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Bogotá



Common Library Projects: A Collaborative Outreach Strategy Between Public and Community Libraries in Bogotá

Where are we?





146

Public reading spaces

31 Libraries
95 Paraderos Paralibros Paraparques - PPP
12 Libraries in public transit stations
1 Bookmobile
2 Itinerant libraries
4 Reading rooms
1 Digital Library

More than **75.000** visits per year






BIBLIOTECA PÚBLICO
ESCOLAR PARQUILLA





Public libraries are not enough:
according to IFLA, Bogotá has a deficit of public libraries in relation to its population

31
Public libraries

245
Community libraries

+9 mi
Citizens



Participatory methodology for creating a Common Library Project focused on a specific topic or territory

1

Empathy
Mutual understanding

2

Conversation
Recognizing one another within the territory

3

Define
Find a common challenge

4

Collaborative Design
Co - creation

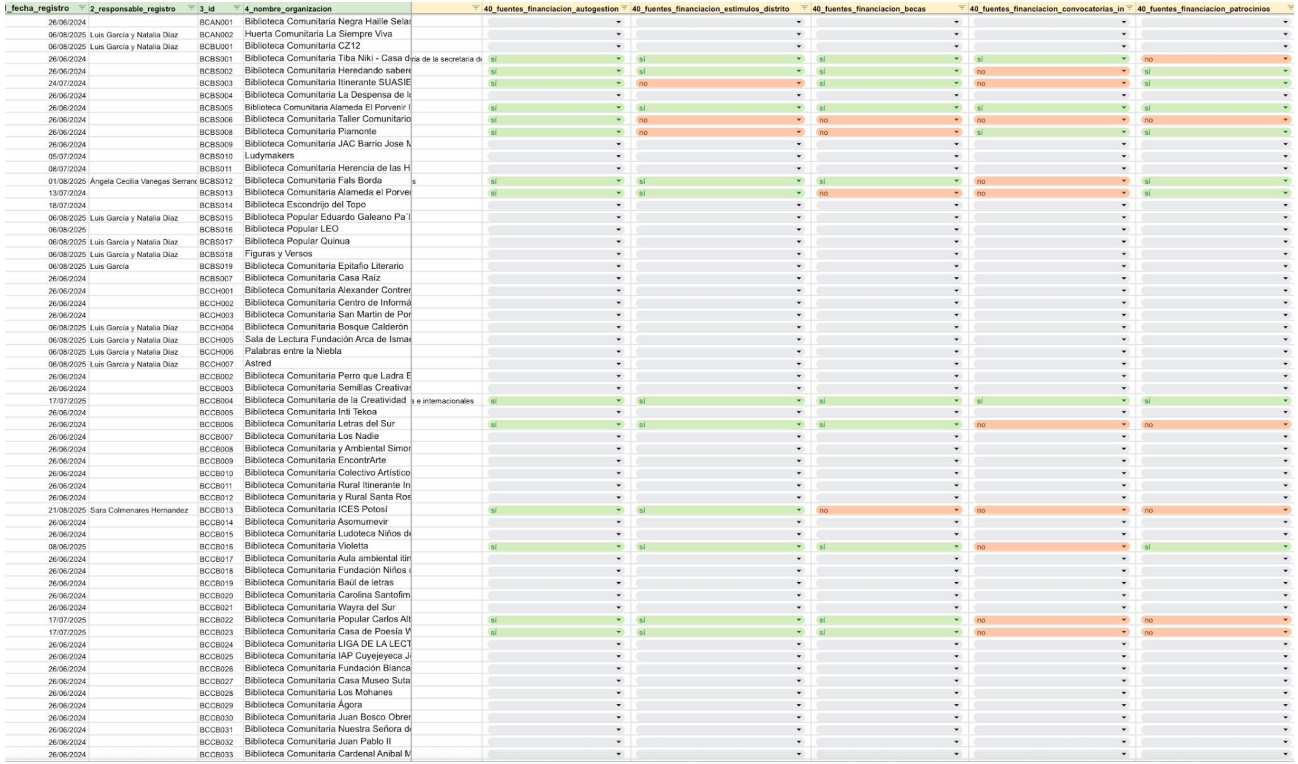
Empathy

Understand others to build connections

- Design of a tool for data collection.
- Fieldwork (on-site visits to community libraries).



