

INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON RELEVANT TERRITORIES FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS ORGANIZED IN PORTUGAL

By Kim Assaël

The *International Forum on Relevant Territories for Sustainable Food Systems* will take place between July 17 and 21, 2019, in the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, promoter of the first Bio-região in Portugal.

The Forum is organized with the support of FAO in the framework of the Food and Nutritional Security Strategy of the CPLP Community of Portuguese-speaking countries, the Decade of Family Agriculture, the Decade of Nutrition and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The event is coordinated by an organizing group, composed of the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, Portuguese Ministry of Agriculture, the International Network of Eco-regions-IN.N.E.R, the CPLP Community of Portuguese-speaking countries and its executive secretariat, in a way to coherently articulate different actors and their knowledge, initiatives and policies in course at local, national and international level, with the aim to promote sustainable food systems and diets.

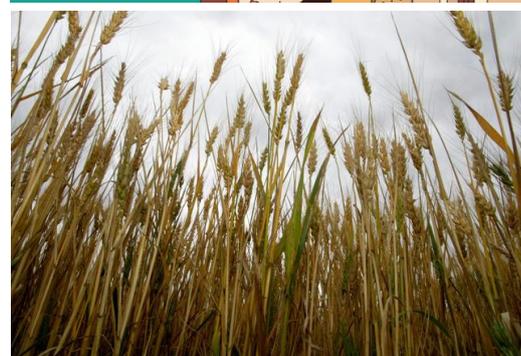
The initiative also emerges as an opportunity to coherently articulate diverse actors for cooperation initiatives between communities of Northern and Southern countries promoting the transition to sustainable food systems, starting from the CPLP territories. Discussions will be focused on active production methods of sustainable territorial food systems that promote biodiversity, traditional knowledge, healthy diets, short marketing channels and the circular economy.

The Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Graziano da Silva, will inaugurate the FISAS International seminar and the Raiana Fair, which will also take place in Idanha-a-Nova.

Italian and foreign Bio-districts and representatives of initiatives that are developing their innovative methodological approach will contribute to the event organized in Idanha-a-Nova, a land where tradition, history, culture, and natural heritage are also inputs for creativity and innovation.

The International Forum includes the following initiatives:

- *World Forum on Rural Innovation*: there will be presented and discussed good territorial practices in the context of public policies. These practices will focus on accessibility to natural resources, methods of production, organization and access to markets, measures to combat rural depopulation, as well as



the development of the food heritage of Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, São Tomé and Príncipe and Portugal.

- *International Seminar on Important World Agricultural Heritage Systems and the SDGs: Pathways to Cooperation:* the International Seminar will contribute to a greater understanding of the relationship between the dynamic protection of SIPAM (Important Systems of World Agricultural Heritage Systems), and the SDGs and to establish partnerships with other initiatives based on innovative promoter committees that realize and manage broad territorial pacts as those signed by a Bio-districts.
- *World Congress of Bio-districts and Eco-regions:* the innovative approach of Bio-districts, as an integrated territorial governance, will be discussed, deepened and shared with other international partner networks as a strategic pathway capable to adopt multi-dimension approach on the issues of productivity and product diversification, environment, economy, health and nutrition, in order to meet the challenges of the 2030 UN Agenda.
- *Workshop on Local Public Policies for Food Sustainability:* the possible integration of SIPAMs' dynamic preservation plans and pacts for the implementation of Bio-districts into local public policies will be assessed.

The common denominator of these initiatives of the Forum is to build a coordinated approach of territorial integrated and sustainable development for the implementation of Bio-districts within public policies, promoting sustainable food systems and diets as key elements for an agroecological metamorphosis, that is more urgent as the impacts of climate change, which affect the whole world, are accentuated.

To know more

[Article in dn.pt](#)

[Article in diariodigitalcastelobranco.pt](#)

[Feiraraiana.idanha.pt](#)

[Municipality Idanha-a-Nova](#)

[Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems](#)

[CPLP Nutrition and Food security Council](#)

[Associação para a Cooperação e o Desenvolvimento \(ACTUAR\)](#)

[Rede Rural Nacional](#)

[Direcao Geral de Agricultura e Desenvolvimento Rural](#)

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