# Guardians for the Life and the Peace: Human Rights, environment and education

# Background:

In 2023 the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will be commemorated. Likewise, next year the 100th anniversary of the drafting of the Rights of Children will be commemorated and due to the need to disseminate and promote the Human Rights in a historical moment in which we face a triple planetary crisis that threatens life in all its forms (from the climate crisis, through wars, epidemics and famines) and evidencing the few tools there are to disseminate human rights Within population groups such as children, we propose a "Diploma in Human Rights" aimed at teachers in the Latin American and Caribbean region with the objective that educators use the UDHR and the CRC as a tool in their classes and it is disseminated, promoted and promoted in educational institutions through projects structured by the students themselves. The Diploma is part of a toolbox that focuses on providing the instruments to raise awareness, educate, promote and act in favor of universal access to the defense of human rights and the protection of the environment.

## General objective:

Develop and disseminate a digital toolbox that seeks to provide holistic training instruments for secondary and primary school students in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) on human rights and climate change, in order to empower children as active defenders of these rights and promoters of environmental sustainability in line with relevant international frameworks.

### **Especific objectives:**

- 1. Train teachers in human rights and sustainability through an interactive digital platform, providing them with pedagogical tools and teaching resources adapted to secondary and primary educational curricula.
- 2. Implement a self-evaluation and recognition system for schools, encouraging student participation in sustainability and human rights initiatives, and promoting the creation and execution of community impact projects.
- 3. Establish an inter-institutional alliance for the development of the Guardians for Life Schools Network, which serves as a collaboration and support framework for the implementation and monitoring of sustainability practices and defense of human rights in the school environment.
- 4. Develop capacities in high school students in the region on human rights and climate change through educational instruments and digital platforms.

#### Aimed at:

Primary and secondary school teachers from schools in Latin America and the Caribbean, who will be our channels and pillars to reach the children and adolescents of the region.

Direct beneficiaries: 215 certified teachers and 500 participants.

Indirect beneficiaries: 6,500 students.

## Modality:

A hybrid modality is proposed, and for high-level spaces there will be simultaneous interpretation in the languages of: Spanish, English and Portuguese. However, the theoretical part will be carried out in person from schools focused on 6 countries in the Latin American and Caribbean region; 3 pilot educational centers per country, and at least 12 teachers for each educational center.

### Alliances:

In order to reach teachers massively and effectively, we propose to generate an Alliance between the Corporación Guardianes por la vida, the Universidad de los Andes and UN Human Rights, as well as many other organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, seeking to convene the greatest number of teachers and base processes from the territories.

Our proposal for the theoretical part of this process is to hold nine (9) synchronous meetings through digital platforms and we propose the following speakers, who have been previously approached by the representatives of the project (POSIBLE):

- Antonio Guterres Secretary General of the United Nations
- Juan Manuel Santos Former President of Colombia and Nobel Peace Prize winner.
- Volker Turk UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Josep Borrell Vice President of the European Commission and High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security of the European Union
- José Ramos Horta President of Timor Leste and 1996 Nobel Peace Prize winner
- Esteban Beltrán Director of the Spanish Section of Amnesty International
- Juliette de Riveros Representative of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Colombia
- Malala Youzafsai Nobel Peace Prize Winner
- Eamon Gilmore Special Representative for Human Rights of the European Union
- Mary Lawlor Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders
- Viviana Krsticevic Executive Director of the Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL)
- Paula Gaviria Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons
- Al Gore Nobel Peace Prize winner and Former Vice President of the United States
- Audrey Azoulay Director General of UNESCO

# **Dynamics and Methodology:**

Faced with the problem of lack of tools and content dedicated to teachers and educators, from the Guardian Schools for Life Network we propose an initiative to strengthen the capacities of teachers as well as fully provide them with information and pedagogical content that they can later use. in their educational classrooms.

Our proposal seeks to educate those who educate and generate an educational model that includes the problems and contexts that today plague our society, such as the vulnerability of human rights, peace, coexistence and democracy or climate change and the social challenges that They are generally present in our society. It is essential that education be an adaptable instrument that provides and allows contributions to the improvement of our society.



## **Activities:**

- 1. Develop a digital toolbox, together with experts and professionals in the various areas that we will cover, that allow us to raise awareness of human rights in secondary and primary educational institutions, to empower students to appropriate and protect Human Rights and promote the dissemination and defense of Human Rights within the framework of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Rights of Children and the Eco Esperanza Declaration, as well as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- 2. Create and distribute a compendium of digital teaching resources for learning and teaching human rights, which are accessible and adapted to the primary and secondary curricula.
- 3. Implement a virtual and in-person training program for teachers, using the Zoom platform with interpretation in Spanish, English and Portuguese, so that they act as multipliers of knowledge in human rights and environmental sustainability.
- 4. Establish a strategic alliance with educational entities, human rights organizations and civil society groups to facilitate the scope and effectiveness of the teacher training program.
- 5. Develop an interactive and participatory methodology that includes workshops, talks and expert support, with the purpose of teachers identifying and addressing human rights and sustainability challenges in their communities.
- 6. Implement a self-assessment and scoring scheme for schools, similar to LEED certifications but with simplified and segmented progress indicators for schools,

that measures and improves their environmental sustainability and commitment to human rights.

