

Brazil - São Paulo

Terra do futebol

Country: Brazil is the world's fifth-largest country, with an area of more than eight million square kilometres, and has the fifth highest population, which stands at over 186 million.

São Paulo is the largest city in Brazil and the fifth largest city in the world, with a population of around 19 million. Around two million of the population live in favelas (slums).

Children in São Paulo may receive free primary education but pre-school education must be paid for. Children from favelas and poorer homes don't often have the opportunity to attend pre-school. This leaves them at a disadvantage when they start primary school with many falling behind and dropping out immediately.

Partner Info: BMS World Mission has been working in Brazil since 1953 and in 1992 BMS workers Stuart and Georgie Christine started the PEPE project.

PEPE is a pre-school programme where local churches set up a free pre-school for those from their local community who cannot afford to send their children to the private pre-schools.

BMS also partners an organisation called ABIAH and together we run a mission centre in São Paulo – Iara Delphino is the centre co-ordinator and works closely with teams we send.



What you'll do: The team will work alongside a local church in the activities that the church engages in. This will most likely include PEPE.

Previous teams have also been involved in working with disabled young people, soup runs to the homeless, large evangelism events and leading church youth groups.

Accommodation:

The team will be based either in the mission centre or with a local church.

The mission centre is well-equipped, with a comfortable lounge and a large kitchen and dining area. There is also a 'classroom area' where teams and

volunteers can meet to be taught about the culture and language. With up to 20 able to be accommodated, the bedroom / sleeping arrangements are small dormitories.

The ABIAH offices are the ground floor of the mission centre with good internet access.

Where the team stays with a local church this can either be in someone's home or in a team apartment. The accommodation will be basic but adequate.