

MAGAZINE

ACTIONWOMEN

YEAR 2 . OCTOBER 2023



Decent housing: it is a collective path and women are those leading the way

Challenges, breakthroughs, and resistance are the hallmark of Action Women Challenges

Page 06

How productive groups impact the communities

Page 09

Grassroots education, a path towards women's emancipation

Page 12

OFFICE HOUR

JUBILEU SUL BRASIL

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Alessandra Miranda
Marcelo Edmundo
Rosilene Wansetto
Sandra Quintela

EDITORS

Flaviana Serafim
Jucelene Rocha

EDITORIAL STAFF

Alessandra Miranda
Isabela Vieira
Flaviana Serafim
Jucelene Rocha
Magnólia Said
Sandra Quintela

PHOTOGRAPHY

Adriana Medeiros
Ana Paula Evangelista
Flaviana Serafim
Isabela Alves
Juce Rocha
Lucas Calisto
Mila Souza
Patrícia Cabral
Raiz Policarpo
Sherlen Borges

GRAPHIC DESIGN AND ILLUSTRATION

Utópika

COOPERATION AND LOCAL LIAISON

Belo Horizonte (MG) - Karla Monteiro
Fortaleza (CE) - Taciane Soares
Manaus (AM) - Marcela Vieira
Porto Alegre (RS) - Jamile Mallet
Rio de Janeiro (RJ) - Gorete Gama
Salvador (BA) - Raimunda Oliveira
São Paulo (SP) - Ana Paula Evangelista

PEDAGOGICAL ADVICE

Joseanair Hermes

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE

Andrea Pereira Nascimento
Lucimeire Araújo Paludette

PROJECT ASSISTANTS

Carolina Mendonça
Raissa Lazarini

This publication was produced with the financial support of Germany's Ministry of Foreign Affairs through IFA (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen) and Funding Program Zivik, Cafod, DKA and co-funding from the European Union. The Jubileu Sul Brasil Network is exclusively responsible for its contents and they do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of the donors.

Realisation



Partnership



Support



How to present, in a magazine, a work that is so “teaching” and revealing?

In 2021, we started through some organizations belonging to the Jubileu Sul Brasil Network, an action intended for formation and to foster the organization and strengthening of groups of women's from occupation areas in seven capital cities in Brazil. The Jubileu Sul Network, through its board of coordinators and executive secretary, was in charge of building politically and pedagogically this action which deals with women's issues, a major area of activity which has been a priority in the Network since 2017.

From 2022 on, the action was expanded and we are now working in the cities of Belo Horizonte (MG), Fortaleza (CE), Manaus (AM), Porto Alegre (RS), Rio de Janeiro (RJ), Salvador (BA), and São Paulo (SP). The Action “Women for Reparation of the Social Debts” was structured around the lines of formation, organization, and mobilization. We have addressed topics such as right to housing, food sovereignty, communitarian feminism, groundwork and, especially, the topics of the financial public debts and the social debts.

We have studied the public budget, in some capital cities we have submitted legislative amendments and, slowly, we have been expanding the idea of the social debts, of which we say women are the major creditors.

Based on local processes, respecting the characteristics of each location, of each culture and form of organization, we have been weaving the network in each territory. Throughout the 40 groups of women we have worked with on a regular and systematic basis, we have sensed how important groundwork is, how important it is to strengthen the grassroots organization of women who struggle to access their rights and who, at the same time, self-organize themselves by searching strategies to ensure their material life.

What is the context these groups are in? Highly abandoned by the State and a great absence of more experienced grassroots movements. The presence of bullets, either from the drug trafficking, the militia or the police, and from the bible with the power religious fundamentalism is able to impose, are also a hallmark of daily life. Amidst the former and the latter are black, impoverished women with their children and the elderly seeking to survive from north through south in this country of continental dimension.

We are happy to present this third issue of the magazine covering the Action “Women for Reparation of the Social Debts.” May it be inspiration to strengthen the work we do towards grassroots organization and education.



by Sandra Quintela

Economist, grassroots educator, liaison of the Jubileu Sul Brasil Network and member of the executive coordination of Action “Women for Reparation of the Social Debts.”