- 7. Use innovative educational materials, such as the book "Ask Francisco: What is climate change?" and interactive tools such as video games to encourage the active participation of students in human rights and sustainability issues.
- 8. Creation of a digital portal that allows access to training materials, with the aim of promoting public participation.
- 9. Facilitate the development of student projects that address problems identified in their environments, with the accompaniment of experts and the support of allied organizations to guarantee a tangible and positive impact.
- Promote the creation of a network of Guardian Schools for Life that are committed to the active defense and promotion of human rights and environmental sustainability
- 11. Promote the use of schools as a Monitoring center, that is, implement the necessary devices and tools to measure various indicators and factors that occur in the school environment such as: air quality or noise levels. those to which children are exposed, following the example of Sustenta Honduras.

## **Extension and duration:**

We anticipate that this project will last about a year and a half, which we will spend in two main sections.

The first will be a theoretical part and the second will be dedicated to the practice of theory. Approximately six months will be dedicated to the training of teachers and students, in summary three months will be allocated to the training of teachers and another three will be allocated to teachers training students in a process that will also consist of identifying the challenges around us.

Next, the rest of the time will be spent planning and executing projects proposed by the students in relation to the problems they have identified in their environments and communities. These projects can be on any topic related to the main axes established in the initial proposal. In addition, according to the students' choice, there will be support from experts in the chosen subjects to increase the positive impact, as well as the support of allied organizations if necessary to make it possible for the actions to have a real impact in the appropriate channels. , be they governments, academies, companies, etc...

## Allies and colaborators:

## Host:

Guardianes de la Vida acts as the main executing partner and material author. Guardians for Life is a movement composed of and led by children, led by Francisco Javier Vera Manzanares since 2019, focused on climate justice and environmental peace. Started with local actions in Colombia, it has grown to include environmental education, reforestation and political advocacy at the national and international level. With a strong emphasis on empowering the voices of children and adolescents, this movement has become a benchmark in children's climate action, spreading throughout Latin America and Spain.

## **Collaborators:**

Sustenta Honduras acts as a strategic ally and administrative support. Sustenta Honduras is a non-governmental organization focused on promoting adaptation to climate change and environmental education in Honduras. Founded in 2020, Sustenta is one of the only organizations accredited by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change led and composed of youth in Latin America. Sustenta Honduras manages a series of projects with international cooperation, and was recently selected as the winner of the UNDP "Youth4Climate" global competition.

# **Budget:**

| Category                           | Descrition                                    | Quantity/Units   | Unit Cost<br>(USD) | Total Cost<br>(USD) |
|------------------------------------|---|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Human Resources                    |   |                  |                    |                     |
| - Secretariat                      | Hiring for management and administration      | 2 30,000         |                    | 60,000              |
| - Trainers                         | Fees for workshops and training 10 2          |                  | 2,000              | 20,000              |
| Technology                         |   |                  |                    |                     |
| - Digital Platform                 | Development of the training platform 1 20,000 |                  | 20,000             |                     |
| - Equipment                        | Computers and software                        | oftware 10 1,000 |                    | 10,000              |
| Materials and Resources            |   |                  |                    |                     |
| - Didactics Materials              | Creation and distribution of materials        | 1000             | 20                 | 20,000              |
| - Books and<br>Publications        | "Pregúntale a Francisco" and other resources  | 1000             | 10                 | 10,000              |
| Training and<br>Capacitación       |   |                  |                    |                     |
| - Workshops and Talks              | Organization and Logistic cost                | 20               | 1,000              | 20,000              |
| - Virtual Training                 | Suscription services to Zoom and others       | 1 year           | 3,000              | 3,000               |
| Operating and<br>Logistic expenses |   |                  |                    |                     |
| - Administrative                   | Servicies, operating expenses, etc.           | 1 year           | 15,000             | 15,000              |
| - Transport and Viáticos           | For trainers and coordinators                 | 1 year           | 7,500              | 7,500               |
| - Comunications and Dissemination  | Marketing, publicity etc.                     | 1 year           | 7,200              | 7,200               |
| Evaluation and Monitoring          |   |                  |                    |                     |
| - Self-evalution system            | Development of the sustenability scheme       | 1                | 6,000              | 6,000               |
| Total                              |   |                  |                    | \$198,700           |