





Combating Forced Labor in the Cattle Ranching Sector in Pará, Brazil

BEST PRACTICES FOR POST-RESCUE OF FORCED LABOR SURVIVORS

Subject: Record of best practices for economic development and access to land projects to guide protection actions aimed at forced labor survivors.

Belém, State of Pará, Brazil 2022

Program to End Modern Slavery (PEMS)

Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons This report was funded by a grant from the United States Department of State. The opinions, findings and conclusions stated herein are

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1 PRESENTATION

This PADF report documents best practices for projects, actions and systems in operation in Brazil. Specifically, post-rescue care for forced labor survivors and their families that are (re)inserting into the rural workforce.

With the aim of strengthening survivor care services, the report describes the main strategies for locating, monitoring, and assisting workers vulnerable to forced labor, an objective that follows the project's Activity 2.2: Actions Aimed at Strengthening Victim-Centered Services.

2 MAPPING OF BEST PRACTICES

This PADF report refers to Brazilian experiences currently under way that can be disseminated and replicated in the State of Pará to improve institutional mechanisms and reduce forced labor and human trafficking in cattle ranching.

By identifying actions taken by justice system institutions, universities, and civil society organizations, PADF provides best practices divided into these sections for greater clarity:

- Reporting and monitoring systems and databases
- Community and multi-sector projects
- Access to justice
- Food security, health, and access to work

2.1. REPORTING AND MONITORING SYSTEMS AND DATABASES

PADF has reviewed the major exclusive and non-exclusive tools to receive reporting of forced labor conditions, monitor rescued people and/or survivors of human rights violations, and consolidate data on these events.

a) Integra 2.0 System

The Integrated System for Attention to Survivors and Vulnerable Populations of Modern Slave Labor (Integra 2.0) is an integrated system to manage direct care initiatives for rescued workers and communities vulnerable to forced labor enticement and exploitation.

Integra 2.0 offers a package of management solutions that allows identifying and actively searching beneficiaries, strategic and operational planning, designing a results-oriented budget, and monitoring activities and results.

The system was designed through the SmartLab Initiative, a partnership between the Labor Prosecutors' Office (MPT) and the International Labor Organization (ILO); and based on the experience of the Integrated Action Program (PAI) in the State of Mato Grosso. Integra 2.0 has been used since 2018 in the State of Maranhão as a pilot project implemented by the State Department for Human Rights and Citizen Participation (SEDIHPOP/MA), the Department for Social Assistance (SEDES/MA), the Pastoral Land Commission (CPT), and

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the Center for Defense of Life and Human Rights (CDVDH). These groups and institutions enter information on rescued workers in the system.

By enabling identification of beneficiaries, Integra 2.0 reduces exclusion or inclusion errors, and increases the organization's resource allocation effectiveness. Identification, monitoring, and care are strengthened by georeferencing tools for households and institutions that are part of the protection and assistance network, such as CRAS, CREAS, health facilities, schools that provide youth and adult education services (EJA) and professional programs. The system allows for recording various activities, individual beneficiary monitoring through an electronic diary, and initiative monitoring and assessment to assist victims and vulnerable minorities. Each organization that uses Integra 2.0 manages their own records through their accredited users. Also, state and national organization officers may view aggregated information in management reports.

b) SmartLab Decent Work Platform: Observatory for Eradication of Modern Slave Labor and Human Trafficking

The Observatory for Eradication of Modern Slave Labor and Human Trafficking is one of five digital observatories run by the SmartLab Decent Work initiative, a multidisciplinary knowledge management laboratory that promotes decent working conditions in Brazil.

To improve the results and evidence of modern slave labor prevention and eradication the Observatory for Eradication of Modern Slave Labor and Human Trafficking promotes efficient, transparent management of data on public policies, programs and projects.

