4.509
cooperatives in Brazil

23,5 million
members
(11.5% of the Brazilian population)

550 thousand
of jobs created

R$ 692 billion
in income

Addition of
R$ 5,1 thousand
of GDP per capita

Source: OCB System - AnuárioCoop 2024

2025 - International Year of Cooperatives

The UN General Assembly declared 2025 the International Year of Cooperatives (IYC 2025), recognizing the importance of cooperatives in sustainable development, social inclusion and economic justice. The recognition highlights the role of cooperatives in the development of communities, in promoting social inclusion, sustainability and social justice, as well as being an effective solution to global social, economic and environmental challenges.

The UN recognition reinforces the importance of cooperatives in eradicating poverty, promoting gender equality, empowering marginalized groups such as women, people with disabilities, indigenous peoples and in the fight against hunger and inequality. With this, it encourages its 195 member countries to create public policies that strengthen the sector, facilitating access to resources, technologies and government support.

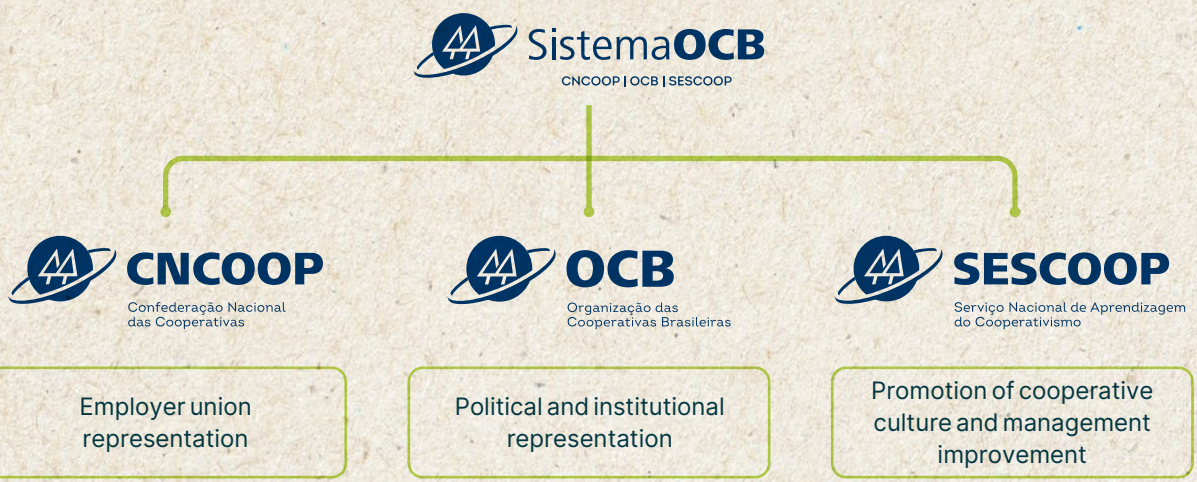
The UN chose *Cooperatives Build a Better World* as the theme for the International Year of Cooperatives, highlighting the global and lasting impact of the economic model. This theme aims to highlight the cooperative model as an essential solution for overcoming global challenges such as resource scarcity and climate change, as well as accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a focus on fighting poverty, promoting decent work and sustainable economic growth.

Cooperative system actions on the environmental agenda

The OCB System was born with the aim of uniting people who believe in the cooperative movement. We have organized ourselves to strengthen the cooperative movement and defend it as a socio-economic model capable of transforming the world into a fairer, more sustainable place with better opportunities for all.

As the representative body of the Brazilian cooperative movement, we act as the voice of the movement both in Brazil and abroad.

The OCB System is divided into three houses, each with its own specific function and all always working together for the cooperative movement:



The OCB System works daily to strengthen the competitiveness of cooperatives, while preserving the values and principles of our business model. Besides promoting and institutionally representing the sector, we offer various solutions that enable cooperatives to evolve and contribute to a more sustainable and fairer world.

Advances in the regulatory framework and environmental public policies

Law 12.651/2012, which instituted the New Brazilian Forest Code, is considered one of Brazil's great prides in terms of environmental preservation, due to its ability to harmonize the protection of ecosystems with agricultural production, guaranteeing sustainability in its three aspects: environmental, social and economic. After extensive debates and the active participation of various economic sectors and civil society organizations, the OCB System played a leading role in the discussions, with the challenge of making environmental protection and food production compatible as equally fundamental values.