Action Women: leadership in the communities

In Brazil, communities and occupations organize themselves in response to the absences of the public authorities. This reality is increasingly present in the country's political scenario. Along the Covid-19 pandemic, while facing a harsh reality in order to survive with health on a daily basis, with no income at all and tackling a lot of social problems, women were mostly affected by unemployment and, consequently, by the lack of food on the table. Communities helped each other, took a leading and creative role, shared the daily bread.

Once passed the worst phase of the pandemic, problems old and new kind of run together and challenge, more and more, the life of the families living in the communities and occupations. The nation's social structure proceed with many issues associated with the escalation of violence, hunger and thirst, lack of jobs or precarious labor relations, in addition to the extreme violence that public safety agents perpetrate within the im-

perished communities. All these problems bring together racism and sexism as a structure that generates violations.

The communities and occupations, both urban and rural, are made up of several elements. They carry a great deal of potential identified through creative, cultural manifestations and also their own survival, but also indicate lots of violations. In the Action "Women for Reparation of Social Debts", the tangible signs of the community's power, especially women's power, are identified by means of community vegetable gardens, solidarity/shared kitchens, advocacy towards the public authorities, groups of grassroots education, socio-environmental projects, income generation and a number of other activities in which women play a leading role, both in the processes of mobilization and in implementing the actions. Leading women, communities, and solidarity occupations.



By Alessandra Miranda

Executiva Secretary of the 6th Brazilian Social Week and member of the Executive Board of Action "Women for Reparation of Social Debts".

Challenges, breakthroughs, and resistance are the hallmark in the trajectory of Action Women

The initiative engages dozens of groups in over 20 communities from around Brazil.

By Flaviana Serafim

On dirt roads, mothers, grandmothers, and their children walk up to three kilometers. The lack of a school, a public health center, and transportation forces people to hike in a temperature of over 30°C typical of the Amazonia. In Valéria, the largest neighborhood in the poor periphery of Salvador (BA), leaders discuss alternatives against hunger, land speculation, and environmental racism.

In Fortaleza (CE) and in Porto Alegre (RS), residents of vulnerable communities produce handicraft to generate income and for the survival of families while they proceed with the conflict around land legalization. Coming from Haiti, Venezuela and the African continent, women migrants and refugees rebuild their lives united with the movement for housing in the city of São Paulo (SP). In the port area of Rio de Janeiro (RJ), a vegetable garden and communitarian kitchen feed the mobilization against evictions, for housing, work and food on the table.

The after-effects caused by the post-pandemic crisis persist to aggravate, making exclusion even worse. Women are the major victims affected by the lack of public policies, street and domestic violence, hunger and inequalities. However, despite the challenges, these very women take the leading role in the struggle for their rights in the communities and realities are changed.

Beginning three years ago with the aim of strengthening the leaders, the Action “Women for Reparation of Social Debts” has engaged dozens of groups in over 20 communities spread around the country. Mobilizing people where there is no outreach by the public authorities, oftentimes it is the Jubileu Sul Brasil (JSB) Network, the Brazilian Social Week (SSB), the Grassroots Movements Union (CMP) and local partners of JSB are the only organizations working on these territories in Belo Horizonte (BH), Fortaleza (CE), Manaus (AM), Porto Alegre (RS), Rio de Janeiro (RJ), Salvador (BA), and São Paulo (SP).



Social cartography in the community of Vila Nossa Senhora da Conceição, Porto Alegre (RS) Photo: Sherlen Borges

Realities being transformed

The path taken so far has faced mishaps but also improvements. Women who have gotten their own home, resumed their schooling, had access to formation, expanded their advocacy for rights in the territories, and also the presence in open spaces for political participation and the understanding of how the public budget and the public debt affect the lives of women. Through grassroots mobilization, partnerships and legal assistance provided by the Action, it was also possible to obtain land legalization while evictions have been avoided and the properties have been acknowledged as of social interest.