The platform consolidates information on the total number of people rescued, which includes declared place of birth and residence (2003 and 2021) and enables identifying recurring patterns over the years. The Observatory only considers rescues pursuant to Law 10.608/2002, which allows for disaggregating information at the municipal level and tracing socioeconomic profiles associated with vulnerability. It is currently the system with the greatest scope of data and several government agencies and civil society organizations use it to manage information. However, it blocks non-registered from detailed disaggregation data features.

The Observatory's data informs actions aimed at improving policies to combat and prevent human trafficking, including forced labor conditions, and assists its victims. With Observatory data officials and federal, state and municipal government authorities to consider quantitative and qualitative aspects, such as location, number of rescues, and origin and profile of victims. Such data encourages collaborative work that cannot merely rely on inspection and repression to be effective.

The tool integrates and visualizes several databases, such as the Labor Prosecutors' Office - MPT, the International Labor Organization (ILO), the UNDP Human Development Atlas in Brazil, the SIT Radar Statistics and Information Dashboard of Labor Inspection in Brazil, the Labor Inspection Sub-department (SIT), the Annual List of Social Information (RAIS) and the New CAGED (General Register of Employed and Unemployed Persons), the Guide to Unemployment Insurance for Rescued Workers, the Forced Labor Monitoring System (SISACTE), and the Modern Slave Labor Eradication Control System (COETE). Also, all databases connected to the Ministry of Labor and Social Security; the Human Rights Hotline – Dial 100 Hotline of the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights; the Ministry of Citizenship; the Compulsory Disease Reporting System (SINAM) of the Ministry of Health; the MAPEAR Project of the Federal Highway Policy; the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE); and raw data provided by the Ministry of Labor and Social Security.

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c) Ipê System – Modern Slave Labor

The Ipê System is an online platform to enter, process, classify, and monitor forced labor condition complaints. It provides agile communication between the community and labor inspection authorities. The system receives reporting in four languages (French, Spanish, Portuguese, and English), and provides the collection, concentration and treatment of complaints. Ipê System was developed by the Inspection Sub-department (SIT) of the Ministry of Labor and Social Security, with the support of the International Labor Organization (ILO).

In this intuitive, user-friendly system, users fill out a form with several questions about the reported situation, to enable proper information processing at a later stage. The Ipê System, in its administrator mode, uses algorithms that allow classifying previously received information, enabling research and planning by the SIT's relevant areas, and enhancing modern slave labor policy efficiency.

The system enables reporting to be addressed, with priority given to the complaints that may lead to the most serious cases of forced labor conditions.

All the information provided on the online form is submitted to the Ministry of Labor and Social Security. Those who report a complaint, the existence of a complaint and its contents remain anonymous and will not be identified when an inspection is conducted. The form contains identification details of the Ranch/Facilities, the owner's name, Tax ID (CPF), State, Municipality and reference point, in addition to information on the type of employment relationship engaged and the crimes committed.

d) Labor Prosecutors' Office (MPT) Reporting Channel, and the MPT Pardal App

The MPT provides a reporting channel on its institutional website. Besides modern slave labor, the Reporting System, may be used for all labor violations within the scope of authority of the MPT.

To improve the reporting system, the agency developed the MPT Pardal App, which locates labor violations. The app is available for iOS and Android.

The application was developed to gather evidence of workers' rights violations and enhance the work of the MPT. Through the platforms, users may submit photos, videos and/or audios, with a description of the location and facts reported.

The platform ensures confidentiality when reporting individuals, and reporting contents are always screened to determine if they fall within the scope of the MPT. Once the requirements are met, an MPT unit opens an electronic investigation in Brazil, according to where the facts reported took place. All cases are georeferenced, including the device used to submit the information, which is identified, to avoid opening investigations based on fake information. Technology tools may identify individuals illegally reporting irresponsible and/or inaccurate complaints.

Reports may be submitted by any citizen and the system is currently used in an institutional partnership with the Federal Highway Police (PRF).

