

Future systemic and value mapping as a tool for peace and deliberation

de la Rosa, Juan Alfonso*^a; Mahecha, Diana María ^a;

^a Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Colombia

* jadelarosam@unal.edu.co

doi.org/10.21606/iasdr.2023.440

This paper introduces the initial participatory design process done with a community coming from the armed conflict in Colombia as ex-combatants trying to build a lasting state of peace; as well as the use of design research methodologies of participation and deliberation using value-mapping and future systemic mapping to produce collective plans, decide on strategic actions and create infrastructure to facilitate their intentions. Through the paper, the methodology is reviewed, and the participatory design research process is described; based on the first stage of the research, some initial reflections and findings are presented regarding an alternative use of the methodology and possible positive and negative effects.

Keywords: *participatory design-research; value-mapping, design for peace; deliberative democracy*

1 Introduction

In 2016, the Government of Colombia and the FARC (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia), one of the oldest guerrillas in Latin America, sign a peace agreement to pursue a peaceful resolution to the 50+ years of armed conflict. This ongoing process has presented several challenges, from securing the means that are required to transition from a long lasting armed conflict into a more stable democratic state, to reconcile the public perception that the guerrilla members were looking for absolution of their war crimes and reinsertion into society, with their goal of a more socially oriented society based on Marxists theories, where they have only agreed to move to a democratic process as a different path to achieve that.

The transition process led to the definition and construction of several rural settlements to shelter the communities coming as signatories of those agreements. These new settlements were called ETCR (Territorial Spaces for Training and Reintegration) and were intended as boundary spaces of decompression and transition from a military discipline to a civilian community.

Although there were important efforts from a participatory perspective to design their settlements as customized spaces determined to acknowledge their common practices before the peace agreement,



the lack of reflection over what those practices represented for their future might also mean that the intents of the Colombian governments to create rural settlements with common basic infrastructure to receive ex-combatants might also present an unalignment between the values of the community and the social values upheld by the government that are being embedded into the infrastructure of these towns. This observation does not only come from a theoretical perspective but has also been corroborated by different previous interviews with the community members in the early stages of this research process.

Based on that observation our research team proposed the use of a design research methodology to involve the community of 'Villa Paz', one of the ETCRs from the Orinoco region of Colombia close to the city of Arauca near the border with Venezuela, in a process of collaborative ideation of their possibilities for the future based on recognizing the values that they have as a group and their intentions to uphold those values or transform them.

This design-research project was mainly supported, among other organizations and ngo's, by Universidad Nacional de Colombia, whose commitment with the reconstruction of the peace in Colombia is defined as a foundational principle. As the largest public university of Colombia, Universidad Nacional was founded over the idea of social transformation and a more equitable society grounded in education. Based on this commitment, in 2019, Universidad Nacional established a National Peace Network called 'Red Paz UNAL', to connect the efforts of the government, the society and the academia to produce meaningful advances into a more stable for of peace (Santos, 2022).

Red Paz UNAL projects deal with the peace process in Colombia in different aspects, from the construction of memory and the historical definition of the conflict to community capacity building for sustainable economic growth, to recognizing societal issues and finding possible ways to address them. These projects are defined by situated principles and local realities and determined by the specific needs of each regional settlement. Therefore, the initial part of the research presented in this paper focusses in the intentions for public infrastructure development for 'Villa Paz'.

The project developed by scholars from Universidad Nacional de Colombia with the community of 'Villa Paz' included among other areas, the support of productive programs by the College of Agriculture and Zootechnics, a community school for cinema and creative writing by the College of Arts, and a participatory assessment of educational needs by the Institute of Education. Finally, the project presented here was intended as a participatory process of analysis of the infrastructure needs of the settlement as a strategic action to achieve a common future more aligned with the social and political intentions of the community.

The research conducted was not defined as Participatory Action Research but as Participatory Design Research, and therefore, adhering to the methodologies of design research does not initiates with a research question, but instead, with a research problem to be addressed. In this case, the problem was defined as to create collaborative plans for the public infrastructure of 'Villa Paz' based on their deliberated collective values and worldviews.

