Diego Vaz Bevilaqua

Museum of Life
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Do I Belong? Identity and Diversity Issues in Science Centres

Diego Vaz Bevilaqua
diego bevilaqua@fioecruz.br

Museu da Vida
Casa de Oswaldo Cruz
Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Fiocruz)

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Timeline

1999 - Museum opens

1999 - Mediation training course with local young community

2007 - “Weaving Webs” project: School-museum collaboration

2011 - “Young apprentices on cultural production”: a new model for local young training course

2013 - “Pro-cultural”: cultural production as a “ponto de cultura” (cultural landmark);

2013 - “Manguinhos:Entranced Territory”: Exhibition as a social technology

2013 - “Territorialized actions” as as part of regular educational activities

2015 - “Science Express” program

2016/2017 - New programs: Synenergene and WBT
What we learn?

- Start with something that is central for your science center or museum. In our case, the explainers (or mediators);
- Think of your museum as part of a territory. What’s the history of its territory, its culture, its traditions?
- Be local, hire local people, work with local problems;
- With local community, by the local community, for the local community;
- Have diverse people working in your museum;
- Work with young audiences, work cross-generations;
- Look for research: who’s underserved in your territory?
- What’s local community knowledge;
- Listen to your community;
- Listen to your public;
- Museum as a mediator.