PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN LOCAL PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS

In France the <u>Association for maintaining sustainable</u> <u>agriculture AMAP</u> is more and more spreading its practices of local solidarity-based partnership between producers and consumers.

AMAP are solidarity-based contracts under which consumers buy a part of the seasonal crop in advance and at a price they agree upon with the farmers. This way the running costs of the farm (seeds, fertilizers, water, maintenance of equipment, employees) are covered and farmers don't have to get into debts. The result is that consumers can have local high-quality products at low prices. At the same time, they are committing themselves with the support to producers, recognizing the natural risks agricultural activity entails.

The first AMAP was established in 2001 between a farm and a consumers' group of Aubagne (Provence). Nowadays there are more than 750 AMAP in various regions of France, and they benefit thousands of families. The movement is organized at interregional level, for facilitating the exchange of experiences, the education of AMAP promoters, the representation of the movement with regional and national institutions.

This strategy of commercial short-chain has been developed in a lot of other Countries in the world. In 2005 AMAP promoted the <u>international network Urgenci</u>, for supporting these new forms of farmers-consumers partnerships with all the interested actors with the support of already ongoing experiences. Nowadays these models of valorization of sustainable agriculture are working in Japan, England, Portugal, United States, Australia, Denmark, Netherlands, Germany, Hungary, Romania, New Zealand. All these initiatives want to sustain the development of sustainable farms for accessing high-quality, healthy, nutritious, local products.



How to create an AMAP

AMAP Aquitaine - France

AMAP IIe de France

ASAT - Romania







GASAP - Belgium

Transition Network - UK

Farm Garden - UK

Community Supported Agriculture in United States

CSA in New York

CSA in California

Agriculture de Proximité - Suisse

FRACP, Fédération Romande

Equiterre -Quebéc

Rete GAS - Italy

AMAP in youtube

Teikei system in Japan

