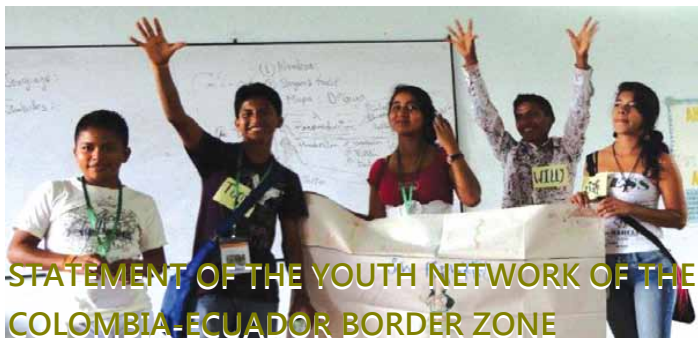


Statement of the YOUTH NETWORK of the Colombia-Ecuador border zone



unidos
en la diversidad
construimos una
frontera de paz



STATEMENT OF THE YOUTH NETWORK OF THE COLOMBIA-ECUADOR BORDER ZONE

Introduction

We, youth people, hope that the border zone turns into a space of encounter and cohesion with capacity building at the local level for men and women that strive peace. If rivers join together, why can't the people that coexist along them do the same? It is important to share the historical dimension of our experiences and symbols that express a shared identity in order to promote a peaceful coexistence between youth of the border zone. In this way, we will be able to live according to our rights and sociocultural values.

It is essential to fight against domestic and community violence, by actively informing violent acts. Finally, it is important to influence on public decisions and to participate in public spaces through dialogues with proposals and initiatives that favor youth.

Proposals

- To seek youth integration and development through permanent arts and sports activities in public space.
- To work joint strategies with the public and private sectors to improve access to credit and to increase employability for youth.
- To look for access and training on information and communications technologies.
- To keep informed about the creation of higher education institutions in the border zone: public, inclusive and high-quality.
- To write a Code of Peace Culture, with emphasis on the recognition of intercultural diversity, unity, respect and collective support.
- To promote within youth population access to community media with a vision of a daily exercise of interchange and dialogue.
- To demand the elimination of messages and figures of xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination.
- To organize binational forums in different towns along the border zone.

We, the members of the Youth Network of the Colombia-Ecuador border zone, make this statement a public document to call the attention of authorities, citizens and organizations that work for youth in both the Ecuadorian provinces and Colombian departments. United in the diversity, we also commit to build a border of peace.

