



challenges



Newsletter on childhood and adolescence

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The rights of children of African descent in Latin America and the Caribbean



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Editorial

Within the framework of the International Decade of People of African Descent, which runs between 2015 and 2024, this edition of the CHALLENGES newsletter focuses for the first time on the rights of children of African descent in the region. In Latin American and Caribbean countries, people of African descent are at a disadvantage because of historical structural inequality and multiple forms of discrimination.

The main article presents the situation of Afrodescendent children and some specific elements in the field of health and education, as well as challenges for the future. We can hear the voice of Afro-Colombian and Afro-Peruvian children and learn about the Black Lives campaign in Brazil. Experience in a school in the Dominican Republic, the use of capoeira as a means to combat racism and a didactic guide used in Uruguayan schools are also collected. In the Points of View section we have a specialist who presents the situation of Afro-Colombian children. Finally, several publications are disseminated that show the situation of children of African descent.

Analysis and research



Children of African descent in Latin America

Laís Abramo and Marta Rangel

The history of Latin America is closely related to European colonization, conquest and slavery. The latter consisted both of the enslavement of part of the indigenous population and, in particular, of African people trafficked intercontinentally.

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Viewpoints



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Afrodescendent childhood in Colombia

Dora Inés Vivanco Julio

Master in Development Management, Consultant, Researcher

The orality of Afro-Colombian population gathers traditions with which boys and girls of African descent have grown up who, from different regions, share symbolic elements and stories that denote the connection with rivers and seas around which, centuries ago, cimarron ancestors constituted Palenques as territories free from slave trade.

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The voices of children and adolescents



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Here we are! Afro-Peruvian children - CEDET, Plan and UNICEF

[Watch video »](#)

Top 5 against racism and discrimination: girls and boys of African descent speak – CNOA

[Watch video »](#)





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Stories told by Afro-Colombian children

In co-creation with Afro-Colombian children, the National Convergence of Afro-Colombian Organizations (CNOA) has been working since 2013 on this project for the production of communicative content for the self-recognition of Afro-Colombian children.

[Watch video »](#)

Light to Learn

In Los Malucos, Dominican Republic, electricity arrives at school and the life of the entire community changes.

[Watch video »](#)

Vidas negras Campaign

In 2017, and within the framework of the commitment to implement the International **Decade for People of African Descent**, the United Nations system in Brazil launched the national campaign “Vidas Negras”. This initiative seeks to end violence against black youth in the country by attracting attention and raising awareness among the entire population.

[See more »](#)

[Watch video »](#)

Capoeira at school: a window to deconstruct racism

Doing capoeira at school is much more than a physical activity. In these courses culture and history are taught, broadening the horizons of diversity and representativeness of children.

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Didactic guide “Education and Afro-descendence”

In Uruguay, teachers have a support book to work on situations of racial discrimination in the classroom and, at the same time, prevent them through practical exercises.

[See more »](#)

Did you know... ?

... that children of African descent are more exposed to the worst forms of child labor?

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CIVauHW07Ws>

... that in several countries in Latin America teenage pregnancy is greater among Afrodescendants and that, for example, in Ecuador a quarter of Afrodescendent adolescents are mothers?

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), based on special processing of census microdata through REDATAM 7.

... that in Brazil, young male of African descent are 2.5 times more likely to die as a result of violence than young non-Afrodescendants?

Source: IACHR Press Release, September 26, 2018.

...that only recently, on April 16, 2019, was the Chilean Afrodescendent Tribal People Recognition Law published?

Source: Official Gazette of the Republic of Chile, Tuesday, April 16, 2019.

... that in Uruguay there exists a National Plan of Racial and Afrodescendent Equity?

Source: Consejo de Equidad Racial y Afrodescendencia y MIDES (2019)

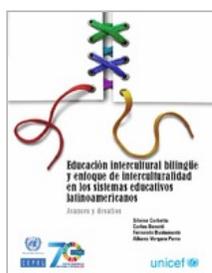
Key documents



"Niños, niñas y adolescentes afrodescendientes en América Latina: el entrecruzamiento de diversas dimensiones de la desigualdad social"

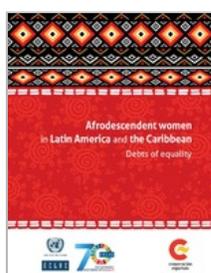
In *Construyendo políticas públicas hacia los niños, niñas y adolescentes afrodescendientes de las Américas y el Caribe*

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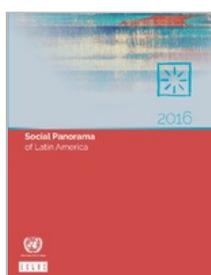
Educación intercultural bilingüe y enfoque de interculturalidad en los sistemas educativos latinoamericanos: avances y desafíos

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Afrodescendent women in Latin America and the Caribbean: Debts of equality

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Peoples of African descent: broadening the scope of inequality to make progress in guaranteeing their rights"

In *Social Panorama of Latin America 2016*

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Situación de las personas afrodescendientes en América Latina y desafíos de políticas para la garantía de sus derechos

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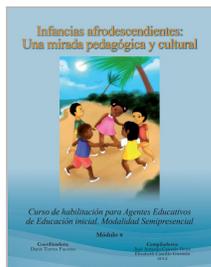
Contar con todos: caja de herramientas para la inclusión de pueblos indígenas y afrodescendientes en los censos de población y vivienda

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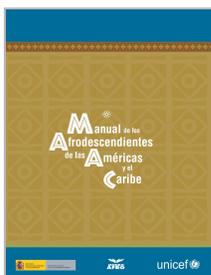
Afrodescendientes en Latinoamérica. Hacia un marco de inclusión

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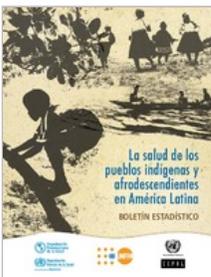
Infancias afrodescendientes: una mirada pedagógica y cultural. Curso de habilitación para agentes educativos de educación inicial. Modalidad semipresencial Módulo 8

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Manual de los Afrodescendientes de las Américas y el Caribe

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La salud de los pueblos indígenas y afrodescendientes en América Latina. Boletín estadístico

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Políticas públicas para afrodescendientes: marco institucional en el Brasil, Colombia, el Ecuador y el Perú

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Voces de Adolescentes Afrodescendientes Contra el Racismo y la Discriminación

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