



_The Context



Poor quality of rural education in Colombia.

"Good teachers do not reach the remote places where they are needed the most." Professor Sugata Mitra, TED Prize winner



3/10 children from rural areas have **never attended school**



7/10 children have been **unable to complete their studies**

(Source: Norwegian Refugee Council, April 2018).



Educational gap in post-conflict Colombia

In 160 municipalities most affected by armed conflict

300,000 youth ages 15-24 rural, indigenous and afro-descendant boys and girls who are far from everything:

- >50% did not complete primary education
- 20% finished secondary education
- 5% entered tertiary education of some kind (technical or professional)

(Source: Colombian National Program for Education for Peace, 2017)

10,000 ex-combatants

- 92% did not complete secondary education
- 3% completed tertiary education
- 10% do not read or write

(Source: Censo socioeconómico UN-CNR 2017, National University of Colombia)

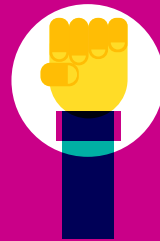


_The Project

SOLE Colombia Project

What? Transform the future of learning in post-conflict Colombia

Why? To allow people to become **creative and curious** problem solvers who have the confidence and skills they need to tap into the global network of knowledge and transform their world.



How?

- **Empowering** thousands of educators, librarians, leaders and communities with SOLE
- **Designing** strategies and tools for SOLE to be widely practiced throughout the country.
- **Analyzing** SOLE's ability to transform communities.
- **Consolidating a community** of SOLE Ambassadors and a network of volunteer e-mediators, aka "Grannies", to encourage learning.

We do this by

1. Setting up a **network** of SOLEs making use of existing computers and internet in public places:
 - **44,000** public schools
 - **8,000** public internet kiosks
 - **1,400** public libraries
2. Setting up **SOLE Labs** in areas where public infrastructure is unavailable



_The Results

In 3 years we've reached:

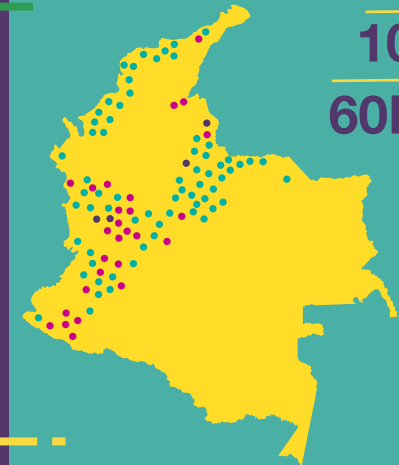
20 Provinces

524 public schools

111 public internet kiosks

10 public libraries

60k children, youth and adults



In partnership with the Ministry of Culture, SOLE is in:

1.100 public libraries

320K participants in 2016-17

Awards

- **Finalists** / Best Leaders of Colombia 2017 Award
- **Finalists** / 3rd National Digital Social Mobilization Award 2017
- **Finalists** / PriceWaterhouseCoopers-Cintel Award for Digital Transformation with Social Impact 2017

_The Challenge

Leverage educational public policy to transform the future of learning in rural Colombia.

4 of 10 Strategic Challenges of the 2016-2026 Education Plan for Colombia are:

- No. 5:** Transform the dominant education paradigm so far.
- No. 6:** Promote use of new and diverse technologies to support learning.
- No. 7:** Build a peaceful society with equality and inclusion
- No. 8:** Prioritize rural development based on education.

(Source: Ministry of Education, National 10-year Education Plan 2016-2026)

**SOLE
Colombia's
Challenge
2018 - 2023**

Impact post-conflict rural Colombia through disruptive learning in:

2.5mm

children, youth and adults participating of SOLE in the next 5 years.

10k

FARC ex-combatants learning through SOLE.

5k
SOLEs
Ambassadors.

25k
Grannies
(e-mediators).

5k
SOLEs.

_SOLE SELF-ORGANIZED LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

SOLE is learning at the edge of chaos: a place where children, families or communities come together to discover and explore self-organised learning as they develop:

Autonomy



Deep Learning

Collaboration



Real-life problem solving

What is a SOLE?

A SOLE can exist anywhere where there is a computer, internet connection, and people who are ready to learn. Within a SOLE people are given the freedom to learn collaboratively using the internet. A Big Question is posed and people form small groups to find an answer.

Develop soft skills:

SOLE allows soft skills to emerge such as :

- Collaboration and communication
- Creativity and innovation
- Critical thinking
- Self-direction
- Global and local connections
- Technological fluency

_The Theory

To re-empower communities to meet their own educational needs and goals using a self-organized learning.

"if you allow the educational process to self-organise, then learning emerges. It's not about making learning happen, it's about letting it happen."

Professor Sugata Mitra,
TED Prize Talk 2013.

**Rural
Communities
+
Public Tech
Infrastructure
=
Self-organized
Learning**

1. Autonomy and self-direction

2. Curiosity and the pleasure of knowledge

3. Connection to a local and global network

4. Open decentralized dialogue

+ Persistence =



Peace and Happiness