
WOMEN FOR
CONSERVATION
ISABELLA CORTES LARA
CLIMATE RESILIENCE
INCLUDES REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

PANEL INTRODUCTION

YOUNG LEADER

ISABELLA CORTES LARA

SIERRA NEVADA
DE SANTA MARTA
COLOMBIA



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR W4C

COLOMBIAN CONSERVATIONIST, ARTIST, AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS ADVOCATE

ARTIST AND CONSERVATION STORYTELLER USING MUSIC, ART, AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION TO CONNECT PEOPLE WITH NATURE.





ART EXPRESSION

MUSIC, DANCE, AND **VISUAL ARTS** ARE IMPORTANT CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS, OFTEN PERFORMED DURING FESTIVALS AND EVENTS THAT CELEBRATE HERITAGE AND REGIONAL BIODIVERSITY.

HER WORK BRINGS TOGETHER

INDIGENOUS GOVERNANCE AND WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN CONSERVATION

VOLUNTARY **REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ACCESS** AND COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, YOUTH PARTICIPATION, AND PROTECTION OF ENDEMIC SPECIES

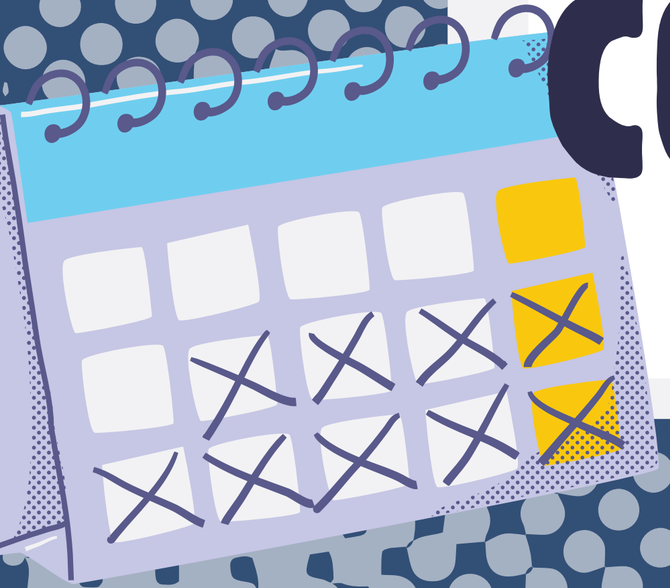
HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=N7BF4AX_36I


Oxypogon Cyanolaemus.
Chlorornis rufipectus.
ACTIVISM



Women's Heath & Climate Change ...

FAMILY PLANNING As a CONSERVATION STRATEGY





A community-grounded view of climate, health, and young people's futures.

