A Freirean Approach to Local Development and Community Organization  
Ecoar’s Agenda 21 in São Paulo

Mariana Ferraz Duarte

Thursday, December 1, 2005, noon  
Ontario Institute for Studies in Education  
252 Bloor St. West, Room 7-162

Mariana Ferraz Duarte will talk about the Freirean methodologies and strategies used by Ecoar Institute for Citizenship, a non-governmental organization (NGO) based in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Ecoar is one of Brazil’s leading NGOs in sustainable development, environmental education, citizenship building, and protection of natural resources. She will describe the participatory elaboration of the local Agenda 21, and about the impact of this work in Sao Paulo and in other parts of Brazil. Her presentation will be followed by a dialogue with seminar participants.

Mariana is an environmentalist and popular educator concerned with participatory decision-making mechanisms. Her experience combines popular education, community organizing, local health and environmental issues using a Freirean approach. In addition to her work at Ecoar, Mariana is completing a Master of Public Health at the University of Sao Paulo, and is currently an exchange student at the Faculty of Environmental Studies at York University.

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