



Aging in Emerging Economies: Brazilian Policy Perspectives

Louise Plouffe, ILC - Brazil
IFA 12th Global Conference,
Hyderabad, India,
June 12, 2014

Year	1960	2010	2050
% age 60+	4.7%	11.8%	29%



80% of Brazilians of all ages live in urban areas



Current Policy Priorities

- Reducing social inequalities in health and wellbeing
 - Public Health Care System (1988); Social Pensions (1991)
 - National Policy for Older Persons (1994/96)
 - Statute for Older Persons (2003)
- Health Promotion, Disease Prevention/Control
 - National Health Policy for Older Persons (2006)
- Community care (emerging)



Key Agents of Policy Change

- Employer/Retired Persons Organizations
 - Brazilian Welfare Legion
 - SESC (Serviço social do Comércio)
- Professional Organizations
 - Brazilian Society of Geriatrics and Gerontology
- Faith Organizations
 - Catholic Church



Promising Innovative and Effective Models

- Primary health care outreach
- Health promotion programs
- Home support worker initiatives
- Age Friendly States/cities program





Comparative Lessons for other Emerging Countries

- Importance of a rights-based rather than a needs-based approach
- Legislated framework for citizen participation in decision-making and monitoring (Councils for Older Persons)
- Ensuring the presence of key pillars (health care and income security)
- Multisectoral policy framework



Continuing Challenges

- Life-course and inter-generational solidarity perspectives are lacking
- Accountability
 - More laws passed than are implemented
 - Mechanisms to ensure citizen participation in decision-making and monitoring are flawed
 - Budgeted resources are not channeled to programs
- Lack of coordination/collaboration across policy sectors
- Significant policy gaps: environments for aging; care



Issues and Materials to Share

- Issues:
 - Developing a sustainable culture of care involving family, public, community (voluntary and private) sectors
- Materials:
 - Health promotion models based in primary health care and community facilities
 - Home support approaches



www.ilcbrazil.org



Photo: Mathias Fruhwirth