Constant exchange of struggle experiences added to conventional and traditional knowledge and skills top off the legacy of the action in the territories, together with the production groups which generate the income that is indispensable for women to be independent.

Indigenous woman Hellen Kokama belongs to one of the 17 ethnicities living in Nova Vida, a community in Manaus that has recently been successful in legalizing land ownership, after having lived since 2018 under constant threat of being evicted. Such legalization benefits around 3,500 families. The struggle mainly engaged over 400 indigenous families claiming ancestral rights over the territory.

Hellen says she wouldn't have a home without the encouragement and help from Action Women. She is one of the leaders in the productive groups which make bio-jewelry and traditional indigenous handicraft in Manaus.

"I'm passing on to women all the Kokama knowledge of the maternal family culture, the mother tongue, and the Action provided me with this opportunity to teach. My income used to come from handicraft, today we have dozens of women learning and this is extremely important as they are progressing", Hellen says.

Elza Maria worked as a household cleaner. Encouraged by the Action, she finished school, took a course on gardening, changed profession. Currently, she works near her home, in the city center of Rio de Janeiro and, at the same time, she keeps fighting for the ownership of her apartment in Occupation Vito Giannotti.

"I want my home to be legalized, have peace of mind regarding my family, resting assured that it is my home, that I'm not going to live on the streets where there is already a lot of people not will I have to suffer to pay a rent, so that I can provide healthy food", reports the resident in her testimony in the videocast series portraying the territories where the Action takes place.

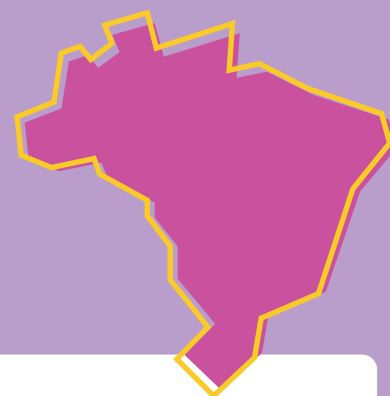
Available on the Jubileu Sul Brasil website or YouTube channel

The mobilization of women such as Elza, the legal assistance are part of the forces brought together which achieved the favorable recommendation by the Public Federal Prosecution so that the real estate, owned by the National Institute of Social Security (INSS), may be designated as housing of social interest to the families living the in the occupation.



Action Women in the district of Águas Claras, Salvador (BA)
Photo: Mila Souza

A grassroots educator, economist Sandra Quintela is a member of the national team of the Action and explains that “the JSB Network is not a housing movement nor a women’s movement. Our focus is the debate and the reparation of the social debts, then in a country like Brazil and its history, it is not possible to talk about reparation without placing women as a top priority. Hence, it is important to continue, due to the impact of the Action in the territories,” says Sandra.



THE TERRITORIES PORTRAIT

CITY	HOUSING DEFICIT ¹	RESIDENTS	IDHM ²	MORTALIDADE INFANTIL ³	FAMILIES IN THE TERRITORIES OF ACTION WOMANS
Belo Horizonte	95.620	2.315.560	0,797	9,28	Comunidade Alto das Antenas - 490 Ocupação Vitória - 4500
Fortaleza	116.379	2.428.678	0,754	12,02	Conjunto Palmeiras - 15750 Bairro Jangurussu - 1500 Ocupação Raízes da Praia - 84 Bairro Planalto Pici - 10600 Zona Vitória Parque Violeta Croatá - 84
Manaus	119 mil	2.063.547	-	12,8	Coliseu 1: 1800 Coliseu 3: 1500 Comunidade Nova Vida: 1060
Porto Alegre	85.983	1.332.570	0,771	7,78	Ocupação Cidade Nova - 165 Ocupação Vida Nova - 400 Vila Nossa Srª da Conceição - 300
Rio de Janeiro	329.645	6.211.423	0,762	12,1	Ocupação Habib's - 72 Ocupação Morar Feliz - 150 Ocupação Quilombo da Gamboa - 17 Ocupação Vito Giannotti - 28
Salvador	115.897	2.418.005	0,727	14,76	Águas Claras - 37.029 Nova Brasília de Valéria* Valéria/Cajazeiras
São Paulo	564.310	11.451.245	0,806	10,23	Ocupação Dom Paulo - 20 Ocupação Jean Jacques Dessalines - 30 Casa de Assis*

* No data available on total families.

