



Jóvenes Peruanos
frente
al Cambio Climático



YOUTH 4
NATURE



ONLINE

LAC



**Youth
Week**

Outcome Statement

▶ bit.ly/LACWeek2022



To a large extent, for the next generations, if we continue on this path, the numbers are obvious. There is no need to discuss what is going to happen with these resources. They are going to be extracted, they are going to be exported, and Latin America will surely have a panorama not too far from what we have today, which is the most unequal region in the world, except that we will no longer have these great sources of biodiversity that we have today.”



Juan Martín Azerrat
Political Scientist,
Argentina



As Indigenous youth, we have invaluable knowledge that is associated with the memory of our grandmothers and grandfathers, which has been passed down from generation to generation. This is related to the management of natural resources, such as in the collection and elaboration of craftwork with seeds, agricultural practices and harvesting times, sowing and harvesting of water, which are all crucial as contributions to the solutions to the climate crisis.”



Nohora Alejandra Quiquantar
Tejiendo
Pensamientos,
Colombia



There can be no marine conservation without the real and committed participation of the people for whom the sea is a source of life – a source of mental health, food, and opportunities to achieve a better quality of life and a good life.”



Ivannia Ayales
CoopeSolidar R.C.,
Costa Rica

Young people leading climate action in Latin America & Caribbean

From 27 June to 2 July, the [Global Landscapes Forum \(GLF\)](#) ran its first-ever [Latin America & Caribbean \(LAC\) Youth Week](#) in collaboration with the [Youth in Landscapes Initiative \(YIL\)](#) and the [LAC GLF Youth Project Team](#). The GLF LAC Youth Week saw original content in the form of four Youth Daily Shows, a GLF Live, and a Digital Regional Dialogue, as well as content from the [GLF Amazonia: The Tipping Point, Digital Conference](#) in 2021.

Spotlighting youth leadership and nurturing networks of change

The GLF LAC Youth Week served as a safe space for young people from the region to share knowledge and ideas and a platform to showcase their vision and work with the world. The speakers of the event were predominantly young experts, including people from Indigenous and local communities, who provided intersectional and multidisciplinary lenses to understand the efforts for environmental and social justice in the region. Furthermore, the event contributed to GLF’s growing network in the region and strengthened YIL’s partnerships with regional youth-led organizations.

The event reached over **637,000 people** on social media, and sessions were viewed a total of **17,500 times**. The sessions covered the following topics:

- **Youth and extractivism: Challenging business as usual in LAC.** *Introductory plenary with panelists Mirna Ines Fernández, Sergio Esteban Lozeno Baes, Gabriela Gavarrete Juárez, Juan Martin Azerrat, and Adriana Melgar (in Spanish)*
- **Preserving seascapes and nurturing coastal youth: Artisanal fishery in Costa Rica.** *Youth Daily Show with Ivannia Ayales, Griselda Alvarado Picado, Áaron Chacón, and María Andrea Bolaños (in Spanish)*
- **What’s the ecological toll of oil spills in Latin America?** *GLF Live with Marcos Orellana, Daniel Caceres Bartra and Thaís Herrero (In English)*
- **Lucrative destruction: The impact of mining on landscapes in Latin America and the Caribbean.** *Youth Daily Show with Gabriela Sisniega, Leonela Labra Panocca, and Estefanía Cortez (in Spanish)*
- **Stewards of nature: Indigenous youth reclaiming space.** *Youth Daily Show with Nohora Alejandra Quiquantar, Tarisson Nawa, Jesus Miguel Villaca Chipana, and Luene Karipuna (in Spanish and Portuguese)*
- **Decolonizing solutions to deforestation in Latin America and the Caribbean.** *Digital Regional Dialogue with panelists Ery Gabs Baesse, Analí Bustos, Luene Karipuna, Marlon Webb, Manuela Gil Echevarria, Frances Andrade, Mariana Alejandra Solórzano Cruz, Pê Magalhães, Glindys Virginia Luciano, Jesus Miguel Villaca Chipana, Andrea Alfarro, and Lizeth Reyes (in Spanish and Portuguese)*

All activities and sessions were developed in close collaboration with regional partners, including [Jóvenes Peruanos frente a los Cambios Climáticos \(JPCC\)](#), [Reserva Monte Alegre](#), [EmpoderaClima](#), and [CoopeSolidar R.C.](#), and the regional offices of [Young Professionals for Agricultural Development \(YPARD\)](#) and [Youth4Nature \(Y4N\)](#), along with other regional partners.

Key messages

The following messages aim to inform and influence ongoing discussions and political processes, as well as encourage young people in the region to take action for environmental and social justice.

1) Environmental degradation in Latin America and the Caribbean can be attributed to the dominant extractivist developmental path relevant to most of the economies in the region.

Extractivism was mobilized by different speakers to discuss the processes of large-scale extraction and exportation of natural resources, as exemplified by activities associated with logging, mining, industrial fishing, and agribusiness. Furthermore, extractivism was underscored as one of the key drivers of social inequality in the region.

