

Survey for CSA organizers



Welcome to the first worldwide census on Community-supported Agriculture!

To all CSAs wherever you are across the globe...

Farmers, members and researchers from 40 different countries have joined forces to launch the first worldwide survey on Community Supported Agriculture. The aim of the survey is to collect and analyse data which can then be used to **support the growing global CSA movement** by:

- Producing **global metrics** on this amazing movement for change
- **Mapping the diversity** of CSA across the globe
- **Identifying** the common characteristics they share

This survey is being sent to as many CSAs as possible across the globe through URGENCI's worldwide network of CSAs and CSA networks.

The CSA movement is increasingly recognised as a model that can help fix the broken food system and support a global transition to agroecology. To build CSA, we need to understand it. We must also know ourselves, our strengths, our weaknesses, and have data to support our case.

To learn from and inspire each other, to continue to grow and to give a coherent, well-informed picture of our movement to other actors and institutions, we need this research. Your experience is precious. Please take 15 to 20 minutes to fill in this questionnaire on your CSA.

Please note: We recognize that there are **a wide variety of CSA models across the globe**. In the UK and North America, for example, most CSAs are single farm. They may buy-in produce occasionally from other farms, but most of the produce shared with members is produced on one farm. However, in other countries, like France, the most common model is where several complementary farms produce food for a single CSA group (what we call "multi-farm CSA").

Important Notice:

All answers and personal information will be **kept confidential** in the research outputs. Towards the end of the survey, you will be given the possibility to share your contact details. You can choose not to share them. In case you do choose

to give us your contact details, you then agree that they might be used by URGENCI's CSA Research Group for further research purposes only. These data will be stored on password-secured computers. Your personal information will not in any case be made public nor used for any other purpose.

There are 43 questions in this survey.

I - Respondent's Identity

1 What is your role in your CSA ? *

Please choose **all** that apply:

CSA group organizer / coordinator / administrator

CSA producer / farmer / grower

Other:

2 Did your CSA participate in the European Census in 2015 ? *

Please choose **only one** of the following:

Yes

No

I don't know

II - CSA Identity

3 What is the name of your CSA ? *

Please write your answer here:

Please feel free to share the website address, if there is one.

4 What best describes your CSA? *

❗ Choose one of the following answers

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Single farm
- Multi-farm
- Something else
- I don't know

Make a comment on your choice here:

5

Please name the farm(s) from which your CSA receives products.

Only answer this question if the following conditions are met:

Answer was 'Multi-farm' or 'Something else' at question ' [CSAType]' (What best describes your CSA?)

6 In which country is your CSA located? *

Please write your answer here:

7

What is the postcode and the location of your CSA ?

*

Please write your answer here:

For example: 14111 LOUVIGNY

8

In what type of area are most of the CSA members located?

*

❗ Choose one of the following answers

Please choose **only one** of the following:

rural area

suburban area

urban

not sure

Other

9 In what year was your CSA established? *

❗ Only an integer value may be entered in this field.

Please write your answer here:

10

Who originally came up with the idea to start your CSA?

*

Please choose **only one** of the following:

Producer(s)

Community member(s)

Both

Other

11 What is the legal status of your CSA?

📌 Check all that apply

Please choose **all** that apply:

Non-profit association

Cooperative

Informal group

Foundation

Registered business

Other:

12 How many shares are distributed through the CSA?

Please write your answer here:

Count all types of shares regardless of size. Please indicate a number only. Enter the exact number or an approximation, or "0" if you don't know at all.

13 How many people does your CSA feed (estimate) ? *

Please write your answer here:

For example, if there are 24 shares in your CSA and the average household is 3 people, then you could report 72 people.

Please indicate a number only. Enter the exact number or an approximation, or "0" if you don't know at all.

III - Production

14 What products are available through your CSA? *

Please choose **all** that apply:

- Fruits
- Vegetables
- Meat
- Dairy
- Eggs
- Bread
- Honey
- Herbs
- Oil
- Fish

Other:

Please select all applicable entries.

15

How many farms are part of your CSA?

Only answer this question if the following conditions are met:

Answer was 'I don't know' or 'Something else' or 'Multi-farm' at question ' [CSAType]'
(What best describes your CSA?)

❗ Choose one of the following answers

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- More than 10

Please report only the farms with a direct connection to the CSA members. Buy-in farms not included.

Select 1 if you are a single farm CSA.

16

Among the farms producing for your CSA, how many are managed by women?

Please write your answer here:

If there is only one farm producing for your CSA, that is managed by a woman, you can write 1. If you don't know the answer, please simply move on to the next question.

17

Is the CSA farm certified under any of the following schemes ?

