

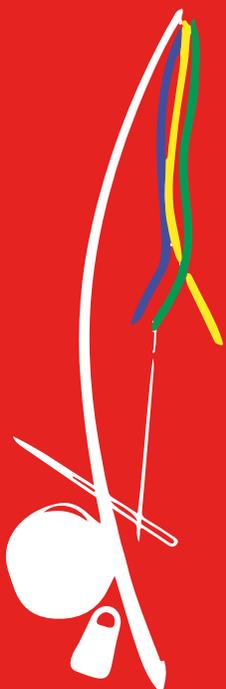
WORLD SOCIAL FORUM 2018



2018 WSF Report

Salvador • 13 March to 17 March 2018

TO RESIST IS TO CREATE
TO RESIST IS TO TRANSFORM



2018 WSF REPORT

Salvador Global Edition Development and Balance

Salvador • Bahia • Brazil
13 March to 17 March 2018



Photo: Déja Chagas

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1. INTRODUCTION



Photo: Déja Chagas

World Social Forum 2018 – Opening parade from Campo Grande to Castro Alves Square, in Salvador, Bahia

The World Social Forum 2018 (WSF), held from March 13 to March 17, at Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, had a great impact in the city because of its agenda of social, cultural and political activities carried out by the WSF organization and the people's involvement and engagement.

From the Ondina university campus (UFBA) to the Pituacu arena, from the Terreiro de Jesus to Itapuã, the WSF reclaimed and proposed a different path to a fairest society, got outraged by the execution of Marielle Franco and her driver, Anderson Gomes, and strong stood up for democracy.



After 5 days of activities, Salvador welcome the WSF international board, that gave two days to discuss the future of this operation born in 2001, in Porto Alegre, Brazil, and soon became global with events in Mumbai, Caracas and Bamako, Bethlehem, Nairobi, Dakar, Tunis and Montreal, until finally coming to Bahia's capital city.

The slogan, "To Resist is to Create, to Resist is to Transform", was agreed in Salvador, with involvement and engagement of local and national organizations, such as black and indigenous people, women and popular movements for transformation.

This report was made to render an account to the society and the WSF organization about the remit trusted by the international board – since it was decided that the 2018 edition would take place in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil. Remarkably, it intends to recount the facts to the Brazilian facilitating group, responsible for the event implementation. It is also very important to offer background information to the WSF organization about the whole process, in order to carry through the event, give tools to study the applied method, and contemplate in-depth considerations, expectations and context about how the WSF path could be reached.



Photo: Raquel Franco

Drums celebrate Marielle Franco's legacy, during the 2018 WSF



To accomplish this task, the coordination group gathered documents, files, activities, articles and notes, and also enquired the organizations and movements that helped to organize the event in Salvador, with support of the Perseu Abramo Foundation and the Ecumenical Service Coordination (CESE) that allowed this work to succeed.

The 2018 WSF slogan translated, in some way, a new step to reassure that Another World is Still Possible. Since the establishment of the World Social Forum, in 2001, there was no moment like today. The ones fighting to keep control over society, technologies and natural resources bet on the destruction of human rights and democratic values, the very heart and soul of the principles and utopias that made this forum a continuous process.

The 2018 edition happened in a moment when the progressive movements are challenged daily by hate and fundamentalism, exploited against the people as an economic weapon. The 2018 WSF tried to reassure that no oppressive power can subdue human creativity to resist wherever it is, in terms of history, transformation, and potential revolution.

Brazilian Collective's Coordination Group – 2018 WSF

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Photo: Mídia Ninja



Photo: Déja Chagas

Social movements, women, native people, black movement, labour union and activists from several countries gathered in the 2018 WSF opening parade in Salvador, Bahia



Photo: Mídia Ninja



Photos: Déja Chagas



Photo: Raquel Franco

Social movements, women, native people, black movement, labour union and activists from several countries gathered in the 2018 WSF opening parade in Salvador, Bahia



2. WORLD SOCIAL FORUM HISTORY



Photo: Luis Roque Klering/ Ciranda.net

World Social Forum 2003 – 100,000 people took the streets of Porto Alegre, Brazil

The World Social Forum (WSF) was born in 2001. Its history, however, returns to 1999, in a historical moment characterized by the people's response against deals proposed by the WTO, the Seattle Conference and a series of "anti-globalization movements". In such an insurgent environment, eight Brazilian organizations, with broad international connections, began to plan an event that could rely on the civil society's struggle against decisions that were being discussed by the World Economic Forum Head Board in Davos, Switzerland. Such was the beginning of an idea to carry out an international event, with its first edition in Porto Alegre, Brazil, in January 2001, simultaneously to the World Economic Forum, in Davos.



Since its first edition, the WSF development took the challenge to oppose the disbelief, the fatalistic neoliberalism and absolute thinking. The initiative was a hit, and caught the attention of many movements and organizations. The second and third editions (2002 and 2003) brought together around 100,000 people. The forum proved itself to be an counter-hegemonic and alter-globalist movement, that converged different struggles and utopias, seeking for new ties and joint efforts, by discussing projects and alternatives to the society.

Photo: Luis Roque Klering/Ciranda.net



World Social Forum 2001 – First day in Porto Alegre, Brazil

The WSF is not a legal body. It is a secular, non-governmental and nonpartisan movement. It's political management is carried out by the International Board (IB), established in 2001. The board is a forum for collective facilitation. Its mission is to promote the actions and considerations much needed to the WSF very existence. From the invitation made by the Brazilian Organizing Committee, more and more organizations were incorporated to the International Board (IB). Nowadays, the board is composed of 120 organizations and social movements from all over the world. The IB does not have hierarchy, leaders or coordinators – the decisions are made by common understanding. The WSF International Board also has an executive office, with administrative duties, currently based in Morocco.



Every WSF edition was marked by the diversity of protagonists and the multiplicity of ideas. The editions always had in common the WSF guidelines listed in its “Charter of Principles”, a document written collectively in 2001. The letter introduction says:

“ The Brazilian organizations committee, that idealized and organized the first World Social Forum, in Porto Alegre, Brazil, from 25 to 30 January 2001, after assessing the forum results and expectations, deemed necessary and legitimate to establish a Charter of Principles, able to provide guidance to the event continuation. The principles included in the document, to be followed by everyone that wishes to participate in the process and organize new World Social Forum editions, cement the decisions that ensured the realization and success of the forum in Porto Alegre, and also increase its reach, by setting new guidelines from these logical decisions. ”

After that, the charter introduces the guidelines to everyone who wants to help and be part of WSF. The full document is available on the [WSF website](#).

More than a series of events, the WSF is a civil society mobilization and articulation process that results in networking and interaction between social movements locally, nationally and internationally. The local and global interlock this way. To participate in the World Social Forum is to add up to your history and engage to build “another possible world”, a dream that inspires thousands of people around the globe.

The three first World Social Forum editions (2001, 2002 and 2003) were held in Porto Alegre, Brazil. After that, it was decided that the event would be itinerant, crossing different countries and continents. The 2004 edition was held in Mumbai, India, with over 100,000 participants.

In 2005, the Forum returned to Porto Alegre gathering approximately 150,000 people from 135 different countries. In this edition, the free media took over the coordination of the media centre common space, with four comprehensive joint projects, that produced daily TV shows, shared radio schedules, a free knowledge laboratory and the usual text and photo coverage.



In 2006 there was an innovation. This edition was polycentric, happening simultaneously in Bamako (Mali) and Caracas (Venezuela). It should have happened the year before, in Karachi, Pakistan, but the 2005 earthquake jeopardized the WSF organization in the country.

In 2007 the WSF took place in Nairobi, Kenya, succeeded by the call to the Global Day of Mobilization and Action, on 26 January, in the following year. Without a defined place, the 2008 WSF got connected through a global platform, designed by the IB to deliver a decentralized experience, in particular. During over 24 hours, lots of self-organized activities and news about social struggle and movements were broadcast and received. The exhibitions started with a documentary sent by activists from Oceania and proceeded during the day, spreading the world about all the events all over the world.



Photo: Gal Souza/ciranda.net

World Social Forum 2007 – The WSF was held in the Kasarani stadium, Nairobi, Kenya

A partir de entonces, se decidió que los encuentros mundiales se realizarían cada dos años. En 2009 volvió a acontecer en Brasil, cuando hubo una edición en la Amazonía, en Belém do Pará, donde estuvieron presentes cerca de 120 mil personas de 150 países.





Photo: Ed Maura/Ciranda.net

Free Palestine World Social Forum

Since then, it was decided that the global meetings would happen every two years. In 2009 the event came back to Brazil, this time in the Amazon city of Belem, gathering more than 120,000 participants from 150 countries.

In the years of 2011, 2013 and 2015 the WSF took place again in the African continent: 2011 edition was in Dakar, Senegal, connected by internet to the exact moment that the Egyptian people had overthrown its dictator, with historic demonstrations in Tahrir Square. The 2013 and 2015 editions happened in the birthplace of the Arab Spring, in Tunis, Tunisia. In the 2013 WSF there were around 70,000 people from 5,045 organizations, from 128 countries, including 1.750 Tunisian organizations. Some 1.014 activities and 35 convergence meetings were held. The event was considered very important to empower the Tunisian civil society struggle for democracy. In the following year, Tunisia actually adopted a new constitution, in order to hold legitimate general elections. Such developments convinced the WSF IB to agree with the Maghreb Committee ⁽¹⁾ in order to carry out another edition in Tunis.

1. The Maghreb is an area of North Africa (White Africa), which corresponds to the northwestern region of the African continent. The region includes Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Mauritania and Western Sahara.



In 2015, despite an attack that caused 21 deaths, just 10 days before WSF, the event still welcomed approximately 45,000 activists from 4.400 organizations and social movements and 120 countries.

Notably, in the same year, the Brazilian collective, with Petrobrás support, was able to send 180 people from 100 organizations from several Brazilian states. The selection process to those who were interested in joining the Brazilian delegation “Towards Tunis” was largely promoted, with very clear standards, respecting the geographic diversity, gender and racial movements, and also considering the activities scheduled in the WSF event.



Photo: Deborah Moreira/ciranda.net

2013 WSF – Tunis opening parade.
The signs carry the names of the cities engaged in the fight for democracy

In 2016, the World Social Forum happened for the first time in the North Hemisphere, in Montreal, Canada. It brought together around 35,000 people from 125 countries, notably, youth movements, mostly students and artists. It also introduced some new methods to the process. For instance, the Initiatives Agora held at the end of the event, as an attempt to give more visibility to the convergence activities outcomes. Conversely, this edition was very impaired by the government denial over more than 500 visas to activists from Southern countries, gravely affecting the political expression of the forum.

In 2018, the WSF came back to Brazil, this time in the Northeast region, in Salvador, Bahia, with 80,000 people from 120 countries and the five continents.





Photo: Tatiana Cardeal

Polycentric Forum – 2006 WSF Opening parade, in Caracas, Venezuela

Reviewing the WSF process from 1999 to 2018, two considerations are relevant.

The first one is about its own outcomes. Since 2001, new processes emerged, initially focusing in territories and then in subjects, for instance, with the European Social Forums, and the first thematic forum in Argentina, held to discuss the deep economic crisis befalling the country. In the American continent, two Brazilian Social Forums were accomplished, in 2003, Belo Horizonte, and 2006, Recife.

Since 2004, the 1st American Social Forum has happened in Quito, Ecuador, in addition to editions in North America, like Detroit and Quebec. Since 2007, the years without global editions have intensified the coordination of thematic forums, decentralized and autonomous, in order to continue the WSF process in different countries and regions.



This way, new thematic forums were carried out in Porto Alegre (2010, 2012 and 2014) including the Free Palestine Forum in 2012; the Energy Forum, in Brasilia, August 2014; the Biodiversity Forum, in Manaus, January 2015; the WSF 15 years celebration, in Porto Alegre, January 2016; the Migration World Social Forum, in São Paulo, 2016; the Resistance Social Forum, in Porto Alegre, January 2017; and The Panamazonic Social Forum, in Tarapoto, Peru, April 2017.

There were also thematic and regional forums in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, recently in Iraq, proving the WSF global dimension.



Photo: Tatiana Cardeal

History – Palestinian traditional dancers that took part in the 2004 WSF, Mumbai, in the 2005 WSF opening parade, in Porto Alegre



The second consideration is about what happened at the end of 2000s decade, when a disarticulation process arose around the Brazilian dynamics of the WSF. After the last Brazilian Social Forum, in 2008, the Brazilian Collective broke up. Several movements and organizations ward off the forum as a result of detachment from the global event, the lack of access to process information and the distrust in the WSF facilitation body to reinvent itself in the new juncture.

However, even though there were countless challenges, through an open and horizontal international articulation from social organizations and movements, the WSF has been planting a new political culture, based on straight democracy, without hierarchy, respecting diversity and valuing the many political, cultural, religious and sexual orientation differences.

Through its history, the World Social Forum has promoted a strong defence of the women, black and native people rights, against the patriarchy, racism or any other form of discrimination.

In this way, the WSF has contributed much, giving more visibility to other developing paradigms, reaffirming human rights supremacy over financial and economic interests and feeding the utopic fire on the global population imagination.

The WSF path over the years brought some important contributions to empower social struggles and a new political culture:

- Based on the global agenda, it exposed the social inequality, high produced by the financialization of the economy;
- To value others developing paradigms, beyond economic growth, for instance, the “live well” proposal defined by the native people from Andina and the Amazon, opposing the capitalist idea of “live better”;
- To value other forms of economy, from the solidarity economy to feminist movements care;



- To reinforce the civil society role in politics, inspiring a new practice of participation in the national and international institutions agenda;
- To encourage the establishment and performance of national and international articulations;
- To inspire the implementation of several public policies: not just activists, but many rulers who came into power through vote, during the past decade, were identified as “WSF children” and implemented politics inspired by the process.

After almost two decades since the first WSF edition, remarkably, its dream took shape, and achieved a huge diversity of colors, scents and tastes from the places and people that contributed in the past years. The WSF is today an important benchmark in social and economic debates and fighting agenda. It brought to the discussion countless participants, activists, social and popular movements, networks and campaigns, students, intellectuals, scientists, artists, journalists and others opinion leaders.

The WSF Charter of Principles, based on documents and debates that guided the 2018 WSF edition, still keeps in the horizon the need to build an “inclusive globalization, that respect every human right, all citizens in every nation, and the environment” (4th Principle), causing social mobilization for a “true and inclusive democracy practice”, “equal, legitimate, inclusive and peaceful relationships between peoples, nations, genders and ethnicities, rejecting any kind of domination to one another” (10th Principle) and by the unquestionable need to “strengthen and create new national and international articulations between social entities and movements, capable of rising the public and private life spheres of nonviolent social resistance against the dehumanizing process we are living through” (13rd Principle).





Photo: PSOL

The last global edition in Montreal, Canada, August 2016.



3. 2018 WSF PROCESS HISTORY

The idea of a World Social Forum edition in Salvador was the result of a long building process, supported by several Brazilian and international organizations, movements and collective groups from Bahia.

The 2000s

Brazilian and Bahia organizations in the past forum processes

Movements and organizations from Bahia had always been engaged with the WSF process. In the first ten years, were held in a coordinated manner, along with organizations from the Brazilian Northeast region, the 1st Bahia Social Forum, in 2004, and the 2nd Northeast Social Forum, in 2007. In 2010, another thematic forum, as a preliminary step towards the edition in Senegal, in the following year. At the end of the decade, the organizations disarticulated themselves locally and regionally, following some social movements trends within the country and all over the continent, by distancing themselves from the WSF process, for several reasons aforesaid: from the global editions transfer to another continent to the WSF ability to reinvent itself.

2013 to 2016

Advent and actions of the Bahia Collective

An WSF Bahia Collective was reestablished in 2013, consisting of 30 civil society movements, organizations and networks (black movement, labour union, women, environment activists, human rights, solidarity economy, communication, cultural and other struggles). Such a collective actually took part in the WSF editions in 2013 and 2015 (Tunis), 2016 (Montreal) and also in the thematic forums in Porto Alegre. In Salvador, the process performed several activities, including two international seminars: the first one was a civil society articulation meeting towards the 2015 WSF; the other one was an WSF IB meeting, held in October of 2015



January 2017

Proposal presentation to the IB in Porto Alegre Resistance Social Forum

Strengthened by this experience, the Bahia Collective took to the WSF IB meeting, during the Resistance Social Forum in Porto Alegre, January 2017, the proposal of a global event to be held in March 2018. The proposal already had support of part of the Brazilian IB organizations, the Bahia Collective, the Porto Alegre WSF support committee and foreign members of the IB, mostly African e European. It is important to point out the support the Federal University of Bahia (UFBA), already confirmed, making its campus available, coordinating a potential economic support from the then progressive administration of the state of Bahia. Another important aspect was the fact that the Bahia government and the UFBA had already supported, in previous years, local social movements around the WSF events.

The proposal brought questions that remained during the whole 2018 WSF organization process. On one hand, there were questions about the ability of the Bahia Collective to gather operational conditions and political autonomy to an event like this, during election time. Some feminists voices also questioned the forum date (March), overlapping the International Women Day (March 8), and possible conflict of agendas. There were similar worries within the Alternative World Water Forum (AWWF), expected to happen in March 2018, in Brasilia. Some people also raised doubts about the Bahia Collective's representativeness and articulation capacity. There was not a final agreement about the forum's character: it could be a world forum or a thematic social forum, as inspired by the Resistance Social Forum in Porto Alegre.

The WSF IB, finally, gave permission to the WSF Bahia Collective to analyse the possibility to articulate efforts with other Brazilian social movements, and perform such a global event in March 2018, in Salvador. The IB gave a two months deadline to confirm the political and operational conditions to consolidate the proposal.



If confirmed, the IB organizations would agree to engage themselves in the political articulation process, so the meeting could be as emblematic as possible, and represent the diversity of the altermundi movement. It was their goal to realize a comprehensive merger between every struggle with the Salvador forum, particularly regarding the COP23 (United Nations Climate Change Conference), in November 2017, in Bonn, Germany; WTO (World Trade Organization) meeting, in December 2017, in Buenos Aires, Argentina; and an global action against the World Economic Forum, in Davos, in January 2018.

Right after the Resistance Social Forum and the IB meeting, the Bahia Collective released, on 31 January 2017, a document named “WSF Bahia Collective Declaration”, introducing “to Bahia organizations and social movements, and the whole Northeast and Brazil, a proposal to build together, a global event in Salvador, within the WSF process, with March 2018 as planned date.”

As fundamental features for such a development and to try to respond to some worries brought by the IB debate, some conditions were highlighted to accomplish the event:

- Civil society autonomy in the whole process, as defined by the Porto Alegre WSF Charter of Principles.
- A comprehensive articulation and recognition of movements and organizations from Bahia, Northeast, Brazil and other countries, seeking further engagement in the development process.
- Support of national and international partners, as governments, universities and cooperative bodies.
- Political coordination of movements and organizations from Bahia and the whole country.



February to May 2017

Inquiry: Is it possible to realize a Bahia WSF?

It was an intense process of dialogue and consultation with the civil society from Bahia and the whole country, also with potential partners, making hundreds of organizations and movements to adhere to the establishment of a Brazilian Collective to support the Bahia WSF, at the end of March 2017. The group became the main proposal sponsor, replacing the Bahia Collective in this aspect.

Three national meetings and some state meetings were accomplished, mostly in Bahia, São Paulo and Porto Alegre. This consultation round ended with a Brazilian social movements seminar, held in Salvador on 26 and 27 March 2017, in the head office of the Rural Development Secretary of the State Government of Bahia.

The seminar gathered 68 social movements and organizations, mostly from Salvador and the metropolitan region, but also from Bahia countryside and other states from the Brazilian Northeast, South and Southeast regions, including 18 national organizations and social movements.



Photo: WSF Bahia Collective

Bahia Collective with IB members, in Porto Alegre, in January of 2017, after introducing the proposal to perform the WSF in Salvador, Bahia



The seminar had involvement of institutional partners: the Federal University of Bahia (UFBA), through its dean, and the Bahia State Government, with the presence of an administration secretary and officials from five state bureaus, in addition to Salvador city councillors and Bahia state deputies.

The event initially debated the national and international juncture, emphasizing relevant struggles and issues that should guide the WSF proceedings, by opening the debate about possibilities, opportunities and challenges of the 2018 WSF in Salvador, and also the decisions that should be made. The last topic was about the structure and working dynamic that would answer to the democratic principles, representativeness and diversity of the social movements involved.

The main seminar's referrals were:

- Regarding the headline question – Is it possible to realize a Bahia WSF? – the decision made in general agreement, after many debates, was to perform the 2018 WSF from 13 to 17 March, in Salvador, Bahia, focused on the theme of People, Territories and Resistance Movements. The motto would be defined subsequently.
- To establish and structure a Facilitator Group on behalf of the Brazilian Collective. This collective in support of the WSF in Salvador already gathered hundreds of organizations, expanding even more. It would be conducted by a FG responsible to simplify the whole building process, including by enabling partnerships to mobilize resources still required at this point.



Photo: Stella Oliveira/Ciranda

FG meeting at Vida Brasil, in Salvador



June to October 2017

From decision making to the 2018 WSF official launching

From decision to accomplishment of the 2018 WSF, only ten months had passed. Two stages, five months each, can be highlighted. The first one presented below.

Since June 2017, after deciding to perform the 2018 WSF, the building process started e several acting fronts were gradually developed by the Brazilian and Bahia organizations and movements: by structuring the shared management dynamics to the forum, mobilizing regional, national and international movements and organizations, and negotiating with partners. The first stage was about preparing the political and operational conditions to effectively build the WSF.

The [timeline of the main activities](#) is introduced below, representing the building process of the 2018 WSF, and illustrating the event diversity.

June to October 2017					
From decision making to the 2018 WSF official launching					
	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
Working Dynamics	Establishment of the Facilitator Group (FG); kick-off for definition of member organizations according to three distinctive groups	Definition of national organizations affiliated with the FG	2nd 2018 WSF FG meeting Introduction of two new FG members	3rd and 4th FG meeting	5th FG meeting



Working Dynamics	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
National Mobilization	Meetings and mobilization acts, especially in Salvador and Bahia countryside de Bahía.	Mobilization meetings of the Bahia Collective	Kick-off for mobilization meetings of several branches about the Bahia WSF (quilombos, Indigenous people, urban movements)	Invitations to several public figures, including former president Lula and the musician Gilberto Gil	Plenary session of the Brazilian Collective, during the WSF, held in the UFBA Congress



	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
National Mobilization			Dialogues between the organizing committees, FOSPA (Pan-Amazonic Forum) and FAMA (World Water Forum)	1st meeting of the Mobilization WG Promotion of national events, like congresses of CUT, CTB, CONAM etc	2018 WSF official launching during the opening session of the UFBA Congress
International Mobilization	Notification to the IB about decision to perform the 2018 WSF with focus on resistance peoples, territories and movements, in order to ensure the process autonomy and reaffirm the support of the IB members	General and international notification about: the event; the building process based on participation; communication; world calendar; IB meeting and preliminary seminar in 10/2017	Promotion of the 2018 WSF in the Summer University of European Social Movements, in Toulouse, France Open Convocation Letter to the 2018 WSF, with the motto: "To Resist is to Create, To Resist is To Transform"	International mobilization in several events (like in Mozambique) by FG members	Realization of international preliminary seminar to the 2018 WSF, in the UFBA Congress, with seven thematic tables and IB meeting
Methodology and program		Kick-off for the construction of the 10/2017 international seminar, by gathering themes	1st methodology meeting in Salvador, about "the dreams of the WSF"	Meeting of the Methodology WG in São Paulo and preparation of an international methodological workshop, in October	Methodology workshop about the 2018 WSF, with FG and IB members



	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
Methodology and program					<p>Completion of an article about “The WSF We Want”, about the program, important moments, thematic hubs and mottos for the 2018 WSF</p> <p>Decided by IB members, during meeting, that the World Women’s Assembly would happen on a proper moment, without simultaneous activities</p>
Finances and Projects	<p>Presentation of the project to the Bahia government, main financial partner – ideal budget evaluated in R\$17 millions for ten months of work, adjusted to R\$10 millions (minimum budget)</p>	<p>Negotiations with Bahia State government</p>	<p>Presentation of structuring projects of the WSF Office to the Brazilian organization CESE</p> <p>Presentation of construction projects (office, mobilization, communication) to the German organization PPM (IB member)</p>	<p>Preparation of a preliminary event to the 2018 WSF, in October</p>	<p>Support conceded by the Bahia government, to the international seminar</p>



	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
Finances and Projects		Presentation of the 2018 WSF project or specific activities to sponsors	Structuring of the Finances WG from an active group	Negotiations with the Bahia government to support the event in October	Structuring of the Solidarity Economy WG proposal, including solidarity finances, solidarity fairs, solidarity hosting, and political influence
Communication		<p>Launching of the 2018 WSF website</p> <p>Launching of the 2018 WSF logo contest</p> <p>Launching of the Radio Web "WSF on Air"</p> <p>Kick-off for promotion on the social networks</p>	<p>Extension of the 2018 WSF logo context</p> <p>Selection of the three better assessments by a technical commission</p> <p>an open vote by Internet</p> <p>Launching of the 2018 WSF logo</p> <p>Two Radio Web programs ("WSF on Air")</p>	<p>Two Radio Web programs ("WSF on Air")</p> <p>Promotion of the preliminary event to the 2018 WSF, in October</p>	<p>Preparation and distribution of printed material to broadcast the 2018 WSF</p> <p>Two Radio Web programs ("WSF on Air")</p>



November 2017 to March 2018

Expanding Mobilization and Operationalization of the 2018 WSF

During the UFBA congress, after accomplishing a series of WSF preparatory activities (international preliminary seminar, methodological workshop, IB meeting, Brazilian Collective plenary), the work entered a new stage. It was about intensifying the Brazilian mobilization processes and focusing on the operationalization of the 2018 WSF edition, during the last five months before the event.