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e) Human Rights Hotline – Dial 100

The Human Rights Hotline - Dial 100 disseminates information on the rights of vulnerable groups, and receives, reviews, and reports human rights violations. This hotline is regarded as a human rights emergency room, as by calling the relevant authorities to address the situation immediately, it addresses serious violations that have just occurred or are still in progress. Any individual can report any news or facts if they are victims of human rights violations or know of violations.

By means of this service, the National Human Rights Ombudsman of the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights receives, reviews, and forwards reports of human rights violations to the protection authorities so appropriate action may be taken. The Dial 100 service is an important tool to address this type of crime, as it operates on a 24-7 basis, including Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. Anyone can call from anywhere in Brazil using this toll-free system, whether from landline or mobile device, by simply dialing 100.

Created in 1997 with the name of National Reporting Channel Against Abuse and Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, it was initially conceived as an initiative of non-governmental organizations to measure and stop violence against children and adolescents, in the form of an 800- hotline supported by the Ministry of Justice. In 2003, the Federal Government decided this service had to be an institutional emergency system, and it became a government policy supported by the former Special Human Rights Department.

At first, the service was aimed only at children and adolescents, but in 2010 the scope of protection was expanded to include resolving labor conflicts, and attending to the demands of other vulnerable groups, including workers subjected to forced labor conditions who felt unprotected and in need of a channel they could use to report violations.

f) Proteja Brasil (Protect Brazil) – UNICEF

Proteja Brasil is an app developed by UNICEF in partnership with the former Special Human Rights Department of the Presidency of the Republic, currently the Ministry of Human Rights. The app can be used in cases of suspected human rights violations, but it has a special focus on violence against children and adolescents. In addition to sexual abuse and sexual exploitation, there are other forms of violence that people can report, such as neglect, psychological violence, physical violence, cyberbully, child labor, and child and adolescent trafficking. The platform is integrated with the Dial 100 hotline, which expands the scope of the app and speeds up the filing and forwarding of complaints.

The program was developed in 2013 in the wake of the World Cup and Summer Olympics, major international sporting events held in Brazil, which demanded a rapid and effective response system. UNICEF collaborated with strategic partners, such as NGO Cedeca Bahia and company Ilhasoft to develop the *Proteja Brasil* app for smartphones and tablets. The app connects children and adolescents whose rights are being violated with the governmental protection agencies and social services in 27 capital cities and metropolitan regions of Brazil. The tool provides accurate information on how to proceed in cases of rights violations and shows, by means of georeferencing, nearby police stations and protection agencies. By making this safety network available to everyone it is possible for a larger group of people to act to protect the rights of children.

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2.2 COMMUNITY AND MULTI-SECTOR PROJECTS

This section maps and identifies important initiatives by civil society organizations and universities that work in partnership with governmental agencies. The initiatives highlighted present social technologies to assist and strengthen rural workers who are survivors of forced labor or vulnerable to being victims of this crime. The projects, based on workers and communities, involve multiple sectors.

a) *Escravo Nem Pensar* (Forced Labor: Don't Even Think About It) and Support to Community Projects – NGO Repórter Brasil and COETRAEs

Escravo Nem Pensar is an educational program by NGO Repórter Brasil founded in 2004, it is the only national program dedicated to preventing modern slave labor. The program's mission is to encourage the training of workers through education and reduce the number of workers drawn into modern slave labor and subjected to forced labor conditions in rural and urban areas of Brazil.

To achieve its objectives, the *Escravo Nem Pensar* program works to: a) disseminate knowledge on human trafficking and modern slave labor to combat these human rights violations; and b) promote the engagement of vulnerable communities in the fight against modern slave labor and human trafficking.

