

**Erfahrungsbericht
Für vom CRZ geförderte Personen**

Vorname:	Orlando	Nachname:	Bruno Núñez
Zeitraum der Förderung:	15/02/2024 -29/05/2024		
Zweck der Förderung:	Research stay at the Universidad Nacional		

Durchgeführte Hauptaktivitäten

<input type="checkbox"/> Datensammlung	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Networking-Treffen
<input type="checkbox"/> Vortrag bei einer akademischen Veranstaltung	<input type="checkbox"/> Praktikum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Teilnahme an einer akademischen Veranstaltung	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exkursionen
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arbeitstreffen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andere Aktivitäten (bitte kurz erklären):

Coordination and lead of Germany's student cohort with local stakeholders

Beteiligte Partneruniversitäten:

Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica, Universidad de Costa Rica in Turrialba

Beteiligte Institute oder Zentren:

Producer networks Turri Creadores de Origen und ViveDota; Municipalidad de Dota

Andere beteiligte Organisationen:

Anlagen

Fotos

Author: Annkathrin Müller



Talk to Turrialba
Municipality

*Bitte alle Fotos als separate Dateien in guter Auflösung senden.

*Geben Sie zu jedem Foto eine kurze Beschreibung und den Namen des Autors an.

*Geben Sie bitte auch die Namen der abgebildeten Personen und die entsprechenden Genehmigungen für die Verwendung des Fotos an.

Programm der besuchten akademischen Veranstaltungen

The recent research visit was integral to our cooperative project, "sCoRe: Sustainable Communities through Rural Entrepreneurs." This initiative is being carried out at the Department of Work and Organizational Psychology at the University of Osnabrück in collaboration with Daniel Avendaño Leadem from the Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica (UNA), and myself, Orlando Bruno Nuñez, representing Producer Networks Turri Creadores de Origen, and the University of Osnabrück.

The visit consisted of three main stages. The first stage involved acclimatizing the international students and introducing them to other stakeholders. The second stage focused on establishing project management and communication systems and explaining

the goals of this round of students. The third stage was dedicated to overseeing the execution of the plan while transferring knowledge to the newly integrated local coordinators. My primary purpose was to transfer the knowledge the network Creadores de Origen gained over the past two years related to entrepreneurship, including agile, design, and project management methods, to academic stakeholders, local coordinators, and international students.

Our research stay began with the arrival of project students in Costa Rica. We kicked off their visit with a joint event at the Department of Geography at UNA, attended by the department's director and the UNA press office. This was followed by a week-long immersion in the project regions of Dota and Turrialba. The primary objectives were to facilitate networking between German and Costa Rican students, acquaint them with regional specifics, strengthen ties with key stakeholders, and ensure a productive start to their endeavors in Costa Rica, providing them with invaluable learning opportunities.

Then a visit to the two central regions was done. In Dota, the week began with a welcome event at the Municipalidad, featuring notable political figures and numerous entrepreneurs from the area. Throughout the week, students visited local entrepreneurs across different sectors, including coffee, kombucha, beer, handicrafts, and soap production, to understand their unique working methods and challenges. At this point, all local coordinators for Turrialba and Dota were present. A pivotal element of our project's success was the involvement of local coordinators. During this visit, we established initial contact with the local coordinators, got to know each other, and discussed our skills and competencies. I also began explaining the SCRUM system, which would be used over the following three months to organize projects, goals, and tasks.

During the following week in Turrialba, the students continued their visits to local entrepreneurs involved in cheese, coffee, and beer production. They gained further insights into the region's diverse entrepreneurial landscape and the varying degrees of business formalization and associated challenges. As a representative of the Turri Creadores de Origen network, I organized a networking event called "Horizontes Sostenibles" with the core team of sCoRe, where international students had the opportunity to meet important political and academic stakeholders in Turrialba. The event, co-organized by the "sCoRe" project and Turri Creadores de Origen, featured key regional players presenting their activities and visions for Turrialba. Supported by both UOS and UCR students, the event facilitated a rich exchange of ideas and collaboration opportunities.

Throughout these two weeks, we held several coordinative meetings to introduce students to the project's operational frameworks and conducted meta-reflection phases for collective experience sharing. Also, during this time, the goals and tasks were explained to the local

coordinators and the students using the SCRUM system and implementing a project management software NOTION to track Progress. Also, a visit to San José and Heredia was dedicated to reinforcing connections with essential cooperation partners and finalizing project coordination agreements before the rest of the UOS stakeholders took advantage of their presence.

Throughout the rest of my stay, I conducted daily SCRUM meetings with the international student group and weekly meetings with the local coordinators to track our Progress toward our goals. My main results were:

- Educating students on developing a new online platform design for ViveDota,
- sharing my expertise in website planning and design, and
- spearheading an effort to connect Turri Creadores de Origen with stores in tourist areas.
- Content creation for sCoRe, ViveDota, and Turri Creadores de Origen
- Market research by talking to potential leads for Turri Creadores de Origen

In the final week of my stay, I helped the local coordinators oversee the ongoing process so they could eventually carry on independently for the next cohort.

Teilen Sie uns an dieser Stelle Ihre persönlichen Erfahrungen mit, die Sie bei der Durchführung der oben beschriebenen Aktivitäten gemacht haben.

The research stay took place as part of our cooperative project “sCoRe: Sustainable Communities through Rural Entrepreneurs,” conducted by the Department of Work and Organizational Psychology at Osnabrück University in collaboration with Daniel Avendaño Leadem from the National University of Costa Rica (UNA) and myself, Orlando Bruno Nuñez, Producer Networks Turri Creadores de Origen, and Osnabrück University.

The stay reaffirmed that there are numerous challenges in the target regions that our project can address. Notably, the varying and sometimes challenging developmental stages in addressing all pillars of sustainability pose a significant challenge. In the Dota region, a focus was placed on selected entrepreneurs within the entrepreneurial networks in consultation with the Municipality. Our on-site activities also highlighted the great opportunities in the target regions, such as the high motivation of local stakeholders, the wide diversity of entrepreneurial activities, their potential for strengthening rural areas, and the strong support from local political actors.

Moreover, we used the stay to gain essential insights into the processes and structures established in our project over the past months. We observed and supported on-site processes and established workflows, which were further strengthened and optimized through meta-reflection phases within the project leadership team and with students. Close collaboration with local coordinators and the entrepreneurial networks played a crucial role, particularly with Turri Creadores de Origen. The project's workflows and social structures were aligned for optimal collaboration on-site, reinforcing their function as a link between the project team and the numerous entrepreneurs in the regions. The involvement of these local actors is indispensable for the successful continuation of the project.

Having a transparent system that allows for the follow-up of tasks is vital for the project's future success. This system ensures that all activities are tracked, evaluated, and improved, leading to more effective and efficient project management. Additionally, fostering dynamics between local coordinators, producers, academic actors, other students, and the private sector is of paramount importance. These interactions create a robust network of support and collaboration, enhancing our initiatives' overall impact and sustainability.