

United actions

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NEWS FROM THE RCP LAC



UNITED NATIONS
REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE
PLATFORM



LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN

OUR FUTURE *World*



Editor's note

Dear reader,

As we enter the final trimester of 2024, we want to extend our sincere thanks for your continued support and valuable feedback on this Bulletin. **The energy driving this edition** is no coincidence; it stems directly from the momentum built during the RCP LAC Annual Retreat held last August. The retreat provided an opportunity for rich discussions, knowledge sharing, and partnership-building among the Regional Directors.

In this issue, we reflect on the outcomes and insights from the Retreat, exploring their impact on our future work. We also highlight key initiatives led by the Issue-Based Coalitions (IBCs) on Climate Change and Resilience, Equitable Growth and Financing for Development, and Governance for Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions. Moreover, this has been an especially active period for the RCP LAC's Working Groups (WGs). You'll find updates from the Populations Left Behind WG, Partnerships and Communications WG, the Knowledge Management Hub Steering Committee, the Peer Support Group, and Data and Statistics WG.

“Thank you once again for your unwavering support in strengthening and activating the RCP LAC. We also appreciate your efforts in sharing this work with your networks through this publication.”

The “United Actions” Bulletin is prepared by the Partnerships and Communications Working Group of the RCP LAC. Previous bulletins are [accessible on the RCP LAC website](#).

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Driving Interagency Collaboration in support of RCs and UNCTs

The IBC on Climate Change and Resilience continues to lead impactful interagency efforts, with preparations for COP16 on Biological Diversity at the forefront.

Resident Coordinators are currently handling the key messages, which **call for stronger integration between climate action and biodiversity policies.** This underscores the IBC's

pivotal role in bringing UN agencies together to tackle the most pressing sustainability challenges.

Recent highlights also include the **Carbon Pricing Technical Workshop** led by UNFCCC (UNCT/RC Guyana and Caribbean, August 22nd) and the Sustainable Economic Transformation Workshop led by UNEP (UNCT/RC Costa Rica, August 28th). Meanwhile, Venezuela is moving forward with its energy transition strategy, supported by UNDP under NDC 3.0.

Building on these successes, the IBC **hosted a highly attended La Niña webinar** (July 2nd), attracting over 1,500 registrants, and completed a successful regional brief on the Early Warnings for All (EW4ALL) initiative (July 16th).





Equitable Growth and Financing for Development

IBC



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Contributions to Regional Dialogues

Members of the
IBC on Equitable Growth and Financing for Development
contributed to **two** regional meetings:

Members participated in the regional Peer Support Group dialogue with Resident Coordinators (RCs) and United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) of Uruguay and Mexico. The discussion focused on **strategic approaches to the Cooperation Framework** and identifying areas where additional support is needed to strengthen collaboration in the region.

The IBC members also engaged in the RCO Economist Network meeting, where they explored ways to foster collaboration between Resident Coordinator Offices (RCO) economists and UNCTs across the region. These discussions aim to position the UN collectively ahead of the **Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4)** in June-July 2025.



Successful Collection of Inputs to Improve Access to Justice in the Region

On 25 September 2024, the **IBC on Governance for Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions** successfully closed the deadline for receiving contributions on access to justice in Latin America and the Caribbean. The IBC celebrates the **overwhelming response**, and the identification of a wide variety of initiatives, projects, methodologies, guides, and training processes being put forward, which prove diverse approaches to enhancing access to justice across the region.

With the submissions phase complete, the next step is to analyze the information received, and the IBC aims to present a comprehensive analysis by November 2024. The contributions by participating countries are key to the collective effort of enhancing justice in the region, and to building a more equitable and accessible justice system for all citizens.

“We are thrilled with the number of contributions received, which reflect the richness and diversity of efforts being implemented across Latin America and the Caribbean to make justice accessible for all. IBC co-chairs.”

