



THE COMMONS AT ENCRUZA

2022
REPORT

INSTITUTO
**PRO
COMUM**

2021 _____

2022

6th YEAR
OF PROCOMUM



The crossroad holds the power of transmutation, just as Exu did, who, from each shredded piece of his body, reconstructed himself as a new being and set out to walk and invent life as a possibility.”

(Rufino, 2019, p.24)

Reunions and rediscoveries marked 2022. After the pandemic period, doubts added up - and walking into the Unknown seemed the only alternative available to everyone. Coming from different paths, people who have built meaning for our living/doing intersect at a point, which has become a starting point, to invent new possibilities.

We talked about knowledge and started to look back, understanding that ancestries are our cornerstone. Guided by them, after long months away from the presence of our own, we put together methods, practices, longings and dreams like pieces of a puzzle; then, we placed everything on the table so that, amongst the food, we could dream up an image. We knew that people were the central figure of our image, full of tones, stories and roots. These people would be as well cared for as their aspirations are. In tandem, we were leading each other into undiscovered new territories.

It is on this framework that the urgent demands for education are woven to challenge the prevalence of power patterns. The challenges faced by The Pedagogy of Crossroads are essentially those that intertwine the issues surrounding racism and different educational approaches. As much as we claim education as an emancipatory and intercultural practice, we also recognize that there are internationally forged ways to consolidate colonial domination. (Rufino, 2019, p. 78)

We asked for directions. In the face of a democracy at risk and a publicly endorsed discourse of hate, unlike anything seen before, we came to a crucial realization: it is urgent to step beyond our walls and engage the community in conversations about our shared Commons. Conversation, listening, security, and sharing are examples of the technologies that enable us to cultivate

emotional connections.

Collectively, we sort the pieces by color, akin to the process of preparing a puzzle: blue for the sky, gray for the sidewalks... Education, Expansion and Impact and Innovation are colors we assembled to form the commons. In his book "The Common Among Us," Rodrigo Savazoni, Executive Director of Instituto Procomum, asserts that an essential starting point is to observe and learn from communities that guard the principles of buen vivir in harmonious coexistence with nature and have cultivated technologies designed to facilitate a transition towards the commons.

In this report, we try our best to demonstrate the image we have formed, the beauty of the nuances that can only be seen when everything is done. More than a document on impact, this is a close look at people who love and care for each other, a long step towards the good news that, seeking the guidance of Omulu, we wanted for our seven years of existence.





**BEFORE
PLANTING,**



PLAN





Institutional Development

In the year 2022, Instituto Procomum turned six years old. The year was marked by a process of expansion of our operations to other territories beyond Baixada Santista and by the consolidation of the Institutional Development Area of Procomum. Gathered and in search of guidance, we began the year by concluding institutional development processes that were agreed upon in the previous year with the support of key partners. This milestone has propelled us into a new cycle here at Procomum.

Based on our way of building the commons, we understand that the external and new look collaborates with the vision of how we act as an organization and team.

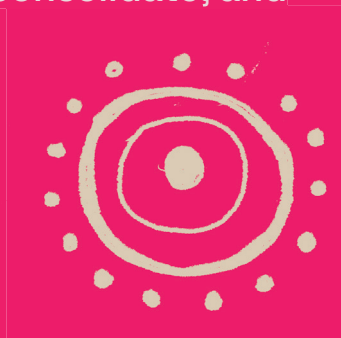
What path do we wish to walk and how will we take care of each other on this journey?

What do we wish to plant and how?

It is through listening, practice and tools that we look for answers.

“Work is actually made of its own practice - this is not written, but everyone knows it. You repeat once, twice, even five times. You build the practice, consolidate, and then understand the concept.”

Mauro Mariano de Assis,
Docker and member of the
Advisory Board of Procomum.



CAASA IP

In 2021, Procomum was consulted by Lucia Nader. From this we draw the CAASA IP - **Celebrate, Appreciate, Learn, Dream and Act**, in order to reflect on the reestablishment of what was the institutional milestone for our team. Our plans were conjugated in the first-person plural in 2022: we



A collective decision, made by all the members of our institution, has shaped and consolidated this process, helping us to make tangible and strengthen our performance - our unwavering focus on the territory and its people has fortified us to navigate external environments that are often politically or economically unstable.

Procomum's Way

Based on what Procomum has been experiencing, we feel the desire and need to systematize the experiences lived here - not only for the individuals within our network and those affected by our work but also for our dedicated team who brings everything to life. Supported by Recontar's thorough and dedicated consulting, we have developed a process to effectively communicate our approach and methodology.

In it, we were able to format Procomum's Pedagogy, from the mapping of seven steps/actions that make up our work. They are:

1. The demand for the

commons /// identification of collective demands - and related to urgent issues in society;



2. The resources

/// when the demand evolves into a project, we embark on the institutional effort to mobilize and acquire the necessary resources, whether they are financial or human;

3. Participants

/// we open the circle and invite participants through open calls, personalized invitations, and public tenders;



4. Meeting

/// the commons happens during the preparation; Everything is designed to generate acceptance, participation, ownership and connection;

5. Meeting between different

/// the event goes through the stages of welcoming, facilitation for group interaction, experimentation and, finally, celebration;

7. Second Harvest

/// considering the outcomes, we reaffirm that communities are prosperous, capable of self-management and developing powerful experiences that can be shared and disseminated.

6. First harvest

/// after this gathering, we witness a tangible yield in the participants' repertoire and confidence, as well as the creation of collaborative networks;

Thus, Procomum's Way of doing allowed us to carefully observe all the practices and tools that encompass our team's methodology.

Theory Of Change (ToC)

To strengthen people and organizations, articulate communities, weave networks, and promote the transition to a common world among the different through collaboration.

