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PLATFORM

LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN

United actions

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OUR FIRST EDITION

NEWS FROM THE RCP LAC



Editor's note

Dear reader,

United Actions is prepared by the Partnerships and Communications Working Group of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean to enhance transparency and showcase UN system efforts and collective results at the regional level.

It provides a **quick glance** of the most relevant news from the RCP LAC and its Issue-based Coalitions (IBCs) and Working Groups (WGs).

In this first edition, we have also included key updates and information on upcoming events so you can save them in your calendars. We hope that you will find it both interesting and relevant.

Kindly distribute it widely within your networks.

In this edition

Issue-based Coalitions (IBC) updates

-  Climate change and resilience
 -  Crime and violence
 -  Equitable growth
 -  Governance and institutions
 -  Financing for development
-

Working Groups (WG) updates

-  Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls
 -  Partnerships and communications
 -  Peer support group
 -  Regional operations management team
-

RCP LAC Key updates



Wildfires in Latin America

A preliminary analysis, messages and resources for RCs/UNCTs.

In response to the increasing intensity of wildfires in the region, under the IBC for Climate Change and Resilience a taskforce has been formed to analyse and articulate a **coherent approach to the issue of wildfires**, providing tools and resources to RCs/UNCTs of the region.

This document includes:

- Analysis of the driving forces (causes), the state (e.g. frequency and spatial distribution), the trends, the impacts and the national/regional response to this issue, as a transboundary matter to support the elaboration of the Common Country Analysis and the overall work of the Resident Coordinators and UN country teams.
- Definition of a common interagency approach on wildfires, its implications, risks, impacts, policy engagement and recommended actions. A proposed approach is the 5Rs, based on the Sendai Framework.
- Identification of UN assets available at the regional and country levels to support possible country demands in this regard. ■

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Crime & violence

Policy Briefs

on Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

The IBC on Governance and Institutions and the IBC on Human Mobility have jointly developed **two policy briefs** on trafficking in human beings and migrant smuggling with a view to supporting UNCTs in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras in tackling these crimes.

The policy briefs provide an in-depth analysis of the current situation of migration on these three countries and offer concrete recommendations in how to prevent and respond to the particular situation of human trafficking and migrant smuggling.

The policy briefs are currently in draft but are expected to be finalized by the third quarter of 2022. ■



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Evidence for policy making

on the unequal impacts of the pandemic on the household's living conditions in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In response to the need to address adequately the existing and new inequalities exposed as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, **the IBC on Equitable Growth will issue a bulletin** to highlight and analyse the unequal impacts of the crisis on the households' living conditions in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), using the surveys developed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank. Also, the analysis will seek to identify differences between and within LAC countries. Variables that account for the wealth and vulnerabilities of people and households will be used to understand these impacts more profoundly.

Thus, the bulletin will assess:

- Impacts on health and food security: access to health services, vaccination and food insecurity.
- Impacts on labour and income: job loss, income loss, informality.
- Impacts on education: school drop-out, children's access to ICT.
- Impacts on care and equal treatment for women: increase in care tasks for women, unequal treatment of women. ■



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IBC

Financing for Development

Financing for Gender Equality in the Context of Sustainable Development.

This webinar was organized jointly by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) as a side event of the Fifth Forum of the Countries of Latin America on Sustainable Development held in Costa Rica on March 2022.

The webinar's key messages were as follows: **First**, it is necessary to take actions to direct resources towards strategic areas, such as investments to

expand the insertion of women in important economic sectors.

Second, the reorganization of public services towards care work, identifying caregivers' needs, to make the relevance of care in the budget process visible. **Third**, distinguish the importance of diagnosing gender gaps for the generation of policies that mitigate the effects of the pandemic, as well as the designation of gender - focused budgets designed to close existing gaps. ■



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WG

Gender equality and empowerment
of women and girls

#8March

International Women's Day

In the framework of International Women's Day, the Working Group member Agencies, Funds and Programs supported the 2022 campaign "**Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow**" with the CSW66 theme "Achieving gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change and disaster and environmental risk reduction programs and policies" through a series of events, activations and a communication and social media package.

The campaign drove a series of thematic hashtags around *#DíaDeLasMujeres* (International Women's Day), *#IgualdadYCambioClimático* *#RecuperaciónSostenible*, achieving a high impact on social networks in the region.

In total, 4,174 publications were registered on social networks with a potential reach of more than 94 million people, generating more than 112,867 interactions. ■



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Partnerships & Communications

Partnerships Task Force

RCP LAC's demand-driven agenda acknowledges the challenge to respond effectively to regional and country level demands in a scenario of stringent resources and opportunities for impactful support at all levels. **Working in collaboration with other agencies to tackle the same objectives is the effective way to advance.**

For that matter, the RCP LAC values positively the organization of a Partnerships Task Force to support the RCP LAC Issue-based Coalitions (IBCs) and thematic Working Groups (WGs) in their assistance to Resident Coordinators (RCs) and United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs).