Tool



_fecha_registro	2_responsable_registro	3_id	4_nombre_organizacion		40_fuentes_financiacion_autogestion	40_fuentes_financiacion_estimulos_distrito	40_fuentes_financiacion_becas	40_fuentes_financiacion_convocatorias_in	40_fuentes_financiacion_patrocinios
26/06/2024		BCAN001	Biblioteca Comunitaria Negra Haille Selas						
06/08/2025	Luis García y Natalia Díaz	BCAN002	Huerta Comunitaria La Siempre Viva						
06/08/2025	Luis García y Natalia Díaz	BCBU001	Biblioteca Comunitaria CZ12						
26/06/2024		BCBS001	Biblioteca Comunitaria Tiba Niki - Casa d	ra de la secretaria d	sí	sí	sí	sí	no
26/06/2024		BCBS002	Biblioteca Comunitaria Heredando saber		sí	sí	sí	no	sí
24/07/2024		BCBS003	Biblioteca Comunitaria Itinerante SUASIE		sí	no	sí	no	sí
26/06/2024		BCBS004	Biblioteca Comunitaria La Despensa de l						
26/06/2024		BCBS005	Biblioteca Comunitaria Alameda El Porvenir		sí	sí	sí	sí	sí
26/06/2024		BCBS006	Biblioteca Comunitaria Taller Comunitario		sí	no	no	no	no
26/06/2024		BCBS008	Biblioteca Comunitaria Piamonte		sí	no	no	sí	sí
26/06/2024		BCBS009	Biblioteca Comunitaria JAC Barrio Jose M						
05/07/2024		BCBS010	Ludymakers						
08/07/2024		BCBS011	Biblioteca Comunitaria Herencia de las H						
01/08/2025	Ángela Cecilia Vanegas Serran	BCBS012	Biblioteca Comunitaria Fals Borda	s	sí	sí	sí	no	sí
13/07/2024		BCBS013	Biblioteca Comunitaria Alameda el Porve		sí	sí	no	no	sí
18/07/2024		BCBS014	Biblioteca Escondrijo del Topo						
06/08/2025	Luis García y Natalia Díaz	BCBS015	Biblioteca Popular Eduardo Galeano Pa'l						
06/08/2025		BCBS016	Biblioteca Popular LEO						
06/08/2025	Luis García y Natalia Díaz	BCBS017	Biblioteca Popular Quinua						
06/08/2025	Luis García y Natalia Díaz	BCBS018	Figuras y Versos						
06/08/2025	Luis García	BCBS019	Biblioteca Comunitaria Epitafio Literario						
26/06/2024		BCBS007	Biblioteca Comunitaria Casa Raiz						
26/06/2024		BCCH001	Biblioteca Comunitaria Alexander Contre						
26/06/2024		BCCH002	Biblioteca Comunitaria Centro de Informá						
26/06/2024		BCCH003	Biblioteca Comunitaria San Martín de Por						
06/08/2025	Luis García y Natalia Díaz	BCCH004	Biblioteca Comunitaria Bosque Calderón						
06/08/2025	Luis García y Natalia Díaz	BCCH005	Sala de Lectura Fundación Arca de Ismae						
06/08/2025	Luis García y Natalia Díaz	BCCH006	Palabras entre la Niebla						
06/08/2025	Luis García y Natalia Díaz	BCCH007	Astred						
26/06/2024		BCCB002	Biblioteca Comunitaria Perro que Ladra E						
26/06/2024		BCCB003	Biblioteca Comunitaria Semillas Creativas						
17/07/2025		BCCB004	Biblioteca Comunitaria de la Creatividad	s e internacionales	sí	sí	sí	sí	sí
26/06/2024		BCCB005	Biblioteca Comunitaria Inti Tekoa						
26/06/2024		BCCB006	Biblioteca Comunitaria Letras del Sur		sí	sí	sí	no	no
26/06/2024		BCCB007	Biblioteca Comunitaria Los Nadie						
26/06/2024		BCCB008	Biblioteca Comunitaria y Ambiental Simor						
26/06/2024		BCCB009	Biblioteca Comunitaria EncontrArte						
26/06/2024		BCCB010	Biblioteca Comunitaria Colectivo Artístico						
26/06/2024		BCCB011	Biblioteca Comunitaria Rural Itinerante In						
26/06/2024		BCCB012	Biblioteca Comunitaria y Rural Santa Ros						
21/08/2025	Sara Colmenares Hernandez	BCCB013	Biblioteca Comunitaria ICES Potosí		sí	sí	no	no	no
26/06/2024		BCCB014	Biblioteca Comunitaria Asomumevir						
26/06/2024		BCCB015	Biblioteca Comunitaria Ludoteca Niños de						
08/06/2025		BCCB016	Biblioteca Comunitaria Violetta		sí	sí	sí	no	sí
26/06/2024		BCCB017	Biblioteca Comunitaria Aula ambiental itir						
26/06/2024		BCCB018	Biblioteca Comunitaria Fundación Niños						
26/06/2024		BCCB019	Biblioteca Comunitaria Baúl de letras						
26/06/2024		BCCB020	Biblioteca Comunitaria Carolina Santofim						
26/06/2024		BCCB021	Biblioteca Comunitaria Wayra del Sur						
17/07/2025		BCCB022	Biblioteca Comunitaria Popular Carlos Alt		sí	sí	sí	no	no
17/07/2025		BCCB023	Biblioteca Comunitaria Casa de Poesía W		sí	sí	sí	no	no
26/06/2024		BCCB024	Biblioteca Comunitaria LIGA DE LA LECT						
26/06/2024		BCCB025	Biblioteca Comunitaria IAP Cuyejeyeca J						
26/06/2024		BCCB026	Biblioteca Comunitaria Fundación Blanca						
26/06/2024		BCCB027	Biblioteca Comunitaria Casa Museo Sutaz						
26/06/2024		BCCB028	Biblioteca Comunitaria Los Mohanes						
26/06/2024		BCCB029	Biblioteca Comunitaria Ágora						
26/06/2024		BCCB030	Biblioteca Comunitaria Juan Bosco Obrer						
26/06/2024		BCCB031	Biblioteca Comunitaria Nuestra Señora d						
26/06/2024		BCCB032	Biblioteca Comunitaria Juan Pablo II						
26/06/2024		BCCB033	Biblioteca Comunitaria Cardenal Aníbal M						