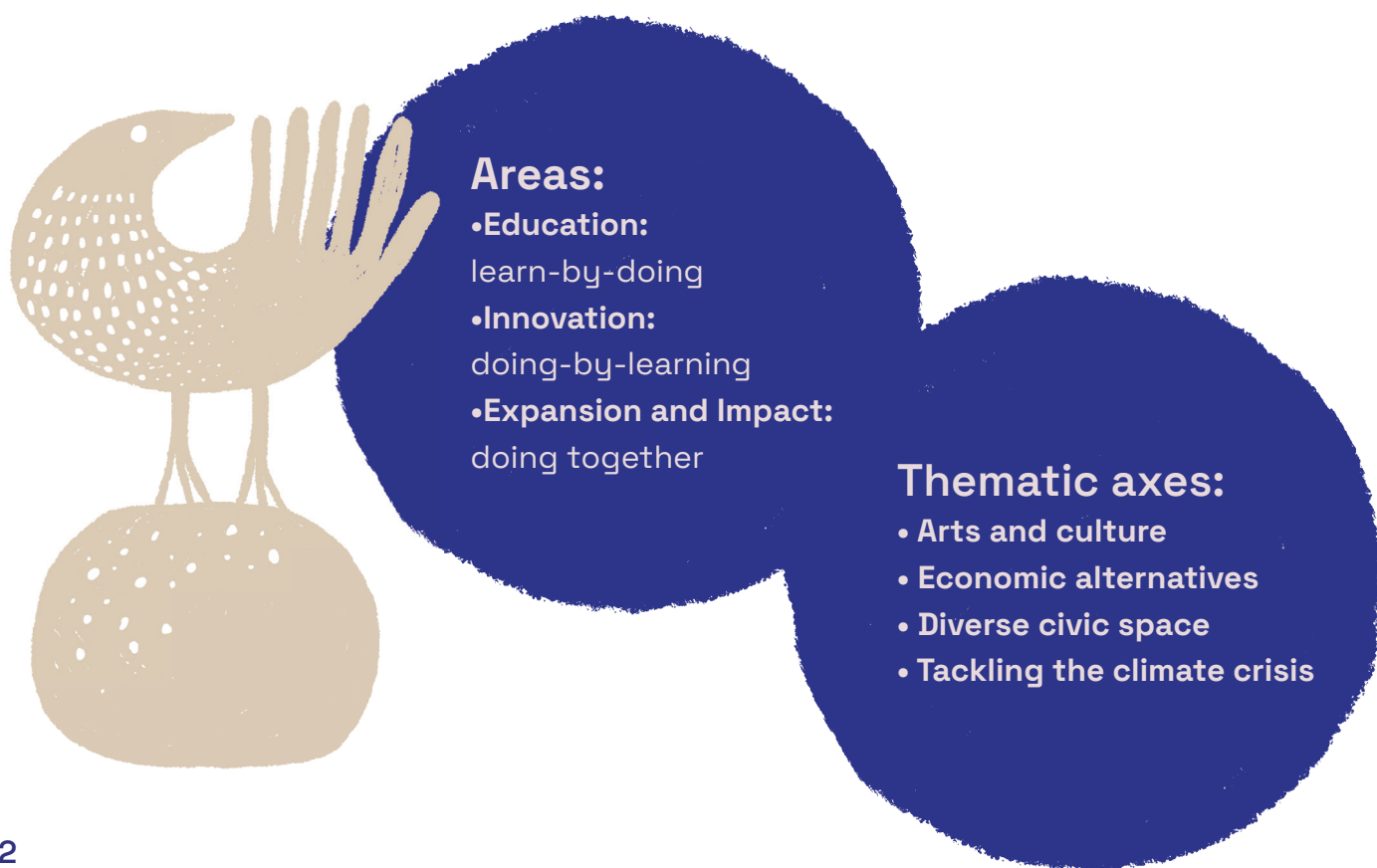
This is the mission established by Instituto Procomum for the next five years. Tactfully, we were able to do a six-month process of active listening, research and systematization with our team and members of the Procomum community and network, resulting in the construction of our Theory of Change.

We sought to actualize our work – which we know to be complex – from the action verbs that drive us: strengthen, articulate and weave.

The Ghanaian writing system Adinkra is based on aphorisms, and within this system, we find Sankofa—a bird that turns

its head to its tail, symbolizing the concept of 'returning to the past to resignify the present and build the future'. As we reflect on the six years of Procomum's existence as a whole, we also contemplate our own myriad of aspirations and ambitions that resonate with both the present and the future. We could take care of each other, assert our aspirations and make commitments.

In 2022, we successfully developed and planned our actions, aligning them with the shared vision outlined in our ToC, while staying grounded and guided by a powerful compass. Along with the organizational development consultancy Tistú, we have taken the following directions:



We also defined our Strategic Axes of action:

- Communication and cultivation of knowledge
- Institutional capacity building
- Formation
- Advocacy
- Partnerships and resource mobilization



The four stakeholders defined in Procomum's Theory of Change are:

1. Social organizations and collectives that promote social impact through actions in the territory;

2. Adults who are predisposed to collective action, collaboration and the promotion of social impact;

3. People committed to social transformation from underrepresented populations, or who dream of a more just and egalitarian world;

4. Citizens who dream, create and innovate.



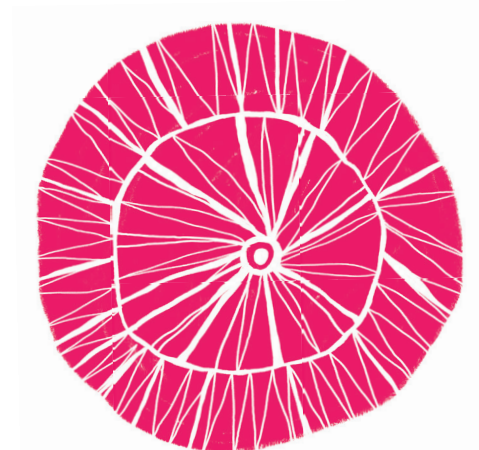
The six impacts that we, in collaboration with other external actors, want to bring about:

1. Collaboration over competition in human relations;
2. Creativity leading the transition to buen vivir;
3. Organized citizenship in self-governing communities and cooperative networks;
4. State and private agents subjected to community collective action;
5. Care as the central element of social organization and the economy.



The nine long-term outcomes defined in Procomum's Theory of Change are:

1. Emergence of citizen laboratories in Latin America;
2. Establishment of public agents networks invested with the lens of the commons;
3. Growth in the number of initiatives that are self-sustainable by staying aligned with their dreams and ideals;
4. Increase in the number of people and initiatives that use open methodologies and collaborative processes developed or disseminated by IP;
5. Growth in the number of people, projects and initiatives that develop alternatives for social and economic reorganization;
6. Expansion of the repertoire and scope of action for individuals and social organizations from an intersectional and interdisciplinary perspective;
7. Increase in the number of people acting from the logic of the commons with values of care, autonomy and collaboration;
8. More heartfelt connections between people of diverse identities and sociocultural backgrounds;
9. People integrating or creating networks of protection and care.



The pains and pleasures of self-reflection

As in every process of change and growth, there are wonders and also challenges that require our attention: In 2022, we faced challenges to overcome as a team; we grew, welcomed six more members and formed a new group. LAB Procomum, our headquarters, has once again been occupied by creative and enthusiastic humans. Never before has this space encompassed such a wide range of diversity.

We understand the joys that the commons bring, but just like in any space where dreams and missions are shared, we also face challenges of lack of time, of limited resources and boundaries. Taking a close look at exertion is necessary, just as taking care of oneself is. Revisiting the suggestions from Procomum's Way development process, we recognized that structuring and regularizing circles of open communication and active listening is essential.

We understand that Care enables the accomplishment of our work. Therefore, in 2022, Instituto Procomum conducted a sensitive institutional clinical supervision work in eight monthly sessions with André Rodrigues, a psychologist, master's student at UNIFESP, and doctoral student at the School of Public Health at USP. Here, we were able to create an environment to exchange experiences, concerns, and desires in order to process and transform - recognizing the limits - what feels tight.

We also invested in a collective immersion called Roda de Sonhos, aiming to understand the main themes and affective states that permeate our desires, as well as to observe how elements of culture and the current political conjuncture cross the space of the dream. This place of oneiric listening and sharing was opened for the Procomum team, and seven sessions were held with João Victor Bernardo Ferreira, a master's student in Psychology at UNIFESP-Santos.

