



IMPORTANCE OF YOUTH-LED AND MULTI-SECTORAL CLIMATE ACTION NOW

Second Latin America Dialogue

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A platform for indigenous communities, media, academia, legislative, government, NGOs, and more importantly, youth to promote cross-sectoral and action-oriented engagement against the threats of climate change and environmental degradation in Latin America.

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PRESS RELEASE

Importance of Youth-Led and Multi-Sectoral Climate Action Now: POP Movement's Second Latin America Dialogue

Upholding its vision to bring together youth alongside other stakeholders from different Latin American countries to promote climate action, the POP (Protect Our Planet) Movement is organizing the **Second Latin America Dialogue** on 22 July 2020, in partnership with Fundacion Fidal, a youth and education focused not-for-profit founded by Her Excellency Dra. Rosalía Arteaga in Ecuador. In the presence of Former Ecuadorian President, Her Excellency Dra. Rosalía Arteaga as the guest of honor and keynote speaker, this virtual platform will be a space for representatives from indigenous communities, media, academia, legislature, government, NGOs, and more importantly, youth to promote cross-sectoral and community-oriented engagement against the threats of climate change and environmental degradation in the Latin American regions.

In a build up to this Second Latin America Dialogue, an interactive session was held on 7 July 2020 as a stakeholders preparatory meeting to understand the most pressing environmental problems in Latin America, and the challenges and opportunities around addressing them, from the perspective of different sectors. Cosme Vazquez, a journalist from Chiapas, México, during the discussion said, “Exclusivity of the news made in CDMX shows that community means are lacking. It destroys the voice of the indigenous who are being directly affected.” Johan Ramos, a Venezuelan youth from the Warao community said, “The arrival of foreigners to our highly vulnerable and indigenous communities fundamentally represents the exploitation of mining resources, oil and all kinds of extractive industries that generate pollution, and loss

of ecosystems and large areas of territory.” A panel discussion which will be held during the Second Latin America dialogue has been conceived on the basis of the outcomes of the preparatory meeting held on 7 July 2020.

The Latin America Dialogue had been conceived as part of POP Movement’s Youth CAN (Youth for Climate Action Now) initiative on 22 April 2020, that marked 50 years of Earth Day. During this first dialogue which marked the participation of 6 Latin American countries including México, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama, Her Excellency, Dra. Rosalía Arteaga reaffirmed the role of education as a transversal axis for the comprehensive training of citizens and developing youth leadership for climate action. The virtual event was marked by the involvement of young participants who presented various climate action projects carried out in their regions.

As an organization that fundamentally believes in the grassroots leadership of “Youth Inspired by Knowledge”, the POP Movement advocates for, mobilizes and mentors youth leading grassroots climate actions. “Young people have a huge challenge, perhaps youth allied with the experience of those of us can get better results. So I want young people to participate in the POP Movement, especially young Ecuadorians and Latin Americans, this is a movement made by young people and for young people,” notes the Former Ecuadorian President whose organization Fundación Fidal has partnered with the POP Movement. The Latin America Dialogue, among the many platforms offered by the POP Movement intends to guide, motivate and mentor the youth of Latin America and across the globe in working towards the indispensable cause of Protecting Our Planet, as we continue to urgently build a movement towards ensuring a healthy, inclusive, and sustainable future for the generations to come.

As Dr. Ash Pachauri, Senior Mentor of the POP Movement says, “Today, it is ever more important to include the Latin America region and, in particular, its indigenous and young communities. As the POP Movement, we attempt inspire and mentor youth-led climate action globally. We have a small window of opportunity in which to act. We cannot tackle the global challenge of climate change without the leadership of Latin America.”

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For more information, contact:

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