

---

This pedagogical guide, part of the 30GREAT Voices project, is designed for educational purposes.



**ANTONIO GÓMEZ**

### [Voice #2: Antonio Gómez](#)

Cayo Antonio Gómez Ruiz talks in this video about his role as a community leader in Polvorines, where he has worked for over a decade to develop the neighbourhood. He shares how, upon arriving in the 1980s, the area had no infrastructure, and residents had to create their own paths and homes. Cayo Antonio has led efforts to legalise land ownership, collaborating with the Universidad del Valle and the Secretariat of Social Housing. Despite challenges like the pandemic, he remains dedicated to improving living conditions and advancing community development.

#### **Additional Resources:**

[Voice #3: Ari Paz Chito](#) | [Voice #9: Fidelino Fernandez](#) | [Voice #11: Francy Mina](#) | [Voice #13: Hoover Hoyos Girón](#) | [Voice #16: Justiniano Arias](#) | [Voice #18: María Mellizo](#) | [Voice #26: Petronila Trochez](#) | [Voice #28: Rosario Castillo](#)

Based on Antonio Gómez's video, discuss the following questions with your peers:

**Question 01:** How can community leadership, like Cayo Antonio Gómez Ruiz's efforts, play a crucial role in addressing the challenges of informal settlements and the process of land legalisation?

**Question 02:** What strategies can urban planners implement to support the collective production of space in informal settlements, ensuring community participation and sustainable development?

**Question 03:** In which ways can collaboration between local communities, universities, and government institutions help overcome infrastructural and legal challenges in informal urban areas?

#### **Exploring connections:**

Below the image, you'll find additional voices that expand on themes from Cayo's testimonial. We invite you to explore these perspectives and connect Cayo's insights with broader discussions on *Community Leadership*.