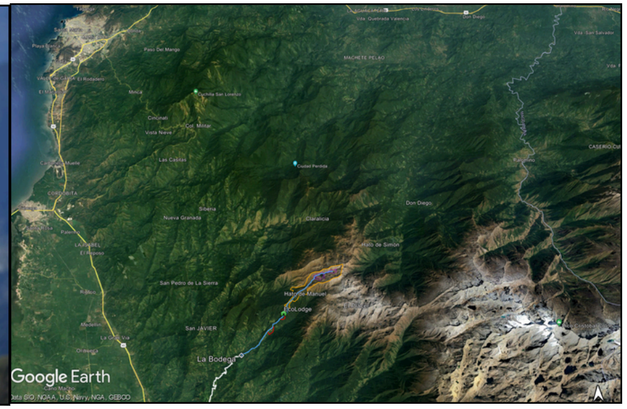
WOMEN FOR CONSERVATION

LOCATION AND
PHYSICAL FEATURES

GEOGRAPHIC POSITION

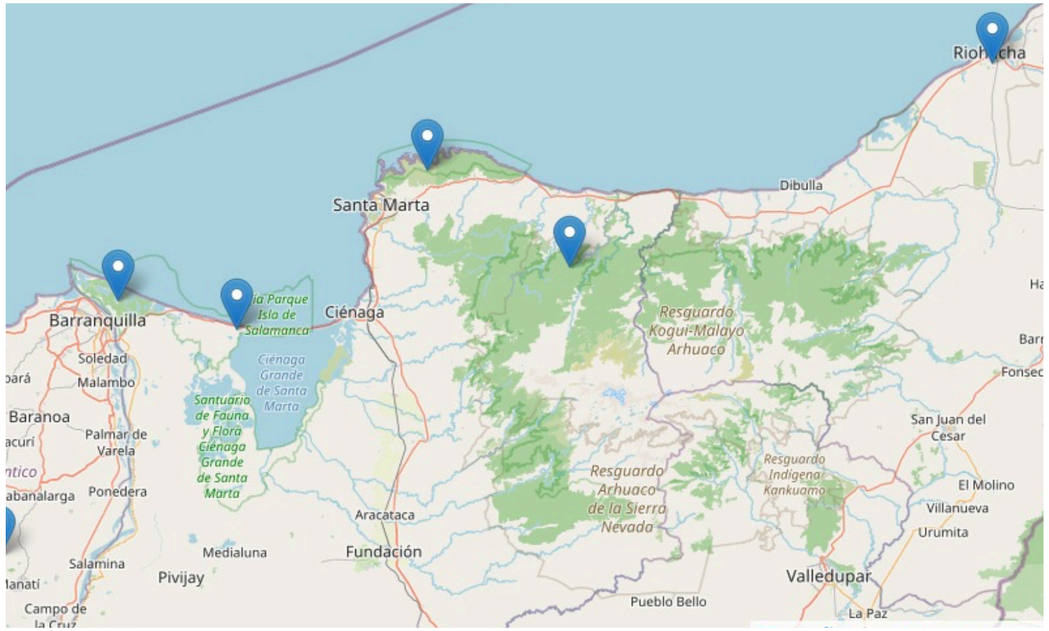
IN 2026, WOMEN FOR CONSERVATION EXPANDED VOLUNTARY REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES TO KOGUI COMMUNITIES AND RURAL AREAS OF PUEBLO BELLO, TAGANGA, EL CAMPANO, ZONA BANANERA, AND SANTA MARTA, REACHING 213 WOMEN. THROUGH ITS POPULATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENT APPROACH, W4C CONNECTS WOMEN'S HEALTH AND AUTONOMY WITH COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND LOCALLY LED CONSERVATION.













WILDLIFE DIVERSITY



FLORA AND FAUNA DIVERSITY

CONSERVATION EFFORTS

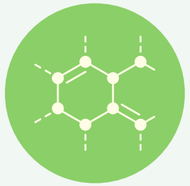
PROTECTED AREAS AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMS PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN PRESERVING BIODIVERSITY AND MAINTAINING ECOLOGICAL BALANCE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS AND RESEARCH PURPOSES.

ANIMAL SPECIES

THE SIERRA NEVADA DE SANTA MARTA IS HOME TO UNIQUE SPECIES, INCLUDING THE CRITICALLY ENDANGERED BLUE-BEARDED HELMETCREST, WHOSE PÁRAMO HABITAT FACES PRESSURE FROM FIRES, LAND DEGRADATION, AND CLIMATE CHANGE. W4C'S VOLUNTARY FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM SUPPORTS WOMEN'S HEALTH, AUTONOMY, AND FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES, HELPING STRENGTHEN THE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP THAT IS ESSENTIAL TO PROTECTING THIS IRREPLACEABLE REGION.



Climate shocks can disrupt health and rights



Hormones



Menstrual Health



Fertility



Pregnancy



Wellness

01

Services interrupted

Floods, fires, heat, and damaged roads can disrupt clinics, transport, and contraceptive supply chains.

02

Health risks shift

Heat, air pollution, and changing disease patterns can increase pregnancy and reproductive health risks.