In this paper we present the findings and reflections of the initial workshops based on the methodology presented by de la Rosa and Ruecker (2020) and developed with the community of ex-combatants of one 'Ville Paz'. The main concern of the community is that based on the 2016 Peace Agreements they were temporary relocated by the Colombian Government in their rural settlement

without a clear view of the future of their community and how their story, values and views were going to be protected. We seek to describe how this research-practice might help this community to leverage their peace intentions.

2 Theoretical framework

The idea introduced by Herbert Simon (1969) of design as a “Science of the Artificial” has been widely accepted as a valuable contribution to the definition of this discipline. Acknowledging Simon’s definition of design presents for us two important implications. First, that the main function of design resides in the configuration of planned tangible actions, deployed in the world with the clear intention of producing a desirable transformation, and second, that consequently its action is always future-oriented and systemic in nature, meaning that these actions seek to affect its surroundings and produce a future reconfiguration of the socio-technical system.

Although other disciplines hold a similar nature and intention, over the years design practitioners and researchers have become adamant on declaring their intention to create meaningful transformations through design action and practice; and more recently, to address global issues as an opportunity to find new paths for cultural, social or technological transformations (Irwin, Kossoff, Tonkinwise, 2015; Manzinni & Margolin, 2017). This transformative spirit has led design researchers to observe Participatory Action Research (PAR) and its paradigm of knowledge production based on facing complex problems and finding possible solutions through a collaborative effort as a coherent research practice.

In that sense, the work of de la Rosa and Ruecker (2020) and de la Rosa, Ruecker and Nohora (2021) using decentred prototypes and systemic mapping of possible futures as a tangible form of deliberation among communities, presents a reflection regarding the arguments introduced before about Simon’s perspective, by addressing the action, the systemic view, and the future oriented practice as a form of research. Since the focus of this methodology is not merely intend as action but as future-oriented, strategic planning, it can be better defined as Participatory Design Research (PDR) than PAR.

When addressing an issue like the one presented in the introduction, of unalignment between the values of a community and the views of a government, PDR main objective resides in empowering the participants to discuss and recognize those values and deliberate over what those values imply to different possible futures.

We can define this notion of unalignment from the scholar work of politics of the objects presented by Wiener (1980) and the more recent work of scholars like Batya Friedman and Helen Nissenbaum (1996) regarding embedded values in technology (Flanagan, et.al., 2008). The idea that the objects and technology we produce are embedded with our views and values and carry the politics as part of their design also implies that when the design process is foreign to the values of the community, objects get embedded with external values that are predominant in the system but not necessarily in the community where the design is needed.

In this case, the research proposes the use of methods like future-systemic mapping or value mapping to collaboratively understand how infrastructure could leverage the intentions for the future of the community, the actions that could be taken by the local and national authorities to provide it or

facilitate it, and the possible strategic actions of the community to achieve transformation and experiment with other social and political forms of society.

The idea of infrastructure as a facilitator of social transformation has been previously introduced in PAR and PDR literature through the idea of redefining infrastructure as an action rather than an object and therefore changing the word into the verb 'infrastructuring' (Karasti & Syrjänen, 2004). According to Karasti, "Infrastructuring emerged as a way to advance the overarching community interests. It integrated with the communities' ongoing activities and was embedded in multiple contexts relevant for the communities over extended periods" (2014, p.142).

These practices of design and design research that seek to encourage or facilitate peace have sparked an ongoing interest inside academic communities to recognize the methods, results and theory that could emerge from these projects, yet there is not a significant body of references in design research literature regarding this topic. Nevertheless, it is possible to identify some references to the relationship that can be constructed between peace and infrastructures that could emerge to facilitate it, like the work of Richmond (2013) and van Tongeren (2011), but regarding design and peace in Colombia we only found Tellez's (2019) paper regarding the use of communication design to create common agreements towards the peace process.