The program was included as target number 41 of the 2nd National Plan to Eradicate Modern Slave Labor and the state-level plans of Bahia, Maranhão, Mato Grosso, Rio de Janeiro and Tocantins. The main objective of the *Escravo Nem Pensar* program is to train teachers and other public servants from different parts of Brazil who are key to combatting modern slave labor in Brazil. The program activities also include drafting and disclosing content on modern slave labor and developing educational methodologies on human rights.

b) Integrated Action Movement

One of the major projects active in Brazil to combat modern slave labor is the Integrated Action Movement (MAI), created in 2008 to prevent forced labor and reintegrate victims back into society.

The State of Mato Grosso was the first to receive the Integrated Action pilot between 2009 and 2010 through the Regional Labor and Employment Superintendence of the State of Mato Grosso, also supported by the ILO and the MPT of the State of Mato Grosso (MPT-MT). The MAI was later implemented in other states, based on MPT-MT's experiences and lessons. The main objective of the MAI is to combine public, private and civil society efforts, including partnerships with the S System; especially the Industry Social Service (SESI), the National Industrial Learning Service (SENAI), and universities.

The project was expanded, and in 2016 the National Institute for Integrated Action (INAI) was created and now operates in the States of Mato Grosso, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Ceará, Pará, Maranhão, Tocantins and Piauí, linking public policies and civil society and private sector actions, with three major lines of action: a) strengthening technical, political and financial capacity of local initiatives, and supporting the implementation of new ones; b) promoting political-institutional linkages at national, regional and local levels to implement and execute initiative and knowledge about initiatives; and c) influencing public policy drafting to combat modern slave labor.

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(1) Integrated Action Project (PAI):

PAI is the pilot project implemented by MAI in the State of Mato Grosso in 2008. With its first actions starting in 2009, PAI joined efforts with civil society, public authorities, universities, and the private sector. The Integrated Action Project (PAI) is an action network between three public institutions existing in the State of Mato Grosso as the result between the Regional Labor Superintendence of the State of Mato Grosso (SRTE/MT), the Labor Prosecutors' Office of the 23rd Region (MPT 23), and the Federal University of the State of Mato Grosso (UFMT). PAI's objective is to combat forced labor by offering opportunities, professional qualification and educational improvement opportunities to workers rescued from forced labor conditions and/or in a situation of social vulnerability, by raising the income of such workers and communities subjected to this situation in the State of Mato Grosso.

Between 2008 and 2010, the project was a pilot conceived by a labor inspector and the Regional Labor Superintendent of the State of Mato Grosso (SRTE). Other institutions that participated in the project were the State Department of Labor, Employment, Citizenship and Social Assistance (SETECS), the State Department of Education (SEDUC), the Labor Prosecutors' Office of the 23rd Region (MPT 23), the Federal University of the State of Mato Grosso (UFMT), the State Environment Department (SEMA), the Brazilian Environment Institute (IBAMA), civil society institutions, such as the Pastoral Center for Immigrants of Cuiabá (CPM), the Pastoral Land Commission (CPT), the *Burnier* Center for Faith and Justice, and representatives of the private sector, such as SESI (industry social service), SENAI (National Industrial Learning Service), and *the Centro Vida* Institute (ICV).

In order to ensure sustainability, SRTE-MT drafted a proposal for a partnership with the Regional Labor Office of the 23rd Region and sought the Federal University of Mato Grosso to enter into a partnership. These institutions eventually formed the PAI Management Committee that exists to the present day.

(2) National Institute for Integrated Action

The National Institute for Integrated Action (INAI) is a non-profit association created by institutions that operate at the national level in Brazil to combat modern slave labor and support initiatives of the Integrated Action Program for prevention of modern slave labor and assistance to victims, namely: the National Association of Labor Judges (ANAMATRA), the National Council of Justice (CNJ), the Federal Public Defenders' Office (DPU), the Federal and the Labor Prosecutors' Offices (MPF and MPT), the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MTE), the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights (MDH), the National Union of Labor Inspectors (SINAIT), and the Superior Labor Court (TST). The formal commitment to strengthen and expand Integrated Action initiatives was established pursuant to Technical Cooperation Agreements that created and expanded the Integrated Action Movement (MAI).

