



LISBON:
SELF-ORGANIZED CITY

Mobile Workshop

MW13

Cova da Moura:

the resilience of a self-produced neighborhood



Cova da Moura:

the resilience of a self-produced neighborhood

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Cova da Moura is a self-produced neighborhood installed since 1960s on public and private land setting a gentle south-facing hill with sweeping views, very close to the ancient Aqueduto das Águas Livres (1740) and now along the main roads and railways. Some inhabitants comes from the interior of Portugal, or from the ex-colonies (since 1974) including a majority of immigrants mostly Cape Verdean.

This community has recreated in the neighborhood its cultural activities, such as the Kola San Jon party, now recognized as intangible heritage. A hip-hop culture has also great local expression, with good musicians, dancers and graffitti writers. With intense life in the public space, stand out among its services, the African hairdressers and the restaurants of very tasty typical Cape Verdean food, which attract many visitors.

This multi-ethnic neighborhood benefits from its origin of great associative dynamism (with now 4 associations) intervening in the strenghtening of the local economy, social cohesion, culture, sport and education and playing a decisive role in defending the qualification of the neighborhood and the right to the place of the inhabitants.