

GUATEMALA

Partners in Brazil	Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) Ministry of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger (MDS) Ministry of Agricultural Development (MDA)
Partners in Guatemala	Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA)
Objective of Cooperation	Strengthen and expand social protection programme (Mi Bono Seguro) to allow indigenous children and those living in rural areas to efficiently access social services
Component within Guatemalan National Plan of Action	K'atun National Development Plan: Our Guatemala 2032, priority to institutionalize and internalize the right to social protection.

Situation of children

Children comprise approximately 6.88 million of an estimated population of 15.9 million.³⁵ Of these, 2.75 million are indigenous children who belong to one of the three main indigenous groups: Maya, Xinka and Garifuna. Children belonging to these groups are often considered the most vulnerable and excluded, since they have difficulty in accessing quality public services and work opportunities. Significantly, 79.2 per cent of indigenous populations live in poverty.³⁶

A number of key laws have been approved recently which protect children against violence, abuse and exploitation. They also strengthen the capacities of public agencies and civil society organizations that work with vulnerable populations. Nevertheless, 4.7 million children and adolescents were living in monetary poverty in 2014. In rural areas and among indigenous populations, this number increases exponentially (81.7 per cent and 84.9 per cent respectively, compared to 68.2 per cent of children nationally).³⁷



Basic Indicators	to the top
Under-5 mortality rank	71
Under-5 mortality rate (U5MR), 1990	80
Under-5 mortality rate (U5MR), 2012	32
U5MR by sex 2012, male	35
U5MR by sex 2012, female	29
Infant mortality rate (under 1), 1990	60
Infant mortality rate (under 1), 2012	27
Neonatal mortality rate 2012	15
Total population (thousands) 2012	15,082.8
Annual no. of birth rates (thousands), 2012	474.4
Annual no. of under-5 deaths (thousands), 2012	15
GNI per capita (US\$), 2012	3,120
Life expectancy at birth (years), 2012	71.8
Total adult literacy rate (%) 2008-2012*	75.9
Primary school net enrolment ratio (%), 2018-2011*	98

SOURCES: UNICEF DATA. <https://data.unicef.org/country/gtm/>



Guatemalan government officials learn about the Brazilian social protection system at a local CRAS in the Federal District.

MI BONO SEGURO

This conditional cash transfer programme aims to reduce rural poverty, focusing on easing conditions which can break the intergenerational poverty cycle. It works to ensure that all Guatemalans have equal access to social rights and services, especially the most vulnerable and excluded, such as rural and indigenous populations. The programme also facilitates access to healthcare and education for children and women. In 2014, the programme reached 737,247 families throughout four states. The coverage offered applies to children under 12 years of age and as resulted in approximately 1.4 million benefitted children.

For more information, please visit:
<http://bit.ly/1KgxFJE>

Source: Informe Cuatrimestral de los Programas Sociales, 2014 & 2015 - MIDES

QUICK FACTS

Objective of cooperation

Guatemala is striving to implement a fully inclusive National Plan for Integrated Rural Development (PNDR) in order to reach its most vulnerable populations. The PNDR and the Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) will use social programmes such as *Mi Bono Seguro* to effectively implement policies that will generate opportunities and develop capacities within groups living in poverty, exclusion and vulnerability. The Government of Guatemala identified South-South Cooperation as a powerful tool to incorporate lessons learned from other countries regarding social protection programmes. In this context, Guatemala chose to follow Brazil's experience with social policies, specifically the development of the *Bolsa Família* programme. This administrative action would unify various conditional cash transfer programmes, each with their different conditionalities and under different ministries. MIDES thus approached the Brazilian Government, via UNICEF and ABC, to receive technical knowledge that would help the country meet its institutional goals, particularly the government's commitment to progressively ensure the fulfilment of social rights, especially for the most marginalized children.

Cooperation activities

In March 2014, the Brazilian Government received the Undersecretary of the Executive Coordination of the Plans of the Government of Guatemala, accompanied by the UNICEF Specialist in Adolescence and Youth in Guatemala. They participated in the Ninth International Seminar on 'Social Policies for Development', hosted by the Ministry of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger (MDS), and exchanged key information regarding Brazilian policies and programmes from the *Brazil Without Extreme Poverty plan*.³⁸

The second stage of the cooperation involved the participation of two high-level Brazilian officials of the MDS at a national seminar in Guatemala, organized by the Guatemalan Ministry of Social Development (MIDES), in July 2014. The participation focused on presenting the Brazilian approach to lifting millions of families out of extreme poverty, resulting in the capacity development of the Guatemalan participants.