“Building a space of collective care says a lot about the institution itself and the subjects who create and participate in it, as it says about the culture, the ways of acting of the institution itself. Several themes emerged during the year, such as: external, internal and work-related pressures. The diversity within the team's speeches, life stories, ways of speaking and processes of grief and loss.”

Luiza Xavier , Coordinator of Projects and Communities at Instituto Procomum

NEW



CROSSROADS





Expansion and Impact - Doing together:

Community is the spirit, the guiding light of the tribe, whereby people come together in order to fulfill a specific purpose, to help others fulfill their purpose, and to take care of one another. The goal of the community is to make sure that each member of the community is heard and is properly giving the gifts he has brought to this world. Without this giving, the community dies.”

(Somé, 1997, p. 35)

We work in a network - and, by network, we mean collaborators, new and old participants connected to our projects, collectives, regular attendants, users of LAB Procomum and other national and international organizations. So many perspectives enrich the search for global cooperation based on equality. It is the partnerships that allow us to exchange, expand actions and ways to spread our methodologies around the world.

To explore new territories and aspirations, to test and experiment with our methodologies in order to understand where our contribution can become a piece in the puzzle of building the commons.

Our wanderings made us cross paths, recognize similarities and bond.

Expansion and Impact achievements in numbers:

Territorial Visits (Expansion)



Impact:



LA Cuida

In 2022, the Expansion and Impact area completed an important mission: to start sewing LA Cuida, one of Procomum's most ambitious and important projects in recent years. Important for being the first project produced by us in international territories and for its own theme still being developed and disputed: the Care Economy.

Throughout the pandemic, the critical importance of Caregiving became evident in maintaining social well-being in everyday life, awakening the need to recognize its invaluable contributions and shed light on the often unpaid or poorly paid protagonists of this essential work, which lies at the very core of human existence.

The "Care at the center of social and economic reorganization" is among the impacts estimated in our Theory of Change. Not without reason, care and its providers are regarded by us as fundamental for the sustenance of human life, of our communities and the planet. Therefore, our main objective is to recognize, map, articulate and stimulate community actions and initiatives in Latin America that focus on care practices, whether in culture, economy or politics.



We start from the assumption that in Latin American regions, where exclusion prevails, care networks are an important means of social transformation, while offering us a new approach to operate the economy.

In 2022, LA Cuida began its mission to investigate feminist and social impact organizations in Latin America, as well as to create the necessary partnerships to reach a new territory. We asked for permission and listened (following our MARAL methodology) to the voices of leaders and communities who do tremendous local work in order to collectively plan the Care Economy Activation Laboratory.

Based on our mapping, we selected two territories for the realization of LA Cuida in 2023: Valle del Cauca in Cali (Colombia) and Montevideo (Uruguay).

Actions of LA Cuida in 2022:

We visited 3 cities in 2 countries
(Montevideo - UY and Bogotá /
Cali - COL)

We spoke with more than 15
leaders in different CSOs (Civil
Society Organizations), especially
those linked to movements led by
black women.



We held 1 Workshop on Care Economy with black female
braiders, titled “Entre amigas, trançar, minhas raízes
e meus afetos: nossa ancestralidade” (“Among friends,
braiding, my roots and my affections: our ancestry”),
bringing 20 women together to braid their hair and
engage in conversation over an afternoon snack. The
braids were the inspiring element of the meeting,
a historical representation of memory, care and
resistance experienced by these women who
protagonized the care work in Latin America.*



Development of the LA Cuida website,
informative page with texts about Care
and the Care Economy and platform for
open calls
<https://lacuida.procomum.org/pt-br/>



*You can check out the video of the action “Entre amigas, trançar,
minhas raízes e meus afetos: nossa ancestralidade” on Instituto
Procomum’s Youtube channel :
<https://youtu.be/5FX5dqn4g-U>

October 7th, 2022 - Bogota

Location: El Bronx

“The trip to the Bronx neighborhood was, for me, one of the most beautiful and striking moments of the trip. I felt that, finally, we were entering the heart of the Colombian capital, with its true community, its true people. I think we should start this story by telling a little bit about the history of the neighborhood.

El Bronx, or La L, is located around the Plaza de Los Mártires, in the traditional neighborhood of Voto Nacional, right behind the neoclassical building of the former Escuela de Medicina de la Universidad Nacional, which today is the Batallón de Reclutamiento and very close to the Basílica del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús.

After several popular uprisings in the capital, the neighborhood was taken over by organized crime, marked by drug and human trafficking, and numerous murders. It was then that it began to be called “El Cartucho” or “La Caldera del Diablo,” only to be later on dismantled and renamed El Bronx, once again plagued by crime.

From afar, the concrete-made landscape presented itself with some beauty to us. We were greeted by the popular agent of the territory who told us a little about its history and took us to get to know the Distrito Creativo.

Then we went to meet a kind of support center that has Susana Fergusson as an important community leader - she is a 61-year-old social activist who has dedicated her life to caring for young people and children who are in vulnerable situations on the streets of El Bronx. There, they introduced us to the different initiatives that drive the neighborhood’s economy, from recycling to developing cannabis products. All aimed at sustainability and empowering the territory and its community.

Overall, we can say that we have seen the Care Economy being put into practice and creating possibilities for what Bernardo Toro calls a “win-win paradigm,” involving not only the women, but the entire community.

An excerpt of Soledad Maria’s journal, Procomum’s Coordinator of Expansion and Impact.



CILA International Consortium of Cities in Action

In March 2022, the first meeting to discuss the foundation and formation of CILA (International Consortium of Cities in Action) took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina. CILA is a consortium formed by Latin American civil society organizations such as Asuntos del Sur (Argentina), Fundación Ciudadanía Inteligente (Chile) and Extituto De Política Abierta (Colombia) that, as of 2023, will include Instituto Procomum with the signature of our Executive Director Rodrigo Savazoni.

CILA's joint mission is to drive innovative forms of governance and collective action in territories and cities of the Global South. For Instituto Procomum, whose work fosters safe and healthy spaces for commons construction, participating in CILA enables us to reach more places and people who can access commons ideals.

To achieve this purpose, CILA directs its actions towards three thematic axes:

Diverse and Representative democracy

Environmental Democracy

Innovative Democracy

These axes enable the consortium to act on different fronts based on collective actions that stimulate good practices of local governance. Another objective is that, over time, more organizations and individuals can join CILA as a great platform for mutual support, exchange of methodologies and knowledge that guide the consortium.

CILA's Foundation and Formation Meeting / March 22 and 23, 2022 in Buenos Aires - Argentina.

Launch of the Consortium at CILA's Connection event / October 8 in Bogota-Colombia.

CILA at Ciudades Sin Miedo / October 21 to 23, 2023 in Rosario - Argentina.

