NICARAGUA
PROGRAM SUMMARY

Since 2005, the Youth Forum of the Americas has served as an official platform for young people to take the lead in initiating activities that generate spaces to proactively contribute to the definition of priorities and mandates for states.

As a result of each Forum, the youth adopt a declaration of commitment related to the mandates of each Summit. This is how young people make concrete proposals to governments, while at the same time setting their own agenda for action and follow-up to the agreements reached at the Forum.

From each statement, the youths themselves will take action and present recommendations to the actors involved in the forum and delegations of the participating governments. Young people undertake not only to demand actions from governments, but also to take on responsibilities to meet the challenges of each region.

OBJECTIVES

The forum is a process based on face-to-face and virtual consultations as well as regional and local events in OAS Member States. This is constituted as the participatory component of the Forum; youth have the opportunity to express opinions on a platform created by YABT for them.

The forum has been consolidated as a hemispheric platform and official channel to express its recommendations, suggestions and actions to the leaders responsible for the continent’s policies. The youth thus contributes to the definition of the priorities and mandates of the Summits.

SDG: 1, 5, 8, 10, 13, 16, 17.

RESULTS

The IV Youth Forum of the Americas took place in Panama. As a result of each Forum, the Youth adopt a declaration of commitment related to the mandates of each Summit. This is how young people make concrete proposals to governments, while at the same time setting their own agenda for action and follow-up to the agreements reached at the Forum.

From each statement, the youths themselves will take action and present recommendations to the actors involved in the forum and delegations of the participating governments. Young people undertake not only to demand actions from governments, but also to take on responsibilities to meet the challenges of each region.

As part of the Forum process, national dialogues and virtual meetings have been held in Haiti as a follow-up to the declaration and keeping in mind the next Forum to be held in Peru in 2018. This program involves an active network of more than 5,000 young leaders.
**PROGRAM SUMMARY**

The program has promoted the appointment of judicial facilitators in Argentina, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Paraguay. Judicial facilitators are leaders chosen by their communities and appointed by local judges who serve as voluntary mediators and conciliators. Their tasks include advising members of the community on the law and administrative processes, as well as carrying out conciliations and mediations in areas where the law allows; if the conflict is not solved they serve as a mechanism for transmitting situations or cases. Judicial facilitators do not have jurisdictional functions; they only intervene if the parties involved request their help. Their objective is to facilitate dialogue and reach agreements in conflictive situations that take place in their communities.

The local judges appoint, train and supervise the judicial facilitators that act in their municipalities. The Program supports the judicial authorities during those processes. Moreover, the program contributes to strengthening the capacities of the judicial facilitators by a postgraduate degree on the judicial facilitators’ service and a master’s degree on access to justice.

**OBJECTIVES**

The program aims to improve the access to justice of vulnerable groups of the OAS Member States citizens and strengthen their judicial institutions through the establishment and consolidation of national services of judicial facilitators.

**RESULTS**

In October 2017 there were 12,541 judicial facilitators, of which 41% were women. This means that approximately 6.3 million citizens in the Americas have access to a judicial facilitator. So far 1.5 million people have participated in informative meetings on the law organized by judicial facilitators and 3.2 million people was benefited by their services. Also, the judicial facilitators carried out 155,000 mediations.

In the Program 6,209 judicial officers (64% women) graduated from the postgraduate degree and 118 judicial officers of Guatemala, Nicaragua and Panama from the master’s degree. Moreover, the Program trained 2,109 police officers from Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Panama on the judicial facilitators’ service.