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**Community, Vulnerability and Reproduction in Disaster Scenarios. An Approach from Latin America and the Caribbean**

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Latin America and the Caribbean have experienced numerous natural disasters in the past decades which have significant social, political and economic repercussions. Environmental changes, which are a product of capitalist dynamics, have created a dramatic aftermath with exacerbated effects on populations due to social inequality. The future projections are not promising in this area. In the context of these disasters, daily conditions of inequality, vulnerability, and marginalization, which trigger authentic human catastrophes, are highlighted.

In general terms, socio-environmental fragility has increased in the last decade, which can be observed in terms of the impacts of the exploitation of oil, gas, mining, agriculture, and aquaculture. Latin America and the Caribbean, in particular the Andean region, have witnessed the wide expansion of extractivism, aggravated by the inequality and compensatory model of the State. The increase in investments in extractivist industries was fueled by the high prices of basic goods between 2000 and 2015. This did not translate, however, to a reduction of social and economic vulnerability by significant social expenditures or imply a reduction in environmental risks associated with said model. The expansion of the commodities consensus, with all its democratic, judicial, social, ecological, and political spillover effects, has been promoted by conservative governments, as well as by progressive ones. At the same time, almost all governments of the region left behind the substantial reforms of their tax system, increasing the already present inequality. These actions take place, therefore, in conditions of accelerated climate change and environmental exploitation which affect oceans, forests, water basins, and nature in general.

In this context of heightened disparities and multiple risks, it's necessary to inquire in comparative terms about disasters, their impacts at different levels, as well as the processes of responses and recovery post-disaster. This needs to be explored in terms of different communities' reactions, in terms of the intervention of the State and organizations, and, at times, in terms of the sidelines of both.

Beyond the divergent approaches regarding the management of risks in the region, a theoretical and analytical landscape about how the population and communities respond to these conditions has become necessary in order to ensure social reproduction in adverse conditions. A perspective based on sustainability, reproduction, and care, allows us to understand the way in which communities articulate with each other to reconstruct and guarantee basic elements necessary for a life together (water supplies, shelter, food, care for the elderly, health, etc.). The focus from the social sciences as well as from technical approaches has generally centered on the actions of the State, international organization or other actors in the territory. Meanwhile, communities' organization has recently been conceptualized in terms of "resilience", a concept which has been strongly criticized to the degree that it evades the structural dimensions of these crises, as well as the subordination of responses to the neoliberal logic.

In terms of what has been stated and beyond a technical analysis of the disasters and responses of the State and public policies, we call for approaches that consider the conditions and responses of communities, as well as the effects of these disasters on them. We call for diverse and critical perspectives that include environmental (in)justice, social and environmental inequalities, the impact of climate change, social vulnerability, resilience and its critique, reproduction and the sustainability of life, among others. We invite the submission of texts that will contribute to reflections about how to do together in terms of these events.

This dossier seeks to connect discussions with the concept of slow disasters, also known as disasters in slow motion or postponed disasters. We aim to go beyond the habitual imaginary regarding risk and disaster as circumstantial events in order to create a reflection that fosters an understanding of these issues in relation to sociopolitical, ecological, territorial, and broader processes. This approach, connected to perspectives about vulnerability and reproductive crises, places structural patterns on the forefront, as well as social and cultural patterns, communities, and institutions. It also brings to the forefront the way in which these perspectives link with other forms of understanding the threat, precarization, and insecurity in everyday settings, as well as how communities respond to said phenomena.

The main objectives of this dossier are to analyze and compare the social, economic, and environmental dynamics that are produced in context of disasters in Latin America and the Caribbean; to inquire about the approaches and key notions of studies on disasters in the social

sciences; and to stimulate analytical debates about the recovery process from a social perspective that contributes elements of reflection to the academic community and state agencies which intervene in territories. This volume proposes to compile texts from Latin America and the Caribbean that explore the following issues:

1. Critical examination of the key concepts and approaches in research about disasters.
2. Reconstruction, recovery, and reproduction. Institutional and community responses: (i) inequality before and after a disaster; (ii) recovery and development in cities, rural areas, and communities; (iii) solidarity, collaborative, and community actions, in social and productive recovery; (iv) link between community local action and the action of the State, agencies, and organizations; (v) productive network in the affected areas, work relationships, and models of development; and, (vi) the relationship between development, inequalities and impacts of disasters.
3. Crises and reproductive dynamics after a disaster: (i) support in disaster conditions in terms of health, education, housing, water, care for the elderly, safeguarding amid violence against women and children, food supplies, etc.; (ii) reproductive processes of collectives and communities; (iii) gender, ethnic, class, age, etc. dynamics and strategies of support within families and communities; and, (v) the role of institutions in the reproductive area.

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