The [timeline of the main activities](#) is introduced below, representing the building process of the 2018 WSF.

November 2017 to March 2018 Expanding Mobilization and Operationalization of the 2018 WSF					
	NOVEMBER 2017	DECEMBER 2017	JANUARY 2018	FEBRUARY 2018	MARCH 2018
Working Dynamics	6th FG meeting	7th FG meeting	8th FG meeting Hiring of professional of event production Meetings with the several State management and administrative bodies	9th FG meeting Hiring of other professionals (international secretariat cultural program, solidarity economy etc.)	10th FG meeting – post-forum Introduction of a new member to the FG, active during the whole time



	NOVEMBER 2017	DECEMBER 2017	JANUARY 2018	FEBRUARY 2018	MARCH 2018
Working Dynamics				<p>Establishment of partnership with the city hall and its services (transport, urban cleaning, health care etc.)</p> <p>Meetings with the several State and City management and administrative bodies</p>	<p>Collective assessments (3) of the 2018 WSF, in the International Collective, Brazilian Collective, UNEB and the secretariats of the State Government of Bahia</p>
National Mobilization	<p>State WSF plenaries in Recife and several Bahia venues</p> <p>Promotion of the WSF in several Bahia and Brazilian civil society's events</p>	<p>WSF plenaries in Pará, Santa Catarina, Minas Gerais, Maranhão, Ceará, Paraíba etc.</p> <p>Establishment of 2018 WSF collectives or state committees</p> <p>Promotion of the WSF in several Bahia and Brazilian civil society's events</p>	<p>More than a hundred plenaries held by several groups about the WSF, all over Brazil</p>	<p>More than a hundred plenaries held by several groups about the WSF, all over Brazil</p> <p>Indicating process and selection of 40 national guests by the FG</p>	<p>Realization of the 2018 WSF</p>



	NOVEMBER 2017	DECEMBER 2017	JANUARY 2018	FEBRUARY 2018	MARCH 2018
International Mobilization	Participation of FG members in several events: COP 23 in Bonn (Alemania), Citizen Forum in Abidjan (Ivory Coast), National Conference of the Mozambican SCOs, in Maputo (Mozambique), World Peace Council meeting (Vietnam) etc.	Participation of several FG members in the Peoples' Summit in Buenos Aires (Argentina), in parallel to the WTO meeting Participation of a FG member in the 4th International Peace Meeting in Argel (Algeria)	Anti-Davos Act – in Defense of Democracy, National Autonomy and the Workers' Rights in Porto Alegre (Brazil)	Indicating process and selection of 60 national guests by the FG	Realization of the 2018 WSF IB meeting, in 17 and 18 March, closing the WSF
Communication	Two Radio Web programs ("WSF on Air")	Launching of the official website and subscription process for individuals, organizations and activities Two Radio Web programs ("WSF on Air")	Two Radio Web programs ("WSF on Air") Promotion in local and national media, both alternative and commercial	Two Radio Web programs ("WSF on Air") Promotion in local and national media, both alternative and commercial Installation of the Media Center, based in UFBA	Event coverage Promotion in local and national media, both alternative and commercial Installation of the Media Center, based in UFBA



	NOVEMBER 2017	DECEMBER 2017	JANUARY 2018	FEBRUARY 2018	MARCH 2018
Methodology and program	<p>National and international consultation based on the proposition about thematic hubs (themes and mot-tos), program and subscription (attendees, organizations and movements, solidarity economy companies and volunteers)</p> <p>Definition of 19 themes for the 2018 WSF</p>	<p>Completion of the 2018 WSF hubs and themes</p> <p>Launching of the 2018 WSF subscriptions</p> <p>2018 WSF operational planning workshop (december 2017 to march 2018) with all the FG and office's representatives</p>	<p>Methodological meeting about the subscription process, challenges and deductions, movements' assembly, Agora of the Futures, proposition of a letter addressed to attendees, and visual representation for the 2018 WSF and its activities, for the global transformation process</p>	<p>Methodological meeting continuing and concluding the previous meeting agenda</p>	<p>Finalización de la programación en la semana del evento, que impidió imprimir en papel.</p> <p>Atualización diaria del programa y divulgación durante los primeros tres días del evento.</p>
Finances and Projects	<p>UNEB indication to manage the Bahia Government's support</p>	<p>Follow-up of preliminary processes to hire event production companies, translation services etc. by UNEB</p>	<p>Public bid of event production companies, translation services etc. by UNEB</p> <p>Support from several actors</p>	<p>End of the bid and hiring process of event production companies.</p> <p>Support from several actors</p>	



	NOVEMBER 2017	DECEMBER 2017	JANUARY 2018	FEBRUARY 2018	MARCH 2018
Infraestructure and 2018 WSF territories	Definition of the 2018 WSF territories	Definition of infraestructure demands for accomplishment of the WSF Collection of data about hosting alternatives, including solidarity hosting	Implementation of the UFBA-CESE deal, representing the FG Collection of data about WG demands in terms of infraestructure	Definition of the WG demands in terms of infraestructure Kick-off for infraestructure implementation in all the WSF territories	Completion of infraestructure implementation in all the WSF territories Assignment and adaptation of rooms and venues for the registered WSF activities
Youth Camp	Establishment of the Youth Camp WG	Project preparation for Youth Camp activities	Project adaptation to the real conditions of the Youth Camp activities	Construction of international, political and cultural Youth Camp activities	Organization and guiding of Youth Camp activities
Volunteering		Establishment of the Volunteering WG Volunteers' mobilization	Volunteers' mobilization Planning and organization of volunteering policies	Instructive meetings for volunteers	Encuentros para instrucción de voluntarios. Reparto y asignación de competencias.



4. CONJUNCTURAL REFERENCES

The present chapter reclaims the main collective formulations about the geopolitical juncture both national as internationally, background to the whole process of the 2018 WSF, pointing out to some of the top developments immediately post-forum.



Photo: Sispec-Camaçari

March 8th 2017 demonstration, against the coup in Brazil, in Salvador Bahia



Before

When Salvador, Bahia, was nominated to host the 13th edition of the World Social Forum, early 2017, the Bahia Collective was assessing the national and international juncture as follows:

- The world faces an unprecedented crisis of multiple dimensions. Among others, economic, environmental, political and social crises. The climate changes threaten the very integrity of ecosystems and the survival of many populations. The growing financialization of the economy caused the rise of inequalities, to a level never seen before. In most of the countries, austerity policies and structural adjustments were imposed over the population, affecting especially vulnerable people.

Photo: Wikipedia



San Francisco protest against Trump's executive order to ban people from the Middle East and North Africa regions, whose populations are mostly Muslim.



- In several regions of the world, the war context triggers large movements of refugees and migrants. The so-called war on terror has been inciting violent reactions and false solutions, by mobilizing racism, xenophobia, bigotry, and hatred, as well as patriarchal and colonialist policies, to the detriment of human dignity, democracy and social rights.
- Brazil was facing a coup d'état. In Latin America and the whole world, conservative forces are growing and threatening the democratic institutions. The human and environmental rights setback is already a reality. Therefore, we must have courage to foster and strengthen the hope, the struggles and the same bravery that led the 2017 Resistance Forum in Porto Alegre.
- To resist is to create. It is to bring the new, seeking the revival of the utopian thought and practice, effectively changing the course of history. The movements and organizations from Bahian were quite aware of the boldness of its proposal. The accomplishment of this global meeting in Salvador was quite an affront and, at the same time, an invitation to the whole Brazilian civil society, in order to find new paths of resistance all over Brazil and the whole planet, encouraging convergences and proposing the base to a new world, with social justice and environmental sustainability particular support.

In May 2017, at the National Seminar “Is it possible to realize a Bahia WSF?”, in Salvador, further questions were pointed out, adding to perspective about the whole juncture:

- The context of world crisis and changes in the geopolitics field. Broad range of resistance struggles all over the world.
- The military manoeuvres concerning the United States in Latin America and the Caribbean, creating a hard pressure to effectively dismantle these countries' national sovereignty.



- The democratic crisis represents the end of a cycle that started in the post-war era. The current capitalist crisis is ending this cycle. Capitalism generates crises to just overcome them. This change rearranges all life around the globe. Which Capitalism is implanting itself in the current world? This revolutionary impact is its first stage, by representing the exclusion of billions of people that become unnecessary to the capitalist system.



Photo: Fernando Frazão/Agencia Brasil

Soldiers in Favela da Rocinha, Rio de Janeiro, allegedly combating drug trafficking activities.

- Brazil is also a target to those manoeuvres. General elections were scheduled to the end of 2018. However, the coup d'état context was deepening within the country. The future was unclear and the possibility of developments that could change this scenario could not be excluded. The social movements' autonomy, facing such developments, would be preserved, even in the election year, in concert with the WSF Charter of Principles. Nevertheless, the social movements and organizations' opinion, presented in the seminar "Is it possible to realize a Bahia WSF?", contemplated the elections as an opportunity to develop the critical debate about the relationship between civil society, progressive parties and the government in Brazil, in Latin America and the whole world. For that, the concurrence with an electoral year was not regarded as a compromising factor for the WSF in Brazil.



- The fact that we live in a context of severe setbacks forces this moment towards unity and convergence, in order to face the enemy. To Resist is to Create, to Resist is to Transform! – at this point, it was already deemed as the 2018 WSF natural slogan. It is important and necessary to explore our enemies' contradictions. Communication must be seen as a way to support each social movement involved in the public arena.

Those first assessments justified the decision made during the seminar, to hold a 2018 WSF edition in the state of Bahia. And to contribute to establishing the forum's goals, regarding the much needed improvement in many social and political resistance fronts against the dismantlement of social policies and ascension of authoritarian rules.

Five months later, during the IB meeting, on October 15 and October 16, 2017, in the Federal University of Bahia Great Hall, the debates also provided a closer interpretation to the conjunctural reality:

- The world faces an unprecedented crisis, from multiple dimensions (environmental, geopolitics, energetic, migratory, among many others). The Neoliberal Capitalism finds many ways to reinvent itself within those crises. The hyper-globalization moment, characterized not only by the integrated international trade but also by the deep mutation in production and commercial systems, effectively impacts all countries and regions around the globe. In the whole world, the capitalist crisis affects everyone's daily lives.
- The neoliberal hyperglobalization intensified its domain over the people's life and common goods, by commodifying water, natural resources, public services, state companies, labour force, and so forth. It also continuously hijacked native lands and deprived original tribes from their historical assets, and escalated agrarian conflicts, with alarming impunity for concentrated land. Furthermore, by overwhelming the people with harsh austerity policies.



- The corrupted ties between politics, the mainstream media and the financial world became widespread. The high levels of corruption feed the dominant role of the institutions, including the judiciary and legislative power, controlling the state to serve the capital. These conditions are used as selective legal-political tools to trigger a series of coups d'état against popular leaders, as in Honduras, Paraguay, Brazil, other Latin American countries and all over the world.
- The global economy evolution already shows signs of incompatibility with democracy maintenance. The coups d'état orchestrated in Brazil and other Latin American countries are driven by the capital greed regarding financial and natural resources. These actions materialize as the pure dismantlement of social policies conquered along decades by social movements. The social inequalities and the wealth concentration reached a level never seen before. In Latin America, the poverty rise came back. In several regions, destabilization efforts, wars, violent repression, terrorism and its instrumentalization enforce themselves. The US commercial supremacy has been losing strength, in parallel with other global powers development, as China, for instance. However, the US supremacy is still very solid in the military field. Border militarization actions grow increasingly common over time.
- The world faces a migration crisis. The migration flow among the continents is very intense. In Africa, over 10 million people are dislocated within the countries, but also to other regions, especially by the Mediterranean Sea, with over 30,000 migrants moving around. The cross-countries seas soon became a vast graveyard. The refugees are stigmatized, mostly living in inhuman conditions. New forms of slavery are also showing up. Racism and sexism are still basic pillars of the capitalist system.



- In most countries, left-wing policies face a severe downturn because of some division in the progressive arena, the criminalization of social movements and an ongoing labour union crisis. Meanwhile, other actors take up against neoliberalism, this time, resulting from a new rise of fundamentalism and far-right agenda, spreading nationalism, isolation, hatred, xenophobia, racism, sexism and other forms of discrimination. The dispute happens in the knowledge field, with the conservative supremacy rising in one side, and a lack of leadership in the transformative thinking.



Photo: Anthony Crider/Wikipedia

Far right rally, in Charlottesville, US, 2017.



▄▄ This World Social Forum happens in a threatening context, characterized by the rising of authoritarian regimes in several countries, including Brazil, by democracy decline and a new rise of xenophobia ▄▄

The new challenges of the World Social Forum Media Part

In the 2018 WSF official opening event, the political-conjunctural moment was introduced as:

- The 2018 WSF happens in a very different world, compared with 2001, in Porto Alegre, Brazil. We are facing a crucial transitional moment for the planet, and the human future is on the balance. Meanwhile, inequality achieves levels never seen before, so the survival condition of the future generations are compromised.
- Humankind is challenged to renew the utopian thought. The left-wing has been in power for the last 15 years and is now weakened by some hardship finding alternatives to capitalism. Currently, the left-wing and progressive agenda is quite cornered by right and far-right movements that react to the systemic crisis.

The dilemmas faced by social resistance movements are also reflected in new contributions aiming to lead the process to the World Social Forum, outlined in the item “What we want with the 2018 WSF?”



During

During the forum days, several self-organized activities, with wide-ranging participation levels, faced as a subject the national and international geopolitical context, by reinforcing assessments already issued and highlighting others aspects and approaches.



Photo: Ricardo Stuckert

Assembly for Democracy – Lula’s last appearance before the incarceration that took his political rights and banned him from the presidential election, in which he was the favourite so far

It is worth mentioning that in the evening of 14 March, just the second day of activities, the councillor Marielle Franco – a black lesbian young woman and human rights defender – and her driver Anderson Gomes were both shot and killed in Rio de Janeiro, causing a national and international commotion and big political demonstrations within the forum. This crime impacted the very conjunctural moment and is still impacting it nowadays, after over a year, more and more, as there is no accountability yet for such a crime.



One day after the murder, two different activities took the spotlight among many forum activities. The former Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva attended the Global Assembly in Support of Democracy, in the Pituvaçu Stadium, with over 18,000 people in the audience, including social movements prominent figures and politicians, for instance, former Hondurian President Manuel Zelaya.



Photo: Mirtes Fernanda

WSF protest against US sanctions and the damage to the Venezuelan people

Another activity was accomplished in the CUT lodge (Unified Workers' Central), with the International Committee in Defense of Democracy, regarding specially Lula's case – at this time, clearly victim of legal-political persecution in Brazil. The activity was headed by the former Foreign Minister Celso Amorin, in the presence of top figures from social movements and labour unions, like the former President Dilma Rousseff, ousted by a media-backed legal-parliamentary coup d'état in 2016. It is important to point out that this International Committee, established in the 2018 WSF context, is still strong nowadays.





Photo: APUB

Nora Cortiñas (Madres de la Plaza de Mayo), reports the rise of femicide and urges justice for killed and missing women all over the world



Argentine social movements protest against a series of free trade agreements in Latin America, as the Mercosur-UE deal



Photos: Déja Chagas

WSF participants send messages in support and solidarity to the women's fight in Afrin, Syria





Photo: Déja Chagas

An International Committee calls for a “Free Lula” movement



Photos:IPF

Unproductive Capital is subject to book and debate, among many forum activities



After

▄▄ This World Social Forum happens in a threatening context, characterized by the rising of authoritarian regimes in several countries, including Brazil, by democracy decline and a new rise of xenophobia (...) ▄▄

- The new challenges of the World Social Forum – Media Part

The WSF contributes to resistance narratives, and also in support of people who face blockages and challenges, in order to create alternatives to the current exploitative world order.

▄▄ We had always received lots of solidarity demonstrations to our causes, and rejection to the US blockage; the efforts to free the Five Heroes, unfairly arrested in the US, and to liberate the illegally occupied in the naval base of Guantanamo, among others”, pointed out José Miguel Hernández, head of the Solidarity Organization to the Asian, African and Latin American People. ▄▄

- To Resist is to Transform – The WSF call in Brazil – Gramma, Cuba



Photo: Romerito Pontes

“Not Him” second protest, organized by women’s movements, against the far-right candidate, Jair Bolsonaro, who won the presidential election in 2018



In the post-forum era, on 7 April 2018, another important political fact took place in Brazil, with international backlash, marking the further development of the coup d'état. Former President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva was arrested, after several trials against him without a single proof to support conviction, and without the legal principle of presumption of innocence, turning him into the most important political prisoner at the time. The World Assembly in Defense of Democracy, held less than 30 days before Lula's arrest, during Salvador WSF, was the last international political event Lula participated before being imprisoned.

To wide-ranging branches of the Brazilian and international civil society, Lula's arrest was intended to ban him from running for president, in October 2018, with remarkable chances of winning, perhaps, in the first round. Lula had then a wide margin of advantage over other candidates, according to electoral polls. Even in jail, Lula remained as a candidate, with a favorable decision to rightfully run adopted by an UN Committee. The resolution was not complied by the Brazilian state bodies, controlled by groups responsible for the coup d'état.



Photo: Francisco Proner

Lula's incarceration day, still praised by a crowd



In these exceptional and arbitrary conditions, deepened by further incidents reported even by the conservative media, such as electoral frauds and crimes, still under official inquiry, the Brazilian elections were won by the far-right candidate Jair Bolsonaro. The outcome escalated the detrimental correlation of forces to the left-wing and progressive civil society actors, by aligning the politics in Brazil with US interests and a worldly fascist wave taking control of several countries.

Therefore, just after the 2018 WSF, some critical points of instability were ignited, both in national and international level, likely to affect at any time the current correlation of social and political forces.

In Brazil, the new government settled and created continuous episodes of attrition, with significant reports of corruption and association between the presidential family and Rio de Janeiro's mafia, including possible involvement with Marielle Franco's execution, aside from unrelenting disrespect and outrageous statements from the president.



Photo: Fae/Wikipedia



Photo: Olivier Ortelpa/Wikipedia

In October of 2018, a wave of protests took to the streets of London, calling for a new referendum about Brexit, in addition to the French emergence of the Yellow Vests movement



Along the forum's momentum and the national political juncture, the resistance trend of the Brazilian social movements and organizations was effectively boosted to support democracy, including the perspective of an international event in the Northeast region, against the fascist rise, internationally, but particularly in Latin America.

In Latin America, it is noteworthy the extremely delicate situation in Venezuela, under constant threat of Trump's military intervention (directly or indirectly). By the other hand, the region celebrated the electoral victory of a progressive president in Mexico. The election process in Argentina and Bolivia, in 2019, also had a significant influence in the region's political correlation of forces.



Photo: Mexico Presidency/Wikipedia

The progressive candidate López Obrador wins the presidential election in Mexico

Worldwide, according to aforementioned assessments, the capitalist crisis escalated even more, in face of consequences of the "economic war" declared by the US against China, with the empowerment of the Euro-Asian hubs (for instance, China, Russia, India, and so forth) as counterweight to an unipolar hegemonic world marked by US interventions in the Middle East, for instance, turning the region in a regular "time bomb", beset by the conflicts about oil and strategic position.



The technological changes, like the expansion of internet and private social media all over the world, had decisively influenced the political, ideological and cultural disputes between progressive and conservative forces – especially, far-right and democratic agendas – in several countries.

The systematic massive use of fake news by far-right and right-wing actors had undermined the result of important pleas around the globe.

In many cases, it seems an artificial reality took over the reality lived by millions of people around the world, influencing their vote to fascist forces, gravely jeopardizing democratic values. In addition to extensive and still-growing control over personal data by these private companies, the far-right agenda also undermined the very notion of citizenship. In general, the most prominent outcomes were quite negative, regarding the fourth technological revolution over the labour market.

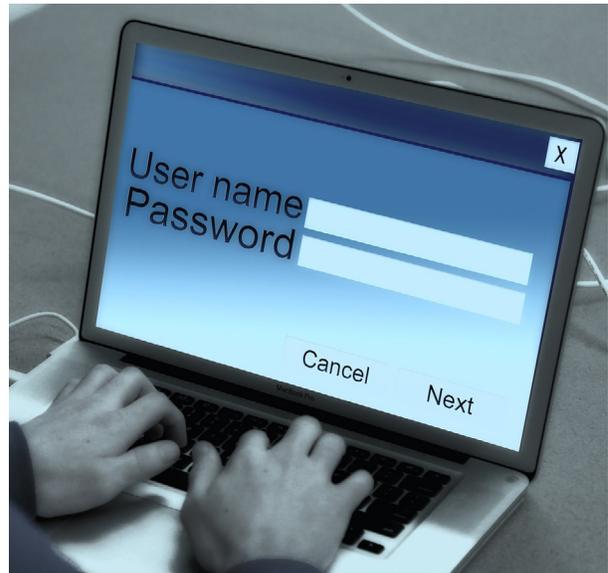


Photo: Gerd Altmann/Pixabay

Facebook was prosecuted for the scandal of Cambridge Analytica, whereby millions of user's personal data was stolen to affect election results

The left-wing, progressive and democratic forces all over the world face a huge challenge, trying to better understand this phenomenon and build new alternatives.

Briefly, such is the framework whereby the World Social Forum and others activities are currently being built, in particular to the next world edition, to be held in Mexico, to celebrate our forum's 20th anniversary.



5. GOALS, PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES



Photo: Marcelo Casal Jr./Agência Brasil

2009 World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil

The 2018 WSF was designed based on the WSF Charter of Principles, which guided all the previous global editions. Continuously, was reminded that:

▄▄ The World Social Forum is an open space to a democratic meeting and debate of new ideas, which gathers and articulates entities and social movements from all over the world, against neoliberalism and the capital world domain, searching for a new development model guided by social and environmental justice. [...] The WSF will not represent the global civil society or have a deliberative character. It will act as a permanent researching process to build new alternatives, an inclusive globalization respecting universal human rights and a wide contribution towards a new step in the history of the world. ▄▄



In 2011, the International Board in Dakar developed and approved an WSF Guideline to build and organize the most operational matters related to the practical implementations of our Charter of Principles. This document was presented for the Brazilian Collective organizations and the Facilitator Group, in order to implement our values on the ground.



Photo: Manoel Santos

Women activities in the 2011 World Social Forum, in Dakar

The debates about the global juncture and the 2018 WSF role indicate the existence of new challenges to a worldly edition. These challenges, mostly regarding the renewal of potential relationships between several resistance forces and a wider expression and influence within the society, were introduced during the IB meeting, held in the Resistance Forum in Porto Alegre, January 2017, later revisited and detailed by the Facilitator Group.

