SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR

SOUTH SOUTH 2014 LEARNING FORUM

Field Trip Handbook

South-South Learning Forum 2014

Designing and Delivering Social Protection and Labor Systems

Contents

1. Overview and Objectives

Brazil is a leading country in the implementation of a comprehensive social protection system, which makes it the perfect location for the Forum.

Brazil's National Unified Registry integrates information and implementation mechanisms from various programs in different government levels, including the BolsaFamília conditional cash transfer program and other social assistance, health, education, food security and productive inclusion programs.

The field trip will provide participants with:
- The understanding of how programs from various social areas and government levels are implemented in an integrated manner in Brazil
- An opportunity to discuss with program staff specific issues of project implementation
- A chance to learn about the program's impact from the beneficiaries' perspective
- Inputs for Forum discussions on the contrasting approaches used in designing and delivering social protection and labor systems in other contexts

2. Site Information

Forum participants will be divided into groups that will visit five different sites:
Site A - Municipality of Búzios
Site B - Municipality of Saquarema
Site C - Municipality of Magé
Site D - Municipality of Rio de Janeiro (Alemão)
Site E - Municipality of Rio de Janeiro (Rocinha)

The itineraries for each site include similar routes and programs to illustrate each stage of the cycle that beneficiaries must go through within the Brazilian social protection system.

Participants will learn about each of the stages below:
- Information system
- Identification, enrollment and registration
- Delivery of benefits
- Monitoring of conditionalities in CCTs and links with health and education services
- Productive inclusion

Below are the detailed routes for each site:

Site A - Municipality of Búzios
7:00am - Depart from hotel
CRAS – Reference Center for Social Assistance
Secretariat of Social Assistance and Labor (registration in the Unified Registry / Monitoring of BolsaFamilia'sconditionalities)
Productive Inclusion through Microentrepreneurship

Site B - Municipality of Saquarema
7:15am - Depart from hotel
CRAS – Reference Center for Social Assistance
Secretariat of Social Development (registration in the Unified Registry / Monitoring of BolsaFamilia'sconditionalities)
Rural Productive Inclusion Programs

Site C - Municipality of Magé
7:30am - Depart from hotel
CRAS – Reference Center for Social Assistance
Center for Registration in the Unified Registry / Monitoring of BolsaFamilia'sconditionalities
Rural Productive Inclusion Programs

Site D - Municipality of Rio de Janeiro (Alemão)
7:45am - Depart from hotel
CRAS – Reference Center for Social Assistance (registration in the Unified Registry)
Local school (monitoring of Bolsa Familia's conditionalities)
Productive Inclusion through Training programs

Site E - Municipality of Rio de Janeiro (Rocinha)
8:00am - Depart from hotel
CRAS – Reference Center for Social Assistance (registration in the Unified Registry)
Local school (monitoring of Bolsa Familia's conditionalities)
Productive Inclusion through Training programs

3. Program Descriptions

Brazil is a federative system, in which states and municipalities govern with relative autonomy under the central Federal Government. The social programs that will be visited are designed and implemented either jointly or by one of the following levels of government:

- Central Federal Government
- States (26 plus Federal District)
- Municipalities (5,570)

Below is a short description of the main systems, programs and services to be visited, as well as their inter-linkages.

Information System

National Unified Registry *(Cadastro Único)*

The National Unified Registry is a management information system that contains and organizes socio-economic information from low-income population in Brazil.

The Registry links potential beneficiaries to a wide range of social programs implemented by different government levels in the areas of social assistance, income transfer, education and training, health, housing, electricity, and microcredit.

The database is managed centrally by the Ministry of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger (MDS) with the addition or modification of data performed locally by each municipality. It is accessible to federal, state and municipal governments as a source of information on registered families to support policy-making and program management. When registered in Cadastro Único, each family is assigned a personal identification number, which is then used for making/tracking payments and supporting any follow-up

activities. All families with a per capita income under the half the minimum wage are required to be registered.

Families can be registered in the Unified Registry through two different, but complimentary approaches: an on-demand approach, in which families register at designated sites (usually Reference Centers for Social Assistance or CRAS); and more recently, the Active Search for Beneficiaries approach (Busca Ativa) , where trained interviewers visit households in vulnerable areas.

Identification, Enrollment and Registration

Reference Center for Social Assistance *(CRAS – Centro de Referência de Assistência Social)*

CRAS is a central piece in the intricate net of programs under the Brazilian social protection system. Present in all of Brazil's 5,570 municipalities (usually more than one per municipality depending on the population size), CRAS provides psychosocial support for poor families with a range of needs, connects them with other social services available in the area, and provides information on a range of programs they are entitled to. CRAS is responsible for registering and updating information of potential beneficiaries in the Unified Registry, which requires presentation of various types of national identification of all family members. CRAS also supports families to arrange for the necessary documentation when needed. Finally, through direct contact with beneficiaries, CRAS also follows up on the enrollment/participation of beneficiaries in various programs and managing complaints.

Active Search for Beneficiaries *(Busca Ativa)*

The Active Search for Beneficiaries is intended to not only locate and include the poorest and most vulnerable population in the Unified Registry, but also is used to identify the eligibility of families to receive other assistance services. These families usually live in isolated areas without access to social services and/or belong to specific population groups that have been historically excluded due

to cultural and economic reasons (e.g., descendant of slaves and indigenous communities).

