AFRO-PROSPECTIVE
3RD MEETING

Quibdo and Medellin (Colombia)
November 27 - December 2, 2017
Prepared by Paula Moreno, President of Manos Visibles
“I rise.

I am the dream and the hope of the slave”

Maya Angelou
AFROINNOVA 2015 – 2017

AFROPROSPECTIVE (MEDELLIN)

AFROINNOVA COLOMBIA (QUIBDO)

WHO IS WHO?: PARTICIPANTS

THE AGENDA

ATTACHMENTS:

APPENDIX 1.
REPORT – THE TECHNOLOGY OF THE DIASPORA: INSPIRATION AND ASPIRATION (2ND MEETING)

APPENDIX 2
FIRST CHAPTER - WORKING DOCUMENT: AFROINNOVA

APPENDIX 3
WHO IS WHO - DIRECTORY OF 500 ORGANIZATIONS FROM THE AFRICAN DIASPORA
Launching
Africa and its descendants: a new global power.
Cali, May 2016

1ST Meeting
“The Power of the African Diaspora”
Cartagena and Palenque, December 2016

7 countries: Mozambique, Nigeria, Equatorial Guinea, Spain, United States, Brazil and Colombia

TO MEET OTHERS IS TO KNOW ONESELF:
Reflections on individual experiences.

At this meeting, we define AFROINNOVA with the first group of experts, as follows:

- A Network of capabilities and strategy.
- A Network of conceptualization, negotiation of ideas, and transnational collective learning.
- A Space to cultivate leadership, renew approaches and generate a collective understanding of the African Diaspora and its context.
- A Space to construct new narratives, so that people see their struggle differently.
- A Broker for resources and catalyst for transnational processes.
2ND Meeting
The Young Power of the Diaspora

EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES
IVERCA Mozambiqué – Buenaventura
AFROREGGAE Brasil –Cali

DIASPORA TECHNOLOGY
Cali , May 2017

7 countries: Mozambique, Nigeria, Equatorial Guinea, Spain, United States, Brazil and Colombia

How have their results been achieved? What are the keys that generate breakthroughs, transformations, and platforms? This was the central question. Diaspora was defined from AFROINNOVA’s point of view:

“The African Diaspora is a joint effort by communities and people who have a collective identity conscience and who recognize themselves and make connections as sons and daughters of the African exodus to change narratives of power ”
Expert Group AfrolInnova, 2017

A second result of the work of group experts was the definition of lines of work that will be developed in the third meeting:

- Community social entrepreneurship and innovation;
- Technology, communications and exchange;
- Capital and market.
3RD Meeting

Afroinnova Colombia (November 27-29, Quibdo)
Afroprospectiva (November 29 -December 2, Medellin)

11 countries: Colombia, Costa Rica, Brazil, Spain, United States, Ghana, Equatorial Guinea, Mozambique, Nigeria, Panama, Senegal

In this 3RD Meeting, the AFROINNOVA AGENDA will be defined for the coming years.

“(…) who control the images, control the self-esteem.”
Abiola Oke, OKAY AFRICA, Cartagena 2016

“Our asset, is us.”
Zakiya Carr Johnson, Cartagena 2016

“We are part of a community that preserves and also transforms the voice of self-reference.”

“We are a loud silent scream, without fear of being heard”
Rafael Palacios, Cartagena 2016

“… assume our identity as an asset, as a decision, that reclaims who we are where ever we are.”
Adriana Barbosa, Feira Preta, Cartagena 2016
Afroprospective

“As for the future, your task is not to predict it, but to make it happen”
Antoine de Saint Exupéry

For the final meeting of this first phase of AFROINNOVA 2015-2017, the central theme is the potential of the African and Afro-descendant population, in other words, the construction of the desired future scenario. The conversation seeks to integrate an individual, organizational, national, and regional vision, within the context of what could be an analysis of the afro-global reality, a look that enriches not only the more than 25 leaders who have participated in this process but also the 500 + organizations that we have mapped during our entire compilation of WHO IS WHO in the African diaspora.

