



I ENCONTRO NACIONAL - Porto, 29/11/2015

1st NATIONAL CSA / AMAP MEETING

Porto, PORTUGAL

DECEMBER 2015

Moving Cause

Mobilizing concrete utopias.

ORGANIZAÇÃO:



PARCEIROS:



APOIOS:



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1. INTRODUCTION

The 1st National CSA / AMAP Meeting in Portugal, on 29 November 2015, gathered roughly eighty farmers, consumers and distribution networks from throughout the country, as well as academic researchers, civil society organizations and public entities. The motto was to reinvent the relationship between consumers and producers through debate around the creation of "socially responsible, economically viable and environmentally sustainable food systems".

The main objective was to create a nationwide dynamics to promote, develop and implement the socio-economic model of AMAP in Portugal, based on a "direct partnership based on human relationship between a consumer group and one or more producers, where risks, responsibilities and rewards, inherent to agriculture, are shared by all, through a long-term commitment".

Key players of the national agriculture sector attended the meeting: the National Rural Network (part of the Ministry of Agriculture) and also several groups dedicated to food sovereignty, "Community Supported Agriculture", spearheaded by Project 270 in Pinhal Novo, Coolabora cooperative of Covilha and the Association for the Maintenance of Proximity Economy in Porto, which uses a social currency for the production, distribution and consumption of food.

There was also a panel dedicated to tools that support locally-based agro-food systems, with the presentation of PROVE - Promover e Vender, and the platform for "electronic proximity markets" (PNMEP), which will be released in March 2016 by Oikos.

To introduce the concept of AMAP, the first intervention was made by Samuel Thirion, one of the founders of URGENCI, the international network supporting community based agriculture in France, where there are already around two thousand AMAP initiatives, covering more than 300,000 consumers and producers.

The motivation for the organization of this 1st National Meeting, came with the participation of the association Moving Cause in the Solidarity Economy Congress and Transformation in Berlin, in September 2015. During this Congress, where Moving Cause was invited to participate by URGENCI, a European Charter of Principles for AMAP was collectively written. This document was reviewed by the participants of this 1st National Meeting, through a collaborative dynamics that sought to interpret it in the light of local conditions, thus laying the seeds for the creation of a national network of AMAP.

The 1st National Meeting of AMAP was organized by the association Moving Cause in partnership with the Education Department of the Serralves Park and with the support of URGENCI. The media coverage of the event was in charge of the local independent radio station Radio Manobras, which made the live broadcast during the morning and late afternoon. The meeting also counted on sponsorship from Cantinho das Aromáticas, Agrinemus and Pão Nosso.

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2. PROGRAM

08h30-09h30 | **Check-in**

09h30-09h45 | **Opening**

FIRST PANEL: AMAP INTERNACIONAL / Biblioteca do Museu

09h45-10h00 | **Presentation of the AMAP concept: What is an AMAP/CSA?**

Samuel Thirion – Founder of Urgenci

10h00-10h15 | **European Declaration and the Berlin Meeting**

Pedro Rocha – Moving Cause

10h15-10h30 | **Debate**

10h30-10h45 | **Coffee break**

SECOND PANEL: AMAP IN PORTUGAL / Biblioteca do Museu

11h00-11h15 | **How to create and manage an AMAP/CSA**

Maria Pires – AMAP Porto

Marta Pinto – AMAP Porto

11h15-11h30 | **European charter and National network-how to create one?**

Pedro Rocha – Moving Cause

11h30-12h00 | **Experience in AMAP/CSA**

ChuchuBio – Famalicão

Nuno Oliveira – Guimarães

BOA Comunidade Colaborativa – Lisboa

Projecto 270 – Pinhal Novo

AMEP – Porto

12h00-12h30 | **Debate**

THIRD PANEL/ Biblioteca do Museu

12h30-13h00 | **Presentation of PROVE – Promover e Vender**

Presentation of PNMEP - Portal Nacional de Mercados Electrónicos de Proximidade

13h00-14h00 | **LUNCH / Quinta Pedagógica de Serralves**

GROUP DYNAMICS WORLD CAFÉ / Quinta Pedagógica de Serralves

14h30-16h30 | **World Café: European Charter and AMAP Principles**

Table 1: European charter AMAP/CSA

Table 2: National Letter of Principles

Table 3: Creating a National Network

16h30-17h00 | **Coffee Break**

17h00-18h00 | **Conclusions World Café / Biblioteca do Museu**

18h00-18h30 | **Closing**

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3. 1st NATIONAL MEETING IN NUMBERS