The first 2018 WSF project, presented in June 2017, listed the forum's goals, as outcome of debate about the proposed global event in Bahia:

- To bring together resistance movements, promoting the convergence and unity in collective and complementary actions, preserving the diversity;



- To reinforce the ties between “traditional” social organizations with “new movements”;
- To turn visible invisible causes, like native people and communities’ struggles (indigenous, quilombolas, ribeirinhas, gipsy, for instance), as well as peripheral movements, women, black and youth resistance efforts, and so forth;
- To reinforce and renew relationships between social movements, political parties and power instances;
- To contribute to a wider resistance and political influence in the promotion of development paradigms based on social and environmental justice;
- To promote further visibility to the WSF in the civil society and its actor’s expressions;
- To create new ways to do politics within the WSF, inside the very forum’s methodological process and collective actions.



Photo: Manoel Santos

“Another world is possible – 2011 WSF in Dakar



What do we want with the 2018 WSF?

A Methodology Workshop was held in October 2017, compliant with the aforementioned International Seminar. The result was some answers to the question: What do we want with the 2018 WSF?

This [activity's records](#), along with further contributions, were systematized, indicating some expectation for the WSF:

1. To contribute to expressing civil society strength and capacity;
2. To give meaning to the slogan "To Resist is to Create, To Resist is to Transform!";
3. To bring together a wide participation of resistance movements and organizations in the diverse territories of the WSF, for instance, women's movement, native people's issues, urban and peripheral resistance, rural movements, youth organizations, artists and intellectual social movements, among many others;
4. To contribute to expressing the organized civil society's multiple identities locally, regionally and internationally;
5. To support the convergence between movements and political struggles, to influence the global juncture in a more effective way;
6. To reaffirm and value all human beings in their diversities and differences (nationality, ethnical, racial, cultural, generational, gender, religious, regarding sexual orientation, disabled people, rural or urban environments, and so forth);
7. To promote human and environmental rights of the native people, communities and causes;



- 8.** To contribute to bringing together different movements, aiming to promote human and environmental rights;
- 9.** To contribute to preserving the utopian thought's fire burning;
- 10.** To promote peace, democracy, well-being, solidarity, freedom, social and environmental justice, as well as women emancipation values and paradigms, in defence and promotion of common goods;
- 11.** To contribute to creating new dissemination ways for new narrative interpretations, for instance, against capitalism, sexism, colonialism, racism, and so forth;
- 12.** To contribute with the left-wing renewal, by building new ties between progressive political parties and social movements;
- 13.** To find a new meaning to the engagement, in the methodological building process or during its accomplishment;
- 14.** To demonstrate in face of the local and international society, in order to promote our values, practices and political forces to protect democracy;
- 15.** To express solidarity to all people who fight for democracy and self-determination, for instance, in Venezuela, Palestine, Kurdistan, the Sahrawi people, among many others;
- 16.** To show the strength of the Brazilian, Latin American and international resistance actors, in context of anti-democratic governments and harming social policies;



17. To be coherent in our speeches and practices, by promoting inner democracy and horizontality, and being transparent with collective decision making. Likely, it means a human and social transformation in relationships between all people who attend the event;

18. To contribute to reaffirming the fight for democratic communication, in order to ensure the people and movement's rights of freedom of speech;

19. To encourage the multiple bodies engaged in the forum to share experiences with each other, to reinforce alliance, initiatives and solid actions towards another possible world;

20. To bring together art, culture and politics, as a playful benchmark in the political and social construction;

21. To build a different and innovative WSF, without denying its legacy and accumulated experiences of the last 16 years.

These expectations reaffirm the aspects pointed out in the national and international juncture assessments, by defending and promoting democracy, self-determination rights and a culture of peace. They also highlight the much needed reinforcement of the several social and political resistance forces in face of harming social policies and the authoritarian rise.



6. 2018 WSF BUILDING BODIES AND OPERATIONAL DYNAMICS



Photo: Fernando Santt

Brazilian Collective meeting, on 4 October, 2017

With the perspective of shared and collaborative management, a collective working dynamic was structured since late May 2017. The Bahia Collective became part of the Brazilian Collective and new specific instances were created within the 2018 WSF building structure, amounting to movements and organizations that took part along the process.

- A.** 2018 WSF Brazilian Collective
- B.** Collective Facilitator Group
- C.** Nine Work Groups
- D.** A 2018 FG WSF office
- E.** Thematic groups or collectives
- F.** Regional collectives and communities



As many as 105 meetings were held to build and materialize the 2018 WSF, between June 2017 and March 2018, as displayed in the chart below.

2018 WSF instance meetings, between June 2017 and March 2018		
Description	2017	2018
Brazilian Collective	2	1
Facilitator Group	8	4
Communication WG	6	6
Culture WG	14	5
Economy WG – ECOSOL	11	2
Finances WG	8	
Infraestructure WG	7	2
Youth WG		10
Methodlogy WG	4	2
Mobilization WG	8	5
Total	68	37

The Bahia Collective kept meeting during the whole process, as the very host of the World Social Forum. It also promoted 35 plenaries, most of them (32) in 2017, as depicted in the chart below.

Bahia Collective meetings between 2014 and March 2018					
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
4	28	20	32	3	87



WSF Brazilian Collective

The WSF Brazilian Collective was designed as an organizing instance to perform the 2018 WSF: an open space consisting of all social organizations and movements that formalized their adherence during the 2018 WSF building process and committed themselves to participate in the realization process. The adherence letter was available on the 2018 WSF website during the whole period before the event.

Around 1,000 Brazilian organizations and social movements, from the most diverse regions, backgrounds and causes took part in the Collective. Three plenaries were held during the WSF building process (during August, October and March). The first plenary was held in São Paulo and the two remaining steps happened in Salvador, Bahia.



Photo: Fernando Santt

2018 WSF activity in support to the International Seminar



Facilitator Group

The Facilitator Group was established right after the IB took the decision to perform a 2018 WSF, aiming to represent and coordinate the Brazilian Collective and facilitate the developing process. It was thought as an operational instance to assure the actions before, during and after the forum, coordinated to every 2018 WSF instance and partners. The Facilitator Group did not intend to be a political organizing space, neither a political coordination to the process, but just an articulation and facilitation body. However, several perspectives consider that the FG, despite lacking such a mission, actually served to fulfil the role of political coordination.

The Facilitator Group had 26 members in its composition. First, there were 21 members of the group, selected within three segments, in a democratic and unanimous way, between June and August 2017. New organizations asked to participate at a later date, over a few months before the event; they were accepted by the joint bodies.

The organizations chosen were guided by the following criteria:

- Movement or organization representativeness.
- Segment indication
- Commitment to the building process
- Bodies or organizations' recommendation (not people)
- Struggles and causes diversity within the Facilitator Group
- Significant time available

The composition of the FG was defined in the three separate categories, as follows:

The WSF Bahia Collective (6):

The Bahia Social-Environmental Board (COESA), the Central of Male and Female Workers of Brazil (CTB), the Children of the World, the Bahia Forum for Solidarity Economy (FBES), and the Black Union for Equality (UNEGRO) and the organization Vida Brasil;



IB WSF Brazilian organizations (6):

The Brazilian Association of NGOs (Abong), the International Shared Communication Ciranda, the Latin American Council of Social Sciences (Clacso), the Paulo Freire Institute (IPF), the Popular Education Board to Latin America and the Caribbean (CEAAL), the Black Women Institute (Geledé), the Brazilian Women's Union (UBM) and the International Democratic Women's Federation (FDIM);

Organizations and national movements (from 8 to 14):

At first: the Brazilian Center for Solidarity with People and Struggles for Peace (Cebrapaz), the National Confederation of Resident Associations (CONAM), the Coordination of Black Entities (CONEN), the Unified Workers' Central (CUT), the Network Woman & Media, the Students National Union (UNE), the Central of Co-ops and Solidarity Enterprises (UNISOL), the National Forum of Food Security and Nutrition for Native People from African Origin (Fonsanpotma). Then: the National Movement for Human Rights (MNDH), the Brazilian Caritas, the Black Entities Collective (CEN), the National Forum for Democratic Communication (FNDC), the National Articulation of Black Women NGOs and the Awuré Institute.

The Facilitator Group's missions were defined as:

- To ensure the process coherence, transversality and communicability;
 - To mobilize and articulate, both national and internationally, with resistance movements, territories and people, and several partners to be involved in the 2018 WSF process;
- To follow up, provide help and articulate the work of thematic groups, including communication, methodology, culture, inclusive economy, infrastructure, projects and funding operations, and so forth;
 - To enable partners to mobilize financial and materials resources;
 - To refer and facilitate the balance of likely complications.

Informally, it was agreed that the Facilitator Group would have only one role: to be a "box-to-box midfielder" during the building process. Therefore, the FG held ten meetings between June 2017 and March 2018.



Work Group

The work groups were created mostly between June and October 2017, but also in January of the following year (to voluntary work), bringing together people and organizations by specific fields of action, in order to facilitate the tasks referral. Nine WG were effectively established:

- Communication
- Finances and Projects
- Separate Infrastructure to the Finance WG
- Solidarity Economy
- Mobilization
- Methodology and Program
- International Youth Camp
- Culture
- Volunteering

The WGs' role along the WSF process was defined as giving support to the Facilitator Group, to organize the forum. The WGs were not marked by any decision-making instance, but as working and task coordination space.

The WGs were composed of voluntary workers or organizations or individuals appointed by social movements. The only requirements: free time, group work ability and full consideration about the nature of the WSF. Each Work Group defined its own dynamics, composition and functionality. In practice, not every WG chose to function in the same way, depending on the amount of work and task complexities. It was the Finances and Projects WG's case that chose to function with a restricted group, without free open meetings. However, it is noteworthy that this WG amounted to 8 organizations and effectively represented the actual diversity. This form of action did not compromise the process transparency. Work and balances were always presented in the meetings of the Facilitator Group.



To ensure the operational articulation among the thematic issues, the interfaces and referrals among the WGs, the organizations that took part of the Facilitator Group were divided among the WGs. In each of them, two to three people, from different backgrounds and organizations, took over the group's facilitation process.

The WGs' engagement was not restricted to Salvador. Most part of the live meetings was held in Salvador or São Paulo, but there was also the possibility of distance attendance, by referring proposals to the WGs. Some Work Groups also had significant online engagement – from Brazil and beyond, for instance, the Methodology group.

Trying to boost participation, many information about the WGs were available on the 2018 WSF website.

There were plenty of differences in form of action, number of attendees and meeting rate, from one Work Group to another, as well in terms of actual interventional capacity and common understanding. The Culture WG, for instance, was the most active group in terms of frequency, with participation of several artists and organizations, but with low capacity in terms of common ground, planning and operational actions. The Mobilization & Communication WG, by the other hand, performed very few live meetings, but many activities by other media, as external activities or divided in subgroups, including digital and social media.

The WGs' specific roles were summarized as:

- **Finances & Projects:** To facilitate the fundraising process to build and perform the 2018 WSF, according the Charter of Principles;
- **Culture:** To facilitate the presence of art and culture at the very core of the 2018 WSF process, with attendance of artists and scholars committed with resistance movements and the building process and realization of the event;
- **Communication:** To facilitate the development and implementation of communication strategies and shared media dynamics, to promote the forum, its mobilization and building process;



● **Methodology & Program:** To facilitate the preparation, planning and execution of the scheduled activities, as well as methodologies used over the 2018 WSF building process and realization;

● **Solidarity Economy:** To facilitate the design, planning and coordination of inclusive economic strategies and actions within the 2018 WSF building process and realization;

● **Infrastructure:** To facilitate the design, planning and logistics coordination of the infrastructure needed to the 2018 WSF building process and realization;

● **Mobilization:** To facilitate the design, planning and mobilization strategies and actions, mostly in the national arena, within the 2018 WSF building process and realization;

● **Volunteering:** To facilitate the design, planning and coordination of voluntary people during the 2018 WSF activities;

● **Youth Camp:** To facilitate the design, planning and coordination of space and activities held in the Youth Camp during the 2018 WSF building process and realization.

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2018 WSF Office

A bureau named Vida Brasil was already operative in one the Bahia Collective's organizations, since the first proposal to perform the WSF. The office was kept until the establishment of the Facilitator Group, between June to August 2018, when it was decided not to build a new operational bureau, but to create a particular office dynamics, able to work within the Vida Brasil, in UFBA and another venues, if necessary, at service of the 2018 WSF Facilitator and Work Groups.

The office was effectively structured at the end of September 2017, after the announcement of financial support from two separate organizations, the Ecumenical Service Coordination (CESE - Brazil) and the Bread for the World (Europe), both already involved in the WSF process. The WSF Office was conceived as an instance to support the process' joint management.



Photo: Glenda Lima

Brazilian Collective meeting in October 2017, in Sindae



At first, the WSF Office's goals were defined as:

- To reinforce and mediate the relationship between the Facilitator Group, the UFBA and CESE, in order to materialize and polish the cooperation deal's implication and terms: space usage, visibility, schedule, infrastructure, safety and logistics;
- To support the WSF IB meeting's organization in Salvador, between 15 and 16 October, 2017, and the participation in the UFBA's seminar, between 17 and 18 October, same year, and also the 2018 WSF official launch, five months before the event;
- To stimulate the fundraising and the projects presentation process, cooperating with the Finance and Infrastructure Groups;
- To support and advise the Facilitator and Work Groups' operations, particularly financial, infrastructure and communication activities.

The WSF Office team was initially formed by nine people:

- 1 office coordinator
- 1 coordination assistant
- 1 administrative-financial manager
- 1 infrastructure coordinator
- 1 communication coordinator
- 2 communication counselor
- 2 office assistants



Over time, the duties also included to operate or monitor the following tasks:

- International, national and local articulation and awareness-raising of civil society movements and organizations
 - Communication
- Human and financial resources
 - Logistics and planning
 - Translation
 - Culture
 - Accommodation
- Solidarity fund and solidarity economy

The initial team actually grew in the last three months, with the inclusion of 12 professionals. At the end, some 20 paid workers were operating in the Office, as well as several volunteers and service providers.

- 1 cultural schedule coordinator, with 1 assistant and 2 supports
 - 1 logistics coordinator and 2 supports
 - 3 solidarity economy facilitators
 - 1 volunteering coordinator
 - 1 youth camping coordinator
 - 1 international office counselor
 - Several volunteers
- Service providers (text formatting, informatics, communication, photography, driver, enrollment, information, and so forth)

The 2018 WSF Office ended up focusing on the main operational tasks, sometimes due to lack of funds to outsource some missions, sometimes because of the difficulty or resistance of others instances to accomplish the operational tasks.



Thematic groups and collectives

Several thematic collectives were created spontaneously, from different backgrounds and causes. Those organizations planned their participation in the 2018 WSF and its venues, according to their operational autonomy. These thematic groups influenced the participation design of several resistance groups, people and movements, as well as important activities and territories within the 2018 WSF. These groups included the Women Collective, the Itapuã Collective – which funded and organized a 2018 WSF venue –, the Articulation of Indigenous Peoples – which organized an indigenous camp based in the Bahia Administrative Center –, the Committee of Traditional People and Communities, the Organization Collective of Disabled People, hip hop collectives, an urban collective, and many others.

State and Regional Committees

State and regional committees were also established, mostly in the six months just before the forum. For instance: Sergipe, Pernambuco, Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, Minas Gerais, Amazonas, Pará, Maranhão, Piauí and Rio Grande do Norte. The state committees' role was to mobilize local organizations and prepare their participation, notably by coordinating caravans. Debates were organized in many states, with attendance of FG representatives. Nevertheless, the state and regional committees enjoyed full acting autonomy (including the Pan-Amazonic Forum organizations).



7. METHODOLOGY

The collective responsible for the 13th edition of the World Social Forum, held in Bahia, 2018, always kept relevant concerns about the experience of horizontality in the many relationships established, and the appreciation of diversity.



Photo: Paulo Pilha

To Resist is to Create, 2018 WSF motto



Photo: La Rastrojera TV

2018 WSF Street Art



Commitment to a Mobilizing, Participative, Democratic and Inclusive Methodology

The commitment to a participative and dialogic building to the 2018 WSF was underlined by the specific goals presented to the partners that supported financially the forum's accomplishment. Among them:

❖ To promote a comprehensive articulation of social movements and organizations engaged in the resistance around the world; to perform a World Social Forum edition in Bahia, through meeting, state and national plenaries, networking and participation in international events [...] to organize a wide mobilization dynamics, adding the most diverse segments, creating methodological conditions so their themes and methodologies can be featured in the Bahia WSF process organization and realization. ❖

The **goals established by the responsible collective**, in order to perform the WSF 13th edition also reflected the employed methodology.

Another important action, widely debated within and without the Facilitator Group, that showed the very concerns about mobilization and attendance, was the 2018 WSF slogan definition process. Initially, it was agreed that the slogan should recall the idea of people, territories and resistance movements.

In this view, different phrases arose during preparatory activities, notably in the Resistance Forum held in Porto Alegre, 2017. Some stood out: "To Resist is to Create, to Resist to Transform", "To Resist is to Create and to Transform" or "To Resist is to Create, to Exist, and to Transform". The bid was to express, through the slogan, an invitation to the most diverse movements and people to the 2018 WSF building process and the very forum, from traditional people to urban and rural movements, artists, scholars, social and political leaders, who could find a renewal of the utopian way of thinking and political reinvention.





Photo: Paulo Pilha

Graffiti produced in Salvador, Bahia, during the WSF.

In the records of the first meetings of Facilitator Group there is the commitment to a process in which people in resistance were “leading and not only guests”, by “reinforcing the relationship between the several collectives, as in Bahia e Rio Grande do Sul”. They also addressed the concerns about developing a dialogic and inclusive process, as diverse as possible regarding groups and causes.

❖ We should be alert against ranking the struggles; instead, we should build commonalities. It is crucial to stimulate the radicalization of our speeches to face the patriarchy, racism and to stand up for democracy [...] we need to stay strong and together during this process [...] it is time to unite, through common ground, to face the enemy. To resist is to create ... to resist is to transform! ❖

● Facilitator Group meeting, 2017



Among the concerns of the FG was to contact social movements and organizations that already had participated in previous WSFs, but for some sort of reason ended up pulling away. The mobilization of social movements and organizations should include dialogue with these representations. For instance, it is recorded in one the meetings:

❖ Some absences of important movements were highlighted. The mobilization process should prioritize the articulation with these and other movements, like Via Campesina and the Landless Workers' Movement of Brazil (MST), the Homeless Workers' Movement, some women movements (MMM, and the Articulation of Black Women), and also youth movements. ❖

● Facilitator Group meeting, 2017

To reinforce the participation of traditional people's leadership figures, like native people, gypsies and quilombolas, within the WSF building process, as well during the event, also was an important part of the strategies established by the Facilitator Group.

Therefore, the months before the 2018 WSF were characterised by several efforts of articulation to expand the civil society participation, and to engage more actors in the building process.

❖ We understand that the 2018 WSF will depend on the engagement of people, territories and social movements from Brazil and other regions all over the world, including the IB. We are proposing a WSF to which the movements do not need an invitation, for they are leading it. Therefore, we want to initiate the dialogue with the IB, as well as resistance movements and regional forums, about the next steps to the 2018 WSF building process. We faced great challenges, including the continuity and renewal of the WSF, the articulation with national and international movements, the finding of commonalities during the building process and not only in the event, or even with the political communication that may contribute to give voice to the several struggles around the globe, to promote their visibility and increase their power in the local, regional and international juncture. ❖

● Facilitator Group meeting, 2017



The proposition made by the responsible collective to properly perform the 2018 WSF was to think and conceive an event that also involved the suburbs and urban movements, as shown in the meeting records.

❖ It is important to involve the whole city. The WSF must be an event conceived from the ground to the top. //

● Facilitator Group meeting, 2017

The Methodology WG was responsible for proposing an accomplishment method to the Facilitator Group, in concert with a political and educational concept of the event, according to notions aforementioned.

However, it is important to highlight that the methodology used in the 2018 WSF was developed procedurally, by different subjects. Some tasks did feature only the respective WGs. In several moments the Methodology WG was in charge to introduce and guide the challenges; as the event was getting closer, also to validate the efforts built by the engaged groups and people.

❖ The challenge is to include in this process, and in other segments, the youth, the native people, the people of African origin, the LGBTQI+ community, the women movements, the suburbs and the resistance territories. To overcome this challenge it will be crucial to keep an open mind and humility. No one will feel included if they cannot bring their own truth. Therefore, until the International Seminar, in October, we must think alternatives with no definitive answers //

● Methodology WG meeting, 2017



Main Methodological Moments

▄▄ The WSF is a distinctive process because it is continuously trying to live a shared management dynamic, which demands an exercise of methodology without power hierarchy among the many spaces, instead to build political consensus and understandings ▄▄

- FG meeting, August 2017

Photo: Paulo Pilha



Berimbau in the 2018 WSF

Invitations

In August 2017, an open letter was launched inviting people, organizations, social movements, networks and platforms from all over the world to be part of the 2018 WSF organization and realization process.



❖ (...) Facing the deep civilizing world crisis, the 2018 WSF, in Salvador, represents a great opportunity to gather the altermundi movements and contemplate solutions to humanity, in an inclusive and democratic manner, respecting diversities, in order to face violence, as well as regional and social inequality matters ❖❖

- [2018 WSF Open Letter](#)

Consultation about the proposition for methodological building

In August 2017, a consultation process began to build a participative methodological proposal to the 2018 WSF. It was created an engagement opportunity to all parties regarding the forum's methodological building, by answering some questions presented at the [2018 WSF website](#):

- In which organization or movement do you act?
- What is the WSF role to transform the society?
- What do you suggest as methodology to build our forum?
 - What can you do for the WSF?
- What is your slogan or motto to mobilize the resistances in your struggle towards another possible world?

(These mottos subsidized the definition of the 2018 WSF thematic hubs)

These same questions were sent by e-mail to the World Social Forum International Board members and to the civil society leaderships engaged in the 2018 WSF process. Besides, a workshop was performed according to an "international coffee" methodology, in October 2017, on the occasion of the 2018 WSF Preliminary Seminar (in Salvador), in which participants were invited to answer those questions, adding to the proposed methodological building.



International Preliminary Seminar

The International Preliminary Seminar was held from 15 to 19 October, 2017, five months before the WSF event, including Congress of the Federal University of Bahia's activities. It was an important moment to hear the voices of civil society, involving the presence of leaders from several countries. The event was widely announced and public.

Besides contributing with the 2018 WSF proposed methodological definition, the seminar's participants were also invited to contribute to the definition process of the thematic hubs. Therefore, the Methodological WG gathered and presented some title suggestions to initiate the dialogue: "Nothing About Us Without Us", "Gender Revolution", "Another Education to Make Possible Another World", "Change the System, Not the Weather", "Not a Right Less" "Earth, Roof and Work".

It was also suggested that each theme of each hub should be followed by a slogan, with a "setting the tone" kind of sentence, in order to point out the specific struggle's point of view.

The Preliminary Seminar was divided into three distinct moments:

1. WSF International Board meeting (October 15 and 16), launching the 2018 WSF. The last International Board meeting before the 2018 WSF.
2. UFBA Congress, containing 7 tables promoted by the WSF (October 17th and 18th)
3. Convergences:
 - 3.1. The WSF role to build common ground between social movements all over the world (October 18)
 - 3.2. 2018 WSF Brazilian Collective meeting



Seminar goals:

- To reinforce mobilization and articulation between the Brazilian movements and resistances and worldly civil society dynamics;
- To raise awareness about the Brazilian, Latin American and world resistance juncture;
- To point out the many possibilities of collective occurrences to be articulated through the 2018 WSF and to suggest guiding resistance axis, by valuing their attendance at the event.



Photo: Fernando Santt

2018 International Seminar



Methodological Building Workshop

A workshop with participation of the IB members and the 2018 WSF Brazilian Collective was held during a board meeting, divided into three groups that worked around three important questions, to guide methodological decisions:

1. Which WSF do we want?
2. About convergence dynamics –
What is the role of the opening parade, the self-governing activities, plenaries and convergences and social movements assemblies?
3. What is the role of the thematic hubs and their mottos by organizing the WSF?

At the time, the [2018 WSF activities and process schedule](#) were also introduced.



Photo: Fernando Santt

Presentation of the methodological workshop results



Workshop Results

Some contributions received by the methodological workshop are recorded below:

1. About convergence dynamics – What is the role of the opening parade, the self-governing activities, plenaries and convergences and social movements assemblies?