74

participants from

31

cities of

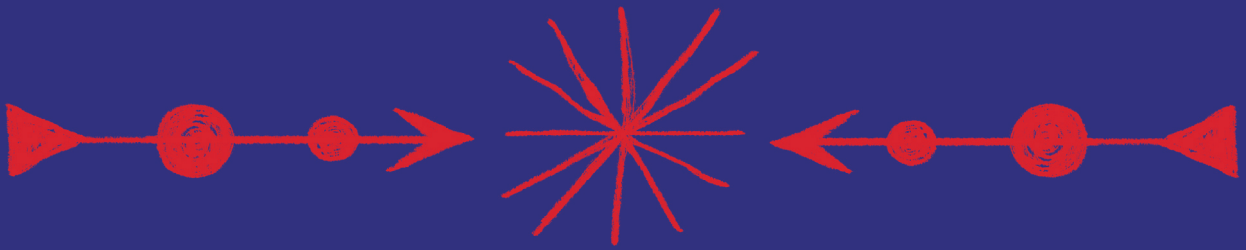
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countries of the Global South



To learn more about CILA, visit:
<https://cilaglobal.org/nuestro-trabajo/?lang=pt-br>

THE MANIFESTATION



OF KNOWLEDGE



Innovation: doing-by-learning



Pedagogy as I claim it is understood as a complex of experiences, practices, inventions and movements that entangle multiple presences and knowledge, and focuses on human problems and their forms of interaction with the environment. It is in this perspective that education, a human phenomenon implied between life, art and knowledge, becomes a pedagogical problem. (Rufino, 2019, p. 74)

To observe how life already functions and organizes itself, and from there, guide our practices: LAB Procomum operates as a citizen laboratory located in Bacia do Mercado, an embryonic region in the emergence of the city of Santos, whose name carries the energy of exchange.

Through the efforts of collaborators and members, it was finally possible to open the doors that give access to the 1200m2 of our LAB to the community after the pandemic period. It can be said that 2022 symbolized Procomum's Renaissance. This opening facilitated the establishment of Working Groups (Grupos de Trabalho or GTs) and Study Groups (Grupos de Estudo or GEs), which actively engaged in conducting ongoing or specific actions.

These initiatives played a crucial role in shaping our connection with the local community and territory.

Before activating the GTs, we started the Activation Fund - which involves distribution of money without bureaucracy so that people could boost their own initiatives, because we saw that our community was facing a lot of challenges after the pandemic crisis. Even little money can be enough for people to have the energy to reinvest in their crafts.

Work and Study groups - GTs and GEs

After two years away, LAB Procomum has managed to bring together the largest number of groups since its creation, 39 in total. As we consider every knowledge to be welcome, the applications were selected in order to promote the empowerment of individuals or groups with creative potential, resilience and willingness to challenge the status quo. By providing financial resources, we have been able to observe them flourish.

The presence of the Groups is another initiative that allows us to experience diversity: 70% of the people who lead them self-identify as black or brown; 60% are women. In relation to the areas of activity, 50% were related to art and culture, 30% dealt with economic alternatives, 10% focused on climate change and 10% took care of alternatives for the development of



diverse democratic space. As the number of participants increased, we have developed protocols that guide the community to collaborate with the team in taking care of the shared space.

A space that has continuously undergone improvements: from 2017 to 2022, R\$800,000 has been invested in infrastructure, and it holds a license to operate as a cultural and educational center.

For the construction of the commons, we acknowledge that reproductive work, which encompasses various aspects, includes Care. Therefore, we develop

protocols alongside the community to share this care with us.

During the year, more than 300 appointments were made for the use and occupation of the LAB facilities. A vibrant community that brings purpose to our actions. To promote meetings and networking, GTs activities are scheduled: Tuesdays and Thursdays are days of courses and workshops, Wednesdays are focused on institutional activities and Saturdays are days of exhibitions and presentations.

“Because it is a citizen laboratory, we had a series of meetings with people who were already involved with Procomum as soon as we signed the loan for use agreement in 2017. There were workshops, occupations, input gathering and planning to collectively think how this laboratory would take place. From the moment we opened the doors, the GTs started occupying this space. In the beginning, there was a proposal to leave the doors radically open. It was a very cool process, but we realized that we were establishing a relationship of service delivery with people who were not necessarily connected and committed to the logic of care and collective construction. And here, we want to establish networks of emotional connection and collaboration.

We defined the first model of the Working Groups in 2019, which also became responsible for the space, and we reduced the number of individual, separated activities. Here, we collectively manage the commons, aligning ourselves with the demands of individuals and groups, rather than imposing a curatorial approach from the professional team. The Hackerspace, for instance, was created because there was a group that worked with technology and needed a space. The very purchase of the equipment came from the needs of its prototypes.

It was an important movement to strengthen our communities of practice, but we were interrupted by the pandemic.

In 2022, for the first time, we allocated a financial resource specifically intended for the GTs through grants. We launched a public call to assess which GTs would continue and to identify potential new ones.

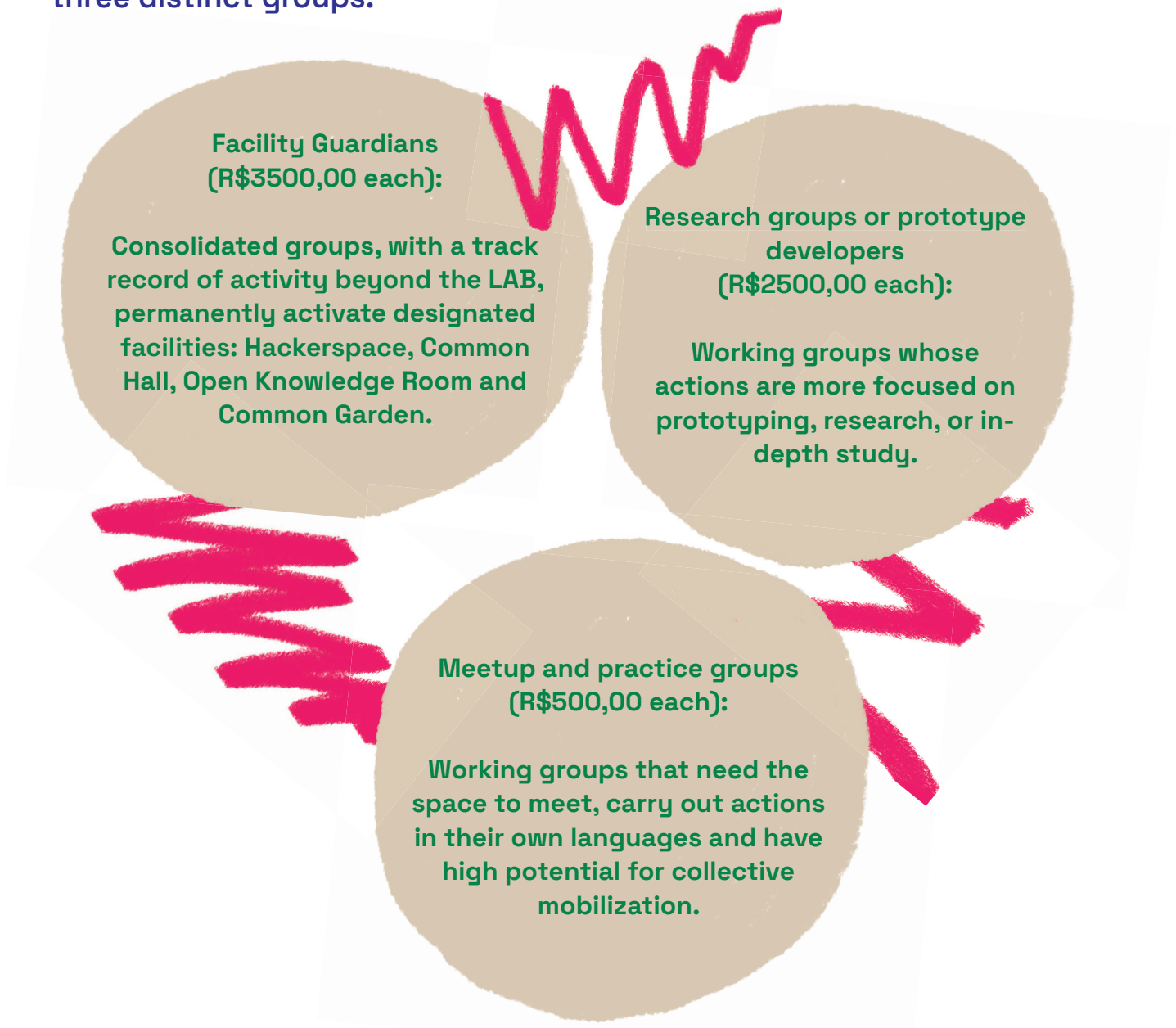
We received an incredible 74 applications, and it was challenging to make a selection - so we decided to invite all of them to a workshop to determine the next steps.

