



The Community Supported Agriculture Movement 3.0

By Jocelyn Parot, General Secretary of Urgenci

In this number

1. The community Supported Agriculture Movement 3.0

2. The Second European Meeting of CSA Movements : an abundant Harvest of new Projects

3. "Hungry for Rights": the first Catalyst School ended in May

4. Logistics' Grundtvig: after Lyon, Helsinki and Leuven, heading next for Freiburg



After an initial phase of dissemination led by pioneers from a single country (1.0) ; after several years of intensive multilateral exchanges sustained by lifelong learning projects (2.0), it has become clear that the Community Supported Agriculture movement is entering a new phase.

The expectations from well identified CSA activists are not so much getting to know other initiatives or even compiling information about their experiences, successes and failures, any more. What we call « the CSA Movement 3.0 » is a phase of maturation, where the movement's actors are focusing on both the consolidation of their actions thanks to mutual tools and toolkits on the one hand, and the affirmation of shared goals to orient advocacy on the other hand. Both processes are complex and rely on comprehensive social and human interactions that shouldn't neglected to the advantage of electronic shortcuts and technocratic protocols.

This brand new website is an attempt to support this 3rd phase. In the age of so-called "social networks", we believe a website should counterbalance the speed and instantaneity of tweets, "likes" and "dislikes". This website should become an appeased shelter for in-depth information, developed critiques, distance-taking reflections on our movement. Distance, depth, critique: all these terms are opposite to the superficiality of contemporary online social networks.

Of course, Facebook and Twitter will remain key tools to communicate quickly about events and share fresh information about past actions. Urgenci and the CSA movement have become, during the last 2 years, well recognized on these major sites. But this new website should offer the appropriate tools and become the memory of the movement in order to let it reach another level of self-consciousness.



The Second European Meeting of CSA Movements : an abundant Harvest of new Projects

By Fabian Kern (translated from German by Jocelyn Parot)

 **28 February-2 March 80 participants from 17 different countries met at the Bergerie de Villarceaux in order to exchange on Community -based Agriculture, and to foster new projects.**

On Friday 28 February, the meeting's kick off was given with a « Bring your share » -lunch, and during the first plenary, the Nyeleni Process as well as the report from the 1st European Meeting of CSA Movements in Milan were brought to everyone's knowledge.

Then the various delegations had the opportunity to present their own network and initiatives during a Poster Session. Before the dinner, the experiences regarding the AMAP Charter re-writing process in France were shared. Beside, Rupert Dunn reported about the premises of an UK CSA Charter and Judith launched a debate to state how necessary CSA Lobbying. During the evening, about 25 participants watched the movie on GartenCoop "The Strategy of the Crooked Cucumbers" with English subtitles.

On Saturday, a large Open Space Technology session was held. During the session, multiple discussion themes were formulated. The overarching questions were: "Imagine the future of the CSA Movements in Europe. What can we do to build it together?". Here you can listen to the ideas proposed for the Open Space (from 4:10 min). After this introduction session everyone went in to the chosen thematic group.

On Saturday evening, CSA activists from Belgium, Austria, Switzerland, Czech Republic and England joi-

ned into a group talk to exchange about the situation of CSA in each one of their countries. Later at night, there was a lot of dancing. Among other activities, a short Forró Workshop was offered.

On Sunday the European Union -supported past and currently running Exchange projects were presented. After these presentations, an introduction to the new EU Training programme ERASMUS+ and to concrete project plans was provided. This last day has been extremely fruitful, as 9 new working groups have been set, and 3 project applications sent to support their plans (Listen). Additionally, a major outcome from this meeting is the fact that a strong Advocacy Group took shape. During the FAO Regional Consultations with Civil Society Organisations in Bucharest, the make up of the Urgenci delegation was an immediate result of the 2nd European Meeting, and offered a perspective on the vitality of the movement in Eastern European countries.

