

# The city for those who live it and visit it

**2nd Master Conference**



**Paco Ayala**

*Socio-environmental activist  
and social tinsmith*

**October 7, 2022**



Paco Ayala stresses the importance of creating sustainable and nature-friendly public spaces to promote coexistence and reduce violence in cities. He proposes biosocial projects such as the Huerto Roma Verde in Mexico City, a socio-environmental regeneration laboratory that promotes community coexistence and sustainability.

It recommends integrating nature into cities through the creation of parks, urban gardens and green areas.

In turn, it suggests that these initiatives be carried out with broad community participation to foster a sense of ownership and responsibility, which in



*Approximately  
83% of the  
world's  
population  
living in urban  
areas by 2030.*

turn contributes to reducing violence and promoting community resilience.

Paco also warns of the risk of relying excessively on a single sector, such as tourism, and advocates diversifying the economy to achieve a more balanced development. He argues that it is necessary to diversify sources of income through multi-sector practices, always considering sustainable development and respect for the environment.



He also highlights the importance of leadership in reaching consensus among sectors with different visions, especially in the development of sustainable tourism. In his talk, he stresses the need to integrate conservation practices into urban development to preserve biodiversity and promote sustainability.

Finally, Paco emphasizes the need to create strong institutions to articulate public policies and collaborate with society to ensure sustainable development. He also discusses how communities can adapt and become more resilient in the face of challenges.

and social issues through active citizen participation and the promotion of regenerative models.



## Conclusions

In conclusion, Paco stresses that the urban paradigm, based on linear development and neoliberalism, must change, as these have led to significant environmental and social problems. This is why Ayala speaks of the need for a philosophical shift in the way we build cities and structure society, which he argues will put us on the right track to foster social resilience based on the socio-environmental regeneration that is necessary to face any climate crisis. This approach will help us to rebalance the relationship between nature and city, which is necessary to integrate one into the other and thus redesign public space to favor coexistence, reduce dependence on external resources and encourage sustainable practices.





## **Main Objective:**

In his lecture, Paco Ayala spoke of creating more humane cities through the regeneration of public spaces, economic diversification and respect for nature. The central message was that city development should have sustainable development at its core, and that it should be a cross-cutting force to address urban crises and challenges, aiming for a balance between economic growth and environmental conservation, which will require active community participation and leadership. Paco invites us to rethink the current development model and work to redirect the course of cities in an inclusive and sustainable direction, involving all sectors in the process.

## **Main Topics:**

- Socio-environmental regeneration
- Economic diversification
- Collaboration between sectors
- Integration of conservation
- Community resilience



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*The problem we are experiencing today is not a problem of an economic, social or political nature... it is philosophical. It has to do with the vision with which we structure our social, economic and political models. That is what we have to change.*



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