

Seminar:

"ICT and rural areas: building the knowledge society at grassroots level"

THE 'PROVE' PROJECT - PROMOTE AND SELL



Brussels 10th February 2011



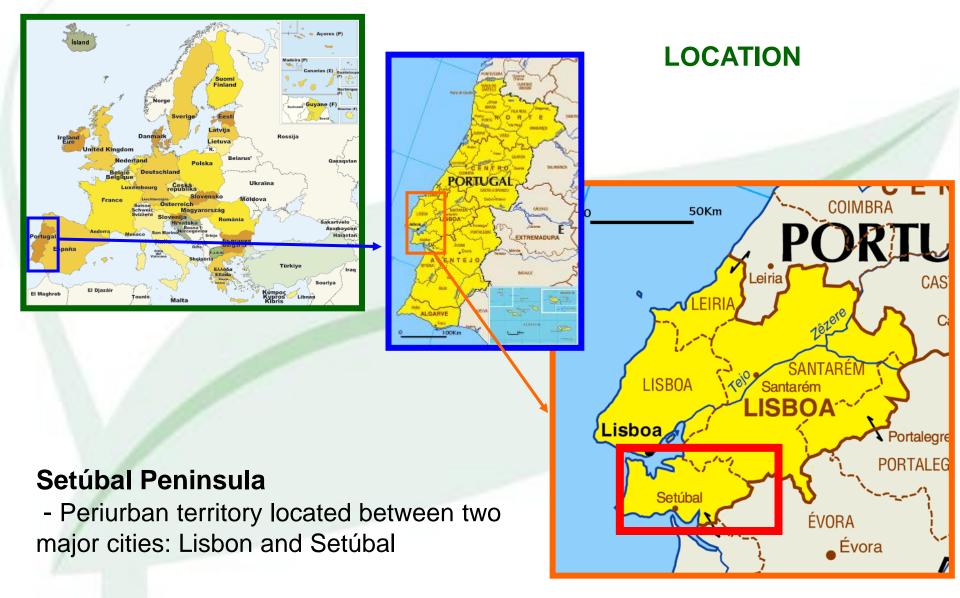


"We all know how to grow the produce. What is more difficult is to sell what we produce."

Maria Simões
PROVE producer











Problem

In 2004 ...

Producers are unable to find outlets to sell what they produce ⇒ Abandonment of agricultural land

Increased property speculation ⇒ Rapid and uncoordinated urbanisation ⇒ De-characterisation of the territory

SOLUTION

Solution: Proximity commercialisation

Commercialisation of the produce:

- directly from the producers to the consumers;
- in the form of a basket containing seasonal fruit and vegetables.







In 2006 ...

PROVE basket

Containing seasonal horticultural produce



Weight: 7-8 kg

Price: €9/€10/€11

Organised by 3 to 5 producers

Weekly deliveries: Friday & Saturday





Benefits of the PROVE Methodology

For the **producers**

- Job creation
- Immediate and fair payment for their horticultural produce
- Alternative outlet for their horticultural produce
- Recognition of agricultural work by consumers

For the **consumers** - acquire quality products and have the opportunity for direct contact with the producers.









Benefits of the PROVE Methodology

For the **territory**

- Maintenance of agriculture
- Job creation
- Development of the local economy
- Social and environmental sustainability
- Rural-urban approximation
- Stimulation of an entrepreneurial spirit
- Preservation of the landscape











PROBLEM 1: The consumer/producer dichotomy

CONSUMERS

- •Have secondary or higher education.
- •Are civil servants or company employees.
- •Appreciate having contact with the producers.
- Are advanced users of Internet and ICT.
- Value quality products.
- •Wish to buy new products.



PRODUCERS

- •Have low level of education.
- Are farmers.
- •Have difficulty contacting consumers.
- •Have difficulties using ICT and the Internet.
- •Are holders of know-how related to the production and confection of agricultural products.