In the last two years, recent events such as Charlottesville (Virginia), the systematic killings of young blacks in Brazil, the US, or in Colombia and the increasingly visible and direct discourse of global and local leaders who validate such practices of discrimination represent a greater challenge for the future. We acknowledge the weight of these historical events, but at the same time, we can analyze the relative progress of Afro-descendant communities in the world since inequality remains systematic.

AFROINNOVA is a sample of a group of professionals and organizations that with power and influence, comes together to nurture their connections, thoughts, and strategy because they are familiar with the details of their local areas. Their dual national and transnational citizenship of the diaspora requires them to face similar systems as a minority. We still follow the two Africas, the continent and its descendants, validating our contribution to humanity. It is a humanity where the narratives of corruption, violence, exclusion, and stigmatization have been normalized and associated with people of African descent.

Part of AFROINNOVA’s challenge is to reorganize the collective force to move to a higher level. Without a doubt,
this is a moment to think differently about ourselves, not only for the advances we have made, but for the challenges that we face. Conventional changes and exercises of power will demand that we question our focus in order to project our influence.

Thus, our task in this gathering of learned conversation, connection, inspiration, and inquiry is to begin to answer the following questions: What do we do now? What comes next? With the challenges that the world is asking of us today, how do we channel our existing power and energy taking into consideration limits and relativity? What are the scenarios and how do we try to influence them? How do we anticipate not taking for granted the relative progress and advances of black people in the world? What good is power if it does not generate a benefit that changes the reality for the majority of people and the culture of marginalization, confinement, and even violence?

The invitation to this last meeting of the first cycle of the AFROINNOVA project that took place during this year and a half in Colombia, is to think about the possible future that can attempt to perpetuate marginalization, segregation, the continuum of “...them versus us,” this future that does not surprise us and that may persist permanently questioning the spirit of our leadership, our level of influence and could also minimize our progress in its most pessimistic form. Furthermore, this future that could, in its moment of crisis, help us move to another level of discussion and global action. In this sense, the final meeting of the working group will have three moments:

1ST Moment
Internal Prospects (November 30)

The will of our leadership
Ramón Budiño poem. Mario Benedetti

“Every once in a while you have to pause
consider yourself
without daily pleasure

Photo: Angele Etoundi Essamba (Essamba Art)
An analysis at the individual level of a moment in the life of AFROINNOVA members and the next step, from their vocation to serve the advancement of the afro-descendant population in the world. In the face of global and local leadership crises so pronounced, it is important to analyze the profile of leadership, its scale and impact, as well as its moment in its life project, in order to preserve the prospects for transformation and the legacy.

Methodology:
Co-coaching in pairs.
Directed By: Paula Moreno, Visible Hands

2ND Moment
External Prospective

“from what history did we emerge, what history we do we aspire to “

“History …does not refer merely to the past. History is literally present in all that we do.” James Baldwin

“When the music changes, so does the dance” Hausa Proverb
“If we do not own history, history will own us” Brenee Brown

Presentation:
Understanding the archeology of African descendants in order to read the present and the future. Professor Ibrahima Thiaw, U. Dakar (Senegal).

3RD Moment
Afroinnova Prospective

“We actually have resources, we have power, how do we leverage that .. “
Philip Thompsom, Community Innovation Lab MIT

How do we shape change we aspire to together and more effectively? How do we develop an agenda that is realistic and effective? How do we work together to help ourselves consolidate a more global power taking into account the individual, organizational, and institutional task and at the same time, the global dimension of our efforts. How has the exercise of AFROINNOVA served or could serve for its implementation of global African descendant citizenship?

Methodology:
Group dynamics - lines of work and agenda AFROINNOVA

(i) task
(ii) communications
(iii) capital.

