

# Management report 2020

Fundación  
**Karisma**

# impacto





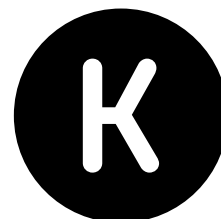
## Management report 2020

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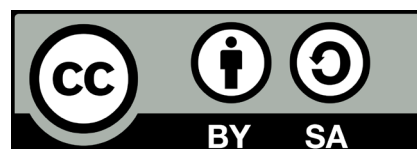
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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>1. SECURITY AND PRIVACY.....</b>	<b>7</b>
• Reform of the electoral code .....	8
• Cybersecurity .....	9
• Data-Intensive Systems - Artificial Intelligence.....	12
• Net neutrality, prioritization of internet traffic, and use of personal data in a pandemic context.....	13
• Discussions .....	14
• Awards .....	15
<b>2. ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURE .....</b>	<b>16</b>
• We joined forces with people from civil society groups, academia, and artists to push for a policy change on intellectual property .....	18
• Events .....	19
• Publications and mappings .....	20
• Our work at the World Intellectual Property Organization -WIPO- .....	21
<b>3. K+LAB .....</b>	<b>22</b>
• Mobile applications and technologies to contain the pandemic .....	23
• Publications .....	24
• Working with organizations.....	25
• Self-hosted events .....	26
• External events .....	27
<b>4. LAB-ITS- LABORATORY OF INNOVATION AND SOCIAL TECHNOLOGY.....</b>	<b>28</b>
• Kimera Local Network .....	29
• Events .....	30

<b>5. INTERNET GOVERNANCE .....</b>	<b>31</b>
• Corporate Accountability Index of Digital Rights 2020.....	32
• Where is my data 2019.....	32
• Como parte del Comité de América Latina de IFEX -ALC.....	33
<b>6. TRANSVERSAL LINES OF WORK .....</b>	<b>34</b>
• Gender perspective .....	35
• FreedOm Of expression .....	40
<b>7. AREAS OF SUPPORT .....</b>	<b>43</b>
• Communications .....	44
• Technology .....	52
<b>8.WORK TEAM .....</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>9.FINANCIAL INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>56</b>

# Letter from our director

March 4, 2021

Dear reader,

2020 was a challenging year on many levels. The COVID-19 pandemic changed all aspects of our life, heavily impacting every issue and topic covered by the Karisma Foundation. This situation also changed the way we operate and work. Without a doubt, the pandemic highlighted, exacerbated, and made our substantive concerns more visible.



At the institutional level, 2020 found Karisma in a strong position to face the challenge of quarantine and isolation that does not end. From the logic of collective care, we sought psychological support, telemedicine accompaniment, extra-work activities at home even for the little ones - and adopted biosafety standards. This flexible work model that we implemented required some adjustments, but it allowed our team to adapt and migrate to a work-from-home dynamic, facing the challenges of combining their personal lives with work related routines. In practical terms, we had to distribute chairs, computers, and screens to adapt workspaces at their homes.

Our financing model also suffered changes, backed by those organizations who support us. We had to adjust the activities of the projects in progress, through alternative approaches that

would allow us to fulfill our goals, achieving a 100% execution rate in our high-level plans. Due to the changes generated by the pandemic, we had to take on emerging issues and we got the funding to do so.

The communities we work with and whom we serve continued to find support and meeting spaces in Karisma as we took advantage of virtuality to promote new ideas and expand our reach. The courage with which the communications team took on the challenge of growing our online presence was exemplary, testing new formats and languages in an environment of digital acceleration. In 2020, Karisma became a reference and source for the media, as never before.

As for the core of Karisma's work, there are many issues that deserve to be highlighted. The

emergency unleashed by the pandemic granted special powers to the executive branch in different countries of the world, which led governments to legislate by decree and in a rash matter. This is due to the fact that the controls are reduced and the way that civil society can perform has to happen by video call. This is because controls are reduced and the only way to influence is through a video call. Even so, we kept a close watch on the role of technologies implemented to face this emergency, especially in relation to applications and web solutions to monitor Covid-19, information on internet infrastructure, data used to assign social support, and analysis of the current digital gap.

We dedicated time and energy to talk about the problems of access to culture and education amidst restrictions and to address the reality of education in rural areas. Special mention should be made of the continuous effort made by the team towards the growth of K + Lab in 2020, which will allow strengthening Karisma's capacity in terms of digital security and monitoring the reform of the electoral code in which, together with other civil society organizations, we promoted and managed to stop the implementation of online voting.

We start 2021 with the pandemic still ongoing, with enthusiasm for the trust of our funders and

strengthened by our good results. We remain committed to supporting the advantages of digital acceleration, which should reach all people, but due to the great inequalities in countries like Colombia, it can unduly impact the most vulnerable populations, increasing the existing social, economic, and cultural gaps. We believe that today more than ever Karisma's work has greater relevance and we remain committed to it.

**Thanks  
for joining us in  
this journey.**

**Carolina Botero**

Director

Karisma Foundation

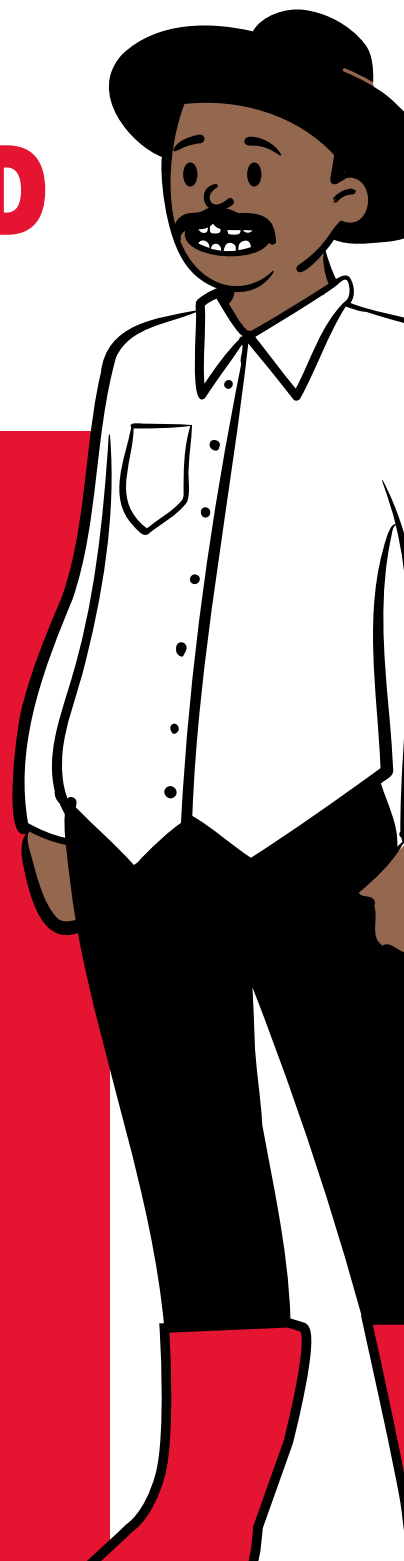


# SECURITY AND PRIVACY



We work so that the public policies and practices of the State and individuals, guarantee the rights to privacy and digital security of people.

These rights are threatened by the illegitimate interference of public and private stakeholders in processes such as mass surveillance, information control, and the exploitation of personal data. We articulate with public policymakers and authorities, journalists, academia, and civil society organizations to promote an environment in which citizens may participate in democratic life in an autonomous way.



**Our active, critical thinking and sensitive community grew while defending our rights to digital security and privacy!**

## **We invite you to learn about the achievements and effects of this line of work in 2020:**

### **Reform of the electoral code**

We work steadily and decisively to propose adjustments to the new Electoral Code regarding the implementation of ICT in the different stages of the Colombian electoral process, suggesting compatible and respectful improvements for human rights.

- We contributed to the debate on the reform of the Electoral Code from our perspectives of the technology access gap: technological literacy, rurality, and gender.
- We participated in the public hearing on the Electoral Code, an action that opened the doors to a more direct conversation with the Colombian National Congress on this issue.
- We succeeded in getting the online vote removed.
- We managed to include technical audits throughout the electoral process.
- Article 150 included a reference to data protection.
- We pushed for a more open and participatory debate.
- In coalition with the Coronavirus Index Alliance, we launched the #No2theElectoralCode campaign and managed to draw attention to the fact that various stakeholders demanded minimum human rights standards.



To multiply the impact of our actions in the previous contexts, we also mobilized efforts with other civil society organizations and gave life to the Coronavirus Index Alliance, a coalition dedicated to identifying relevant events along four lines:

- 1) Access to knowledge**
- 2) Privacy**
- 3) Access to information**
- 4) Control and moderation of content in the pandemic context.**

Our monitoring aims to identify actions to bolster the public debate and make visible the actions of the State and some private stakeholders that may affect human rights in the digital space during the current COVID-19 pandemic context.

## Cybersecurity

We participated in two hearings at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)

- Hearing on illegal interceptions in Colombia: As a guest expert, Karisma exposed the abusive use of new technologies, beyond the interception of fixed and mobile communications for political persecution purposes, using some procedures such as hacking, profiling, and Data Capture.

[We highlighted the importance of regulating how such tactics and technologies are used, for what purpose, and in accordance with what regulations to ensure that people and their rights are protected.](#)

Check the following link to access the press release that the Center for Justice

and International Law issued on this hearing: Colombia: [IACHR reiterated that illegal surveillance is systematic and requested guarantees for the victims](#)

Hearing on the use of technologies for the pandemic: We called the attention of the Commissioners of the IACHR during the [177th period of sessions](#) that took place online, to present our comments regarding the deployment of technologies to contain the contagion of Covid-19, and monitoring of social media before and during the social protests of November 2019 and September 2020.

•

In this same line:

- We stopped police abuse through the use of artificial intelligence systems and cyber patrolling protocols!



Through a communications [campaign in alliance with “Temblores.org”](#) we influenced the national conversation about cyber patrolling and [questioned the Artificial Intelligence System](#) for profiling social networks that the Police wanted to set up and we also sensitized the civil society about the risks and implications of these practices on human rights.

Finally, hiring processes were postponed and what the Police had planned was not implemented.

Check this link to read: [“Tell me who you follow and I will tell you how dangerous you are”](#).

- As representatives of civil society, we participated in several of the stages of the formulation of the Digital Trust and Security Policy ([CONPES 3995 OF 2020](#)), contributing in:

**1** Ensuring that this policy focus on citizens and their human rights to enhance their well-being and that of societies as a whole, transcending a military and punitive focus, oriented towards the national security and defense, the concept of “cyberwar” and its economic function.

