



# KOFI ANNAN

THE UNITED NATIONS FAMILY HAS  
LOST A BELOVED PAST LEADER

## YOUTH VOICES

ECLAC ENCOURAGES YOUTH  
INVOLVEMENT IN CRITICAL  
DECISION MAKING

## NATIONAL STATISTICS

LEGAL FRAMEWORKS FOR  
STATISTICS EXPLORED DURING  
REGIONAL WORKSHOP

# CONTENTS



Cover Photo: Kofi Annan former Secretary General of the United Nations

**4**

## Article

Tribute to Kofi Annan

**6**

## Feature Article

ECLAC encourages youth involvement in critical decision making

**1 □**

## Article

Regional fund for gender equality in the Caribbean and Latin America

**12**

## Article

ECLAC Executive Secretary cites planning as critical for 2030 Agenda

**15**

## State of Affairs

Recent activity by Caribbean governments

**18**

## Around the Region

- Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival
- Legal frameworks for statistics explored during regional workshop

**20**

## ECLAC Caribbean Family

New Staff

Issued on a monthly basis, The Hummingbird offers strategic insights into the latest projects, publications, technical assistance missions and research carried out by ECLAC Caribbean. In addition to these, sneak previews are provided of the most salient upcoming events, alongside enriching follow-ups to previously covered issues. With a view to featuring a variety of facets of Caribbean life and lifestyle, The Hummingbird also zooms in on cultural activities and landmark occurrences through an eye-opening regional round-up.

### EDITORIAL TEAM

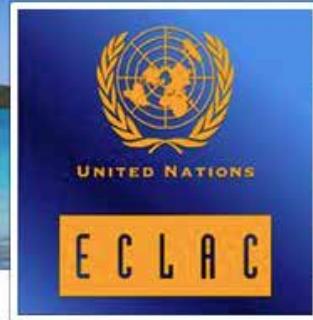
Editor: Alexander Voccia  
Writer : Denise Balgobin  
Design: Blaine Marcano

Please see our contact details on the back cover of this magazine

# ECLAC CARIBBEAN



ECLAC



ECLAC Caribbean  
Non-profit Organisation

Like Liked

Following

Message

...

Timeline

About

Events

Photos

More



Like us on Facebook

## September Events



International Literacy Day  
8 September 2018



United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation  
12 September 2018



General Assembly, Seventy-third session  
New York, 18 September 2018



International Day for Peace  
21 September 2018



World Tourism Day  
27 September 2018



ECLAC Caribbean

Posted Sep 10

Catch up on what the United Nations is doing to limit climate change: <http://bit.ly/climateUN> #GlobalGoals



Like · Comment · Share



ECLAC Caribbean

Posted Sep 5

In 2015, 193 United Nations member countries adopted a new sustainable development agenda and global agreement on climate change. More here: <https://vimeo.com/151435077>



Like · Comment · Share



ECLAC Caribbean

Posted Aug 23

LIVE: ECLAC Caribbean presents its Economic Survey of the Caribbean 2018: <https://www.facebook.com/eclaccaribbean/videos/2070045429675174/>



Like · Comment · Share



# TRIBUTE TO KOFI ANNAN

Photo: Charity by Joseph Jayanth CC BY 2.0



**O**n Saturday August 19 the United Nations family lost a beloved past leader who gave his entire career in service to the Organization and the welfare of the peoples of the world. A son of Ghana, Kofi Annan, in the words of Secretary General Guterres, "was a guiding force for good. He rose through the ranks to lead the organization into the new millennium with matchless dignity and determination".

The staff of the United Nations who had the honour and privilege to work with him and for him, have felt this loss most keenly. The Hummingbird reproduces below the words of tribute and comfort delivered by Secretary General Guterres to the United Nations family on the occasion of a wreath-laying ceremony for the late Kofi Annan.

Dear colleagues and friends, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

We are here to pay tribute to Kofi Annan, one of the best of us, a man who embodied United Nations values and made us all proud to call ourselves his colleagues.

This is a personal loss for many of us. It is difficult to imagine what a blow it must be to his wife and to his family. Our hearts go out to them.

We know how much Kofi meant to the world.

I would like to say a few words about what he meant to all of us who work for the United Nations.

Kofi Annan's years in office were an exciting time. He put forward new ideas. He brought new people into the United Nations family. He spoke passionately about our mission and our role. He created a renewed sense of possibility both inside and outside our organization about what the UN could do and could be for the world's people.