Sources: Atlas Brasil, IBGE, Report Déficit habitacional no Brasil – 2016-2019 (2022).

1. Metropolitan area of the capitals.
2. Index of Municipal Human Development.
3. Per 1,000 born alive.

How productive groups impact the communities

Initiatives for income generation, based on the principles of solidarity-based grassroots economy, also provide political formation, in addition to financial independence for women.

By Isabela Vieira

Over 25 years of history, the Jubileu Sul Network has been working in territories from around the country, always finding out that women are those mostly affected by violence, by unemployment, by public policies and social rights being withdrawn. How can we fight for the reparation of debts without considering how central and important is the role played by women in such confrontation? This is the context in which the Action "Women for Reparation of the Social Debts" arises and gets stronger and stronger.

When we talk about social poverty we have also in mind issues such as housing, food safety, education, health, and leisure. In theory, these are ri-

ghts that our Federal Constitution ensures to the entire Brazilian population. However, over 30%, around 62.5 million people, do not have access to those rights and bear the consequences of the historical social debts.

In this scenario, it is essential to support the struggle of the communities, especially from the women's perspective, by sharing formative moments, encouraging cultural and activities, and facilitating initiatives of solidarity-based grassroots economy in order to generate income and work.

Grassroots or mass economy should be understood as the production, sale, exchange,



Productive group "Tecendo Renda" (weaving laces), in occupation Vida Nova, Porto Alegre (RS)

Photo: Sherlen Borges

purchase and finances collectively organized by workers, both male and female, with the purpose of implementing self-management within the community. The objective is not profit but rather the search for human development that will bring forth food sovereignty, taking into account the least damage to the environment, conscious consumption, and the use of natural resources.

Choosing the paths of solidarity-based mass economy, women generate income, financial support and food to the families and also emancipation – here, besides the struggle against hunger that affects over 30 million people in Brazil, we must stress how important it is to empower and offer financial autonomy to women in general, but particularly to women

who are victims of domestic violence since access to income is paramount to confront violence and its cycle.

That is why Action Women supports initiatives in its territories, as is the case of the *Productive Kitchen Occupation Vito Giannotti*, in Rio de Janeiro (RJ); of the *Support to Self-Managed Socioeconomic Projects*, in Salvador (BA); of the *Weaving a New Life: Atelier of Talent Reactivation*, in Porto Alegre (RS); of the project *Resisting and Transforming through the Organization of Women*, in Manaus (AM); in addition to *Women Strengthening the Territory in the Perspective of Food Safety and Solidarity-Based Economy*, in Belo Horizonte (MG); and of the *Productive Groups of Ceará*, in Fortaleza (CE).

Food safety

Created in 2020 during the pandemic, *Sisteminha* (little system) is one of the actions conceived to promote food safety and sovereignty for the communities which previously were facing vulnerability. *Sisteminha* aims at solidarity-based production of food including fish farming in tanks with water recirculation and filtering, chicken houses, and communitarian vegetable gardens. It can be installed in either urban or rural areas, it is easily adaptable to the experience people have, as well as weather conditions and local market.

According to Taciane Soares, local liaison in Fortaleza, the action which began with a focus on the struggle for land legalization was able to rescue the identity of the communities and contributed with food safety, independence, and proactivity of the people involved. "The actions strengthen a lot the discussions concerning the needs for decent housing, access to quality food, health, education, and also for jobs. The debate around the appreciation of domestic work, the appreciation of women and their potential has also been enhanced", says Taciane.

In turn, the communitarian kitchen in Occupation Vito Giannotti, in Rio de Janeiro, is one of the sources of income which provides the maintenance of the electrical grid, sewage disposal, cleaning and repair of shared equipment in the occupation. Currently, around 400 foil containers with food are produced and they ensure food safety to a number of families.