INAI supports the technical, political and financial strengthening of local and regional Integrated Action initiatives operating in the States of Mato Grosso, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Ceará, Pará, Maranhão, Tocantins and Piauí. Integrated Action initiatives promote socioeconomic inclusion of Brazilian and foreign workers rescued from modern slave labor, as well as families and communities vulnerable to such conditions. Through linkage of public policies with private sector or civil society initiatives, conditions are created for workers to carry out income-generating

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activities, whether individually or collectively, for social protection. The idea is to avoid their occurrence or recurrence in forced labor conditions.

c) Integrated Action Network to Combat Forced Labor (RAICE)

Developed by the Pastoral Land Commission (CPT), in the municipalities of Itupiranga, Novo Repartimento and Tucuruí (State of Pará), with support from the Labor Prosecutors' Office and the Labor Court of the 8th Region, the RAICE project has been operating since 2015 according to the integrated network methodology proposed by CPT. The actions combine the creation of municipal networks to combat modern slave labor and strengthening communities where families of rescued workers who are vulnerable to modern slave labor live. In addition to forming networks and encouraging the Government to take more effective actions, another important action of the RAICE program is strengthening of communities, workers leave to look for employment, whether on ranches in the region or others that are farther.

In the State of Maranhão, in addition to CPT, the project is conducted in partnership with *the Carmen Bascarán* Center for Defense of Life and Human Rights (CDVDH/CB), founded in 1996 in the cities of Açailândia and Santa Luzia, in the State of Maranhão, according to an integrated social intervention strategy that includes the prevention of rights violations through the transfer of information and people's awareness; training, mobilization and social organization for emancipation and exercise of citizenship of the most vulnerable people, families and groups. CDVDH/CB also holds the Meeting of Survivors of Forced Labor, which for more than twelve editions has mobilized rescued workers to collaborate and instruct other workers according to a methodology of social agents.

d) Center for Human Rights and Citizenship of Migrants (CDHIC); Migrant Space Program

Founded in 2009, the Center for Human Rights and Citizenship of Migrants (CDHIC) is a civil society organization whose objective is to promote, organize, carry out and connect actions aimed at building a migration policy that respects the human rights of migrants. The Migrant Space program aims at providing free assistance to various types of migrants (immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and stateless individuals) in matters related to migration compliance, legal advice and psychosocial support with multidisciplinary, specialized professionals.

The organization also provides other programs aimed at promoting decent work and disseminating information on rights, such as:

(1) SindicAndo: This program aims at building a large network of unions in support of labor rights and citizenship for migrants. The network is formed by meetings held with entities that deal with migration in eight cities of Brazil, in addition to political links with migrant associations and unions. The development of the project also includes training workshops, which serve to encourage the participation of migrants in unions and strengthen union work in the search of better collective bargaining agreements. The idea is that trade unionists commit to representing, organizing, and negotiating for migrant workers in their respective classes and bases of union activity.

(2) Aqui Vivo, Aqui Tenho Voz (I Live Here and I Have a Voice): This program aims at creating replicating methodologies on rights, forms of political and social participation in the Brazilian political system for migrants, refugees, Brazilian-descendants, naturalized Brazilians, and

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returnees residing in the Municipality of São Paulo, to promote opportunities for the development of new leaders who defend human and social rights of migrants. Face-to-face training workshops are held using playful material in game format to promote learning in an easy, practical way.

2.3 ACCESS TO JUSTICE

The guarantee of formal access to justice is not sufficient. Therefore, seeking initiatives that promote access to justice is critical for the project's sustainability. Even though the Federal Constitution of 1988 ensures access and free legal aid to vulnerable individuals, the biggest challenge in the Brazilian justice system is slowness, overload, and the inability to meet the needs of those who need justice services.