As a territorial management mechanism, the Rural Environmental Registry (CAR) was established, which allows for the monitoring and regularization of rural properties, in compliance with the protection of Permanent Conservation Areas (APPs) and Legal Reserves, which require the maintenance of 20% to 80% of the area of each property with native vegetation, depending on the biome. These measures ensure that Brazil stands out as an agricultural and environmental powerhouse, capable of producing food, fiber and energy in balance with its ecosystems.

After the legislation was enacted, the OCB System played an important role in implementing the new Forest Code, organizing more than 200 workshops across the country in partnership with the Ministry of the Environment (MMA). Initiatives like this have made it possible for millions of rural producers to sign up to the CAR, bringing them into compliance with legal requirements and demonstrating that it is possible to reconcile productivity and preservation.

The Brazilian cooperative movement has also been active in building other strategic public policies, such as the Plan for Adaptation and Low-Carbon Emissions in Agriculture (ABC Plan), perhaps the greatest example in terms of the bioeconomy in the world. Since the beginning, cooperatives have participated in the construction and implementation of the ABC Plan, with countless actions to implement technologies and good practices in the rural areas, with a view to recovering degraded pastures, Integrated Crop-Livestock-Forest Systems (ILPF), the creation of agroforestry systems (SAFs) and no-till farming,

the use of bio-inputs on a large scale and the reuse of agro-industry waste for energy efficiency through biodigesters, among many other initiatives.

The OCB System also played a central role in regulating the carbon market, guaranteeing the possibility of generating carbon credits from various sustainable agricultural practices, as well as ensuring participation in the financial results of public programs for private areas with remaining vegetation.

In the case of the National Policy for Payment for Environmental Services (PNPSA), the OCB System was able to include cooperatives in the list of priority actors to be rewarded for environmental preservation or recovery initiatives. Furthermore, as a result of the work of the OCB System, Permanent Conservation Areas and Legal Reserves were made eligible for payment for environmental services, with preference given to those located around springs, in river basins or in priority areas for the conservation of biological diversity in the process of desertification or advanced fragmentation.

Two bills that stand out in the current scenario are the Fuel for the Future Act, which creates conditions for the transition towards a cleaner energy matrix and increases the share of biofuels in national consumption, and the Energy Transition Act, which encourages investment in projects aimed at building infrastructure, expanding and implementing energy production parks with sustainable matrices, as well as promoting technological research and innovation aimed at benefiting the communities involved and reducing environmental impacts.

Representation of cooperatives in international forums

On the global stage, sustainability is a priority for the cooperative movement. In partnership with the Brazilian government, the UN and other organizations, we have been working to ensure the participation of cooperatives in the discussions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. As a result of this mobilization, we were present at COP 26, 27, 28 and 29, consolidating our position as a strategic player in the transition to a low- carbon economy.

In order to increase the participation of the Brazilian cooperative movement at COP30 and promote environmental solutions aligned with the needs of cooperatives, the OCB System created the COP and Environmental Thematic Chambers (TCs). These TCs are fundamental to encourage the active participation of cooperatives in both climate conferences and other discussions on the global environmental agenda.

Through our work, we present innovative initiatives by Brazilian cooperatives, including regenerative agricultural practices, the adoption of green technologies and the financing of sustainable projects.

Commitment to a sustainable future: ongoing initiatives

The OCB System is proud to be involved in implementing a set of practical ESG solutions for the cooperative movement throughout the country, placing it at the center of the agenda for mitigating the impacts of climate change and promoting a sustainable future. To strengthen this agenda, we have developed the ESGCoop Program, which operates on five main fronts.

In 2023, 365 cooperatives responded to the ESGCoop Diagnosis in 19 states, and in 2024 this figure was 348 cooperatives in 25 states. In addition, we invested in training cooperative leaders in sustainability, offering everything from intensive 170-hour mentoring for more than 300 leaders to agile 16-hour training for 120 executives, as well as other online training through CapacitaCoop, reaching around 2,000 people.