Women get organized

In many cases, drawing from the action in the groups and meeting in the communities, people start to identify problems they have to tackle on a daily basis. This is the case of women in the action “Resisting and Transforming through the Organization of Women.” Taking place in Manaus, the group makes ecological soap and handicraft for sale, which generates income and a sense of collectiveness, since the productive group also makes room for welcoming practices and dialogue.

For local liaison Marcela Vieira, the works with the community yields good results such as the ownership repossession being revoked and the legalization of one of the communities. “We are going to formalize a women’s association, they have been fighting for rights such as public transportation, education, and health. These are great results are on the way.”

Gorete Gama, local liaison in Rio, talks about the social role of the productive groups and how they impact the life in the families. “When we talk about collective/community kitchens, we are talking about solidarity-based grassroots economy. We can see that people feel they belong, as if just the actions collectively performed were able to ensure quality of life to the families living there,” concludes Gorete.



Fish tank of “Sisteminha” (little system) for food safety and sovereignty in Fortaleza (CE) **Photo: Lucas Calisto**

Grassroots education, a path towards women's emancipation

"We believe each woman brings with her a valuable knowledge, resulting from her unique struggles and life story."

By Jucelene Rocha

Emancipatory formation processes define the life story of people participating in the Action "Women for the Reparation of the Social Debts." Grassroots education becomes a fundamental methodology, but what does that really mean? This strategic option entails to acknowledge the everyday skills and experiences of all women and other people involved in the processes and initiatives. It also means to acknowledge all cultural, social, economic and religious realities utilized to devise new types of knowledge and grassroots organization, in the face of the desired transformations and advancements.

"When defining our formative moments, our methodological approach is profoundly enrooted in the principles of grassroots education, which appreciates knowledge and the experience of participants by promoting a process of collective, horizontal, and transforming learning. Formative moments are conceived in order to empower participating women by stimulating their critical thinking and expanding their capacity for action," explain pedagogical adviser Joseanair Hermes.

Dialogue, collective construction knowledge, affection, perception of common problems are fundamental aspects to effectively

implement the democratic ideal of tackling and overcoming the social debts, the historical inequalities that worsens the life of women and perpetuate their vulnerabilities. "We believe that every woman brings with her a valuable knowledge, resulting from her unique struggles and life story. Through dialogue, we can reach a deeper understanding of the challenges faced and the solutions found," adds Joseanair.

In all actions and initiatives, the Jubileu Sul Brasil Network designs a series of formative processes which specifically include key topics such as the system of the public debt and the struggles for reparations, namely, aimed at the poor population suffering the more severe consequences of social inequality; women and black young people; original and traditional peoples.

"Formation empowers and contributes to formulate a critical viewpoint. Bringing women together in areas such as the field of politics, economy, the comprehension of how the public debt works, the processes of financialization make each and every person to get involved and realize that these are topics exclusively for A or B. All people can and should understand them in order to intervene directly on

such fundamental issues in order to overcome social inequalities in Brazil”, says Rosilene Wansetto, the executive secretary of the Jubileu Sul Brasil Network.

These formative processes both shed light on general topics and sharpen and strengthen the women’s interest concerning specific topics in their territories and local realities. Thus, they allow to reflect on their rights, promote grassroots organization, and manage to interfere with the contexts and destinies.

“We invest heavily in grassroots education by means of conversation circles, workshops, seminars, primers, among other formats, such as the methodology of social cartography, a powerful tool to build a response plan to confront the problems women have to tackle in their territories. All these instruments have contributed to enable the women in question to advocate for rights, especially the human right to housing and the reparation of all other social debts,”, emphasizes Rosilene.

Over the last two years, around 1,000 women have been directly reached out as a result of the formative moments, either participating in activities on national level or in local initiatives in the cities included in the project: Belo Horizonte (MG), Fortaleza (CE), Manaus (AM), Porto Alegre (RS), Rio de Janeiro (RJ), Salvador (BA), São Paulo (SP).