03

Inequality deepens

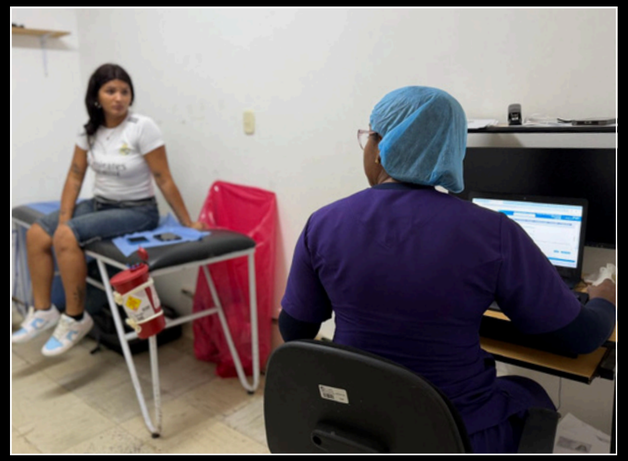
Displacement and resource stress can magnify existing gender inequality, violence risks, and barriers for adolescents.

The same disruption that affects water, transport, or income can interrupt care and limit privacy, safety, and choice.

Resilience includes voluntary, confidential, youth-friendly SRHR services before, during, and after climate emergencies.

Sources: UNFPA, Rights in a Changing Climate (2025); UNFPA, Resilient Futures: Young People, the Climate Crisis and SRHR (2023).

HOLISTIC CONSERVATION

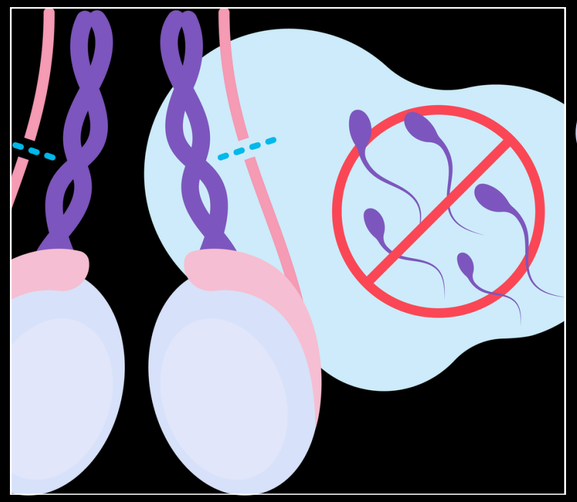


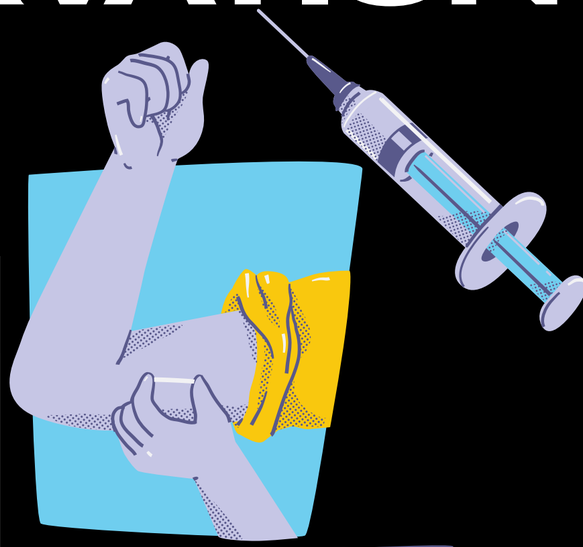
3 - 5 YEAR IMPLANTS

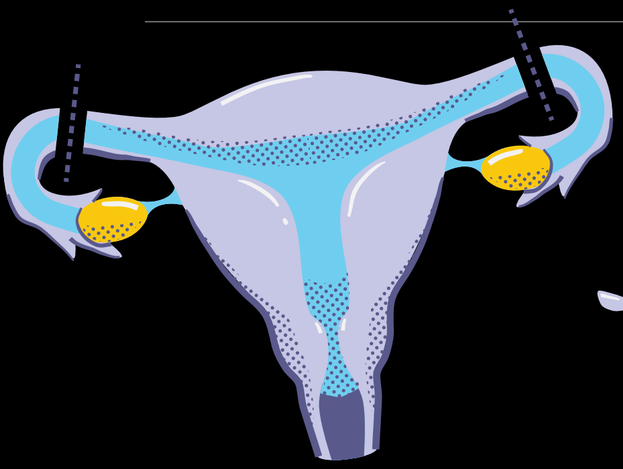
W4C PROVIDES CONTRACEPTIVE IMPLANTS IN PERSON. AFTER A PREGNANCY TEST, ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE AN IMPLANT EFFECTIVE FOR 3–5 YEARS.



