


**Videos**


4. Gutberlet, G., Tremblay, C. and Searle, R. (2009). Beyond Gramacho/Alem Gramacho. CBRL and EKOS Communications production. This educational video has been shown at the UN Social Forum in 2009, numerous conferences and course lectures and was recipient of the video competition at the Popular Education conference in Uruguay in 2010.


Abstract
This research sets out to explore how Participatory Video (PV) can facilitate empowerment and strengthen dialogue and engagement for public policy with members of recycling cooperatives and government in the greater metropolitan region of São Paulo, Brazil. The research project provided opportunities for catadores/as (recyclers) to explore PV as a way to shed light on their livelihood challenges, but also as an approach to celebrate, demonstrate and legitimize the value and significance of their work to local government and community. Working through a participatory approach, twenty-two leaders from eleven cooperatives were involved in all aspects of the video-making process, from script writing to filming, group editing and knowledge mobilization. The research took place during nine months of fieldwork located in four municipalities in the greater metropolitan region of São Paulo, Brazil using multiple ethnographic and participatory methods. The methodology for this research is action-oriented, and applies a participatory community-based multi-methods approach. The purpose of the videos were to relay the message that catadores/as perform a valuable service to society, and through the organization of cooperatives have the capacity to be further supported and integrated into waste management programs. The videos were used as a tool for communication with government and for community outreach.

This research is supported through the Participatory Sustainable Waste Management (PSWM) project, a six-year Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) funded University Partnership project (2005-2011). The overall purpose of the participatory-based PSWM project was to increase the effectiveness, safety, and income generation of organized waste recycling in originally four and later six Brazilian municipalities in the metropolitan region of São Paulo: Santo André Diadema, Ribeirão Pires, São Bernardo do Campo, Mauá and some parts of the municipality of São Paulo. The capacity building activities and actions of the PSWM project have contributed to structure, organize and strengthen cooperative recycling enterprises and their members; for example, by setting up a pilot project on micro-credit and advancing the practice of solidarity economy through collective commercialization and networking of the recyclers in the region. In addition, the project has helped create a more inclusive culture amongst the local governments in this region, where many recyclers are now present in political meetings and decision making related to waste management. Unfortunately, this is not the case in all the municipalities and there is still a lack of political will and barriers for participatory models in decision-making.

The research highlights that PV can be a powerful methodological tool contributing to the process of individual, community and organizational empowerment, and its significance for democratic governance and the increasingly popular notion of the knowledge democracy. This research also has policy relevance and practical application. The findings have the capacity to inform models of participatory governance, and improved democratic processes in addressing complex urban development challenges, in addition to advancing practices in government accountability, and transparency.

Awards, Scholarships, Fellowships
2013      SSHRC Post-Doctoral Fellowship
2012      Andy Farquharson Teaching Excellence Award for Graduate Students
2011      Centre for Co-operative & Community-Based Economy Graduate Student Research Fellowship
2009      SSHRC Joseph-Armand Bombardier Doctoral Scholarship

Presentations
2. Canadian Association for Studies in International Development (CASID) at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Victoria. Presentation: Participatory Video: a methodological tool for enhancing public policy dialogue and community engagement for inclusive waste management.

Publications