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Conference Paper

Source type

Conference Proceedings

ISBN

978-166541507-1

DOI

10.1109/ISTAS50296.2020.9462232

Publisher

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Inc.

Original language

English

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International Symposium on Technology and Society, Proceedings • Volume 2020-November, Pages 154 - 163 • 12 November 2020 •
 Article number 9462232 • 2020 IEEE International Symposium on Technology and Society, ISTAS 2020, Virtual, Tempe, 12
 November 2020 - 15 November 2020, 171023

Pedagogical participatory experiences to promote Public Interest Technology from volunteer work

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Abstract

Author keywords

Indexed keywords

Funding details

Abstract

Public Interest Technologies allow practices and learning opportunities for the sustainable improvement of living conditions. Our analysis of participatory pedagogical experiences, from the perspective of student volunteer tourism, adds elements to this emerging field of study by analyzing the steps, main opportunities, and challenges as a basis for the implementation of PIT in higher education. In six case studies, students from the Northern hemisphere reached out to vulnerable communities in Lima (Peru) through universities and local NGOs, in events ranging from welfarism to co-design and participation. Experiences of Practice Based Education promoted direct interaction with different local realities, enhancing communication, socialization and empathy, key skills in the training of a new generation of professionals that will work in the implementation of new inclusive and participatory policies in our communities. Technology becomes an ally of processes once trust has been consolidated, seeking sustainability in the public interest. © 2020 IEEE.

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