As the region continues to address access to justice challenges, the IBC emphasizes the need for innovative and adaptable solutions. The access to justice approach endorsed by IBC incorporates a wide range of categories that align with their pathways of work, allowing stakeholders the flexibility to integrate the practices most appropriate to their specific contexts.

With the analysis of submissions underway, the IBC looks forward to contributing to the Iberoamerican Agreement on Access to Justice ongoing process, – led by the Ibero-American Conference of Justice Ministers (COMJIB) – and to sharing findings and continuing to support countries in their efforts to strengthen justice systems and ensure peace, justice, and strong institutions throughout the region.





Populations Left Behind

WG



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UN Survey Results: Addressing the Needs of Populations Left Behind in LAC

The **Working Group on Populations Left Behind (WG-PLB)** conducted a survey among UN Resident Coordinators (RCs) and UN Country Teams (UNCTs) to assess the human rights priorities of vulnerable populations in Latin America and the Caribbean. Conducted between 25 June and 15 July, the survey garnered 105 responses, providing insights that will shape the working group's workplan for 2024-2025 and bolster efforts towards the "Leave No One Behind" (LNOB) agenda.

Key findings revealed that **persistent stigma and discrimination**, particularly against LGBTQ+ individuals, migrants, and people living with HIV, are among the foremost human rights issues. Gender-based violence, economic inequality, and access to essential services were also highlighted as critical concerns. The survey underscored the importance of addressing systemic barriers faced by marginalized groups, with significant emphasis on the need for enhanced inter-agency collaboration, advocacy, and policy reforms.

Respondents identified women and girls, indigenous peoples, and those living in poverty as priority LNOB groups, emphasizing that jobs, social protection, and education are crucial areas needing urgent attention.

As the workplan of the WG-PLB moves forward, these insights will guide coordinated efforts to support the rights and well-being of those left behind in the region.



#SDGTruths Campaign:

Key messages and social campaign to address misinformation

In a strategic move to enhance understanding and support for the 2030 Agenda, the document '**Key Arguments to Support the 2030 Agenda**' was recently shared with Regional Directors, Resident Coordinators and UNCTs, accompanied by a social media campaign that was prompted ahead of the UNGA 2024 and the Summit of the Future. This initiative aims to address common misconceptions surrounding the 2030 Agenda, the SDGs, and the role of the United Nations in advancing sustainable development in an everyday more interconnected world.

Developed under the guidance of the **Partnerships and Communications Working Group of the RCP LAC**, this project responds to an agreement reached during the RCP LAC Retreat held on 20-21 August in Panama. Over the 2-days discussions, one of the main points raised was the urgent need to establish a unified narrative that positions the United Nations Development System (UNDS) as a strong and cohesive voice in the face of rising misinformation and hate speech targeting the 2030 Agenda.

The campaign that accompanies the Argument, **#SDGTruths**, features a variety of engaging materials, **available in English and Spanish**, including a video, social media cards, and an interactive quiz, all designed to mobilize younger audiences and encourage their participation. By fostering engagement through these platforms, the initiative seeks to counteract negative narratives and promote a clearer understanding of the importance of the SDGs and the work of the UN.

As misinformation continues to pose a challenge, **this campaign represents a proactive step** towards ensuring that the values of the 2030 Agenda are understood and embraced by all. The PCWG encourages agencies and individuals to participate in sharing these key messages across their social media channels, amplifying the message of unity and purpose in support of a sustainable future.

All social media campaign materials are available on this Trello board, in both English and Spanish.

The #SDGTruths campaign is just the first step of a wider social campaign that will feed into key UN Days over 2024-2025, aiming at raising awareness about the different SDGs and the work that the UNDS does in the region to fulfill them and to advance sustainable development.

Answer the SDGs quiz here





Launch of Regional Communities on the RCP LAC Website

The Knowledge Management Hub Steering Committee has launched the regional Communities on the RCP LAC website. Communities are designed as online collaborative spaces to facilitate interaction between members of Issue-based Coalitions and Working Groups and their counterparts at the country level, enabling them to engage in exchanges relevant to their activities.