There is also large literature that references infrastructure and design for democratic engagement and participation. Since the appearance of internet in the 90's scholars have studied its effects on democratic participation. More recently, the argument over the tangible forms of interactions and the way those are design has also become a topic of research, in that sense, Wright and Street (2007) argue that the design of a proper interface for online deliberation could improve participation and facilitate a democratic process, even more, the studies presented by Morison and Newman (2001) suggest that the design of an interface has clear effects on how people deliberate online and determines the spirit and interactions of participants. Todd Davies and Seeta Peña Gangadharan (2009) also presented a strong compilation of scholar work regarding online participation and the effect that design has on it.

The idea of correlation between interface design and deliberation has led to the study of possible ways to consciously design to increase participation and improve deliberation. In that topic, Rose and Sæbø (2010) present their studies regarding the design of platforms for online deliberation, while others like de la Rosa, Ruecker and Nohora (2021) argue for the use of design research methods for the definition of physical spaces for deliberation. Others, like Dawm Brancati (2010), suggest that the systemic design of a political system could facilitate social change and facilitate peace.

There is also significant literature in design for conflict resolution, from the work of Kahane, A. (2017) regarding community work among opposing factions on a complex scenario, to the scholar work of embedded values and notions like the use of values in the design process to reduce the conflict among participants (Fleischmann, et.al., 2011). Forlano and Mathew (2014) also present a valuable contribution with the notion of friction used to avoid a convergence into solutions that might ignore diverse views and intentions.

3 Research methodology

Based on the analysis that there was the need for a more politically aligned infrastructure for the community of 'Villa Paz', we decided to use the methodology presented by de la Rosa and Ruecker (2020) regarding the use of value and future mapping as a form of collective conversation aimed to facilitate deliberation. The intention was to be able to determine if this approach would spark future-oriented conversations and lead the community into the definition on a clearer view of their desired future and the definition of strategic actions and infrastructure that can leverage the transition.

3.1 Values and Future Systemic Mapping

The methodology introduced by de la Rosa and Ruecker (2020) presented three basic elements: first, a value mapping phase, then the construction of decentred prototypes as a reflective mechanism about possible aspects of the future, and a future mapping process to envision how those aspects could be integrated into a common deliberated view of the future.

This methodology can be related to PAR (Fals Borda, 1979) and Co-design (Manzini, 2015) as it involves active community participation and it seeks to produce knowledge regarding the way in which a social problem is addressed and solutions are constructed through a collaborative process, yet it also seeks to produce new knowledge about the future, more specific, of how communities build mechanisms of participation and deliberation passed the idea of solving present issues or needs, and leapfrogging into definitions possible futures.

The idea of leapfrogging implies that the aim of the improvement goes beyond the current issues that we are facing, and focuses on a systemic transformation, this notion could be found in the literature of innovation, where instead of focusing on incremental innovation, the aim becomes a disruptive process of transformation, but a better understanding could be traced to the work of Simondon (1951) who, in his doctoral dissertation, presented the idea of 'continuous improvement' as a form of improvement that sees a system as functional, and seeks to recognize small problems that can be fixed, and the 'discontinuous improvement' as a stage in which the system requires major transformation and a complete reframing must be considered.

Producing knowledge about or envisioning a more desirable future should not be seen as imagination or aspiration, but as a decision-making process that creates an understanding of action, repercussions and agreements that must be constructed to guarantee course correction of our actions and decisions, what Simon describes in the 'science of the artificial' as the role of design, or how do we study the human world unfolds and become as a conscious process of decision making.

From the perspective of the authors, it is vital that we build this type of knowledge regarding the artificial world and how it comes to existence, since these decisions and considerations regarding the future are necessary in a world that seemed to have accepted one single view of the future with very little awareness of its consequences and a sense of inevitability over our choices.

New methods that challenge the idea that the knowledge we can capture might only be about what already happened or the state of the world as it is, could present a more active approach for research practices like PAR and PDR, and allow communities to gain more agency regarding their future as well as a better understanding about how decisions could be made concerning their intentions and worldviews.