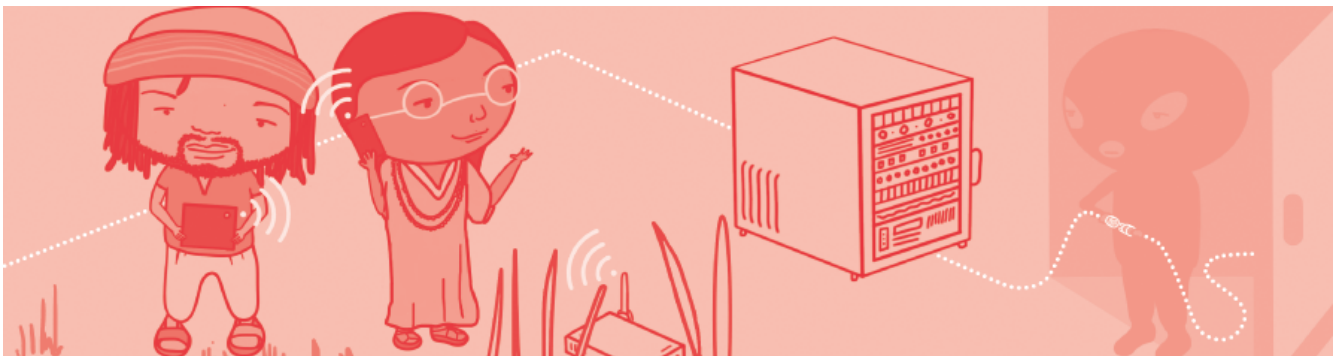
**2** Ensuring that the new CONPES includes a series of actions recommended by our Digital Security and Privacy Laboratory (K + LAB) to create a national model for “periodic disclosure of vulnerabilities.”

- Our Director's efforts in The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development - OECD-

During several months of 2020, Carolina Botero, director of the Karisma Foundation, as a participant of the Steering [Committee of the Civil Society Information Society Advisory \(CSISAC\)](#) - the group of civil society organizations that is part of the OECD-, collaborated actively for the construction of the report: [Encouraging Vulnerability Treatment: How policymakers can help address digital security vulnerabilities.](#), in which this agency sheds light on the debate for the management and disclosure of vulnerabilities, ethical hacking, coordination routes, and digital security in general.

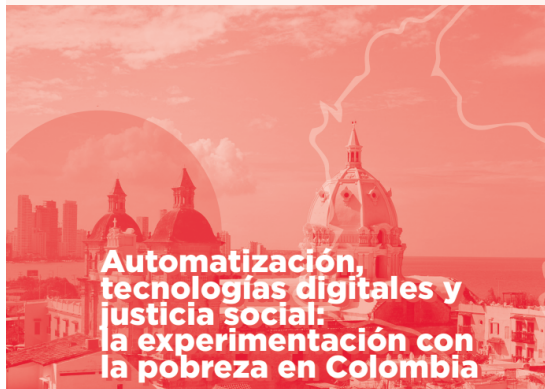
**our work influenced Colombia's government decision to include into the public policy on digital security a mechanism of "periodic disclosure of vulnerabilities"**

- We promoted an open, multipartite, and regional dialogue on cybersecurity policies with a human rights approach, Colombia's current state in this context, and the importance of civil society organizations from different sectors participating in the debate and in the construction of public policies for a safe society that guarantees human rights.
- We published ["A travel guide to the digital world: cybersecurity policies for human rights defenders"](#), a resource that facilitates the understanding of the relationship of human rights with this issue, the political dimensions of cybersecurity, its stakeholders, and challenges.



- After conducting our online Workshop on [Cybersecurity Policies with a focus on human rights](#) and with the accompaniment and experience of more than 10 other countries in the region (Chile, Venezuela, Mexico, Argentina, Paraguay) we managed to raise awareness and improve the capacities of a group of people from more than 5 Colombian civil society organizations with different agendas and interests, to counterbalance the State's narrative that the internet is a security problem that must be controlled and restricted.

## Data Intensive Systems - Artificial Intelligence



- Thanks to the research carried out and its subsequent publication: Experimenting with poverty: El Sisbén and the data analytics projects in Colombia, as a social control action, we managed to get the National Planning Department to share detailed information on the databases and the selection process for Solidarity Income during the pandemic.
- On this same subject, we wrote the chapter: Automation, digital technologies and social justice: experimentation with poverty in Colombia, for the book Artificial Intelligence in Latin America and the Caribbean: Ethics, Governance, and Policies, published by GulA, a project of the Center for Studies in Technology and Society (CETyS) of the University of San Andrés, Argentina and we participated in a cycle of exhibitions with researchers from the region on the impact of Artificial intelligence focusing on its norms, policies and ethical discussions.
- In alliance with the University of Amsterdam and its DatActive Research Institute, we wrote the chapter: "The Case of the Solidarity Income in Colombia: The Experimentation With Data on Social Policy During the Pandemic" for the book COVID-19 from the Margins: Pandemic Invisibilities, Policies, and Resistance in the Datafied Society.

With these actions, we contributed to the work of a group of nineteen researchers from nine universities and organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean that seek to contribute to the ethics, regulation, and environment of public policies for the development and adoption of Artificial Intelligence.

- The Inter-American Development Bank invited us to participate in the fAIr LAC initiative, where we shared our comments and participated in a workshop with stakeholders from the public, private, and academic sectors to promote the responsible adoption of AI and thus improve the provision of social services (mainly in the sectors of education, health, social protection, labor markets and issues associated with gender and diversity) and create development opportunities in order to reduce gaps and mitigate the growth of social inequality.
- We supported the launch of [reconocimiento-facial.info](https://reconocimiento-facial.info) ([facialrecognition.info](https://facialrecognition.info)), an initiative of the Digital Rights organization that gathers information on facial recognition technology in Latin America, denounces the risks of its advancement, and makes visible the work of civil society organizations in this field. The site collects news about new implementations of this technology as well as campaigns and civil society initiatives.

## Net neutrality, prioritization of internet traffic, and use of personal data in a pandemic context



ÍNDICE

# CORONAVIRUS Y DERECHOS DIGITALES

COLOMBIA

- Through our Coronavirus Index Alliance coalition, we sent to the Constitutional Court an intervention commenting on articles 2 and 4 of Decree 464 of 2020 of the Ministry of Information and Communication Technologies, which declared the internet service as an essential public service and at the same time gave internet operators the power to prioritize internet traffic
- In our comments sent to the Constitutional Court, regarding its process of reviewing the constitutionality of that Decree and Decree 555 -which essentially repeated the text of Decree 464 of 2020- we emphasized the need to put a limit to this measure which cannot be permanent and that must conform to rigorous criteria.

- The traffic prioritization measure allowed for the consumption of educational content and for business purposes, two key activities that need to be enabled since in a pandemic context access to educational content and the exercise of work activities must be allowed. However, how to distinguish between educational content and entertainment content? How much will these measures last if it is necessary to implement them? We draw attention to this activity that could, among others, negatively impact the maintenance of Internet neutrality in the country and affect the exercise of equally important rights in a pandemic, such as the enjoyment of the right to mental health, access to information, among others.
- We generated the necessary awareness so the Communications Regulation Commission -CRC- was required to release periodically reports on internet traffic in an open data format to make it easier for people to consult, review, and analyze it. Our wake-up call served to facilitate access to this data.
- In the end, it was not necessary for these traffic prioritization powers to become effective because internet infrastructure in the country passed the test of congestion and network peaks due to the transfer of a good part of daily activities online, but we believe our calls for attention influenced the votes of some magistrates in Sentence C-151 of 2020 where the value of net neutrality in times of emergency was emphasized.

## Discussions

Faced with the challenge of making emergency technological decisions to support epidemiological plans to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, from the Coronavirus Index Alliance we proposed spaces for debate and information distribution that would provide knowledge to address and prepare for risks and barriers to human rights that cannot be identified easily among those tech implementations:

- Researcher Gemma Galdón, epidemiologist Zulma Cucunuba and our director Carolina Botero, shared this space to discuss the deployment of apps as an attempt to contain the spread of the coronavirus.

To know more about this discussion you can access this resource: Pandemic and human rights: How to make a responsible technological implementation?

- Without gloves, without masks, apps, and technologies in a pandemic: We opened this space to talk, reflect and debate on the technological solutions that have been adopted globally in response to the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. It was carried out in a cycle of 3 digital discussions.



We invite you to check the following links to access each of these discussions:

- 1) [Impacts and limits of CoronApp Colombia in public health and in socio-cultural, political, and economic contexts](#)
- 2) [Solidarity income and experimentation with data: Where is the social policy going?](#)
- 3) [Mexico: Global impact of censorship policies on access to knowledge and culture](#)

## Additional efforts:

- We trained a group of civil servants from the Office of the Attorney General focused on the defense of human rights about the exploitation of data and the risks of its intensive use.
- We attended the launch of the Colombian National Statistical System -SEN- of the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE); a system for the interoperability of data and statistical information. We discussed what we believed are issues to be improved by DANE and other entities belonging to the SEN for the interoperability of the State.
- We worked with the World Bank by providing comments on the World Development Report 2021: Data for Better Lives. At this meeting, we presented our experience with the exploitation of data on vulnerable people in Colombia and the importance of a balanced perspective between the risks and benefits of analyzing large volumes of data.

## Awards



- At the Paris Peace Forum, The Institute for Security Studies @EU\_ ISS, launched Good Cyber Stories, an initiative that recognized some of our research on digital vulnerabilities and our impact on the cybersecurity CONPES.

Check the video: Good Cyber Stories



# ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURE

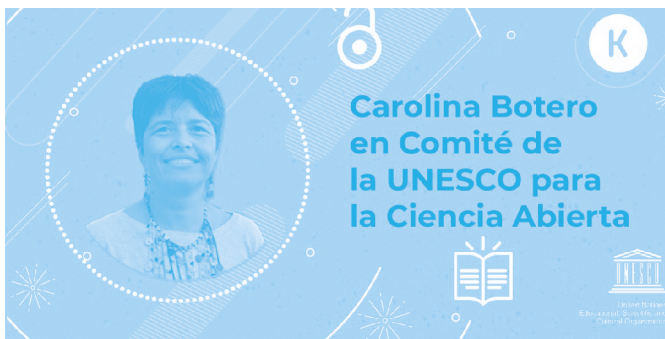


We work to promote and strengthen public and private policies that decrease or eliminate economic, legal, and technological barriers to the common enjoyment of the rights to knowledge and culture in digital environments; especially when public funds are part of the equation. We do this with civil society stakeholders, organizations and public and private entities that promote these rights.



**The Covid-19 pandemic made clearer the need and public interest about the various accesses to art, research, and culture. At Karisma Foundation, we managed to get closer to our audiences and identify what is happening in these contexts and thus consolidate political, public, and cultural advocacy actions.**

**We invite you to learn about the achievements and effects of this line of work in 2020:**



- Our director Carolina Botero was chosen as one of the international experts of the Open Science Consultative Committee of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) [bit.ly/3h6diXy](https://bit.ly/3h6diXy) [pic.twitter.com/46KdzCcxUU](https://pic.twitter.com/46KdzCcxUU)

We promoted political discussions, debates, and active participation of different people from the academic field, representatives of the artistic and cultural sector, and other stakeholders with interests in open and participatory science.

