

Call-invitation from the Brazilian Amazon

Let's re-imagine?

Greetings from the **Rivers of Meeting** project, in the Afro-Indigenous community of Cabelo Seco, Marabá city, Pará, between the Itacaiúnas and Tocantins Rivers. We belong to the Brazilian Network of Arteducators (ABRA). Together we are organizing **Rivers of Creativity**: cultural action for life, which includes 'Future Now!' (exchange of projects, February-July 2017); 'Worldwide Wave' (solidarity action with the Amazon, 27-30 May 2017); and 'Forum of Good-Life' (28 July-04 August 2017). We invite you to re-imagine the future and collaborate, at home and even here in the Amazon!

Why?

It has rained here only once in the last 9 months. Tributaries are drying. We live respiratory crises every day. This is already impacting on you, as the **invisible river in the sky** created by the Amazon's forests, generates water for the world and regulates every ecosystem on the planet.

In Paris, December 2015, 177 countries promised to try to hold global warming to 1.5C above pre-industrial levels, until 2030. That limit has already almost been reached. Yet 29 hydroelectric plants are planned for the Amazon alone, by 2030.

The scientific community knows we are sprinting towards ecocide. Why does it not speak out more? Would it provoke a tsunami of global panic? Rivers of Creativity is more than an invitation. It is a call for us to act together, in time!

One hour from Marabá, 40 kilometres of huge rocks protect the River Tocantins. The Lourenção Rocks will be dynamited in June 2018 to deepen the river, to ship timber, beef, GM-soya and steel from the largest mining project in the world, powered by Belo Monte and Tucuruí Hydroelectric Plants, and by the planned Marabá Plant. Can we intervene to change this future?

Marabá's population of 240,000 is governed by extreme social inequality and absence of human rights and justice, sustained by a drug-regulated civil war and the worst state high-school education in the country. We live above the largest deposit of iron-ore in the world. The current multinational exploitation will strengthen the corrupt, unelected elite that has just taken power in Brazil.



Cultural action to protect the River Tocantins, filmed and posted!

In these circumstances, what acts of solidarity and partnership will inspire Marabá's poor to look beyond survival and risk choosing hope? In times of systemic collapse, what act of solidarity will touch the powerful in the Pan-Amazon region and the 'developed' world to look beyond power and risk choosing life for all? Can we transform the impossible into the everyday?

3 Objectives to reimagine the future

We want to popularise already existing mature projects throughout the world. And we want to begin 12 international partnerships here in the region, around Marabá, in 2017-18. In this way, we will demonstrate sustainable ECONomic development and inspire Marabá as an intelligent city, entirely sustained by solar energy by 2022.

If Marabá, supported by the world, chooses wellbeing over the socio-environmental tragedies of hydroelectric power, and protects the vital, renewing global power of the Amazon, it might turn itself into a symbol of global popular will.



How will we do this?

We have already created a platform to popularise exemplary projects throughout the world. Now, to transform a pessimistic future into an open horizon of hope, active questioning children take centre stage!

Worldwide Wave

We want to generate a glocal wave of solidarity for the Amazon. Between 29-30 May, cultural actions in solidarity with the River Tocantins and all the waters and forests on the planet, co-organized with young people for children, will be posted as 30-60 second clips on Facebook, on 01 June, World Day of the Environment, and connected on our platform, generating waves of hope and proposals for the future.

Forum of Good-Life

This wave of solidarity will launch an arts-rich forum in Marabá, 01-03 august, on a boat on the River Tocantins, exchanges between 12 international and 12 local partners that are already creating projects (in education, health, economics, leisure or security), powered by solar energy.

Network of Resources

In this way, you (here or from a distance) and communities in this region can participate in a symbolic action (worldwide wave), a collaborative project (forum), or exchange of resources (network), so that the Southeast of Pará can reimagine itself and contribute to the evolution of cities of wellbeing, free from the devastating exploitation by megaprojects, in .

Timetable of participation

February - May 2017

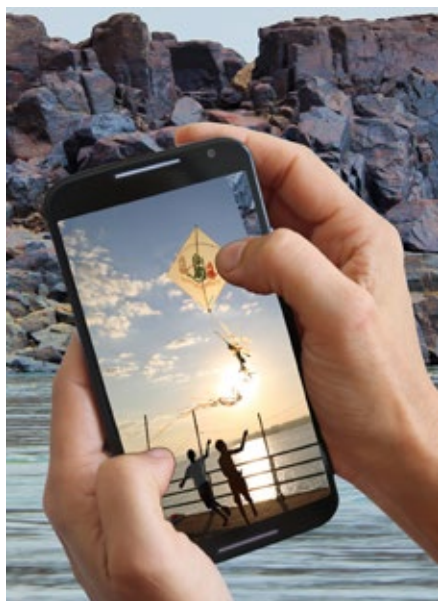
Identify and invite networks and projects to participate in Rivers of Creativity
Send links/emails of projects about the future, relevant to Rivers of Creativity

From 05 June 2017 (World Environment Day)

Participate in the Worldwide Wave of Solidarity and post clips, poems, music, songs, fotos etc (hashtag #RiosDeCriatividade)

28 July - 04 August 2017

Participate in the Forum of Wellbeing
in Marabá or from a distance (sending clips, poems, songs, stories, etc: hashtag #RiosDeCriatividade
Detailed program in construction



Join us and the Federal University of South and Southeast Pará in this vital project, funded by the Ministries of Culture and of Education of 2015.

If you are interested in participating, please fill-in the formula on our site:

<http://riversofcreativity.com>

Thanks for your interest

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Dan Baron Cohen', followed by a long horizontal line.

Dan Baron Cohen, President of ABRA

production



support