Each municipality choses its own strategy for actively including these populations in the social protection system through home visits by social assistants and health care professionals, radio campaigns, and group activities.

One important aspect of this Active Search for Beneficiaries is that once implemented, it establishes a liaison between local Active Search agents and vulnerable populations, which then becomes an important tool for further information sharing on a range of other social programs assessing compliance with health and education conditionalities of cash transfer programs, regular psychosocial support, and redress of complaints.

Delivery of Benefits

Bolsa Familia Federal Conditional Cash Transfer Program and Supplementary Cash Transfers by State and Municipal Governments

The Bolsa Familia conditional cash transfer program was created in 2003 by the Federal Government through the unification of four cash transfer programs that were being implemented by different ministries. In 2004, the MDS was created and took over management of Bolsa Familia. The program was rapidly scaled up and, in 2013, included 13.8 million families.

The MDS defines standardized eligibility criteria (families with monthly income below US$60 per capita and registered in the Unified Registry), benefit levels (varies per income and number of children in the family) and targeting mechanisms (declared income, with regular cross-checks with other administrative databases).

The Ministry contracted a national public bank to transfer monthly benefits directly to beneficiaries through a card which can be used at ATMs, bank agencies and other correspondents. The payment of Bolsa Familia benefits is defined through Sibec (System of Benefits

to Citizens), which draws eligibility data from the Unified Registry and compliance data from the Sicon (System of Conditionalities).

Some states and municipalities have also designed and implemented their own conditional cash transfer programs to top up benefits from Bolsa Familia. State programs are already integrated with Bolsa Familia (payment is done through the same card and use the same system to verify compliance with conditionalities) and municipal programs are progressively becoming integrated.

Monitoring of Conditionalities in CCTs and Links with Health and Education Services

Bolsa Familia provides a monthly benefit to poor families as long as they comply with pre-defined health and education conditionalities, such as minimum school attendance rates for children, vaccination and regular health check-ups for family members, especially pregnant and nursing women.

Linking cash transfers with conditionalities gives incentives to both beneficiaries and on the one hand for beneficiaries to use free and/or universal public education and health services and on the other for local technicians in CRAS, schools and health centers to flag, locate and follow-up with families not using the services.

Monitoring of Bolsa Familia conditionalities integrates the areas of social assistance, health, and education, as well as different levels of government. The operationalization of the whole process of monitoring conditionalities is done through information systems. MDS periodically provides a list of families who should be followed-up with from the Unified Registry available to the Ministries of Education and Health.

These Ministries then distribute these lists to municipalities. At the local level, the Secretariats of Health and Education support local schools and health centers staff in entering data from beneficiaries in conditionalities databases. These information systems allow for the identification of vulnerable families who have difficulties complying

with the conditionalities, and require follow-up from the municipal social assistance center.

Productive Inclusion

National Technical Training and Employment Program (Protanec)

Pronatec is a Federal Government program that helps State and Municipal Governments to implement and manage a variety of free training courses, and expand employment opportunities for low-income populations who are undertaking or have graduated from high school. The areas of training are determined locally according to the perceived market insertion possibilities.

For students who are beneficiaries of the Bolsa Família program or other programs under the Unified Registry, registration is done through CRAS (Reference Center for Social Assistance), and Pronatec provides support for transportation, food, and course materials.

Micro Entrepreneurship

The Federal Government passed a law in 2008 which formalized autonomous workers from a variety of areas as "micro entrepreneurs." This law entitled them to a series of advantages, such as facilitating the opening of bank accounts and getting loans, reducing taxes, and providing health insurance, maternity leave and old age pensions, among others.

Registration as "micro entrepreneur" can be made online and some municipal governments provide support for autonomous workers to get the necessary documentation to register, besides running free business administration courses.

Rural Productive Inclusion Programs

Smallholder farmers in Brazil are entitled to a wide range of programs to support both production and commercialization of their products.

On the production side, some state governments provide technical and material support according to the needs of groups of small farmers, conditional on implementation of collaborative environment protection activities. Moreover, there are credit lines implemented by federal, state and municipal governments, besides distribution of seeds and training.

On the commercialization side, the Purchase from Small Farmers Program (PAA) and the National School Feeding Program (PNAE) provide a stable income for family farmers through government purchase of their production, whilst guaranteeing high quality, organic products for school meals, popular restaurants and food banks.

4. Information on Municipalities

Búzios	
Population	29,790
Families in Unified Registry	3,141
Families in Bolsa Família	1,489
Families in Bolsa Família notcomplying with conditionalities	32
Number of CRAS	3
Individual support in CRAS per month	245
Active Search for Beneficiaries per month	34

Saquarema	
Population	79,421

Families in Unified Registry	8,649
Families in Bolsa Família	4,714
Families in Bolsa Família notcomplying with conditionalities	125
Number of CRAS	4
Individual support in CRAS per month	335
Active Search for Beneficiaries per month	157

Magé	
Population	232,419
Families in Unified Registry	37,244
Families in Bolsa Família	18,072
Families in Bolsa Família notcomplying with conditionalities	735
Number of CRAS	8
Individual support in CRAS per month	1,254
Active Search for Beneficiaries per month	636

Rio de Janeiro	
Population	6,323,037
Families in Unified Registry	467,274
Families in Bolsa Família	244,108
Families in Bolsa Família notcomplying with conditionalities	49,156
Number of CRAS	47
Individual support in CRAS per month	29,205
Active Search for Beneficiaries per month	942