Building a map of opportunities and power.
November 27  
**Africa in Colombia: Learning about the Pacific**  
The two Africas, walking in Chocó, the black department par excellence of Colombia. Visiting Black memorial sites such as the Museum Muntu Bantu and experiences of innovation at Bioinnova, the School of Robotics, entrepreneurship among others. AFROINNOVA

Exchange – Manos Visibles Network.

### DETAILED AGENDA - NOVEMBER 27 - QUIBDO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHEDULE</th>
<th>SEGMENT</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00 a 11:55</td>
<td>Quibdó – Medellín</td>
<td>Flight 30 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 a 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Africa – Chocó</td>
<td>Historical review of the connection between the department of Chocó and Africa in the only museum of the African diaspora of the region</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30 a 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>The history of Chocó</td>
<td>Tour of the historical area of Quibdó</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 a 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Learning from Chocó</td>
<td>Visit to social organizations of the region to get to know innovative experiences of social leadership of Manos Visibles</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Welcome Dinner</td>
<td>Music and diasporas</td>
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### NOVEMBER 28 - QUIBDO

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<th>SCHEDULE</th>
<th>SEGMENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Forum: The Challenges of the African Diaspora</td>
<td>Meeting of all parties to share the main conclusions of the working groups</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 a.m. to 6 p.m.</td>
<td>Afroinnova Colombia</td>
<td>Thematic workshops</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 to 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Pacific Evening</td>
<td>Music and diasporas</td>
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### NOVEMBER 29 (QUIBDO - MORNING), (MEDELLIN - AFTERNOON)

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM to 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Forum: The Challenges of the African Diaspora</td>
<td>Meeting of all parties to share the main conclusions of the working groups</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 pm - 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Trip to Medellin</td>
<td>Rest - Optional</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 - 9 p.m.</td>
<td>Welcome dinner</td>
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November 28  
**Afroinnova Colombia**  
“Being aware of ourselves”  
Exchange workshops between 15 guests of AFROINNOVA and Colombian experts, in 6 Topics: (i) memory; (ii) youth and tourism; (iii) entrepreneurship; (iv) art and politics; (v) Health and Gender; (vi) communication.

November 29  
**Forum: Challenges of the African Diaspora**
### NOVEMBER 30 - MEDELLIN

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>AFROINNOVA Moments</td>
<td>Afroprospective</td>
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### DECEMBER 1ST - MEDELLIN

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<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>AFROINNOVA Moments</td>
<td>Afroprospective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
<td>AFRO - AFROINNOVA Party – Pacific Power (Medellín)</td>
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### DECEMBER 2ND - MEDELLIN

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<th>TIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 a 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Getting to Know Medellin</td>
<td>Tourism - Different itineraries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 a 2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch - Domestic Workers Union - María Roa AFROINNOVA</td>
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Brief Review Cities of the Third Meeting – AFROINNOVA

**Quibdo**

Quibdo is the capital of the department of Chocó and an important population in the Colombian Pacific Region. The city is located in one of Colombia’s most forested regions, close to large ecological reserves such as the Emberá National Natural Park and one of the regions with a large number of indigenous reserves.

The majority of the population is Afro-descendant (87%), white communities from the interior of the country equal 10% of the population, and indigenous communities 3%. It is located on the banks of the river Atrato, one of the areas with the highest rainfall in the world. It is 43 m. above sea level and has a temperature whose average is 28 °C.

Among the tourist attractions in the city are the cathedral, the park located on the banks of the River Atrato, the Municipal Palace, the Episcopal Palace, the Claretian convent, the monument to the poet Cesar. Thanks to its strategic geographical location, its biodiversity and its wonderful landscapes, it is one of the most interesting tourist destinations to visit; since it is possible to realize different types of tourism like ecotourism, adventure, historical, ethnographic, scientific and other types of tourism.

**Medellin**

Medellin is the capital of the department of Antioquia. It is the most populated city of the department and the second of the country. It sits in the widest part of the natural region known as Valle de Aburrá, in the central Andes mountain range. It extends to both banks of the river Medellín, that crosses it from south to north. The city has a population of about 2.5 million inhabitants (2017).

