Come in, your knowledge is welcome
ABOUT US

Procomum Institute is a civil society organization focused on the development of social technologies and learning methodologies and the fostering of citizen innovation. The search for innovative and experimental ways to inform, engage and mobilize people guides our work. We believe on democracy and community engagement for the building of social, economic and political dynamics in the territories.

We believe in the creativity and power of networked communities in building solutions to social problems.
WHAT DO WE DO?

“We listen and find a way to do it”

- We develop listening, mapping and network activation methodologies in diverse contexts
- Participatory methodologies for building innovative solutions and prototypes that tackle the current health, social, economic and environmental crises
- Training programs and strengthening of peripheral enterprises of social impact
- Training programs and strengthening of peripheral artists
- Training programs and improvement of architects for the development of quality and low-cost housing projects
• a world that respects, protects and fights for commons goods: whether in nature, economics, science, education, technology or culture.

• gender diversity, racial equality, the search for economic justice and overcoming the idea that the human species is superior to the other ones.

• society that is structured through affection, collaboration and the safeguard of life in all its forms.

• coexistence agreements based on multiple needs, dreams, knowledge and achievement skills.

• acknowledgement and respect for differences, in search of a full and powerful life for everyone.
Our way of doing it

With creativity, care, dialogue and joy;

Asserting the knowledge of traditional communities: indigenous, caïcaras and quilombolas;

With enchantment, engagement and stimulating people's dreams;

Opening codes and sharing knowledge.*

Joining forces with and from historically underrepresented populations.

All the organization's publications and methodologies are on our website: https://lab.procomum.org/publicacoes/
OUR PROGRAMS
PROCOMUM LAB

Communities in action: Citizen innovation as a tool for promoting the commons.

This is where magic happens and where we test and build our methodologies. Our citizen laboratory is a space for coexistence, knowledge production and strengthening of projects of social impact. A hub for all citizens, makers, social entrepreneurs, artists, hackers, permaculture workers, activists unified by the desire to meet their peers and together build the future we want to live.
Network of nearly 500 people from different expertise and backgrounds working together on ideas and solutions

1,200 m² headquarters in a low human development index central neighborhood of Santos

20 communities of practice organized into Working Groups (WGs) or Study Groups (SGs).

More than 100 prototypes developed and supported

Technology, permaculture, gender and race, memory and ancestry, dance, audiovisual, solidarity economy, decolonial readings, medicinal plants, zero waste, conscious consumption, climate change.

Programs envisioned from a practical, communal, contemporary and interdisciplinary perspective

Training methodologies for strengthening democracy and collective construction
COLABORADOR A

Learning and collaboration as a tool for personal, social and territorial transformation

Colaboradora is our free and open school. Procomum Institute's training methodology has an unique method combining training, collaboration and hands-on, boosting networking and social impact.
More than 150 participants trained or in training

More than 1000 hours of different workshops

More than 500 hours of mentoring

Outdoor and collective visits and experiences

More than 50 projects promoted

Three thematic axes: arts and communities, social housing and creative entrepreneurship with social and peripheral impact.
OUR HISTORY
LAB.IRINTO:
International event for listening and mapping of citizen innovation local networks

What we have learned:
Innovating is also to assert, map and recognize the powers and features of the territory and existing initiatives.
Circuit LABxS 2017:
Citizen innovation public open call to put ideas and initiatives in practice to improve people’s life and solving territory problems

What we have learned:
Through the Circuit we developed and tested Maral, a methodology to activate a creative network in different territories.

Circuit LABxS 2017:
Open learning meetings and IP knowledge exchange

What we have learned:
Open learning and multidisciplinarity emerge as tools for the consolidation of a creative network.

Women (in plural) and the commons:
Citizen innovation created by and for women

What we have learned:
Listening, care and repertoire as an essential part of any Procomum Institute activity and project.

Ocupa LABxS:
Dreaming of a cultural space

What we have learned:
Listening and activating a citizen laboratory for a creative occupation: prototyping and task force
2018

Circuit LABxS 2018:
When innovation arises from society's demands and emergencies

What we have learned:
there’s always need to expand innovation's concept and practice; the streets as a place of practice, diversity, resistance and creativity

Colaboradora Arts and Communities - First Season
Art, training and collaboration as a tool for action.

What we have learned:
The exchange of knowledge and aesthetic and artistic production strengthens the notion of community and territorial relations.

Residencies 2018
Global south artists thinking art and aesthetic possibilities of a citizen laboratory.

What we have learned:
Art as a triggering tool of new imaginary and narratives to create and understand a space of coexistence and promotion of the commons.
Colaboradora - Enterprises for Change - First Season:
creative economy of those who actually work; entrepreneurship of those who transform

What we have learned:
Entrepreneurship goes hand in hand with social impact, innovation and creativity emerge and resist in the outskirts.

LAB Climate Change:
Citizen innovation actions and prototypes with solutions to the impacts caused by climate change

What we have learned:
Community leaders as protagonists in pointing out solutions for climate urgency.
**Colaboradora Arts and Communities**  
- **Second Season**

*What we have learned:*  
Art as a tool to overcome a collapsing world

**Colaboradora - Enterprises for Change**  
- **Second Season**

*What we have learned:*  
The Procomum Institute’s way of doing things dialogues with peripheral entrepreneurship and the methodology is open to listening to different demands, even the most urgent and challenging ones.

**Colaboradora - Athis:**  

*What we have learned:*  
The fight for housing is also a fight for decent housing

*Methodologies of peripheral entrepreneurship are crisis transformation tools*
LAB Narrative Memories and Black Technologies of Baixada Santista:
Research - action to highlight black protagonism in Baixada Santista.

What we have learned:
It is necessary to face the historical erasure producing technologies, works of art and narratives based on the living memory of the region’s black population.

Commons Territories:
Creative agents co-constructing new possibilities for a citizen laboratory in times of crisis

What we have learned:
The possibility of reopening and overcoming crises through art collaboration and reoccupation of the space

Popular Health Agents:
Organizing different civil society agents to face the health and misinformation crisis

What we have learned:
Health and care are commons

Procomum LAB Methodology:
Activation of innovative networks having the strength, knowledge and local limitations as a method.

What we have learned:
A community that defends and promotes the commons already has the necessary tools to create solutions as long as it is strengthened and organized.
SOLUTIONS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

● Creation of cooperatives and other democracy and economic fairness tools for networks and communities

● Act in partnership with public and private entities, prototyping citizen solutions in scale and transforming citizen innovation into public policy

● Data collection and intelligence for strengthening civic space
PARTNERS

Ford Foundation            Ibirapitanga             Open Society Foundations
British Council      Innovación Ciudadana (Ibero-American General Secretariat)
Zaragoza Activa       VIC       Global Innovation Gathering       Proac
Santa LAB             MediaLAB Prado       Anima Lab – São Judas
Unifesp              Creative Hubs Academy       Athis na Baixada       Facult