

# Diversidad Conectada,

the experience of weaving  
networks when we need it most



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The year 2020 was a great turning point for all humanity and for the planet, as a whole. From the fateful moment when the virus began to spread like the air, we were all forced to put on the brakes. Uncertainty, panic and confusion invaded us completely, leaving an indelible mark on our lives and in our memory.

**But it also left us a great lesson.**

Undoubtedly, this existential crisis encouraged reflection and awakening, and prompted us to seek alternatives to destructive and unsustainable ways of life, increasingly evident.





While the entire world sheltered in their homes from this dreaded deadly virus, the nature and animals had the opportunity to proliferate, flourish and continue with the natural course of its existence, unimpeded by human oppression. For our part, societies were forced to implement new forms of communication to cover our already neglected and forgotten need to relate. And, between heads thinking and eager to create new paths, Connected Diversity emerged, a new tool capable of mixing cultures, territories and ideas, which would allow us to continue building sustainable, resilient and creative territories.

Because if this experience has shown us anything, it is that the world is incredibly interconnected, and there are no political, economic or social borders that can “protect” ourselves from a global threat. Therefore, we cannot act in isolation. It The only thing that can save us is our diversity, the great strength we have to protect the world against today's challenges.

The pandemic was, to a certain extent, the hand that dropped the blindfold on our eyes this reality. Their rapid proliferation made us aware of the incredible interdependence of territories globally. Every little disaster that occurs in a remote part of the Globe inevitably affects the planet as a whole and, therefore, all the beings that we inhabit it.

**Connecting Diversity is an opportunity to embrace each other from a distance and face challenges together...**





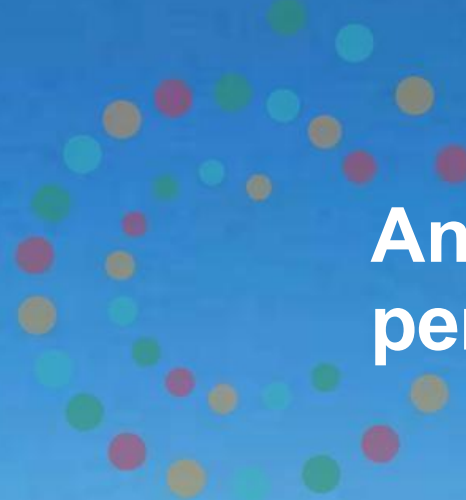


At this time, the urgency of creating universal links between territories and people who defend and share biological and cultural wealth. We need to join forces and act collectively to restore the natural balance.

## **This is precisely the purpose pursued by Connecting Diversity.**

Just like nature, cultures and beings that inhabit the planet do, Connecting Diversity has also been evolving since its inception. With the time, the project has matured and expanded its scope, always taking advantage of new technologies and everything that current communications offer us.





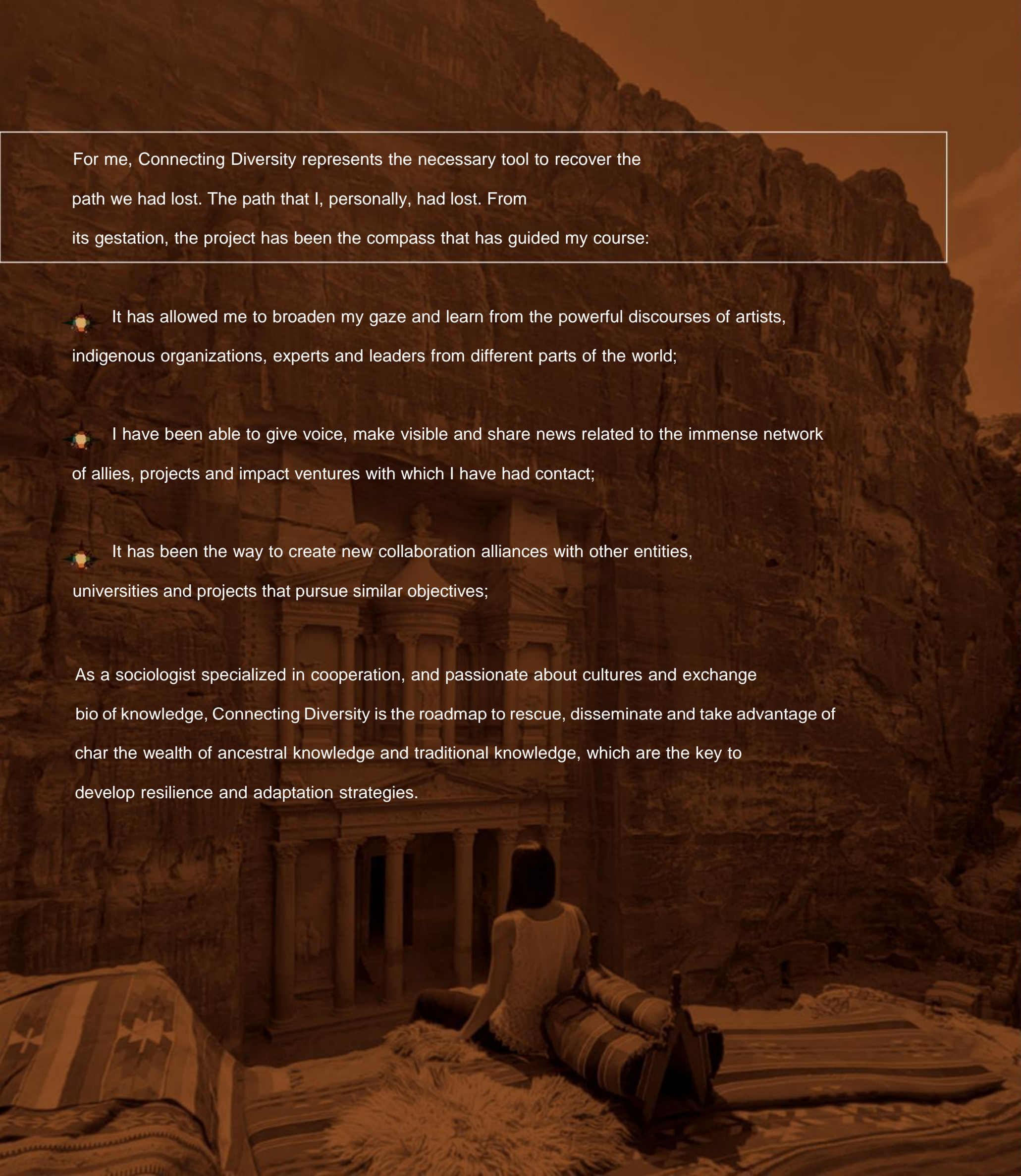
And... what has this meant for me on a personal level?

