Jardins de Cocagne

These organisations welcome women and men of all ages who are in vulnerable situations or are encountering difficulties.

The Cocagne Network unites the Jardins de Cocagne (the Cocagne Gardens), organic market gardens designed to help people reintegrate into the social and professional world.Through the production and marketing of organic vegetables, in the form of weekly food boxes delivered to member-consumers, Jardins de Cocagne helps these people to (re)build their professional and personal lives. History of the project The first Jardin de Cocagne sprouted in 1991 at Chalezeule in the Doubs region. Jean-Guy Henckel, a special education teacher, had the idea of creating this project for integration through economic activity, based around organic market gardening.At the time, nobody was very concerned about eating organic food: it was still a very militant act. But little by little, the Jardins sowed their seeds. In 1996, they celebrated the opening of their 20th garden. Three years later, there were 50 of them! In 2007, the opening of the first Fleur de Cocagne, part of the Semailles association (Vaucluse), paved the way for diversification. Since then, other work-life reintegration projects have been created: Table de Cocagne (organic restaurants), PlanÃ¨te SÃ©same (restaurant-delicatessens) and Cocagne Innovation (the label for innovative initiatives). In 2014, the Cocagne Network included more than a hundred organisations.

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