On sunny days at midday temperatures can reach up to 30 °C. However, in Medellin, clear days are uncommon, a normal day in Medellin is partly cloudy with interval sun and shade.

Medellin, in 2013, was chosen as the most innovative city in the world above Tel Aviv, New York and 200 other cities, was awarded for promoting technological, cultural and educational solutions that respond to the needs of its population.
Abiola Oke
(Nigeria/United States)
@abiolaoke Okay Africa
www.okayAfrica.com @okayAfrica
The leading media company of its kind connecting a global audience to the African continent through compelling content and high-profile cultural events. Abiola Oke, holds a bachelor’s degree in Economics with a focus in Finance from the City University of New York’s City College. Prior to joining OkayAfrica, Abiola spent over 10 years in the financial services industry holding senior executive positions at Morgan Stanley, Citigroup, TD Ameritrade, and Barclays PLC. As a passionate activist, Abiola serves on the board of various not-for-profit organizations including the Brooklyn YMCA, FACE Africa and MoCADA. He is a member of the United Nations Association, New York Chapter and is a participant in the next generation of leaders & philanthropists supporting the Clinton Foundation.

Adriana Barbosa (Brasil)
Cultural Producer and Management
@feirapreta http://www.feirapreta.com.br/
Cultural producer and management which works by converting the afro market in a new model of development for the black population of Brazil. Founded in 2002 by Adriana Barbosa, leader in ethnic entrepreneurship, this institute launches an annual Fair aimed at the promotion of cultural expressions, products and services from the black populations of their country. In addition to having done the prize creditor Zumbi of Palmares (Nov/2006), and the prize Expedition Artemisia - Social Entrepreneurs, Feira Preta has been awarded by the State Secretariat of Culture of São Paulo (2008), thanks to its contribution to the social equity in Brazil. Adriana Barbosa, listed as one of the 1,000 influential women by Goldman Sachs.

Allotey Bruce-Konuah (Ghana)
Graphic Design Consultant
Ghana accralomi@gmail.com
A Communications Design Consultant whose interests are very much about the cultural restoration of our African creative arts. After graduating in Graphic Design in the UK, he worked in various creative roles with different agencies and in-house design departments for over 10 years where the possibilities to infuse his passion for African creativity were fairly limited in the western corporate environment.

Hugo Wood (Panamá)
Lawyer, founder of NGO United Youth for Dialog @hugowood
Hugo Wood is a lawyer who completed an LLM (Master’s of Law) in Law and Development at Tulane University Law School & the Payson Center as a member of the inaugural cohort in 2013/14. In 2014, he became the Executive Assistant to the newly elected Panamanian Vice President and Minister of Foreign Affairs Isabel Saint Malo de Alvarado. Passionately involved in public service, Hugo is the founder and first President of the NGO, Jóvenes 19 Unidos por el Diálogo (United Youth for Dialog). In 2009, he organized the biggest national debate competition in Panama that has now become an annual event. Hugo is involved in the World Economic Forum - Global Shapers Community, a network of hubs developed and led by his organization.

Aurora Vergara
Centre for Afro-diasporan Studies CEAF – U.ICES (Colombia ) http://www.icesi.edu.co/ceaf/en/ @CEAFICESI
Founder and director of the first and only Center of Afro-diasporic studies in Colombia (CEAF), Aurora Vergara Figueroa -only 28 years old- holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of Massachusetts. Aurora is also the third person of the country awarded with the Martin Dinsky distinction in conference category, for her work ‘Race, gender and property in Colombia: a historical ethnography of the Afro-Colombian struggles for land tenure’. The current director of CEAF, which belongs to the University ICESI, in Cali - Colombia, has also received recognition from the mayor of this city, due to its notable contribution to the advance of Afro-Colombian communities.