“The formative moments play a fundamental role in making the communities stronger together with women in so many different ways”, says Joseanair who also highlighted individual and collective empowerment as an effect; raising critical awareness about the power structures and the social gears that impact the life of women; instances of liaison and mobilization are strengthened for civic participation, based on a network of vital support to tackle the challenges; isolation is broken; the building of confident leadership and reality is transformed, these are the major contributions provided by Action Women so that people can stick together in the struggle for rights and reparations.



Training with women in Manaus
Photo: Patrícia Cabral



Formation circle about the primer "Women and Spaces of Grassroots Participation" in occupation Alto das Antenas, Belo Horizonte (MG)

Photo: Raiz Policarpo

As a result of the interchanges taking place in the formative moments over the last two years, several contents came up and they are, at the same time, instruments for ongoing formation and the outcome of the experiences systematized.

The results of such interchanges are available in the format of primers, handbooks, methodological guidance, systematization of social cartography, wall banner, and other productions such as videos and podcasts, all of them available from the library at the website jubileusul.org.br or on Spotify and YouTube.

"The publications play a crucial role as they serve as tools to disseminate knowledge, mobilization, and advocacy. They represent a tangible manner of consolidating what has been learned and sharing relevant information with the women in the occupations and communities where we work.

They play an integral role in formative process by linking what has been learned on a theoretical basis with the practical actions and social change. They are powerful means to disseminate knowledge, provide women with training, influence policies, and amplify the voices of the communities in their search for social justice and equality", Joseanair points out.

"Along the last period, which corresponds to two years of Action Women working in the territories, we have had a huge production of primers.

It was a series of six primers where a variety of topics have been addressed dealing with the everyday life of women and their rights, how public debt system works, how the public budget is discussed and passed, right to housing, and grassroots participation.

It has been a fruitful time to acquire knowledge", Rosilene Wansetto summarizes

Adding up to move forward: the solution lies in the collective!

"Culture in the capitalist system we live in says that an individual alone can fix everything, but there is no individual solution for the problems we have been face in Brazil."

By Flaviana Serafim

In a morning in August, 2023, came the news most awaited by some 3,500 families in occupation Nova Vida (new life), in Manaus (AM): they could finally live with no risk of being evicted, of losing their homes and their territory, after almost five years of a legal battle. In its ruling, the 7th Environmental and Agrarian Federal Circuit in the Judiciary Section of Amazonas (SJAM), a class action suit for ownership repossession was dismissed, which had been filed by Federal Prosecutors Office (MPF) in 2018 to remove those families.

The Federal Prosecutors Office argued that occupation Nova Vida had been formed in an archeological site named Cemetery of the Indians, owned by the National Institute of His-

torical and Artistic Heritage (IPHAN). Long years being threatened of eviction went by until the community, the Federal Prosecutors and the mentioned National Institute achieved an agreement in March 2023, when a consensus was reached that the Museum of Amazonia (MUSA) would remove and take custody of the funeral urns and other indigenous artifacts free of charge. Two months later, the agreement was signed to cancel the class action suit on behalf of the families.

The entire process to reach an agreement was mediated by the State and the Federal Public Defenders Office, out of a clash in which the community relied on the legal assistance provided by the Action "Women for Reparation of the Social Debts."

In Manaus, the action is conducted through a local partnership between the Jubileu Sul Brasil Network and Caritas Brazil, and on the national level with the 6th Brazilian Social Week (SSB) and the Central Popular Movements (CMP).

Enhancing the forces being added up with other partner organizations and movements was essential to reach victory on behalf of the occupation as well as other advancements in the struggle for rights led by the communities. In the case of occupation Nova Vida, in alliance with the Amazonas Forum for Urban Reform, with Habitat for Humanity, and the Zero Eviction Campaign.

In Rio de Janeiro (RJ), where Action Women is conducted together with the Central



Festival of grassroots and trade union communication in Rio de Janeiro (RJ)
Photo: Adriana Medeiros

Popular Movements, this type of legal assistance and strategic alliance boost the advancements towards the right to land legalization for the families in occupation Vito Giannotti. Unable to fulfill its social, the building in the district of Santo Cristo had been abandoned for 10 years by the National Institute of Social Security - INSS until it was occupied in 2016. In May 2023, the families were granted a favorable recommendation by the Federal Prosecutors Office (MPF) so that the real estate would be allocated to housing of social interest. Now, the confrontation proceeds so that the residents may eventually exercise the right to effective possession.

