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



MELANI ESCOBAR

[Voice #21: Melani Escobar](#)

Melanie Andrea Escobar Carabalí, an 11-year-old from Brisas de Las Palmas, District 18, enjoys playing football and dreams of joining the Colombian national team. She emphasises the support from her community and the importance of mothers supporting young female players to boost their confidence. Despite facing challenges such as poor infrastructure and limited water supply, Melanie appreciates her neighbourhood for its mutual support. She advocates for improvements in roads, water access, and sports facilities, particularly the creation of a well-organised park and football field for training.

Additional resources:

[Voice #1: Absalan Sabogal](#) | [Voice #7: Cristian Sandoval](#) | [Voice #16: Justiniano Arias](#)

Based on Melani Escobar's video, discuss the following questions with your peers:

Question 01: What strategies can be implemented to create safe and accessible environments for youth, particularly in informal settlements, that support both recreational activities and opportunities for skills development, such as football training?

Question 02: What role does community support and collective action, as demonstrated by Melanie's neighbourhood, play in addressing the challenges of informal settlements, and how can this be incorporated into urban planning strategies?

Exploring connections:

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