CONTRACEPTIVE OPTIONS

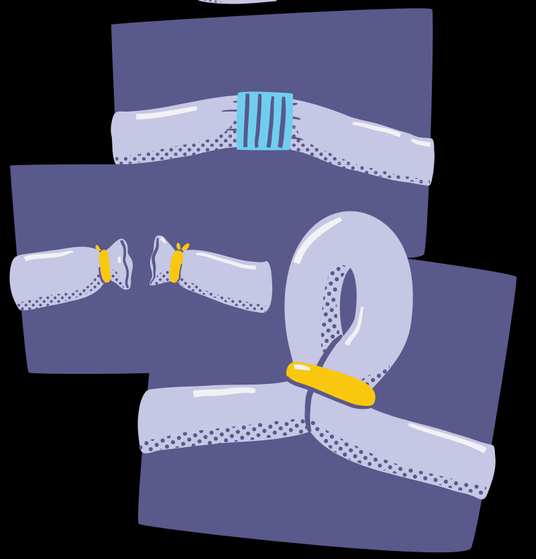






TUBAL LIGATION “POMEROY”

W4C ORGANIZES TUBAL LIGATION BRIGADES IN REMOTE COLOMBIAN COMMUNITIES, PROVIDING APPROVED PARTICIPANTS—PRIMARILY MOTHERS OF MULTIPLE CHILDREN—WITH TRANSPORT AND LODGING FOR THE PROCEDURE AND 24-HOUR RECOVERY.



CLIMATE CHANGE & SRHRH



WOMEN FOR CONSERVATION COVERS ALL EXPENSES FOR ACCESS TO VOLUNTARY FAMILY PLANNING

VASECTOMY

W4C ORGANIZES VASECTOMY BRIGADES IN REMOTE COMMUNITIES, COVERING TRANSPORT, LODGING, AND PROCEDURE COSTS. MEN RECEIVE CARE AND CAN RETURN HOME THE SAME DAY, THOUGH STIGMA CAN MAKE OUTREACH MORE CHALLENGING.

4.387

TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED IN COLOMBIA 2019-2026

94 Implants

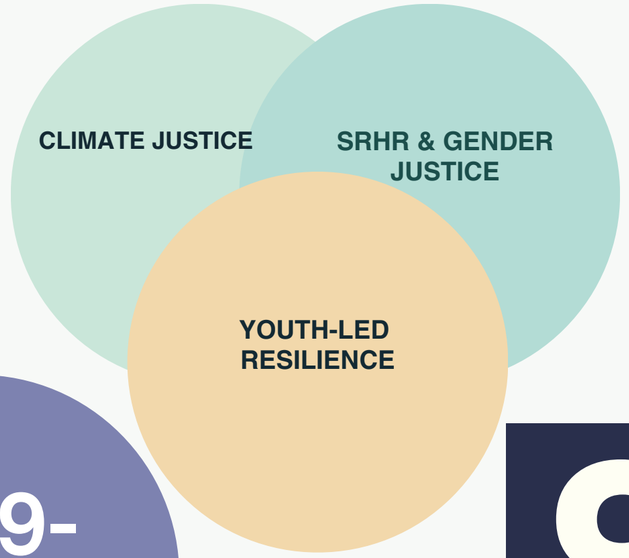
51 Tubal ligations

92 Vasectomies

4.100 Introduction to family planning

50 Health check





2019-2026

982

TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED IN THE CARIBBEAN

CLIMATE JUSTICE AND SRHR ORGANIZATIONS CAN MAKE RESILIENCE TANGIBLE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

THE NEXT STEP IS TO BUILD TOGETHER



CLIMATE CHANGE

CLIMATE CHANGE IS ALREADY TAKING A TOLL ACROSS COMMUNITIES

ACROSS THESE COMMUNITIES, CLIMATE IMPACTS VARY BY LOCATION: SHRINKING GLACIERS AND SHIFTING RAINFALL THREATEN WATER SOURCES IN THE SIERRA, WHILE HEAT AND WATER SHORTAGES AFFECT SANTA MARTA AND NEARBY RURAL AREAS. COASTAL COMMUNITIES SUCH AS TAGANGA ALSO FACE RISKS FROM EROSION, FLOODING, AND RISING SEA LEVELS.



