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**Temporal lives, temporal futures – young Huaorani building hope in the new reality**

A dynamically changing reality has influence on indigenous life – this is especially true in Ecuador, where the growing oil industry opposes sustainability and biodiversity. Young indigenous people try to build their lives through education, and search for new sources of income and, sometimes, new ways of life.

This paper will focus on Huaorani of Eastern Ecuador who migrate to urban areas, only to realize that city life requires not only a different skill set to their own, but also a different mindset, which they do not necessarily want to accept. As a result, many of them return to their settlements where they plan to stay and raise families, far away from city life. In many cases, their planned new ways of life becomes a temporary migration with the purpose of eventually returning home.