In Belo Horizonte (MG), the action is conducted in partnership with the National Feminist Network for Health, and in Porto Alegre (RS) with Emancipa. Out of an alliance between the two partners, a free pre-college preparatory course taught by Emancipa was offered to occupation Alto das Antenas, in Belo Horizonte. In Salvador, the partnership with Caritas Northeast Regional 3 helps women to generate income through solidarity-based economic activities.

“The solution can only be collective. Culture in the capitalist system we live in says that an individual alone can fix everything, but there is no individual solution for the problems we have been face in Brazil. Rights for black and poor people was only won as a result of fighting, nothing was given for free”, emphasizes economist and grassroots educator Sandra Quintela, a member of the coordination board of Action *“Women for Reparation of the Social Debts.”*

Concerning the importance of the collective processes to empower and strengthen women, she says that *“the daily exercise of the collective work, the collective construction, the sharing, sticking together, talking to each other is fundamental to overcome the terrible situation the Brazilian people have lived in. Moreover, these women gain strength, as a person, as an individual, as someone with full rights, someone who deserves rights.”.*

Liaison, advocacy, denouncement

As soon as the activities had been resumed in early 2023, members of the coordination board and liaisons with Action Women went to Brasilia for a series of meetings in the ministries, including the Ministry of the Cities, of Management and Innovation in Public Services, of Women and of Indigenous Peoples, in order to interact and talk about the public policies that the Jubileu Sul Brasil Network sees as urgent and a priority.

“Each territory in Action Women perceives this dimension of local strengthening and also the importance of denouncement on the national level, such as the missions which decried the situation of the occupations throughout the country, the public hearings, partnerships with lawmakers, with Public Defenders and the Public Prosecutors Office. This allowed to move the struggle forward against dispossession and on behalf of grassroots housing”, adds Sandra Quintela.

In São Paulo, the action is conducted in liaison with the coordination of the occupations Dom Paulo Evaristo Arns and Jean Jacques Dessalines, headed by Movement of Struggle in the Neighborhoods, Villages, and Favelas (MLB), and in the Home of Assisi in partnership with Sefras –Franciscan Social Action, an organization that is a member of the JSB Network. Also in São Paulo, the action mobilizes mainly migrants and refugees in the fight for decent housing, which empowers the leaders and supports political advocacy.

The Movement of Popular Councils (MCP) is a partner in Fortaleza (CE), where the action also advocates by lobbying lawmakers and governments. A bill submitted to the State Legislature proposes to turn the *“Sisteminha”* (little system) into a public policy to provide the vulnerable neighborhoods with food safety and sovereignty through a solidarity-based and communitarian production of food.

Struggling women: vital issues of the new times

Public policies are the responses of a government to the social needs. They may come wearing the “mask of favor” or the “hallmark of justice”. The weaker the organization and the people’s involvement, more easily the government will define the policies in compliance with its interests and political agenda, which are also the interests of those who live on privileges in the relations with the power.

In the universe of public policies, a highlight is on those that specific for women, as they are paramount to strengthen their struggle for rights and social justice. However, as we live in a patriarchic, male-dominated society in which the reproductive work of women is not acknowledged as work, capitalism takes advantage of such culture to go on exploiting the women’s body and workforce. Always reinventing itself, capitalism opens new conditions of exploitation and profit which impose changes in the women’s everyday life and update which, in turn, is joined by the power of privilege. Hence, public policies that might contribute to improve the condition of women are always replaced with that is easier — paternalist programs do not hold up in terms of structure.

The vulnerable population faces a reality walled up by the global financial system. We have reached the extreme of unfair division of domestic labor, of naturalized violence, of racism, of sexism, and of hatred towards the liberation of women — just look at the increase in the number of feminicides in Brazil —, stemming from some kind of masculinity where a man asserts himself through violence. The consequence of such social construction lies in the fact that women become the vulnerable group that most suffers with the lack of public policies.

