**Contribution - Draft V0 “Reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition”**

I am a PhD student in Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and I have been working with nationally representative data sets from Brazil on my dissertation. The aim is show how gender and race/skin intersects increasing vulnerability of households headed by black or brown women to FI. From the historic perspective of Food and Nutritional Security policies, I would like to share some successful experiences in Brazil until 2016.

**Historic of Food and Nutrition Security policies in Brazil**

The National Council for Food and Nutrition Security (CONSEA) was created in 2006, as part of the National System for Food and Nutritional Security, established by the Organic Law on Food and Nutrition Security, along with the National Food and Nutritional Security Policy.

The CONSEA was composed of one third of government representatives, comprising ministers of state and special secretaries, and two thirds of civil society representatives, chosen based on criteria approved by the National Conference on Food and Nutrition Security. The decisions were taken collectively and were sent to the Presidency of the Republic and government agencies, through recommendations, explanatory statements and resolutions. The recommendations contain propositions addressed to a specific public agency (Moraes et al, 2021).

In 2004, it was the first year that the Brazilian Household Food Insecurity Measurement Scale (EBIA) was used to measure FI in a national survey. On that year, the prevalence of food security (FS) in Brazilian population was 65% (IBGE, 2006) while in 2013, with the investments on Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) policies, the proportion of FS reached 77% of the population (IBGE, 2014). These results show that CONSEA it was effective, even facing limitations and resistances. It should be also noted that the majority composition of civil society representatives and the holding of the presidency by a member of this segment gave CONSEA a peculiarity as a possible space for contestation, in addition to formulating proposals and monitoring the policy. This means that civil society was valued, and their claims had visibility to the government (Moraes et al, 2021).

In 2016, the National System for Food and Nutritional Security started to be dismantled with the reduction of resources and coverage of structuring programs of the National Food and Nutrition Security Policy in Brazil and, in 2019, the CONSEA was extinguished after changing the federal government (Ribeiro-Silva et al 2020; Moraes et al, 2021). This process led to the deepening of the situation of poverty exacerbating the social vulnerability experienced by many Brazilian families. The prevalence of FS in Brazilian families reached lower rates than in 2004 (63%), which may have contributed to the worsening of gender and racial inequalities in the country.

**Sucessful experiences in Food Security and Nutrition in Brazil**

In Brazil, between 2006-2016, we had some sucessful experiences to improve Food Security and Nutrition.

1. “Food Acquisition Program” (*Programa de Aquisição de Alimentos* - PAA) :

Created by the article 19 of Law No. 10,696, of July 2, 2003, has two basic purposes: to promote access to food and to encourage family farming. In order to achieve these two objectives, the program buys food produced by family farming, with no bidding process, and allocates it to people in situations of food and nutritional insecurity and to those served by the social assistance network, by public food and nutrition security equipment and by the public and philanthropic education network.

The PAA also contributes to the establishment of public stocks of food produced by family farmers and to the formation of stocks by family farming organizations. In addition, the program promotes food supply through government food purchases; strengthens local and regional circuits and marketing networks; values ​​biodiversity and organic and agroecological food production; encourages healthy eating habits and encourages cooperativism and associativism.

1. National Program for Strengthening Family Agriculture Women (*Programa Nacional de Fortalecimento da Agricultura Familiar* – PRONAF Mulher):

Due to the relevant participation of women in the activities of the family group and in the society to which they belong, and questioning the image of a rural woman only helping and supporting, it was created the Pronaf Women in 2003. The programmee has the aim of allowing women access to credit, so that they can invest in the activity they desire, a specific line of financing. As a result, credit is seen as an important ally to ease the differences between men and women in terms of managing and working on family properties (Spanevello et al 2016).

1. National School Feeding Program (*Programa Nacional de Alimentação Escolar* - PNAE):

The Law No. 11,947, of June 16, 2009, determines that, at least 30% of the amount transferred to states, municipalities and the Federal District by the National Education Development Fund (FNDE) for the PNAE must be used in the purchase of food directly from family farming and from rural family entrepreneurs or their organizations, prioritizing agrarian reform settlements, traditional indigenous communities and quilombola communities. The integration between family farming and school meals and family farming – has promoted an important transformation in school meals, by allowing healthy foods with a regional link, produced directly by family farming, to be consumed daily by public school students throughout Brazil.

**Conclusions**

From the successful experiences from Brazil, we can highlight three main topics:

* Support and empowering historical disadvantaged and poor populations, such as women, black and brown people, rural and urban poor, indigenous communities, etc, with specific benefits for this population.
* Encourage expressive civil society participation in decision-making for the formulation of public policies.
* Provide investments in family farming.

**Suggested references**

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