Edgard Gouveia, Jr. (Brasil)
Architect and University Professor @edgardgouveia
An architect and university professor, Edgard Gouveia brings together favela residents and architecture students to design relevant, useful, and appropriate public spaces, in order to improve living conditions in these marginal areas. Edgard has created two programs through the Elos Institute to address these issues: Universida de Aberta: Escola de Guerreiros sem Armas (UAV) and Comum-Unidade (Common-Unity). The UAV program brings 60 architectural students into favela communities for 30 days to work with community members to design and build a community-chosen project. After the 30 day trial period the Comum-Unidade program ensures sustainability by working with the community to continue the projects and build on that momentum to start new community-led projects.

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by young people with exceptional potential, achievement and drive to contribute to their communities.

**Ibrahima Thiaw (Senegal)**
Archaeologist y Professor - ibrahima.thiaw@ucad.edu.sn
Ibrahima Thiaw (Ph.D., Rice University, Houston, Texas) is an Associate Professor of Archeology at the Fundamental Institute of Africa Noire (IFAN) in Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar, Senegal. His research interests include the trans-Saharan and Atlantic trade, craft production, cultural contact, archaeological studies of identity, and cultural heritage management. He has done research in the Middle and Upper Senegal River, and since 2001, his work has focused mainly on Gorée Island and Senegambia Coastal.

**Iván Laranjeira (Mozambique)**
Leader and Tour Guide - geral@iverca.com
Iván has always had a passion for the arts, culture and speaking, having produced and acted in films, theater pieces and radio soap operas. Seeing the needs of the impoverished community of Mafalala, where his parents grew up, Iván wanted to combine tourism with culture and thus contribute to the development of Mafalala through tourism, integrating the local community in the process. He is currently working as a Tour Guide in the neighborhood, where he organizes the Mafalala Festival, Mafalala Walking Tour and the Communitarian museum of the Mafalala. He also coordinates the activities of the Association IVERCA Tourism, Culture and Environment, of which he is a founding member and director. Currently a member of Mandela Washington Fellowship-2016, part of Young African Leaders Inntiative (YALI).

**Janisha s. Gabriel (Estados Unidos)**
#BlackLivesMatter - Janisha@nakiCreatives.com
Janisha holds a Master of Arts from Alliance Theological Seminary, and a Bachelor’s from Howard University. A life-long organizer, she has been involved in numerous social justice initiatives, centering on efforts to advance Black liberation, gender justice, and LGBTQ equity. Janisha is currently a board member of The BLK Projek, a South Bronx non-profit fighting to bring healthy food to low income residents, and a Technology & Design organizer with #BlackLivesMatter and other Black liberation organizations.

**Lucía Asué Mbomío Rubio**
Journalist (Aroféminas, Radio Melanina, among other initiatives) - @luciambombio
With a degree in documentary direction, she now works as a reporter of TVE1 Spain in an environmental show called “Earth Calling”. Before that, she worked in the TV Show “Spaniards around the World” with which she obtained various awards from the Spanish Television Academy. Following this role, she worked for a year in Equatorial Guinea directing documentaries about HIV and early pregnancy.

Along with her TV career, she has volunteered in the African Film Festival of Córdoba, Film Africa London (as editor, camera team and interviewer), UNICEF (teaching in workshops about media and HIV) and Amnesty International press. She has recently released a documentary about the Cañada Real Galiana, the biggest illegal settlement in Europe, which has given her two international awards and was showcased at the Rivas Vaciamadrid World Migration Forum. In 2010, she was chosen as a Reference Young Afrodescendant in Spain and in 2013 did Lloyds Banking Group and Thomson Reuters elaborate part of the top 30 of Afro-Europeans ranking.

