Secretariat on Policies for Women
Presidency

Public Policies for Women in Brazil

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1. Basic Information about Brazil

Brazil is located in South America. The country is a Federal Republic, divided into 26 States (Prefectures) and 1 Federal District (the capital city, Brasilia), in 5 regions. (observe the 5 regions colored in the map) There are more than 5,500 municipalities. Density per sq km is 22. The political system is Presidentialism.
• The official language is Portuguese and there are two native languages recognized in municipal level: Nhengatu, São Gabriel da Cachoeira (AM) and Guarani, Tacuri (MS).
• There are more than 180 non-official native languages.
• Researches estimate that more than 5 million indigenous lived in the land when colonists arrived, in XVI Century (now the population is just around 600,000).
• Brazil was colonized by Portugal and is the unique Portuguese speaking country in Latin America.
• Independence occurred in 1822 (September 7th).
• In the XVI century African were brought to Brazil as slaves. Slavery was abolished in 1888.
• In the end of the XIX, a policy for stimulating immigration, brought Europeans from other regions (Germanys, Italians, Spanish and Portuguese) and Asian (Japanese and Chinese).
• Population: 192 milions
• Urban Population: 83%
• Rural Population: 17% (61% blacks)
• Fecundity rate: 1,94
• Infant mortality rate: 19,88/1.000
• Life expectancy: 73
• Illiteracy rate: 9,7%
• Unemployment rate: 7,2%
• GNP: US$ 1,5 trilhão em 2009
• Women in Labour Force: 52,6%
• Family Headed by Women: 34%
• Maternity mortality rate: 75/100.000
Cultural Diversity

• Ethnicity and Race Composition:
  • 48.4% White
  • 50.6% Black (negros and pardos)
  • 0.6% Indigenous
  • 0.2% Japanese descendents

• Religion
  • Roman Catholic 88%
  • Protestant 6%
  • Afro-Amer.Spirit.2%
  • Spiritist 2%
  • Atheist 1%
  • Other 1%.
BRASIL
UM PAÍS DE TODOS E TODAS
Contrasts

• Brazil is the economic leader of South America and one of the 10 largest economies in the world.
• In January 2010, Brazil assumed a nonpermanent seat on the UN Security Council for the 2010-11 term.
  • Despite of economy improvement and international leadership, many Brazilians suffer under poverty, and inequality.
  • Poverty and economic, regional, gender and race inequality are central challenges.
In 2003, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (photo) became Brazil's first working-class president. As leader of the Workers' Party, Lula have been making efforts to increase social services and to improve the income of poor people.

Since 2003, we've been assuming the challenge to face inequalities, by assuming a strategy of development with growth associated with the reduction of social and regional inequalities, the promotion of gender, racial and ethnic equality and the sustained maintenance of prices and fiscal stability.
The Secretariat on Policies for Women

- Was created in the beginning of 2003 as a high-level entity with Ministerial status, coordinating federal policies for women.
- Nilcea Freire (Photo) is the Secretariat Minister since 2004. She is also the President of the Women’s National Council. She’s a Doctor and Professor. She was the first women to Head a University in Brazil (Rio de Janeiro).
- Secretariat on Policies for Women represents significant changes in legal framework, as well as in public and social policies towards women. Long-lasting demands of Brazilian women constituted the guidelines and principles adopted in the National Plan of Policies for Women.
2. Major Challenges in Mainstreaming Gender

- To ensure permanence of gender policies
- To strengthen activities in strategic Ministries
- To deepen gender approach in Pluariannual Plan 2012-2016
3. Priority Issues in the present National Plan

- Women’s participation in positions of power and decision-making and economic autonomy;
- Inclusive, non-sexist, non-racist, non-homophobic and non-lesbophobic education;
- Women’s health, sexual and reproductive rights;
- Fighting against all forms of violence against women.
4. Job Description

• To advisor for the Subsecretary regarding the implementation of the National Plan on Policies for Women;

• To contribute on formulation and implementation of program strategies of the Subsecretariat;

• To manage the Technical Cooperation Agreement with UNIFEM;

• To facilitate of knowledge building and knowledge sharing.
5. Issues to be addressed

- Major policies are still lacking gender approaches, due to fragile awareness about women’s policies and respective tools between government officers.
6. Justification

We understand that one of our major challenges is to promote the effective mainstreaming on gender in the formulation of general public policies. Thus, improving gender sensitive plans by training officers is one important step to achieve our final goal.
7. Useful Knowledge and Skills acquired

- Gender Responsive Project Cycle Management (hidden gender issues analyses)
- Gender data resources
- More awareness about gender policies challenges for different countries and cultures
8. Action Plan

- **Title:** Women Matters! Multiplying Awareness on Gender Policies
- **Period:** October 2010 to July 2011 (10 months)
- **Implementation Agency:** Secretariat on Policies for Women
- **Target Area:** 6 Ministries and one Secretariat: Ministry of Planning and Budget; Ministry of Social Development and Fighting against Hungry; Ministry of Labour and Employment; Ministry of Tourism; Ministry of Agrarian Development; Ministry of Social Welfare; Secretariat on Policies for Racial/ Ethnic Equality
8. Action Plan

- **Target Beneficiary (ies):** 70 Government Officers
- **Overall Goal:** Policy for Women are strengthened in Brazil
- **Project Purpose:**
  - 1. Awareness on policies for women and respective tools increases among Government Officers;
  - 2. Gender sensitive draft for Pluriannual Plans are developed
Activities

• 1. To develop a friendly user handbook about women’s policies for government officers and a brochure explaining the objective of the training
• 2. To provide 2 Training Courses
• 3. To disseminate the training results in the PPA meetings and final agreement
Outputs

• Draft for sectorial Plans are elaborated with gender approach
• Sectorial Plans gender sensitive are included in the Pluriannual National Plan 2012-2016
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• Thank You! Obrigada!
• Arigatô Gozaimas