- The diversity slogan is a WSF constitutive, it is our very power. We need to create a path through which this virtue may bring momentum to our struggles in several territories, cities and causes.
- There are concerns that convergence efforts may reduce our diversity, jeopardizing the forum. Absolutely no convergence process may be authoritarian or imposed, in any frustrating or disruptive way regarding our diversity principles and self-governing initiatives. The common ground must be a result of a common political building process.
- That our diversity, which is an asset, may be the base of our actions. Any convergence process may respect this diversity. Diversity is a starting point so we can find new ways to reinforce our common struggles and causes. Diversity may not be a deterrent point to common efforts.
- Methodology, whatever may be, must be open, not imposed.
- Convergences must be a result of a long process before, during and after the WSF. Common ground is not something to be built only during the global event. We must take into consideration not only the political matters but also people and territories. The challenge: How the convergence efforts can value other struggles and movements. Convergences may be better enabled in regional, and not on a global scale. Perhaps, “convergence” is not really the better word; perhaps, “alliance”, “coalition” or “agenda”, as a better description.



- About the World Movements Assembly – It must be a process built before, during and after the WSF. It must have an empowering dynamic regarding social movements from all over the world.
- About the Initiative Agora (or Agora of Futures) – It must be a channel through which the several organizations can present initiatives to gather adherence and become part of the “Initiative Schedule”, to be carried during the WSF process, between one edition to another.
- The application activity process must still be a channel to stimulate similar themes and subjects to perform joint activities.
- To match existing themes, objects, goals and structures. For instance, the general theme “Women” along with the object of “Working Women”, the goals of “Conquering Work Rights”, and networking structures, movements, and so forth.
- The International Board, as a facilitator instance, may propose two paths that lead to the same result: a classic path with self-governance and freedom and a bolder path, that may represent the building of big alliances between many struggles.
- It should be prioritized the possibility of unity around common causes.

2. What is the role of the thematic hubs and mottos within the WSF organization process?

- According to the proposals, the slogan – To Resist is to Create, To Resist is to Transform – should be representative of the very structures to organize the 2018 WSF themes and territories. In this perspective, such a structure was intended to be divided into three particular moments: **1)** To resist, **2)** To create and **3)** To transform



- As for the 2018 WSF organization dynamics, the proposition was to be structured by thematic hubs and guiding mottos.

For instance:

HUB: Climate Justice

MOTTO: Change the System, Not the Weather

It was suggested that the application process to self-governing activities should present 3 questions, to be answered by the social movements and organizations:

“What does your organization/movement do/propose to resist?”,

“What does your organization/movement is proposing/accomplishing to create?”

and “What does your organization/movement is proposing/accomplishing to transform?”



Photo: Islândia Costa

Thematic hubs organizing the physical territories



Resistance People, Territories and Movements Assembly

The “Social Movements Assembly” emerged during the Nairobi WSF (2007). Since then, it was held in each edition, passing through modifications in content and form.

In the Canada WSF (2016), the International Board decided to officially include the activities in the events, proposing the discussion to establish its character and name. In Porto Alegre (2017), it was established the IB group, as an open instance, in order to elaborate a proposal and take over the responsibility to organize the assembly. In October, the 2018 WSF Preliminary Seminar, held by the Facilitator Group, suggested that the assembly should include the words “struggle” or “resistance” in its name. Finally, the activity was named “Resistance People, Territories and Movements Assembly”.



Photo: Mídia Ninja

2018 WSF Resistance People, Territories and Movements Assembly



2018 WSF Inclusive Building Results

There was an agreement that the 2018 WSF should contribute to the struggle's articulations even beyond dialogue between different social movements. As presented in the meeting records, it should be implanted "a horizontal, articulated methodology to allow understanding and further development".

The proposition to reinforce the collective resistance agendas was then introduced. Therefore, the Resistance People, Territories and Movements Assembly and the Agora of Futures would have a prominent role.

After an intensive route that involved much consideration about the methodological process accomplished in the previous WSF editions, as well as about the realization of several meetings, the aforementioned methodological workshop, and by also listening to the many social movements and causes, it was presented to the FG Collective a set of thematic hubs and mobilizing mottos, in order to be reviewed and improved. The understanding was that the existence of these hubs actually benefited self-governing activities within the global territory, by bringing closer distinct approaches and dialogue between subjects engaged in the same theme.

It is possible to affirm that the 2018 WSF theme hubs were the result of a long dialogue process within the Brazilian Collective and several other national and international consultations. There were disagreements about how to elaborate some themes, for instance, during consultations about racial and LGBT thematic hubs. However, these obstacles were solved once priority was given to the movement voices, namely, the movements that claimed representation to respective themes and mottos. The movements' leaderships were responsible to make decisions regarding their own fights.

Including some mottos to the Thematic Hubs was quite an innovation to the WSF. The mottos or slogans were open and proposed by networking efforts, platforms, social movements and organizations, at the very moment of subscription to our activities. Similarly, the registered activities could be associated with mottos already suggested, composing thematic collectives.



**The 2018 WSF Thematic Hubs were composed
by the following themes and mottos:**

2018 WSF Themes

- 1.** Ancestry, Earth and Territoriality
- 2.** Communication, Technology and Free Media
- 3.** Resistance Cultures
- 4.** Democracies
- 5.** Democratisation of the Economy
- 6.** Social and Environmental
Justice and Development
- 7.** Urban Rights
- 8.** Human Rights
- 9.** Education and Science,
towards People's Emancipation Sovereignty
- 10.** Feminism and Women Struggles
- 11.** Future of the WSF
- 12.** LGBTQI+ and Gender Diversity
- 13.** Anti-Colonial Struggles
- 14.** Migration
- 15.** Work World
- 14.** Peace and Solidarity
- 17.** Native People
- 18.** A world Without Racism, Bigotry
and Xenophobia
- 19.** Black Lives Matter



❗ My name is Carlos Santos da Luz. And Santos, Silva, Nascimento, all these names are dying, perhaps some other time I'd have died too. In order for such things don't happen anymore, we're here right now, screaming our lungs out so the world can know we're still alive. The youth is still alive and won't dare to step back. ❗

- Thousands of people march for democracy in the WSF Opening Parade

Brasil de Fato

First 2018 WSF Mottos

1. Life is Not a Merchandise
2. Art, Before is Too Late
3. Boycott, Divestments and Sanctions
4. Citizenship Without Borders
5. Against the Genocide and Incarceration of the Black Youth
6. A World without Racism, Bigotry and Xenophobia
7. Demarcation Now
8. Equal Rights, a Pending Agenda
9. Change the System, Not the Weather
10. Nothing About Us Without Us
11. Not a right less
12. Another Economy Happens
13. To Another Possible World, Another Communication and Education are Needed
14. If to Reside is a Privilege, to Occupy is a Right
15. Work, Food and Dignity to All



The visual representation of the methodological process programming of the 2018 WSF was done through a mandala, presented by Ricardo Almeida, member of the Porto Alegre Committee. The design's goal was to summarize the content. The initial idea was introduced to the Methodology WG and discussed during three consecutive meetings, leading to the final version (below).

Um outro mundo é possível!



RESISTIR É CRIAR RESISTIR É TRANSFORMAR



To Record is to Build history, to Materialize Memory

A methodology to record the forum's activities, especially convergence acts, was proposed to encourage the organizers by answering 3 distinctive questions:

- To Resist: Against what? For what?
- To Create and to Transform:
What are the actions proposed to enhance resistance?
- Agenda: When? (actions distributed over time).

These questions were published at the WSF website and were sent by email to all IB members. However, just a few answered back. A larger and better articulation about record importance may be promoted in the next editions.

Several reports and records of activities accomplished during the 2018 WSF were shared by the organizers or attendees in the WSF website.

Some learnings regarding record:

To record the diversity of results from the WSF activities still is a real challenge. In this sense, some learnings deserve particular attention, in order to contribute with future editions.

1. The importance of promoting records of self-governing activities, raising awareness to attendees to do it.
2. The need to widely announce where the records and reports should be sent right after the activities
3. The importance of securing the required structure to enhance systematization and announcement of new contributions.



8. PROGRAMMING

In January, the [WSF programming](#) was announced at the forum website, along with small texts explaining the forum's activities, written by the Methodology and Programming WG.



Programming book launched in PDF during the WSF



Activities proposed by the Students National Union during the 2018 WSF



Programming – World Social Forum 2018

13 March 2018	14 to 15 March 2018	16 March 2018	17 March 2018	18 March 2018
<p>9h: Subscription and self-governing activities</p> <p>11h: 2018 WSF Press Conference</p> <p>15h: Opening Parade</p> <p>19h: Resistance cultural activities</p>	<p>9h: Convergence activities and self-governing activities</p> <p>14h: Self-governing activities</p> <p>17h: Self-governing activities</p> <p>19h30: Political-Cultural activities</p>	<p>9h: World Women’s Assembly</p> <p>12h: Report Meeting</p> <p>12h: Self-governing activities</p> <p>14h30: Self-governing activities</p> <p>15h: Resistance People, Territories and Movements Assembly</p> <p>17h: Self-governing activities</p> <p>20h: Political-Cultural Act to FAMA – Alternative World Water Forum</p>	<p>8h30: Agora of Futures (post-forum action schedule)</p> <p>9h: Self-governing activities</p> <p>11h: Self-governing activities</p> <p>12h: Cultural Parade</p> <p>14h30: Self-governing activities</p> <p>17h: Self-governing activities</p>	<p>18h: 2018 WSF Brazilian Collective Press Conference</p>



Different Kinds of Activities

• Convergence Activities

The self-governing activities, with specific features, happened mostly during the morning. They should promote the dialogue between different struggles and around the common causes. The goal was to benefit the convergence building to increase resistance power. The guidance is to be accomplished by organization and movements' articulation that embrace at least three causes, with leadership presence, from at least three countries. These activities might produce occurrences propositions after the WSF. In this case, those propositions should be taken to the Report Meeting and later to the Resistance People, Territories and Movements Assembly and/or to the Agora of Futures.

• Self-governing Activities

The self-governing activities should dialogue with more than one 2018 WSF thematic hub; the proponents should have full responsibility to accomplish these efforts. Among them: workshops, seminars, parades, conferences, debates, cultural performances, conversation circles, and so forth. These activities could be organized in order to produce occurrence propositions after the WSF and enhance the very resistance. In this case, those propositions should be taken to the Report Meeting and later to the Resistance People, Territories and Movements Assembly and/or to the Agora of Futures.

• Global Women Assembly

A moment dedicated to the expansion of visibility and fight power of the women movements. Answering the demands of these movements and acknowledging the urgency of women rights all over the world, during the 2018 WSF, no other activity was included in the same morning, so all the women could be present at the event.



• **Report Meeting**

The report meeting was a space where the documents produced by the different WSF self-governing activities were sent and then directed to the Resistance People, Territories and Movements Assembly.

The reports could also be sent by e-mail to: metodologia@fsm2018.org.

• **Resistance People, Territories and Movements Assembly**

Arts Square, Arts Campus, UFBA Campus, Ondina

This assembly was an opportunity to share the results of the self-governing activities and debate the themes and schedules that the organizations and movements were quite interested in.

• **Political-Cultural Act to FAMA – Alternative World Water Forum**

Arts Square, Arts Campus, UFBA Campus, Ondina

Act to expand the visibility and strength of the occurrence of the Alternative World Water Forum, held in Brasilia, in the following days after the 2018 WSF.

• **Agora of Futures (Post-Forum Agenda)**

Arts Square, Arts Campus, UFBA Campus, Ondina

Different from post-forum proposals, introduced during the Resistance People, Territories and Movements Assembly, the Agora of Futures reported openly shared propositions, through dialogue, banners, artistic manifestations, and so forth. It was a space dedicated to alliance building and to enhance resistance.

• **Cultural Parade**

Arts Square, Ondina Campus

Symbolic closure of the 2018 WSF, with several cultural manifestations from all over the world.



Others Global Events Organized Within the 2018 WSF

- Seminar of the World Free Media Forum
 - World Human Rights Forum
 - World Health and Social Safety Forum
- World Forum on Theology and Liberation
 - World Forum on Popular Education
- Latin American Adult Education Council
 - Science and Democracy Forum
 - Parliamentary World Meeting
- Forum of Local Authorities of Periphery
 - Dialogues in Humanity
 - Kids Little Forum
 - National Health Board Meeting
- Human Rights National Board Meeting
- New Paradigms International Meeting
- Act in Defense of the Public University



9. TERRITORIES

Where did the 2018 WSF happen?

It was a collective decision to accomplish the most activities of the 2018 WSF in the UFBA Campus – as well as the spatial division by thematic hubs. At the same time, important activities were also held in the UNED and part of the WSF schedule was decentralized, allowing the forum to be present in Salvador suburbs.



Photo: Sinait

The territories were organized by thematic hubs



As many as 70 venues in Salvador and the region were occupied by the WSF, composing its territories, by performing programmed activities. Among the venues:

- UFBA campus
(main venue, where happened most activities)
- UNEB campus
(venue to most of African descendent religions meetings, with more than 400 attendees)
- Itapuã Territory, with its own schedule
(political and cultural) through the whole event, closing with a cultural act in the evening of March 17th.
- Intercontinental Youth Camp (with 2,000 people camping)
in the Expo Park, with its own schedule.
- Indigenous People Camp
in the Bahia Administrative Center
(with 600 peoples camping).

About the accommodations, beside camping (native people and youth):

- Over 1.200 people coming from all over Brazil, mostly through caravans, were hosted in schools, training centres, organizations, cooperative hosting centers, and so forth. Thousands stayed in friends' houses.
- 84% of Salvador hotel chain was occupied during the 2018 WSF, according to data from the Bahia Federation of Hosting and Feeding (FEBHA). Silvio Pessoa, chair of FEBHA declared that "[...] in the last 30 years, we haven't seen this. [...] The city was very busy, the trade industry and all the other tourism sectors are very thankful to the World Social Forum"



UFBA – Federal University of Bahia

The UFBA was engaged with the WSF from the beginning, as an important incentive to properly perform the 2018 WSF Salvador edition. During the event process, the UFBA also mobilized the state academic community and contributed to the [WSF program](#), with subscriptions and announcements of several activities.

The [WSF territories](#) in the university were divided by hubs.

UNEB – Bahia State University

The UNEB participated in the World Social Forum 2018 with a large and entirely open, public schedule.

Among the main activities, it is noteworthy the “Plenary of Traditional People and Communities from Africa and Terreiros”, held in the university theater, in Salvador. Six debate thematic hubs were contemplated, among them: “Hate Crimes and Religious Racism”, “Political Articulation and Organization” and “Contemporary Crossroads”.

The UNEB schedule also presented the State Rural Education Forum (FEEC/Bahia), which produced experience reports and a plenary about rural education, public policies and democracy. It also had debates like: “Quilombolas Territories: Conquests and Challenges”, “Popular Education and Political Awareness alongside the Social Movements”, “Inclusive Communication as a Human Right” and “The University Extension and its Contribution to Social Transformation”, among many others political and cultural activities.

Beyond the actions accomplished and cared in the UNEB, the university also engaged in the 2018 WSF at other venues, through lectures, debates circles and book launches.



It was also noteworthy the youth excitement by managing to take their fights to the 2018 WSF.

❖ In the airplane, there were like five people from favelas. Lots of beautiful black power hairstyles. And lots of turbans and dreads also. A variety of greetings and handshakes, followed by slangs and dialects! Bro, the coolest airplane I've ever taken, seriously. The destiny could only be Salvador! Hold on, World Social Forum, this thing will get crazy! ❖

- Raul Santiago, activist from Complexo do Alemão, member of the Papo Reto Collective and the Movement Rio On Watch



Photo: Tatiane Anjos

Youth Intercontinental Camp participants in the 2018 WSF Opening Parade



Photo: Tatiane Anjos



Youth Intercontinental Camp organizing collective evaluates the venue

Photo: Tatiane Anjos



Youth Intercontinental Camp Subscription process



10. SOLIDARITY ECONOMY

The Solidarity Economy is a key activity to build “another possible world”, more inclusive and fairer, as dreamed by everyone who engaged in the WSF. It is a new practical perspective to build distinctive consuming relationships, as well as a new production and development model, committed to everyone’s well being.



Photo: Stella Oliveira /Ciranda.net

Solidarity Economy Trade Fair in the 2018 WSF



Solidarity Economy introduces itself as a key alternative of work and income prioritizing social inclusion, as far as it promotes production, sale, buying and trade of what is needed daily to survive, without human exploration and reducing the impact over the environment. It reinforces the relationship between engaged people and inspires every participant to think beyond its own interests – instead, to think about everyone’s well being. Solidarity Economy is organized, for example, through cooperatives, associations, trade unions, self-governing companies and networks, aimed to produce goods, provide services, promote solidarity finances, trades, fair commerce and sustainable consumption.

Solidarity Economy features cooperation, self-management, economic dimension and solidarity, materializing new sustainable development logic with work generation and income distribution, through economic development that also protects our ecosystems. Its economic, political and cultural outcomes are shared with all the participants, without gender, age or race distinction. This economic modality, therefore, promotes an inversion of the capitalist logic, opposed to exploration of work and natural resources, considering the human being as a whole subject and ending to economic activity.

Therefore, the Solidarity Economy had a distinctive role in the 2018 WSF.

Right at the beginning of the Salvador WSF building process, a WG was created to take over the challenge and promote an inclusive economy, in order to bring the concept to reality, within the WSF territories. The group worked to ensure that the Solidarity Economy did not occupy a single, specific venue, instead diverse, as the very economy of the World Social Forum.

In this sense, its “presence” was reinforced during several processes, like material production, hosting offers, feeding services, solidarity currencies, drinking water provision, and so forth. By the way, that is a noteworthy matter, not just for the fact, but its symbolic power. Water, common good to all humanity, was a free access right to everyone, regardless of financial resources. Water is not a merchandise; it is everyone’s right, treated as such during the 2018 WSF.





Solidarity Economy Trade Fair in the 2018 WSF

It is also interesting the fact that the Solidarity Economy WG had bigger capillarity compared with others, including different groups involved with this cause during the WSF building process. This WG was the result of a mobilization process along with solidarity economic enterprises leaderships and support entities, most of them members of the Bahia and Brazilian Solidarity Economy Forum

The Solidarity Economy actions were organized on five fronts:

- Solidarity Finances
- Solidarity Accommodation
- Commercialization
- Waste Sorting
- Political Impact



Solidarity Finance

The Solidarity Finance thematic hub was coordinated by the Community Development Banks (BCD), which brought to the 2018 WSF some of the financial services management practices they developed in their communities. Five coins circulated in the territory of the WSF, namely: Tim Tim (Lagoa de Dentro/PB); UMOJA (Santa Luzia – Salvador/BA); Cristalina (Pureza/RN); Concha (Ilhamar, Vera Cruz/BA) and Opala (Rede Opala/PI). To facilitate the circulation, coins were made available for specific sectors. For example, two coins for the sale of handicrafts and other two coins for the sale of family farming products.

This hub also promoted activities to socialize different experiences related to finance activities, such as community banks, rotative solidarity funds, social currencies exchanges and a visit to the Community Bank of Santa Luzia, in the Uruguary neighborhood, in Salvador, Bahia. It is also noteworthy that in the period preceding the realization of the 2018 WSF, a preparatory activity was carried out along with the enterprises and community banks, in a workshop format, so that they could understand how what was being proposed would work and could contribute to the planning process.

Solidarity Hosting

Through Solidarity Hosting, thousands of WSF attendees were welcomed in Salvador, as previously mentioned. The process developed to organize solidarity accommodation provided many exchanges of experiences between different caravans from social movements that were present in this edition of the World Social Forum. It is possible to affirm that the Solidarity Economy WG, through the Solidarity Economic Enterprises and the Support and Promotion Bodies, demonstrated, in a short period of time, a great capacity to articulate inclusive accommodation.



Commercialization

As for Commercialization, a Food Fair and a Handicraft Fair were installed in the 2018 WSF territory, offering different products, mostly from family farming. The Solidarity Economy Fair was attended by 96 projects, most of them networks of projects from 26 Brazilian states, different countries in Latin America (Peru, Chile and Paraguay) and Africa (Senegal and Morocco).

Waste Sorting

Regarding the Solidarity Waste Sorting, there were a series of discussions and efforts to make its execution feasible in the forum's territory, with the participation and management of recyclable material pickers. The Solidarity Economy WG, in partnership with the Bahia Cooperative Recycling Complex – CCRBA and the Art and Environment Center, presented a proposal for waste sorting to be carried out during the WSF. Then, CATABAHIA, the National Movement of Recyclable Material Collectors, the INCUBA UNEB, in addition to the WSF Infrastructure Working Group and the Facilitator Group (FG), were included in the process.

The final proposal would involve about 200 waste pickers in the collection of recyclable materials, which would take turns. Throughout the Forum, a "Support Space" for these workers would be installed, with activities relevant to the performance of these people and dialogue about products and social technologies that involve recyclable materials. Approaches were also promoted with representatives of public bodies working in the area, such as the Secretariat for Science, Technology and Innovation (SECTI) and the Secretariat for the Environment (SEMA). Despite efforts, unfortunately, it was not possible to implement everything that was planned. It is worth mentioning, however, the holding of a dialogue on the generation of work and income in the Tent of the Population Movement on the Street, at the World Social Forum in Ondina, with the participation of representatives from the Center for Art and Environment – CAMA and the Bahia Cooperative Recycling Complex – CCRBA.



Political Impact

Political Impact occurred throughout the process described above, through the visibility given to the Solidarity Economy in the territory of the 2018 WSF, the opportunity of the participants to experience its principles and practices, the articulation made with the public power and with universities around the activities carried out in this forum and the existing coherence between each of them and the concept of solidarity economy.

During the 2018 WSF, solidarity economy was a recurring theme in several activities and in this intense exchange of knowledge, as well as debates, seminars and rounds of conversation. The subjects of the solidarity economy promoted meetings and reunions to discuss and articulate their agendas and strategies . An example is the Brazilian Solidarity Economy Forum, which held two large meetings mobilizing representatives of enterprises and organizations in the field of solidarity economy from 15 states in Brazil to discuss the dismantling of public policy of solidarity economy after the 2016 coup and think about strategies for resistance and struggle.

There was also a political impact on strengthening the identity of male and female workers involved in the solidarity economy processes, as they saw the activities they carry out to be recognized as fundamental to the construction of “another possible world”, a major objective of the World Social Forums.



MOBILIZATION?

Members of the Brazilian Collective participated in several local and international activities discussing, debating, disseminating and mobilizing for the 2018 WSF. These activities included Argentina, France, Germany, Mozambique, among other countries with altermundi agendas and movements, meetings in the Northeast states, participation in popular festivals in Bahia and in mobilizations and marches, especially the 8th of March.



Photo: Ana Paula de La Ordem

Final plenary session of the Fuera WTO meeting, in Buenos Aires, calls for the WSF



Photo: Tatiane dos Anjos

Entity in defense of the railways promoted convocation trips to the WSF, with music and dance groups in each car





Photo: Déja Chagas

The Women March's slogan in Salvador was inspired by the 2018 WSF



Source: Communication WG

WSF poster calls for popular and traditional activity in Salvador (Mudança do Garcia).



11. ROOTS OF RESISTANCE IN THE CULTURAL EXPRESSION OF THE 2018 WSF, IN SALVADOR

When the WSF was opened by the inaugural parade that left Campo Grande Plaza, in Salvador, on 13 March 2018, its appropriation for the deeper expressions of popular resistance that came to the city was evident.



Photo: Déja Chagas

Indigenous people start the march. Departure from Campo Grande to Castro Alves Square

Without warning, without having to ask for passage, the communities of indigenous peoples who helped to build the event, or who came from far to join it, took the lead. From there on, they led the great march that still received new groups of activists along the way when, to the rhythm of singing, dancing, matracas and maracas, the crowd reached the end of their journey, at Castro Alves Square, the people's square, a piece of Salvador's heart.



“We understood that our centenary indigenous struggle, with more than 518 years (of resistance in Brazil) could command the march”, said chief Kâhu Pataxó, leader of the United Movement of Indigenous Peoples and Organizations of Bahia (MUPOIBA), explaining the decisions of the participants of the indigenous camp organized for the WSF, at Bahia Administrative Center. The cultural expression of the 2018 WSF exposed its roots in the historic cultures of resistance.



