

“Brazil produces lots of food but people are poor.” The sixth largest country in the world is not able to save its inhabitants from hunger. Although Brazil grows and exports many foods it cannot prevent that 32 million people live without enough to eat. They say “hunger is part of our life” and, indeed, it is. They even search garbage dumps for scraps to feed their families. They eat anything – just to survive.

It seems to be a vicious circle that they do not have a job. If they do not work they become poor and cannot afford meat, fruits or even clean water. Thus they lose the capability to work hard and have no chance to get a job in the world’s ninth largest economy. The share of people living on a third world level in Brazil is the vast majority. An alarming development is that their number is rising each and every day. The luxurious upper class cannot do anything against these struggling facts – in fact they do not even really try to.

Mister de Susa is a brave man. At the first glance he is slim, old and weak but deep inside he is a fighter. The sociologist founded one of the most important organization to support Brazil’s refused. Even though he suffers from Aids (caused by an infected blood transfusion) he was – and still is – able to raise an incredible amount of donations from all across the country. His aim is not only to provide food (over the years some million tons !) but to help the poor and hungry to feed themselves. To support them, he built a factory employing 30 women near Fechejda. There they produce clothes and earn a salary of about 250\$ per month which is in turn sufficient to supply their families and raise children.

During the last years de Susa helped about 10’000 people by building care centers that provide three meals a day. He calls it “a new way of doing politics” and longs for “solidarity and action”. He still dreams of a time when Brazil stops being what it is right now: a country that is indeed rich enough to feed each and every person. The first step into that bright future has been taken.