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[Home](#) > [News](#) > [Press Reviews](#)


- [????](#)
- [Español](#)
- [Français](#)
- [P???????](#)

[All News](#)
[Press Releases](#)
[Feature Stories](#)
■ [Press Reviews](#)

- ▶ [All By Date](#)
- ▶ [E-Subscription](#)

[Loans & Credits](#)
[Speeches](#)
[Commentaries](#)
[Broadcast & Multimedia](#)
[Transcripts/ Statements](#)
[Issue Briefs](#)
[Project Profiles](#)
[Events Calendar](#)
[World Bank Experts](#)
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- ▶ [Annual Report](#)
- ▶ [Board Schedule & Minutes](#)
- ▶ [President Zoellick](#)

## Headlines For Friday, September 21, 2007

- [Six Million Brazilians Lifted Out Of Poverty In 2006](#)
- [Brazil, Venezuela To Move Forward With Oil Ventures, Natural Gas Pipeline Plan.](#)
- [Montenegro Pays Early 19 Mln Euro World Bank Debt](#)
- [Weather forecasting needs huge boost to tackle climate change: WMO.](#)
- [Can't Kick The Habit - Smoking In Asia](#)
- [Also in this Edition: Neighbors Vital In Survival Of Urban Poor: Experts and Briefly Noted.](#)

## Six Million Brazilians Lifted Out Of Poverty In 2006

“Six million Brazilians were lifted above the poverty line in 2006, said the Getulio Var Foundation (FGV) in a study released on Wednesday.

The number of Brazilian citizens living below the poverty line dropped by 15 percent compared with 2005. The FGV stressed that it was the best result since the entity started carrying out the study in 1992. ... This is the first time the population living in extreme poverty represented less than 20 percent of the country's population.

[FGV economist Marcelo] Neri also stressed that the incomes of the country's poorest percent of citizens rose by 57.4 percent in the period, while those of the wealthiest 1 percent increased by 6.8 percent, which helped attenuate income distribution inequalities. ... [\(China\)/Factiva](#)

EFFE adds that “...Brazil is going through ‘an historic period’ in terms of poverty reduction. Neri... who added that in 2006 the number of people living in extreme poverty in Brazil was 6 million.

He said that a large part of the advance in the fight against poverty has been due to government aid programs like the ‘Bolsa Familia,’ ...and investment in education from governments that is now beginning to bear fruit.

He said that those programs have less electoral impact because they benefit children at the same time they help to improve the standard of living of families with much greater than increases in the minimum wage. ...” [\[EFFE/Factiva\]](#)

## Brazil, Venezuela To Move Forward With Oil Ventures, Natural Gas Pipeline Plan.

“Brazil and Venezuela agreed to forge ahead with two joint ventures between their state-owned oil companies and a natural gas pipeline that would stretch across the Amazon rainforest, President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and Venezuela's Hugo Chavez on Thursday signed a series of accords to speed the projects...

Outlining the joint ventures between state oil companies, Chavez said one company will operate Carabobo I, an extra-heavy oil field in Venezuela's Orinoco Basin. Petroleo Brasileiro SA (PdvSA)... will provide 60 percent of the capital for the Carabobo project, with the remainder coming from Petroleo Brasileiro SA, or Petrobras. Another company will