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



[Voice #28: Rosario Castillo](#)

Rosario Castillo shares her experiences as a founder of her neighborhood, where she and her family have lived for over 20 years. She recounts the struggles they faced to establish themselves, including enduring hunger, long work hours, and difficult living conditions. Rosario mentions the hardships of raising her children in such an environment, and the loss of her eldest son. At 65 years old, she reflects on her current life, working in her garage to earn a living and relying on family support. She expresses hope for the future, with dreams of improving her home and continuing to see her grandchildren grow. Despite the challenges, Rosario remains resilient, finding strength in her faith, family, and the support of her community. She also highlights the progress the neighborhood has made, including the installation of a sewerage system, which marks a significant improvement in their quality of life.

Additional resources:

[Voice #2: Antonio Gómez](#) | [Voice #3: Ari Paz Chito](#) | [Voice #8: Emilia Jiménez](#) | [Voice #9: Fidelino Fernandez](#) |
[Voice #11: Francy Mina](#) | [Voice #13: Hoover Hoyos Girón](#) | [Voice #16: Justiniano Arias](#) | [Voice #18: Maria Mellizo](#) |
[Voice #26: Petronila Trochez](#)

Based on Absolan Sabogal's video, discuss the following questions with your peers:

Question 01: How can urban planning strategies support the improvement of living conditions in informal settlements, as seen in Rosario Castillo's account of her neighbourhood's development?

Question 02: What role do community-driven efforts play in the collective production of space, as demonstrated by the residents in Rosario's neighbourhood?

Question 03: In what ways can urban planning policies better support the resilience and aspirations of individuals living in informal settlements, like Rosario, who are working toward improving their homes and neighbourhood despite limited resources?

Exploring connections:

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