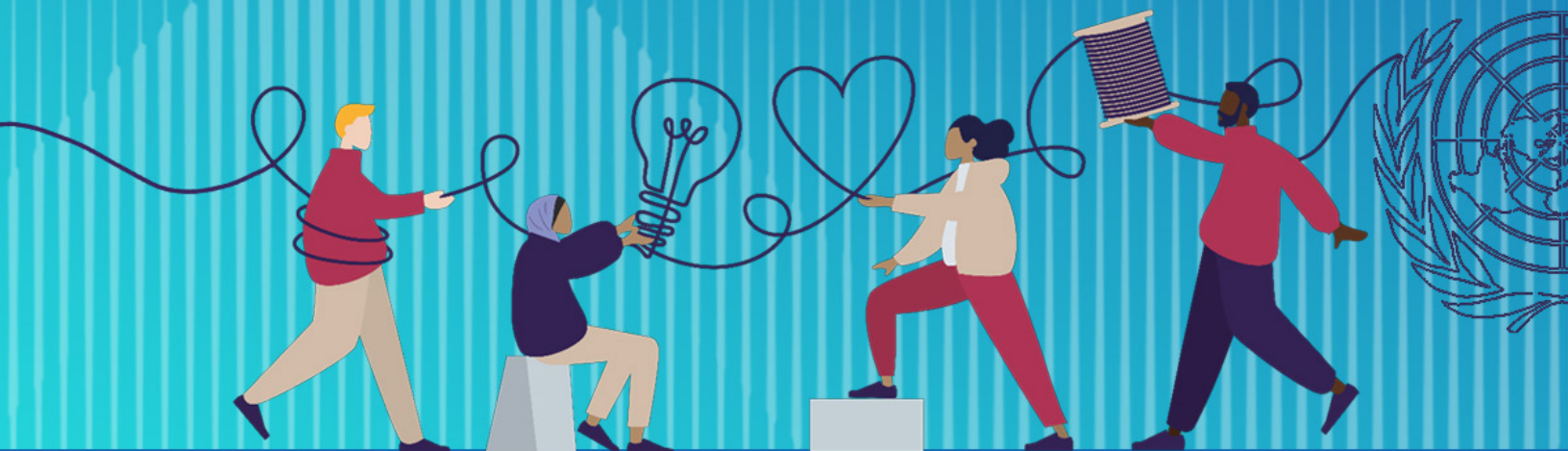
Communities are a significant step towards strengthening knowledge sharing across the United Nations regional network and promoting a culture of collaboration and support between UN professionals at the regional and country levels. **A training session was held** on 15 October to introduce IBCs and WGs' Technical co-chairs to the new platform. Community members will be invited to explore these new spaces on the RCP LAC website and take full advantage of the information and opportunities for connection they present.

Key features of the online Communities include:

News: Community members can access important updates and announcements. They are encouraged to propose articles that highlight significant developments in their areas of focus.

Events: Designed to foster networking and community building, this section enables members to share events that align with their Community's objectives.

Discussions: These spaces facilitate the exchange of ideas and constructive dialogue, further advancing the interests of the Community.





Strategic dialogue and capacity building to support Cooperation Framework design in six countries

The regional PSG's country support teams have recently deployed several in-country missions to support the six countries that are designing their Cooperation Frameworks.

In Argentina, the PSG, in collaboration with the PSG of the Arab States, engaged the Resident Coordinator's Office in Iran and supported the facilitation of training on the Human Rights Approach, Leave No One Behind, Gender and Environmental Sustainability.

On 17 September, a strategic dialogue took place between the Resident Coordinators of Mexico and Uruguay, their UN Country Teams, the PSG, and the Co-Chairs of the RCP LAC Issue-based Coalitions. This exchange focused on the approaches of UN country teams regarding the **Common Country Analysis and Cooperation Framework** design, discussing the UN system's opportunities and the complexities of local contexts, as well as providing an update on CCA and CF design processes across the region.

