

## PRESS RELEASE

# Buen Conocer Summit innovates in the creation of public policies from free and open paradigms

Buen Conocer Summit held in Quito during May 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, brought together 198 experts (157 domestic and 41 international) in order to generate policy proposals to boost the productive exchange matrix in Ecuador. The Summit, which was attended by community and regional leaders from around Ecuador and politicians from different administrations, aimed at finding the transition from a system based on 'finite resources' (natural resources) to one of 'infinite resources' (knowledge) economic model. The new society oriented towards the common good and based on the National Plan for Good Living, is called "Social Knowledge Economy".

Buen Conocer Summit was the culmination of the Flok Society research ([flokociety.org](http://flokociety.org)) project started in November 2013. The event designed a method for academics, members of public institutions, activists and representatives of civil society would work in 14 thematic groups the documents (papers) of FLOK Society research. From each table, proposals for public policy and pilot projects to be implemented came out, around the social knowledge economy, free licenses and the commons. The workshops were: open educational resources, open science, open culture, open and sustainable agriculture, biodiversity, distributed energy, industrial manufacturing oriented to commons, data and open government, public policy and legislation, free hardware and cyber security, free software, ICT connectivity and accessibility of cognitive labor territorial and urban common and ancestral knowledge.

Among the institutions, movements and Ecuadorian participants of the Buen Conocer Summit stand out **SENPLADES**, **SENESCYT**, **Ministry of Coordinator of Knowledge and HumanTalent**, **Creative Commons Ecuador**, **El Diferencial**, **Colectivo Dogma**, **Asociación de Software Libre de Ecuador (Asle)**, **Rafael Bonifaz** (free software), **Miguel Robles Durán** (urbanist), **Armando Aguilar** (National Assembly of Ecuador), **Valeria Betancourt** (Association for Progressive Communications), **Ana Lucía Tasiguano** (CODENPE), **Ricardo Restrepo** (IAEN), **Cristian Salamea** (Cooperative Ayni of Free Software), **Eduardo Béjar** (Fundapi), **Carlos Jara** (SENPLADES), **Rubén Zavala** (InfoDesarrollo), **Eduardo Noboa** (INER), **Freddy Peñafiel** (Viceministro de Educación), **Freddy Álvarez** (General Dean of Research from IAEN), **Marcela Chiloquina** (agriculture, livestock), **Marlon Sánchez** (National ICT Coordinator), **Franklin Columba** (Fenocin) and **Fander Falconí** (FLACSO), among many others. Among the international participants stand **Yann Moulier Boutang** (France, University of Technology of Compiègne), **Michel Bauwens** (Belgium, director of research lae FLOK Society), **John Restakis** (Canada, FLOK researcher), **George Dafermos** (Greece, FLOK researcher), **Alan Lazalde** (Mexico, Wikimedia), **Langdong Winner** (United States, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute), **Alícia Alcaraz** (Argentina, Senate of Argentina), **Robert Murray** (England, Young Foundation), **Francesca Bria** (Italy, Nesta Innovation Lab), **Marcelo Branco** (Brasil, Free software), **Mariangela Petrizzo** (Venezuela, Free Culture researcher), **Carolina Botero**

(Colombia, Creative Commons), **Jorge Gemetto** (Uruguay, Ártica), **Sylvie Durán** (Costa Rica, cultura viva), **Massino Mennichelli** (Italia, designer), **Xabier Barandiarán** (Spain, University of the Basque Country), **Enrique Rosas** (Mexico, Rosa Luxemburg Foundation) and **Margueritte Mendell** (England, Institute of Political Economy Karl Polanyi), among many others.

The work during the Buen Conocer Summit included the review of the contributions from the research, debate and proposals design with all members of the table, the proposal of some pilot projects and direct applications to make real the common and open knowledge society. One of the results of the summit was the Declaration del Buen Conocer, where education was stand as a common good, open and repositories. In addition, was proposed that science should be accessible to all, with the opening requirement of scientific research and management through free licenses, open protocols and open formats. Building a collaborative scientific commons platforms, repositories and knowledge banks was also raised. For example, table 4 (open agriculture) proposed a free-licenses seeds pilot project for the community of Sigchos.

In terms of culture and ancestral knowledge, the dignity of cultural work and claiming ancestral practices to thereby generate and preserve knowledge was proposed, considering that the territory in its multiple dimensions and scales is generating knowledge and therefore must be recognized as a commoners / common good. Including software also reaffirmed to consolidate a knowledge economy and social culture and free society.

The event was replied by locally and internationally important media. In social networks the label # BuenConocer generated trend in Ecuador, Venezuela, Brazil and Spain. #BuenConocer Summit was the result of a long participatory process over many platforms: main Web (64,000 page views) Wiki (46 sections of content, editions 226 668 4,092 visits), Mumble (46 people participated in coordination meetings), the co-comment platform (633 comments at 17 pages), Pads (109 collaborative documents open to coordinate activities and develop work) and mailing lists (2234 messages and 137 participants in 3 mailing lists).

The research and the proposals shall be constructed collaboratively recorded in a publication of The National Institute of Higher Education (IAEN by its Spanish initials) to be promoted by the General Assembly for its implementation. Thus, began a new era in both Ecuador and the region, in order to promote open society and common knowledge.

For more information, please visit: [www.floksociety.org](http://www.floksociety.org) o [www.cumbredelbuenconocer.ec](http://www.cumbredelbuenconocer.ec)