Only answer this question if the following conditions are met:

Answer was 'Single farm' at question ' [CSAType]' (What best describes your CSA?)

🗳️ Check all that apply

Please choose **all** that apply:

- Certified organic
- Certified biodynamic
- Participatory Guarantee System
- None of them

Other:

18

Are the CSA farms in your partnership certified under any of the following schemes?

*

Only answer this question if the following conditions are met:

Answer was 'Multi-farm' or 'Something else' or 'I don't know' at question ' [CSAType]' (What best describes your CSA?)

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

	Organic	Biodynamic	Participatory Guarantee Systems
All of the farms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Some of the farms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
None of the farms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I don't know	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

19 What are the guiding principles for your CSA? *

❗ Check all that apply

Please choose **all** that apply:

- Organic
- Biodynamic
- Permaculture
- Regenerative
- Agroecological
- Not sure

Other:

20

Do the grower(s) / farmer(s) in your CSA use any of the techniques listed below?

🗳️ Check all that apply

Please choose **all** that apply:

- Minimum tillage
- No dig / no till
- Cover crops / green manures / legume-rich leys
- Agroforestry
- Minimising compaction
- Own compost
- Peat-free compost
- Reusable or degradable / natural mulches
- Non-chemical weed control
- Non-chemical (biological) pest management
- Disease resistant crop varieties
- Sustainable water use
- Water storage
- Seed saving
- Buying from small-scale ethical seed company
- Prohibiting Genetically Modified Organisms
- None of these
- There is no vegetable grower in our CSA

IV - Distribution

21 How does your CSA manage the distribution of its produce? *

Please choose **all** that apply:

- Delivery at a fixed time when members pick up their shares
- Delivery to a drop-off point where members can collect their shares any time
- Home delivery
- Members collect from farm (share pre-packed)
- Members collect from farm (share packed by each member themselves)
- Self-harvesting
- Delivery to workplace, institution, or community site
- Other:

Please select all applicable entries.

22 How many weeks per year are shares distributed?

Please write your answer here:

23 Does your CSA apply any of the following social support actions?

📌 Check all that apply

Please choose **all** that apply:

- Sliding scales (a range of different levels of contribution based on the members' incomes)
- Bidding round
- Discounts or free shares for low income / unwaged households
- Workshares (free or discounted for volunteers)
- Vouchers subsidized by workplaces or government institutions
- Food donations to soup kitchens, pantries, charities
- Integration of migrants, asylum seekers
- Home deliveries to vulnerable people
- Cooperation with social projects
- Flexible payment plans
- None

Other:

V - Partnership

24

What type of agreement is there with the members?

*

Please choose **all** that apply:

- Written contract
- Verbal agreement
- No agreement

Other:

25 What is the minimum period for which a member is expected to join? *

🗳️ Choose one of the following answers

Please choose **only one** of the following:

For a week

For a month

For a season

For a year

Not applicable

I don't know

Other

26 How are members involved with your CSA ? *

Please choose **all** that apply:

By helping to grow produce

By helping to pack / deliver produce

By taking care of some of all of the administration and management, including collecting payments

By planning the production

By attending open days / social events

By investing money in / lending money to the farm

By paying their shares in advance

By co-owning the farm

By promoting CSA to peers

I don't know

Other:

Please select all applicable entries.

27 What is the current membership situation in your CSA? *

📌 Check all that apply

Please choose **all** that apply:

We are looking for more members

We have enough members

We have a waiting list

I don't know

Other:

28 Who is organizing and managing your CSA?

📌 Choose one of the following answers

Please choose **only one** of the following:

Members

Producers

Producers and members jointly

Other

I don't know

Make a comment on your choice here:

If you choose "Other", please comment briefly.

29

What best describes gender balance in the management of your initiative?

🗳️ Choose one of the following answers

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- More women are managing the initiative
- More men are managing the initiative
- The CSA is managed equally by women and men
- I don't want to know
- I don't want to answer

30 Who makes the decision regarding the price / salary / wage / amount paid to the producer(s)?

🗳️ Choose one of the following answers

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- The producer(s) alone
- The producer(s) and the members together
- The CSA members alone
- Other

31

Which CSA core principles are currently implemented in your initiative?

*

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

	Yes	No	I don't know
A direct partnership	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shared risks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shared responsibilities of farming activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shared rewards of farming activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

32 How has your CSA changed since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic in terms of share numbers?

❗ Choose one of the following answers

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Decrease
- Decrease followed by increase
- No change
- Increase
- Increase followed by decrease
- I don't know

Other

33

Is your CSA a member of any CSA networks or related organisations ?