We conducted a collective agreement based on a non-exclusive process, allowing all interested individuals to join the working groups, provided that they shared with us the co-responsibility for the space, activities, cleanliness, care, programming, and knowledge exchange.

Then, we carried out a workshop to gather input and collectively systematize the demands of each group. We developed a poster-making methodology to facilitate the sharing of proposals, highlight the differences in needs and demands among each group, and establish the initial steps towards common governance.”

Victor Marinho, Innovation Manager

Based on the results of the poster-making methodology, we identified the needs and proposals of each group, ultimately categorizing them into three distinct groups:

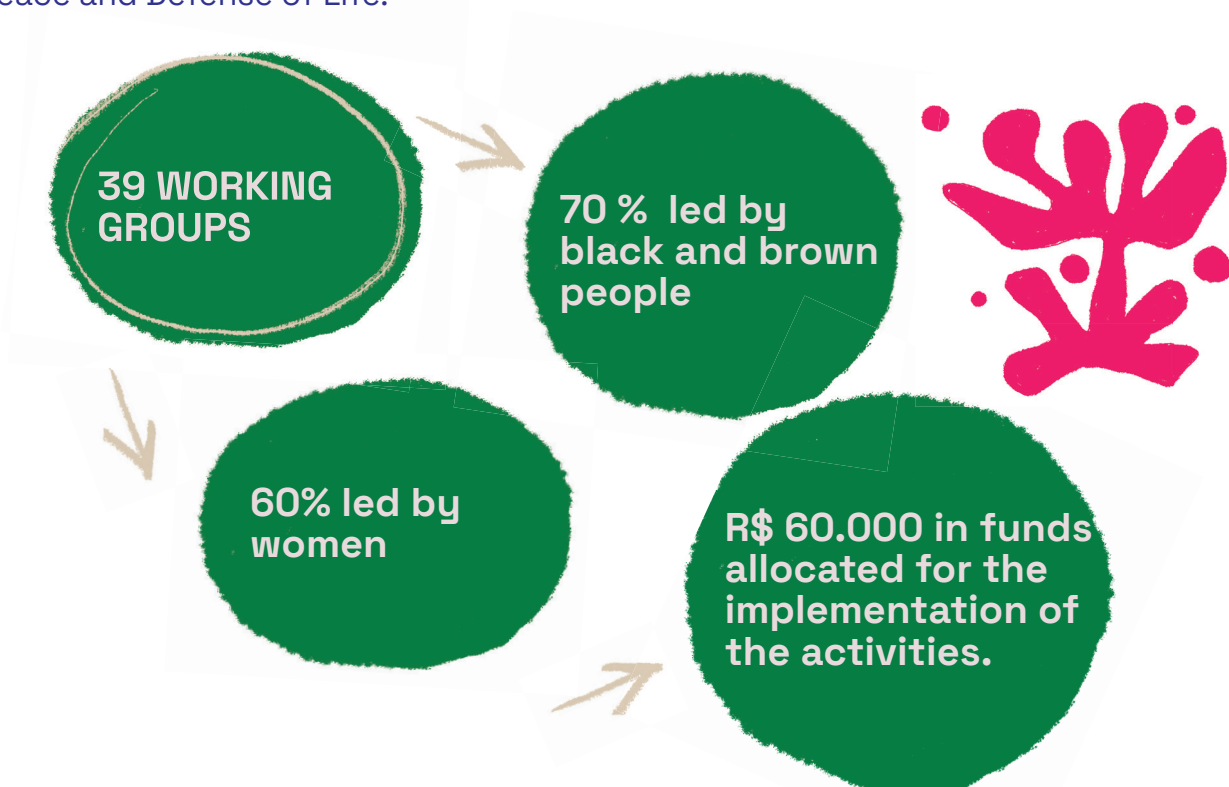


Summary of the first six months of the Working Groups ' activities:

- We distributed R\$ 67.500,00 in scholarships;
- We implemented the culture of open studios on Thursdays and Saturdays, based on the availability of the Working Groups;
- We irrigated a network financially impacted by the pandemic crisis;
- We assessed the capacity of our laboratory within a community-oriented approach, focusing on the commons;

- To facilitate the collective use of the spaces, we have established a scheduling system for the use of our studios and equipment;
- We scheduled activities in order to promote organic meetups between the participants of the communities and their audiences. Workshops and courses were always held on Tuesdays and Thursdays - this way, we brought together different audiences and participants, fostering the exchange of knowledge;
- We established Open Studio Thursdays, where the spaces have assistance available for the use of the equipment;
- Every last Saturday of the month, we organized a program featuring the working groups, promoting diversity among the audience and curating the content. Our goal was to showcase the knowledge, research, prototypes, and activities developed by the groups to a wider audience;
- We held four editions of the Open Studio Saturdays, with an average of 200 people visiting our activities. The Working Groups were also featured in the Encruza festival;
- Through our system, 301 reservations were made for the use of our space..

In 2023, after collective conclusion on the work of 2022, we will continue using the same work method, but now, with thematic seasons and specific prototyping actions within experimentation laboratories in the areas of Climate Change, Popular Culture and Heritage, Diversity and Technology, Art and Black Women, Culture of Peace and Defense of Life.



The whole process was documented in the following texts:

- Que tal o impossível? (How about the impossible?).
- Saiba como foi a oficina de planejamento dos GTs. (Learn how the GTs planning workshop went).
- A nossa inovação é comunitária e aponta soluções para problemas complexos. (Our innovation is community-based and points to solutions for complex problems).
- A resposta é o comum. (The answer is the commons).