Photo: Déja Chagas

Capoeiristas at the 2018 WSF Opening Parade, in Salvador

The indigenous people felt that the moment was to draw attention to the struggle they have waged for centuries against the great violence that surrounds their lands and territories, but, as Kâhu emphasized, the decision - widely discussed among them - was also because they wanted to take their own happy way of expressing itself to the WSF as a whole. He recalls that people from other movements agreed with the result and came to tell the chief that they “marched without tiring, feeling the joy that the indigenous people transmitted to the whole march”.



The inaugural walk anticipated cultural aspects of what the Forum would be. With the exception of world editions in Senegal and Kenya, the opening, like the rest of the event, was never as black as the one in 2018. And not only because Bahia, and Salvador in particular, are mostly black, considered a part of Africa in Brazil. But because black movements and representatives from other parts of Brazil and Africa have also embraced the WSF to show their many resistances, such as those in Mozambique or Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast).



Photo: Déja Chagas

Ivory Coast activists in the opening march

The march against Racism and Religious Intolerance was added to the march that left Campo Grande in the opposite direction, an initiative of the black movements. “The black people united are strong black people, who do not fear the fight, and do not fear death” – sang protesters. “This march shows enormous strength to fight racism” – explained student Auá Cassama, from Guinea.

“Women, the time has come!” – said a call that anticipated the feminist face of the Bahia Forum. Feminist and black. “From Palmares (Dandara and Zumbi quilombo, which marked the history of resistance against slavery in Brazil) to Rio dos Macacos (quilombo that faced violent threats at the beginning of 2018), black women will judge the Brazilian state – the text announced. It involved mobilizing a popular court during the WSF to prosecute the crimes of genocide and femicide against black women, which would take place in the auditorium of the Federal Institute of Bahia (IFBA).

The day after the march, in front of a symbolic representation of the defendant – the Brazilian State – old and recent stories were narrated that interweave denunciations of femicidal violence to the historical confrontation of racism and cultural resistance against intolerance.



They spoke of victims of transphobia and lgbtphobia, the Yalorixá of Rio de Janeiro against religious hatred, representatives of black women from Alto das Pombas (Salvador) against institutional racism, Quilombo do Urubu against femicide, in addition to black women who reported stories of incarcerated, trafficked, homeless women.

The 2018 WSF took place at the sound of the footsteps of black women who marched day after day for their causes. In addition to the opening and the court, they organized the March of the Black Women on the afternoon of the 14th, suffered and stood up for Marielle on the 15th, organized and met with feminists from around the world at Terreiro de Jesus, in the historic complex of Pelourinho , for the World Assembly of Women, on the 16th.

The search to build a cultural proposal rooted in popular struggles, in the principles and characteristics of the WSF, made the life of the Culture WG naturally intense and full of conflicts. The group sought the path to street art, the memory inscribed in popular productions, the work of artists who go where the people are - as a song by Brazilian composer Milton Nascimento says.

The 2018 WSF was a forum of samba de roda, circus, theater, dance, manifestations of popular and street culture, as well as symphonic orchestras. Among cultural events, rock performances, capoeira circles and slams.



Wheelchair artists from the anti-prison movement promote hip hop at the WSF



Hip hop surprised by the diversity of identities, origins, experiences and expressions: among others, Bahian, Northeastern, Southern, but also feminine, feminist, militants of the struggle of people with disabilities or of the prison population.

There were several exhibitions, presentations of contemporary music, poetics in transit, meetings of philharmonic orchestras and a lot of cultural memory.

Participants had the opportunity to meet or revisit works by the greatest exponents of black culture in Brazil, like the great Mestre Didi, in homage to the writer and sculptor of the Nagô universe of Yoruban origin, and the icon and plural artist Abdias Nascimento, with various activities in his memory, including the projection of the feature film “Abdias Nascimento Memória Negra” by Bahian filmmaker Antonio Olavo, and the launch of the new edition of the book “O Genocídio do Negro Brasileiro”.

Participants were also able to listen closely to the musical group Duo Robatto, formed by two brothers from the Bahia Symphony Orchestra, in addition to writing poetry with the movement Poetas da Praça.



Photo: Mirtes Fernanda



Photo: Comunicação FSM

On the left, presentation by singer Ana Cañas at the 2018 WSF.
On the right, Tulipa Ruiz, upon receiving an invitation letter for the event



Artists loved by youth embraced the WSF. The World Assembly of Women stood up with Banda Didá, the Assembly of Democracy, at the Pituaçu Stadium, was moved by the Afro block Ilê Aiyê, and by the artists Lazzo, Ana Cañas and Flávio Renegado. The Youth Camp did not give up being the stage for the performances of the Afro Bapho collective of the singer and composer Tulipa Ruiz.

The program occupied spaces of the State Department of Culture, such as Solar Boa Vista, in Brotas, the auditoriums of the State University of Bahia, in the neighborhood of Cabula, which hosted meetings of religions of African origin, and the Federal University of Bahia, which gave in all its spaces, from the open areas to the Noble Hall of the Rectory, for the most diverse cultural manifestations.

Cultural activities at the partner universities of the 2018 WSF were also intense. UFBA carried out dozens of activities - musical, literary, audiovisual etc. - including some with an international dimension, such as the "Exhibition of Korubu Indians: Vale do Javari", by Sebastião Salgado. UNEB, on the other hand, stood out for carrying out cultural activities in the context of events promoted by organizations of Traditional African Peoples and Communities and Terreiros.



Photo: João Alvarez

Photography exhibition "Índios Korubo - Vale do Javari", by Sebastião Salgado, at UFBA



Children’s culture was present in the spaces provided by the Social College of Bahia that housed Forinho – the Kids Little Forum – in the lawns of UFBA, where it had storytelling and games.

Culture was also the protagonist of important events and political debates, where it expressed its resilience, but also its power to create and transform society. Thus, several convergence assemblies can be cited: Convergence Education, Culture and Human Rights; Convergence Culture and Revolution; Hip Hop Women’s Assembly; Convergence Culture of Resistance and Human Rights, Convergence Revolution and Cultures of Resistance; Convergence: Black Lives Matter, Convergence of Struggles: Africa and its Diaspora in the 21st Century. There were also peculiar moments, such as the meeting of a King and Queen of Benin and a King of Niger with traditional peoples of African origin, and visits by activists to the quilombola communities Rio dos Macacos on one side, and Ilha de Maré on the other side .

As in all editions of the WSF, what vibrated most strongly in the territory was the culture of the encounter between movements that struggle in different ways to transform life on the planet. Some moments are narrated as unforgettable. And we are back to talking about the indigenous people. Set up camp - with their own provisions, their kitchen and their own flour meal - the Indians received varied visitors, exchanging impressions and knowledge. “We are used to meetings between our peoples, but not with other movements, this experience that the WSF provided” - says Kâhu.

The Camp at the Administrative Center of Bahia was in the region of Avenida Paralela, where the Youth Camp was located, at the Parque de Exposições, which was organized for the WSF with its own activities during the year, including the participation of the Canadian indigenous artist Moe Clark, and a lot of hip hop. And Kâhu remembers the visit of a hip hop group that ended up infecting participants from the indigenous camp to create a scene that was hitherto unusual there. “Could you imagine our camp with the Indians dancing hip hop?”



12. COMMUNICATION



Advertising poster for the World Social Forum 2018

In the history of the WSF, communication is a political action to be shared among those who participate, with the available resources. It is equivalent to a movement of resistance to the mercantile logic of the media corporations and follows channels and paths that form the fabric of the WSF, while propagating it. Throughout the editions, the act of communicating proved to be a counterpart to the act of mobilizing. In 2009, together, the open communication and mobilization commissions established a common strategy, with specific approaches. It is necessary to communicate the WSF to anyone who can mobilize it - subsidize with information, offer adequate instruments, ensure space, facilitate access - and it is necessary to mobilize those who participate in the WSF to communicate it and support its communication as a strategic priority.



“Communicate to mobilize to communicate to mobilize”. Ten years after this formulation, in Belém, and almost 20 years after the first media agreement shared between alternative media in Porto Alegre, communication continues to challenge social struggles, and is considered a thermometer of its degree of mobilization.

The coexistence between alternative media within the WSF led to the growing politicization of their demands, the diversification of shared communication practices and the construction of the World Free Media Forum, starting in 2009 - today with five worldwide editions and an agenda which questions the means and obstacles to the expression of struggles for democratic rights and freedoms. In this context, the WSF started the 2018 edition, with communication as an integral part of its processes.



Photos: Fernando Santtt

Collective organized by the Shared Communication WG to present the WSF is opened by women



However, the struggles for the right to communication today face a scenario of strong technological control over data, and a sharp conjunction of corporations that explore both traditional media and the technologies, protocols and algorithms that delimit the paths and reach of information. In this scenario, the collective responsibility for equipping social movements - which do not fit within the limits determined by corporate social networks - and civil society itself with the means and strategies appropriate to their expression increases.

This chapter on communication gathers records of experiences and meanings of the work developed at the WSF, from its guidelines to its shared actions, as well as limits and difficulties. It also includes aspects of communication that are necessary, by themselves, when the social struggle occupies the scene and demands responses, as was the repercussion of the protests in the face of the execution of Marielle Franco and her driver. In many ways, in addition to the success of an event that attracted 80,000 participants, the WSF expressed pain and the cry for justice, respect for differences, protection of democracies and threatened rights in the world and hit in Brazil – the host country of the 2018 WSF.

Communication approves its guidelines

The first communicative act was born collectively from the Brazilian Movements in Dialogue Seminar - Is a World Social Forum (WSF) in Bahia possible ?, held in May 2017, in Bahia, as a debate that led in the months following the elaboration of the message that guided the edition : Resisting is Creating, Resisting is Transforming, reaffirming and offering an active rereading of the historical meaning of the WSF, expressed in the statement that Another World is Possible.

The strategic guidelines for communication were gradually defined, as the process developed, until they were approved in October 2017. In them, concepts built in the WSF were incorporated, especially that of shared communication and the commitment to political struggles in the field. communication.



Among the references were observed:

- [Shared communication concepts developed in the WSF process](#)
- [The World Charter for Free Media](#)
(Approved at the WSF 2015, in Tunisia)
- [References to an WSF communication plan and social struggles](#)
(International Board 2017)
- [Letter from the National Meeting for the Democratization of Communication](#)
(Brazilian Context - FNDC 2017)

The communication was also based on the appreciation of the historical experiences of the people of Bahia, especially the black and indigenous peoples, who formed the culture of resistance in Brazil and their contributions to the meeting and the debate on the resistance of other peoples in the world.

WSF records reflected this historical approach in several ways:

❖ Kâhu Pataxó, one of the leaders at the head of the organization, said that the region of the Bahia Legislative Assembly (Alba), in the Administrative Center of Bahia (CAB), will become a large village in the five days of the meeting. The expectation is that members of 130 indigenous peoples are at the site discussing rights. ❖

- [Portal G1, Globo-Bahía](#)

❖ In a city in which more than 75% of the population is black, the Forum was entitled to diversity not only with the large number of black and black participants, but with the expressive number of tables promoting debates on racial issues and reaffirming that “Black Lives Matters”. ❖

- [2018 WSF in Salvador Focuses on the Message ‘Black Lives Matter’ and Homage to Marielle. Rio On Watch](#)

The [communication guidelines](#), published in the [WSF website](#), were consolidated and presented to the International Board meeting in October 2017.



Communication WG

Since the beginning of the organization of the 2018 WSF, in Salvador, a Communication Group was created that followed the process, covered the May 2017 seminar and fed pages of the WSF Coletivo Baiano on social networks.

SEMINÁRIO NACIONAL
UM FÓRUM SOCIAL MUNDIAL NA BAHIA É POSSÍVEL?

**MOVIMENTOS BRASILEIROS
EM DIÁLOGOS**

pARTiCipe!

**26 e 27
maio 2017
9hs às 17hs**

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Av. Dorival Caymmi, 15649
Itapuã - Salvador/BA**

**Contato:
fsmcoletivobahia@gmail.com**

**fórum
social
mUNDIAL**

Call for the National Seminar of May 2017, in Salvador, Bahia.
Brazilian movements in dialogue –
Is a World Social Forum in Bahia possible? (Unisol Brazil)



The group was later expanded, incorporating people and organizations from outside Bahia and becoming the WG of the WSF Facilitator Group. The Coletivo, in the first months, worked entirely voluntarily, starting to remunerate a minimum team as of September 2017.



Photos: Communication WG

Communication members of the World Social Forum



The Communication WG was divided into different working groups, focused on specific tasks, such as the Radio Nucleus between Salvador, São Paulo and support from Minas Gerais; the website and registration systems development center, in São Paulo; graphic design work, in Porto Alegre; the edition of WSF convocation videos, in Minas Gerais; the work of voluntary translations, in Salvador, with the support of university students, in Morocco; and in different places via social networks, and from the beginning of 2018, the Shared Communication WG, focusing on the organization of collective interviews and WSF coverage.

In June 2017, the WSF convocation website was launched, with the first organizational content, in five languages: Portuguese, Spanish, French, English and Arabic. Two elements that marked this phase:

- 1) The wide convening notices to the host city, with the call: The diversity of the struggles heads for Salvador.
- 2) The launch of the cover image that would become the symbol of the 2018 edition.



2018 WSF website – First version



The use of images of people participating in public or street events in WSF dissemination materials was also a concern of the communication WG, which reports, in an article, two experiences related to copyright or image.

A logo for the 2018 WSF



The logo of the World Social Forum 2018 was presented to the International Board of the WSF, gathered on October 15th and 16th, 2017 in Salvador, and inaugurated in the printed and electronic materials for dissemination of the WSF International Seminar, on the 17th and 18th, at UFBA.

The choice resulted from a two-stage contest, won by artist Beto Fagundes, from Porto Alegre - RS, based on a proposal for composition by designer Flora Farias, from Vitória da Conquista - BA.

The competition for the logo was an initiative of Brazilian organizations, seeking to encourage participants to reflect on the symbolic identity of the WSF for the edition to be held in Bahia. Three finalists pointed out significant readings, reflecting fundamental aspects of the WSF and the moment of resistance and struggle to transform reality.

Beto Fagundes had already worked with the WSF logo of previous years, and opted for the same layout of the letters that marked several editions of the WSF in Porto Alegre. With this, he made a strong reference to the city where the WSF was born, incorporating popular elements from Salvador that were already being used by designer Flora Farias in the materials of the 2018 WSF. Cristian Cruz's *Brazilero* font refers to handwritten letters on walls and popular street posters. The works of Brahim and Kadifas were also classified, among the top three.





Finalists – Ioannis Kafidas, from Itajaí (SC) and Brahim Zoghliami, from Morocco

Check the details of the contest on the [2018 WSF website](#), to choose the logo.

The platform for evaluating the logo proposals for the 2018 WSF had the vast majority of votes coming from Brazil, with 70% of the evaluations, followed by Morocco, with 10%, and France, with 8%. People from Mexico, United States, Lebanon, United Kingdom, Portugal, Tunisia, Turkey, Belgium, Italy, Senegal, Finland, Colombia, Benin, Nicaragua, Cuba, Netherlands, Palestine, Germany, Peru, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Chile, Argentina and Spain also voted to choose the logo.



Typography – Brasilêro, by designer Cristian Cruz is based on popular signs.



RadioWeb, Oral Communication and Inclusion

The 2018 WSF radio programs, distributed in podcast format and published on the WSF website, were defined as entry points for subjects for coverage, with the voices of their protagonists – organizers, mobilizers or participants in the construction of the event. From these contents, news and transcripts were produced. The programs also put into practice one of the communication guidelines: To value the tradition of oral culture.

A series of more than 20 weekly programs was produced in the studio of the Instituto Barão de Itararé / Web Radio Democracia no Ar, in São Paulo, with interviews and news distributed on radio and social movement lists.

The [WSF programs on the air](#) were announced on the WSF website.



The radio group's proposal was to record the program in other languages, with the participation of a group of immigrants and refugees. Difficulties in resources and logistics made the initiative unfeasible.

Thus, the experience that contributed to the regular feeding of the WSF guidelines was incomplete. In some cases, translation audios have been produced. Versions in other languages can contribute to future events.



The challenge of accessible communication

There are still many challenges for inclusion in WSF events. Efforts were made to adapt the 2018 WSF communication tools to the minimum accessibility criteria - such as the use of alternative texts for the images, observance of the color rules and contrasts.

International recommendations were released on the website. With the help of volunteer translators, several text transcriptions were made to accompany programs, and audios were produced to accompany written materials.

The example of the interview with Elisa Tomé, from Mozambique:

- The interview on the web radio program WSF no Ar
- The transcription in Portuguese
- Text translation and, at the end, audio recording in English

The shared communication center had the contribution of a specialized journalist, himself a member of the collective that carried out activities on accessibility at the 2018 WSF.

The perception is that accessibility to the WSF and its means of communication should be prioritized since the choice of systems and programming of these tools, with minimum training for communicators (s) and inclusion of people with disabilities in both communication and training activities. Meeting this requirement is still a challenge.



Accessible communication workshop was an example of collaboration with the WG



Visual Communication of the WSF



Visual identity of the WSF present in different pieces of dissemination, mobilization and signaling



RESISTIR É CRIAR, RESISTIR É TRANSFORMAR

O Fórum Social Mundial (FSM) é um espaço de encontro e um processo internacional dos movimentos e organizações sociais, nascido em 2001 em Porto Alegre, em contraposição ao Fórum de Davos, com o objetivo de convergir lutas e debater alternativas ao modelo econômico neoliberal. Tornou-se também lugar de resistência a todas as formas de dominação e exclusão. Sua proposta é pensar saídas comuns para a humanidade, em uma ótica solidária, democrática e de respeito às diversidades. Será uma importante oportunidade de encontro das várias experiências de resistência que tomam corpo no Brasil e no mundo, potencializando estratégias de transformação e a construção de soluções e alternativas.

O FSM 2018 ocorrerá em Salvador, Bahia. O território principal será a Universidade Federal da Bahia (Ufba), mas o FSM se espalhará também pelos espaços públicos, culturais e periferias de Salvador, com marchas, atos, acampamentos e ocupações. Para participar, movimentos sociais, coletivos e organizações procuram viabilizar desde já suas delegações e também podem apoiar participantes de outros lugares, contribuindo para um Fundo Solidário



As inscrições, de participantes e de atividades autogestionadas, serão abertas a partir de novembro, pelo site www.fsm2018.org. Visite-o desde já e comece a acompanhar o processo. Para saber mais, escreva para info@fsm2018.org





Ação Global Anti Davos

Contra o Ataque Neoliberal

Em defesa da
democracia,
da soberania
das nações
e dos direitos
das trabalhadoras
e trabalhadores



Hospedagem da Economia Solidária





ACAMPAMENTO INTERCONTINENTAL DA JUVENTUDE

11 A 18 DE MARÇO | 2018

RESISTIR É CRIAR RESISTIR É TRANSFORMAR

SALVADOR | BA | BRASIL



SEJA VOLUNTÁRIA (O)

NO FÓRUM SOCIAL MUNDIAL

13 A 17 DE MARÇO | 2018

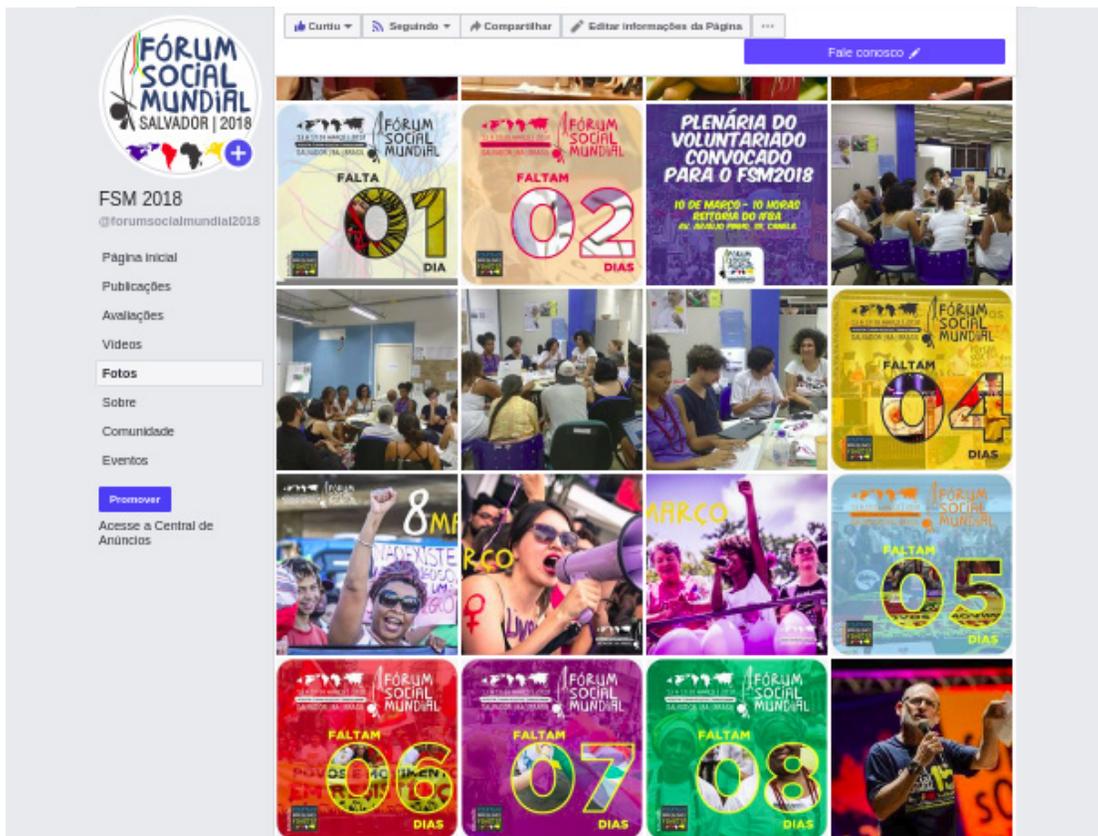
SALVADOR | BA | BRASIL



Corporate Social Networks To Occupy, but not Trust

The launch of 2018 website was followed by the creation of the 2018 WSF page on the social network (Facebook), beginning the production and dissemination of a series of cards that made the call and mobilization for an intense agenda of meetings of the different groups of the WSF.

The social networks contributed to reproduce news, discuss and clarify doubts from users, share graphic materials, and propagate the WSF through other pages and media. But care was taken not to commercialize the WSF. There was no boost or sponsorship on the pages under the management of the Facilitator Group, as well as the Forum's website avoided using tools that include the capture of participants' personal data, such as registering via facebook account, monitoring via google analytics, etc.



Photos e cards divulgadas em página do FSM no Facebook.



These limitations, however, demonstrate how the WSF, to exploit the potential of all available technologies, needs to invest in secure means of interconnection and data storage and create protocols so that the use of corporate social networks is made without exposing sensitive data

With such care, the WSF pages on social networks played an important role in their propagation. The main page: 2018 WSF - cause, on Facebook, gathered 7,800 organic followers, an audience that keeps its interest in the WSF contents and agendas and awaits information and new addresses on social networks for the next world edition.



Hundreds of short videos were distributed on the networks, with calls for participation at the 2018 WSF





Francine Mestrum, Global Social Justice - Belgium, convenes...
353 visualizações - 15 de fevereiro de 2018



Vodunsi Cleyton Araújo Olisasi do FONSANPOTMA convoca o...
395 visualizações - 6 de fevereiro de 2018



Liege Rocha da União Brasileira de Mulheres convoca o Fórum...
141 visualizações - 1 de fevereiro de 2018



Ricardo Almeida do Movimento Fronteiras Culturais convoca o...
245 visualizações - 2 de fevereiro de 2018



Renê Silva da Apalba convoca o Fórum Social Mundial 2018
119 visualizações - 2 de fevereiro de 2018



Maísa Bahia da Unegro convoca o Fórum Social Mundial 2018
352 visualizações - 2 de fevereiro de 2018



Rogério Pantoja da CUT Brasil convoca o Fórum Social...
101 visualizações - 1 de fevereiro de 2018



Medusa do FONSANPOTMA convoca o Fórum Social...
178 visualizações - 1 de fevereiro de 2018



Carlos Matias do Movimento Sem Teto da Bahia convoca o...
802 visualizações - 31 de janeiro de 2018



FÓRUM SOCIAL MUNDIAL
0:40



FÓRUM SOCIAL MUNDIAL
0:51



FÓRUM SOCIAL MUNDIAL
0:48

Hundreds of short videos were distributed on the networks,
with calls for participation at the 2018 WSF



Dark Territory

The Completion of the Program

The WSF is always a construction full of unforeseen events, creative or improvised solutions, and a great deal of understanding and solidarity on the part of those who arrive to make the event.

