

In Brazil, the beginning of the 90s was characterized by a vast mobilization of civil society. The Movement for Ethics in Politics launched the Campaign against Hunger, led by the sociologist Herbert de Souza – also known as Betinho – which resulted in a proliferation of citizen interventions in the whole country. As an offshoot of this initiative COEP – the Committee of Entities in the Fight against Hunger and for Life – was created in 1993, with the objective of mobilizing organizations in projects for the fight against hunger and poverty.

With the creation of Committees in states and municipalities between 1996 and 2003 and the resulting decentralization of COEP, the number of members gradually increased and became more diversified, making up a Network of Organizations, and the initiatives targeted as a priority urban and rural low-income communities in the whole country.

In 2004, as the Communities Network was created, a People/Mobilizers Network was launched, in which the participants, through an Internet site, have access to information and knowledge about various themes in the social area. Today, the association of these three networks forms the National Social Mobilization Network, comprising more than 1000 organizations (Organizations Network), 11000 people (Mobilizers Network) and 110 communities (Communities Network).

Technology has been fundamental to the construction and consolidation of the National Network. COEP has used electronic technology in the execution of its development initiatives, and has created a variety of innovative and

sophisticated tools which use the Internet to mobilize people and promote active citizenship. Examples include: COEP Collection on Citizenship in Network; Projects Database – Mobilization; Media and Information System – SIME; COEP TV; COEP Journey for Citizenship; and the Internet sites Organizations, People and Communities Network.

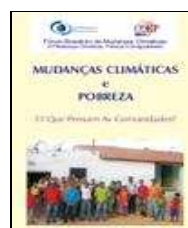
In addition, the need to strengthen the integration of the National Network led to the establishment of various mobilization cycles, among which the development of initiatives focused on the Zero Hunger Program and, subsequently, on the Eight Millennium Development Goals. These themes were selected on the basis of their agreement with the original COEP objective: the fight against hunger and poverty and the promotion of citizenship.

Currently, the thread connecting the Network's initiatives is the "Climate Change and Poverty" theme. Although there is agreement that the population groups in an underprivileged socio-economic situation are most severely exposed to the impacts of extreme climatic events, this issue is still little taken into consideration in the discussions in Brazil as well as in the rest of the world.

Our objective is to bring this theme to the center of the debates and to contribute to the enhancement of the communities' capacity to construct an agenda of initiatives aimed at the prevention of and adaptation to the effects of climate change, as well as to strengthen their leading role in the dialogue with governments with a view to the formulation of public policies.



Get to know the history of the COEP Network
Visit www.coeptbrasil.org.br and be part of the memory of social mobilization in Brazil



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What the communities think?
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APOIO:  **FURNAS**
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COEP Portal



Mobilizers Portal



Communities Portal



Projects Database - Mobilization



SIME – Media and Education System



COEP TV



COEP Journey for Citizenship



COEP Citizenship in Network Collection



Organizations Network - www.coeptbrasil.org.br

Portal to several systems and tools developed by COEP on its road towards the mobilization of organizations in favor of human and social development initiatives.

It provides publications, news, interviews, texts and articles, events, highlights. It is also a space for the exchange of information with the COEP in the states and municipalities and for social mobilization in collective citizenship promotion initiatives.

People Network - www.mobilizadores.org.br

Launched at the end of 2003, the Network is currently made up of more than 11000 people, in Brazil and abroad, committed to social issues. The mobilizers interact through the site that offers sets of themes about different topics in the socio-environmental area. In these groups it is possible to have access to updated information, consult reference texts, get to know social initiatives, articulate joint and voluntariness promotion actions, share ideas, experiences and knowledge through discussion forums, chats, on-line training and surveys.

Communities Network -

www.comunidadescoep.org.br/website/web

Internet space, created in 2006, to represent the virtual basis of the communities that participate in the Network. It is a meeting and interaction point for members of these areas, offering an inheritance to be built in collaboration in the course of time, with regard to history, culture, manifestation and conquests. Among the tools available are: blogs, photologs, video archives, distance education tools, chat rooms and e-mail.

www.coeptbrasil.org.br/mobilizacao

The Database, launched in 2001, registers, systematizes and offers, through the Internet, initiatives in the social area in various areas of intervention, such as: work and income generation, local development, the cooperative movement, the environment and many other areas of interest in the socio-environmental field. There are currently more than 2,300 projects registered, making up an important source for consultation. The Bank is open to any entity or person interested to share their experiences in the field of human and social development.

www.coeptbrasil.org.br/comunidadescoep/sime

Launched in 2007, SIME was developed to support the training process in low-income communities. It has an easily searchable graphic interface that simulates existing elements in the communities, thus creating an identity with the users.

On the basis of regular surveys of community demands, a selection is made of themes to be developed, such as health, the cooperative movement, mobilization, among many others.

www.coeptbrasil.org.br/coeptve

Offers, through videos in the Internet, informative, citizen education and social mobilization actions about a variety of themes in the social area. Created in 2005, it disseminates initiatives developed by COEP and by other institutions, in addition to interviews with specialists, dealing with topics of interest for the Network.

www.coeptbrasil.org.br/jornada

Launched in 2007, the Journey is an Internet-based innovative social mobilization initiative. People organize themselves using a system in the Internet to implement different activities, built around an aggregative theme. Actions are developed mainly in poor communities.

www.coeptbrasil.org.br/cidadania_em_rede

The aim of the collection, created in 2008, is the cooperative construction of knowledge, the exchange of information and the creation of archives. On the basis of a printed publication, a web version is developed, an open-ended undertaking, in permanent construction in the Internet.

- Volume 1. *From the Streets to the Networks* - a history of 15 years of social mobilization in the fight against hunger and poverty in Brazil.

- Volume 2. *Semi-arid Communities Program* - shows the intervention of COEP in building roads to citizenship in the north-east of Brazil.