

# URBAN YOUTH DECLAR ACTION



Quito, Ecuador



Youth DeclarACTION on Sustainable Urbanization, Quito, Ecuador

National Urban Forum Youth 2030 Cities  
UN-Habitat Forum  
Quito, Ecuador, March 13, 2022

We, the representatives of youth organizations from Quito and its surroundings, gathered at the first National Urban Youth 2030 Cities Forum at the behest of the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat) in the City of Quito, Ecuador, on March 13, 2022, in view of our right to the city, and expressing our intention to work with all stakeholders towards the meaningful inclusion of young people in sustainable development, inclusive, safe and prosperous of our cities and communities for generations to come, and,

**TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:**

That young people are an especially important part of urban settlements and that our dynamism, skills, creativity, and commitment contribute to the construction of a better urban future;

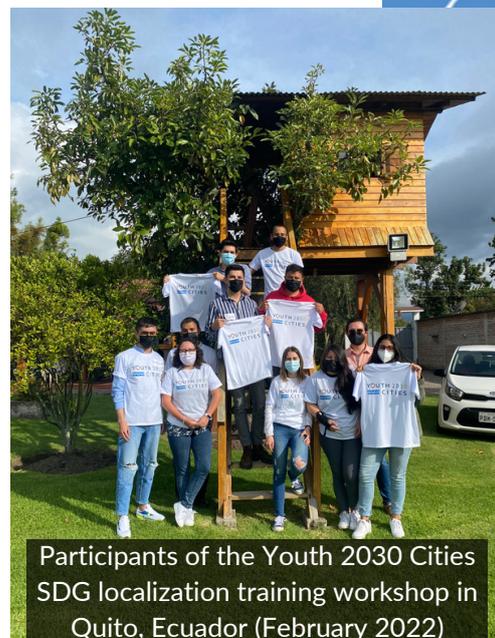
That we have problems and challenges, which at the same time constitute opportunities to improve cities, such as:

**I. Environment**

Sacrificing fauna for establishing monocultures;  
Forcing the environment to adapt to human; activities  
Reducing the natural terrain in exchange for human activities;  
Overconsumption and the generation of more material desires

**II. Economic growth, entrepreneurship, and employment opportunity**

Lack of prior education and job training;  
Lack of citizen awareness;  
Lack of financial education within educational institutions;  
Limited work access;  
Lack of social (experience), financial; (credits/requirements) and government support



Participants of the Youth 2030 Cities  
SDG localization training workshop in  
Quito, Ecuador (February 2022)

### III. Gender, LGBTIQ+ and diversity

Insecurity;  
Dehumanizing living spaces;  
Lack of representativeness in decision-making spaces;  
Reproduction of gender stereotypes in public policies;  
Maintaining rape culture;  
Gentrification and speculation on the right to housing;  
Spaces without identity;  
Lack of urban planning with a gender focus;  
Design of media discourses that make invisible or condemn diversity



Participants of the Youth 2030 Youth Forum in Quito, Ecuador (March 2022)

### IV. Migration and people in a situation of human mobility

The inclusion of information on human mobility in education systems;  
Loss of collective values;  
Regularization of migrant policies and visibility;  
Opportunities for people in situations of human mobility;  
Discrimination and xenophobia;  
The lack of tolerant policies;  
The lack of construction of economic, social, and cultural knowledge



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### V. Youth governance

Lack of youth representation in local governments;  
Lack of public-private partnerships;  
Adult centrism;  
Lack of youth leadership;  
Lack of connectivity in rural areas;  
Invisibility of women within decision-making spaces



Youth 2030 Forum in Quito, Ecuador (March 2022)

That it is necessary to strengthen links and alliances between the various actors integral development in the city of Quito, as well as around the world to create networks of exchange and action. Such actors include:

1. The national government
2. Local government
3. Ministry of Urban Development and Housing
4. Ministry of Environment
5. The Mayor's Office of DMQ
6. Large companies—pioneering projects
7. Academia, schools, and colleges
8. Civil society
9. Media
10. United Nations
11. International organizations
12. Non-governmental organizations
13. LGBTIQ+ Community
14. Host communities and groups
15. Financial institutions and employers