ORGANIZATIONS

36 organizations attended the meeting:

Moving Cause	http://www.movingcause.org/
Serralves	http://www.serralves.pt/
Rádio Manobras	http://radiomanobras.pt/
Herdade do Freixo do Meio	http://www.herdadedofreixodomeio.com/
Rede Rural Nacional	http://www.rederural.pt/
BOA Colaborativa	http://boacolaborativa.org/
Quercus	http://www.quercus.pt/
Rede Cooperar	http://redecooperar.blogspot.pt/
Aveiro em Transição	https://aveiroemtransicao.wordpress.com/
Cooperativa Verdeperto	http://www.verdeperito.pt/
Amurt	http://www.amurt.pt/
Universidade do Minho	http://www.uminho.pt/en
Cooperativa Povo Portuense	http://www.povoportuense.pt/
PRIMUS	http://www.primus-dr.pt/v2/index.php
APACI	http://www.apaci.maisbarcelos.pt/
IPOL	
Saber Local	
Courela do Zambujeiro	http://www.coureladozambujeiro.pt/
CASAS	

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OIKOS	http://www.oikos.pt/
Sociedade Agrícola Moura & Ramos, Lda.	
Semente de Futuro	http://sementedefuturo.weebly.com/
Ader-Sousa	http://www.adersousa.pt/
Agrinemus	https://www.facebook.com/agrinemus.produtosbiologicos
Cantinho das Aromáticas	http://www.cantinhodasaromaticas.pt/
Canteiro da Carvalhosa	https://www.facebook.com/canteirodacarvalhosa/?fref=ts
Green Pirates & Princesses	http://greenpiratesprince.wix.com/site
ChuchuBio	http://www.chuchubio.com/
BioAgro	http://boasafra.pt/bioagro/
Quinta de Silves	http://silvesquinta.wix.com/quintasilves
PROVE	http://www.prove.com.pt/
Campo Aberto	http://www.campoaberto.pt/
Sachar	https://sachar.pt/
Projecto 270	http://projecto270.net/
Universidade Nova de Lisboa	http://www.unl.pt/en/
Cidade +	http://cidademais.pt/wp/

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PARTICIPANTS

- 83 people attended the meeting
- 46,5% men
- 53,5% women
- 15 producers
- 20 consumers (consumers not connected to any participant organization)
- 7 organizations of local consumer / producer
- About 8 municipalities of Portugal were represented

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SPEAKERS

Samuel Thirion (Urgenci)

Agronomist, founder and first president of the International URGENCI Network.

The URGENCI International Network, was launched in 2003-2004 in France and Portugal and officially created in 2006, brings together local and solidarity partnership between producers and consumers around the world (Teikei in Japan, CSA in English-speaking countries, AMAP in France, etc.) . Their vocation is to disseminate this concept and values in the countries where it does not yet exist, to recognize their capital gains and get political support and insert the movement in a global project of local food sovereignty and of new relations between city and farming fields .

Pedro Rocha (Moving Cause)

Graduate from the University of South Wales in the UK in Environmental Science and Pollution.

Since 2005 he devoted himself to organic farming with the foundation of the Raizes Project, as well as the development of AMAP concept as a new form of relationship between producer and consumer.

Maria Pires (AMAP Porto) and Marta Pinto (AMAP Porto)

As consumers of the first AMAP in Porto, Maria and Marta shared their view about the process of creating an AMAP group and the most relevant aspects of the concept for the consumer.

Olivia Silva (ChuChuBio)

Olivia has her production in Famalicão. For 2 years, ChuchuBio seeks to develop all their farming activity into the AMAP concept. At the moment they have two consumers group and will be working with a third one, hoping to achieve in the next year the possibility to work 100% with the CSA concept.

