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STRENGTHENING SOCIO-BIODIVERSITY IN BRAZIL? FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY POLICIES FOR GENERATING INCOME IN FAMILY FARMERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

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The close relationship between biological and sociocultural diversity is essential for promoting environmental conservation and social inclusion, grounded in a comprehensive sustainability perspective. Based on this assumption, the concept of socio-biodiversity has gained prominence in public policies and civil society initiatives in Brazil. However, several challenges remain for advancing socio-biodiversity to its full inclusiveness potential, particularly generating sufficient income to combat rural poverty and strengthening food and nutritional security. This study aims to analyze the factors associated with income generation in socio-biodiversity, focusing on participation in the Food Acquisition

Program (Programa de Aquisição de Alimentos - PAA), and other policies and mechanisms, such as organic product certifications, access to rural credit, and technical assistance. The analysis is based on data from the PAA evaluation survey collected between 2021 and 2022, which covered 2,972 small-scale rural producers, distributed across all five of Brazil's macro-regions. The main hypothesis is that participation in the PAA is associated with an increase in average family income, making it a policy with effective results for strengthening and promoting socio-biodiversity and food and nutrition security. This hypothesis is tested through econometric analysis applied to a sample of beneficiaries from local communities that are usually non-timber forest product harvesters/collectors or small-scale fishermen, producers of cocoa, Brazil nuts, cassava, and other tubers and roots. By doing so, this paper contributes to building a wide assessment of the policy effects on socio-biodiversity, based on a new, broad, and reliable database.

Palavras-chave: food security; income generation; socio-biodiversity; public procurement program; brazil.