A virtual workshop on Environmental Sustainability and Disaster Risk Management was held on 11 October with Cuba's Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO), as **Cuba** starts the formulation process for its next Cooperation Framework (2026-2030). The workshop aimed to strengthen internal capacities within the RCO and equip key partners with essential knowledge relevant to Cuba's specific context. With environmental sustainability and disaster risk management being critical priorities, this training supports the effective implementation of the United Nations system's work in the region.



PSG workshop on Human Rights, Gender Equality, and Leaving No One Behind in Panama

Another workshop held on 14 October in **Panama** focused on integrating the principles of Human Rights, Gender Equality, and Leaving No One Behind into the planning and programming processes of the Common Country Analysis and the Cooperation Framework for 2026-2030.





Evaluation

WG

Key Lessons and Innovations for Enhanced UN Evaluation Practices

I.A.

In June 2024, the **UN Evaluation Network for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNELAC)** actively participated in the GLocal Evaluation Week by sharing key lessons learned from the evaluations of the United Nations Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCF) across the region.

The presentation covered a **meta-analysis of UNSDCF evaluations** conducted between 2016 and 2022 in countries like Uruguay, El Salvador, Chile, Bolivia, and the Dominican Republic. UNELAC emphasized the importance of rigorous evaluation methodologies, the inclusion of gender and human rights approaches, and effective coordination with key stakeholders, such as national governments and UN agency focal points.

These evaluations have strengthened the governance and implementation of Cooperation Frameworks, providing evidence-based insights that improve decision-making and accountability within the UN system.

Building on this momentum, UNELAC is planning to organize a webinar in the fourth quarter of 2024, focusing on the **applications of Artificial Intelligence (AI)** in evaluation. This event will showcase how AI techniques, such as text processing and natural language processing (NLP), are being used across UN agencies to enhance evaluation processes such as gender synthesis reviews, just transition meta-analyses, and the analysis of evaluation recommendations.

This webinar will be a valuable platform for exchanging knowledge and insights on AI-driven evaluation approaches, contributing to the continuous improvement of evaluation processes within the UN system.



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Statistical Conference of the Americas: Strengthening Networks for the SDGs

On 28 August, the members of the **Working Group on SDG Data and Statistics** of the RCP LAC convened in Santiago during the **twenty-third meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC**. This gathering provided an opportunity for statistical representatives to connect and strengthen regional collaboration, discuss ongoing activities, and welcome new members.

Discussions focused on supporting Member States in the **production, dissemination, and utilization of indicators** related to the Sustainable Development Goals. The meeting underscored the necessity of sustained communication to build a cohesive community of statisticians across the region. By establishing effective mechanisms to connect global, regional, and national initiatives, the working group aims to **improve statistical practices** and data usage in support of sustainable development.

- For further information, please visit the full article on [this website](#).



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Results of the RCP LAC retreat on 20-21 August 2024

On 20 and 21 August 2024, Regional Directors gathered in Panama for the third in-person retreat of the RCP LAC. Key discussion points included:

► **Repositioning the UN development system in LAC:**

RCP LAC members discussed the current views on the UNDS's role in the region and explored implications for its future positioning in LAC.

► **Misinformation and trust:** RCP LAC members addressed challenges related to misinformation, polarization, and hate speech, and explored ways to strengthen the UNDS's brand and legitimacy in support of the 2030 Agenda.

► **Global and regional leadership:** RCP LAC members examined opportunities for LAC leadership in global events such as the Summit of the Future, the COPs, and the G-20, and discussed how the region can contribute to and follow up on these events.

► **UN participation in regional forums:** RCP LAC members rethought the value of the UN system's participation in the Forum of the Countries of LAC on Sustainable Development, aiming to enhance participation and accelerate the 2030 Agenda implementation with innovative approaches.

► **Human mobility:** RCPLAC members reviewed trends in migration and displacement in the region, planned the sunset of the Comprehensive Development Plan for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and the South-Southeast of Mexico (CDP) and endorsed a new UN-coordinated approach.

