

Patricia Rodrigues Samora ~ Is This The End Of Slum Upgrading In Brazil?



In Brazil's ongoing economic and political drama, one of the latest developments is a congressional proposal to freeze federal funds at 2016 levels, adjusting the 2017 national budget only for inflation. This move would mean deep cuts to [spending on social programmes](#).

Though such reductions would affect programmes that [launched millions of Brazilians into the middle class](#) and put the developing country [on track to meet](#) many of the [Millennium Development Goals](#), the senate seems likely to approve the budget freeze.

For Brazilian cities, this government belt-tightening promises a disquieting change: the possible end of the country's [ambitious slum-upgrading programs](#). Despite Brazil's great wealth, many poor neighbourhoods known as *favelas* (slums or "informal settlements" in urban planning parlance) still struggle with inadequate construction quality, no sanitation, environmental risk factors and lack of the most basic infrastructure.

Read more: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/is-this-the-end-of-slum>