The 2018 WSF went through a few moments of shock, which impacted its organization and final disclosure. Possibly not all of them realized, but the planned allocation of activities suffered a great shock with the occurrence of blackouts and electrical outages that, a few days before the WSF, left much of the WSF territory in the dark, resulting in several permanent damage to the spaces, which forced a major reshuffling of the event.

Seven auditoriums and countless rooms, in addition to a theater in the city, had to be excluded from the WSF territory for different reasons, the biggest one being the issue of security. In addition, for logistical reasons, the building planned as the site of the activities of the WSF Media Center was intended to house public services for attending Forum participants, including a health emergency duty.

Providing another location, as well as adapting it to media activities, had to be done the day before. The computers programmed for the Media Center also needed to be taken off for accreditation, which continued to function until the penultimate day.

Young students mobilized to support coverage were left without equipment at the WSF. Even so, a studio for interviews was set up by the communication, and the space of the collective dismantled the day before ended up being used for activities on free media, among others.

In the meantime, intensive work was needed on the eve of the WSF to redo the allocation of registered activities, hitherto scheduled for the interdicted locations. The deadline made it impossible to produce a schedule book for the participants and the activity map was readjusted during the Forum.



Even so, the arrangements of the programming group did not cease. Choices were made based on time. Instead of the distribution of activities on the website's electronic system, for location on computers and cell phones, the Forum's program was updated and distributed to registered emails, with the editing of a new PDF each day of the meeting.

Discounting the imponderable accidents on the way - as was the blackout in Salvador - the experience leaves an alert for future events. The place of a printed material, in the hands of a participant of a big event, today is being occupied by a cell phone application.

Smaller encounters can rely only on a paper-based schedule. But the larger ones ask for adequate means for circulation and location in space. World meetings of the WSF are characterized by hundreds of simultaneous activities, in multiple territories, reaching two thousand events in Salvador in just four days. need to make the best possible use of available technology.

The WSF in the Bahia and Brazilian press

The interest of the Brazilian private media in the proximity of the WSF was more accentuated in the members of national communication chains with stations in the state of Bahia, which paid attention to the event that was clearly dissonant from the political climate experienced in the country. Among records and critical speculations about costs and support, the 2018 edition occupied a reasonable space in Brazil, in contrast to the small disclosure abroad.

Free, progressive media and activist websites were responsible for the spread of the WSF, reproduction of letters and calls for proposals. Social networks powered by the communication WG helped to subsidize them.

Online transmissions were made by TVE (public television in Bahia), UFBA, and by activist websites that either broadcast or retransmitted activities, such as Mídia Ninja, in Brazil, and TVT, of the Workers, TV Kirimurê, of Salvador. Brazilian magazines and newspapers also published articles, such as A Tarde, Carta Capital and Le Monde Diplomatique Brasil.



INÍCIO > DIREITOS HUMANOS

PRIVATIZAÇÃO

Fórum Social Mundial debate sobre a mercantilização da água

Neste domingo em Brasília será realizado o Fórum Alternativo Mundial da Água

Lilian Campelo

Salvador (BA), 17 de Março de 2018 às 07:09



A TARDE

Política

Notícias > Política

Qui, 15/03/2018 às 19:36 | Atualizado em: 15/03/2018 às 19:56

Ato no Fórum Social começa com homenagem à vereadora Marielle

Regina Bochicchio

Tags ato pela democracia assembleia mundial das democracias forum social mundial



Links to media news that reached the communication WG, as well as an assessment of coverage, can be found on the WSF website.





Links to media news that reached the communication WG, as well as an assessment of coverage, can be found on the WSF website.



International Communication, Brief Assessment

On 29 August 2017, the Brazilian Communication WG published on the WSF website and in the list of the International Board, in five languages, a call for the participation of international entities in the WSF Communication WG for the construction of its international process.

The response was less than the efforts that the International Board could mobilize. Respond promptly, showing their willingness to collaborate since the beginning of the process, the representative of the Collective for Social Transformation, created in Canada after the WSF 2016, Carminda McLorin; the representative of the Open-WSF website and the Agora of Initiatives initiative, Pierre George, and the member of the Mobilizing Group of the World Forum on Free Media, in France, Erika Campelo.

▄▄ The Collective for a World Social Transition (CTSM) has emerged as a continuation of the Collective WSF 2016 and the commitment to the WSF as a process. As such, I support the communications and the international movement of the 2018 WSF, reaffirming the importance of the approach between the different editions of the WSF. The CTSM contributed to the creation and facilitation of the GIPS 2018 WSF (International Promotion Group for the 2018 WSF), which mobilized people in 15 countries, motivating them to multiply in the dissemination of information about the 2018 WSF. Also the CTSM disseminated all the information transmitted by the 2018 WSF to your mailing list, which covers 13,000 people who participated in the WSF 2016 - Carminda Mc Lorin. ▄▄

● Carminda McLorin and Pierre George participated in the GIPS 2018 WSF group.
(WSF International Promotion Group)

Erika Campelo, from FMML, in France, fed a press mailing to seventy journalists from the main media outlets and also their correspondents in Brazil, the main return being the online media [Basta Magazine](#) and blog [Mediapart](#), and the printed magazine [Politis](#), which previously disclosed the WSF and then covered the event in loco.



Videos produced by the group
“Partager c’est sympa”
were published and shared on
YouTube, Facebook and the FSM website

The first was seen by 200,000 people
in the early days of the WSF.

The other three videos reached
an average of 95,000 visits per video
in that period alone.



Episode 1 - Is another world possible?



Episode 2 - Distribute wealth?



Episode 3 - Extend the fight



Episode 4 - The Revolution will be feminist



Episode 5 - Time to reflect



Despite the efforts, there was little international communication. Some precautions must be observed in future forums for communication with a greater external impact, consistent with the universe of the WSF.

(Re)learnings:

- WSF organizations, especially the International Board, are co-responsible for the scope of WSF communication, as well as for nurturing their debates and critical journalism.
- The secretariat of the International Board must be an important part of communication with the world of the WSF and international media, in addition to the headquarters of the events.
- Despite mobile technologies, a local physical base – press office or media center – minimally equipped for advisory, shared and digital communication activities, has remained strategic since the preparation of the WSF
- Translation services, professionals and/or volunteers are already needed during the construction period, for the international scope of the process.
- As emphasized at the International Board meeting, the WSF must develop strategies and prioritize technological resources for its existence in the digital world. Free software and preservation of sensitive data must be observed.
- The World Social Forum must be guided by the accumulations of social movements on communication and digital rights and can contribute with them, in debates and innovations.



The Free Media Debate at the 2018 WSF

Born in the WSF process, the World Forum on Free Media (FMML) started in Belém, at WSF 2009. After five world editions that integrated the construction of the WSF, the Forum took to Salvador the current issues that challenge free media.

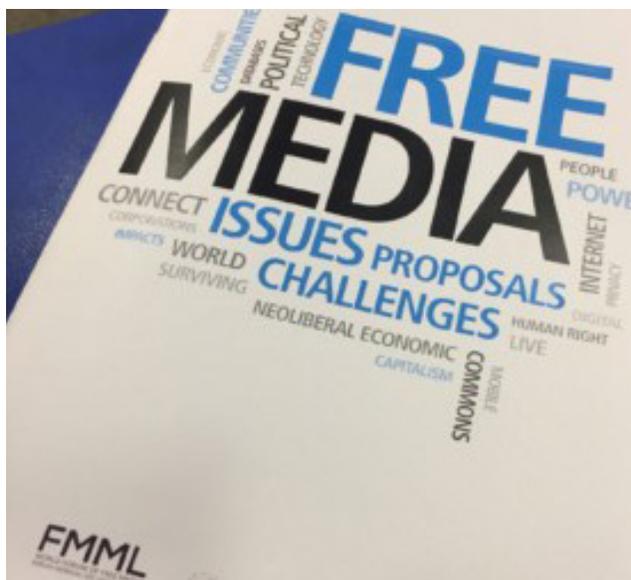


Photo: Marcos Urupá/Intervozes

FMML Initiative has debated and launched a publication on the context of free media in the world

Proposals organized from the fifth world edition, which took place in Montreal-Canada, at WSF 2016, were transformed into a book launched at 2018 WSF. Its themes were discussed by authors and guests, dealing, for example, with the role of corporate media in Latin America and the work of alternative media in solidarity with social, community or international struggles.





FMML – Publication debates the international role of alternative media

Monitoring the Internet and indigenous experiences in building autonomous networks were some of the topics discussed in the activity. Coordinated by people from three countries (Brazil, Canada and France), the publication that guided the debates addressed the challenges common to the right of communication around the world.

In the first part, analyzes on media and technology situations were gathered. A second one was dedicated to alternatives and proposals to face these challenges.

- ❖ The mainstream media's approach to climate change is mainly consensual and focused on the significant or spectacular consequences at the media level. The alternative media, on the contrary, tends to politicize climate change. ❖
- The articles with the 2018 FMML themes are listed on the [WSF website](#), with links to the full texts published by Ritimo-France. All contents are also published on the [Intercoll website](#).

The Birth of a Popular Communication Web

From the youth of the peripheries came the initiative to form a “Popular Communication Web in Brazil: a solidarity network, with the objective of mapping, mobilizing, strengthening and stimulating the articulation of different popular communication experiences, spread across the country. Intending to strengthen and give more visibility to the people’s struggles.”



The activity had a special meaning for the participants, remembering that Marielle was a student in the favela Maré pre-university entrance course and participated in one of the first classes of the NPC courses (Núcleo Piratininga de Comunicação Popular, responsible for the Teia initiative). On the occasion, the book “Experiences of popular communication in Rio de Janeiro yesterday and today” was presented.

The youth reported the [activity](#).



Shared WSF Communication: A Plenary Session and Three Large Collectives of the 2018 WSF

The Shared Communication Group, one of the nuclei of the Communication WG, was formed in January, bringing together journalists, students and communication activists to organize and discuss WSF communication activities. The meetings took place weekly in a space provided by the Bahia Department of Culture and, during and after the WSF, on the premises of UFBA.



The group organized four major activities for the presentation and discussion of the WSF with the press, all of them overcrowded with journalists and communicators. The series opened with a plenary session focused on free media. The next three were press conferences. One on the final preparations of the Forum. Another at the opening of the meeting. And a balance sheet.

Check the records of these activities:



2018 WSF Work Group holds shared communication plenary



WSF Brazilian Collective calls for press conference



WSF International Board invites communicators to press conference



Brazilian collective discloses 2018 WSF balance at a press conference



Photo: Tatiane dos Anjos



Members of the Shared Communication WG at an organizational meeting at the WSF office opened by UFBA

Photo: Déja Chagas



Photos: Fernando Santt

WG journalists during press conference



In Debate, the Political Struggle and the WSF

Articles published or reproduced on the WSF website spoke of the upsurge in political disputes, the urgency of stopping setbacks. They questioned the direction of the WSF, reaffirmed its role, and invested in new civil society mobilizations. They claimed a place for the invisible and a voice for the silenced. They demanded strategies and daring. They warned of technological challenges. They sought outlets and oxygen to prevent confidence in the ability to resist being stifled.

The [2018 WSF website](#) made a selection of articles published on alternative pages and media (1)

Controversy in the Free Media

This sequence of opinions, published in the alternative media and reproduced on the website of the WSF, put into discussion three readings of the meaning of the 2018 WSF, when it was still just in preparation: playing a role for resistance in the face of adversity, insisting on a weak model recognize the pluralistic space for building alternatives. A present debate, too, for the WSF process that continues.

Check out the selection made by the [2018 WSF website](#) .

Distinct visions and records have also occurred regarding the impact of Marielle's murder. Reactions to political crime in the WSF are recorded in the chapter Marielle's many voices in this report.



¹ This section of the website remains open for articles that reflect on the 2018 WSF



THE MANY VOICES OF MARIELLE FRANCO



Photo: Mídia Ninja

The 2018 WSF brought together the diversity of struggles in Salvador, but all of them were challenged by a single event: the execution of Marielle Franco and her driver Anderson. The WSF is a living space, of real struggles, impacted throughout the territory.

The records on the following pages are dedicated to the voices raised by Marielle at the WSF, interrupting activities, taking over the city and shouting the same indignation that traveled the world. These voices continue to echo strongly, demanding an answer that the Brazilian government and justice have not yet given: Who ordered Marielle Franco killed?

How did they kill Marielle?

▄▄ In a bakery on the outskirts of Praia Vermelha, in Salvador (BA), pairs of teary eyes were glazed in the news on television. It was Thursday, March 15th, 2018 and the atmosphere of perplexity was not that of any morning. On the edge of the beach, an improvised band, on brown paper, already announced a question that would echo incessantly for the next year: 'Who killed Marielle Franco?'

About 12 hours after the murder, in the late evening of March 14, 2018, the capital of Salvador had a record of one of the first acts in honor of and in mourning by the PSOL councilor and her driver, Anderson Gomes. And it has also become a welcoming space for activists from different popular movements and organizations from all over the country who were in the city, participating in the 13th edition of the World Social Forum. ▄▄

- [Brasil de Fato Special](#)

▄▄ About 2,000 people, including students, teachers, party representatives linked to the left and participants in the World Social Forum, held this Thursday morning, 15, an act of protest at the Federal University of Bahia (UFBA), in Salvador. Shouting words against military intervention and the struggle of blacks in Brazil, the demonstrators followed the streets of Ondina with posters and banners and shouted against the murder of Rio de Janeiro city councilwoman Marielle Franco. ▄▄

- ["Protesters condemn Marielle's death during the World Social Forum in Salvador" - Source: IstoÉ](#)



The news comes at night

❖ Councilwoman, sociologist and also social activist Marielle Franco, who was part of the intervention monitoring commission as a way to curb abuse by the Armed Forces and the police, died murdered this Wednesday (03/14), at the age of 38, in the neighborhood Estácio, in downtown Rio. ❖

- WSF has activities interrupted by protest for the murder of Marielle Franco - UFBA

WSF wakes up hit by the shots that killed the city councilwoman in Rio

❖ The World Social Forum received news of the execution of city councilwoman Marielle Franco, in Rio de Janeiro, under military intervention, like a bomb. We had our souls shattered, as well as the body of yet another warrior woman, militant from the left, black, feminist and slum, plus a silenced voice. ❖

- Note from the WSF Brazilian Collective on the news of the execution



The news that arrives from Rio de Janeiro hurts the heart of the WSF



The WSF stops for Marielle

In the Noble Hall of the rectory of UFBA, a WSF seminar gives place to an Act by Marielle Franco. A minute of fisted silence, the dean talks about Marielle and homage in percussion by Mestre Iuri Passos and the RumAlabê group.



Photos: João Alvarez/UFBA

Debate – “The University and education in the context of democratic resistance?”



On the campus, the activity of the People Without Fear Tent is suspended and becomes an act by Marielle. In the Marco Aurélio Garcia tent an event is called for the afternoon.



Photos: João Alvarez/UJFBA

2018 WSF – Activities and protests repudiated the murder of Marielle Franco.
“Demonstration at the WSF, in Salvador, after the murder of city councilor Marielle Franco”.
Source: G1



The march is formed



The march is formed in the territory of the WSF and asks for justice for Marielle

Photos: João Alvarez/UFBA





March for Marielle Franco occupies Ondina's spaces

▄▄ The protesters walked around the UFBA campus with banners and posters demanding answers about the crime. In addition to the attention of the national media, the death of the PSOL councilor is reverberating internationally. The New York Times, The Washington Post, ABC News, The Guardian, Paris Match, among others, reported the case. ▄▄

- “WSF participants protest against Marielle’s murder” – Correio Nagô.



From the WSF to the streets of Salvador



Photos: Raquel Franco

Women March – For Marielle Franco, thousands of women and activists occupied the streets of Salvador.. Source: Marco Zero



- “World Social Forum participants protest against Marielle Franco’s death”
- “Homage to Marielle Franco and driver, act at the World Social Forum”
- “From the campus, the march heads for the streets of Salvador” - G1 (Globo Bahia)

/// Shouting words against the military intervention and supporting the black struggle in Brazil, protesters took the streets of Ondina with posters and banners and shouted against the murder of Rio de Janeiro city councilwoman Marielle Franco. ///

- “Protesters condemn Marielle’s death during the World Social Forum in Salvador” - IstoÉ Magazine



Photos: Raquel Franco

Women March – For Marielle Franco, thousands of women and activists occupied the streets of Salvador.. Source: Marco Zero



Protests for Marielle at the WSF Assemblies:

- Ana Cañas sings for Marielle
- World Women’s Assembly. “Marielle’s name on every line.” Source: SPBancários
- World Assembly of Democracies. Source: Rede Brasil Atual

The next day a new march by Marielle

Leaving the Largo do Terreiro de Jesus to Castro Alves Square, in the upper city of Salvador, Bahia, the 2018 WSF took to the streets, with the strong presence of women in protest against machismo, racism, homophobia and the various forms of discrimination in the name of Marielle Franco’s struggle and memory.



Photos: Raquel Franco

2018 WSF – Women leave their World Assembly and take the streets of Salvador, marching for Marielle Franco



❗ Marielle died because she was denouncing police violence in the black and poor communities in Rio de Janeiro. Marielle died because she was a woman, black, poor and represented and defended the interests of her community. Marielle died because she was a courageous defender of human rights. Marielle died because she defended democracy in its broadest and deepest sense, which is the right to life. ❗

- [“Marielle, the real Brazil” – Zulu Araújo/Raça Magazine](#)

The execution, a clear sign of the approximation between militias and political power in Brazil, had a strong repercussion in the international media, reported in media known as The New York Times, The Washington Post in the United States, Clarín, in Argentina, The Guardian in England, and agencies like the Associated Press.

For the World Social Forum, Marielle was also the companion of struggles that the dark forces on the rise in Brazil decided to silence. WSF participants, hurt by the news of the execution, raised their voices for her.

Marielle Present!



13. 2018 WSF IDENTITIES, STRUGGLES AND EXPRESSIONS



Photo: Cecília Vasques

World Women's Assembly occupied the terreiro de Jesus, in the Pelourinho complex

❖ One of the most impactful agendas present in the construction of the event has to do with women's rights. On March 14, for example, the auditorium of the Federal Institute of Bahia (IFBA), in the district of Canela, will receive the Popular Court for the Judgment of the Crimes of Femicide against Black Women. Two days later, the Terreiro de Jesus, in Pelourinho, will host the World Assembly of Women against Machismo, Racism and LGBTQIfobia and for Democracy. ❖

- [G1 Portal, Globo-Bahia](#)



World Assembly of Women

On October 16, 2017, in a meeting of the International Board, women participants met to address the World Assembly of Women and ensure that it would not coincide with other activities of the 2018 WSF, so that all women could participate.

As a result of this effort, a second [collective call](#) circulated in the preparation of the WSF before March 8. The women of organizations, movements and feminist collectives from Brazil and the world and all women who fight for rights, against racism and machismo, called the World Assembly of Women for March 16.



Photo: Tatiane Anjos

The greatest shout was against violence, femicide and racism



The document warns: the women of the planet, without distinction, are forces of resistance to all forms of oppression, inequality, and discrimination, and are willing to take collective action to halt this historical process of violent domination that subdues them.

Black, indigenous, and non-white women face racism as a structural factor in their lives and in society, and demand the raising of all voices, commitment, and actions to put an end to a world reality of violence and invisibility imposed on them.

Workers, artists, housewives, students, young women, waste pickers, rural, urban and forest dwellers, lesbian women, transsexuals, transvestites, women with disabilities, all, without distinction, are victims of the acts and mentalities of the racist and patriarchal system of domination in the world by capital, and are determined to use their strength to change the political and economic systems that subject them.



Photo: Wandaick Costa/CUT

Indigenous women participate in the World Assembly of Women



In Brazil and Latin America, they add their struggles against racism and machismo to urgent strategies to defend democracies and to prevent the use of state weapons against society itself – the same weapons that turn against their fi- ls, in the production of a terrifying genocide of black youth.

Women who fight for human, social, political, cultural, sexual and reproductive rights all share the insoluble pain caused by the femicide epidemic, misogyny, control of women's bodies by states and religions, violations as weapons of war, and criminalization of the female condition at all levels of social relations.

The reversal of this scenario of horrors naturalized by society requires the agreement of all people who fight for democracy and citizenship

Non-negotiable feminist decalogue

// We are victims of a racist, patriarchal, capitalist and misogynistic system and we are determined to join forces and collectively launch ourselves to change the political and economic systems that dominate the world. **//**

- Excerpt of the final document of the World Assembly of Women

During the preparation process and in its realization, the World Assembly of Women took on, in particular, the collective task of approving and agreeing on the ten non-negotiable points for women, in order to establish an agenda of universal and unavoidable struggles.

- **The approved document included a motion by Marielle Franco and in defense of Kurdish women.**



The ten points approved at the “World Assembly of Women – Marielle Franco”, held on March 16th, 2018, at the WSF in Salvador:

1. For the recognition of productive and reproductive work. We are all workers, no matter if at home, in the market or in the community. For equal opportunities and equal pay, against sexual and moral harassment at work, and full recognition of paid care work, we demand public policies to guarantee it.

2 The end of femicides, transfemicides, of all forms of violence, whether sexual, physical, symbolic, psychological, domestic, labor, obstetric, patrimonial, and epistemic, practiced in the public, private, and activist spheres.



Photo: WSF Shared Communication

Reading of the ten non-negotiable points of the international struggle of women, approved at the World Assembly of Women on March 16th



3. For our right to decide about our bodies, feelings and thoughts, with full autonomy, without interference from the State, religious fundamentalism and economic power.
4. For our real and substantive emancipation and access to political power.
5. For an end to the use of our bodies as a weapon of war, for an end to the persecution and murder of human rights defenders.
6. For our access and that of all people to universal, emancipatory, transformative, libertarian, non-racist and non-sexist education.
7. Against racism, xenophobia, genocide and the end of imprisonment of black, indigenous, migrant and poor people.
8. For the recognition of our self-perceived gender identity and expression. For the full guarantee of our rights, an end to discrimination and violence for sexual orientation, identity and gender expression.
9. For the dismantling of the patriarchal structure of the media, for the end of the mercantilization and hyper sexualization of our image. Our invisibility in these media contributes to the silencing of our struggles.
10. Against capitalism, colonialism and imperialism that exploit and expropriate us around the planet, whose disputes over the market and sources generate wars, destruction, violence and deaths that attack us.



Traditional Peoples and Communities from African Origin

The 2018 WSF counted with an important participation of leaders of traditional African matrix peoples and communities. It is worth mentioning the fact that many have engaged in the whole process of building this edition of the forum.

On March 14th and 15th, 2018, more than 500 leaders gathered at the “National Plenary of Traditional Peoples and Communities from the African Matrix and Terreiros” to discuss important issues for the religious community, especially issues related to the frequent acts of violence suffered by its members.

Militants from 22 Brazilian states, and also from other countries, mainly from Africa, participated in the Plenary.

▄▄ The Plenary was a milestone of convergence among the different nations, traditions and entities representing the African matrix peoples and terreiros, marking a moment of union for the fight against religious racism within the programming of the World Social Forum that took place in Salvador. ▄▄

● Excerpt from the Charter of Salvador, resulting from the National Plenary of Traditional Peoples and Communities from African Origin and Terreiros

Among the advocacy strategies proposed in this Plenary is the creation of a network of African and land-based peoples’ representations, with the aim of strengthening relations among leaders from different localities, sharing information related to aggressions suffered, potentializing resistance, and expanding political representations of black leaders in electoral disputes throughout Brazil.

The participants of the Plenary made a collective commitment to fight and resist in search of another possible world, where justice and understanding of diversity are flags carried by all.



The meeting of the African matrix peoples led to debates and actions around the most sensitive themes at the Salvador WSF: violence against women, the genocide of black youth.



