



Nr. and Title

U 042

Palas por pistolas

Location

Mexico

Users

Pedro Reyes, local chain store, schools, inhabitants.

Maintained by

Botanical Garden, Culiacán [2008]; Vancouver Art Gallery [2008]; San Francisco Art Institute [2008]; Maison Rouge, Paris [2008]; Lyon Biennial [2009]; Marfa, Texas [2010]; Denver, Colorado [2010]

Duration

2008 - ongoing

Category

politics, economy, environment, social

Initiator(s)

Pedro Reyes

Description

The project involved the citizens in the public destruction of weapons using a steamroller in a military base. Subsequently, the metal was reused to create shovels, which served to plant trees. On the handle of each shovel blade, there is a description that shows how the weapon has now become a peaceful instrument. The project was supported by a local TV station, which invited citizens to give up a weapon, and also, a local chain store which gave a coupon to be used for shopping by anyone who gave up a weapon.

Goals

To make the public aware that there is a direct relationship between crime and the number of weapons in circulation.

Beneficial outcomes

During the first campaign, 1527 weapons were collected.

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