Since we are talking about diversity, I am going to rescue a word from the alphabet Chinese that refers to what we know as "crisis". In Chinese, This word is made up of two characters: Wei, which means "danger", and Ji, which means "opportunity."

Faced with the DANGER that everything that happened in the outbreak of this global pandemic, we had the OPPORTUNITY to embrace new ways to get ahead, learn from past mistakes, and work to build the path that leads us to a better place.

**The health crisis helped us to “wake up” from a deep sleep and develop initiatives for empowerment and social cohesion, which encourage breathing and rescuing the natural balance.**





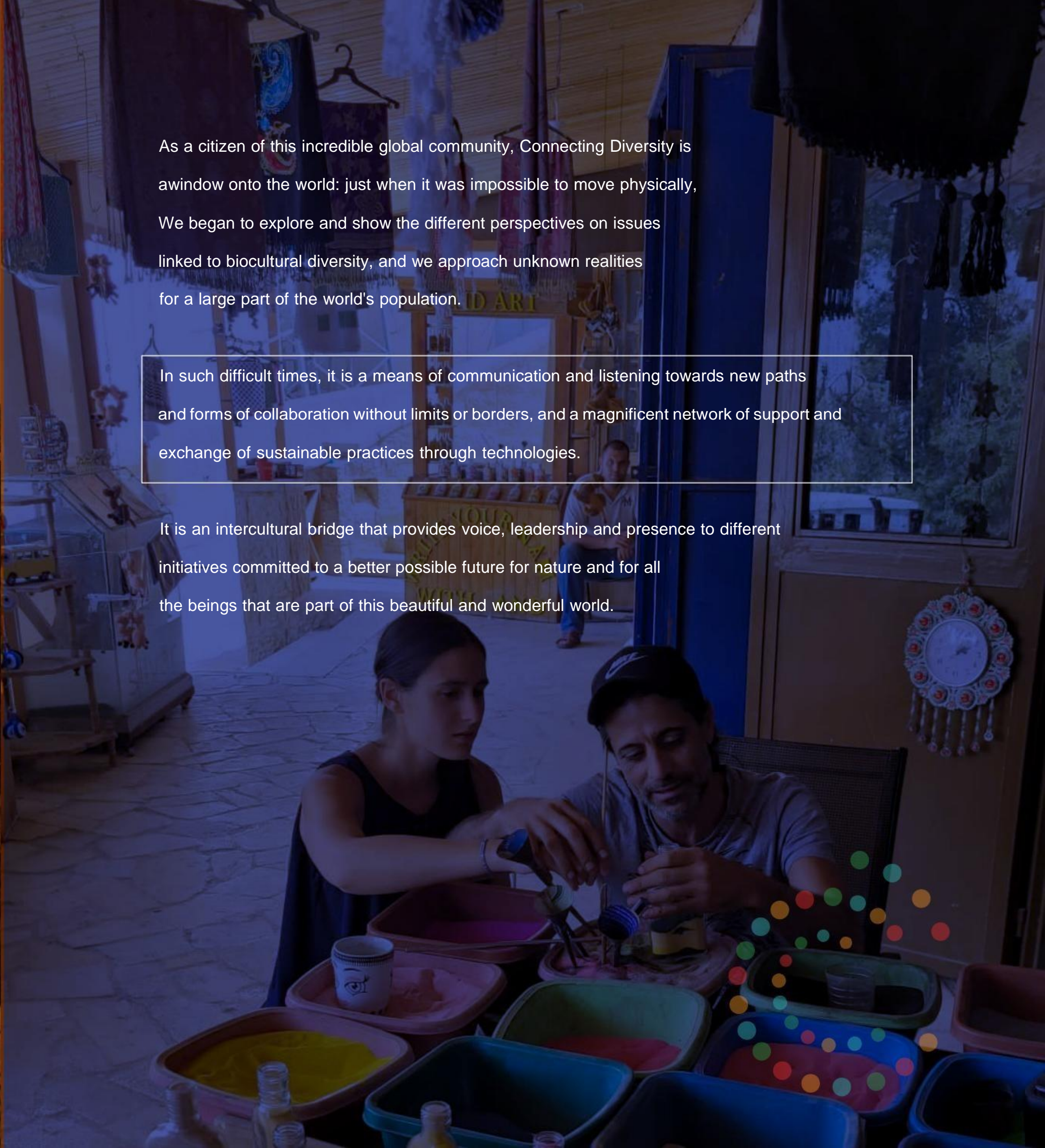
For me, Connecting Diversity represents the necessary tool to recover the path we had lost. The path that I, personally, had lost. From its gestation, the project has been the compass that has guided my course:

- It has allowed me to broaden my gaze and learn from the powerful discourses of artists, indigenous organizations, experts and leaders from different parts of the world;

- I have been able to give voice, make visible and share news related to the immense network of allies, projects and impact ventures with which I have had contact;

- It has been the way to create new collaboration alliances with other entities, universities and projects that pursue similar objectives;

As a sociologist specialized in cooperation, and passionate about cultures and exchange of knowledge, Connecting Diversity is the roadmap to rescue, disseminate and take advantage of the wealth of ancestral knowledge and traditional knowledge, which are the key to develop resilience and adaptation strategies.

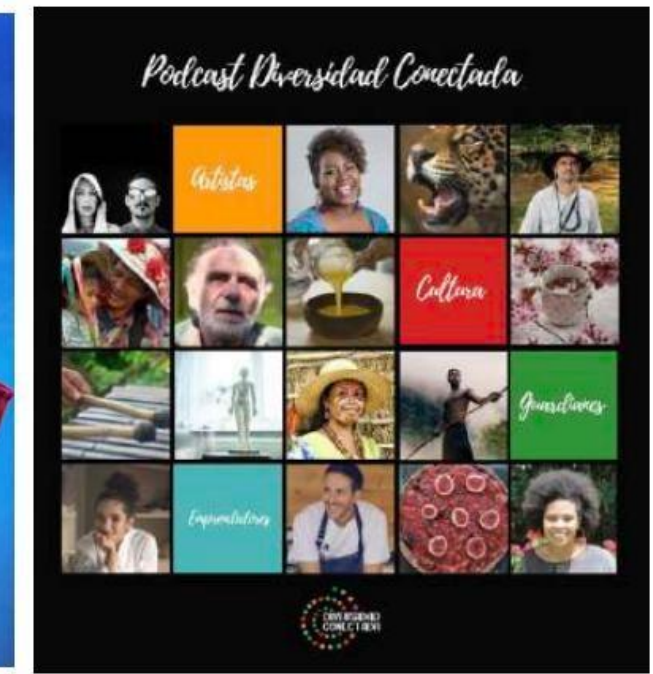


As a citizen of this incredible global community, Connecting Diversity is a window onto the world: just when it was impossible to move physically, we began to explore and show the different perspectives on issues linked to biocultural diversity, and we approach unknown realities for a large part of the world's population.

In such difficult times, it is a means of communication and listening towards new paths and forms of collaboration without limits or borders, and a magnificent network of support and exchange of sustainable practices through technologies.

It is an intercultural bridge that provides voice, leadership and presence to different initiatives committed to a better possible future for nature and for all the beings that are part of this beautiful and wonderful world.





In short, Connecting Diversity has allowed me to be part of a "big family" of wonderful people who do not stop in their struggle to make this world A better place. Connecting Diversity, for me, has been the awakening and the beginning of a new life. It is a path of constant enrichment. It is the proof that, if we open our eyes, hearts and ears, we can create new paths together.

I feel deeply lucky and grateful for everything I receive with each cross-border and intercultural exchange.

**Thanks to all those who are part of this great adventure.**

**Let's keep weaving networks and walking without limits.**