Nuno Oliveira (Quinta de Guimarães)

Farmer at the center of Guimarães City, with 2 hectare, Nuno distributes its products as far as his handcar goes. The strategy of this farmer was to join forces with two other farmers and to go for the mouth to mouth publicity. In Guimarães the focus is on the people that are as close as possible to the farm.

Ana Cunha (BOA Comunidade Colaborativa)

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The AMAP concept in Lisboa, appeared a Cooperative structure. Still facing some difficulties to activate consumers, but their experience shows that the CSA concept is reaching also the capital.

Rute Solipa (Projecto 270)

Projecto 270 was created in the south bank of Lisboa (Pinhal Novo) for many years now: As farmers they found finally that CSA concept suits their interests best. There is still a long way to go, but acting in one of the most populated areas in the country they can play an important role in promoting CSA in Portugal

Alfredo Sendim (Herdade do Freixo do Meio)

Being at Montemor-o-Novo, Alfredo has dedicated 25 years of his life to organic farming and today he is a reference in this area. His intervention is particularly important to CSA movement, because Alfredo tried many other strategies but today sees in the CSA the best option. His most noticed sentence was: "Here we are committed since 25 years. Who wants to commit with us?"

Sara Moreira (Moving Cause)

Co-founder of Moving Cause and one of the starters of the first AMEP in Portugal - a CSA-like local food exchange group in Porto where consumers and producers become "prosumers" and use a social currency for their exchanges.

MEDIA COVERAGE

BEFORE THE EVENT

- PEDRO ROCHA: "AMAP, UM NOVO MODELO QUE COMPROVA QUE EXISTEM ALTERNATIVAS" / GreenSavers (<http://greensavers.sapo.pt/2015/11/04/pedro-rocha-amap-um-novo-modelo-que-comprova-que-existem-alternativas/>)
- Rede Rural Nacional (<http://www.rederural.pt/index.php/pt/noticias/79-destaques/1756-amap-1-encontro-nacional>)
- Campo Aberto (<http://www.campoaberto.pt/?p=1711561>)
- SocioEco.org (<http://www.socioeco.org/spip.php?article303>)

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- Cantinho das Aromáticas
(<http://cantinhodasaromaticas.blogspot.pt/2015/11/1-encontro-nacional-das-associacoes.html>)
- Projecto 270
(<http://projecto270.net/?p=1774>)

DURING THE EVENT

- Rádio Manobras - Live coverage and the launch of a weekly radio show on community supported agriculture
(<http://radiomanobras.pt/ouve/programas/o-som-e-a-enxada/>)

AFTER THE EVENT

- Quando o agricultor e o consumidor se tratam por tu / Jornalissimo (06/12/2015)
(<http://www.jornalissimo.com/ambiente/451-quando-o-agricultor-e-o-consumidor-se-tratam-por-tu>)

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4. KEY FINDINGS

European Declaration of AMAP / CSA

Portuguese proposals for amendments to the EU Declaration

The portuguese proposal for amendment to the European Declaration, came out from a “World Cafe” process, since the objective was to ensure the participation of all, through an efficient way. The European Declaration was divided in three working groups: Preamble, Principles and “Build, Develop and Capacitate”.

The main conclusions are as follows.

Preamble

1 - Change the sentence: “All over Europe, people are coming together to regain control of their food,...” by “All over Europe, people are **becoming aware that it's important** regain control of their food, ...”

This gives a different perspective of the importance of keep on raising awareness, since most of the people are still following a standard pattern on their relation with the food and how it is produced

2 - The concept of “Agroecology” must be part of the Preamble, since it is an important key factor for the CSA movement.

3 - Change the sentence: “... to create food systems that are socially responsible...” by: “... to create food systems that are socially responsible, **economically viable and environmentally sustainable, respecting agroecology principles.**”

Principles

1 - Proximity as a principle. A product from a location of 100 km of distance can only be available sometimes, but still be considered local.

2 - The educational and social responsibility, towards its own local community, as a principle to be introduced. For example: include working with schools, local authorities and associations

3 - Change the sentence: “Active participation...” to “Active **local** participation...”.

Creating a National CSA Network and Writing the National Charter

As this was the 1st National CSA meeting it was also useful to analyze two more themes: the creation of a National CPA network and a national CSA charter.

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The main conclusions are presented as follow.