In addition to the ESGCoop Diagnosis, the OCB System implements initiatives that directly assist cooperatives in the transition to a sustainable economy:

ESGCOOP PROGRAM

- Mapping good practices
- Training of managers and technicians
- Development of materiality matrices
- Elaboration of action plans to implement solutions in line with ESG criteria
- Consistent communication of good ESG practices developed by cooperatives

Carbon Neutrality Solution: It supports cooperatives in identifying, reducing and neutralizing their greenhouse gas emissions. Currently, 18 cooperatives, with more than 236,000 members and 31,000 employees and a turnover of more than R$52.9 billion, are taking part in this pilot initiative. The solution includes specialized consultancy to inventory emissions and identify decarbonization opportunities, highlighting the role of cooperatives in the green economy.

Energy Efficiency Solution: Developed to optimize energy consumption in cooperatives of all sectors, with a focus on renewable sources such as solar, wind and biomass. Currently, the initiative benefits 15 cooperatives which together have a turnover of more than R$66 billion, 1.2 million members and more than 71,000 employees. By means of training and consultancy, these cooperatives will be able to reduce operating costs and carbon emissions, strengthening its commitment to the ESG agenda.

Business Program: Aimed at strengthening the most vulnerable cooperatives, such as those in family farming, handicrafts and recycling. Currently, more than 100 cooperatives in 23 Brazilian states take part in the program, which offers support in internal organization, consultancy, training and access to markets through fairs, technical missions and business rounds.

These initiatives reflect the OCB System's commitment to sustainability, demonstrating how cooperatives can be a driving force in the transition towards a low-carbon economy. We continue to promote innovative solutions, strengthening environmental regulations and ensuring a more sustainable future for all.

Document elaboration process

The proposals presented in this document are the result of a participatory process that began with the definition of the strategic guidelines voted on at the 15th Brazilian Cooperative Congress (15th CBC), held in 2024 in Brasilia, with the active participation of more than 3,000 cooperative leaders. The meeting was attended by representatives of the 27 State Organizations of the OCB System and all branches of the cooperative sector.

Based on 1,933 proposals suggested by cooperatives, the 3,000 delegates critically chose the 25 main challenges and opportunities for cooperatives in the coming years, including two environmental demands:

PRIORITIES OF THE 15TH BRAZILIAN COOPERATIVE CONGRESS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ESG AXIS

1) Communicate to Brazilian and international society the positive impacts of the environmental actions carried out by cooperatives.

2) Promote environmental education among cooperative members and employees to raise awareness and guide cooperative practices.

Our proposals also take into account the process of drawing up the OCB System's Strategic Map 2025-2030, in which leaders from all branches of the cooperative movement and all regions of Brazil were consulted, with the aim of reflecting the diversity and aspirations of the movement in the segment's strategic guidelines and objectives.

In addition, between February 10 and 21, 2025, a survey was carried out with 60 cooperative leaders from all over the country on the Manifesto of the Brazilian Cooperative Movement for COP30, with the participation of directors of the National Organization and State Organizations of the OCB System, coordinators of advisory boards of branches of the cooperative movement and leaders of confederations, federations, centers and cooperatives, with the aim of ensuring that our proposals reflect, in a legitimate and representative way, the priorities, concerns and good practices of our movement in relation to the global climate agenda.

Moreover, the strategy for drafting the Manifesto was coordinated in the COP Thematic Chamber (TC-COP) within the OCB System, which was created in July 2024 as part of the cooperative movement's initiatives to encourage the active participation of cooperatives in global climate discussions. TC-COP brings together cooperative leaders and technical experts in the environmental field to discuss strategies and the positioning of cooperatives for the UN climate conference.

Thus, the proposals contained in this manifesto clearly reflect where and how cooperatives can contribute to Brazil and the world in advancing the sustainable development agenda. We seek to raise awareness among people and decision-makers, both national and international, of the importance of our movement as a protagonist in the implementation of the global pact to achieve climate goals. Also, we seek to demonstrate our pride in who we are and what we have already delivered in terms of sustainable development practices, forest preservation and environmental protection, making sure that the debate on climate change respects production patterns and the different realities of tropical regions.

We take a close look at the importance of this debate being conducted in a balanced way, based on technical and scientific knowledge, avoiding narratives that result in trade barriers or restrictions on market access. Furthermore, we emphasize the need to ensure the competitiveness of Brazilian production by promoting the adoption of good sustainable practices and a strategic positioning aligned with the dynamics of the global climate agenda.