## We joined efforts with people from civil society, academia, and artists to push for policy changes on intellectual property

- We lead the articulation of more than 30 people from various organizations in the artistic, cultural and creative sectors, as well as people from academia and civil society groups. [We organized dissemination tables and provided more than 400 comments to the 2020 draft of the CONPES](#) (National Council for Economic and Social Policy) on Intellectual Property.

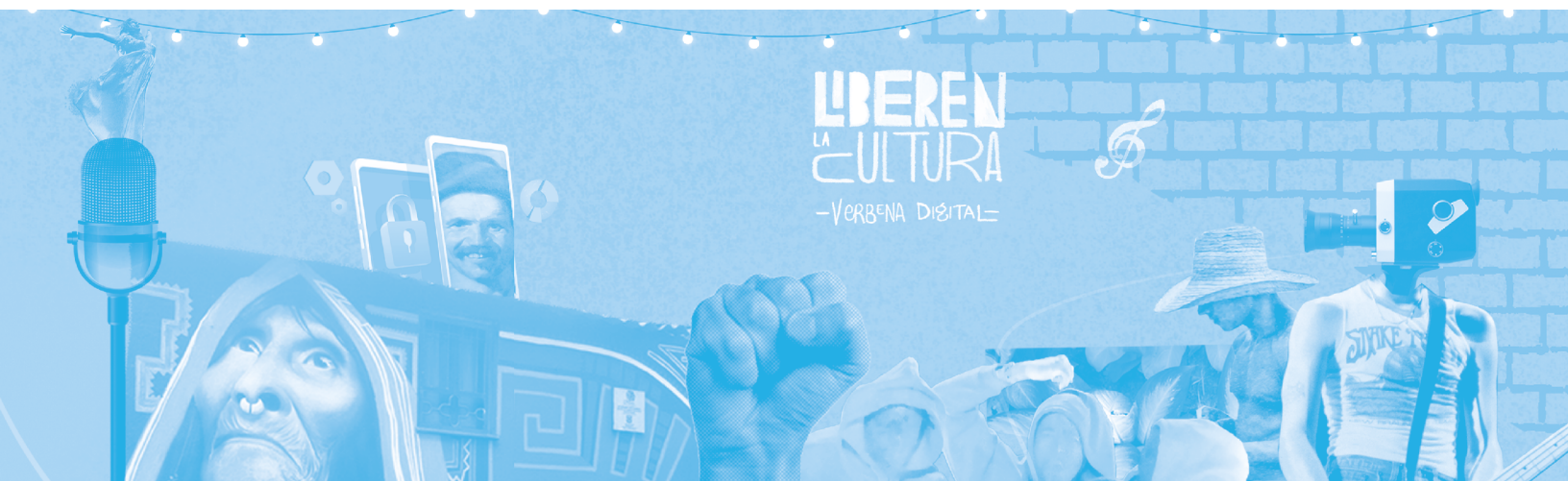


- We joined efforts with AIsur and participated in the public consultation that the Brazilian Government made about [how to regulate the Marrakesh Treaty in this country](#). With this action, we wanted to specifically answer the question: Should a commercial availability requirement be established in accordance with the provisions of clause 4 of article 4 of the Marrakesh Treaty?
- We followed up on the debate on the [approval of the Marrakesh Treaty](#), which was finally ratified after five years.
- In alliance with the Observatory of organizations of the Marrakesh Treaty and with the participation of different people from academia, civil society, and the National Directorate of Copyright, we held an open class at the Pontifical University of Peru, to talk about the Marrakech Treaty. Our goal was to analyze the case of Colombia and identify the role of civil society and how a better job can be done to adopt, in our own countries, the Marrakesh Treaty.



### Events:

- Digital festivals: Given the rise in restrictions on the internet, we responded with 5 festivals of digital activism called “Free the Culture”. Between art, anecdotes, and good conversations with more than 10 guests, we nurtured the debate and identified new challenges and opportunities on copyright reforms in art and culture in the digital world.
- We invite you to check each of these 5 Digital Festivals by clicking on the following links:
  - 1) [The Cinema club movement in Colombia](#)
  - 2) [How “free” can free radio be in Colombia?](#)
  - 3) [Books of freedom, the community value of the book](#)
  - 4) [Art, culture, freedom of expression, and digital censorship](#)
  - 5) [Art, salary, and copyright, The orange trap?](#)



- The week of Intellectual Property, Public Interest, and COVID-19: We brought together more than 600 people from Brazil, Canada, the United States, Colombia, Sudan, among others, around 31 virtual events on copyright reforms, open policies, access to medicines, digital rights, trade agreements, traditional and diverse knowledge; with simultaneous translation in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

- This event was an unprecedented space for dialogue and exchange of information for a global network of researchers, activists, and professionals from various areas of knowledge who think about the public interest in relation to intellectual property, taking into account the current situation created by the COVID 19 pandemic.
- We invite you to [check this message of thanks published by our Director Carolina Botero](#), in response to this event.

You can also check the official [website for the Week of Intellectual Property](#), Public Interest, and COVID 19.

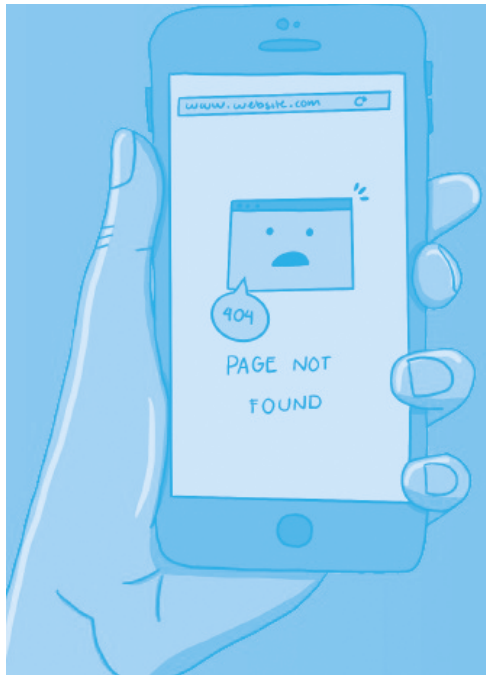
- Creative Commons & New Media Bogotá Film Festival: We participated in this academic meeting that brings together local, national and regional industry professionals interested in discussing Free Culture and Creative Product Licenses.
- Creative Commons Workshop: Our goal with this activity was to make clear that copyright is not only reserved rights, so we seek to promote other forms of licensing with a broader perspective and that corresponds to other interests.

- Click on this link to access: [Narrating the future - VII Creative Commons Film Festival & New Media in Bogotá](#)





### Publications, mappings



- We collaborated with the Colombian Chapter of the publication: [“ACCESS DENIED” How can journalists and civil society respond to notifications of content removal?](#)

This is a guide published in a joint effort with Article 19, Public Space, Indela Fund and the Cyberlaw Clinic, in which journalists, activists, and people from Latin American civil society find information on how to protect their rights to freedom of expression and keep their content accessible online despite digital difficulties and [the blocking or elimination of content by the Digital Millennium Copyright Act -DMCA-](#).

- In this chapter, we provided an overview of a couple of our current research activities: “Internet is your Passion” and “Sharing is not Crime”.
- Working together with [Misión Salud](#), [IFARMA](#) and [ISUR](#), we sent [our comments regarding Special 301](#), a document [published annually by the Office of the United States Trade Representatives](#) (USTR) that aims to exert pressure on this country’s commercial partners, including, of course, Colombia. In the case of Colombia, it refers to the regulation of copyright and intellectual property, along with the regulation of medication prices.
- [We documented copyright blocking, removal, or censorship of platforms](#) in times of COVID-19.

### Our work at the World Intellectual Property Organization - WIPO:

In coalition with some NGOs such as Educational International, Communia, the Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property (PIJIB), the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, IF, Wikimedia Germany, Innovarte, and the NGO Electronic Information for Libraries, we asked WIPO to work on examining the impact of the pandemic on access to knowledge, education, and research.



# impacto

## <K+LAB>



We are the first digital security and privacy laboratory in Colombia designed from and for civil society. We carry out technical analyzes to support the advocacy work of our Foundation, alert about security threats from the digital world and train journalists, human rights defenders and those who are exercising social leadership in their territories, the organizations that group them, and entities with which they are related.

**In 2020 we began to transform the understanding and narratives about digital security: New stakeholders, networks, social groups, points of view, discourses and agendas on this right emerged in the midst of the pandemic.**

**We invite you to learn about the achievements and effects of this line of work in 2020:**

### **Mobile applications and technologies to contain the pandemic**

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, through our K + LAB Digital Security and Privacy Laboratory initiative, we conducted research, analyzed, monitored, and published several coordinated technical reports of critical vulnerabilities in the implementation of public health tools, applications, and websites such as CoronApp\_Colombia, Medellín Me Cuida, Cali Valle Corona, GABO (Bogotá Caregiver) as well as other initiatives deployed by national and local government entities to contain the pandemic. With our work, we managed to influence the areas of decision-making, politics, and social mobilization. With this:

- We reported critical vulnerabilities in the implementation of CoronApp Colombia that were resolved by the National Digital agency. This contributed to improving the security of the more than 10 million records of people processed by CoronApp Colombia.
- The National Digital Agency repaired the digital security breaches that exposed the people's right to privacy and digital security, among others, due to the use of this application.
- We managed to get the authorities of Bogotá and Antioquia to stop sending advertisements that reached citizens to alert them about possible exposure of contact with other people, through Facebook and Google's advertising platforms, taking into account that trying to simulate a Digital contact tracing process using these techniques posed a potentially serious threat to the privacy of individuals.

- We pressured the authorities for CoronApp to be held accountable at a public hearing on privacy and technical scrutiny, and during this hearing, we worked closely with the House Representative who cited the debate to help her guide the discussion agenda.
- One of the conclusions of this debate was something Karisma had been denouncing throughout its technical work: that at the time the objective of this technology and its contribution to the strategy of containment of covid-19 wasn't completely clear.
- We fostered the public debate by being able to include this issue in the agendas of the media and in discussions on social networks and other digital environments, amplifying the participation of civil society, academia, and social organizations regarding the control of technological solutions in the pandemic.
- As a result of our efforts, CoronApp Colombia had to adjust its personal data protection policy to warn users about the data collected by the application, its functionality, and the third parties that have access to it.
- We carried out a joint effort with members of Medellín's Municipal Council who fostered the proposal for control of Medellín Me Cuida.
- We draw attention to the lack of transparency and excessive experimentation in the development and deployment of these technologies.
- With our reports on vulnerabilities, we highlighted the need for technological solutions to be analyzed from the perspective of the privacy of the information of the people who use them; something that in some cases is still pending.