A couple of useful links on our webiste

[Call to the Meeting](#)

[Audio Records](#)

[Map of participants](#)



“Hungry for Rights”: the first Catalyst School ended in May



“We feel there is a lot of expectations on our shoulders and this is sometimes a little bit frightening” says Sylvie, one of 17 catalysts who have just been through the Catalyst School in Pont-Sainte-Maxence, France.

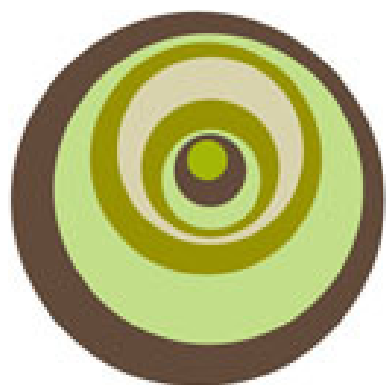
On a territory facing a whole array of economic and social challenges, including deindustrialisation and the concentration of very poor workers and long-term unemployed in specific neighborhoods, local food issues have not usually been set very high on the top priority list. However, Urgenci and their local partners have been able to identify and bring together various small-scale initiatives into a fledgling network of alternative food systems.

From January to May, for the first time ever, a comprehensive Catalyst School was offered on a voluntary basis to any one interested in learning both about local food issues and about group and project management. The training included a package of 50 hours of lessons, presentations and group works, as well as a couple of site visits. Lessons included presentations about access to land, about organic/ peasant farming, about Food Policy Councils, about pesticides, with the high-quality contribution from the well-known specialist François Veillerette, a participation to the 2nd European Meeting of CSA Movements, a couple of visits to permaculture farms.

The goal was to train local militants, volunteers, social workers, civil servants, businessmen and women into facilitating and fostering complex local food projects. One of the key results should be setting up a Local Food Council, an idea that emerged progressively among the participants. Another objective is to bring a contribution to the Peoples' Expo, a kind of alternative Expo to the Universal Exposition in Milan in 2015, which thematic is “Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life”. This is why Sylvie mentioned the “frightening expectations” weighing the catalysts' shoulders...

Yet, at least catalysts are trained to face all these objectives set within an EuropAid project called “Hungry for Rights : Global learning from local solutions in alternative food systems”.

The Catalyst School was such a success that other trainings are expected to take place in a near future.



Hungry
FOR
RIGHTS

Global issues, local solutions

Logistics' Grundtvig: after Lyon, Helsinki and Leuven, heading next for Freiburg



The third exchange organized within the Grundtvig Project «Logistics of Short Supply Chains at regional level» was organized by Voedselteam in Leuven, Belgium, 1-3 April 2014. The issue of Participatory Guarantee Systems emerged as the most debated issue and was discussed with experienced participants from France and from the IFOAM PGS committee.

The kick off meeting of the project took place in Lyon in October 2013, and the second study visit, in Finland, was held in January 2014, with 4 French, 2 German and 3 Belgian participants.

The next visit will be organised in Freiburg, Germany, 14-17 July 2014.

Download the programme on our website.



Urgenci

The International Network of Community Supported Agriculture !

URGENCI brings citizens, small farmers, consumers, activists and concerned political actors together at global level through an alternative economic approach called Local Solidarity Partnerships between Producers and Consumers.

Find more on the web (& Facebook) !
www.urgenci.net

Twitter : @urgenci1

Address : Maison de la Vie Associative 13400
Aubagne FRANCE

Phone : +33 6 87 04 49 30
Mail : contact@urgenci.net

TEIKEI 提携

Urgenci's newsletter has been named TEIKEI, «cooperation» in Japanese, as a tribute to the pioneering role of the Japanese organic agriculture movement in setting up the first Community -supported Agriculture models. It is also a tribute to the victims of the March 2011 Earthquake and Fukushima nuclear disaster, which hit Japanese so cruelly, just one year after Urgenci IVth International Symposium had been hosted in Hyogo prefecture