## **Panos London**

## **Illuminating Voices**

## Brazil's middle class boom

7 August 2008

A new study has shown that Brazil now has more middle class than poor people for the first time in its history. More than half of the country's 190 million people live in middle class families defined as having monthly revenues of between 750 and 3,200 US dollars. The data was collected by Brazil's Applied Economic Research Institute. The shrinking poor population is attributed to economic growth, a rising minimum wage and policies to encourage family farming. However an estimated 11 million Brazilians still live below the poverty line.

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