



a **Fondation Botnar** initiative

Healthy Cities for Adolescents

Supporting young people to
thrive in urban environments

A global initiative improving lives of adolescents
in intermediary cities of Colombia, Ecuador,
Ghana, Senegal, India and Vietnam



healthy-cities.org

What is HCA?

Healthy Cities for Adolescents (HCA) is a global programme supporting young people to thrive in urban environments.

It brings together local governments, civil society, youth groups, and global partners to co-create healthier, safer, and more inclusive cities that respond to adolescents' needs.

HCA funds projects in intermediary cities across six countries to improve adolescents' lives and drive sustainable, system-level change through multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Supported by

fondation
BOTNAR

Managed by

ECORYS



Answering
tomorrow's
challenges
today

Why adolescents, why cities?

1.2 adolescents
globally
billion



50%

live in cities

Urban environments
shape life outcomes

Investing early delivers
lasting impact



What does HCA do?

HCA promotes sustainable change in cities by:



Empowering adolescents to shape their cities



Embedding adolescent wellbeing in urban policies and planning



Connecting sectors and local actors



Providing evidence, tools, and practical guidance at city level

Who HCA works with



City governments & urban leaders

Adolescents & youth networks

Development partners & donors

Civil society & urban practitioners

Global initiative, city-rooted action

HCA operates globally while supporting
locally led, context-specific solutions.

As of February 2026

10

projects

17

cities

6

countries

Colombia

Cali
Palmira

Senegal

Pikine
Thiès
Tivaouane
Tambacounda
Kolda

India

Jaipur
Bhubaneswar
Indore

Ghana

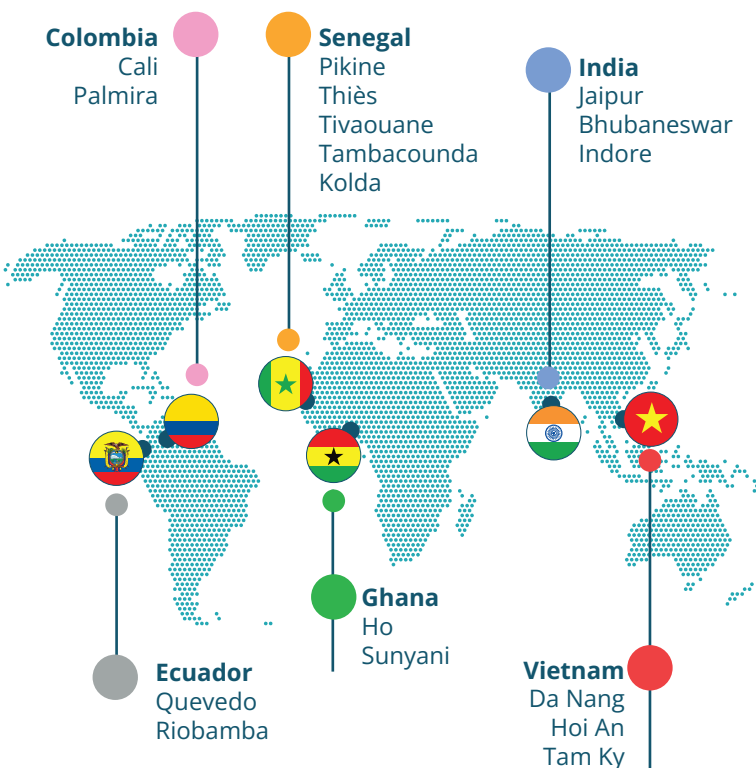
Ho
Sunyani

Ecuador

Quevedo
Riobamba

Vietnam

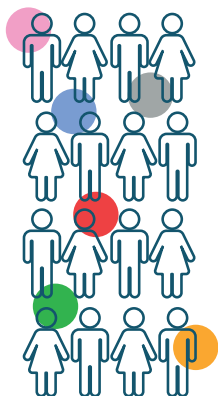
Da Nang
Hoi An
Tam Ky



Key Results as of December 2025

24,000+

adolescents engaged in activities to build skills, health and voice



3,000+

young people reported stronger skills, confidence and knowledge

39



youth platforms
created or strengthened
to influence city
decisions

34



city-level changes
in policies, plans,
budgets or
approaches

36



**services and
spaces** improved or
created based on
adolescents' needs

**Digital access
expanded**

through new
initiatives and better
connectivity



**Evidence
in action**

insights informing city
planning and inspiring
replication





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Whether you
represent a city,
youth organisation
or partner network,
HCA offers practical
pathways for
engagement.

Learn more:



Explore how your city or organisation
can engage in our advocacy initiatives:
healthy-cities.org/ourcity-oursay

