

INNOVATING ADAPTATION THROUGH AGROECOLOGY

Centro Sabiá

Brasil

Founded in 1993 in the north-eastern dryland region of Brazil, Centro Sabiá is an educational centre that promotes sustainable local development through agroecological family-scale agriculture. The centre places an emphasis on agroforestry to help mitigate against the long droughts, and high poverty levels in the area. Centro Sabiá also promotes locally relevant, simple, and inexpensive social and technical innovations that enhance economic autonomy, women's empowerment, and communities' political participation.



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AGROECOLOGICAL PRACTICES

- Developing agroecological systems in rural communities, with a focus on women and youth.
- Using herbal veterinary medicine.
- Diversifying land parcels, and agropastoral systems.
- Restoring soil and landscapes.
- Harvesting rainwater for human consumption and food production.
- Promoting agroforestry as a source of income and food.
- Rescuing, storing and managing knowledge of native dryland seeds.
- Contributing to political change by engaging communities in advocacy networks, and other civil society organisations.

IMPACTS

- Improved food sovereignty, food security, and equitable food access in agropastoral communities.
- Increased food production.
- Strengthened agroecological systems, contributing to climate change mitigation, and adaptation services at the local level. Socially-powered, local agroecological markets.
- Public programmes established to buy food from agroecological farmers, ensuring their income and supporting their work.
- Empowerment of women and young people, and increased awareness of their rights.

PERSPECTIVES

Centro Sabiá aims to design more innovative, and resilient, agroecosystem to respond to accelerated climate change. Their goal is to achieve greater public investments in policies and programmes that promote family farming. Our long-term objective is therefore to overcome the dominant economic development paradigm towards a culture based on the concept of 'good living' (buen vivir).