SOLUTION

1- PROVIDE TRAINING FOR FARMERS

2 – CREATE A WEBSITE TO FACILITATE CONTACT BETWEEN PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS



PROBLEM 1: The consumer/producer dichotomy

> Website <u>www.prove.com.pt</u>



Ministério da

Agricultura, do Desenvolvimento Rural e das Pescas Fundo Europeu Agrícola

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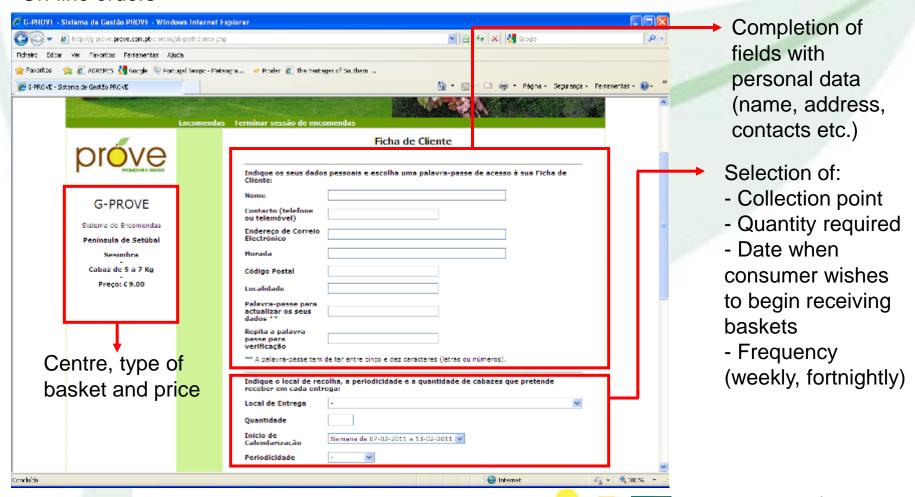






PROBLEM 1: The consumer/producer dichotomy

On-line orders



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Drove Contribution of ICT in implementing PROVE **PROBLEM 2: Management of Orders**

How to manage orders, plan deliveries and divide the profits in a way that is transparent, fast and acceptable to all producers?

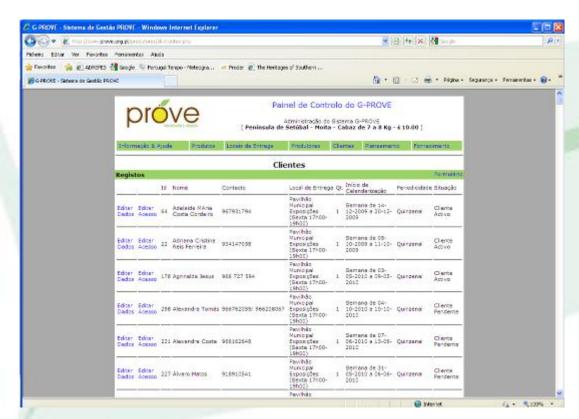
SOLUTION

CREATION OF "G-PROVE" LOGISTICS SOFTWARE





VC Contribution of ICT in implementing PROVE PROBLEM 2: Management of Orders



Logistics management software that allows the centre to automatically:

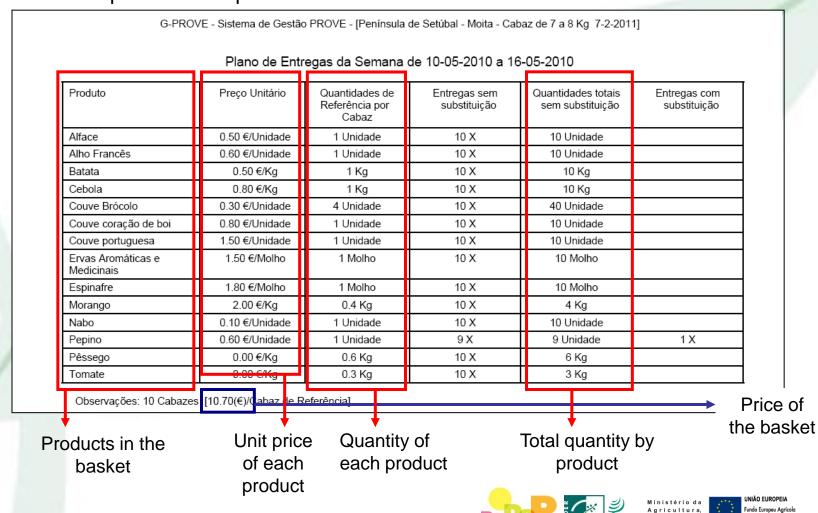
- receive orders and client data.
- calculate quantities of products per producer required to make up the baskets.
- plan the basket and see if it makes a profit or loss.
- calculate the income for each producer.
- print reports in PDF format which can be used in the field.





Contribution of ICT in implementing PROVE PROBLEM 2: Management of Orders

> Example of PDF report



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DIOVE Contribution of ICT in implementing PROVE **PROBLEM 3: Communication and Promotion**

How to promote in a way that is environmentally friendly, low cost and appropriate to the lifestyle of the consumers?

SOLUTION

PROVE WEBSITE AND SOCIAL NETWORKS





DIOVE Contribution of ICT in implementing PROVE **PROBLEM 3: Communication and Promotion**

> Website <u>www.prove.com.pt</u>



News section and Newsletter

Information about the project with access to educational material: brochure, videos and promotional material







DIOVE Contribution of ICT in implementing PROVE **PROBLEM 3: Communication and Promotion**

> Facebook page <u>www.facebook.com/projectoprove</u>









PROVE today

Motivation

To respond to requests for setting up PROVE centres in new areas.

To evolve the concept of "PROVE" Proximity Commercialisation.

Diversification of activities – to offer products and services as educational, cultural and tourist activities – new sources of income for the farmer.

Some figures:

22 centres established

60 producers

900 consumers

6.5 tons of horticultural products commercialised every week

€ 8200 income per week

€ 560 monthly income per farmer









Thank you for your attention

Contacts

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