Because of his long and varied career in different offices and departments, it sometimes seemed as though Kofi knew everyone personally. But even staff members who never met him felt a bond with Kofi, because he was really one of us. As I said on Saturday, in many ways, Kofi Annan was the United Nations.

His most defining features were his humanity and solidarity with those in need. He put people at the centre of the work of the United Nations and was able to turn compassion into action across the UN system.

We are still reaping the rewards of the Millennium Summit, when he brought the world together to agree the first global targets on poverty and child mortality. His response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic

united governments, Non-Governmental Organizations and the healthcare industry and undoubtedly saved many lives.

Kofi Annan faced up to the grave errors made by the United Nations in the 1990s – in its response to the Rwanda Genocide and the Srebrenica killings – by shining a light inside the UN. The reports he commissioned aimed to make sure such terrible mistakes are never repeated and set the international community on a new course in its response to mass atrocities.

A true voice for the voiceless, he did not shy away from the most challenging issues but worked creatively to bridge differences and protect the most vulnerable. He stood his ground without antagonizing others; his humility, good humour, courtesy and charm went hand-in-hand with enormous wisdom and strength.

He will always remain vivid in my memory for as long as I live. But not essentially because of the fact he was an extraordinary statesman, a remarkable diplomat, an inspiring leader but above all because of his gentleness, of his warmth, of his friendship. He was indeed a good man and a gentleman and always at our disposal to support us, to comfort us, to be in full solidarity with us in any difficult moment that one of us, as colleagues of him would have.

Perhaps we can best honour his legacy by recalling his own words, delivered at the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony and I quote: "Securing real and lasting improvement in the lives of individual men and women is the measure of all we do at the United Nations."

In these times of growing political divides and intractable conflicts, we need the peacemaking spirit of Kofi Annan more than ever. ■





## FEATURE ARTICLE

# ECLAC ENCOURAGES YOUTH INVOLVEMENT IN CRITICAL DECISION MAKING

Youth development in general, and youth unemployment in particular, have become growing concerns for Caribbean countries, with levels of youth unemployment over the last decade remaining higher than before the 2008 financial crisis. Young people are also more likely to live in poverty compared with older adults and more likely to become victims of violence.

[READ MORE](#)



# ECLAC encourages youth involvement in critical decision making

**T**hese issues were at the forefront of discussions at the recent Caribbean Forum on Population, Youth and Development held in Georgetown, Guyana, which also focused upon the participation, engagement and collaboration of youth in development frameworks for the Caribbean.

CARICOM's Assistant Secretary-General, Dr. Douglas Slater, in his opening remarks emphasized that "an encouraging nineteen of the twenty Members and Associate Members of CARICOM have national youth policies". However, at the same time, while underscoring the importance of devising a coordinated regional mechanism for more effective participation and engagement with youth, Dr. Slater also suggested that "more work is needed in Member States in developing monitoring and evaluation frameworks to assess progress towards youth development goals and to ensure that policy decisions are based on evidence. More attention is needed to ensuring policies are gender sensitive and properly funded so they can be more impactful".

In her opening remarks, ECLAC Caribbean Director, Diane Quarless, stressed that the integration of youth into the Caribbean's sustainable development processes is essential for the future wellbeing of our communities. "Progress in achieving sustainable development with equity requires policies that address the needs of the most vulnerable groups, paying attention in particular to those inequalities that impact our youth", she stated.

Youth representation at the event was very strong, with youth Ambassadors, youth leaders and representatives of regional youth organizations sharing centre stage alongside representatives of governments and regional bodies including ECLAC Caribbean.

Shaquille Knowles, Chairperson of the Caribbean Regional Youth Council, in representation of all youth leaders and youth organisations who participated in the preparatory Youth Dialogues leading up to the Forum, mentioned the importance of developing national youth policies that are reflective of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, integrating in the process a diverse range of young people belonging to various

backgrounds, having particular regard to include vulnerable and marginalised youth groups.

The Forum provided a platform for the expression of a shared commitment to enhancing the welfare of the people of the Caribbean, by turning the spotlight on the challenges with which the youth of the region continue to grapple in their efforts to self-actualize and to contribute meaningfully to the Caribbean development process.

