





COP 26:

MATO GROSSO DO SUL TAKES BOLD GOALS AT THE WORLD CLIMATE CONFERENCE

by Jaime Verruck*

e are facing a crucial moment for the planet and for future generations, experiencing extreme climatic events, such as the water crisis, heat waves, forest fires and other inclement weather. Therefore, no action by public authorities and society that has an impact on economic and social development can escape the commitments already made in the Paris Agreement in 2015, in order to contain global warming and prevent a serious climate catastrophe consequence on economies and populations.

From November 1st to 12th, authorities over 200 countries will be in Glasgow, Scotland, participating in the 26th United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP26). Brazil was once one of the main world protagonists in environmental matters, and wants to retake that place; showing and proving to the world that it is an agroenvironmental expert.

For this, it will need the due attention of world authorities and appropriate conditions to manifest itself through the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the states participating on the Brasil Verde Consortium; which will present results, reaffirm cutting plans, in order to adopt clean technologies to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

Mato Grosso do Sul will officially participate at COP 26 with a team spirit and collaboration to join the national voices; the already existed: Brazilian regional initiatives for the reduction of carbon emissions and the mitigation of greenhouse gases.

In this sense, people from Mato Grosso do Sul have a lot to be proud of, as a real in revolution terms of sustainability is already underway in our State and will be shown at COP 26 by SEMAGRO (Secretary of State for Environment, Economic Development, Production and Family Agriculture); which has been designing public policies since 2016 to become the Carbon Neutral State.

*Doctor in Economics. Secretary of State for the Environment, Economic Development, Production and Family Agriculture of the Government of the State of Mato Grosso do Sul Thanks to these policies, we have sustainable projects and technologies implemented by the government and developed in partnership with our educational and research institutions, many of them already showing results, such as Low-Carbon Agriculture and 2.5 million hectares of land in the ILPF system – Integration of Livestock and Forestry, which allow products such as Carbon Neutral Meat. We have the incentive to Sustainable Meat from the Pantanal Program, which, together with a modern environmental regulation, helps to protect our most important biome.

We have the recovery of degraded lands with the PROSOLO program, which in addition to retaining carbon, promotes improvements of fertility and productivity. We already have Net Zero industrial enterprises that adopt sustainable production models in line with the increasingly strict requirements of the international market.

In addition, we are practically self-sufficient in the production of clean energy, using biomass and sunlight as sources. In the latter, we have a PPP (public-private partnership) in progress and Ilumina Pantanal, which is bringing solar energy to 5,000 Pantanal families. Ilumina Pantanal is among the three global cases finalists at the Solar & Storage Live Awards 2021 and will also be in evidence at the COP 26.

All these actions and initiatives will be presented at a ceremony with the 360 members of the Race to Zero (Race to Zero) and Under 2° Coalition program, of which Mato Grosso do Sul is already a member and will assume, before the authorities, the bold commitment of becoming a Carbon Neutral State by the year 2030 - 20 years ahead of the goal established in the Paris Agreement.

Make way for Mato Grosso do Sul, the future Carbon Neutral State, a prominent voice in the Brazilian choir at COP 26 to help our country retake its place as a world protagonist in environmental matters and guarantee the quality of life for future generations.