3.2 Situated research and methodological modifications

PAR techniques are known for their situated nature, although there are some common elements like the iterative nature, the qualitative self-ethnographic view and its active nature, the knowledge that is produced is specific to the problem communities are facing and methods tend to change, and update based on the conditions of the community and the challenges they face.

The workshops presented for this research paper were organized collaboratively between Universidad Nacional, the United Nations, the Colombian Government, and the community of 'Villa Paz' to be held inside their community, two hours west of the city Arauca, in the middle of an area where there is still armed conflict happening. This presented several challenges: from the logistics of traveling and organizing workshop requirements, to simple things as to provide lunch to every participant.

Due to the lack of time and the constrains of traveling to the remote location of the 'Villa Paz' settlement, we decided to reduce the process to the mapping part of it and see if we could achieve a reflective state of deliberation among participants that could lead into reframing their definition of needs and requirements for the public infrastructure of their settlement. Therefore, instead of the three sessions proposed in the description of the methodology on our literature review, we reduced it to a two-part workshop organized throughout a day of work.

The use of decentred prototypes is presented in the literature as a tangible mechanism of conversation that allows participants to observe different perspectives of the future and bring these views into the conversation regarding how the different intentions among community members can be incorporated into a plan for their desired future, what actions can be taken to lead into the right direction and who becomes responsible of every strategic action. We propose that some of the tangible nature proposed to be held by the prototypes can be observed in the maps that are produced and therefore those could partially fulfil the same purpose of the prototypes, allowing participants to deliberate regarding the future of the community.

4 Field participatory design research in 'Villa Paz'

As mentioned before, based on the restrictions of access and the need to achieve some results during the day, along with the community we organized a two consecutive parts workshop to be done in the same day. The initial results and reflections of these workshops are presented in this paper to establish possible follow up scholar work. The schedule proposed based on the methodology was (Table 1):

Table 1. Schedule for the two-parts workshop

Time	Activity
8:00 am	Morning introduction (building trust).
8:30 am	Setting up the goals of the workshop so every participant could express their views.
9:00 am	Story building exercise.
9:30 am	Storytelling, collective analysis, and value-mapping using sticky-notes.
12 m	Lunch time
1:30 pm	Recollection of the morning work.
2:00 pm	Coding and mapping of values.
3:00 pm	Future mapping infrastructure projects, needs, values and intentions.
4:00pm	Conclusions and end of the workshop.

During the first workshop, each participant constructed a small narrative (Figure 1a) throughout the morning in which they described their community as well as future scenarios of 'well-being' or what has been described in literature from South American indigenous cultures as 'buen-vivir' (Acosta, 2010; Escobar, 2012, 2018), to later, in a process of value-mapping, collectively analyse which values were used or were embedded into the narratives, to finally use sticky notes to create boards of values that could be clustered into different larger groups or categories (Figure 1b).



Figure 1(a, b). Initial process of narrative building and value analysis and mapping

These values collected through narratives can be described as future-oriented or those that are considered by the community to be important to protect or uphold, as well as how those can be used as mechanisms to encourage conversations and deliberation regarding the actions that the community should take to align their future with their specific worldviews. We see the use of narratives as a process of qualitative interviewing regarding desirable values that is not restricted to a conceptual space but instead proposes a very clear application of those values to their lives, also, the use of collective analysis separates from a colonialist view of a researcher who objectively analyses the information to provide decisive conclusions and instead seeks to create agency for the participants and provide a deliberative environment for the community to decide what path is the desirable for them.

Therefore, this process becomes more about problem solving and understanding how those problems could be addressed, than about collecting data about their situation.

After a lunch break, the participants were asked to collaborate into the mapping and clustering process, to create a better understanding of how the needs that they expressed before the workshop could be reframe through their values and views of the future. The central discussion previously presented by the community was the lack of a cultural centre and a public library, since they believe that those could improve their quality of live and the education of their families and through the use of the clustered values they started to reconfigure or clarify what were their real intentions towards the future and how their values and those intentions could affect the configuration of the projects of infrastructure being pursued by the community (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Process of value-clustering and future mapping as a form of deliberation.