## Publications

Check each of the following links to access the publications that our K + LAB made on mobile applications and technologies for the containment of the pandemic.

- 1) [CoronApp, Medellín me Cuida, and CaliValle Corona under scrutiny -or how CoronApp can be hacked without even trying-](#)
- 2) [Digital contact tracing apps, why shoes if there is no home? Technology at the service of pandemic control](#)
- 3) [What does CoronApp say it does and what it actually does?](#)
- 4) [Exposure notifications through advertising: WTF?](#)



5) [CoronApp: lots of data, few benefits?](#)

6) [COVID app permissions: when will this curve go down?](#)

In this post, we share our first open-source script on GitHub. A tool to compare and look at the evolution over time of the permissions requested by any Android application. Feel free to use it!

Access this first script [HERE](#).

7) [CoronApp CoronApp on Android or iOS, which of the two is the lesser evil when protecting people's privacy?](#)

8) Click on the following link, <https://cv19.karisma.org.co/> to access the Coronavirus Index Alliance website and our analysis of government measures and actions during the pandemic.

## Working with organizations

We worked with a group of social organizations with diverse interests and agendas, in local and international contexts to improve their capabilities in digital security.

### In Colombia:

- We provided support for organizations and people who defend the Peace process in different regions around the country.
- In Catatumbo, Chocó, and Bajo Cauca regions, we collaborated with some social groups. This allowed us to better understand what is happening in these territories with the lack of guarantees for the implementation of the peace agreement and how this relates to the need to strengthen digital security measures.
- We provided support for several groups of people from the LGBTIQ Community in the Colombian Caribbean.
- We worked with organizations from the grassroots cultural sector in Bogotá.
- We accompanied women members of groups with interests in sexual and reproductive health.
- We worked with organizations of people deprived of their liberty, victims of state crimes, exposed to profiling, alteration of content, monitoring, adulteration of published documents, illegal interception of communications.
- We worked with indigenous organizations.

### In Ecuador:

- We interacted with indigenous organizations in the Ecuadorian Amazon Region.

### In Perú:

- We collaborated with a group of young people in Peru, mostly women, in strengthening their skills in digital security in virtual banking and financial contexts.



**¡En 2020 adaptamos nuestras metodologías al contexto virtual, incorporamos actividades interactivas y participativas pensadas en los nuevos desafíos y necesidades particulares de cada organización!**

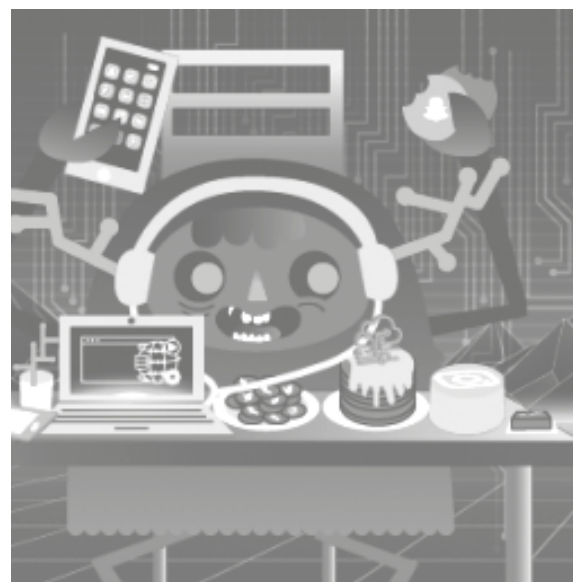
**Organizations always say they like this new methodology :-).**

## Self-hosted events

We organized 5 data-detox dinners for digital beings: This way we put on the table a delicious menu and an open letter for all people to freely use their cell phones, tablets, and computers and adopt best practices to get rid of intoxication and bad digital habits.

Get your stomach and your digital cutlery ready! You just have to click on the following links to access each of these dinners:

- 1 [Data Detox Dinner](#)
- 2 [Dinner: We need to talk about Facebook](#)
- 3 [Dinner: Take control of your apps](#)
- 4 [Dinner: Your profile is a coveted product](#)
- 5 [Dinner: Rights and how to exercise them in digital](#)



## External events

- [We participated in the Latin American Festival of Free Software Installation \(FLISOL 2020\)](#) with our presentation: [“CoronApp, Medellín me Cuida, and CaliValle Corona under scrutiny, Or how CoronApp can be hacked without even trying”](#). There we explained how two applications and a website intended to track the current epidemic were analyzed, as well as some findings that were revealed in these analyzes: lack of transparency, privacy concerns, and serious digital security vulnerabilities.
- We attended the inaugural meeting of FIRST Threat Intelligence SIG!, where we shared with other civil society organizations from Tibet, Nigeria, and Pakistan that are part of CIVICERT -the international network of rapid response groups on digital security for civil society-and we were able to learn about their needs, interests, and objectives on topics such as phishing, piracy in the midst of geopolitical conflicts, misinformation, web shells on news websites and requests for help, DDoS attacks related to spyware against dissidents.
- Internews Global Technology invited us to participate in its “Threat Analysis and Sharing” Webinar series. There we presented our research on Threats in the context of COVID-19 pandemic: Analysis of websites and applications in Colombia. We shared our work methodology and research approach, our findings, and future plans related to this topic.

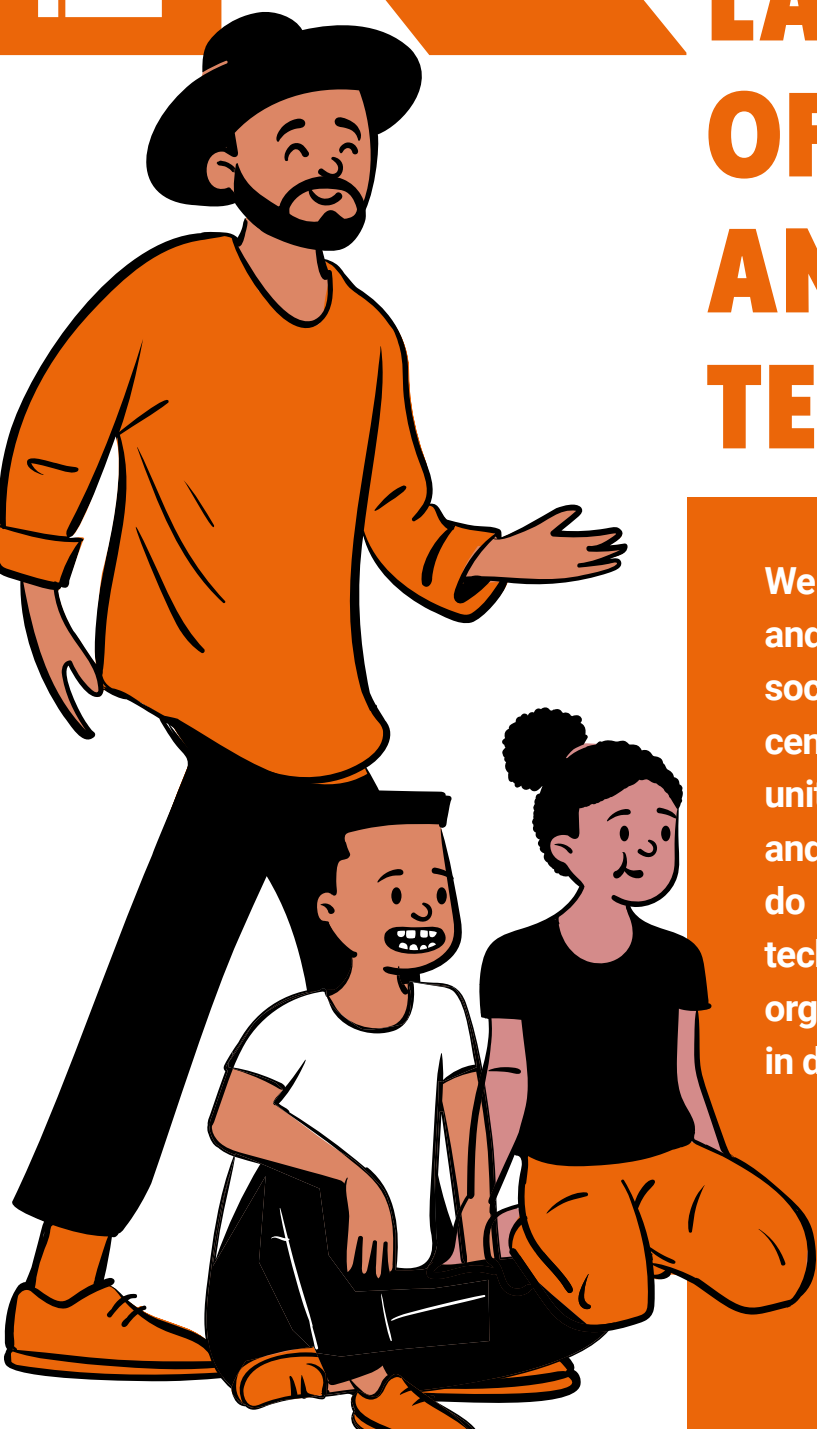
[CLICK HERE](#) to know more about the highlights of this participation.

# impacto



## **-LAB ITS - LABORATORY OF INNOVATION AND SOCIAL TECHNOLOGY**

We explore new strategies, concepts, and ideas to meet the needs of civil society; especially in rural education centers, small-scale productive units, local markets in rural areas, and Colombian family farms. We do it based on innovation, social technologies, and networking, with organizations and people interested in different topics





**Through our Local Network named “Kimera”, we were able to provide support to face the inequalities in access to knowledge due to internet connectivity gaps that communities and people in rural contexts of the country have historically experienced, a situation exacerbated in the midst of the educational crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.**

**We invite you to learn about the achievements and effects of this line of work in 2020:**

### **Kimera Local Network**

- We were able to check the operation of the Kimera Local Network in schools in Supatá, Cundinamarca, and Córdoba, also in Colombia, to ensure that some teachers could find solutions to the challenges that virtual education imposes on rural communities with limited connectivity and with difficulties in accessing the use of devices for this purpose.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the official website of Kimera Local Network.

- Also in Fresno Tolima, where communities have been using this resource even before the pandemic, the Local Network offered a certain “virtuality” that supported students’ work at home. This allowed them to download guides, content, and activities on their cell phones, that after being completed were uploaded to the server for teachers to review, facilitating compliance with distancing requirements, allowing students to access content when they could, and bringing absent teachers closer.

To know more about this achievement, we invite you to read: [The Kimera Wireless Local Network in the pandemic and in the new proposed “alternation” education model.](#)

- We provided the necessary tools for the educational communities (students, families, and teachers), in the places mentioned, to access Wikipedia offline, overcoming the barriers that prevented them to access the information, knowledge, and cultural content offered by this catalog.