- 45 fields to complete with the interview (collections, services, activities)
- Boolean fields (yes/no)

Collaborative Design



4 projects
32 community libraries

- Environment and biocultural territories
- Participatory science and digital culture
- Memory and territory
- Territorial engagement

Some results

Environment and biocultural territories
Textile Books: an adaptation of cardboard books using textile waste to promote reading and environmental literacy

Territorial Engagement
Bookcup: A soccer, reading, and writing competition for young people that encourages them to engage with their local libraries





Common library projects

Public is **FOR** everybody
Common is **WITH** everybody

Key learnings

1. Trial and Error: We didn't know how to begin, but we started anyway
2. Learn from Others: Explore other experiences and make use of available toolkits
3. You are more innovative than you think
4. Make it your own: Adapt everything to your context. Science fiction, pluriverse.

Designs for the pluriverse: Radical interdependence, autonomy, and the making of worlds - Arturo Escobar: designers can help societies transition toward more sustainable, equitable, and democratic futures



How do we conceive the digital culture?



Access to digital content

Multi-format, diverse thematic areas and approaches to accessibility and usability.



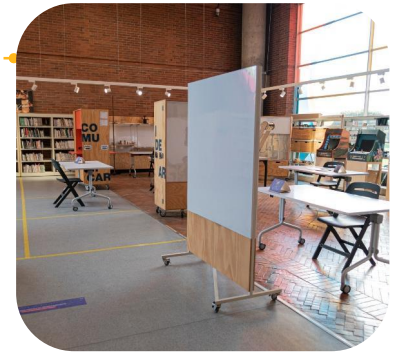


Creation and participation with a critical approach

Digital literacy, memory labs, adaptable methodologies.

Co-creation

Promote the use of technologies through collaboration, experimentation, and learning from mistakes.





Coordinated projects

Collaboration between public and community libraries



PBC Digital Culture and Innovation

A space for innovation and collaboration aimed at designing and implementing strategies to close the digital divide in Bogotá's libraries, which allowed for the identification and analysis of the specific needs of participating libraries and the development of solutions adapted to their contexts.

Components

- Characterization
- Co-design of the Prototype of the Bogotá Offline Digital Library, Training Spaces with Community Libraries
- Course Overcoming gaps: community librarians in a digital world



PBC Community Science

Development of community science and digital culture experiences from the contexts of different areas of the city.

Components:
Educational materials, community science workshops, co-designed mobile device.



Thank you!

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