

# Las Compañeras del Campo

## The Companions of the Countryside

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Dinah Dodds Overseas  
Study Grant

### My Research:



Above: Señora Florinda & Me.

### How the Dinah Dodd's grant helped:



Above: Celebrating with Wilson y Diana ("Equipo Intercompu") after finishing the long weeks of zine designing/editing/printing/binding.

### How the project lives on:



Right: Kids in Chilca Totora exploring the medicinal plant garden using zines for plant identification.

### ¿Donde?

Chilca Totora (Tarqui): countryside region outside of Cuenca city in Ecuador

### ¿Quién?

Señora María Florinda & Kushiwaira community (now called Sumak Sisa/Linda Flor)

### ¿Qué?

300 hard copies of zine: a collection of medicinal plants, poems, photographs, aromatic agüitas and organic compost recipes, and other indigenous practices

### ¿Por qué?

Support & contribute to the little available information on Sumak Sisa & create awareness about Ecuadorian indigenousness communities

### ¿Cómo?

Study abroad volunteer work, Intercompu, apartment in Cuenca after program

### Allowed me to:

- Travel to and from Chilca Totora for follow up research
- Make/distribute 300 zines in U.S./Ecuador
- Photograph/print with a film camera
- Develop anthropological research skills
- Build strong, international life long relationships

### Helped others by:

- Supporting small local businesses & communities (\$)
- Creating networks between urban/rural communities
- Teaching students about local plant identification/English



Website featuring zine: <http://mayanab4.wix.com/multimediamay>

Right: A thank you message from Señora Florinda's daughter, Fanny, sent October 30<sup>th</sup>.

Hola, todos estamos bien, los niños, las compañeras, y yo jajaja 😊 gracias x los saludos, esperamos q ud también este muy bien .... y claro las personas extranjeras q nos visitan están muy contentos con su libro, gracias x todo.... 🙏 todos dicen y aun decimos 🙏 "woooow" gracias una vez más, saludos Maya

**Fanny Punin**

Le cuento q el proyecto de turismo esta en un proceso de cambio de nombre, ya no se llama Kushiwaira, sino "Sumak Sisa" q significa Linda Flor 🌸🌻🌺🌻

Below: Sharing the zine project at a permaculture convergence in California.



Above: Distributing zines with Fanny to kids in Professor Gustavo's class on the playground.



Left: Compañera Carmen preparing cuy (guinea pig), a traditional Ecuadorian dish, by holding it upside down to drain out the blood.