We invite you to read: The challenges of virtual education in the era of COVID-19

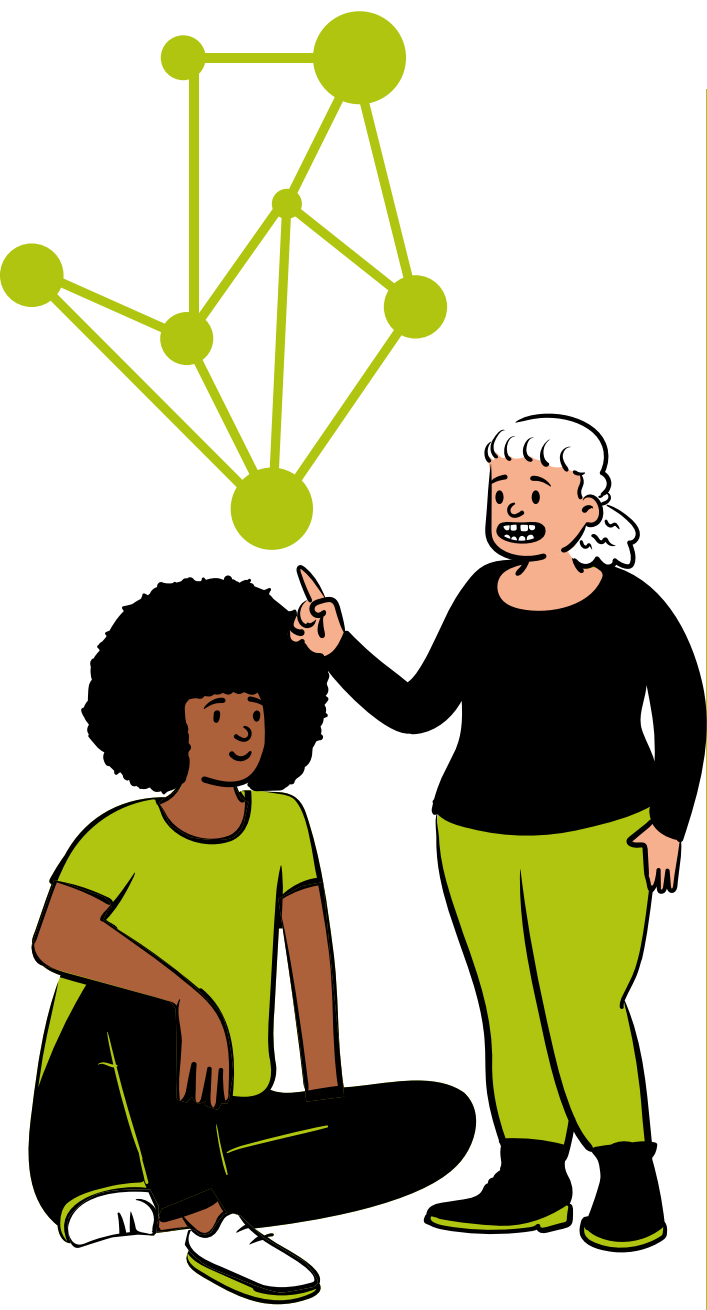
## Events

- We participated in the online version of RightsCon, in an event on community networks that compared the experience of several countries in the region, including Colombia. We reflected on the regulatory challenges that we are still struggling to achieve proper recognition, especially during the pandemic.

# impacto



## INTERNET GOVERNANCE



We connected with stakeholders from the government, the private and academic sectors, and technical communities around advocacy actions and highlighting of issues relevant to civil society such as values, defense challenges, and the future of the Internet.

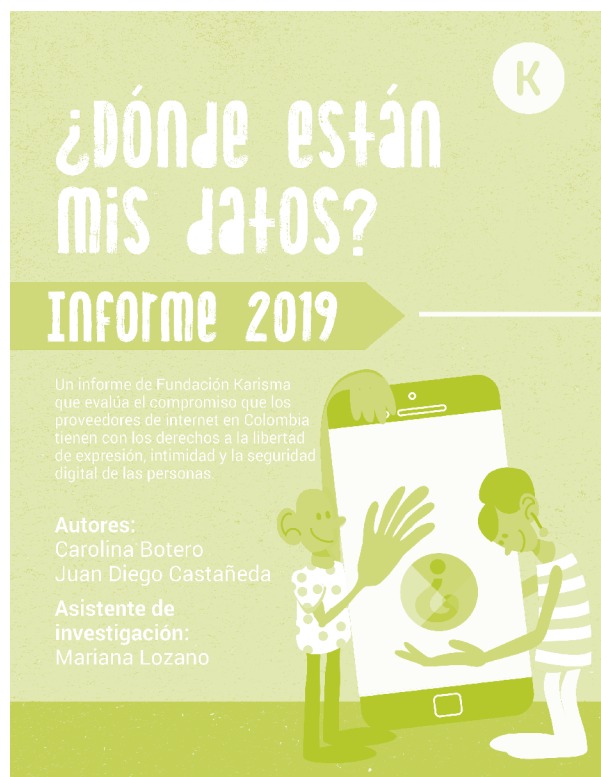
Furthermore, we encouraged open and inclusive processes to promote an equal environment for everyone who wanted to participate in these discussions and decisions.

## We invite you to learn about the achievements and effects of this line of work in 2020:

### Corporate Accountability Index of Digital Rights 2020

- We were part of the [2020 Corporate Accountability Index of Digital Rights](#), which evaluated the commitments regarding privacy, freedom of expression, information, and governance of the 26 most powerful digital platforms and telecommunications companies in the world.
- We reviewed the policies of two companies: Telefónica and América Móvil and with this, we made our contribution to understanding the current state of this situation in Colombia.

### Where is my data 2019



We presented the fifth edition of our report “Where is my data?”, a document that highlights several turning points on the special commitment that internet providers have to people’s privacy and freedom of expression.

The presentation of this research was attended by several team members from Claro, Tigo, Movistar, ETB, EMCALI, and DirecTV, companies that were evaluated in this edition.

For civil society organizations such as Karisma, these reports become tools for monitoring and controlling the powers of the State, especially in matters of communications surveillance and respect for net neutrality.

[Click HERE](#) to access the report: [Where is my data 2019](#)

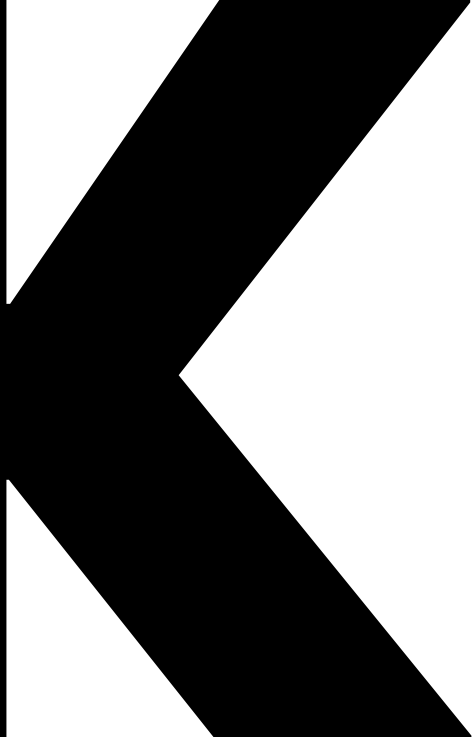


## **As part of the Latin American Committee of IFEX -ALC**

We monitored and promoted media and political actions to defend and promote the freedom of expression of people in Latin America.

By clicking on each of the following links, you will be able to learn more about some of our actions:

- 1) [IFEX-ALC condemns the detention of journalist Darvinson Rojas and demands his full freedom](#)
- 2) [We reject the bill on “fake news” that will be voted on today in Brazil](#)
- 3) [Open letter to the Brazilian authorities on the charges against journalist Glenn Greenwald](#)



# **TRANSVERSAL LINES OF WORK**

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**GENDER  
PERSPECTIVE**



**FREEDOM OF  
EXPRESSION**



## GENDER PERSPECTIVE



We developed inclusion and equity proposals to enable all people, especially those historically excluded, to enjoy the same opportunities to create, express, know, direct and participate in all areas of life in the face of gender inequalities that occur in our society and are reflected on the internet.

**We received the support of local media and some regional media to make progress on our goal of contributing to making journalism free of violence and sexual harassment!**

**We invite you to learn about the achievements and effects of this line of work in 2020:**

### **Harassment-Free Journalists:**

[An investigation to understand sexist violence against Colombian journalists and communicators](#)

In order to contribute to a better understanding of the different types of violence that Colombian journalists and communicators face, we embarked, in an alliance with the [Colombian Network of Gender-oriented Journalists](#), on an ambitious research project in which we hope to have a general overview on this problem and thus make recommendations to the government, the media and social platforms to prevent and deal with violence that interferes with the freedom of expression of people who practice journalism and communication.



**Periodistas Sin Acoso**

Ingresa a: [bit.ly/EncuestaPeriodistasSinAcoso](https://bit.ly/EncuestaPeriodistasSinAcoso)

Logos at the bottom: Red Colombiana de Periodistas con Visión de Género, Fundación Karisma, FUNDACIÓN RED COLOMBIANA DE PERIODISTAS, Con el apoyo de: WORLD WIDE WEB FOUNDATION, Suecia Sverige.

### Our four main actions during 2020:

- 1. An online survey**, aimed at all journalists and communication professionals in Colombia: more than 450 people participated!
- 2. The implementation of four focus groups:** With a total of 24 people, two of them comprised only of women, one comprised of men and the other one mixed.
- 3. In-depth interviews with journalists.**
- 4. Roundtable:** In an effort to generate a discussion about sexist violence against journalists, we organized the “Journalists without Harassment Conference: Talk, Question, Build”, which included a talk between journalists to learn first-hand experiences and reflect on the necessary changes to eradicate sexist violence in journalism.

*This roundtable was a huge success and generated a lot of engagement with Karisma’s regular audiences. All the strategies behind the survey attracted a lot of attention, created interest, and united the conversation of multiple stakeholders!*

## Events

Thanks to the interest and movement that our Investigation Journalists without Harassment aroused, we were invited to participate in various events and got media exposure at a national, local, and regional level.

- We participated in the Ceralia festival in Ecuador. We presented our work and were able to confirm that this problem is currently under public scrutiny and that we are already finding concrete actions to start addressing this issue.

## We launched



### El Machitrómetro:

the new Machitroll Alert tool to eradicate Violence Against Women. 7 Karismatic people worked on a tool that detects, measures, and advises #Machitrolls on the internet. We know the pandemic has contributed to multiply their numbers and that many of them are on the loose.

So... (Drumroll) here it is!

<https://bit.ly/MachitrometroK>



[Do you use dating apps in times of pandemic? Let's match!](#) A campaign to map the use of dating apps in the current context of social isolation in Colombia.

We invite you to click on the following link to access our publication: Do you use dating apps in times of COVID-19? We want to know about your experiences!