Throughout the document, we highlight the ways in which cooperatives have demonstrated their ability to transform Brazil through the pursuit of the common good and the achievement of prosperity, as well as making structuring proposals to advance the sustainable development agenda.

OBJECTIVES AND RECIPIENTS OF THE PROPOSALS:

Brazilian Federal Government: include cooperatives in public policies aimed at developing the environmental agenda and to highlight their role as an instrument.

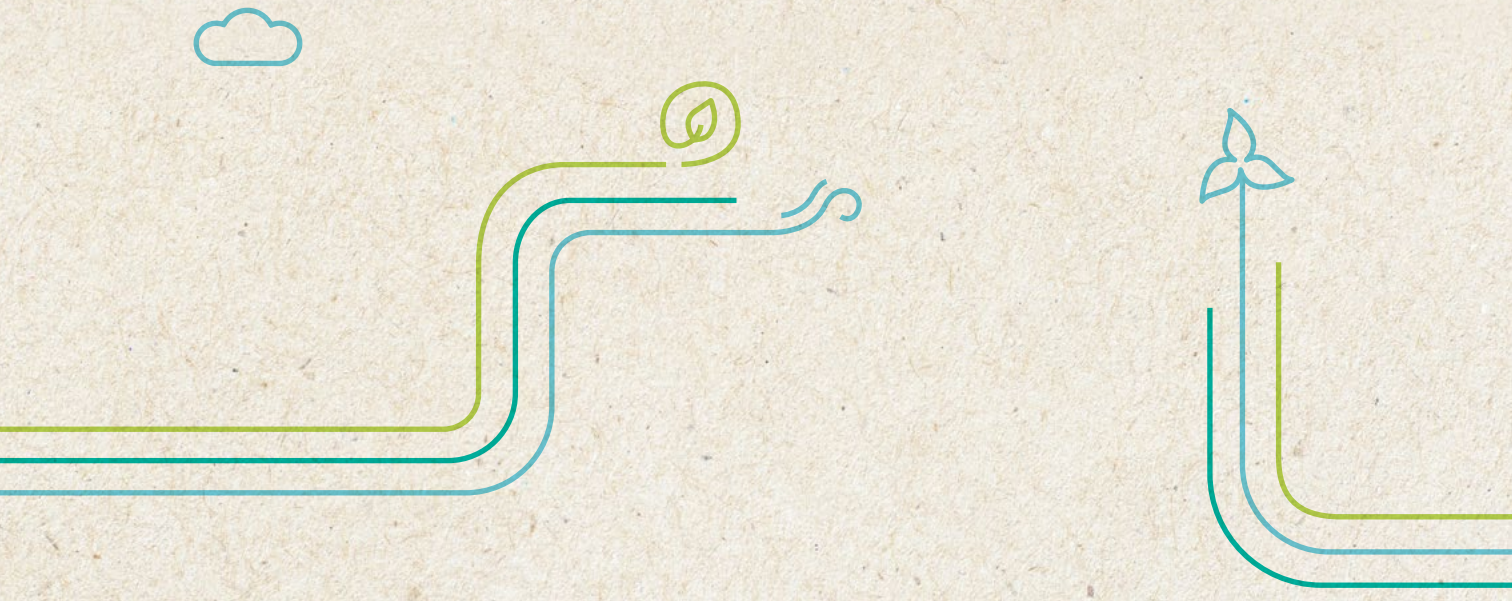
Countries and international organizations: increase the recognition of the cooperative model as an agent of social and environmental transformation in global debates.

Society: increase recognition of the role of cooperatives as key players in building an economy aligned with sustainable development.

Cooperative movement: value the actions already carried out by cooperatives in environmental aspects and increasingly engage the cooperative movement in the climate agenda, promoting the debate on decarbonization solutions and sustainable innovations.

Cooperative cases on sustainability

The COOP AT COP30 website (cop30.coop.br) is a platform that brings together various examples of cooperatives focused on sustainability and environmental management, providing a rich source of learning about how cooperatives can contribute to the climate agenda and sustainable development. Through practical initiatives, the site highlights examples of cooperatives implementing innovative and effective solutions for environmental preservation, waste management, the sustainable use of natural resources and the fight against climate change. These cases illustrate how the cooperative model can be an important agent in promoting the green economy, offering valuable lessons on community engagement and collaborative actions for a more sustainable future.