Photo: 2018 WSF Communication WG

On the left, Felipe Doss, a student activist, participates in a meeting of the Brazilian Collective of the 2018 WSF, in which the inclusion of slogans such as “Black Lives Matter” is discussed. The next day, Felipe was another young black and LGBT man murdered in the process of genocide of black Brazilian youth. [The Collective expresses condemnation and non-conformism](#)

One of the activities focused on increasing mass incarceration and murder of black people, especially young people, the growing truculence of state police, the permanence of racial selection in the justice system, the increase in the actions of militarism and paramilitarism in black communities, and demanded autonomous strategies of prevention of violence, incarceration and death of black youth, preferred targets of public security policy.



Black Women get rganized

Black women from Brazil, Latin America and the Caribbean, Africans and other diaspora households had specific programming at the World Social Forum, through the Permanent Forum of Black Women. Historical testimonies, diverse points of view on the political organization of black women in the last 30 years and analysis of the situation by activists of different generations, marked the FPM N. About 200 activists evaluated the political articulation and areas of incidence against racism, sexism and other forms of oppression. //

- Black women propose national meeting to remember 30 years of political articulation - UN Women

The Federal Institute of Education, Science and Technology of Bahia (IFBA) was one of the institutions to host activities of the WSF and hosted, on the 14th, the “Popular Court for the Trial of Crimes of Femicide against Black Women,” an event that simulated a popular jury in which the defendant was the Brazilian State.



Photo: Paulo Pilha

Black women marched on the streets of Salvador during the 2018 WSF



On Friday, the IFBA auditorium hosted the conference “Insubmissive Epistemologies of Black Women”, which dealt with counter-hegemonic knowledge produced by black women in the last 10 years.

Historical testimonies, diverse points of view on the political organization of Black women in the last 30 years and analyses of the situation by activists of different generations, marked the Permanent Forum of Black Women held at the 2018 World Social Forum. Approximately 200 activists evaluated the political articulation and areas of incidence against racism, sexism and other forms of oppression, led by black women in Brazil, Latin America and the Caribbean, as reported by UN Women.

After holding an act during the Popular Court at IFBA, the black women proceeded in the afternoon towards Farol da Barra.

❖ The main discussions of the act and the march were around femicide and violence against black youth, starting with the Brazilian State, and the presence of black women from Latin America and the Caribbean to propose worldwide referrals. ❖

● [March takes to the streets of Salvador discussion about femicide –](#)

[Source: Jornal A Tarde.](#)

Despite the greater concentration of WSF activities in the universities and IFBA, the African people took their agendas to various points in the city and experienced situations that the WSF was discussing, such as police violence against young blacks. The Collective of Black Entities (CEN) had to accompany a person arrested without justification during the field activity that dealt with the “Process of Gentrification on the Sloth and the Expression of Racism.

❖ Racism does not sleep and we will always keep our eyes open to fight it. ❖

● [About racism and police brutality during the activities](#)

[of the Collective of Black Entities in the World Social Forum – CEN Brasil](#)



The report produced by representatives of the National Forum on Food and Nutrition Security of Traditional Peoples of the African Matrix (Fonsampotma) on an activity that was part of the 2018 WSF program, records testimonies gathered during the meeting of the school community of the Cachoeira State College, in the Recôncavo Baiano, with the royal entourage of the Republic of Benin, composed by kings Houwamenou Daagbo Hounon and Gustave Espoir Quenum and the ambassador of the Republic of Benin in Brazil, Boniface Vignon.

The meeting with representatives of the royalty of Benin provided the students of the Recôncavo Baiano with an unique experience related to ancestry, royal descent of the Brazilian people and African culture.

More than 6,000 kilometers separate Benin from Cachoeira, a vast sea navigated by our ancestors. Today is a day to celebrate what brings us closer, which is the connection of our intertwined stories, which have turned foreigners into relatives. Stories that cross and connect in a unique way, so that one leaves marks that make us brothers of blood, culture and faith. //

• Student Geisiane de Moura, 16 years old,
chosen by the school to welcome the group



Photo: Fernando Santt

Reception to the traditional authorities of Benin at the WSF



“ (...) we take the WSF beyond its walls. Our majesties paraded among other authorities, it was not only a black population, we were blacks with a stolen past but recovered by the WSF at that moment. We visited many of the 19 thematic hubs in different ways: emblematic of the visit of sovereigns to the SUS, the visit to the indigenous and youth camp, the participation of the Queen in various agendas of black women and in the women’s march that points to an international meeting of African women and native African peoples. ”

● Fonsampotma Report.

Photo: Fernando Santt



Reception to the traditional authorities of Benin at the WSF



People with disabilities

“ This is my second forum. Going was a political decision of great success. I went to meet myself again. To drink from the spring water. To bathe in the fertile lands of the ‘Nile River’. It was a very wise decision. I think I left a bit of myself. However, I bring a suitcase full of smells, knowledge, flavors. ”

“ In the tent there were several languages, fights, dialects, maybe even secret loves. From the Father of Saint to Pajé. Even the nun walking. The words of fights said by many people took the alleys, streets and squares of Salvador. We went from the street to the protests. Young people from all over the world and women also gathered in assemblies of struggle and resistance. Even the albinos were organized throughout the event. ”

“ In the waves of the sea, the gingado of capoeira and the up and down of the elevator we were able to rehearse the possible world. It will be realized through historical patience, tolerance, respect and diversity. And let’s not forget that to resist is to create! To Resist is to transform! The FIGHT continues today and ever! ”

• Renê, from APALBA (Association of People with Albinism), active in the construction of the WSF and international movements of people with disabilities.



Photo: Déja Chagas

Activists of the Association of People with Albinism



The movements of people with disabilities were involved in the construction processes of the last world editions of the WSF, in Tunisia in 2013 and 2015 and in Montreal (Canada) in 2016. In Brazil, and more specifically in Bahia, organizations of people with disabilities have been part of the WSF collective since 2014 and participated in the discussion and construction of the 2018 WSF.

However, the national and international mobilization to debate the participation of the movement of people with disabilities in the WSF really started with the international seminar in October 2017. International articulations were facilitated by FG entities and the office.

African movement leaders were invited by the organization of the 2018 WSF, like representatives of the movement of people with albinism. A very dynamic group was structured and built a worldwide plenary of people with disabilities, approving the declaration entitled “Letter from Salvador”.

Several self-organized activities related to the rights of people with disabilities, promoted by Brazilian organizations, were also held.

/// We demand that the World Social Forum incorporate in its actions and agendas an axis of discussion specific to the issue of people with disabilities, in addition to ensuring transversality to other hubs. Nothing about us, without us! **///**

● [Final excerpt of the Letter of Salvador,](#)
[from the Assembly of People with Disabilities.](#)



University and Democracy



Photo: João Alvarez/UFBA

UFBA – Journalist Luis Nassif in debate about the dialogue between society and universities in defense of democracy

Both because of the importance of the growing political threats against public universities in Brazil and the significance of the partnerships made between 2018 WSF, UFBA and UNEB, the theme of Defending the Public University was the object of several activities during the event, with some relevant developments for post-Forum articulations.

At the first meeting of the International Board of the WSF held in Salvador to prepare for the event, the initial decision was to express support for the struggle to preserve Brazilian public universities and to be indignant and sorry for the pressures suffered by the dean of the Federal University of Santa Catarina, Luiz Carlos Cancellier Olivo, who led him to suicide, after his arbitrary arrest and extensive scandalous denunciations by the media.



With the public statement, the IB organizations warned that cutting funds in the areas of Science and Technology would put the future of academic research at high risk. They also considered that the curtailment of freedom of demonstration, a basic principle guaranteed by law, is a constant attack on university autonomy.

The media siege of public universities, part of a campaign of disqualification and criminalization to facilitate the privatization of education in Brazil, facing democratic resistance within the academic world, intensified in Bahia during the preparation of the WSF.

❗ In recent days, a number of subjects have been aired, attacking the participation of the University in the construction of the World Social Forum. Following its modus operandi, with a maledicent content, it tries to characterize as illegal and politically incorrect the spending of resources that were destined by the State Government of Bahia for this specific purpose. ❗

- [Note from the professors in defense of Uneb.](#)

The [Gaceta del Pueblo](#) newspaper has dedicated articles to point out the leftidness of higher education in Brazil and the world.

❗ (...) authors on the right (liberal or conservative) have little space in the five main Brazilian universities. And it has counted in Unicamp libraries, as an example, 1684 works by Marx, Lenin, Gramsci, Sartre and Paulo Freire, and only 123 by Adam Smith, Edmund Burke, Ludwig Von Mises, Roger Scruton and Thomas Sowell. [...] The academics of the main American universities are each time to the left. In 2008, 56% of them identified themselves as left or extreme left – in 2011, the share rose to 63%. ❗

- [Why Does the Left Dominate the Universities? – Gaceta del Pueblo](#)

Still after the WSF, the newspaper returned to the subject, indicating alleged ideological themes treated in the event, gender identity, “lesbianities” and “disenchantment”. It then questioned the resources allocated by the State University of Bahia (UNEB) to the event.



The reactions included positions of the Facilitator Group and demonstrations by academics denouncing the participation of the media in the dissemination of the culture of hatred and defending UNEB and UFBA for welcoming the WSF.

This concern with public universities threatened by an environment of growing antidemocratic surveillance and control guided important activities in the WSF's programming and resulted in proposals aimed at intensifying articulations and networks among universities and between them and society.



UFBA debate on the situation of universities in times of attacks against democracy

One of the activities was organized in two tables on “The University and Education in the Context of Democratic Resistance,” which brought together several scholars of Brazilian universities and international guests. In addition to professors Boaventura de Sousa Santos, creator of the Popular University of Social Movements (UPMS) and director of the Center for Social Studies at the University of Coimbra (CES/UC-Portugal), Francisco Tamarit, coordinator of the Regional Conference on Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean 2018 (CRES 2018) and former dean of the National University of Córdoba (UNC-Argentina), among others.

During the debates, retransmitted by [TV Clacso](#), movements for the transformation of universities were highlighted, when driven by students, professors - like the reform in Córdoba - as part of the transformation of society.



Several speakers mentioned the importance of concretizing the South-South Cooperation Network, between universities in Latin America and the Caribbean, for a quality public higher education that is an instrument of freedom and prosperity for Latin American societies. They also addressed the need to resist budget cuts.

Another important political activity on the subject was that which brought together professors, students, representatives of social movements and union centers in defense of public education: [The National Front in Defense of Public Institutions of Higher Education](#).

The ANDES-SN, the ADs Forum (Teaching Associations) – which gathers the union sections of Bahia state universities, Sinasefe, Fasubra, and the deans of the Federal University of Bahia (UFBA) and the State University of Feira de Santana (UEFS) – were represented on the table.

On that occasion, the importance of universalizing the debate on public education beyond the academy's walls was demarcated. The lines converged to expand the front to sectors other than education. The proposal, for this year, is that unitary action gains strength in all states of the country. The front is a national initiative of ANDES-SN, together with other entities in the education sector.

In the communication activities promoted by UFBA, along with the World Free Media Forum, the National Forum for the Democratization of Communication, and representatives of the Curator Council of the Brazilian Communication Company (EBC), annulled after the impeachment of President Dilma Rousseff, two tables were dedicated to common strategies between universities and society. Held on the mornings of March 14 and 15, in the Rector's Noble Room of UFBA, under the theme "Interlocutions – University, society, critical thinking and strategic communication", brought together deans and people from the communication area discussing the possible convergences between university and social media – including movements for democratic and public communication – in defense of academic autonomy and democracy.

The discussion is dealt with in the article "[Sketches for building a university communication network](#)", by Mariluce Moura, UFBA.



Agora of Futures



Photo: Morgana Damásio/Brazilian Cáritas

Preparing the Agora of Futures at the UFBA campus

Identifying the best way to close WSF editions has been a challenge. In this sense, the “assemblies of articulation/convergence for action” were created in Belém at the 2009 WSF, and “assemblies of assemblies” were held in Belém and Dakar. But these initiatives were not evaluated satisfactorily. At the Montreal WSF in Canada in 2016, a different format was implemented.

The proponents sought to motivate the organizations and social movements participating in the Forum to present their initiatives in a space called “Agora” and also in a virtual environment – “Agenda of Initiatives” – allowing the adhesion of interested parties.

It is worth mentioning that the WSF is committed to giving visibility to results, actions, initiatives and declarations produced in the context of its editions, also supported by its Charter of Principles.



From this perspective, the topic was under discussion at the meeting of the International Board of the WSF held in October 2017 in Salvador, which was prompted to answer the question:

▄▄ How to integrate the actions of its participants for the transformation of society into the methodology of the WSF? What would be the best way to close the WSF event? ▄▄

As a result of this discussion, a working group was formed and presented its proposals the following month.

In December 2017 the Facilitating Group of the 2018 WSF decided to include the “Agora dos Futuros” at the end of the event schedule. In addition to sharing the results of the self-organized activities carried out during the WSF, actions planned for the future would be socialized. From January to March 2018 the activity was posted on the WSF website as follows:

▄▄ The exchange of proposals will take place freely in the Agora of Futures, through dialogues, posters, artistic manifestations, etc. The Agora will be a space dedicated to building alliances to strengthen resistance. ▄▄

Thus, the main objective of the Agora of Futures was to promote the socialization of initiatives presented during the Forums, favoring the dialogue between activists from different localities, expanding the possibility of alliances and potentiating incidences, transformations.



At the 2018 WSF, the Agora was held on the last day of the event, Saturday, March 17, in the lobby of the Federal University of Bahia (UFBA) library building, in the Praça das Artes. It gathered about 50 groups of participants, usually composed by those responsible for self-organized activities promoted in the days that preceded it. There was a greater presence of non-Brazilians, although Brazilian organizations and movements were the majority among the Forum participants.

All of them were oriented to produce small posters with the following information:

- Proposals for actions after 2018 WSF
 - When to do them
- Who or which groups take on the coordination

Tables and poles were offered to exhibit posters, favoring the dialogue with participants who were interested in the same themes, actions or fights.

- ▄▄ Agora of Futures brings a new methodological proposal for the continuity of open discussions at the WSF. ▄▄
- Caritas

Most of the people who passed by the Praça das Artes at the time were unaware of the Agora. In addition, many Brazilian delegations left the WSF territory the night before, March 16. Nevertheless, in this context, hundreds of participants circulated around the Agora space, read the posters, dialogued with those responsible for the activities and exchanged contacts.

In Salvador, the “Agora dos Futuros” was effectively implemented as a “final moment of the WSF”, with a parallel and horizontal format. Considering the limitations faced in terms of logistics and communication to WSF participants, in general the initiative was considered promising by the members of the International Board of the WSF present at the meeting held on March 17-18, 2018.



Calendar of Futures

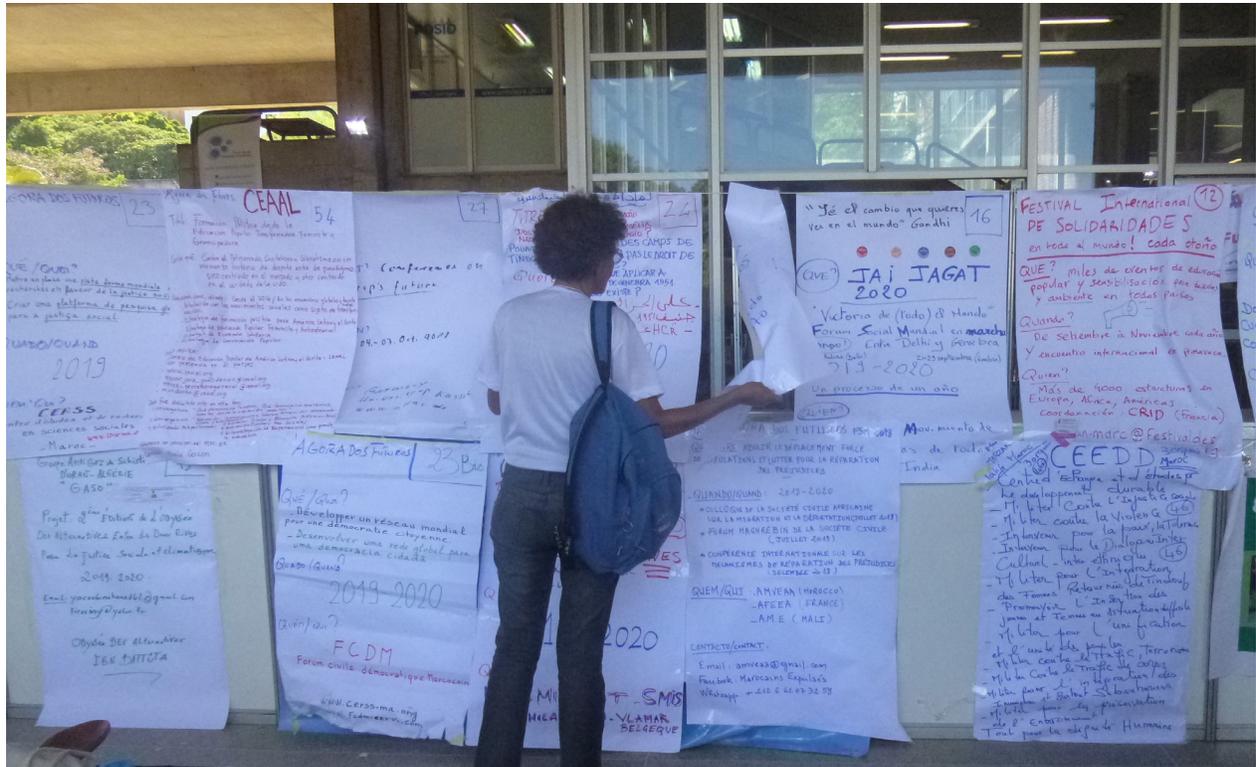
- The dates of actions announced in the Agora resulted in the production of a calendar with more than 60 initiatives to be carried out by the end of 2019, with the proposals presented by the 2018 WSF.
- The calendar is still available for [updates](#).
- Reports and links to the event are also in the records of the [Agora of Futures](#) on the 2018 WSF website.



Photo: Islândia Costa

Results of future activities and agendas are taken to the Agora of Futures space





Results of future activities and agendas are taken to the Agora of Futures space

Photo: Islândia Costa



14. SOME QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE RESULTS OF THE WSF

In this part of the report there is distinctive information that provides an overview of the five days of the event: the set of participants, the main venues occupied, the most outstanding activities and issues of safety and health.



Photo: Mirtes Fernanda

Two thousand self-organized activities, among small conversation circles and large conferences composed the 2018 program



The audience of the 2018 WSF

- 80,000 people participated in the 2018 WSF.
- People and organizations from the 5 continents were present. Approximately 6,000 people came from about 120 other countries (7.5% of the total participants were foreigners).
- The most represented continents were Latin America (3,800 people from Latin American countries other than Brazil), Africa (1,000 participants), Europe (600 participants) and North America (450 participants). The largest delegations outside Latin America include Morocco, Germany, France and Canada (mainly Quebec).
- More than 6,000 civil society organizations and movements participated.
- Among the WSF audiences, women, young people, black population, African religions, indigenous peoples, LGBTI population, artists, people with disabilities, fishermen, hip hop movements, among others can be mentioned.
- In total, 26 indigenous peoples were present at the 2018 WSF, being 20 indigenous peoples from Bahia (of the 22 existing in the state), as well as representatives of Pan-Amazonian indigenous peoples, from Brazil and Colombia, and also from Canada.



The activities

- 2,100 activities were registered for the 2018 WSF, adding the registrations made on the website, at the university and locally, on the days of the Forum.
- 2,000 self-organized activities were carried out and publicized in the Programming Notebook, in 19 thematic areas.

The themes related to “Development, Social and Environmental Justice”, “Human Rights” and those related to racial issues (“Black Lives Matter” and “A World without Racism, Bigotry and Xenophobia”) received the highest number of registered and held activities.

Other struggles and groups were also very expressive, with distinctive presence: women and feminism, youth, movements in defense of democracy, traditional peoples (indigenous and of African origins), black movements and movements to confront racism, environmental movements, the LGBTQI segment, the solidarity economy, people with disabilities, artists, among others.

Among the activities, they can be highlighted:

- Opening march, with 60,000 people.
- World Assembly in Defense of Democracy, with 18,000 people. The event brought together leaders of social movements from Brazil and the world, and prominent politicians, such as former presidents Lula and Zelaya (Honduras).
- World Assembly of Women, which took place in Terreiro de Jesus (Pelourinho) and was attended by 8,000 people (mostly women).
- Solidarity economy: fair, food, free drinking water, six solidarity coins that circulated in the Forum.
- Children’s Forum at the ISBA (Ondina) during the whole period of the WSF



- Act towards the World Alternative Water Forum (FAMA)
- Agora of Futuros, at the Arts Plaza at the UFBA campus in Ondina, where the results of the activities, mainly of convergence, were exposed by the proposing organizations.

There were great activities, public acts and convergences:

- Act in defense of the Public University
- March against Racism and Religious Intolerance
- March in honor of Marielle Franco, Rio de Janeiro councilwoman murdered in March 2018.
- March of Black Women
- Convergence Education, Culture and Human Rights
- Convergence: Culture and Revolution
- Colóquio Brasil: state of exception
- World Assembly of Indigenous Peoples
- Black Women's Femicide Court
- Court of Evictions
- International Dialogue, Convergence of Struggles: Africa and its Diaspora in the 21st Century
- World Youth Assembly



- Convergence: International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities - Advances and Challenges
- Hip Hop Women's Assembly
- Convergence Culture of Resistance and Human Rights
- Convergence: Black Lives Matter
- Convergence Revolution and Cultures of Resistance
- Human Rights Panorama in Latin America: Military intervention in focus
- The University and Education in the Context of Democratic Resistance
- Convergence and Dialogues in the Socio-Environmental Scenario
- Convergence/Debate - Climate Justice and Water, People's Sovereignty
- Fighting against the militarization of life: from Latin America to Palestine
- Homage to the women of the WSF
- Presence and participation of a King and Queen of Benin and a King of Niger, and meeting with traditional peoples of African matrix.
- Visits to the Quilombola community Rio dos Macacos and the Island of Maré.



It is also worth mentioning the international events held in the context of the 2018 WSF::

- Seminar of the World Free Media Forum
 - World Human Rights Forum
- World Health and Social Security Forum
- World Forum on Theology and Liberation
 - World Forum on Popular Education
- Latin American Adult Education Council
 - Science and Democracy Forum
 - Parliamentary World Meeting
- Forum of Local Authorities of Periphery
 - Dialogues in Humanity
- New Paradigms International Meeting

Safety and Health

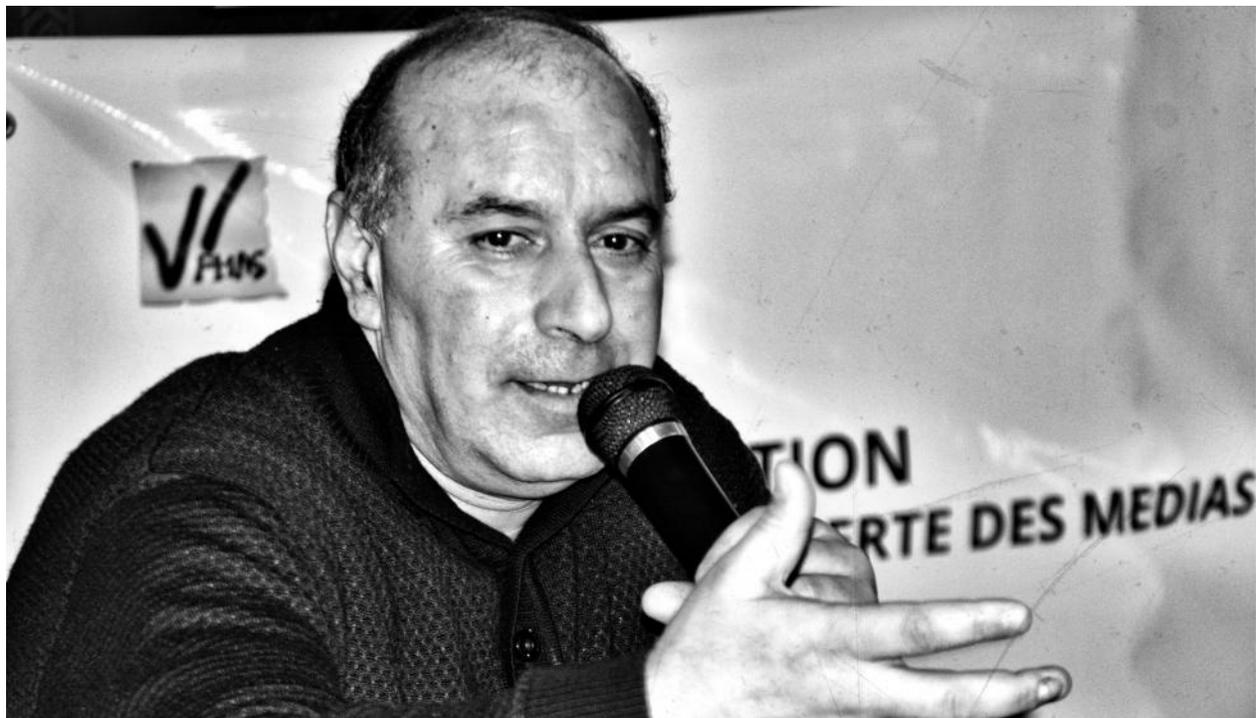
There was no known act of physical violence. The facilitating group was informed of two cases of theft, one at night, with foreign participants on streets outside WSF territories, and another incident during the women's assembly (a stolen chain).