## Copenhagen Democracy Summit 2020 Agenda.

In recognition of the work that we have been doing for years in the Gender Perspective Line, our project leader was invited to participate in the session called "Guaranteeing women's rights during a pandemic" of the Copenhagen Democracy Summit Agenda 2020.

We shared this space for debate and different points of view with female human rights defenders from around the world who work on

innovative and progressive initiatives to address the negative effect of the pandemic on women's rights, which is exacerbating existing inequalities and creating new ones.

We also discussed this issue with other prominent participants in the event such as US Secretary of State, Michael R. Pompeo, and Microsoft President, Brad Smith.

- We articulated with a group of researchers from the Laboratory of Digital and Inventive Methods (DiSoRLab) of Rosario University to support them in the coverage and completion of the talk “Data Feminism with Catherine D’Ignazio” and discuss some examples of data feminism in action to show how challenging binarisms (male/female) can help transform other oppressive and unjust hierarchies.

## **Gender module in the cybersecurity workshop**

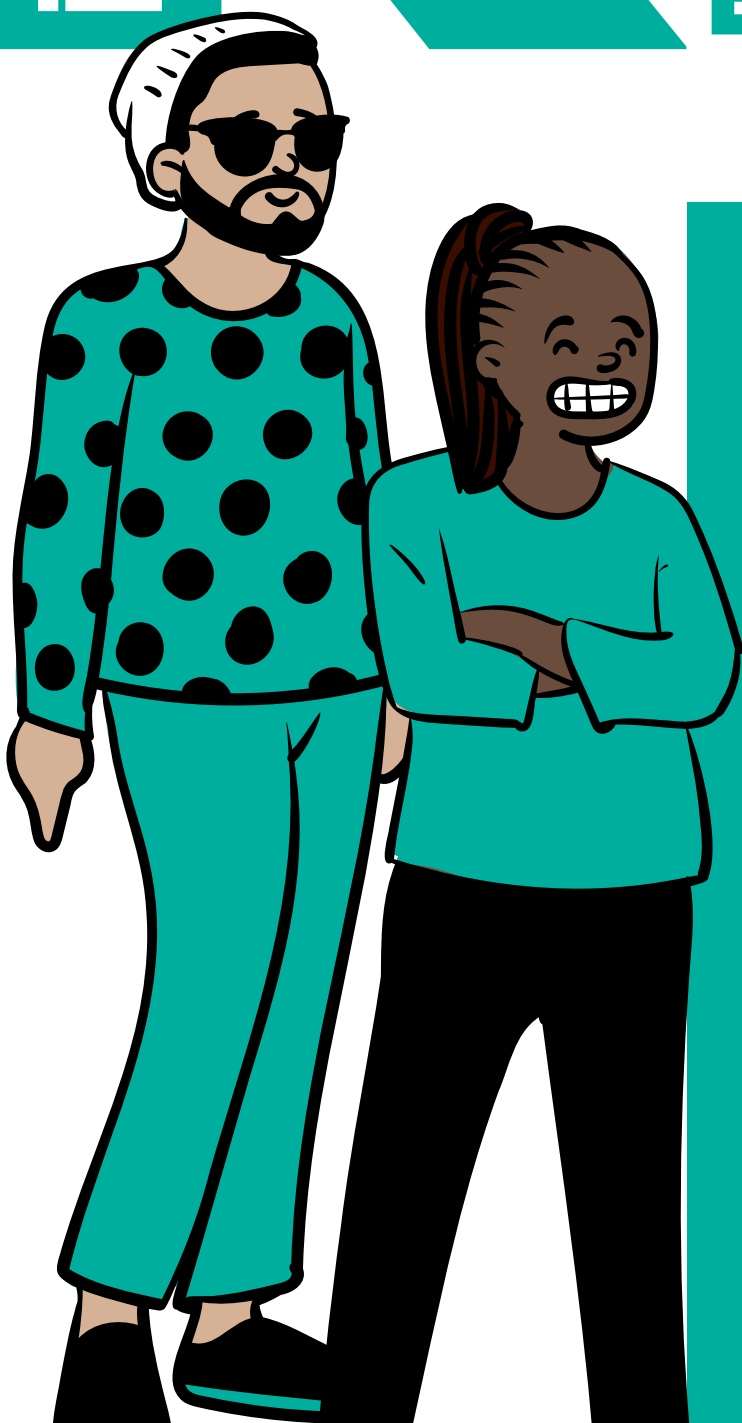
In the context of the launch of the Confidence and Digital Security Policy ([CONPES 3995 OF 2020](#)) and the implementation of the Online [Workshop on Cybersecurity Policies with a focus on human rights](#) - mentioned above -, we released a module in which we highlighted the importance of analyzing cybersecurity from a gender perspective.

Our goal was to strengthen the capacities of women and people with diverse identities and sexuality, to foster the design of new actions that mitigate the risks they face on the internet.

# impacto



## FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION



We worked in the defense and promotion of the right to freedom of expression in digital environments. Through a transversal vision, we promoted the thematic lines necessary to defend the enjoyment of this and other rights such as access to information, culture and knowledge, education, and privacy.





## We invite you to learn about the achievements and effects of this line of work in 2020:

- Do you remember that on September 18 Facebook temporarily blocked the hashtag [#ACAB](#) “All Cops Are Bastards”?

As soon as we learned about this situation, which limited freedom of expression and hindered protests on the internet by preventing access to content related to the cases of police abuse documented during the month of September in Colombia, we asked several allied organizations in Brazil, Chile, Mexico, and Peru to share with us the results of their searches for #ACAB on Facebook. We documented their findings, collected evidence, and filed a complaint with Facebook Colombia.

**As a result of this action, Facebook raised the request to their central headquarters and the restriction was lifted!**

Do you want to know more? We invite you to check the thread we made by clicking on this link: [Temporary blocking of the #ACAB tag in Facebook.](#)

- We commemorate the hearing on Freedom of Expression: An unprecedented event in which a high court in Colombia summoned experts, civil society organizations, and representatives of platforms to pronounce on the exercise of freedom of expression on the internet, the data protection in the digital age and the responsibility of internet intermediaries such as Facebook, Google, YouTube, among others.
- We did a thematic intervention in a class about the internet, freedom of expression, and copyright in the communication and digital tools module for the online [Diploma course in Digital Content Management](#) organized by the Javeriana University.
- We joined the conversation about “Community Networks: Experiences in Latin America” organized by the University of Costa Rica. We shared this space with the Center for Research on Technologies and Community Knowledge (CITSAC) of Mexico.

For more information about this hearing, we invite you to click on the following link: [Anniversary of the hearing before the Constitutional Court on social networks and freedom of expression.](#)

We invite you to check our participation by clicking on this link: [Community networks: experiences in Latin America.](#)



## **AREAS OF SUPPORT**

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**Communications**



**Technology**

# impacto



## COMMUNICATIONS

Our communications team has the mission of designing, implementing, and evaluating various communication strategies to support the foundation's advocacy objectives and to ensure that different sectors of society listen and replicate our messages.



**We adapted, reacted, and got stronger in the midst of all the changes provoked by the transition to the digital world that the COVID-19 pandemic brought to our work teams and our audiences.**

### **New initiatives and new capabilities**

- We worked collaboratively with each member of the Foundation's strategic lines with the aim of planning and executing 100% digital actions in our communications.
- We developed a document with recommendations to strengthen the ideation, design, and socialization processes of messages and communicative contents of Karisma to respond to the needs of its audiences in the context of COVID-19, under the institutional premise of promoting the rights of people in digital environments.
- We improved our capacities for the design and execution of strategic communications campaigns focused on the needs, desires, and nurturing of our audiences.

## **We grew and got stronger!**

- Our team grew! With the hiring of a design assistant and a communications intern, as well as the increase in the hours of dedication of some of the professionals who were already in our team, we went from 3 to 5 people and increased our response capacity to the new challenges that our organization and our audiences were going through.
- We strengthened our internal workflow: We designed new tools and generated new spaces and work processes for the management of information, knowledge, and sharing of lessons learned.
- We improved our processes of planning, execution, and monitoring of campaigns and strategic communications actions.

## **Moving forward with our editorial position**

Karisma's position regarding the discourses and hegemonic practices related to the use of technology to safeguard health in pandemic contexts was the product of an exercise of reflection and internal analysis among all the people in the organization that collects our Foundation's many years of work and adapts to current challenges and needs:

- We fostered a public, active and critical debate to question and carry out citizen oversight and control to put limits on the interferences that a technological function-focused perspective, adopted by the State, can have on the human rights of people in digital environments.
- Given Karisma's constant concern that civil society organizations are not part of the discussion spaces of the State and the Institutions that make decisions on matters of interest to the organization, from the Karisma communications team, we deployed messages and contents to highlight this problem, to give an account of our participation in these processes (not only the results when there are any) and to empower civil society on these issues.

- One of our goals during 2020 was to increase the impact of our communications by making content more friendly, understandable, and useful for our audiences, interconnecting technical language with day-to-day language.

•

We implemented digital dissemination techniques that are more respectful of people. In tune with our activist focus, we do not use paid advertising, SEO positioning, or penetration services to reach the people or communities of our interest or to position our speeches or messages.

- We also do not use free or paid services to do statistical analysis on social networks or to conduct user profiling.
- We favored the design and use of inclusive and accessible language strategies for the promotion and defense of the rights of LGBTIQ people, women, and people with disabilities. We bet on intersectionality!

## Website

- We launched our new website; a space that reflects our goals, work, and graphic identity.
- 95% of the content published on our website was created by our team members.
- In 2020 we produced and published 165 pieces of content on our website, which represented an increase of 67% compared to 2019 when we published 53.
- With 105,896 visits to the website during 2020, we exceeded by 65% the traffic to the publications reported in the previous year: 36,277.
- June, September, and March, were the months of 2020 with the highest amount of content production and publishing with 26, 21, and 20 entries respectively.
- The highest peaks of content production and publication in 2019 were April with 18 entries and November with 12.
- In 2019, the highest traffic peak we had on our website was in the months of May, with 6,742 visits, and in September, with 6,762.

- Comparatively, in May, June, and November 2020, we doubled these peaks with 12,444, 13,540, and 14,214 visits, respectively.
- Since April 2020, we had almost 30% more visits than in 2019, with an average amount of 8,000 visits, a phenomenon that can be related to the increase in our presence and positioning of the topics addressed in our website's publications in the most important communication media of the country, as you can see later in the point of presence in the media.

## Social media

- We worked on different strategies for the positioning of various content in each of our social networks, increasing our capacities and possibilities to reach our audiences in a different way in each of these contexts.
- We created bridges to encourage and moderate discussions of public interest, amplify the voice of civil society and our audiences, feed the debate as an exercise and idea of collectivity in relation to the State and the government, mediate positions and bring them before public bodies.
- We committed ourselves to our audiences so that our social networks were public, open, and participatory spaces.
- We rediscovered and explored new messages, styles, narratives, spaces, and tools to strengthen communication and interaction with our audiences and to engage in relevant conversations in political and cultural contexts.
- We were committed to the production of content and entertainment formats, to transcend our abilities to communicate from information and education perspectives.
- All these efforts allowed us to foster a more informed, critical, and empowered audience capable of defending their human rights in digital contexts.



