



OVERVIEW OF Brazil

Overview of Brazil



YEAR OF
1822
INDEPENDENCE



26%
Population
BELOW
poverty line

Languages Portuguese

Under-five Mortality Rate: 19 per 1,000 live births. Brazil ranks 103 in the world.

Brazil is the **4th country** with the highest **inequality levels** in Latin America with 8 million children and youth living in extreme poverty.

Human Development Index (HDI) for 2011: 0.718 (ranked 84 out of 187, indicating high human development).

3,7 million children and teenagers between the ages of 4 and 17 are **out of the school system**.

Brief History of ChildFund in Brazil

ChildFund came to Brazil: 1966

Number of enrolled children (FY12): 53,891

Number of states, provinces etc.: 26 states & 1 federal district

Number of beneficiaries (FY12): 177,154

In 1966, when ChildFund initiated its activities in Brazil, the country was under an authoritarian regime which lasted for another 20 years. In 1971, by mandate of the National Council of Social Assistance ChildFund Brasil integrated its National Board and in 1979, the organization started raising funds through local sponsorship. In January 1983, responding to the new guidelines for community participation in local development, the organization initiated the creation of entities managed by volunteer parents of sponsored children. With that change, families started to act as protagonists of their own development. ChildFund Brasil is present in four states, 54 municipalities and more than 800 communities, working with the support of 5,000 volunteers through 85 local partners. Annual investments in social programs and projects reach over US \$11.2 million. To mobilize individual supporters, a specific plan has been developed. This strategic plan particularly seeks to increase, consolidate and ensure the acquisition of Brazilian and international sponsors and supporters.

Brief Program Overview

ChildFund Brasil integrates resources, technologies and approaches to create solutions to the main challenges faced by children and youth. Our strategy values the family's role in creating a nourishing environment for child development and fosters community involvement in the diagnosis and implementation of programs addressing their needs.



2012 Program Achievements

Infants

Family competencies

Strengthening of family knowledge and affectivity focusing on women, so that they may guarantee their children's care, nutrition and protection at home and in the community (**13** projects).



Healthy environments for child development

Actions to guide community organizations to work towards child integral development with improvements in preschool/ daycare centers, recreational and cultural activities, encouragement of learning, *Culture Houses*, and toy libraries (**3** projects).



Children

"Me, you and my school: integration that transforms"

Promotion of the participation of children, adolescents and their parents through school reinforcement workshops, environmental education and scientific initiation for children, empowerment for educators and parents, itinerant libraries, educational campaigns, daycare centers, and educational support (**10** projects).



"Me, you and peace: we made a pact"

Socio-educational initiatives complementing school activities and awakening in children, youth and families the pursuit for citizenship, social justice and peace (**50** projects).



2012 Program Achievements

Youth

Promotion of youth active participation

Youth involvement in the political discussions in their municipalities and in the definition of public policies (11 projects).



Personal and professional qualification

Youth empowerment to join the labor market and become productive, contributing also to keeping adolescents away from drugs and violence (16 projects).



Citizenship identity and culture

Strengthening of youth's identity by improving their self-esteem and their family, community and social bonds (15 projects).

Societies

Municipal powers

Youth participation in issues that matter to their communities, contributing to strengthening their self-esteem as well as their skills and abilities to successfully join the labor force and become actors of economic and social change (1 project).

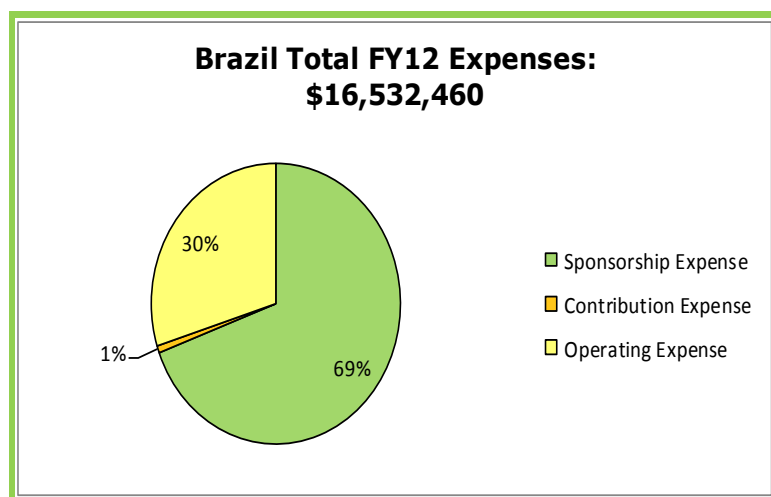


Society mobilized towards the defense of the rights to education, participation and protection

Actions to reinforce the commitment of society to children through the construction of a network of organizations (participation of public and private sectors as well as civil society through 9 projects in several of ChildFund Brasil's program areas).



