DECENT WORK AND GENDER QUALITY

THE COOPERATIVE OF ‘CAPUCHINHAS’ OF SERRA DO MONTEMURO

International Conference
Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals: What Role for Social and Solidarity Economy?

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SERRA DO MONTEMURO
NORTHERN PORTUGAL
The 'Capuchinhas' cooperative operates in an old school building in the village of Campo Benfeito. The village of Campo Benfeito, within the Montemuro mountain region, has today 51 inhabitants of which 14 are children and young people. The four women who constitute the 'Capuchinhas' are the mothers of 5 of these newest inhabitants.
In the early 1980s:

We wanted to be independent, able to govern ourselves, make decisions with autonomy and freedom. For us it was very important to break with some things of the past, but without having to renounce to the village of Campo Benfeito.
THEY ARE THE ‘CAPUCHINHAS’

Isabel

Ester

Henriqueta

Engrácia

Ofélia
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All women’s work is productive work
The inner economic plurality of European societies and what richness it represents to think the present and prepare the future
Women are always social actors, creative subjectivities, and are ready to a full recognition of their historical and economical role in a fair and sustainable society.
There is no social and solidarity economy as a sustainable future without cognitive justice and gender justice. Narratives of women are critical.
Social transformation needs to be anchored in the expectations and desires of the populations and account for a strong cultural traction.
Based upon ancestral and new knowledge the circular economy is fundamental to think sustainability in all its facets.

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In our present monetary system social and solidarity economies need to combine social transformation with economic allowance.
Sustainability and the rise of decent work for all and gender equality have to incorporate another economy of time and desire.
Having a job, a payed job is not enough to liberate women of many other responsibilities. Gender equality needs much deeper and continuous changes.
Social and solidarity economy must be concerned with concrete gender equality in all spheres of life respecting cultural imagination of what is emancipation.
Trust and commitment are two main characteristics of decent work and just labour relationships.
The norms and the national and international juridical apparatus must recognize and clearly protect forms of economic production and commercialization which are not based in accumulation and profit.
It is clear that one of the constraints is the possibility to scale-up of these practices and experiences.
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Thank you

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