- We positioned new narratives among our general audiences who do not know or are not aware that their human rights in digital contexts are also human rights.
- Our social media chats served as a safe channel for women and people in the LGBTIQ community who are harassed in their personal digital environments.
- During 2020 we guided women by indicating actions and routes to report cases of violence, online harassment, threats and non-consensual publication of images with intimate content. During these chats we let them know that they are not alone, that it is not their fault, and that they have rights that are being violated. In several cases, we were able to help remove abusive content and false profiles created to intimidate them.
- We collaborated with more than 30 civil society organizations, activists, and local and international networks and consolidated a network of mutual support for the amplification of our agendas and objectives.
- We managed to position the identity of our digital campaigns.
- We increased our ability to generate digital discussions through virtual events.

## Twitter

- Regarding this Social Media Network, our follower growth during 2020 was 3333, finishing the year with 13329, compared to the increase of 1996 followers in 2019, finishing this year with 9996 followers.
- This represented a growth of 166% compared to the previous year.
- Overall, we had a steady growth of 100 to 200 followers each month and a peak of follower growth during the months of May, June, and July with approximately 1,300 followers.
- The number of impressions, interactions, and debate generation with our content is highlighted.

## Facebook

- With more than 12 streaming events, new videos, and content, we promoted the growth of this network and the participation of new audiences in public debates about access to knowledge and culture, censorship, and digital security.
- This platform was also vital for our audiences to acquire knowledge about digital self-care.
- We took a leap of faith and working hand in hand with many of the Foundation's teams of the different strategic lines, we managed to carry out more than 12 virtual live events! We talked, debated, and gave a voice to civil society.

## Instagram

- The number of followers on Instagram increased by 880, starting from 760 in January and ending with 1581 in December 2020.
- We maintained a constant monthly growth of 40 followers with a significant increase of almost 300 followers between March and May, followed by a stable growth rate until December.
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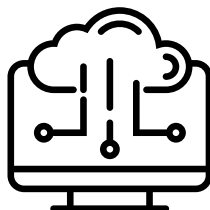
## YouTube

- We increased from 280 registered subscribers in 2019 to 443 by December 2020.
- We had a steady increase in new monthly subscriptions.

## **The place of Human rights on the internet in the media debate!**

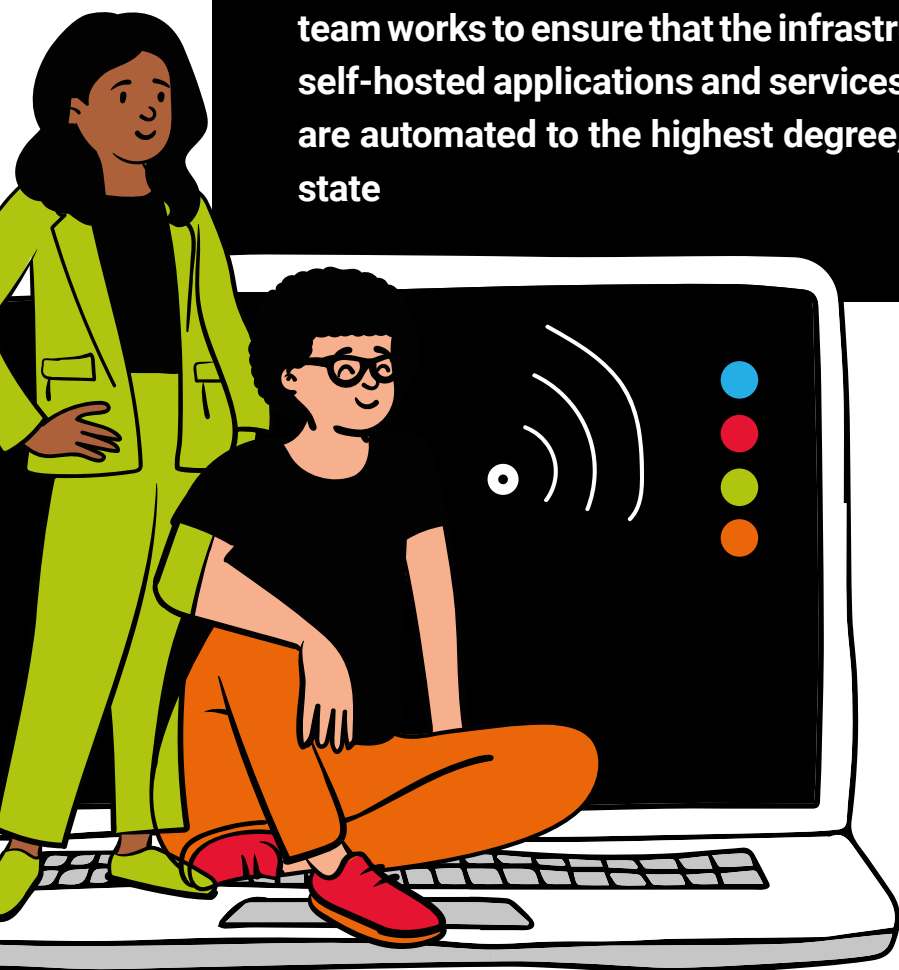
- With our work and our content on issues of national interest, we consolidated ourselves as an organization with leading spokespersons for digital, traditional, and emerging media in Colombia, the region, and the world.
- Technologies, mobile applications, and their implications for human rights in the face of crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic, began to occupy a space in the agendas of the media and in the daily conversations of common people.
- In 2020, we increased our participation in media by 30% with a total of 222 appearances in 2020 compared with 155 of 2019.
- The month with the highest number of appearances was May, with 42 coverages in the media, compared with the same month of 2019 with 12 publications and with February as the highest peak of that year with 31 appearances.
- The topics that allowed us to have the most presence in the media were those related to CoronApp- Colombia, Medellín me Cuida, and the ICT LAW.

# impacto



## TECHNOLOGY

The Karisma Technology team is in charge of providing the means and tools for every member of the organization to have a technological environment completely aligned with the values of the Foundation. This team works to ensure that the infrastructure required by the organization's self-hosted applications and services are resilient, follow good practices, are automated to the highest degree, and it is easy to track their current state



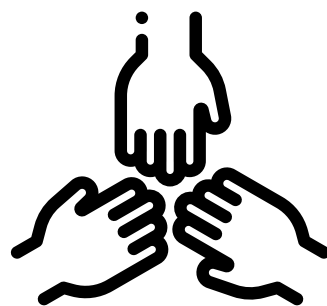
## **We invite you to learn about the achievements and effects of this line of work in 2020:**

The most important achievement of 2020 was that we segmented Karisma's technological infrastructure into three different groups (public, internal, and system) in order to strengthen our security practices, organize our privacy policies according to the needs of our audiences and the specific roles of the people in the organization, their demands, and requirements.

On the other hand, we increased the capabilities of our team by adding a new team member, the administrator who is in charge of the public group.

We were also able to create campaigns quickly, thanks to the fact that our automated platform for this purpose has evolved and is more mature.

# impacto



## WORK TEAM



### **General Director**

Carolina Botero

### **Management Board**

Héctor Botero

Elizabeth Castillo

Alberto Gómez

Tania Pérez-Bustos

Sara Trejos

Sandra Botero

Lina Porras

María Eugenia Cabrera

### **ITS Lab Coordinator**

Héctor Botero

### **Project coordinators**

Pilar Sáenz

Amalia Toledo

Viviana Rangel

Juan Diego Castañeda

### **Researcher**

Joan López

**Research assistants**

Lucía Camacho  
Mariana Lozano  
Laura Castro  
Juliana Valdes

**Project Officer**

Angie Ballesteros

**Administrative team**

Yeny Merchán  
Flor Quintero  
Pilar Calderón

**Communications  
coordinator**

Alejandra Martínez

**Online Presence  
Manager**

Heidy Amaya

**Designer**

Daniela Moreno  
Hugo Vásquez

**Global Congress**

Diego Mora

**Digital security and  
privacy experts**

Stéphane Labarthe  
Andrés Velásquez

**Alternate director**

Efraín Cabrera

**Contadora**

Martha Pérez

**Tax inspection**

Juliana Galindo

**Developers**

Juan Luis Baptiste

**Volunteers**

David Albarracín  
Andrés Felipe Castellanos

**Interns**

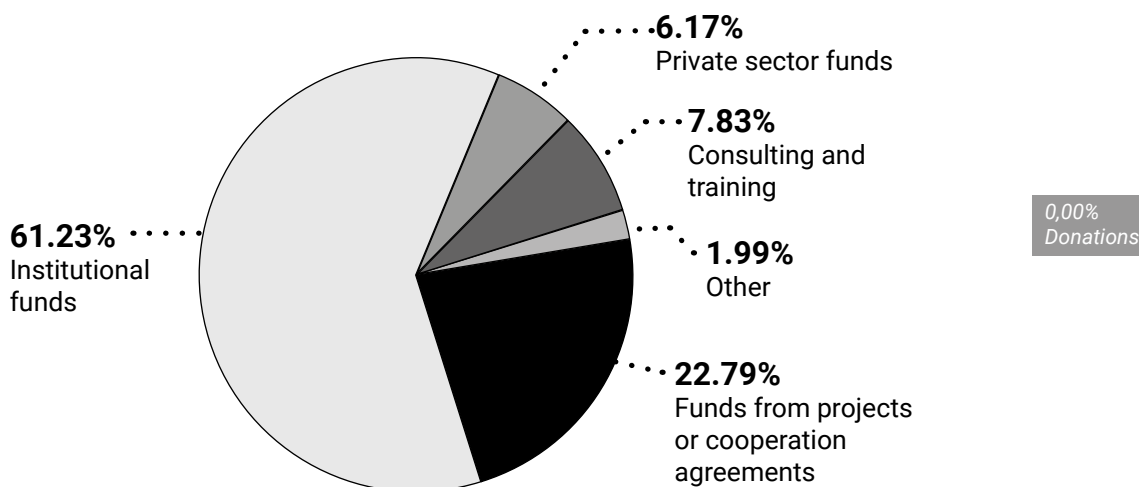
Mariana Urrea  
Nestor Espinosa  
Angie Enciso

**Support**

Noemy Ortiz  
Felipe Muñoz  
Byron Herrera  
José Guevara  
Solugraph Bogotá  
Cuántika Estudio

# Financial report

In 2020, Karisma managed a total budget of \$2,851,293,636.83 COP, which corresponds to \$772,005.34 USD, from several sources that can be distributed as follows:



The previous table shows the distribution of budget by source. It reflects the fact that the Open Society Foundation granted us funds towards the end of 2020 to be executed between 2020 and 2023. This explains the rise in the percentage shown in the row corresponding to Institutional Funds.

