

Yachay — Ecuador's Planned 'City of Knowledge' and Its Collapse

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Ecuador

Quality score: 14/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Ecuador launched a \$5.68bn, 30-year plan for a 120,000-resident 'city of knowledge' in 2013. An official Contraloría audit found only 8.8% of the infrastructure budget executed and fabricated investment claims; the city project was dissolved by decree in 2023.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	1/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	0/3
Scalability	0/3
Sustainability / continuity	0/3
Innovation	1/3
Inclusiveness / equity	0/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

[Yachay EP / Siembra EP \(dissolved 2023\); Universidad Yachay Tech \(surviving institution\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

[Contraloría General del Estado — official audit findings](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

[Vistazo — "Ciudad Yachay: el sueño fallido"](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

[Milhojas — Yachay after \\$1 billion, only the university survives](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

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