Financial Report



Brazil FY12

Sponsorship Expense	11,458,707	69%
Contribution Expense	135,200	1%
Operating Expense	4,938,553	30%
Total Expense	16,532,460	100%

Challenges

Despite the significant advances Brazil's economy has experienced in recent years, more than 12 million people in the country still live under the line of extreme poverty, according to the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE in Portuguese). Extreme poverty is defined as families living with less than US \$33.00 a month.

Children are the most affected, with an estimated 8 million Brazilian children living in extreme poverty. Thousands are excluded from the opportunity of having a healthy development and their human rights are denied, making them vulnerable to situations of violence, abuse, exploitation, discrimination and negligence.

ChildFund Alliance's annual survey "Small Voices Big Dreams" carried out in November 2012, identified that 25% of the Brazilian children interviewed between 10-12 years old revealed that their biggest fear is family violence.

According to the *Violence Map 2012 - Children and Teenagers from Brazil*, (developed annually by the Brazilian Center for Latin American Studies – Cebela), approximately 40,000 children and teenagers were treated in 2011 by the Unified Health System (SUS in Portuguese) victims of domestic and sexual violence, among other issues. Two in each three cases had their own home as the place of aggression with the aggressor being someone really close to their family. From the treatments carried out, a little over 40% were related to physical violence (age range from 1 to 19 years old), 20% to sexual violence (from 5 to 14 years old), while 17% registered moral and psychological violence and 16% of the cases, negligence and abandonment (big concentration between ages 1 to 4 years old).

These statistics are disturbing and are a major concern for ChildFund Brasil, who is working in changing this scenario with projects such as *'Me, you and Peace: A covenant we make'* focused on building a culture of peace. This project goes beyond working with children and teenagers and extends to their families and communities and seeks to sow the seeds of peace at a younger age.

Challenges (continued)

Another major challenge ChildFund Brasil currently faces is the creation of opportunities for the socioeconomic inclusion of youth. Young adults are being excluded from the country's economic growth, and their integration is key to reducing the high incidence of homicide, violence and drug abuse among adolescents and youth.

Why Sponsorship is Important

A boy who thinks big!

My name is Mateus Fernando and I am 13. I am writing this testimony to show what the Projeto Comunitário Sorriso da Criança, supported by ChildFund Brazil, has done and continues to do for me.

I entered the project in 2002, when I was only three years old. The institution has always been following my development and health. When I was 7, I made a selection test and joined the Farias Brito private school.

The project is always helping me. When I need books, they help me. Recently, I received a computer from the school, as a reward for my performance. I have little free time because I spend a lot of it studying, visiting the library and now I am enrolled in a visual arts workshop. I also count on the help of my sponsor; I don't know him yet, but like him a lot.

Last year I participated in the Olympic Games for Astronomy in my category (6th to 9th grade) and came in 3rd place. This year I've run the test again and hope to have achieved a good result. So my message to all children is: 'Study, participate, strive and you'll get there!'"



Why Sponsorship is Important (continued)

Cícero's Story

Cícero is 9 years old and lives with his grandparents and his two sisters, near the city of Milagres, in Ceará, Brazil. He has been sponsored since 2009 and the story of his relationship with his sponsor is very special. He currently participates in ChildFund Brasil's program, through partner organization Sociedade de Assistência à Criança (SOAF).

In the community where Cícero lives, the income of the majority of the population comes from agriculture. The dry season represents their greatest difficulty, when jobs become scarce and most men in town have to leave and go to other states, such as Minas Gerais and São Paulo, to seek for employment.

Because of this, in 2010, Cícero's father went to work in Minas Gerais, and in the following years the family disintegrated. After his parents' separation in 2011, Cícero chose to live with his father in Minas Gerais and thus had to leave the SOAF organization, being removed from the sponsorship program in December of that year.

Whenever this happens, there is the replacement of the sponsored child. But Cícero's case was different. His sponsor wanted to locate him to continue the sponsorship. During that time, Cícero's parents found other partners and the children were left in the care of their maternal grandparents, back in their original community.

When the sponsor became aware of the abandonment by Cícero's parents, she was really touched and wanted to resume the sponsorship, which was possible again and Cícero came back to ChildFund's program through local partner SOAF.

The relationship between them is based on care and respect. "We exchange letters. She is very special in my life," he says. Cícero adds that he considers her like a mother. "She worries about me, about my needs such as clothing, footwear, school supplies, and sends advice in the letters. She says I have to be a good grandson, respect my grandparents and study hard. She is a person who I love very much, even without knowing her personally," explains Cícero.

They have not met yet but exchange two letters a month and maintain the affectionate bond of sponsorship. At a time when Cícero was a little aggressive, it was the affection and attention of the sponsor which contributed to the improvement of his interpersonal relations with other children during the after school activities he participates in.

Today, due to the sponsorship, Cícero is a happier child, self-assured, always has a joyful and kind expression and has good prospects for the future. In her letters, the sponsor conveys security, saying that she will always be present whenever he needs her.

SOAF's relationship educator, Helieuzza Alves, says that the sponsorship really means security in Cícero's life. "He knows he has someone who loves him and really cares about his future," says Helieuzza.