**María Roa Borja (Colombia)**
President of Union Domestic Service Workers
María Roa is the president of the Union of Domestic Service Workers, UTRASD, which is advocating for a bill that makes Christmas and vacation bonuses compulsory for housekeepers. She has been a speaker in several forums, including an event organized by the Rockefeller Center for Latin American studies of Harvard University. Her leadership began when she went to Medellín for the first time and started working as a housekeeper, but saw the discrimination, exploitation and lack of labor rights for women working in this sector. As a victim of forced displacement, this situation motivated her to fight for these rights and to become a leader who sought the entities that could help to bring about change. The main goal of the collective is to show that women should have goals and not settle for anything less than what is legal. Today they have achieved the promotion of housekeepers’ rights to have protections against occupational hazards, the minimum wage as their salary and social security benefits.

**Moisés Medrano (Colombia)**
Director of Population Office at Ministry of Culture
Moises is the Director of Population Office at the Ministry of Culture in Colombia. He is a professional in the social sciences and has taught in universities about topics such as conflict, humanitarian action and vulnerable populations. He has a wide experience in matters like international cooperation and development as a result of the work he has developed with diverse organization in the ambiances of genre, ethnic groups, planning and international cooperation resources management. Additionally, he has been a permanent guest in national and international events on African matter due to his deep knowledge on the topic. His academic work includes topics on the humanitarian matters that affect immersed vulnerable populations in armed and social conflicts in Kosovo, ancient Yugoslavia; Maria’s Mounts in Colombia or Huancavelica in Perú.
Rodrigo Faustino (Brasil)
Director of Ebony English @ebonyenglish
A seasoned Production Technologist who’s been working in education since 2002, Faustino’s work as the Strategic Manager of the institute mimics the energies being expressed by a large and growing sector of the black population of African descent (including black mestizos) who feel socially excluded from many aspects of Brazilian social life.

A Sao Paulo born educator, who has devoted some of his career to bringing about social change for those black citizens who are striving to master the English language, among other things. Faustino started the Ebony English school - the first English language school in Brazil that teaches English with a commitment to including black cultural reference points – because he wanted Afro-Brazilians to be able to access better opportunities both within Brazil, and outside of it. And he saw that for many who couldn’t speak or communicate in the English language, their life opportunities might be limited.

Shirley Campbell (Costa Rica)
Campbell Barr has several collections of poetry and has published dozens of poems and articles in magazines, anthologies and newspapers from various countries. Her works have been translated into English, French and Portuguese.

Afro-descendant movement activist in Latin America, she has participated in conferences, workshops, poetry readings spreading her work, as well as contributing in the processes of mobilization and awareness of the communities Afro-descendants.

She is the most recognized of the poets of the generation after 1948. Her work expresses black identity and Costa Rican nationality, expressing the points of discord between these two cultural positions.

William de Almeida Reis (Brazil)
Project Coordinator AfroReggae - @afroreggae
William is 30 years old and he was born and grew up in a favela of Rio de Janeiro. He graduated in physical education and was the coordinator of diverse programs at the Cultural Group AfroReggae since 2011.

Among others, he has coordinated sports events with young people in several favelas in Rio de Janeiro, managing resources with the support of Red Bull, Santander and Coca-Cola.

Additionally, since 2013, he has been in charge of coordinating programs to empower the African inheritance inside AfroReggae, in order to rescue the pride of African origin and promote the African history in Brazil. At present, William coordinates the project CAMINHO MELHOR JOVEM in 10 favelas of Rio de Janeiro and is planning to attend university and study history.

Zakiya Carr Johnson (United States)
Zakiya Johnson coordinates with U.S. embassies and interagency partners in the region to support efforts to address race, ethnicity, and gender issues as part of Department of State's social inclusion policy. For 17 years, Ms. Carr Johnson has worked with marginalized communities in Latin America and the Caribbean, and has also written articles and coordinated dialogues on the inclusion of ethnic and minority groups, economic, social and cultural rights-based development and diversity. She earned her B.A. in Communications and Spanish at Howard University and a M.A. in International Relations at Syracuse University.
Álvaro Javier Arroyo García
Coordinator
Professional in Foreign Trade, student Master’s Degree in Government at the University ICESI of Cali, and of Business Administration of the Humboldt International University (HIU) of Miami, Florida. He is part of the program Mel King Community Fellow 2016-2018 CoLab of MIT. Since 2006, he has done community work with Population Afrocolombiana in the Pacific on issues of economic development and productive, both in urban and rural areas. He has work experience in productive and business subjects, in academic institutions (Autonomous University of the West and University of the Andes), public institutions (DANE), private entities (Chamber of Commerce of Cali) and International Cooperation (ACDI / VOCA).