BRASIL SEM MISÉRIA (BSM)

Brazil Without Extreme Poverty: Launched in 2011, BSM lifted 22 million Brazilians out of extreme poverty between its launch and 2014. It is organized around three strategic axes: 1) Cash transfers, to provide immediate alleviation of extreme poverty; 2) access to public services, as to improve families' education, health and citizenship; and 3) urban and rural productive inclusion, to increase capacities and work opportunities, as well as income generation for the poorest families. BSM pays special attention to children, youth, women, afro-descendants, the indigenous populations, and other socially vulnerable groups, counting on an equity-based approach towards social development and protection where the most vulnerable and excluded populations are actively searched for, identified and included in the unified registry for social programmes by local government authorities.

For more information, visit:
<http://www.brasilsemiseria.gov.br>
or www.wpp.org.br

QUICK FACTS

A delegation of officials from the MIDES travelled to Brasília in March 2015 to gain a better understanding of the social policies at work in Brazil. Activities included meetings and workshops with key governmental staff currently implementing social protection programmes, and field visits to a

Reference Centre for Social Assistance (CRAS) and a Specialised Reference Centre for Social Assistance (CREAS).

Lastly, in June 2015, the Brazilian Secretary of Territorial Development of MDA, Mr. Humberto Oliveira, participated in a governmental seminar in Guatemala on agrarian development, to speak of Brazil's experiences in territorial rural development.

The Brazilian Single Registry³⁹ was identified as an initiative that can be adapted to the Guatemalan reality, which will enable the identification of families and children who are most in need of social programmes. Additionally, key data, methodologies and indicators were shared about the Single Registry, the *Bolsa Família* programme and the Brazil Without Extreme Poverty plan, to inform the strengthening and expansion of Guatemala's PNDRI and *Mi Bono Seguro* programme.

Progress to Date

Capacities at the ministerial level in Guatemala have been developed, specifically within the MIDES and MAGA, regarding the implementation of the PNDRI, with the guidance of similar Brazilian experiences. In addition, the *Mi Bono Seguro* conditional cash transfer programme has been redesigned to allow for a more transparent and simplified process. Specific elements of the Brazilian programmes that were incorporated into the redesign include the scheduling of cash transfers, measuring of responsibilities and simplified implementation and running of the programme. The Government of Guatemala is confident that by 2019, these programmes will help excluded children gain access to social inclusion and decentralized child protection programmes and mechanisms.

³⁵ Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas, 2013

³⁶ UNICEF, Guatemala, Overview, Population, <http://uni.cf/20RefZK>

³⁷ National Survey of Living Conditions (ENCOVI), 2011

³⁸ For more information on the Brazil Without Extreme Poverty Plan, please visit: <http://www.brasilsemiseria.gov.br>

³⁹ For more information on the Single Registry, please visit: <http://www.mds.gov.br/bolsafamilia/cadastronico>

QUICK FACTS

CRAS & CREAS

The Reference Centres for Social Assistance (CRAS) and Specialised Reference Centres for Social Assistance (CREAS) are decentralized public state units, implemented at the municipal level. The CRAS serves as the main entry point into the Unified System of Social Assistance (SUAS) and is responsible for the organization and delivery of basic social protection services in areas of vulnerability and social risk, whilst promoting the organization and articulation of different social assistance units and the management of processes. The CREAS provides specialized and continuous services to families and individuals who are in situations of threat or violation of rights, including physical, psychological and sexual violence, human trafficking, compliance with socio-educational measures in an open environment, homelessness, abandon, child labor, and other types of rights violation caused by any type of discrimination.

2014

Formal request from the Govt. of Guatemala

MARCH: Guatemalan mission for MDS seminar in Brazil

JUNE: VC with government partners and UNICEF, to discuss cooperation

JULY: MDS mission to Guatemala to participate in national social protection seminar

FEBRUARY: VC with government partners, and UNICEF Embassy of Guatemala to plan the next steps

2015

MARCH: Study visit to Brazil

JUNE: Secretary of Territorial Development of Brazil to Guatemala for agricultural development seminar

2016

Completion of the project document and planning of activities