Quito - Chocó Andino

Uniting Urban and Rural for Harmony Between **People and Nature in our Food Systems**

CITY-REGION STRATEGY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE URBAN FUTURES PROGRAM



OUR COLLECTIVE JOURNEY

General characterization Meetings with key stakeholders, 2023 **NOVEMBER** of the food system review of secondary sources and field visits Theory of Change Workshops. Minga to DECEMBER Strategic stakeholders dream the Andean Chocó food systems 7 Maps developed **28** Indicators evaluated **JANUARY** 2024 In Depth Assessment – FEBRUARY 477 Surveys to young urban people **413** Surveys in territory Strategic lines MARCH Stakeholders **Weaving Actions Workshop** planning with - APRIL Thematic roundtable APRIL Strategic and participatory planning - MAY Institutional Stakeholders **JUNE** City-region Strategy Launch partners commited

forward>>we grow

Assessing the Challenges...

YOUTH LEADERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION GAPS¹

Existing platforms for participation and decision-making lack mechanisms that encourage youth involvement and nurture their leadership.

CHALLENGES TO VALUE ADDITION AND COMPETITIVENESS

In the food processing sector, organizational, technological, and innovation challenges hinder the ability of local inhabitants to add value to their products, limiting their competitiveness against large corporations and cheaper imported or smuggled goods.

PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY

aprox.

of the territory is suitable for crops and pasture, limited by the steepness of the land

FOOD INSECURITY AND POVERTY⁵

21.8%

of households in the city region live in poverty, characterized by unmet basic needs (UBN)

20.4% is the average option.

experienced by young women

LENGTHY **DISTRIBUTION CHAINS²**

of the city region's agricultural products are marketed through intermediaries

CLIMATE CHANGE³

4%-4.8%

Predicted increases in precipitation

0.4°C-1°C

Expected rise of temperatures

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In 2023, Quiteños voted to ban metallic mining in the Chocó Andino territory, which sparked significant attention and collaboration. This decision strengthened urban-rural connections and created new opportunities for commercialization and engagement for youth from both areas.

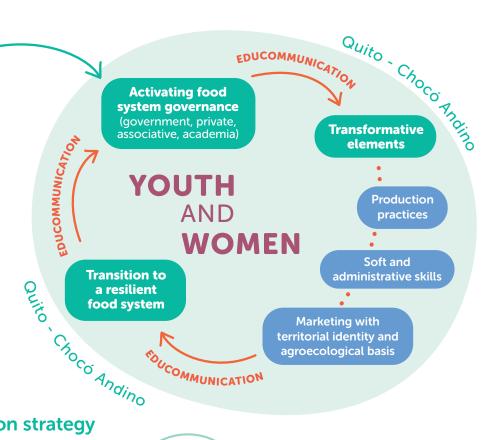
The steep slopes and abundant rainfall create ideal conditions for implementing agroecological and regenerative production systems.

- The Biosphere Reserve governance roundtables are being activated.
- Revaluation of rural culture, aligned with the growth of a tourism industry.



OUR **THEORY OF CHANGE** EXPLAINED

If multilevel governance is strengthened, encouraging the participation of youth and women in decisions about the food system, we can have a more cohesive impact on transformative elements: enhance agroecological marketing mechanisms, capacity building for regenerative and responsible production and consumption, and communicate with transformative narratives, which will facilitate the transition to a resilient food system with a territorial identity. This system, articulated on existing participation platforms, promotes collective action, benefiting consumers in urban Quito and producers in the rural Andean Chocó, and consolidates the Andean Chocó as a territory of life, free of extractivism.



Approaches to the city-region strategy

INCLUSION OF YOUTH AND WOMEN

Promoting equity and inclusion by addressing the needs and perspectives of women and youth in decision-making processes.

RESILIENT LANDSCAPES

Integrated ecosystem management that balances human needs with biodiversity conservation.

TERRITORIAL IDENTITY

A connection to and sense of belonging in the Andean Chocó that fosters its care and innovation.

BROAD-BASE GOVERNANCE

Equitable and collaborative participation of diverse stakeholders in decision making.

REGENERATION AND ECOLOGICAL **INTEGRATION**

We strive for ongoing evolution in initiatives committed to regenerating life, protecting ecosystems, and integrating ecological principles into daily practices.

Our agreed roadmap

AIMS

STRATEGIES

Broad-based governance that includes the voice of youth effectively and collaboratively promotes the transition to agroecological, regenerative and territorially-identified agro-food systems.

Foods that boost our performance

Just as fruits and vegetables provide

essential nutrients for optimal health,

governance structures offer the

crucial framework for a sustainable

food system to function effectively.

and that contribute to public health.

Increased flows of resources and

opportunities for strengthening

inclusive, agroecological, regenerative

food systems, with territorial identity

Foods that provide energy

Just as carbohydrates fuel the body for daily functions, increased resources and opportunities energize and strengthen agroecological, regenerative food systems, driving sustained growth and resilience.

Foods that shape us

People, especially young people

in the city-region, influence the

agri-food system in a co-responsible

manner, incorporating healthier,

change-adapted practices.

Just as proteins shape and strengthen the body, youth play a key role in shaping a sustainable food system through responsible, regenerative, and climate-adapted practices.

ACTIONS

production roundtable by building stakeholder synergies to promote youth leadership, and expand public policy impact.

Continuous learning program that strengthens broad capabilities and Agroecological and Participatory

Articulated educational-communication campaigns to strengthen responsible consumption, urban-rural reciprocity and youth leadership.

Guarantee System.