1. The exchange rate used corresponds to the average for 2020 reported by the Colombian National Bank: COP 3,693.36 for each dollar.



During 2020, the resources that Karisma managed came from contracts and donations from individuals and organizations as follows:

- **Funds from Projects or cooperation agreements:** Internews, Padf, Privacy International, Global Partner Digital, Indela, Cristian Aid, Fundación Universitaria de San Andrés, World Wide Web Foundation, Electronic Frontier Foundation, New America, Open Society Foundation, American University.
- **Core funding:** Open Society Foundation.
- **Donations:** N/A
- **Private sector funds:** Google Colombia Ltda, Apple.
- **Consulting and training:** Land is Life, Genval, Swefor Colombia, APFCS (Citizen Data Audit), Fundalectura, Comundo, Biteca SAS, Consortium Solidarity Programs, ITA - CHO, Peace Brigades International -PBI, Colombia, Fundación Oriéntame, Podion Corporation, José Alvear Restrepo Bar Association (CAJAR), Det Norske Menneskerettighetsfond (Norwegian Fund).
- **Other:** These incomes correspond to exchange differences, financial returns, and expense reimbursements.

## 1. Regarding 2020 budget execution

For 2020 there was a budget of COP \$ 2,086,303,550.00 (USD \$ 632,213.20 which was calculated with an exchange rate of COP 3,300 for each dollar), this budget was executed at 76.81%, that is, COP \$ 1,602,549,383 (USD \$ 433,900 calculated at the average exchange rate of 2020 COP \$ 3,693.36).

To explain why the budget wasn't completely executed we have to take into account that 2020 was marked by the Covid-19 pandemic, which, although modified the Foundation's activities -as explained in this document-, it did not substantially affect the execution of the budget once we isolate the Foundation's budget from that of the Global Congress' - an international event that represented more than 20% of the global budget and could not be carried out-.

**Karisma Foundation Budget Execution without Global Congress**

Global 2020 Budget without GC	Executed 2020 budget without GC	% of executed 2020 budget without GC
<b>1,686,303,55</b>	<b>1,511,463,926</b>	<b>89.63%</b>

**Budget Execution of the Global Congress only**

GC budget for 2020	2020 budget received for the GC	Executed 2020 budget for the GC	% of executed 2020 budget for GC
<b>400,000,000</b>	<b>361,254,339</b>	<b>91,085,457</b>	<b>22.77%</b>

**Karisma Foundation Total budget execution in 2020**

2020 Global budget	Total Executed 2020 budget	Total % of executed 2020 budget
<b>2,086,303,550</b>	<b>1,602,549,383</b>	<b>76.81%</b>

- Despite the pandemic, Karisma's budget (excluding the Global Congress) was executed by almost 90%.

Despite the fact that the pandemic represented a significant challenge for all people and organizations, the Foundation managed to adapt to the new operational conditions (in the workplace, the personal and the immediate ecosystem), adjusting its 2020 workflow on the fly -mainly assuming emerging issues-, keeping the commitments previously acquired and maintaining its efforts to obtain resources.

Regarding the individual projects assumed before the pandemic, they were fully executed on time, despite the fact that, for example, there were no travel expenses that are usually significant costs. What was done was to redirect and carry out alternative activities.

Thus, from the global budget for 2020 set at COP \$ 1,686,303,550 (USD 511,001.08 exchange rate of COP \$ 3,300), 89.63% was executed, equivalent to \$ 1,511,463,926 (USD 409,238.18 exchange rate of COP \$ 3,693.36). As expected, due to restrictions imposed by the pandemic, the budget couldn't be fully executed in expenses such as

travel (including institutional ones) and others, including those for incidence and in person advocacy, office, and representation expenses equally diminished by the restrictions during the pandemic.

- Impossibility of holding the Global Congress, an international event that would have taken place in Cartagena in August of 2020.

Quarantines and lockdowns did not allow the Global Congress to be held, which had a budget of COP \$ 400,000,000.00 (USD \$ 117,647.06). Karisma received \$ 361,254,339 (USD \$ 97,811.84 at an exchange rate of COP \$ 3,693,36) to carry out the event. Once it was confirmed that this event would not take place, the Foundation stopped the allocation and receipt of funds for this purpose.

In order to maintain some of the activities planned for the second half of 2020, an online version of the Congress was held with some communication activities. Therefore, the money received by Karisma was executed in 2020 COP \$ 91,085,457 (USD \$ 24,661.95 at the exchange rate at the time of reception) equivalent to 22.77% of the originally approved budget. The decision was to keep the remaining funds to hold the event in person, if possible, in 2021 or to analyze other alternatives.

## **2. In the report, a differentiation must be made between resources for management and those for project execution.**

Of the resources managed in 2020, 15.98% (COP \$ 455,646,435 or USD \$ 123,369.08) correspond to resources from own operations and 84.02% (COP \$ 2,395,647,202 or USD \$ 648,636.26) are resources for the management and execution of specific projects.

Like every year, this sorting is necessary to understand the numbers that appear in the financial statements of the organization and to understand how Karisma operates. The first number is the total amount of Operational and Non-operational Income (Donations or aid); while the resources received for the management and execution of projects are registered in the accounting records as income on behalf of third parties (account 28 of Current Liabilities).

The reason for this differentiation is due to Colombian accounting standards, which mandates that the resources of specific projects should not be considered as part of our own resources because it is assumed that we do not have direct control over them. For us, these resources are committed for a purpose and that is why only as the expense is made is it legalized. Therefore, we understand that even if payments in projects may vary from the original plan, the money received is due to the person who has delivered it for the execution of the corresponding project. These resources appear on the balance sheet as

“other liabilities” which can cause confusion.

### 3. The variation of current assets between 2020 and 2019 was 205%

This variation is explained because in 2020 important resources were received as institutional financing from the Open Society Foundation to be executed between 2020 and 2023. Of these resources, the sum of COP \$ 1,066,383,797 (USD 288,729.99) passes for the following years.

### 4. Diversification of income

Karisma's work is important for the different social stakeholders and that is why we seek to have a diverse portfolio of funders and amounts distributed in such a way as to avoid dependence on a few funders, or even just one.

Additionally, Karisma has been working to increase its own resources, especially through consulting and training. For this purpose, the K + Lab has been strengthened. By ensuring greater equity the organization can decide in a more flexible way about the use of those resources.

To see the effects of this work, it is necessary to adjust the table of resources managed by Karisma during 2020 and subtract those that were not executed (since the Global Congress event was not held or for money received from the Open Society Foundation to be executed until 2023) as these sums distort the figures for comparison purposes.

Resources managed by Karisma Foundation in 2019		Resources executed by Karisma Foundation in 2020	
Funds from Projects or cooperation agreements	22.79%	Funds from Projects or cooperation agreements	42.44%
Institutional funds	61.23%	Institutional funds	25.98%
Private sector funds	6.17%	Private sector funds	12.18%
Consulting and training	7.83%	Consulting and training	15.47%
Donations	0,00%	Donations	0,00%
Other	1.99%	Other	3.93%

A comparison of the resources executed by Karisma Foundation in 2020 with the resources managed in 2019 shows the effects of this work.

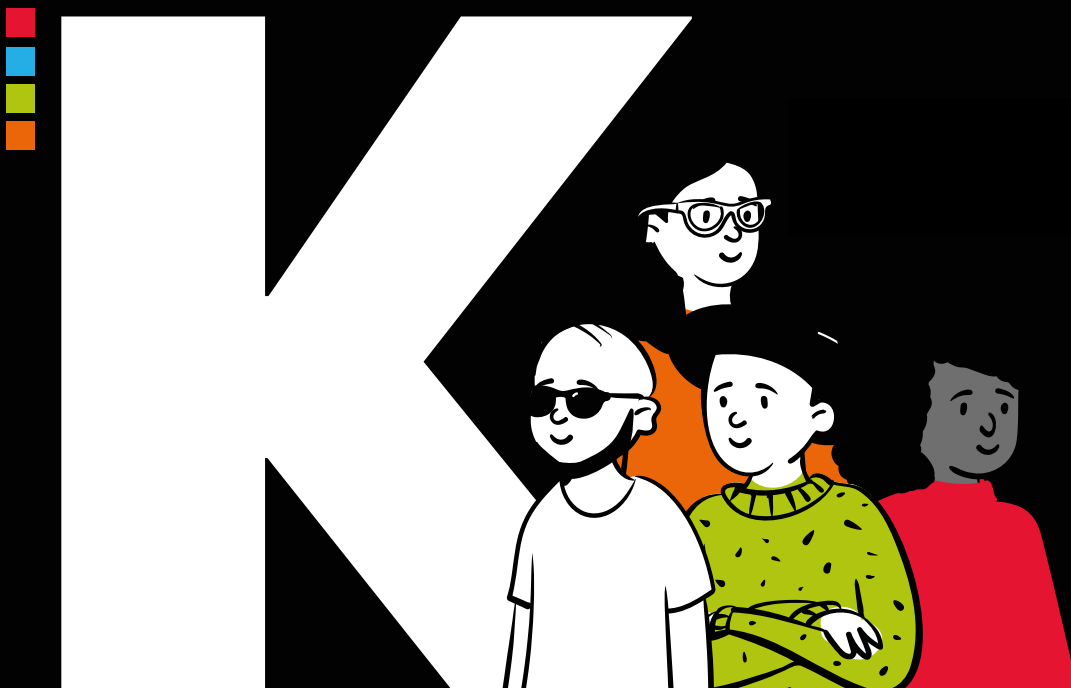
Resources managed by Karisma Fundation in 2019	
Funds from Projects or cooperation agreements	<b>54.09%</b>
Institutional funds	<b>16.52%</b>
Private sector funds	<b>18.79%</b>
Consulting and training	<b>8.57%</b>
Donations	<b>0,00%</b>
Other	<b>1.99%</b>

Resources executed by Karisma Foundation in 2020	
Funds from Projects or cooperation agreements	<b>42.44%</b>
Institutional funds	<b>25.98%</b>
Private sector funds	<b>12.18%</b>
Consulting and training	<b>15.47%</b>
Donations	<b>0,00%</b>
Other	<b>3.93%</b>

The comparison allows us to see that in 2020 Karisma practically doubled the income of the foundation in consultancies and training, increased institutional funds and thus decreased the participation of resources from projects and the private sector.

## 5. Other

Karisma's bank cash is invested in safe and low-risk financial products (savings accounts, CDTs, and low-risk trust accounts). Finally, the Foundation complies with the legal regulations regarding intellectual property and copyright.



 [karisma.org.co](http://karisma.org.co)

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 [@Karisma](https://twitter.com/@Karisma)

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 [Fundación Karisma](https://www.youtube.com/Fundación Karisma)