THESE PRESSURES CAN STRAIN FARMING, LIVELIHOODS, HEALTH, AND ACCESS TO SERVICES. IDEAM REPORTS THAT SIERRA NEVADA GLACIER AREA FELL 8.73% BETWEEN 2022 AND 2024; REGIONAL ASSESSMENTS IDENTIFY WATER SHORTAGES LINKED TO DROUGHT AND RAINFALL CHANGES.





Mujeres por la Conservación
WWW.WOMENFORCONSERVATION.ORG

Four lessons for youth-led resilience

Local authority matters

Indigenous leadership and community consent should guide where and how conservation takes place.

Rights enable participation

When young women can access information and voluntary care, they have more room to learn, work, and lead.

Youth need real roles

Train local youth to monitor species, document environmental change, and bring evidence into decisions.

Partnerships bridge systems

Connect community organizations, health providers, schools, researchers, and public agencies around shared plans.

MBZ-supported next step in the Sierra: train 6 community monitors, secure 5 conservation agreements, restore at least 2 ha, and reach 200 students.

Source: Women for Conservation MBZ Species Conservation Fund application (2026). Targets are planned activities, not completed results.

Put health, rights, and local leadership into climate plans

National commitments need funded delivery where young people live.

A GLOBAL POLICY GAP

38 / 119

NDCs reviewed by UNFPA explicitly addressed SRHR, gender-based violence, and harmful practices.

The 2025 UNFPA review

Climate-proof SRHR

Include contraception, maternal care, menstrual health, and GBV response in adaptation and disaster plans.

Fund local youth leadership

Provide flexible, multi-year support and decision-making power for Indigenous and rural youth and women-led groups.

Keep care reachable

Invest in mobile outreach, reliable supplies, safe transport, and private, youth-friendly services during emergencies.

Measure who is reached

Track age-, gender-, and location-disaggregated access, with community-owned data and clear accountability.

Sources: UNFPA, Taking Action handbook (2025); UNFPA, Rights in a Changing Climate (2025).

SOURCES & NOTES

Evidence behind the conversation

1 **Women for Conservation. Final Project Report to Daughters for Earth (2025). Project outcomes and community approach.**

Prior report supplied by the speaker.

2 **Women for Conservation. MBZ Species Conservation Fund application (2026). Blue-bearded Helmetcrest project targets.**

Prior report materials supplied by the speaker.

3 **IDEAM. Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta glacier monitoring.**

https://www.ideam.gov.co/nuestra-entidad/ecosistemas-e-informacion-ambiental/glaciares/sierra-nevada-de-santa-marta

4 **UNFPA. Rights in a Changing Climate: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Gender Equality (2025).**