Activation Fund:

Considering the economic impact caused by the pandemic crisis in our community, the Activation Fund aimed to distribute resources of up to R\$2.5 thousand to support initiatives related to creativity and innovation. A total of 32 initiatives were selected, with 24 of them being led by self-declared black or brown individuals.

“Before mobilizing the Working Groups, we decided to come up with the Activation Funds because, even though we were in a phase of reopening the LAB, we understood that our network (GT, A Colaboradora, etc.) had faced many challenges during the pandemic and needed financial support to regain momentum. Sometimes, just a little bit of money can give you the boost you need to get back to doing what you had to put on hold during the pandemic.”

Victor Marinho, Director of Innovation.



“The Activation Fund came at a difficult moment for many artists in the region. I was fortunate to be one of those contemplated with the funding so that I could continue with my literature project, the book ‘Poesia na Mira’ (‘Poetry in Sight’). Thanks to the Fund, I was able to produce one hundred more copies and distribute them throughout the marginalized areas of our territory, the quebradas and outskirts.

The resource also helped in the circulation of the book, so I can take it to other territories. To activate is to mobilize, to make the wheel turn.”

Nego Panda, poet.



LAB Negritudes:

In 2022, LAB Negritudes culminated in two paths:

Entre amigas, trançar, minhas raízes e meus afetos: nossa ancestralidade

(Among friends, braiding, my roots and my affections: our ancestry)

In August 2022, Instituto Procomum linked two of its most esteemed projects: LACuida and LAB Negritudes to hold the meeting **Entre amigas, trançar, minhas raízes e meus afetos: nossa ancestralidade**. The action, guided by our MARAL methodology, brought together twenty women from our community. Our LAB was a stage for exchanges, care and unity. Black women in a circle talking with braiders, praising memories, ancestral afrotechnologies and the Care Economy centered on the work done.



LAB Relâmpago:

“Working with tourism and education is an aspiration that has come up since the beginning of the LAB Negritudes project. It made a lot of sense to talk about tourism because Santos is a tourist city par excellence, which has very important points for the history of the black population that are invisibilized - such as Quilombo do Pai Felipe and Quilombo do Jabaquara.

Over the years, we at Procomum have recognized our calling to work with informal education. It is an educational process to shed light on what is looked down upon. So we thought of an action that would start from these two thematic areas: tourism and education.

We invited Simone, our advisor, to curate this process and help us find cool people who had experience in education and tourism. We invited Thaís, who has experience in the field of tourism, and Morena Mariah to discuss education.”

**Marina Paes,
Education Manager back then**

A total of 24 participants enrolled through a public call to form teams that addressed education and tourism as central themes. This journey was also about self-discovery and care. The journey started with two training sessions, whose content is available on Procomum's YouTube channel. Procomum no YouTube.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DG3oBjltP9I>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5WsyW3LPBLY>

24 participants

4 developed
prototypes

The strengthening of the community through initiatives and projects developed in Procomum has now reached a point where it has gained autonomy and tangible opportunities to pursue new paths in 2023. This is the case for the prototypes created in LAB Relâmpago, which now aspire to showcase their results in cultural notices in the region and in other states of Brazil. The project institutionally enhanced our capacity to absorb knowledge and values that the black community presents as a potential.

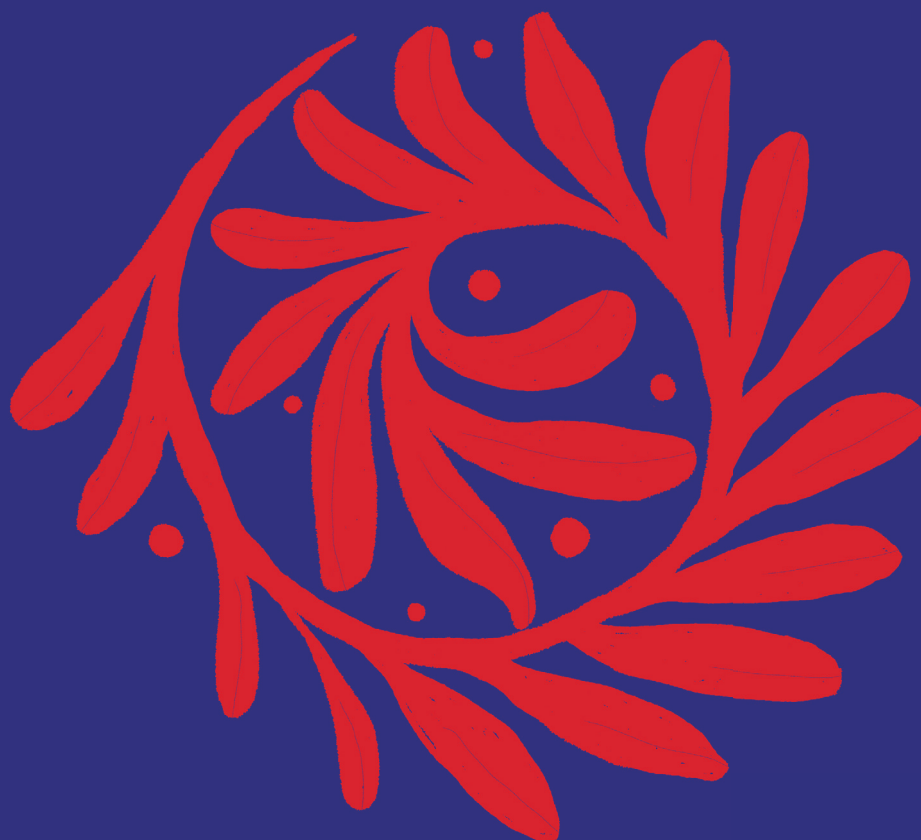
This means that for us (Procomum), the project catalyzed the hiring of people from the team who self-identify as negras (black and brown) in all spheres of the institution (not only those directly related to the project itself).

<https://lab.procomum.org/negritudes>

THE WISDOM



OF THE GAZE





Education: Learning-by-doing

“Education is a phenomenon that, in addition to being as diverse as the various ways of existence and practice in the world, is deeply intertwined with our humanity and carries an ethical dimension of responsibility/ responsibility towards others. Throughout the expansion of colonialism, systems of life management were established, enforced, and disseminated here. A modus that revitalizes a spectrum which operates within the codification of a political/educational agenda - this one made of repertoires of practices that are produced and disseminated by the colonizers.” (Rufino, 2019, p. 74)

At first glance, IP’s educational area can be seen as brand new. However, it has been with us since our inception, as our purpose has always been to address common problems with collective solutions by sharing the wisdom from the most diverse groups. In other words, drawing educational processes from the cauldron of interconnected knowledge rooted in our actions is an intrinsic calling of our work. Besides the journey of our professional team during the nearly six years of Instituto Procomum’s operation, uniting practices of active listening, mobilization and solidifying cooperative networks, other people and communities have contributed to our “learning-by-doing” through the sharing of stories, methodologies and strategies aimed at improving life and coexistence in society.

The main project carried out by the educational area in 2022 was A Colaboradora, a free (or non-formal) and collaborative school.