That the coordinated involvement of local and national governments to advance innovative and revolutionary agendas for young people is of fundamental importance;

That the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals is an opportunity to encourage and highlight youth action with the purpose of "leaving no one or any territory behind";

That the New Urban Agenda issued in Quito in 2016 is another pillar for the comprehensive development of young people that can be achieved with their participation;

That for the achievement of the above purposes, it is necessary to enhance the strength that each young person and their organizations, to advance with concrete actions towards a future in which everyone can benefit and prosper, regardless of their race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic situation.

That we have created this space, the Youth2030 National Urban Forum, to openly discuss crucial issues identified by the young participants and to find sustainable and inclusive solutions;



A participant of the Youth 2030 Cities SDG localization training workshop in Quito, Ecuador (February 2022)

WE MAKE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

1. We intend to be young ambassadors to generate a significant impact;
2. We seek to make visible the problems and find solutions related to the environment and climate action, gender and diversities, situations of human mobility, youth governance and economic growth and employment options;
3. We bear in mind the importance of building cities by and for women, diverse communities, and vulnerable populations;
4. We seek to ensure the safety and integrity of diverse people in all public spaces;
5. We seek to highlight the need to form spaces that guarantee free expression;
6. We seek to break patrimonial and discriminatory violence by fully exercising our rights;
7. We believe that access to basic services should not be limited for women and diverse persons;
8. We strive to make visible the different realities of human mobility from a point of intersectionality;
9. We understand human mobility as a right and move towards a reality without discrimination;
10. We seek to encourage the State to report on spaces for participation; and
11. We seek to appropriate spaces for youth participation;
12. We aim to territorialize advocacy mechanisms for the creation of public policies; and
13. We call for the modernization of the state to reduce bureaucracy.

**RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTIONS:**

To fulfill these commitments, we believe all of society must unite. At the Youth2030 Forum in Quito, we identified what each key stakeholder needs to do to support meaningful youth action towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

**Young people must:**

1. Humanize the recycling process, promote through social networks, create incentives, activation in neighborhoods, community articulation, educate neighbors, and be ambassadors of the cause;
2. Create more youth forums and community spaces;
3. Actively engage in demanding the fulfillment of their rights unmarked by a heteropatriarchal dynamic;
4. Implement subjects that generate knowledge of problems of human mobility and intersectionality together with the academy;
5. Generate spaces or platforms for participation for young people;
6. Integrate young community leaders into decision-making;
7. Contribute to the democratic and intersectional construction of public policy, in addition to the advocacy, opportunity and security of politicians with a focus on human rights; and
8. Raise our voices, have an initiative, promote, and participate in spaces of youth inclusion, consider cultural diversity and be willing to make a change with action.