Some verbal confrontations also occurred during the 2018 WSF, but in isolation, such as the case of the defenders of the independence cause in Western Sahara against Moroccan nationalist trade unionists, or a political party that refused to remove its flag in a WSF activity. In general, a climate of peace, appreciation of differences and mutual respect prevailed during the 2018 WSF.



There were about 180 health care services in the stations installed in the main territories of the 2018 WSF. None of them were serious.

However, the case of Mustapha Hattab, a militant activist of the FMAS (Forum Alternative Maroc) in Morocco, who had a heart problem on the second day of the event, was hospitalized and operated at the Santa Izabel hospital, a public hospital in Salvador, where he was very well assisted. He spent two months in Salvador, together with his wife, and had the affectionate and supportive support of members of the Facilitator Group living in the city. He returned well to Morocco at the end of May 2018. Eight months later, on 19 January 2019, he died in Salé (Morocco), in his city of residence.



Our goodbye to Mustafa Hattab



15. BALANCE OF STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES AND CHALLENGES OF 2018 WSF

The balance presented in the following pages is based on an analysis of the collective evaluations carried out after the event by the International Board and the Brazilian Collective of the WSF.



Photos: Liti Rubin

International Board meeting on March 18th, 2018



First Impressions: Expressive participations, strengths and weaknesses in the organization

First of all, the 2018 WSF was surprising. It was built in a short period of time (10 months after the realization decision), with few resources and in an adverse national and financial political context. The event was the result of the boldness, creativity and energy of its organizing bodies (Facilitator Group, office, Working Groups, thematic groups, WSF territories), and partners such as UFBA - Federal University of Bahia and UNEB - State University of Bahia, which allowed the strong involvement of the most diverse social segments.

The city of Salvador, particularly, but also the metropolitan region up to the Bahia recôncavo, experienced and “breathed” the WSF, which heated up social, political and economic activities in the region.

The international participation was important and significant, although some people from the IB considered it insignificant (6,000 people, or 7.5% of the total), due to the intense Brazilian popular participation, mainly from the Northeast and especially from Bahia.

The fact that the 2nd most represented continent after Latin America was Africa was emblematic: associated with an important number of activities related to racial themes, Bahia strengthened as part of Africa, even outside the African continent. At the same time, other peoples and struggles in the world, like Eastern Europe, and part of Asia and Oceania, were not visible, as a Belgian activist pointed out.

“The 2018 WSF was the face of Bahia: black, female, feminist, LGBT, indigenous, young ...” stated a Bahian leadership active in the construction of the 2018 WSF, at the IB meeting that closed the event. This human diversity was a hallmark of this edition of the WSF, which took place outside the axis of Brazil’s richest and whitest regions.



Of the thirteen world editions of the WSF, only the 2009 WSF in Belém do Pará and the 2018 WSF took place in the poorest regions of the country that hosted it. And this characteristic cannot be ignored: they were two remarkable editions, extremely expressive in their dimensions of “non-white” resistance, popular, cultural and political in the face of the neoliberal, Eurocentric and colonialist model.

The 2018 WSF, with the emblematic presence of traditional, indigenous and African peoples and communities, religious and quilombolas, did not flee from this reality and configured itself as fertile ground to resignify this historical resistance of black and indigenous peoples. The idea already defended in the IB that the WSF should meet the peoples and territories facing the greatest and worst consequences of the neoliberal model, where the paths of transformation are also found, was reinforced.



Photo: La Rastrojera TV

Enthusiasm of volunteers in the preparation of the WSF

Excitement and enthusiasm took over most of the participants. Individuals and organizations that had already given up on the WSF process returned. For some people who were at the founding of the WSF, the 2018 WSF recalled the 1st edition in 2001, awakening similar emotions. Representatives of the Palestinian, Kurdish and Saharawi peoples felt welcomed at the WSF, supported in their struggle for independence, self-determination, sovereignty and freedom. The work of the volunteers and the hospitality of the Bahian people were also praised.



Despite the shortage of translation services, there were exchanges beyond words.

But frustrations were also expressed, as in the case, common to all world editions of the event, of self-managed activities that did not have an audience, not for lack of relevance, but for last minute allocation, change of space, publicity, or other activities whose spaces were so crowded that made it impossible for other people to participate.

Among these, lack of basic equipment and personnel for the full operation of the office - hosted by NGO Vida Brasil, late definition of the financial system for registration and payment, difficulties in using the payment system through the site, late validation and allocation of activities, with the schedule being updated even during the days of the event - no time to be printed, difficulties with the signage of the UFBA space, shortage of translation services in the activities, lack of computers in the media center and lack of international press office in the Secretariat of the IB.

Regarding the space and territories of the 2018 WSF, the concentration of most of the activities in one place (the UFBA campus), as well as the division of the WSF space by thematic hubs, was evaluated as right. Volunteers were at the participants' disposal to guide them as to the location of the rooms.

Criticism has been made about these guidelines, and this is an aspect that could be better worked on in future editions, in order to guarantee greater control over the territory of the WSF by those who are willing, voluntarily, to collaborate.

At the same time, there was a decentralization of the territories of the 2018 WSF, which allowed the event to be carried to 70 places, notably the outskirts of the city of Salvador, its metropolitan region and the Recôncavo Baiano.



Activities and political expression



Photo: Yangli Fligueiredo/UJS

Participation in the WSF was considered significant and mobilizing

The large number of participants resulted in 2,000 activities, all organized in a self-managed way. From the point of view of content, the 2018 WSF provided accumulations. They echoed the voices in defense of democracy, common goods, the public university, the rights of traditional peoples and communities, feminism, LGBTQI+, black women, youth, the fight against racism, sexism and colonialism, among others.



From the point of view of political incidence, there were criticisms, relatively isolated but relevant because they came from renowned intellectuals or activists, who evaluated as weak the level of political construction of the 2018 WSF in relation to the current situation, given the few activities that debated strategies and alternatives, and the poor visibility of the event in the commercial press.

The loss of political control by the FG under the influence of governments and parties was feared throughout the construction process; it did not occur. The FG considered that there had been slippage of some political parties that did not comply with the agreements made, for example, taking banners to spaces where it had been agreed not to take. Both in the Opening March, in the Assembly in defense of democracies and in the Agora of Futures. Despite this, as there was a massive participation of civil society, this noncompliance did not compromise the autonomous character of the WSF.

On the other hand, FG entities point out that resistance to the 2018 WSF has existed since the proposal was launched in January 2017 (15 months before the event), especially on the part of some historical organizations in the WSF process, but at the time critical of its process and continuity.

Among the great activities, it is worth noting that the main disappointment came from the Assembly of Movements, Peoples and Territories in Resistance: it was not successful, because of the lack of preparation and involvement of national cadres and because it could not produce a result of approaching the struggles

For many leaders, the opportunity was missed to debate and forward the proposal of a permanent assembly of movements, peoples and territories in resistance. However, the idea that the 2018 WSF was successful in terms of political expression predominates. The Brazilian situation was deeply experienced by the people present, united around slogans in favor of democracy and the rights of women and black youth, for example, “Out of Temer” and “Who killed Marielle?”



Two political facts with an international dimension were particularly significant. On the second day of the event, March 14, 2018, the murder of Rio de Janeiro councilwoman Marielle Franco and her advisor Anderson Gomes provoked a national and international commotion that had a strong impact on the 2018 WSF - Marielle would participate in a WSF activity two days later - with marches, acts and several declarations, and rekindled the indignation and strength of the movement and the people to fight for democracy.



Photo: Mídia Ninja

Assembly of Democracies brought together national and international leaders against the advance of the far right, among them, Manuel Zelaya, president overthrown in the coup in Honduras in 2009

Another highlight was the World Assembly in Defense of Democracy, in the stadium of Pituaçu, on March 15th, with the presence of about 18,000 people, from various leaders of Brazilian and international social movements, and especially renowned politicians, who resist the setbacks in national democratic institutions, following the example of the French deputy Éric Coquerel de France Insoumise and former presidents Manuel Zelaya of Honduras and Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. Nobody knew yet, but this was Lula's last participation in an international event before he was arrested on April 7th, 2018.



It is also worth mentioning that, besides the denunciation of the system, many were the activities of exchange of experiences between social movements and organizations that already practice, in their communities and groups, the values of another possible world. The performance of the solidarity economy was particularly significant in this sense.

The Agora of Futures offered an open space to the diversity of the WSF and was considered a final event settled in a world edition of the WSF, having been an initiative well evaluated, to be improved in future editions.

Participatory and Innovative Methodology

It was realized that the slogan of the 2018 WSF “To Resist is to Create, to Resist is to Transform” responded to the desires of the movements in the world, to artists, intellectuals and activists who appropriated it, illustrated it, adapted it and always made reference to it. It was considered a current and concrete motto, much more experienced than theorized. Many tools of struggle and incidence were used, like the courts (of evictions, femicide of black women, and so forth), multiple exhibitions and artistic manifestations that gave a peculiar visibility to the struggles and causes of the present movements.

The interaction between culture and politics stood out at the 2018 WSF, stimulated by the involvement of popular artists, the formidable cultural expression of the Bahian people and the rich cultural program implemented by the event’s organization and UFBA. Perhaps, for this reason, many considered the WSF innovative and were positively surprised by its vitality. In general, the proposed methodology was well evaluated, based on principles and practices of mobilization, participation, solidarity and transparency. But it cannot be fully executed, being facilitated by a small group and without a concrete team that could handle the countless activities and dynamics.

The event was organized by the Facilitator Group, which had 25 Brazilian organizations. Not everyone who took part was able to fulfill this commitment. In turn, the WGs were a way to democratize the process of organization and construction of the WSF but several of them did not work as expected. The lack of support overloaded the people at the head of the WSF organization, who, after the event, were extremely exhausted.



This situation contributed to the fact that part of the methodological innovations were not executed to their full political potential. However, despite strong limitations, the strength of the methodology and its innovative character must be recognized. The WSF represents one of the greatest internationalisms that exist on the planet. Therefore, the responsibility is great. The challenge, launched at the IB meeting at the end of the 2018 WSF, is to think of a WSF that can reach millions of people. “We are still talking to ourselves”. The WSF deserves and has the potential to be the reference for billions of people and contribute more effectively to the construction of another possible world.

Challenges

The 2018 WSF contributed to indicate paths for the future of the world and of the WSF itself. Among the challenges pointed out by the event in Salvador, some points can be highlighted: the need for strengthening in the face of neoliberalism in renewal, inseparable from the strengthening of convergence among the various social struggles, as well as the restructuring of the international facilitation (or governance) dynamics of the WSF, the stimulation of communication and visibility of the WSF, and also the consolidation of the capacity for methodological renewal in the ways of doing politics .



Photo: Raquel Franco

Women’s movement calls a march for country workers



• **Strengthening the social counterpower**

In the present and future context, the WSF needs to have an impact on society to confront fascism, the right and the nationalist and repressive forces that are growing. To point out ways of responding to the violence of a new generation of coups d'état, which reflects the incompatibility of the evolution of the global economy with the maintenance of democracies.

The WSF cannot stay only in the broad debates, so as not to lose contact with the social movements that are in the struggle. It is necessary to seek a balance between the activities of debate and mobilization. It is about building counter-hegemonic alternatives that allow the wisdom of the peoples presented at the Forum to be translated into dispute in society. The WSF should thus go beyond the days of meeting, and be more permanent. This means to face the challenges, and to have an agenda of mobilizations, strategies of articulation, communication, political expression, financing, etc. It is necessary to try to reconnect the movements that stand out in the anti-capitalist struggle.

The WSF should deepen its global character and involve a greater participation of activists from all over the planet. To this end, there is a need to further guide the WSF process in the countries and promote greater dissemination of the WSF, using current technological means and further strengthening alternative communication. Some regions of the world, like Asia, are less and less present in the WSF process and the participation of their movements and organizations should be encouraged. On the other hand, it is essential to establish and feed a connection between the forums – thematic, regional, etc.

• **Convergences between struggles, peoples and movements in resistance**

The 2018 WSF showed that an event of this nature cannot be built without social mobilization and communication in the field of resistance, in order to express a force for transformation and the creation of alternatives. The stimulus to implement bridges between the struggles and convergences between movements, peoples and territories in resistance remains one of the main challenges of the WSF process.



The 2018 edition reaffirmed that the construction of another world of social and environmental justice requires the construction of anti-capitalist, anti-racist, and anti-colonial relations, practiced within and disseminated outside the WSF process.

The assembly of movements, which was not successful in Salvador, does not replace a set of other assemblies and would not realize the diversity gathered in the event. There is always tension between unity and diversity. Meanwhile, the effort to consolidate an assembly of peoples, territories and movements in resistance must continue.

- **Restructuring of international facilitation (or governance)**

The IB faces an ongoing debate about its role and dynamics, and these issues were not absent from the 2018 WSF. The IB has been charged to better explain their positions and seek conditions to approximate the movements of struggle. It should not control the methodological process, but facilitate it and generate accumulations in such processes.

It is necessary to understand what is missing to build this accumulation and expand its international representativeness. Youth, for example, are not fully represented in the IB, nor are regional or thematic forums. There is criticism of the centralization of the IB by the organizations and demands for democratization.

The Charter of Principles was discussed, including via the press, before the WSF and at the IB meeting. The principles observed, at the same time that they are at the base of the permanence and protection of the process, are challenged by the evolution of the world, the new phase of neoliberal capitalism, climate changes, migrations, or even the growth of various forces of authoritarianism and fundamentalism. The IB reaffirmed that such debates must be collective, in the search for alternatives and solutions, so that the WSF makes clear sense for the struggles of its time.

The WSF process must have political expression. It does not mean a council issuing an opinion about everything, but having responsibilities in bringing to society the actions and alternatives built in their meetings and in the collective moments of reaction to the great attacks suffered by the peoples and democracies.



• Stimulus to Communication and visibility of the WSF

At the International Board meeting in Salvador, right after the 2018 WSF, it was suggested that we learn from the “other side”: Davos can influence people and situations. It is necessary to remember that there is no comparison between the availability of resources for the propagation of the World Economic Forum (WEF) and for the WSF, since the former coincides with the interests of media corporations, of which the latter is critical.

The basic challenge is that, in addition to the tens of thousands of people present at the event, it is necessary to reach other places that go beyond the spaces of the WSF event.

One proposal regarding the technological resources needed for an interactive process is to organize your connections in the form of a worldwide social network based on a technological platform of cooperation, incorporating communication and articulation tools, which allow the Forum to cross borders and involve millions of people who seek spaces of resistance. This network could already contribute to a next world edition.

• Methodology

The construction of the WSF process requires the permanent search for the reinvention of the policy. Every care is little so that the transforming spirit of the WSF is not lost, a concern that guided all the construction of the 2018 edition.

You have to keep trying to build a great Social Forum, but escape the idea of a perfect event and make better use of the experiences to look for successes in the future. Remember that, with all the setbacks, the events of the WSF have always been successful: they happened mainly through collective effort, despite doubts, criticism and also absences.

The results and constructions of the World Social Forum must be converted into contributions to the struggles of the peoples. But at the same time that the accumulation of experiences is fundamental, the organizations participating in the IB must act in order to make the most of them.



The role and permanence in the IB is also discussed, which can have more dynamic criteria and conditioned to a constant exchange of learning and evaluation of the realities faced and strategies of incidence in the world.

The processes of the WSF must produce the capacity for real articulation of today's struggles, sharing of ideas and actions, and agreements between movements that come to build and reaffirm that Another World is Possible.



16. ACCOUNTABILITY



Photo: Déja Chagas

T-shirts for sale in the territory of 2018 WSF

The accounts for 2018 WSF are presented on the following pages through two tables, which include:

- A summary financial statement of financial resources by funder and type of expenditure supported.
- A more detailed budget of expenses and the respective sources of funding.

The data presented cover the expenses contracted in a period of ten months, between June 2017 (after the decision to hold the event was made) and March 2018 (the month the event was held). In this sense, construction expenses were mainly incurred in 2017, and the event expenses were recorded in 2018.



2018 WSF Financial Resources by source of financing and type of expenses

Source	Funded itens	Cost (R\$)	Cost (Eur) (**)	%
Bahia Government	Guests, Infraestructure, Communication, Translation, Culture, Solidarity Economy, Accreditation	R\$ 2 960 000,00	743 140,00	63%
Facilitator Group (*)	Mobilization and Organization	R\$ 840 000,00	210 891,00	18%
Subscriptions	Packages, Credentials, Culture and Communication	R\$ 555 805,58	139 540,00	12%
PPM	Office, Meetings and Seminars	R\$ 322 800,00	85 500,00	7%
CESE	Office	R\$ 50 000,00	13 240,00	1%
Total		R\$ 4 728 605,58	Eur 1.192.311	100%

(*) Estimate based on information provided by the organizations and movements of the FG.

(**) The value of the Euro has changed depending on the month of receipt of financing, between September 2017 and March 2018.

This table shows that the main source of funding was the Government of the State of Bahia, which accounted for almost 2/3 (63%) of the total budget, which was mainly for the event. The resources mobilized by the FG's organizations constitute the second source (18%) and correspond to expenses paid by the various organizations, mainly to fund their participation in the mobilization process. The third source was the amount collected from registrations (12%), followed by cooperation agencies, international (7% with the PPM) and national (1% with the CESE).



2018 WSF Budget (R\$)

Budget itens	Bahia Government	Subscriptions	PPM/CESE	Total	%
Preparation process	R\$ 300.000		R\$ 173.000	R\$ 473.000	12,8%
Communication	R\$ 66.800,00	R\$ 70.000	R\$ 143.000	R\$ 279.800	7,6%
Infra – Sound	R\$ 75.000			R\$ 75.000	2,0%
Infra – Projection	R\$ 127.500			R\$ 127.500	3,4%
Infra – Light	R\$ 72.000			R\$ 72.000	1,9%
Infra – Accreditation	R\$ 60.000			R\$ 60.000	1,6%
Infra – Pyramids and canvas	R\$ 56.000			R\$ 56.600	1,5%
Infra – Stands	R\$ 60.000			R\$ 60.000	1,7%
Infra – Furniture	R\$ 25.080			R\$ 25.080	0,7%
Infra – Floor, Grids and Coating	R\$ 61.500			R\$ 61.500	1,7%
Infra – Bathrooms	R\$ 117.500			R\$ 117.500	3,2%
Infra – Generators	R\$ 51.000			R\$ 51.000	1,4%
Volunteers	R\$ 119.200	R\$ 52.000		R\$ 171.200	4,6%



2018 WSF Budegt (R\$)

Budget itens	Bahia Government	Subscriptions	PPM/CESE	Total	%
Mobilization – Tickets (guests)	R\$ 410.000	R\$ 190.000		R\$ 600.000	16,2%
Mobilization – Hosting and feeding (guests)	R\$ 120.000	R\$ 75.000		R\$ 195.800	5,2%
Mobilization – Hosting and feeding (caravans)	R\$ 90.000			R\$ 90.000	2,4%
Translation	R\$ 750.000			R\$ 750.000	20,3%
Culture	R\$ 150.000	R\$ 36.000		R\$ 186.000	5,0%
Logistics – Human Resources	R\$ 86.000	R\$ 58.000		R\$ 144.000	3,9%
Logistics – Office	R\$ 35.800		R\$ 72.658	R\$ 108.458	2,9%
Total (R\$)	R\$ 2.833.980	R\$ 481.000	R\$ 388.658	R\$ 3.703.638	100%
Total (Euros)	Eur 711.501	Eur 120.760	Eur 102.907	Eur 935.168	



- **Balances payable:** R\$ 127.632,50 (3,4%) – Eur 31.800

The balance payable at the end of March 2018, after the event, was made up of various expenses, including:

- Packages
- Reimbursement of air tickets
 - Tent and food
- Professional fees
- Administrative expenses
- Charges and taxes

These expenses were gradually covered between April 2018 and July 2019.



17. TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Collection

Links from the 2018 WSF website:

- Video page
- Gallery page
- News page
- Article page
- Clippings



Credits

List of people who have worked or contributed objectively to the report, in addition to the list of FG organizations.

Promotion

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Foundation Perseu Abramo
Vida Brasil

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Rita Freire
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Leo Misleh

Critical reading

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Translation

Fernanda Valesan
Writing group with translation apps

2018 WSF website

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Lekapo
Ronaldo Rosa (arqui.media)

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Tatiana Scalco	Mauri Cruz	Kota Mulangi
Fátima Froes	Débora Rodrigues	Pierre George
Lili Rubin	Anne Sena	

Organization of digital archive

Shared Communication WG



2018 WSF Photos

Dêja Chagas	Ana Paula de La Ordem	Morgana Damasio
Raquel Franco	Fernando Santt	Vangli Figueiredo
Islândia Costa	Ricardo Stuckert	Sinait
Tatiane Anjos	Mirtes Fernanda	La Rastrojera TV
Lili Rubin	Glenda Lima	Instituto Paulo Freire
Paulo Pilha	Marcos Urupá	Ciranda.net
Fernando Salvador	Cecília Vasques	Mídia Ninja
João Alvarez	Wandaik Costa	

File and external photos

Credit on the sides of photos

Cover photo

Veronica da Costa at the Black Women's March in 2015

Photo: Janine Moraes

Videos - Dissemination

Ciranda.net

Instituto Hori

TV Kirimure

Estúdio Mundo (vinheta)

Stella Oliveira and Gilmas Campos (Ciranda.net)

Cristiano Pedreira and Bruno Torres (Instituto Hori)

TV Kirimuê

Studio Mundo (Vignette of 2018 WSF)

Drawings, illustrations and cards

Beto Fagundes (Visual Identity of 2018 WSF)

Ricardo Almeida (Mandala)

Norton Cardoso (Drawings)



RealizatiOn

Facilitator Group of the Brazilian Collective of the WSF:

Abong - Brazilian Association of NGOs

ANMB - National Black Women's NGO Articulation

Brazilian Caritas

CEN - Collective of Black Entities

Ciranda of Shared Communication

Clacso - Latin American Council of Social Sciences

Coesa - Council of Socio-Environmental Entities of Bahia

Cebrapaz - Brazilian Center of Solidarity to the Peoples and Fight for Peace

Conam - National Confederation of Residents' Associations

Conen - Black Entities Coordination

CTB - Brazilian Workers' Center

CUT - Single Workers' Central

FBES - Bahia Forum of Solidarity Economy

Sons of the World

FNDC - National Forum for the Democratization of Communication

Fonsampotma - National Forum of Food and Nutritional Security
of Traditional Peoples of African Matrix

Geledés - Black Woman Institute,

Awùré Institute

IPF - Paulo Freire Institute

MNDH - National Human Rights Movement

RMM - Women and Media Network

UBM - Brazilian Union of Women

UNE - National Union of Students

Unegro - Black Union for Equality

Unisol - Cooperative and Solidarity Enterprises Center

Vida Brasil



Support to the realization of 2018 WSF

UFBA - Federal University of the State of Bahia

UNEB - Bahia State University

Bahia State Government

Salvador City Hall

Municipal Chamber of Salvador

Bread for the World (Brot für die Welt - Alemanha)

CESE - Ecumenical Services Coordination

USE Telecom

Embasa

Kirimurê TV

TVE

Secretariat of the International Board of the WSF

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