*

Please choose **all** that apply:

- Urgenci
- National CSA Network
- Local / Regional CSA Network
- I don't know
- None
- Other:

VII - Land

34

Who owns the land on which food is produced for the CSA?

🗳 Comment only when you choose an answer.

Please choose all that apply and provide a comment:

Owned by the producer

Owned by the CSA

Rented by the producer

Rented by the CSA

I don't know

Other:

If you are member of a multifarm CSA, please write in the boxes the number of farms in your CSA falling in each category. For example, 3 farms are involved in your CSA, 2 of them are rented by the producers, another one is owned by the producer. You will tick "Owned by the producer" and add "1" in the box, and then tick "Rented by the producer" and add 2 in the box.

35

What is the total area of the vegetable growing farm(s) producing for the CSA, in hectares ? What is the total area in use for the products sold through CSA partnerships, in hectares ? [explanation: 1 ha = 10,000 m²; 1 ha = ~2.5 acres]

❗ Only numbers may be entered in these fields.

❗ Each answer must be between 0 and 1000

	Farm 1	Farm 2	Farm 3
Total area cultivated on the farm (ha) ?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Total area in use for the products sold through CSA partnerships (ha) ?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

If the farm is selling 100% of its production through CSA, the answers will be the same for both questions.

If there are several vegetable growing farms in your CSA, you can answer for up to 3 different farms.

If you don't know, or don't want to answer this question, you can go to the next question.

VIII - Labour

36

Who works at the vegetable growing farm?

*

Please choose **all** that apply:

- Farmer
- Farmer's family members
- Farmers collective
- Seasonal workers
- Migrant workers
- Full-time workers
- Part-time workers
- CSA members (volunteers)
- Other volunteers
- Wwoofers / Interns
- Persons in a situation of social exclusion
- Does not apply (there is no vegetable growing farm in the CSA)
- I don't know

Other:

We chose to focus on vegetable growing farms to make the survey easier to understand and the results easier to interpret. Moreover, vegetable growing is by far the most represented farming activity in CSA. Please check all applicable entries.

37 What is the employment status of the CSA producer(s)? Please write the number of producers for each category in the box. *

! Comment only when you choose an answer.

Please choose all that apply and provide a comment:

Self-employed

Employed by the CSA

I don't know

Other:

Example: if, in your CSA, the vegetable grower is directly employed by the CSA, but 2 other producers (a cheesemaker and a meat producer for example) are self-employed, you will tick the 2 first lines and add "2" in the box for "Self-employed" and "1" in the box for "Employed by the CSA".

Here "Employment" should be understood as a labour contract.

38

Has participation in a CSA generated new jobs?

🗳️ Choose one of the following answers

Please choose **only one** of the following:

Yes

No

I don't know

Make a comment on your choice here:

If yes, please write in the box how many and what roles.

39

What percentage of the farmer's income comes from the CSA?

*

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- 0-24%
- 25-50%
- 51-75%
- 76-99%
- 100%
- I don't know

This question refers to the vegetable grower or the main producer if there is no vegetable grower.

Please select a percentage representing the part of your CSA in your farmer's income.

40

What are the other sources of income for the farms producing for your CSA?

Please choose **all** that apply:

- Government subsidies
- Private grants
- Restaurant sales
- Farm shop / farmgate
- Farmers' markets
- Wholesale
- Public procurement (schools, universities, care homes or hospitals)
- There is no other source of income
- I don't know
- Other:

41

How do you try to maintain a fair income for your producer(s)?

Please write your answer here:

If you don't know or don't want to answer this question, you can go to the next question without answering this one.

IX - Closing Questions

42

If you agree to be contacted for follow up questions, surveys or resarch projects, please enter your email address below.

Please write your answer here:

This information will not be shared with any third party. It is however necessary to be able to you in case clarifications are needed, or for follow-up questions or interviews.

43

Finally, please let us know if there is anything that we (URGENCI, the international CSA Network) can do to help you.

Please choose **all** that apply:

- Improve communication within the movement
- Increase the visibility of the movement
- Engage with public food policies
- Implement new international projects
- Provide training on soft skills, including communication
- Provide training on network building
- Provide training on governance
- Provide training on finances
- Provide training on feminism
- Provide training on digital skills
- Providing training on social inclusion
- Provide training on community building
- None of these

Other:

Thanks for you patience and precious answers !

May you have any question for the CSA Research Group, please feel free to either email the Representative for your country who contacted you for the census, or the Research Group @ **contact@urgenci.net** (mailto:research.urgenci-eu@lists.riseup.net?subject=%5BCensus%5D%20-%20About%20the%20questionnaire...)

Submit your survey.

Thank you for completing this survey.