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



### [Voice #9: Fidelino Fernandez](#)

Fidelino Fernandez is a dedicated community leader in Pampas del Mirador, District 18, Cali. Originally from Cauca, he moved to Cali in 1970 and has spent much of his life advocating for the rights of marginalised residents. Fidelino has worked various jobs, including in construction, but his leadership truly shines through his work in securing housing and services for his community. He was instrumental in organising the Community Housing Board, fighting for land rights, and improving living conditions, such as water and electricity services. He has led efforts to legalise housing, ensuring that residents receive proper titles, and advocating for better access to education and healthcare. Through years of persistence, Fidelino has fostered a spirit of resilience and community unity, striving to provide a better future for all residents, with a focus on decent housing and opportunities for everyone.

#### **Additional Resources:**

[Voice #2: Antonio Gómez](#) | [Voice #3: Ari Paz Chito](#) | [Voice #11: Francy Mina](#) | [Voice #13: Hoover Hoyos Girón](#) | [Voice #16: Justiniano Arias](#) | [Voice #18: Maria Mellizo](#) | [Voice #26: Petronila Trochez](#) | [Voice #28: Rosario Castillo](#)

Based on Fidelino Fernandez's video, discuss the following questions with your peers:

**Question 01:** In the video, Fidelino talks about the importance of collective action in informal settlements. How can urban planning strategies incorporate the concept of collective production of space to improve living conditions and foster community ownership of urban spaces?

**Question 02:** Fidelino's work highlights the importance of involving local communities in decision-making. How can urban planners ensure that the voices of informal settlement residents, like those led by Fidelino, are integrated into formal urban planning processes?

**Question 03:** How can urban planning strategies promote community ownership of urban spaces, and what role can community leaders, like Fidelino Fernandez, play in fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility among residents in informal settlements?

#### **Exploring connections:**

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