It is important to point out that this groups coming from a war conflict did not have the chance to start a family while fighting in the jungle, so now they are experiencing a 'baby boom' in their settlement and a sudden responsibility to provide and plan for the future of their families.

Although the clustering process in qualitative research is described as a mechanism based on logical relationships between concepts, is evident that the analysis is culturally situated and carry political views. Therefore, this process of analysis could also be used as a tool for conversation and deliberation among participants. These new maps presented social principles that were deliberated by the community through the clustering process.

The deliberation process performed with the community seemed very similar to the one described in the literature, yet we were able to observe that it was more focussed than described, and even though it aimed into a farther deliberated notion of the future, it did not present the same variety of individual views to incorporate in the conversation. Although some participants would bring their experience to the table as reference to their views, they were harder to incorporate in a systemic view of the future.

Regardless the differences in the methodology and the difficulty to produce divergent views of the future, the process facilitated a deliberation among participants regarding the type of infrastructure that was really needed and its reason for a common view of the future, the process presented bellow shows how the initial intentions diverge into a large group of values that is later synthesize a clustered view, in a second iteration the participants diverge again into the nature of their future intentions through the values that they previously determined and later converge into a roadmap for their community (Figure 3). This double divergence process fits into the description presented by Banathy (1989) and the literature of the methodology that we applied.

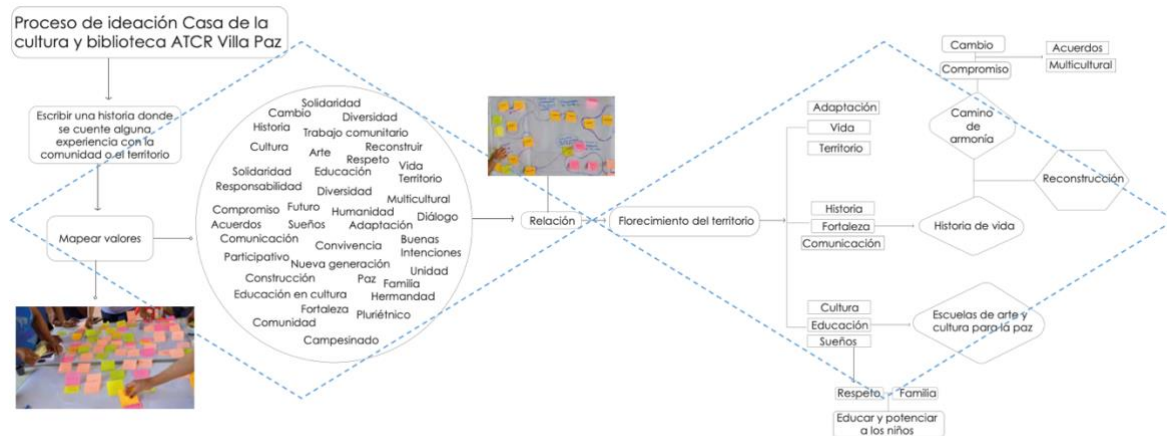


Figure 3. Process diagram including data collected through the workshop.

5 Conclusions

The first conclusion presented is that the workshop allowed basic deliberation based in the social values determined by the community, leading to conversations of the real intentions behind the cultural centre and the public library. In this case, the deliberation led to two main ideas, first, that the community considered that the memory (or the collective and individual narratives) of the conflict and how it reached the decision to be part of the peace process was central to their lives, since they expect their story to be an exemplar both to avoid repeating a violent conflict and to understand possible ways to leave one, therefore, both places should be designed to work in reference to that intention, the library as a place to collect the narratives and the stories, and the cultural centre as a place to enact, present and collectively reflect and discuss them.