With the objective of seeking best practices, PADF identified initiatives that promote access to justice to rural workers who are survivors of forced labor and that due to their characteristics, become sustainable models for replication in the State of Pará.

a) Forced Labor and Human Trafficking Clinic (UFMG)

The Forced Labor and Human Trafficking Clinic of the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG) it is part of a pioneering experience in the formation of an international system of Law Clinics. With the support of the US Department of State (DoS/US), the University of Michigan expanded its model of clinics to *Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México*, in Mexico City. Thereafter, Clinnect HTS was created, an initiative to establish a global network of law clinics specializing in human trafficking and forced labor to exchange best practices. The inclusion of the Law School of the UFMG in Clinnect HTS has opened up to the opportunity to exchange best practices and knowledge for students who participate in the clinic, strengthening their training in the subject.

The Clinic is based on three inseparable axes: teaching, research, and extension, aiming at achieving the three pillars of Brazilian higher education. Regarding the teaching axis, clinical practice provides students with training to act on cases, combining theoretical classes and concrete case studies. Research is also carried out by students with the objective of analyzing data and case law that demonstrate the actual situation of modern slave labor and human trafficking in Brazil and worldwide. The UFMG has established partnerships with governmental agencies, such as Labor Courts, Federal Courts, the Labor Prosecutors' Office, the Ministry of Labor and Social Security, the Center for Combating Human Trafficking in the State of Minas Gerais, among others, to collect data and create a network of partners that allow us to have a continuous flow of information that is critical for combating such practices.

Extension is the project's axis that assists victims of forced labor and human trafficking, providing comprehensive, free legal aid. Students are responsible for assisting these people and identifying possible violations of the law in each case, seeking feasible legal solutions to ensure the effectiveness of the citizens' rights.

b) Freedom Caravan – Regional Labor Court (TRT) of the 16th Region and COETRAE, State of Maranhão

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The Freedom Caravan Project is an initiative by the Regional Labor Court of the State of Maranhão (TRT-MA), in partnership with the Labor Prosecutors' Office (MPT), and the Ministry of Labor and Social Security, represented by the Labor and Employment Superintendence of the State of Maranhão. The project also obtained the support of the State Department for Human Rights and Citizenship (SEDIHC) and support from the State Commission to Combat Modern Slave Labor in the State of Maranhão (COETRAE-MA), also integrating actions of the Interinstitutional Network Group for Combatting Modern Slave Labor in the State of Maranhão (GAETE-MA).

The Project aims at implementing preventive measures and inspections in municipalities of the State of Maranhão with high levels of modern slave labor and child labor, to promote citizenship and social inclusion, and also provide citizens with access to information, in order to contribute towards the process of eradicating modern slave labor and child labor. In the 40 municipalities where the Caravan has passed, the project promotes discussions on contemporary forced labor and strengthening of the network to combat forced labor conditions.

c) Labor, Justice and Citizenship Program (ANAMATRA)

The Labor, Justice and Citizenship Program is a citizenship building initiative by the National Association of Labor Judges (ANAMATRA). The program was created in 2004 and aims at promoting the dissemination of workers' rights, notions on ethics and, through educational programs, contributes towards awareness of citizens and a democratic justice system.

The program is developed through regional actions implemented by the Associations of Labor Judges (AMATRA), with primary and secondary schools, youth and adult schools, and technical and vocational programs as the major beneficiaries.

In this program, judges, members of the Federal Prosecutors' Office, lawyers, law professors and court workers learn basic notions of fundamental rights, labor law, children' and adolescents' rights, consumer rights, criminal law, ethics, and citizenship in schools, particularly government supported schools in several states and municipalities. Through lectures, programs, discussions, distribution of brochures and free legal aid guides, the Program has allowed labor judges to approach both children and young students, as well as educational professionals, becoming even more comprehensive with the visit of students to courts where they attend simulated hearings and trials as tools of positive integration that have brought excellent results.

d) Special Assistance Group for Workers Rescued from FL – GETRAE – Federal Public Defenders

The Special Assistance Group for Workers Rescued from FL (GETRAE) of the Federal Public Defender's Office (DPU) is made up of specialized public defenders providing free legal assistance to workers rescued from forced labor conditions.

