

ICDP Portugal

(Secretariat: Sónia Mendes at: soniavillarm@gmail.com)

ICDP International was officially established in 1992. However its roots are closely linked to Portugal where ICDP offered guidance to the Alfragide project in its first steps of development whose work was mainly directed towards refugee families and children from the ex Portuguese colonies. Later on, due to several profound changes in structural areas and intervention strategies, and due to the fact that all energy was simultaneously invested in other similar initiatives abroad, ICDP Portugal entered a lethargic stage. As result, it was necessary to “restart” it again with a new team and official recognition.

This way, in May 2007, Teresa Mendes, Pedro Mendes and Penélope Villar, (three ICDP trainers), carried out the first sensitization course on the ICDP program, in Lisbon, Portugal aiming to set up a core team. We started with a group of 7 persons (two nurses, one nutritionist, two psychologists, one architect and one teacher). The group was always very dynamic and willing to participate with joy and energy.



Five of them participated actively in the ICDP official presentation, in Lisbon, which was attended by the chairman of ICDP International. The event took place in June 22nd 2007 and it was very successful and all participants expressed their wish to learn more about the Programme. In fact, several contacts were established, resulting in subsequent meetings. Photos Bellow.



Finally, on the 12th of January 2008, ICDP Portugal held its first official meeting which launched it as an organisation. All the official social positions were designated and we are now eleven effective members with legal roles. Two of the members are also ICDP international board members, four members were/are involved in ICDP international projects and there are seven new members full of enthusiasm and willingness to bring new ideas and work towards the future. The founding members are mostly quite young and balanced in gender with 6 women and 5 men.

We obviously still have a lot to do in terms of structuring a functional organization, but we are all highly motivated to go further and carry out ICDP philosophy and practice through projects into society.



The founding members of ICDP Portugal (From left to right: Raul Martins, Ana Paiva, Pedro Mendes, Teresa Mendes, Joana Momade, Santana Momade, Rita Correa, Pedro Parracho (behind), Penélope Villar, Sónia Mendes (behind) and Rui Mourão).