

Side event 10 | Lessons from Brazil – recovering from setbacks in the fight against hunger and malnutrition and the challenges in the road ahead

Organized by:

- Ministry of Social Development and Assistance, Family, and Fight Against Hunger, Brazil
- Ministry of Health, Brazil
- National Food and Nutritional Security Council, Brazil (CONSEA)
- Instituto Fome Zero
- Regional Office in Chile, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- World Food Programme Center of Excellence in Brazil

Tuesday, 24 October; 13.30 – 14.45 (UTC+2)
Red Room & via Zoom

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Abstract

In 2003, a series of policies and governance structures were implemented in Brazil, including the Zero Hunger Strategy, the conditional cash transfer program Bolsa Família, programs to support small farm agriculture, educational programs promoting health, such as school feeding, programs to access micronutrients, promotion of adequate and healthy eating in public environments and facilities, strengthening of primary health care, and a multi-level and multi-participatory participatory governance system for food security and nutrition systems (SISAN), including the National Council for Food and Nutritional Security (CONSEA), whose format ultimately inspired the CFS Reform in 2009. Brazil exited the UN's hunger map; however, the dismantling of social public policies during the period from 2016 to 2022 brought the food and nutritional insecurity as the main problem to be overcome. Over 33 million people are experiencing food insecurity in the country, and to address these adversities, a resumption of various intersectoral actions is necessary. What are the challenges and how can we avoid further setbacks in the future? What mechanisms are necessary to eradicate food and nutritional insecurity? Discussions about the various forms of malnutrition and their unequal impact on the population demand assertive measures with the collaboration of international cooperation.

Objectives

- Share the lessons from Brazil's initial success in the fight against hunger between 2003-2016) and from ensuing setbacks and new findings on the multiple burden of malnutrition, counting on Minister Wellington Dias (MDS) and Mr. José Graziano da Silva as key speakers;
- Disclose the Brazilian government's actions and plans to reestablish and update policies and participatory and intersectoral governance structures, with the support of civil society, academia, and international organizations;
- Exchange insights and advice from relevant stakeholders and countries with similar experiences on potential pitfalls, surmounting challenges both old and new, and how to ensure long term stability and resilience for FSN policies so that setbacks can be avoided in the future.