

RESEARCH THEME

Title of the doctoral research Creative industries in emerging economies: empowering local ecosystems

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Abstract

The role of design within emerging economies has been deeply studied internationally. Design for development is a mature research area within the discipline, reaching back to the first debates that have tried to define the appropriate methodologies to be used for technology transfer, i.e. the debate concerning the development of indigenous, intermediate, alternative or appropriate technologies and later studies aimed to define the role of design in knowledge transfer projects and the consequences of such interventions.

This research proposal aims to enrich this ongoing debate by analysing today's reality and identifying ways to empower local productive ecosystems imagining alternative solutions also based on the recent new forms of social innovation. The research proposal intends to face this topic through the lens of Product Service System Design, therefore through a systematic approach that implies the understanding of complex interrelations between geographical, political, cultural, economic and environmental factors that affect the development of a specific reality.

We want to explore local economies, mainly based on crafts and micro productive entrepreneurs; how they can evolve in the future and the possibilities of enabling local ecosystems flourish thanks to their creative capabilities.

We expect to develop a deeper understanding of these realities and what approach design could implement to sustain their future development.

Keywords

Design and Development, Emerging economies, social innovation