The Task Force will focus on **strengthening and accelerating multilateral agreements** and partnerships in support of an equitable and sustainable future for the development of regional public goods of multi-stakeholder platforms to address those complex development problems identified by the IBCs and the thematic WGs. ■



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WG

Peer Support Group (PSG)

PSG dedicated country support teams strengthening theories of change and results matrices in Cooperation Frameworks

The countries in the region designing their United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks in 2022 (Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Haiti) have been capitalizing on PSG/LAC support through dedicated country support teams.

In addition to workshops conducted with the United Nations country teams (UNCTs), Programme Management Teams (PMTs), and governments on the Cooperation Framework Guiding Principles, the PSG's early intervention support is strengthening agenda

setting, the quality of theories of change and results matrices in the cooperation frameworks.

Notably, in May, the PSG/LAC and the IBC on Climate Change and Resilience provided joint support to Costa Rica's visioning exercise, Theory of Change and Strategic Prioritization Consultations.

The PSG will receive training in Results-based Management (RBM) and Theory of Change in October to expand its capacity to support UNCTs. ■



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Regional Business Operations (R-BOS)

The LAC Regional Business Operations Strategy includes cooperation in 16 common services among involved UN entities, projecting a **total cost avoidance of \$4 million** as a net benefit from 2022 to 2024.

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RCP LAC Rosters of Expertise



In response to the request made by the UN Secretary-General for the establishment of **rosters of expertise**, the RCP LAC has launched a mapping of expertise exercise. Accordingly, the regional roster of expertise will be developed around the six existing Issue-Based Coalitions (IBCs) and the thematic Working Groups (WGs).

The main purpose of these rosters will be to ensure a rapid and agile response from the RCP LAC in facilitating “demand-driven integrated policy advice, normative support and technical capacity to regional and sub-regional organizations, Resident

Coordinators (RCs) and UN Country Teams (UNCTs), including the Common Country Analysis (CCA), the UN Cooperation Framework and derive and strengthen entities Country Programme Documents or Strategic Notes as relevant”.

In addition, to provide targeted support to Resident Coordinators and United Nations Country Teams in the design and implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, a roster of expertise in the framework of the Peer Support Group (PSG) will also be established. ■



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2022 Issue-based Coalitions & Working Groups Review



In the upcoming months, the RCP LAC will assess the overall role and effectiveness of RCP LAC working mechanisms to **ensure that IBCs/WGs are fit for purpose** and optimally equipped to respond to the needs of Resident Coordinators and UN country teams.

Thereby, the assessment has three objectives. **1) Inform** the revision process of the RCP LAC Working Arrangements for the next biennium, as well as define criteria for activating a sunset clause to discontinue IBCs which are no longer relevant, efficient, or effective. **2) Evaluate** the effectiveness of the mechanisms established under the Standard Operating Procedure for engagement of RCs and UNCTs with the RCP LAC. **3) Provide** proposals to enhance collaboration among IBCs/WGs on cross-cutting thematic areas.

The assessment will proceed in two phases. During phase 1 (June 2022), the Joint Secretariat will conduct two separate surveys, one among the RCP LAC members at the Director's level, and one among the members of the IBCs/WGs. During phase 2 (November 2022), the Joint Secretariat will conduct a survey among RCOs/UNCTs.

The surveys will feed into the final revision of the role and effectiveness of the RCP LAC working mechanisms, which the members of the RCP LAC will undertake prior to the next meeting with the Chair of the RCP LAC in March 2023. ■



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Events meetings & webinars



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Webinar: "Innovative Financial Instruments and Good Practices to Achieve the SDGs and Paris Agreement in Latin America and the Caribbean".

The webinar responds to the IBC on Financing for Development and has the following objectives:

- Understand the sustainable finance ecosystem including financial regulations, voluntary commitments and financial mechanisms.
- Discuss about the role of public and private financial institutions to achieve impact investments that contribute to the SDGs, Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework, and how to leverage the agenda.
- Introduce real cases and successful experiences to learn about their strategies and barriers they had to go through for their implementation.

The event will be held under the coordination of UNEP and UNDRR on

27 July, 2022 / 9:30 to 11 am (Panama time)

[Please register here](#)

Regional Collaborative Platform Retreat for Latin America and the Caribbean (RCP LAC).

The 2022 RCP LAC Retreat will be organized in Panama on **24-26 August 2022** with the following objectives:

- Take stock of the RCP LAC working mechanisms and functioning, and agree on necessary adjustments.
- Strengthen common vision on policy advisory of the RCP LAC on key global priorities.
- Consolidate commitments and collective ownership of the RCP LAC responsibilities.

Resident Coordinators of United Nations (RCs) will be invited to a session on the Comprehensive Development Plan. Likewise, RCs from the Middle-Income Caribbean countries will join a session to discuss the provision of demand-driven support in the Caribbean, and the implementation of the MCSDCF.

Save
the dates





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