Ending Street Homelessness in Your City

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Analysis of the applicability of the IGH Global Framework to Brazil

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Motivation

1. **Revision of the Brazilian definition:**

- **Homelessness population growth;**

- **Emergence of new forms of shelters and diversified forms of dwellings used by the homeless;**

- **Analysis of the definition and the Brazilian substandard housing conditions;**

2. **To present at the IGH 2017 international meeting**

- **Subsidies to the discussion of the definition and measuring homelessness in the countries that belong to the Latin American and Caribe Network;**

- **Subsidies to develop a 'common language' around homelessness and an agreed means of measuring the scale of homelessness and trends.**

Methodology

Considering the three IGH strata:

- **People without accomodation $\rightarrow$ Stratum 1;**

- **People living in temporary accommodation or accommodation after natural disasters $\rightarrow$ Stratum 2;**

- **People living in severely inadequate and insecure accommodation$\rightarrow$ Stratum 3;**

Identify

- **Conceptual differences between the strata of IGH definition and the Brazilian definition (strata 1 and 2) ;**

- **Inadequate and insecure accomodation in Brazil which corresponds to stratum 3;**

- **Risk groups to becoming homeless;**

- **Data availability to estimate the three strata in Brazil.**

Brazilian Definition

The homeless population is a segment of the very low income people that, due to temporary or permanent contingency, overnight at the time of the research, in the city's squares, sidewalks, marquees, gardens, viaduct lows, in abandoned areas, vacant lots, tents, cemeteries, carcasses of vehicles and other improvised sleeping places. Those who sleep in public shelters or social institutions are also defined as homeless.

Stratum 1 People without accommodation

	IGH and Brazilian definition category	Brazilian Definition	Secondary data [2]	Data source
1 (a)	**People sleeping in the streets or in other open spaces (such as parks, railway embankments, under bridges, on pavement, on river banks, in forests, etc.)** viaduct basements; wasteland; old iron deposits;	**6,038**		**Point in time Homeless Census**
1 (b)	**People sleeping in publics roofed spaces or buildings not intended for human habitation (such as bus and railway stations, taxi ranks, derelict buildings, public buildings, etc.)**	**1,026**		**Point in time Homeless Census**
1 (c)	**People sleeping in their cars, rickshaws, open fishing boats and other forms of transport.** Trolleys for cardboard or empty beer cans collection	**16**	**2,455**	**Population census [2]**
1 (d)	**"Pavement dwellers" – individuals or households who live on the street in a regular spot, usually with some form of makeshift cover**		**1,779**	**Population census**
	Not categorized	**255**		**Point in time Homeless Census**
Total		**7,335**	**4,234**	

1) **Brazilian expression referring to holes dug in structures of viaducts and other public places;**
2) **Data source: Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE)**

Conclusions for Stratum 1

- **The Brazilian definition was segmented; the diversity of conditions grouped;**
- **New categories were identified;**
- **The segmentation expanded the definition and the size of the population;**
- **Until now, there are no primary data to estimate the new categories sizes;**
- **Secondary data overestimate segments (1c) and (1d), since they were not surveyed for the purpose of enumerating the homeless people population; A greater accuracy of the secondary data results requires reformulation of the questionnaires used by IBGE;**

Stratum 2 – People living in temporary or crisis accommodation

	Brazilian and IHG categories	Homeless Census	Places offered
2 (a)	**People staying in night shelters (where occupants have to renegotiate their accommodation nightly)**	**6,316**	**6,316**
2 (b)	**People living in homeless hostels and other types of temporary accommodation for homeless people (where occupants have a designated bed or room)** **Simplified housing first**	**2,254**	**2,738**
2 (c)	**Women and children living in refuges for those fleeing domestic violence**		**100**
2 (d)	**People living in camps provided for 'internally displaced people' i.e. those who have fled their homes as a result of armed conflict, natural or human-made disasters, human rights violations, development projects, etc. but have not crossed international borders**	**Not existing in Brazil;**	**Not existing in Brazil;**
2 (e)	**People living in camps or reception centres/temporary accommodation for asylum seekers, refugees and other immigrants**		**120**
Total		**8,570**	

Conclusions for Stratum 2

- **Category (2b) is highly heterogeneous in Brazil;**
- **Information is lost if we classify the shelters by the categories 2 (a) and 2 (b) only;**

Type	People
Special shelter for	
Pickers	45
Convalescent	90
Emergencial	75
Family	368
Elderly	676
Women	428
Hostel	144
Housing Firts (DBA)	428
Total	2254

Stratum 3: People living in severely inadequate and insecure accommodation

	IGH categories	New Brazilian categories	Estimates based on secondary data [1]	People at risk of becoming homeless
3 (a)	People sharing with friends and relatives on a temporary basis		24,298	11,250 [2]
3 (b)	People living under threat of violence		16,498 [3]	Unable to estimate from data [4]
3 (c)	People living in cheap hotels, bed and breakfasts and similar		9,866	2,917 [2]
3 (d)	People squatting in conventional housing		10,931	Unable to estimate
3 (e)	People living in conventional housing that is unfit for human habitation		75,635	75,635
3 (f)	People living in trailers, caravans and tents		1,673 [5]	Some already included in category 1 d. unable to discriminate
3 (g)	People living in extremely overcrowded conditions		450,072	Not at risk
3(h)	People living in non-conventional buildings and temporary structures, including those living in slums/informal settlements			
3 (i)		People living in tenements (cortiços)	135,931	Unable to estimate
3 (j)		People living inside commercial units in a space not intend for sleeping	3,849	3,849[6]
3 (k)		People living in collective workers accommodations'	3,034	3,034 [6]
3 (l)		People living in asylum, orphanage and similar	14.594	Subset of the population
3 (m)		People living in penitentiary, prisons or detention centers	7.074	Subset of the population

Conclusions for Stratum 3

- **Risk groups were identified in Brazil;**
- **All estimates were done using secondary data;**
- **Secondary data overestimate the size of the risk groups;**
- **Additional categories arise from what is considered severe inadequate housing, in Brazil;**

General Conclusions

- **The identification of the differences between IGH Global Framework and the conditions of the homeless population :**

  a) Get "more adequate" estimates. It is possible to obtain trends, although not precise absolute numbers;

  b) Better description of the homeless population;

- **To identify the need to formulate differentiated care policies, due to the size and the differentiation of the categories; Important result for policy discussions on "areas";**

- **Difficulties in analyzing differences and similarities: the question of the specificities of housing standards and language;**

- **The issue of generating information, point in time, by secondary data;**

Recomendations

- **Countries in the Latin American and Caribe network should revise and compare their definitions in relation to the IGH Global Framework**