





A school at Santa Clara camp, Sergipe State, which houses 650 families (around 2,500 people). The teachers themselves are landless workers. Basic teaching materials are provided by the MST's co-operatives. The benches and tables were made by the camp's occupants.

exchange information on innovative agricultural methods that are gradually gaining ground among local farmers. Some 850 primary schools and 20 high schools are up and running, while day-care centres and community restaurants are easing women's load of household chores.

The authorities can no longer sideline the MST when it comes to agricultural issues. By building a participatory and egalitarian structure that goes against the grain, it offers alternative perspectives to broad swathes of Brazilian society. Its adversaries denounce its political radicalism and illegal methods, while its defenders call it Latin America's most promising social movement. Brazilian economist Celso Furtado goes so far as to say that it offers "the only answer to mass unemployment in Brazil" because "a return to subsistence agriculture is preferable to urban poverty." The MST is facing this challenge with the slogan of "Agrarian reform: everyone's struggle." ■

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Below, a family in its new home in the settlement of Conquista da Fronteira, Santa Catarina State.