Experts pointed out that the profits from these activities become highly concentrated

in the hands of land-owning elites and companies, while their environmental impacts are widely experienced by society and especially Indigenous and traditional communities. Speakers proposed ecosystem restoration initiatives, nature-based solutions for value chains, and Indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices, among other alternatives, to establish a new development paradigm in the region.

2) Indigenous Peoples' knowledge systems should inform decision making and policy both regionally and globally

Many experts pointed out that land tenure and Indigenous rights are key to environmental and social justice in the region. From successful [examples of sustainable land use](#) to strong networks of action such as the [Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon \(COIAB\)](#), the knowledge, societal models, cultural diversity, and practices of Indigenous Peoples and local communities were cited to accurately represent and demystify the realities on the ground. Thus, even though Indigenous Peoples' knowledge and practices are already internationally recognized as key to environmental justice, this recognition should be translated into effective policies and actions to guarantee their livelihoods and healthy ecosystems.





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3) Ecosystem conservation and restoration efforts should be informed and led by local communities

Adopting a [human rights approach](#) as a non-negotiable element for conservation and restoration efforts is the only way to address biodiversity loss and pursue climate justice. Many successful cases of community-led action were presented during the week, including the involvement of smallholder artisanal fishing cooperatives for the [creation of national networks of areas of marine conservation and artisanal small-scale fishing](#) and [collaboration with](#)

[Indigenous communities](#), smallholder farmers, and local organizations to address deforestation.

4) Reforestation efforts should be based on solutions rooted in decoloniality and self-determination

To conclude the week’s activities, the ‘Decolonizing solutions for deforestation in Latin America & the Caribbean’ regional dialogue was held online, bringing together young activists and professionals to discuss the main drivers and solutions of deforestation in the region.



Collaborative pledges tree with wishes for the future of forests in LAC from attendants of the Regional Dialogue.

The collaborative activities led to the consolidation of a clear message: breaking away from the current unsustainable extractivist model is key for the prosperity of people and the sustainability of ecosystems in the region. This paradigm, established and reproduced by the economic elites of LAC countries, was identified as being reinforced by poverty and a lack of opportunities for local communities to engage with sustainable value chains.

Other concerns raised included a lack of easily accessible information and the saturated representation of the interests of extractivist industries in spaces of political power. Participants also pointed out that although many countries in the region have legal frameworks for conservation and restoration, these are sparsely put into practice. Robust visions for action were also shared, with solutions focusing on community-led restoration activities and sustainable agricultural practices, among other solutions.

Lastly, participants and experts highlighted the need for transformative change toward development models that prioritize the well-being of the region's peoples and landscapes.

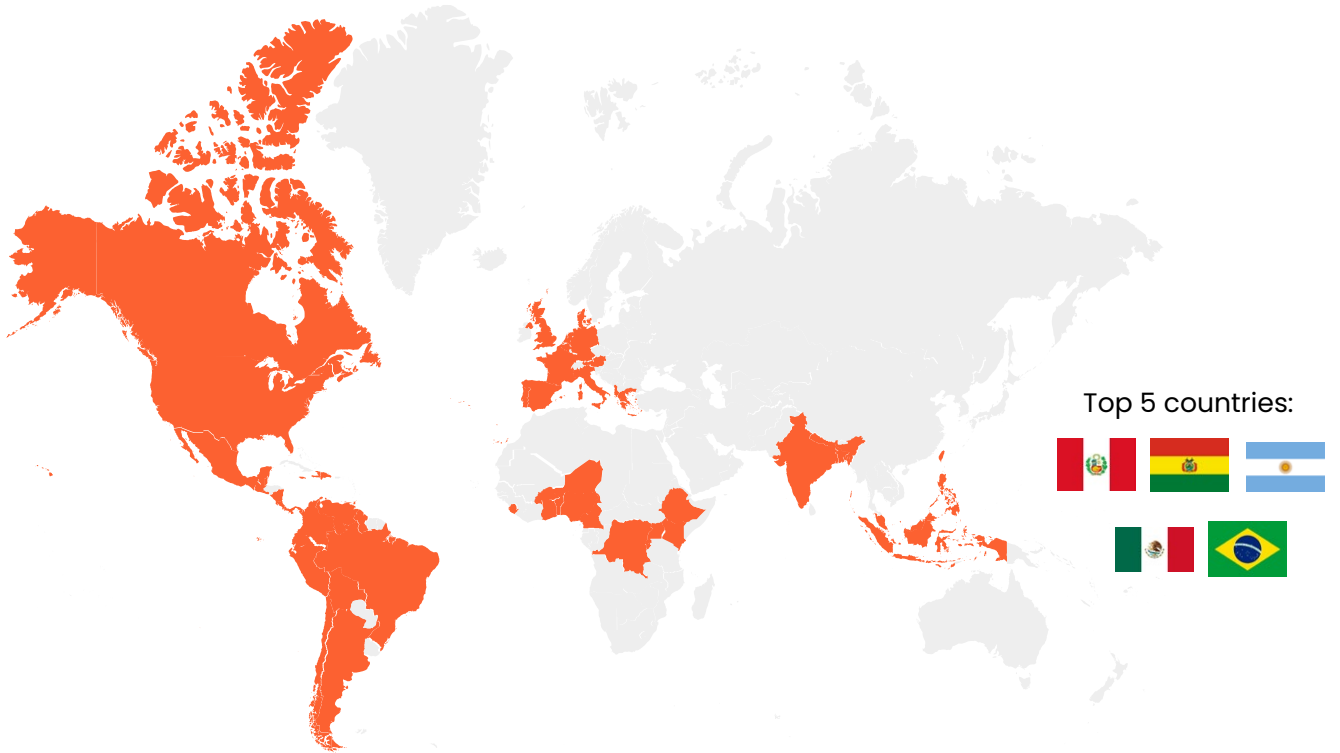
Looking forward: Building community for transformative action

