Artistic, technical, and other modes of community articulation amidst political and social uncertainty

Co-creation of The third agreement narrative

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Note: This field work was carried out within the framework of the MTP training, fourth cohort, from the "Knowledge for Change (K4C): an international consortium for community-based research (CBR)"
The project that we are presenting is framed in the context of situations that derive from the peace agreement between the National Government of Colombia and the FARC-EP guerrilla group, in 2016.

It is also framed in integral training processes led from a regional university in the state of Tolima, Colombia.
Common theme: participatory design for peace-building in the territories

To consolidate highly participatory community reincorporation initiatives that take advantage of the potential of coffee growing territories.
• Participatory methodologies with ex-combatants, coffee growers' leaders and representatives of the Nasa We'sx indigenous community. Photos: Design Program Unibagué
Process of co-construction of coffee narratives and field diaries.
Photos: Design Program Unibagué.
Co-construction of the narrative, logo and packaging of the coffee with the community of Gaitania. Photos: Design Program Unibagué
Los niños del ETCR. Se tendieron pliegos y colores para que expresaran y dibujaran, mientras que seguimamos la conversación con ellos y así apoyar a las madres y padres a ver que las niñas y niños estuvieran presentes en el taller. En estas se tocó el tema de la paz, la familia y sus vidas importantes; al final todos pintaron, colorearon, riñeron y jugaron juntos. Esto creemos que ayudó al sentir confianza de los padres y un gran agradecimiento.

Para uno de nuestros compañeros:

El testimonio de las respuestas a las dinámicas de las mejores prácticas en los talleres de roles y apoyo de las creaciones de las niñas y niños, demuestra la metodología orgánica de la que tenemos, la vimos en carne propia y también nos permitieron contarles ciertas cosas.

Esto es mucho más complejo una metodología de disponer, para el aquí y ahora. Para
Café el Tercer Acuerdo.

Memoria, Reconciliación & Paz
en Gaitania, Tolima

Café el Tercer Acuerdo. Photo: ARN
Coffee leaders, children of ex-combatants and Unibagué students presenting El Tercer Acuerdo. Photos: Elisa Pastor and ARN

Military forces and ex-combatants meeting at a special coffee fair. Photo: Elisa Pastor.
Delivery of the seal of positive transformations of the truth commission to El Tercer Acuerdo. Photos: ARN.

Other product ideas that emerge from the community where the concept of El Tercer Acuerdo is evident. Mockups: Carlos Vega


Documentary series on local peace processes. The third chapter of the documentary is about El Tercer Acuerdo.
The art-based research method used specifically in this part of the process was muralism.
Based on the above, the most useful skills and dispositions for researchers in this type of complex situations are, in my opinion, three:

1. Disposition to constantly observe how you observe. That is, to critically review one's own perception, to recognize its limits, biases and assumptions.

2. The disposition to perceive the world from other perspectives. That is, developing empathic capacity.

3. The aptitude to create. That is, to generate hypotheses, to raise conjectures, to explore other alternatives.
Among the lessons learned from the capacity building of researchers who begin their process with communities are:

• Help researchers-in-training to find the essence of meaning in what they do. The specific activity they develop must connect with a transcendental question that goes beyond a particular research project.

• Learning to ask questions.

• Learn to accompany the communities from their own questions.
• A key strategy to encourage practice and policy partners to use research evidence is to obtain early victories. Early victory means gaining their attention and belief in the process. It gives the research more time to evolve into more complex and deeper processes.
Gracias
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