

# Mas Arte Mas Accion: Nuevatopias Project - Fernando Arias



Project author or developer:  
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Where:  
**CO / Colombia /**

Website:  
**[www.visibleproject.org/blog/project/mas-arte-mas-accion-nuevatopias-project-choc-and-bogot-colombia/](http://www.visibleproject.org/blog/project/mas-arte-mas-accion-nuevatopias-project-choc-and-bogot-colombia/)**

Nuevatopias project marks 500 years of 'utopia' by bringing artists, writers and other professionals together with local communities.

It has focussed on food, water, consumption and climate change.

To generate critical thinking, we devised a programme of global south exchanges, broadcast debates and formed alliances with other socially motivated organisations in Colombia and internationally. Activities extend from the foundation's remote rainforest Base to its Bogotá premises and on to our Arts Collaboratory partners. In 2015 we will activate a space in London to engage mainstream audiences in debates about today's global challenges.

Following our Prince Claus supported projects 2004-09, we developed the concept to invite specialists to work with local communities and consider utopia from this 'edge of the world', removing artists from the art world to create a space to reflect/engage with communities in practical ways such as cooking/planting/food festivals/music/dance/radio and debates. Nuevatopias' structure and accompanying books are based on Felix Gonzales Torres' NOWHERE BETTER THAN THIS PLACE.

Nuevatopias Highlights: 2011: Join Arts Collaboratory. Conceive/construct Choc's Base with Dutch artist Joep van Lieshout and communities. Dance projects addressing violence with Nemecio Berrio and anthropologist Marie Ange Bordas. 2012: Nowhere Food and traditional medicine with artists including Rikrit Tiravanija, medic Libia Posada and Kan-Si. Community Garden and Food Festival, workshops with Bio-Inova. 2013-14: Better Than, addressing water and consumption with Victor Gama, geologist Julio Fierro and environmentalist Charlotte Streck. 2015-16: This Place, on climate change with activist Carolina Caycedo and dancer, Lia Rodrigues.