National Charter

- The portuguese charter must be based and inspired in the best CSA example in Europe and in agreement with the Berlin European Declaration.
- The charter shall contain wide principles but very clear ones, with no ambition to include all.
- The founding charter shall be seen as a reference document that will be developed and adapted as long as the CSA movement in Portugal grow.
- The charter must be simple and around some CSA defined key ideias.
- The portuguese charter shall be written around three topics:
 - 1) Production:
 - respecting the Agroecology principles
 - small scale production, where the decision-making processes are defined locally and by those who are involved in production
 - local economy must be favored, to ensure the shortest possible distance between the producer and consumer and with the lowest carbon footprint as possible
 - the participative control of production shall be favored (which means that a non-organic certified producer, can work with a CSA group as long as it's willing to work with the community or consumers to control its methods of production)
 - 2) Relationship:
 - CSA represents a Social and Cooperative economy where food can not be seen as simple commodity
 - the relationship between producer and consumer is based on a compromise about shared risk and responsibilities. Should be promoted the relation where the consumer invests in the producer work and the producer insures that the benefits will be shared with the consumer.
 - due to portuguese organic farming reality it was discussed the possibility of each farmer fall back on other farmer's products as long as it's a transparent process and only when the farm has no conditions of production of his own
 - 3) Pro-Action:
 - A CSA group must assume a social responsibility, supporting educational activities, informing and educating local community assuming a role of creating a local critical mass acting to influence local and national policy as to promoting the growth of the movement and CSA concept

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National CSA Network

- There was a general understanding that a specific meeting shall be organized to deal with the idea of creating a National CSA Network.
- This meeting will be happening at the beginning of 2016 in Odemira.

As a conclusion and the “next step” to the CSA national movement, the organization of this event is managing a meeting, at the beginning of 2016, in Odemira to:

- Analysis of the conclusions of the World Cafe on the Establishment of the National Network of AMAPs
- Definition of the strategy and tasks for creating the National Network
- Appointment of the next meeting of the working group

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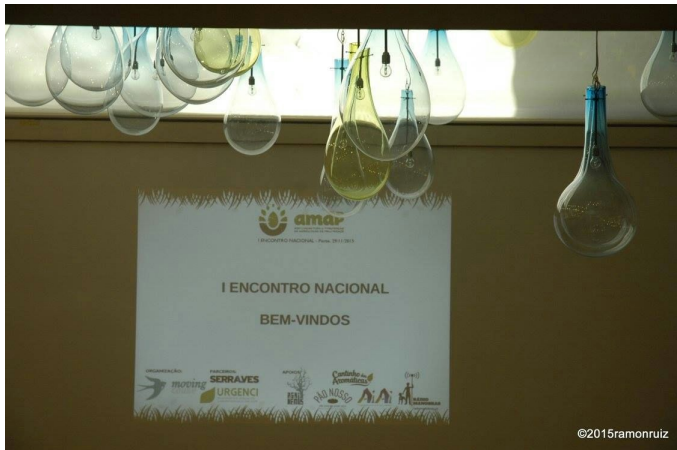


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5. KEY IMAGES

Photography by Ramon Ruiz. Full álbum: <http://tinyurl.com/amap-pt-fotos>



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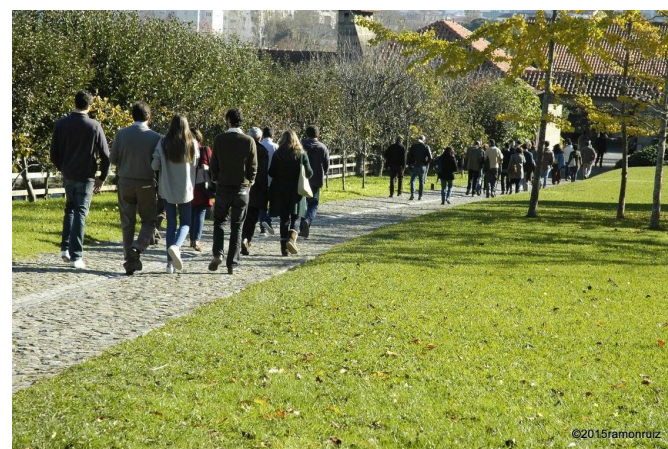


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