Consecutive governments have been replacing the right to work and to the State’s protection through public policies with different types of aid to poverty and entrepreneurship — the farce and sham of individual success and projection.

Important places to conduct this debate are the public hearings along the process of assessing the Annual Budget Law – LOA, a moment when the population is heard to indicate the public investments required to develop the State, in view of overcoming the blatant inequalities existing in the cities.

by Magnólia Said

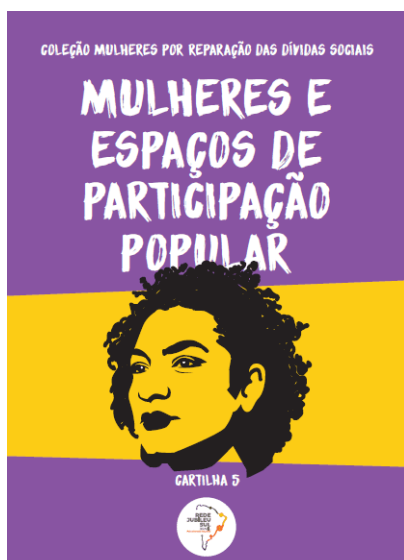
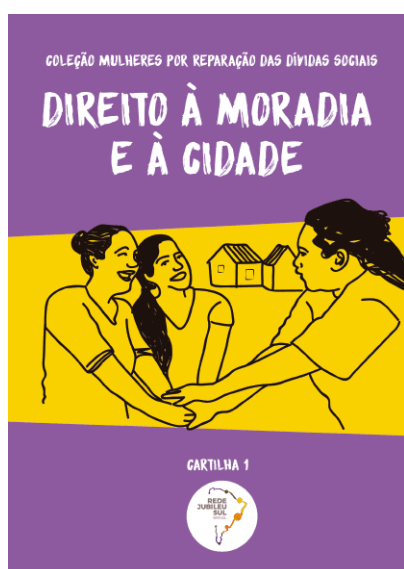
Feminist educator and technical consultant with the Action “Women for Reparation of the Social Debts.”



On the way to strengthen women's organization, together with the action carried out by Jubileu, today we have several groups with diversified Productions, some of them with access to street fairs in the neighborhoods or shop of solidarity-base economy. They produce for self-sustainment by developing actions of self-care and growing politically stronger, supported by a continuous process of formation, from a perspective of integrality of each person and their relationship with the universe around them, combined with the participation in spaces where policies are discussed and decided.


So many challenged have been put up and it is likely that, in order to tackle those challenges, we will have to walk a little further. What are we supposed to do, in a context that is on the brink of unsustainability? We must have the ability to revert such brainwashing which the instruments of the capital attempt to consolidate by means of continuous processes of formation, in order to enhance our capacity to understand the reality. Thus and with a bolstered political coordination, it will be possible to devise strategies capable of confronting the denial of the right to the city for these populations, based on a decent and dignified life for the families.

**Publications available
from the online library**



And more!



 **Wall Banner**
Public Debt: shall we talk about it and change our history?

.....

 **Social Carthography**
a tool for transformation

.....

 **Handbook for grassroots leaders**
who work in contexts where human rights are violated

.....

 **Methodologies to work with women**

.....

 **Magazine Popular Synergy**

.....

 **Magazine Action Women (1st Edition)**

.....

 **The New Social Security Act**
what does it make you lose

.....

 **The public debt and how it impacts the life of women**



Listen
on Spotify

Podcasts women
in action struggles
in question





Watch
on Youtube

Videocast
Action
Women


Access
on Website

Publications
in the virtual
library




www.jubileusul.org.br

-  @redejubileusul
-  @jubileusul
-  @jubileuSul
-  Jubileu Sul Brasil JS/BR

www.ssb.org.br

-  @ssbrasileira
-  @ssbrasileira
-  @SSBrasileira
-  @SSBrasileira

www.cmpbrasil.org

-  @cmpbrasil
-  @cmp.brasil
-  @CMP Brasil

Realisation



Partnership



Support