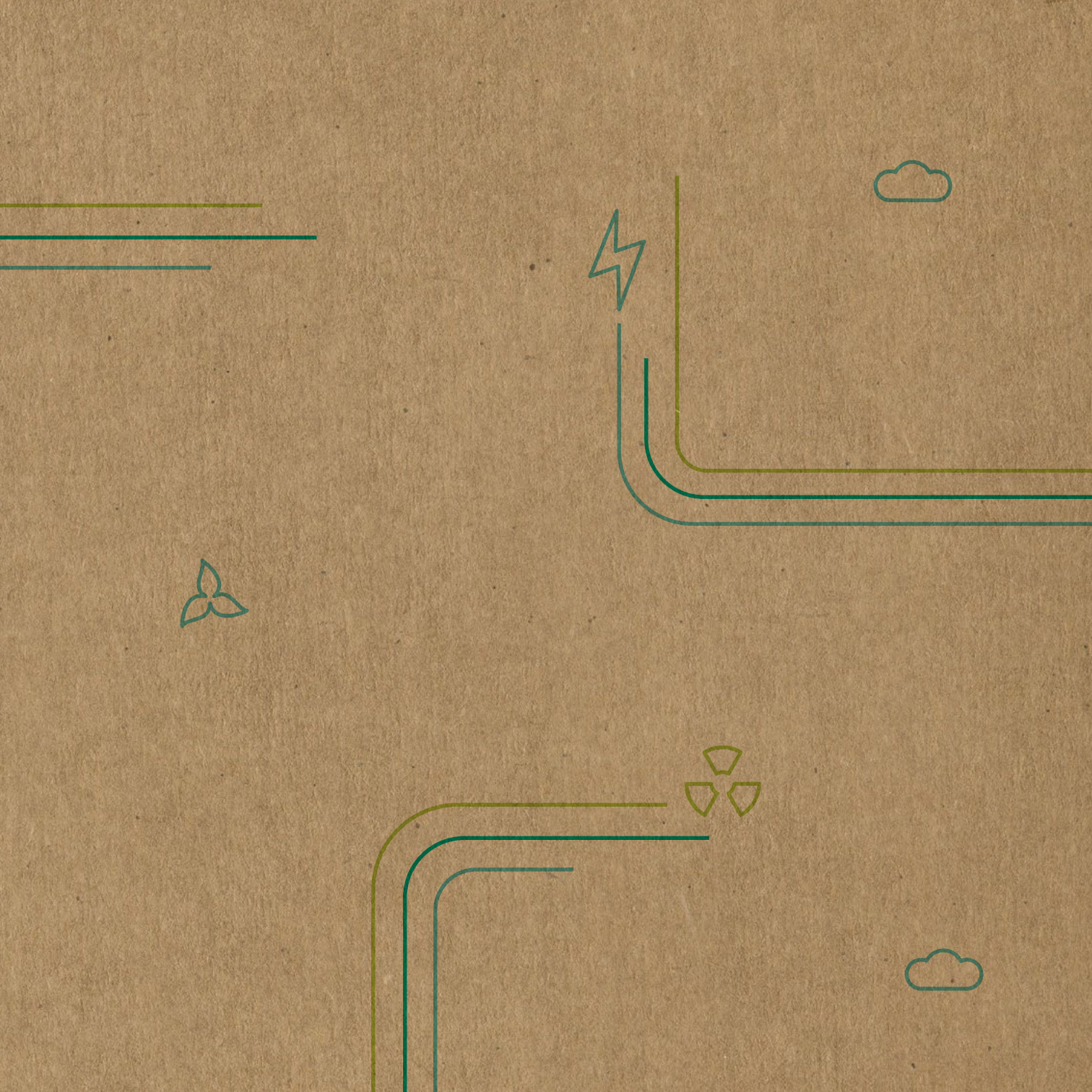
Visit the website:

cop30.coop.br

International Year of Cooperatives

Cooperatives build a better world

ano.coop.br



2025

International Year of Cooperatives

Cooperatives build a better world

somos coop

SistemaOCB

CNCOOP | OCB | SESCOOP

@sistemaocb

somoscooperativismo.coop.br