CDB's Vice-President (Operations), Monica La Bennett, suggested that partnership must be at the heart of youth development progress. Together, she said, "we must tackle the issues that are critical for the inclusive sustainable development of the Region. Bolstering systems to respond to youth unemployment; building youth capacity to succeed in an age of digital innovation; and scaling up entrepreneurship education are just a few of the areas where collaboration and cooperation will be critical".

In addition, the Forum also identified actions which can bring greater attention to youth, and youth participation, through the implementation, monitoring and follow-up of two important development frameworks, namely the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development.

Dr. George Norton, Minister of Social Cohesion of Guyana, meanwhile focused on the importance of giving voice to rural youth in Caribbean societies. He expressed his desire for young people to be impactful in all areas of life and to take a lead in sustainable development processes: "It is time for our youth to shine" and "challenge conventional wisdom in proposing practical solutions". Minister Norton also made reference to the proposal of a Caribbean Youth Platform to promote the contribution of youth in development processes such as the SDGs.

To support the discussions, leading up to the event, ECLAC Caribbean prepared a Caribbean Synthesis Report on the Implementation of the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes, and a report on the Implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development in the Caribbean.

“

***More attention is needed to ensuring policies are gender sensitive and properly funded so they can be more impactful.***

CARICOM Assistant Secretary-General, Dr. Douglas Slater

”

Both of these gave context to the dialogue, as they examined the subregion's progress in addressing important issues of youth development, gender equality, sexual and reproductive health and rights, ageing, migration and territorial inequalities and vulnerabilities. Meeting participants also identified actions to further the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus in the Caribbean with a particular focus on the way in which population and development issues relate to youth.

The outcome document of the Forum presents recommendations to promote youth participation and constituted the Caribbean member states' input to the regional review and appraisal of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development. These were presented at the Third Session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and will guide the further implementation of the Montevideo Consensus.

In her closing remarks, Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs of Suriname, Lalini Gopal, emphasized the importance of incorporating and implementing the results and recommendations from the Forum and announced the initiative of the Government of Suriname to host an evaluation meeting with Caribbean countries and a CARICOM Youth Ambassadors meeting in 2019 to analyse progress and discuss areas of youth development as a follow-up to the Forum recommendations.

The Forum was jointly convened by ECLAC Caribbean, the Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and The Commonwealth Secretariat, in partnership with the Governments of Guyana and Suriname, and in close collaboration with regional youth organisations - the CARICOM Youth Ambassador Corps (CYAs), the Caribbean Regional Youth Council (CRYC) and the University of the West Indies' Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow (UWI STAT). ■





# REGIONAL FUND FOR GENDER EQUALITY IN THE CARIBBEAN AND LATIN AMERICA

**A** Regional Fund in support of Women's and Feminist Organizations and Movements was recently approved by participant countries at the 57th meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held from 30 to 31 July 2018 at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile. This signals a desire to support the development of projects that will advance women's empowerment, contribute to achieving gender equality, women's autonomy and the realization of women's rights in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The meeting of the Presiding Officers – which was an occasion for countries in the region to share their experiences, good practices and challenges faced in the implementation of the Montevideo Strategy for the Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the Sustainable Development Framework by 2030 – was enriched by a Caribbean panel that facilitated debate on the autonomy of women in changing economic circumstances in the subregion.

The challenges faced by Caribbean women were linked to the vulnerability of Small Island Developing States

(SIDS). Among these were high indebtedness of governments, lack of economic diversification and vulnerability to climate change and environmental hazards. These challenges negatively impact the development and implementation of policies and programmes aimed at advancing women's autonomy.

In addition to structural challenges, serious obstacles remain, including high rates of gender-based violence. It is also the case that gender occupational stereotypes and discriminatory practices in the labour market, often reinforced by the lack of recognition of the value of their domestic and care work, still persists.

The Honorable Samantha Marshall, Minister of Social Transformation, Human Resource Development, Youth and Gender Affairs of Antigua and Barbuda, noted that in an effort to ensure that the conditions are favorable to eliminate gender inequality and provide women in all their diversity with the opportunity to make their own decisions, enjoy all human rights and to participate and contribute to socioeconomic development as equal citizens, "we need to advance a radical transformative agenda, that promotes transparent

governance structures, improve the ease of doing business within our economy, less restrictive regulations, an effective tax structure and tax collection that is well targeted, investment in public services, diversification of our economies with the aim of contributing to a more stable economic environment and social development".