A Colaboradora:

“This makes me think of ancient practices used by different peoples of this American continent to establish their communities. These are practices related to the cultivation of the self - which is very different from shaping someone - that recognize that we all possess a transcendence and, upon entering the world, we already are - and being is the essence of everything. The other skills that we can acquire, such as owning things, pursuing a profession, or governing the world, are layers that you add to the perspective of a being that already exists.” (Krenak, 2019, p. 94)

We understand the concept of a free art school as the idea of bringing together different artistic languages that collaborate with one another. It is also an educational journey that embraces an open and co-constructed pedagogy in collaboration with the participants.

Open to Baixada Santista residents over 18 years old, the project welcomes artists of different modalities and time of experience. This means that, whether emerging artist or a more experienced one, what truly matters is the willingness to collaborate and take action in the territory.

Inspired by ‘La Colaboradora,’ a free school for entrepreneurs that he had met during a trip to Spain, Rodrigo Savazoni created A Colaboradora at Instituto Procomum in 2018. Last year, A Colaboradora happened in a hybrid way. We had more than a hundred interested individuals, since there is already a tradition in our territory and people look forward to applying. There was this huge interest from hip-hop folks and, for the first time, we had the presence of trans people in the group, which was so important. There were tensions among people because we were bringing together very different worlds, working, creating, and doing things

together. And in those moments, some differences became more apparent, which led us to go through a learning process in dealing with conflicts. This also helped us to reinforce our Violence Prevention Policy. In 2023, some people from Colaboradora continue to attend the GTs.

As always, the past year has been thrilling, many friendships and work-related connections being forged throughout Colaboradora's process. Every year we bring partners who act as mentors, not only to help make the works aesthetically better, but also provide emotional and affective support. Joana Chaves, for example, currently works with Deise de Brito, one of the mentors. When it comes to education, A Colaboradora is Procomum's main project, which we use as a means to approach education in a different way - one that is open to collaboration, failure and success.

Marina Paes, Instituto Procomum's Communication Manager back then

14 artists graduated

R\$136.000 allocated for participants

Pique LAB

In 2022, we carried out Pique LAB, a care laboratory for digital activists, planned over a period of approximately five months. In it, we research and practice support and cooperation networks, aided by the curation of an anonymous organization that fights against disinformation and hate speech, as well as a methodology developed in partnership with Coletivo Etinérancias.

A therapeutic camp was developed, with therapeutic listening activities, planning of shared actions, moments of leisure and heartfelt connections. Working alongside these agents empowers us as an organization, recognizing the essential political role in shaping a society that is less violent, more egalitarian, and committed to safeguarding common resources.





Policies of the Commons

It has been four years of total discouragement: we have experienced the worst possible presidential administration in the face of the pandemic crisis; we have seen the mining of forests and poisoning of rivers; we have seen neglect and genocide. In a year of tremendous political upheaval and guided by the anguish that shaped our decisions, Instituto Procomum welcomed Douglas Belchior, Marina Silva, Marina Helou, and Isa Penna to its Common Hall, with the aim of fostering pro-democracy candidacies.

The event took place in person and was open for anyone to engage in dialogue with then-candidates. The event also served to bring us closer to social movements in Baixada Santista and understand that we were together in defense of democracy.



4 sessions

More than 300
participants





ENCRUZA



Our crossroads is a place of possibilities, where paths meet and changes happen. Exu is the energy of exchange and, based on his principles, we have built a diverse festival , whose paths we intend to continue walking for a long time. Community, Institute, organizations, partners and a whole network celebrating and creating.

From November 22 to 30, 2022, we held the 1st Festival of Culture Communities of Bacia do Mercado: Encruza! After two years of confinement due to the pandemic, the festival celebrated the power of the community and the territory where LAB Procomum is located, while also setting new perspectives for 2023.

More than 60 people involved in the implementation of this project

More than 12 mentions in local media

More than 1000 people in our itinerant audience



1162
people
directly
impacted

**9 days of
festival**

**49 cultural
attractions**
made by our
LAB Procomum
community

with
14 shows
**6 theatrical and circus
plays**
4 street performances
3 exhibitions
6 fairs
9 movie screenings
4 conversation circles

**R\$ 115.275,94
invested**



INSTITUTIONAL





Internships

Since its creation, Instituto Procomum has been building a relationship with the Federal University of São Paulo of Baixada Santista (Unifesp - BS). We understand that embracing such diverse experiences includes bringing the pains and conflicts of the people involved. As mentioned before, 2022 was a year of rebuilding our structures and our community.

In this context, Psychology interns Ana Clara Ralize, Gabriela da Silva Bispo, Lucas Frazão, and Maria Júlia Leite worked at our LAB as part of a program guided by Professor Dr. Stéfanis Caiaffo.

In 2022, the program focused on mapping and maintaining the relationship with the surrounding community, reinforcing our institution's desire to engage with the territory and understanding how Care can cultivate support and affection for its community. Maria Júlia, a fourth-year intern, shares that this experience has opened her eyes

to possibilities in Psychology that she never could have imagined before.

Other initiatives were undertaken by the group, including the creation of the podcast “Encruzilhadas da Convivência” (“Crossroads of Coexistence”), where they reinforce the agreements and guidelines outlined in the Violence Prevention Policy. The first episode can be accessed via Mixcloud <https://11nq.com/nskOD> and the others via SoundCloud <https://soundcloud.com/institutoprocomum>.

Luíza Ribeiro, Community Coordinator and mentor of the student group, adds that integrating Psychology into our relationships and processes also involves considering health beyond the clinical setting, focusing on preventive health and promoting well-being through conversations.

Alongside the interns from the partnership with Unifesp - BS, in 2022 we also had the pleasure of welcoming Nicole Küiper, a Dutch student from the University of Amsterdam, where she studies International Relations. Regarding her internship at Procomum, she wrote:

“Working at Instituto Procomum raised several existential questions that, for me, were difficult to answer. Although I began with a clear and well-structured internship plan, fulfilling my responsibilities in practice proved to be a challenging journey. At Procomum, every individual has their own way of contributing, and my role within the team was not to replace or take on the tasks of others. Instead, I was encouraged to find my own personal and unique way to contribute to the ongoing work that was being carried out each day. At first, this was not possible to be done verbally due to the language barrier. So, I decided to contribute through my presence rather than through verbal communication. I attended meetings, participated in LAB projects, and engaged in activities at Colaboradora. Every Monday, I would attend the dance class “Artes do Corpo” in which we studied the relationship between body, mental health and nature.

