

Brazil and FAO

Partnering to achieve resilience and food and nutrition security

As a founding member of FAO, over the past 70 years Brazil has partnered with FAO to eradicate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition and to improve rural livelihoods. Brazil is a leading partner in FAO's South-South Cooperation Programme and plays an increasingly important role in the field of emergencies, where it is expected to become a key supporter of FAO's efforts build resilient livelihoods in the face of threats and crises.

Building resilience against deforestation

In 2011, FAO launched the Deforestation Reduction Pact, a technical cooperation project funded by the European Commission. Coordination was handled by the Ministry of Environment in partnership with FAO, local government and non-governmental organizations.

Project activities enabled the county to implement appropriate environmental and territorial management measures to control deforestation. As well as contributing to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in the Amazon region, the project resulted in reduced rate of deforestation, especially in the region of São Félix do Xingu. It should be noted that the county reduced deforestation in the Amazon by 13 percent between 2010 and 2013.

Using the Rural Environmental Registry (CAR), the project succeeded in registering more than 2 000 rural properties and the county reached the target of covering 80 percent of its rural land area.

Training and awareness raising improved communities' understanding of the role of institutions and social organizations, and deforestration control was stepped up with the establishment of a municipal observatory.

Further action concerning sustainable natural resource management, particularly in support of the National Forestry Programme, has included: a project to rehabilitate degraded areas in the Amazon, which has helped strengthen the Sectoral Plan on Mitigation and Adjustment to Climate Changes to Consolidate an Economy of Low Carbon Emission Agriculture (ABC Plan); and a project to strengthening the policy and knowledge framework'—an initiative that is producing novel inputs for local and countrywide policy-making for forest resource management.

Matching FAO's expertise to Brazil's development priorities

FAO assistance in Brazil is shaped by the **2013-2016 FAO Country Programming Framework (CPF)**, which is centred on four priority areas:

- Food security, including the right to adequate and healthy food for all people at all times
- South-South Cooperation, including the creation of a multifaceted cooperation platform addressing food security, agriculture, forestry and fisheries as well as family farming and adaptation to climate change
- Overcoming extreme poverty, with a focus on family farming and family aquaculture
- Sustainable management of natural resources, climate change and desertification, including the introduction of an agro-ecological production matrix for social and environmental sustainability

Jointly developed with the Government and other partners, the CPF reflects relevant priorities in key national development policies, including the National Policy on Food and Nutritional Security. It is also aligned with the UN Development Assistance Framework 2012-2015 for Brazil.

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Strengthening family farming

FAO and the Ministry of Agrarian Development are partnering to implement a project addressing new production processes and forms of social organization in Brazilian family farming. The idea is to promote organizational changes that will strengthen the strategic role of the country's rural development sector, particularly in the areas of food security, environmental protection and socioeconomic development.

"Political commitment by governments is now being transformed into effective action and concrete results in the fight against hunger."

> José Graziano da Silva, FAO Director-General

With a focus on capacity building and outreach, the project aims to improve value addition, strengthen family farming outputs on the international market and support the role of rural women in the sector.

One of the highlights of this initiative is its emphasis on

the needs of vulnerable groups, including rural women, *Quilombolas* and young producers.

Global knowledge transfer

Brazil is assuming a growing presence in the international community as a leader in South-South Cooperation, promoting the exchange of agricultural and rural development experience among developing countries. In recent years, partnerships have been established between public companies, government and regional and municipal institutions to facilitate concerted action for sustainable development.

An example of such partnerships is the Good Practices for Sustainable Development Platform, which resulted from an agreement signed between FAO, ITAIPU Binational and the Government of the State of Paraná. The partnership aims to share a set of replicable best practice initiatives — originally developed in the Western Region of Paraná — in the three states of southern Brazil.

In addition, Brazil has also joined two regional initiatives associated with South-South Cooperation, including Support to a Hunger-Free Latin America; and Family Farming and Rural Territorial Development.

Food and nutrition security policy

At the start of the millennium, approximately 55 million Brazilians were living in poverty, in other words with half of the monthly minimum wage per capita. Of these people, 24 million were living in conditions of extreme poverty, subsisting with less than one quarter of the minimum wage. In a concerted attempt to change this situation, the country has been implementing a series of policies, which today can be seen in a solid and productive system support social inclusion and protection. The objective is to further improve and consolidate the Brazilian National Food and Nutrition Security Policy, which includes the following measures:

- Developing detailed procedures to put into practice a decentralized management model of the system and promote social participation with the assistance of councils
- Introducing strategies for the inclusion, restructuring and promotion of food production by family farmers and traditional communities, as well as access to water sources for human consumption and food production in rural areas
- Preparing procedures to assist in the implementation of a new working model for the Food Purchase Programme (FPP), expanding its social base, and ensuring a more inclusive approach for the poorest family farmers, rural women and traditional communities
- Promoting strategies for the expansion and professionalization of services offered by suppliers, developing food and nutrition educational initiatives and improving urban and peri-urban agricultural activities.
- Defining and preparing educational material for teaching and professional training programmes for communities, public officials and civil society representatives.
- Project: Supporting the Improvement and Consolidation of the Brazilian National Food and Nutrition Security Policy. Implemented under FAO's Technical Cooperation Programme.

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