

Open Call - Challenges for the Demo.Reset Lab
Collective intelligence for democratic innovation
Extituto de Política Abierta

Extituto de Política Abierta is looking for challenges postulated by professionals with experience related to processes of citizen participation and deliberative democracy from various disciplines (political scientists, artists, designers, etc.) to develop solution prototypes in Demo.Reset Lab.

The first section of this document contains information on the project and the second section on the details of the call.

1. ABOUT THE PROJECT:

What is the Extituto de Política Abierta?

The **Extituto de Política Abierta** is a non-profit civil society Think-Do tank, made up of a transdisciplinary team with experience in working with communities with a gender and territorial approach. Its mission is to strengthen social, political and collective leadership in political innovation practices so that they can influence, occupy and inhabit decision-making spaces, based on the pillars of Open Government and making use of civic technologies. In this way, we seek to contribute to a more open political dynamic: 1) With a more solid democracy; 2) Redistribute power (more diversity, more women, more LGBTIQ); 3) Closer to the people (more representative and more responsible).

What is the Demo.Reset?

One of the initiatives of this organization is [Demo.Reset: Deliberation in the Global South](#). In partnership with the global office of the National Endowment for Democracy NED and Extituto de Política Abierta (Colombia), the Demo.Reset project has brought together experiences of public participation and deliberative democracy from 150 organizations from the Global South, located especially in Sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern Europe, Southeast Asia, India and Latin America to reset our democracies. We have organizations that have worked and implemented initiatives in their countries of influence to promote, transform and reinvent democracy, citizen participation and innovation.

This project is conceived as a global network of deliberative democracy organizations from a spiral model, where the experiences of each subregion will feed the general project and where this will allow, in turn, to strengthen and reset local experiences.

In which regions operate Demo.Reset?

The Demo.Reset project is focused on the Global South. The Global South has been understood as a space, not necessarily geographical, that has been mostly a repository of theories, knowledge and circulation of ideas. In the circulation of this knowledge, the shared experiences, the barriers and the specific experiences of the Global South have not participated, in many cases, in the creation and management of these ideas. For this reason, we believe that the Global South must become an active voice in the rise of a new wave of deliberative democracy and public participation. The Demo.Reset network has the participation of 150 organizations in the following regions:

1. Sub-Saharan Africa
2. Latin America
3. Southeast Asia
4. India
5. Eastern Europe

What are the phases of the project?

The phases of the Demo.Reset project are the following:

- **PHASE 1: GLOBAL DEMO.RESET NETWORK:** In this phase, virtual workshops were implemented to identify the main initiatives of public participation and deliberative democracy in the regions of the Global South. Structural and functional barriers to the implementation of these initiatives were also identified.
 - **PHASE 2: TOOLS FOR THE WALLS OF DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY:** This phase seeks to build prototype solutions to the barriers identified in Phase 1.
 - **PHASE 3: WEAVING OUR EXPERIENCES:** This phase seeks the implementation and testing of solution prototypes in 5 regions of the Global South.
 - **PHASE 4: JUMPING THE WALLS OF DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY:** In this phase, the Demo.Reset platform will be launched, in which it will be possible to interact and connect with initiatives of deliberative democracy and public participation across the Global South.
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2. ABOUT THE CALL:

Within the framework of phase #2 of the project, the Demo.Reset Lab is conceived as a collective innovation laboratory where the main objective is to generate innovative solutions to the barriers found in public participation and deliberative democracy initiatives. Under this logic, we rely on a model of collective creation that will bring together the experience of 30 interested people with the skills to contribute to the creation of solutions to the challenges of deliberative democracy. This people will be in constant dialogue with creators, artists, programmers, designers, experts in behavioral sciences, among others.

Purpose of the call: To propose challenges related to processes of citizen participation and deliberative democracy to be solved in a laboratory of ideas in Bogotá, Colombia.

1. Information about the Demo.Reset Lab:

In this laboratory space, we seek to co-build 6 tool prototypes that can be implemented in each of the 5 regions of the Global South with which we are working. For this activity, we will generate a multimedia space in which experimentation from different disciplines is transversal to the process.

We invite people who (i) work implementing processes of public participation and deliberative democracy; (ii) researchers of deliberative democracy; (iii) artists, developers, designers, gamers, among others interested in transforming democratic processes to make them more inclusive, participatory and incidental, to submit challenges to be selected by the Demo.Reset team.

In the Demo.Reset Lab, we seek to bring together people with different professional profiles so that,

through 2 weeks of face-to-face work, they can solve, through methodologies and collective intelligence processes, the challenges that will be chosen through this call.