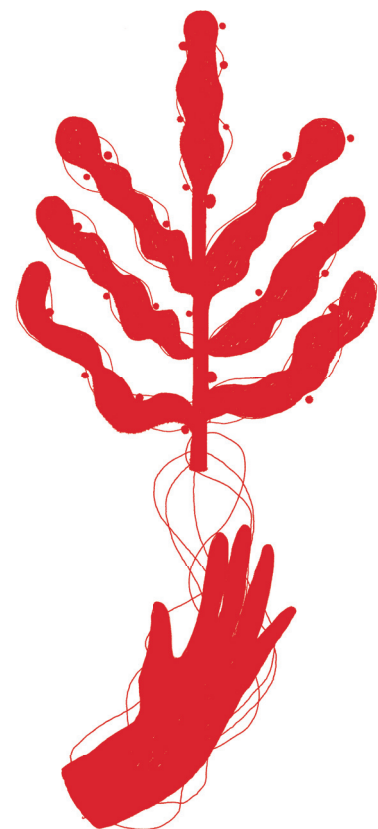
On Fridays, I would attend Colaboradora, and on other days, I would participate in various working groups. It was a beautiful way to get to know the Procomum’s protagonists and become accustomed to new bodies, sounds and shapes that surrounded me.

After 2 months, I started to reap the seeds of that constant presence of mine, which was slowly becoming commonplace - and I found recognition in the corridors of Procomum.

As my Portuguese improved, I started translating documents from Portuguese to English. Something that, surprisingly, I loved! Besides that, I kept searching for funding, but soon it started to feel like a failed attempt after reaching out to everyone in my personal network and not receiving any substantial financial support.

There were weeks when I was super busy and felt that I fit into Procomum’s puzzle, while other weeks I felt extremely useless and insecure, wondering if my previous sense of belonging had been mere foolishness or delusion.

Magui, my supervisor, challenged my insecurities by teaching me an important lesson: our contributions are not solely measured by productivity or the work we can showcase to others. Instead, even the smallest acts can make the biggest difference. I soon discovered that my small acts, such as baking a Dutch pie and bringing it to the meetings, being physically present almost four or five days a week, getting to know familiar faces in different spaces, and finding other open-hearted individuals who were willing to listen, were creating a loving connection with the Procomum community. The small ways I contributed made a big difference in how I felt part of the community. It’s something that the whole capitalist rat race (like the one I experienced back in university), could never have given me.

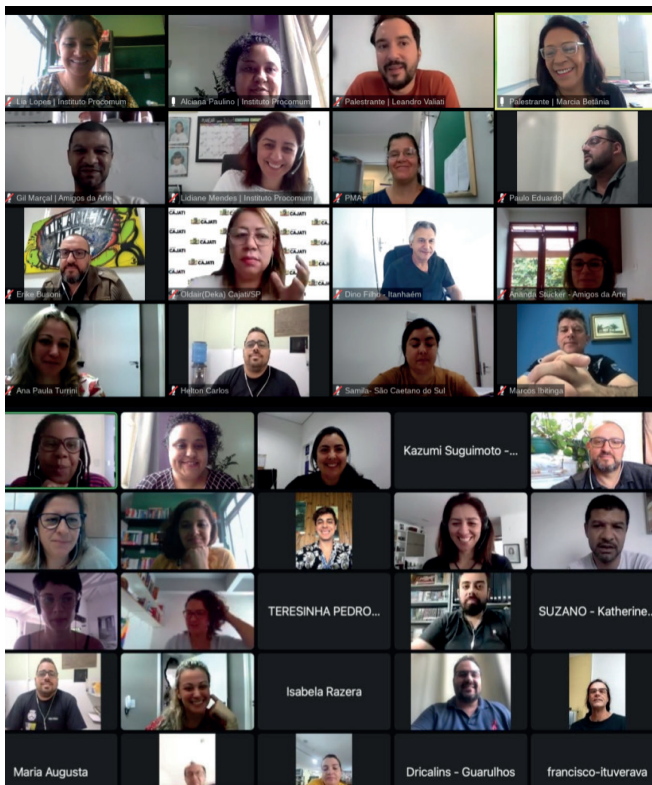


Services

Revelando's Educational Program

In partnership with Associação Amigos da Arte (Friends of Art Association), IP coordinated, for the second consecutive year, the Revelando SP festival, an online educational program that provided training for Agents of traditional culture in the state of São Paulo. For three months, approximately 60 artisans and culinary specialists underwent classes, workshops, lectures, mentoring and collective meetings for the development of economic activity and its sustainability. Following the methodologies developed by LAB Procomum in addition to the training sessions, the series of meetings also promoted networking and collaboration, building entrepreneurial stamina.

- 121 entrepreneurs of 50 cities of São Paulo
- 26 online training hours (12h from SEBRAE - Brazilian Support Service for the Micro and Small Enterprises and 14h from Instituto Procomum)
- Average of 75% active student participation
- In total, there were 29 people involved (directly and indirectly) 2 formations (between Executive Coordination, Facilitators, Mentors and Procomum team)



Mais Gestão Program

Also in tandem with Amigos da Arte, Procomum implemented a series of training activities for cultural managers, aiming to develop public policies related to creative economy. The idea is to foster a state network of collaboration to promote projects and practices in the area of culture. In total, there were more than 40 managers of municipalities in the state of São Paulo who participated for two months in lectures on the formulation of collaborative networks and creative economy connected to cultural production, heritage and tourism, technology and climate crisis. Furthermore, there was scheduled time allocated for participants to exchange about their personal experiences and challenges. All subscribers have access to the program via streaming on YouTube.

- **100** public managers from **50** municipalities in the state of São Paulo
- **26-hour** online training (18h live via Zoom + 8-hour virtual lessons available in Distance Education/EaD)
- **65%** active student participation
- Development of Procomum's EaD platform (Moodle system).
- **93,7%** participants rated the lectures as good or excellent.



Procomum Partners

Global Innovation Gathering - GIG

In 2022, Instituto Procomum became a member of the Global Innovation Gathering (GIG), a community based in Germany, composed of a diverse network of innovation hubs, makerspaces, hackerspaces and other community spaces of grassroots innovation alongside innovators, makers, technologists and agents of change. Despite its recent launching, the community already has more than 150 members.

Like Instituto Procomum, GIG strives to cultivate a new vision for global cooperation and the pursuit of equality. It also aims to facilitate knowledge sharing to ensure that the field of technology becomes increasingly diverse, always guided by the principles of sustainability. GIG provides a platform for knowledge exchange among its members and, as a result, Instituto Procomum and GIG share objectives and walk along similar paths.

Institutional support

Sleeping Giants and Instituto Chegados

Exu's wisdom teaches us that community is empowered through exchange. With open methodologies and collaboration, 2022 was also a year of providing institutional support.

“The first contact we had with Procomum came from an action of Instituto ELOS called Guerreiros Sem Armas (‘Warriors Without Weapons’). I came here on IP in 2018 and I loved this beautiful and cozy space from day one. In 2019, I came to be part of A Colaboradora, the program for social entrepreneurs from Baixada Santista. It was such an amazing process of learning and connecting with this producer network of our region’s youth. From that moment, we created bonds and a family that generates results until today in our practices. They are our partners! In addition, there is a familiarization with the institutional part of Procomum. So today we go through a process of continuous mentoring, exchanging of ideas and clearing doubts up... When it comes to adopting solutions at Instituto Chegados, we always see Procomum as reference and support network.”

DENER XAVIER
Instituto Chegados

Report 2022 Procomum Institute

Instituto Procomum is a non-profit organization founded in 2017 that works to activate and participate in networks whose focus is to promote social transformation and invent a common world among different ones.

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