

BELO HORIZONTE

Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Impact: the Public Bank for Native and Agroecological Seeds promotes the productive inclusion of urban farmers, family farmers and traditional communities. By guaranteeing access to locally adapted seeds, it strengthens the food security of the farmers themselves and local communities, fostering food culture, diversifying crops and reducing vulnerabilities. The training of seed guardians creates cooperation networks that value cultural identities, revive traditional consumption habits and restore community self-esteem. • Environmental Impact: the initiative combats the loss of biodiversity by replacing transgenic seeds with traditional varieties, reducing the need for fertilizers and pesticides and protecting local ecosystems. The agroecological practices encouraged - such as agricultural consortia and green manure - recover degraded soils in urban and peri-urban areas, in addition to optimizing water use. • Economic Impact: The sale of typical, diverse and nutritious foods generates additional income, with added value due to agroecological quality. The project also encourages short marketing circuits.
Inclusion	<p>The initiative integrates various dimensions of sustainable development. In the productive sphere, it promotes urban agroecological systems with vegetable varieties adapted to local climate conditions, increasing resilience and reducing the need for external inputs. It also conserves agrobiodiversity by combining <i>ex situ</i> methods, such as seed banks, with on-farm practices, preserving traditional varieties at risk of disappearing.</p> <p>One of its pillars is education, with ongoing training for guardian farmers, technicians, and communities, addressing management techniques and the sociocultural and nutritional importance of Creole seeds. This strengthens regional food security by expanding access to diverse and nutritious foods.</p> <p>The project's strength lies in its collaborative network, involving municipal departments (notably Food Security and Environment), institutions such as EMBRAPA, EPAMIG, universities, and civil society, especially the Horizontes Agroecológicos Association. Urban farmers are the main protagonists, with special recognition of the role of women seed guardians.</p> <p>With a collaborative structure and economic feasibility, the project is replicable in other regions, especially in urban and peri-urban contexts. Its key difference is the innovative articulation of public policies, traditional knowledge, and scientific research, creating a management model adaptable to different territorial realities.</p>