David Murillo
AFROINNOVA Coordinator
Professional in Government and International Relations. He currently holds a master’s degree in Development Management and participates in MIT’s CoLab Economic Democracy program. He completed his internship at the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations, based in Geneva, Switzerland, where he worked in the area of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights. He has been linked to Visible Hands since 2014 where he has coordinated different programs.

Diana Restrepo Berrio
Manos Visibles Vice President
Bacteriologist of the School “Mayor” of Medellin, she worked more than 20 years in pharmaceutical marketing and public relations. Between 2007 and 2010 she served as Private Secretary of the Office of the Minister of Culture. She is one of Manos

Fernando Palacios
IDB-Strengthening of Capacities Master’s Degree in Government and Peacebuilding 2016-2018
Manager of Comunidades Negras de Antioquia, specialist in political culture and pedagogy of human rights, specialist in Art Didactics, graduated in Reeducational Pedagogy, former Municipal Councillor of Culture of Medellin, teacher and Afro-Colombian leader. Co-author of the books Learn to appreciate diversity, Ananse the Afro is oral, Teachers tell, Experiences with pedagogical sense, among others. Coming soon from the book My neighbor is a black man. Creator of the Somos Foundation, photographer, sculptor, represents Colombia since 2002, with exhibitions in France, Italy, Spain, Argentina and Burkina Faso in Africa. Social work with differential focus in Afro-Antioquia territories with incidence in Pacific territories and Middle Atrato.

Mayra Yineth Maturana Lemus (Matu Queen)
BA in English and French from the Technological University of Chocó, technologist in Formulation of Projects and diploma in Teaching and Methodology of the Teaching of English as a foreign language. She’s secretary of Organization of the Youth Bureau of Civic Committee for the Salvation and Dignity of Chocó and activist of the Subcommittee on Territorial Defense “Belén de Bajirá es Chocó”. She has been an advisor to the Chocó Pacifico Foundation and a social manager in the Fundación Líderes en Proyección. She is currently president of the social campaign “Help us to fulfill dreams and build together a better Chocó”, in collaboration with other young people support to people with disabilities to improve their living conditions through the improvement for a better life quality.

Paula Moreno
Manos Visibles President
Ms. Moreno is a Colombian industrial engineer and graduate in Italian language and culture. She also holds an Mphil in the philosophy of management from the University of Cambridge, in addition to studies in urban planning and leadership at MIT and Yale University. As Colombia’s former Minister of Culture, she was the youngest to hold the position and the first female Afro-Colombian to hold ministerial office. In 2013, she was recognized by the BBC as one of the top 100 female world leaders and has received multiple awards from a number of organizations such as the Association of Black Mayors in the United States, the Council of the Americas, the BMW Foundation, the World Economic Forum, the Mexican Government and the Colombian Government, among others. She founded Manos Visibles in 2010 and since then has presided over this organization as President. She is currently one of the 15 members of the Board of Directors at the Ford Foundation.

Valentina López
AFROINNOVA Coordinator
Professional in International Relations from the Rosario University. She has studies in anticorruption, religion and theology. She has previous knowledge working in civil society organizations, because she worked in National Democrat Institute (NDI) in the peace, post-conflict and victims program.

The inclusion of sectors marginalized by racial or gender conditions are the fields that most caught her attention. Likewise, the defense and protection of human rights, through state agencies and non-governmental organizations.
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- What is a slave and the enslaved? Historian Javier Ortiz Cassiani | AfroINNOVA de Manos Visibles

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