► **Mid-term review of the UN reform:** IBCs and WGs co-chairs conducted a mid-term review of the RCP LAC workplan, assessing the progress of regional reforms and the implementation of priorities and transitions.

► **Transnational organized crime:** RCP LAC members evaluated the impact of organized crime and violence in the region and identified integrated actions to support UNCTs in linking humanitarian and development efforts.

► **Partnerships for the 2030 Agenda:** RCP LAC members explored innovative approaches to leveraging partnerships with subregional bodies, IFIs, civil society, and the private sector to advance the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

New ad-hoc mechanism to address emergencies and crises

The RCP LAC Vice-Chairs announced the establishment of an ad-hoc mechanism, led by their Alternates, to enhance strategic and political discussions and effectively address emergencies and crises, inviting recommendations from RCP LAC members on specific countries and mechanisms to support these discussions.



New RCP LAC members and Resident Coordinators



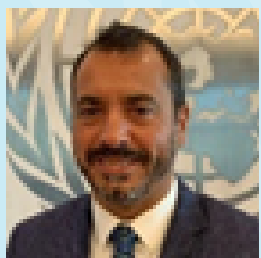
Ms. Ludmilla de Oliveira Diniz

Chief of the Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean,
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
Since 7 August 2024



Ms. Maria Moita

Regional Director for Central America, North America and
the Caribbean, International Organization for migration (IOM)
Since 1 September 2024



Mr. Alejandro Alvarez

United Nations **Resident Coordinator** in Honduras
From 2 November 2024



Events, meetings & webinars

Save

the dates

Next RCP LAC Meetings

- **3 December 2024.** 11AM - 1PM (Panama time) (virtual): RCP LAC meeting

Key Global and regional events

- **21 October to 1 November** (Cali, Colombia): Sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity
- **22 October** (Bogota, Colombia): OECD Ministerial Summit on Social Inclusion
- **30-31 October & 1 November** (Bridgetown, Barbados): Sixteenth Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
- **12-15 November** (Medellin, Colombia): Fifth UN World Data Forum
- **14-15 November** (Cuenca, Ecuador): Twenty-ninth Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government
- **18-19 November** (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil): Nineteenth G20 Leaders' Summit

IBCs and WGs Events

IBC on Climate Change and Resilience:

Side events during COP16 CBD (Cali, Colombia): **Biodiversity Blueprints - Collaborative Strategies for Effective National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)**

- **25 October** 10:10 - 11:30 AM (Room Paramos/NGOs, Plaza One, Blue zone)
- **29 October** 11:00 - 13:00 AM (UN Hub Meeting Room)

WG on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls:

- **25 November - 10 December** Campaign for the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence

Peer Support Group:

Upcoming trainings on the guiding principles and theory of change:

- **October:** Cuba
- **November:** Guatemala, Mexico and Panama





Events, meetings & webinars

Save

the dates

International Days

- **17 October** International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (A/RES/47/196)
- **24 October** United Nations Day (A/RES/168 (II))
- **29 October** International Day of Care and Support (A/RES/77/317)
- **31 October** World Cities Day (A/RES/68/239)
- **15 November** International Day for the Prevention of and Fight against All Forms of Transnational Organized Crime (A/RES/78/267)
- **18 November** World Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week, 18-24 November [WHO]
- **24 November** World Children's Day (A/RES/836(IX))
- **25 November** International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (A/RES/54/134)
- **01 December** World AIDS Day
- **03 December** International Day of Persons with Disabilities (A/RES/47/3)
- **09 December** International Anti-Corruption Day (A/RES/58/4)
- **10 December** Human Rights Day (A/RES/423 (V))
- **18 December** International Migrants Day (A/RES/55/93)
- **27 December** International Day of Epidemic Preparedness (A/RES/75/27)

International Conferences

WORLD
URBAN
FORUM



4–8 November Cairo, Egypt





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