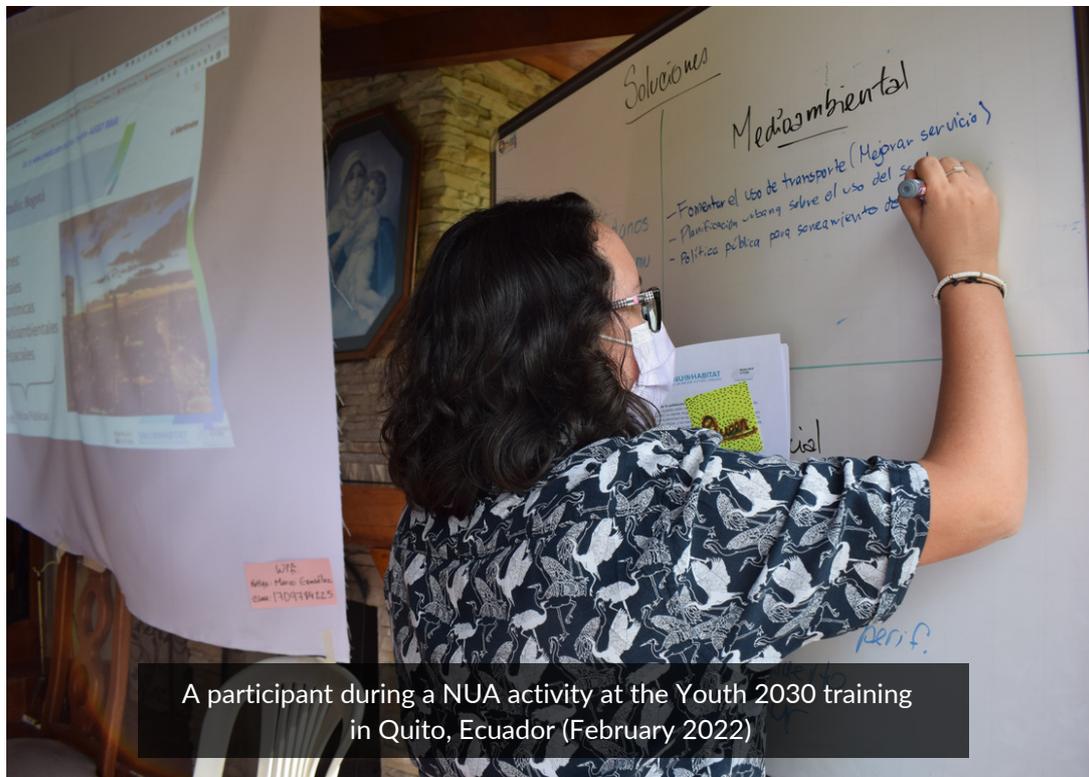
Danilo Manzano, Director General of Diálogo Diverso- Youth Forum in Quito, Ecuador

**National governments must:**

1. Implement reforestation programs;
2. Propose public policies with a gender focus;
3. Generate migration regularization methodologies for people in human mobility;
4. Recognize Venezuelans through the State;
5. Welcome the proposals, contributions, and observations of young people in the Organic Youth Law; and
6. Reform public policies, and delegate local government programs for entrepreneurship and access to employment.



Breakout Sessions- Youth 2030 Forum in Quito, Ecuador (March 2022)



A participant during a NUA activity at the Youth 2030 training in Quito, Ecuador (February 2022)

**Local governments must:**

1. Manage solid waste through local support;
2. Develop diverse and sustainable cities;
3. Strengthen protection systems in relation to young people in diversity; and
4. Implement programs graduated by the national government without political bias.

**United Nations agency must:**

1. Ensure that projects have a gender focus;
2. Support and strengthen spaces for inter-institutional articulation; and
3. Create awareness campaigns and promote spaces for youth inclusion, creation of action plans for national governments.

**Intergovernmental organizations must:**

1. Promote spaces for dialogue;
2. Promote education and social knowledge at the global level; and
3. Promote integration through planning and intergovernmental organization, to achieve joint goals.

**Civil society must:**

1. Provide environmental education;
2. Actively participate in the dialogue on inclusion and diversity;
3. Make visible issues of individual rights; and
4. Be aware of the origin of products and services consumed.

**Private sector must:**

1. Invest in reforestation from private institutions;
2. Invest in social work projects;
3. Implement social co-responsibility policy; and
4. Training employees



Participants presenting during group activity at Youth 2030 SDG training, Quito, Ecuador

**CLOSURE:**

Above are the recommendations and objectives of young people to locate the Sustainable Development Goals in Ecuador. We are ready and willing to partner with our local governments and other stakeholders to join forces towards building more inclusive and sustainable cities and communities. We call on governments and local authorities to take urgent action to ensure that our voices are heard, and actions are taken seriously. As young and responsible citizens who have already been working hard to improve our cities, we pledge to continue to be part of the implementation of the action points outlined in this "DeclarACTION".

**PRESENTED BY:**

The participants of the National Urban Forum Youth2030 in Quito, Ecuador.



A group photo of participants at the Youth 2030 training in Quito, Ecuador



YOUTH  
2030  
CITIES  
YOUTH ACTION  
FOR THE SDGs



SCAN ME