2. Who can submit challenges?

Organizers, academics, artists, designers, representatives of organizations and in general, people who are interested in solving problems related to public participation and deliberative democracy in the Global South can submit challenges to the Demo.Reset Lab.

People who apply for these challenges are expected to have the ability and capacity to implement the solutions that result from the Demo.Reset Lab.

3. Postable Challenges:

Through this call, the Demo.Reset team seeks for people to propose applicable, replicable and scalable challenges in various contexts, taking into account that solutions are sought to be implemented by organizations and groups of people in different parts of the Global South. **Five challenges will be selected** to be solved in the Demo.Reset Lab.

How to submit a challenge?

STEP 1: The formulation of a challenge must start from the identification of a main barrier. Below are some common barriers that have been identified in working with the organizations that are part of the Demo.Reset network. Applicants are invited to build, apply and identify challenges arising from these or other personally identified barriers.

1. **Cultural barriers:** strictly correspond to the social, environmental, political, security and/or economic environment that could hinder or determine the development of an initiative.
2. **Organizational barriers:** those with which the organization faced in terms of available internal resources, from economic, technical, technological or human.
3. **Convocation barriers:** these are understood as those borders and biases that limit the type of population that participated in the initiative, ranging from accessibility, dissemination formats, language, logistics, etc. They are restricted only at the time of defining and channeling the participating population.
4. **Barriers of participation mechanisms:** are those that condition the right to organize and dialogue, deliberate and influence the management of a public interest. They emphatically address the inclusion of actors, contexts, interests and objectives.
5. **Barriers in decision-making:** it is recognized as the most difficult moment among deliberative processes, since the decision-making exercise requires prioritizing and/or discarding exposed arguments and needs, so these barriers address issues of coherence, inclusiveness, closure of controversies, among others.
6. **Knowledge management barriers:** they correspond to the management, systematization, analysis and processing of information or collective knowledge of the deliberation process and the communication of results.

It is clarified that these are not the only barriers on which to start in order to formulate a challenge. They are simply a starting point that can be taken into account. If it is considered

by the applicants, you can start from another barrier different from the ones listed above to prepare a challenge.

STEP 2: The challenges must be formulated in negative (starting with “there’s no...”) and must be related to functional barriers that arise when implementing a public participation and deliberative democracy initiative.

STEP 3: The challenges must be more specific than the barrier they address. These must be specifically formulated.

Example:

“Identified barrier: There is a barrier in the participation and deliberation mechanisms that do not allow the effective inclusion of population sectors (Barrier #4).

Challenge: There are no tools in the deliberations that allow the inclusion of people who do not have performative skills”.

4. What will the selected challenge receive?

Once the 5 challenges for the Demo.Reset Lab have been selected, the applicant (individual or organization representative) of the selected challenge will become a "prototype leader" and will be invited to the Demo.Reset Lab. For this, it will be covered by the project (i) international travel expenses (round trip); (ii) accommodation and (iii) food during the days of the laboratory.

Likewise, the applicant for the selected challenge will receive a payment of \$1,200 USD as a "prototype leader" for the time spent working in the Demo.Reset Lab. This prototype leader will have support and a work team made up of collaborators from different regions of the Global South, for the design of the solution.

5. What must I commit to if selected?

The prototype leader will need to commit to the following:

- Sign a contract of services with Extituto de Política abierta for the time spent working in the Demo.Reset Lab.
- Move to Bogotá (Colombia) on the stipulated dates of the Demo.Reset Lab, covering all migration procedures and their associated costs (visa, vaccination certificates, tests, etc.).
- Remain in Bogotá (Colombia) and participate full-time during the dates of the Demo.Reset Lab.
- Lead the team of collaborators that will be assigned by the project, for the design of the solution in the demo.Reset Lab.
- Prepare an initial report, prior to the Demo.Reset Lab, in which an in-depth analysis of the proposed challenge will be presented.
- Prepare a final report after finishing the Demo.Reset Lab, in which the solution built during the laboratory will be presented.

- Support the documentation and communication on the development of the solution that will be built throughout the Demo.Reset Lab.

6. Process timeline:

The call schedule is as follows:

- **Call for challenges:** June 1 - June 22, 2022
- **Challenge selection:** June 29, 2022
- **Call for collaborators:** July 1 - July 24, 2022
- **Selection of collaborators:** August 12, 2022
- **Demo.Reset Lab:** October 3 - October 15, 2022

Closing date of this call: June 22, 2022.

7. Call link:

Applicants can send their challenges through the following link:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe1b7wnFvtqyy75BZUPn9i8Zb_QxUc_lmk7O31saWTx02WDbQ/viewform