

7.2 Million Brazilians Don't Have a House to Live In

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On Friday, May 27, the Minister of Cities, Olívio Dutra, declared that Brazil's overall housing deficit comes to 7.2 million units. According to the Minister, the shortage in rural areas affects 1.7 million farmers.

In his view, by creating the Ministry of Cities and exchanging ideas with rural workers' organizations, the Administration is implementing a policy geared to this population, building and delivering decent housing in the countryside.

"This has been made possible, thanks to the organization of family farming, its representative bodies, and, in particular, its cooperatives," the Minister pointed out. He recalled that 10 thousand units were delivered last year and this year's number is even larger.

Dutra made these declarations at the 1st Encounter of Housing for Family Farming, held in the community of Fernando Machado, in the state of Santa Catarina.

During the event, a house was inaugurated that was built through an agreement between the Federal Savings Bank, the Federation of Rural Workers in Family Farming (Fetraf-Sul), and the Central Workers' Union (CUT).

The keys to new units were handed over, symbolically, to 15 families benefitted by this partnership, which also includes the Solidary Credit Cooperative (Cresol) and the federal, state, and municipal governments.

The Minister emphasized that the efforts of his office to respond to the demand for decent rural housing are being handled through the Subsidy Program for Housing in the Rural Interest, the Rural PSH, which did not exist heretofore.

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