They presented the idea of the local theatre plays as tool to reflect and as a living space for conversation, where their different views and stories could be incorporated into a larger narrative of the conflict and especially, of the peace process. Based on that, they recognized that they felt a lack of resources before, but that they saw that gap on the physical and economical resources, while after the conversation they were able to distinguish a need for capabilities regarding how to build and write narratives and the visual tools to express them on a community sourced play or short film that could present their views and perspectives about the history of Colombia.

Regarding the idea of common futures presented in the methodology, we can report that the mapping process of possible futures and the conversation produced as a form of qualitative analysis was able to spark conversation about the common goals of the community, more so, connecting the values recognized through the initial value mapping process led to conversations regarding their political and philosophical views of the world and how their future goals should represent those view.

This process also started a conversation regarding their cultural differences and how they did not share the same regional cultures, since they were brought as soldiers into the conflict from different areas of the country and move together into the 'Villa Paz' settlement as members of the same squadron rather than people sharing the same cultural background. This realization also led them to express that they did share more views about the future, and that their common past was related to the experience of the war and the labour of seeking for peace.

As mentioned before, a possible effect of suppressing the portion of the methodology where the community was required to produce divergent or decentred prototypes to observe for different paths or views inside the community, was the reduction of personal intentions or views that could enrich the deliberation by bringing opposite or conflicting views. A caveat to this observation resides in the nature and background of the community, since coming from a military background might also mean that they are less inclined to share personal views or embrace disagreement.

Nevertheless, we believe that the use of value mapping as part of the design process might lead to encourage participants to review the situated nature of their needs and the specific nuances required to fulfil those needs, helping the designer to avoid common solutions or stereotypes about the nature, form or affordances of the infrastructure required, as well as give them tools to really address the real issues and incorporate situated factors in the design process.

Complementing the methodology with the systemic future-mapping process seems to help us move the conversation away from the problem-solution paradigm into a generative and strategic paradigm where participants were encouraged to envision a whole new systemic structure for themselves and their role as facilitators of that future. This method seems to encourage a level of involvement and accountability over the future of the community.

In the infrastructure design practice is common to observe projects where the process of participation was limited to a request for practices or requirements to possible final users leading to infrastructure oriented to maintain the structure of the system by alleviating the tension of the needs of the present, rather than recognizing the true intentions of the community for the future (Aguirre-Núñez, 2018). Iskander (2018) describes this as part of the conservative nature of design thinking, where through a problem-solution paradigm true transformation of the system is ignored.

We believe that the work with communities in the peace process in Colombia is vital to continue securing a hospitable environment for true and durable peace, and especially is this work leads to recognize their true intentions and acknowledge their views and dissent from our current socio-political system. On a time of failure of many democratic and economic systems, it is indispensable that we search for new ways, and observing diverse views might provide clues into new possible solutions to wicked problems, therefore, we present this space as an important field for design researchers to produce new ideas and collaborate with communities to move forward together.

References

- Acosta, A. (2010). *El Buen Vivir en el camino del post-desarrollo: Una lectura desde la Constitución de Montecristi* (Vol. 9). Quito: Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung-ILDIS.
- Aguirre-Núñez, G. (2018). Citizen participation in a neoliberal context: 'empty ritual or real power'?. Master's thesis, Aalborg University, 2018.
- Brancati, D. (2010). *Peace by design: Managing intrastate conflict through decentralization*. OUP Oxford.
- Davies, T., & Gangadharan, S. P. (2009). *Online deliberation: Design, research, and practice*.
- de la Rosa, J. A., & Ruecker, S. (2020). Using prototypes to produce high-resolution systemic future maps. A proposed model for design research and knowledge. *Bitácora Urbano Territorial*, 30(2), 87-100.
- de la Rosa, J., Ruecker, S., & Nohora, C. G. (2021). Systemic mapping and design research: Towards participatory democratic engagement. *She Ji: The Journal of Design, Economics, and Innovation*, 7(2), 282-298.
- Escobar, A. (2012). *Notes on the Ontology of Design*. University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