For young people, environmental and social justice in the region can only be achieved by embracing the rich diversity of the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean. Beyond providing an opportunity to spotlight the growing body of action for flourishing landscapes and climate justice in Latin America and the Caribbean, the event helped build bridges between different young professionals and activists in the region.

YIL and its regional partners will continue to strengthen their relationships and support the leadership showcased by visionary young community builders and ecosystem restorers, Indigenous and traditional communities, and smallholder farmers and fishers. Our calls for the [2023 Restoration Stewards](#) and new [GLF Chapters in Latin America and Caribbean](#) might be the perfect place to start.



LAC Youth Week by the number



Reach on social

637,055



Website registrations

312



Engagement

3,443



Total views

17,806



Speakers

30



Impressions

5,571,436



Speakers

Aarón Chacón

Artisanal fisher

Adriana Melgar

Anthropologist

Analí Bustos

Biologist, 2021 Forests Restoration Steward

Andrea Alfaro

Forest Engineer

Andrea Chávarri

Communications specialist,
Global Landscapes Forum

Daniel Cáceres Bartra

Marine Biologist

Estefania Cortez

Lawyer, Peruvian Youth for Climate Change
(JPCC)

Frances Andrade

Forestry Engineer and Executive Director,
Engajamundo

Gabriela Gavarrete Juárez

Biology student, 2022 Forests Restoration
Steward

Gabriela Sisniega

Architect

Gaby Baesse

Regional Coordinator, Y4N

Griselda Alvarado Picado

Specialist, Gender and Development

Ivannia Ayales

Social Psychologist

Jesus Miguel Villaca Chipana

Agroindustrial Engineer, Peruvian Youth for
Climate Change (JPCC)

Juan Martín Azerrat

Political Scientist

Leonela Labra Panocca

History student

Lizeth Reyes

Renewable natural resource engineer
Luene Karipuna, Communications specialist

Luene Karipuna

Communications specialist

Manuela Gil Echeverria

Agronomist, YPARD Country Representative,
Costa Rica

Marcos A. Orellana

UN Special Rapporteur

María Andrea Bolaños

Biologist

Nohora Alejandra Quiguntar

Founder, Tejiendo Pensamiento

Marlon Webb

Forester, 2021 Mountains Restoration Steward

Mirna Ines Fernández

Environmental Engineer

Pê Magalhães

Sociologist, Youth in Landscapes (YIL) Intern

Sergio Esteban Lozano Baez

Ecologist and Mountains Restoration Steward
2022

Susan Manrique

Biologist, Peruvian Youth for Climate Change
(JPCC)

Tarisson Nawa

Communications specialist

Thaís Herrero

Journalist





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Watch now the GLF Youth LAC Week 2022

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Global Landscapes Forum

The Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) is the world's largest knowledge-led platform on integrated land use, dedicated to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and Paris Climate Agreement. The Forum takes a holistic approach to create sustainable landscapes that are productive, prosperous, equitable and resilient and considers five cohesive themes of food and livelihoods, landscape restoration, rights, finance and measuring progress. It is led by the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), in collaboration with its co-founders UNEP and the World Bank and Charter Members.

Charter Members: CIAT, CIFOR, CIRAD, Climate Focus, Conservation International, Crop Trust, EcoAgriculture Partners, EFI, Evergreen Agriculture, FAO, FSC, GEF, GIZ, ICIMOD, IFOAM - Organics International, ILRI, INBAR, IPMG, IUFRO, Rainforest Alliance, Rare, RRI, SAN, TMG-Think Tank for Sustainability, UNCCD, UN Environment Programme, Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation, part of Wageningen Research, WFO, World Agroforestry, World Bank Group, WRI, WWF International, Youth in Landscapes Initiative

Funding partners