The GETRAE members work in a specialized manner, which is complementary to the work of the Regional Defender of Human Rights, together with the Special Group for Mobile Inspection (GEFM) to combat slave labor and the Inspection Division for the Eradication of Slave Labor (DETRAE).

The group has the following objectives:

Contribute to the defense of vulnerable and persons in need

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Improve integration and free legal assistance to those in need, the DPU's performance in legal guidance for vulnerable workers in FL and in strategic action;

Prioritize activities focused on combating forced labor;

Optimize performance in collective protections and the defense of human rights

Strengthen communication and institutional image, as well as partnerships with other public and private bodies and entities;

Promote education in rights and increase the Ombudsman's Office visibility among the affected population.

2.4 FOOD SECURITY, HEALTH AND ACCESS TO WORK

In Brazil, ensuring food security is still a challenge, especially for the most vulnerable people, which include rural workers, considering their low income or even precarious labor conditions and food production, and due to the lack of access to land. In this sense, PADF identified best practices that promote food safety, health and access to work.

a) The New Directions for Migrants Project – Caritas of Brazil

The Cáritas Network works to defend, protect, guarantee, and expand the rights of migrants and refugees in all regions of Brazil. The New Directions Project was created and is managed within the Program for Strengthening Institutional Capacities for Action with Migrants and Refugees of Cáritas of Brazil, in partnership with Cáritas of Germany.

The New Directions Project is at the same time a concrete possibility for companies and organizations to operate in defense of migrants and refugees, and position themselves as allies of the humanitarian cause. Societal awareness as a whole has to be raised regarding this reality to create actual conditions for solidarity and establish joint actions. The platform will be a means to connect employers committed to human rights with migrants and refugees, based on connections between their needs, training and skills.

b) Post-rescue Life Project; Federal University of the State of Bahia - UFBA and Labor Prosecutors' Office - MPT

The Post-rescue Life Project is a partnership between the School of Economics of the Federal University of Bahia and the Labor Prosecutors' Office of the 23rd Region, which studies the fate of survivors of forced labor in Brazil, particularly in the States of Mato Grosso and Bahia.

The project also promotes assistance to forced labor survivors, enabling access to land and means of production, through the structuring and support of collective solidarity enterprises formed by male and female workers. These actions are critical to assist survivors of forced labor since concentration of land and ineffective agrarian reform in Brazil are the causes for the existence of forced labor in the country.

The main objectives of this project are: 1) mapping of outcomes of forced labor survivors in the States of Mato Grosso and Bahia; 2) build subsidies for alternative enterprises based on emancipation of workers in the face of changes of the labor market, and promotion of ecologically sustainable practices; 3)

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collaborate with the review and possible adjustments to or changes in existing public policies for the assistance of rescued workers.

3 CONSIDERATIONS

The information gathered about best practices when preventing, rescuing, and attending to the post-rescue of forced labor survivors revealed most actions encourage reporting forced labor and organize data from government databases.

This approach only prioritizes part of the identification, reporting and rescue actions needed to eradicate forced labor in Brazil, mainly, referencing cases, tending to victims, and monitoring forwarded reports of forced labor.

There is also a greater effort by non-governmental organizations to offer multi-sector actions, but those need to be strengthened to provide workers with qualified listening, guidance, and comprehensive care services.

Clearly, the support network for survivors and victims of forced labor in Brazil lacks projects, campaigns and actions focusing on the different prevention and protection needs of workers and their families, with particular attention to the issues of health, education, food security and employment in the post-rescue stage that is part of the cycle of coping with this phenomenon.

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