- Escobar, A. (2018). *Designs for the pluriverse: Radical interdependence, autonomy, and the making of worlds*. Duke University Press.
- Fals Borda, O. (1979). *El problema de cómo investigar la realidad para transformarla*. Bogotá: Tercer Mundo.
- Flanagan, M., Howe, D. C., & Nissenbaum, H. (2008). *Embodying values in technology: Theory and practice* (p. 322). na.
- Fleischmann, K. R., Wallace, W. A., & Grimes, J. M. (2011). How values can reduce conflicts in the design process: Results from a multi-site mixed-method field study. *Proceedings of the American society for information science and technology*, 48(1), 1-10.
- Forlano, L., & Mathew, A. (2014). From design fiction to design friction: Speculative and participatory design of values-embedded urban technology. *Journal of Urban Technology*, 21(4), 7-24.
- Friedman, B., & Nissenbaum, H. (1996). Bias in computer systems. *ACM Transactions on Information Systems (TOIS)*, 14(3), 330-347.
- Irwin, T., Kossoff, G., & Tonkinwise, C. (2015). Transition design provocation. *Design Philosophy Papers*, 13(1), 3-11.
- Iskander, N. (2018, September 26). Design Thinking Is Fundamentally Conservative and Preserves the Status Quo. Retrieved October 21, 2018, from <https://hbr.org/2018/09/design-thinking-isfundamentally-conservative-and-preserves-the-status-quo>
- Karasti, H., & Syrjänen, A. L. (2004, July). Artful infrastructuring in two cases of community PD. In *Proceedings of the eighth conference on Participatory design: Artful integration: interweaving media, materials and practices*. 1, 20-30.
- Kahane, A. (2017). *Collaborating with the enemy: How to work with people you don't agree with or like or trust*. Berrett-Koehler Publishers.
- Manzini, E., & Margolin, V. (2017). Open letter to the design community: Stand up for democracy. *Diseña*, (11), 11-17.
- Morison, J., & Newman, D. R. (2001). On-line citizenship: consultation and participation in New Labour's Britain and beyond. *International review of law, computers & technology*, 15(2), 171-194.
- Richmond, O. P. (2013). Peace formation and local infrastructures for peace. *Alternatives*, 38(4), 271-287.
- Rose, J., & Sæbø, Ø. (2010). Designing deliberation systems. *The information society*, 26(3), 228-240.
- Santos, d. (2022). Red paz unal or an organizational transformational learning strategy to support territorial peace in Colombia from within the university. In *Iceri2022Proceedings* (pp. 5951-5951). Iated.
- Tellez, J. F. (2019). Peace agreement design and public support for peace: Evidence from Colombia. *Journal of Peace Research*, 56(6), 827-844.
- Van Tongeren, P. (2011). Increasing interest in infrastructures for peace. *Journal of Conflictology*, 2(2).
- Winner, L. (1980). Do artifacts have politics?. *Daedalus*, 121-136.
- Wright, S., & Street, J. (2007). Democracy, deliberation and design: the case of online discussion forums. *New media & society*, 9(5), 849-869.

About the Authors:

Juan Alfonso de la Rosa: Associate professor at the Design School of Universidad Nacional de Colombia with a Ph.D. in participatory design for public infrastructure. He is a Design researcher and scholar; his current research focuses in the sub-area of design for peace and design for policymaking. He has aimed his work to participation with communities towards the design of public infrastructure and situated policies that can strengthen their intentions and capacities to flourish in society without losing their worldviews.

Diana María Mahecha-Vesga: Student of the Masters in Design Research program at Universidad Nacional de Colombia, graphic designer, and photographer. Currently researching on the potentiality of Design and creation to build community relationships that allow the community to give a voice to produce collective projections of futures that are not codified in advance by the institutional and neoliberal logics of the present. Instructor of the National Learning Service SENA.

Acknowledgement: We acknowledge the community that open their home to try something new and embrace the idea of seeking alternative futures for themselves. Every participatory research process emerges with the intention to increasing the agency of the community as well include them as actors in the production of new knowledge, therefore we recognize the community of Villa Paz as authors of this paper.