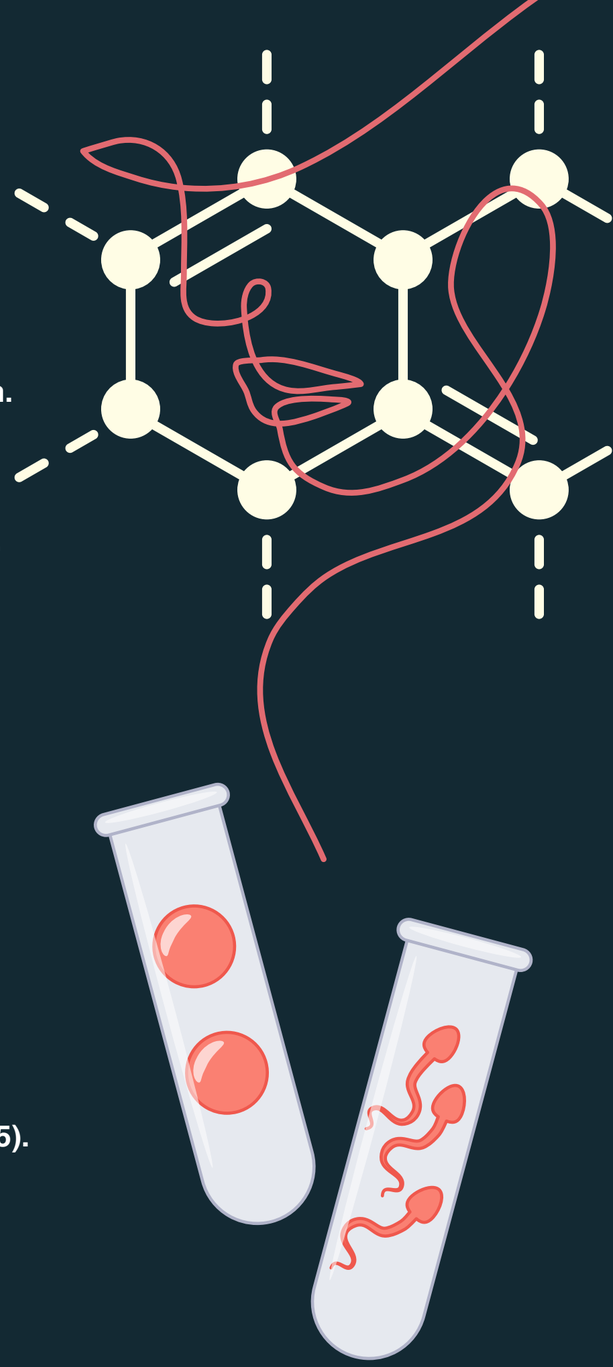
https://www.unfpa.org/resources/rights-in-a-changing-climate

5 **UNFPA ESARO. Resilient Futures: Young People, the Climate Crisis and SRHR (2022).**

https://esaro.unfpa.org/en/publications/resilient-futures-young-people-climate-crisis-and-sexual-and-reproductive-health-and

6 **UNFPA. Taking Action: A handbook for integrating SRHR, GBV, and harmful practices into national climate policies (2025).**

https://esaro.unfpa.org/en/publications/taking-action-handbook-integrating-sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-rights-gender



Note: Climate risk pathways are drawn from UNFPA evidence. Community project figures are reported outcomes; MBZ activities are targets.





MUJERES

que desde sus acciones siembran esperanza, protegen la biodiversidad y cultivan un futuro donde la vida florece en todas sus formas.

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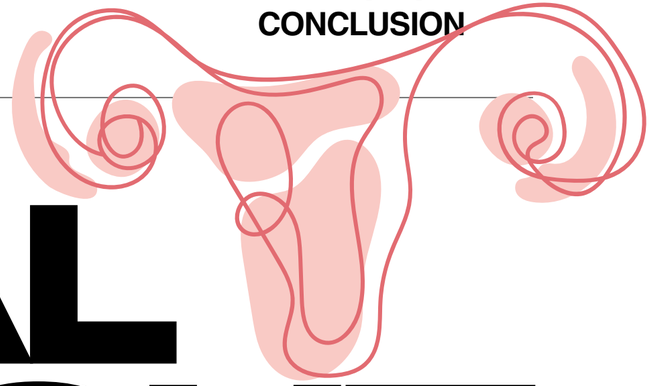
Profamilia





ISABELLA
WOMEN FOR
CONSERVATION

OVERALL
REFLECTION AND
CONCLUSION



FINAL INSIGHT

ENSURE YOUTH-FRIENDLY SRHR CARE REACHES REMOTE COMMUNITIES DURING CLIMATE EMERGENCIES THROUGH MOBILE CLINICS, RELIABLE SUPPLIES, SAFE TRANSPORT, AND CONFIDENTIAL SERVICES.

MAKE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND SAFETY PART OF EVERY CONSERVATION PROJECT IN RURAL AND REMOTE AREAS. INCLUDE VOLUNTARY CONTRACEPTION, MATERNAL CARE, MENSTRUAL HEALTH, AND GBV RESPONSE IN CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND DISASTER PLANS.

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W4C YOUTH LED INITIATIVES

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!

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