



# Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR)

Copenhagen, Denmark

Maria Garavito

Class of 2017

# The Work: Participation and Accountability

- At the DIHR, my main task involved writing an issue paper on Participation and Accountability.
- The issue paper's purpose was to define both principles, describe their roles in terms of the human rights-based approach and the sustainable development goals, outline their legal frameworks within major human rights instruments, and quantify each through a series of indicators, targets, and benchmarks.

# Other Work

- I also helped translate key documents into Spanish for work the institute hopes to accomplish in Ecuador and Mexico.
- As the need arose, I also helped develop, research, and edit other projects.

THE DANISH  
INSTITUTE FOR  
HUMAN RIGHTS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

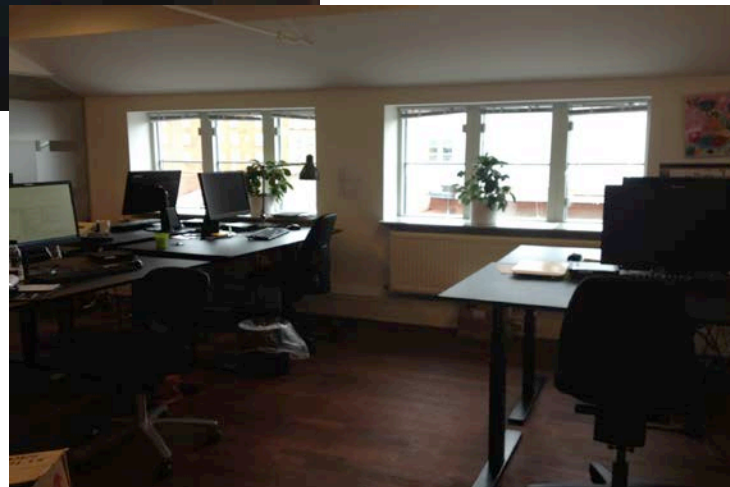
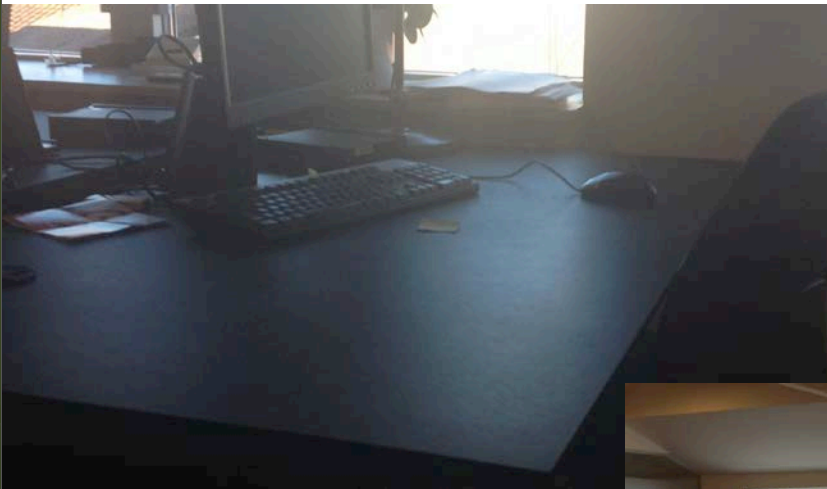
THE DANISH  
INSTITUTE FOR  
HUMAN RIGHTS



CENTER FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS  
*SOCIAL JUSTICE THROUGH HUMAN RIGHTS*

**REALIZING RIGHTS THROUGH THE SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS: THE ROLE OF NATIONAL HUMAN  
RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS**

# The Flexroom



# Most Rewarding Experience

- On my very first day at the institute, one of my colleagues invited me to be a part of a presentation she was giving on the Sustainable Development Goals to a group of fellows visiting the institute. I not only got to help her with a very important presentation, but I also got to interact with all the fellows. They came from Ghana, Peru, Kenya, Uganda, Egypt, and several other countries. Together, we all described our experiences with human rights issues and the role we can all play to address them.

# The Institute





# Impact

- The DIHR works with partners in order to realize different human rights.
- In their discussions with partners, the partners had expressed their inability to properly realize different rights (e.g. water, food, etc.) without being able to properly realize the principles of participation and accountability.
- My issue paper gives the institute a clear policy on participation and accountability, and it shows partners how these principles need to be implemented properly. This facilitates the realization process of key human rights.



## The Surrounding Area





# Academic Choices and Career Plans

- As an anthropologist, I always knew that human rights issues would impact my work. However, my summer with the DIHR taught me different approaches to these issues and aspects of these issues that I had never even considered. I can now approach human rights issues in a more systematized way as I encounter them in my anthropological work. I also hope to eventually work with human rights as a career.

# Everyday Life



# Conclusion: Friends and Experiences of a Lifetime

