

# National case studies in the Americas

## **Promoting the engagement of government and society with the SDGs: The experience of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences**

Professor Luiz Davidovich, President, Brazilian Academy of Sciences

This presentation will review initiatives of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences (BAS) towards increasing the awareness on the SDGs by government and society. They include participation in the governmental National Committee on SDGs, supported by a workgroup, established by BAS, involving other scientific organizations in Brazil; the organization, in March 2019, of an international meeting on Science for Reduction of Poverty and Inequality (an initiative of the IAP committee on Science for Poverty Eradication- SPEC- chaired by BAS); the choice of SDGs as the central theme of the 2019 Annual Meeting of BAS; and the start of a new project, named "Dialogues for Brazil", involving workshops and debates on themes related to the SDGs. A new internet channel, "Brazilian Academy of Sciences Dialogues" is also being set up. BAS has also participated in international meetings on water resources, food security, and health issues. The fulfillment of the SDGs requires, in addition, evidence-based political action towards government and several sectors of society, in order to inhibit policies that actually contradict the SDGs, like disregard for pollution, climate change and deforestation, economic and educational policies that increase social inequality, and the downplaying of science and innovation as essential ingredients of economic growth.