The Directors of the National mechanisms of the Advancement of Women in Saint Lucia and Suriname, Ms. Janey Joseph and Ms. Judith Karijodrono, respectively, shared their major achievements while acknowledging challenges in their countries. These include issues relating to women's participation in the political and decision-making processes, unbalanced sharing of responsibilities between women and men in the care economy and unpaid domestic work. Both also supported the importance of strengthening monitoring frameworks and promoting the collection of disaggregated data in order to adopt an evidence-based approach to assess progress and obstacles.

The agreement adopted by the Presiding Officers included the request from Caribbean countries to receive technical assistance from ECLAC aimed



## JAMAICA TO HOST TOURISM RESILIENCE SUMMIT

at building the capacity of gender focal points to design and implement gender equality policies and to mainstream gender equality into national development plans through multi-stakeholder participatory processes. In addition, the need for technical assistance was also identified with regard to strengthening national statistical systems for the production of gender indicators, in particular to conduct time-use surveys and other related surveys to measure unpaid care work and tackle violence against women.

In closing the 57th meeting, the 29 countries that attended the event, including delegations from Antigua and Barbuda, Montserrat, Saint Lucia and Suriname, agreed to approve the road map for the preparatory process ahead of the Fourteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will be held in November 2019 in Santiago, Chile. Among the key topics to be discussed at the Regional Conference on Women next year, will be the particularities of the Caribbean subregion, such as the effects of climate change and extreme weather events on the economic autonomy of women. Several preparatory meetings will take place in the Caribbean in order to ensure that the diverse voices of Caribbean women, are heard. ■

**A**nother important tourism conference is coming to Jamaica, according to Minister of Tourism, Edmund Bartlett.

Jamaica is set to host the Tourism Resilience Summit of the Americas on 13 September 2018, which will gather key global stakeholders and thought leaders at the University of the West Indies, Mona in Jamaica.

"This summit forms part of my ministry's efforts to build resilience within the region and globally. Resilience building has become even more crucial in a world that is hyper connected and as such more susceptible to climate change, epidemics and pandemics, terrorism and cybercrime," Bartlett said.

The summit, which will be held under the theme, 'Tourism Resilience Through Global Synergies,' "seek to assess existing and emerging disruptions related to tourism management globally; examine the risk of these disruptions to the global tourism product; and identify a synergistic strategic and operational framework for mutual partnerships between and among major governmental, non-governmental and business entities to address as well as develop mitigation strategies for these global disruptions," according to a statement from Jamaica's Ministry of Tourism.

Jamaica has been looking to position itself as a global leader in tourism resilience, highlighted by the recent launch of a new Global Center for Tourism Resilience. ■



ECLAC

## BARBUDA'S ONGOING MARINE CONSERVATION PUSH

**B**arbuda recently marked the fourth anniversary of the creation of its marine sanctuaries. In 2014, the Barbuda Council established the marine reserves and no-net zones to protect and replenish the island's marine environment.

Four years ago, the council adopted a set of new ocean management regulations to zone Barbuda's coastal waters, strengthen fisheries management and create a network of marine sanctuaries.

These regulations stemmed from a partnership between the Barbuda Council, Government of Antigua & Barbuda, Barbuda Fisheries Division, Codrington Lagoon Park and the Waitt Institute, under the umbrella of the Blue Halo Initiative.

"This type of management must become the status quo," said Ted Waitt, Founder Chairman of the Waitt Institute. It has been an honor to support the people of Barbuda as they take decisive steps to conserve their reefs and fisheries."

Since developing the regulations in 2014, Barbuda established five marine sanctuaries, collectively protecting 33% of the coastal area, to enable fish populations to rebuild and habitats to recover. These regulations show a commitment from Barbusians that restoring coral reefs and creating a sustainable ocean management plan is critically important, not just to current ocean users but also for future generations, said Blue Halo Barbuda Site Manager, Robin Ramdeen.

After the successful installation of signs on land and water last year, Barbuda's marine protected area zones are now clearly marked for fishers and other ocean users. Sanctuary areas where no fishing can take place are marked with a yellow buoy with blue bands.

Areas where no mooring or anchoring is allowed have yellow buoys with a green band, and areas where nets are prohibited have yellow buoys with a red band. Additionally, shipping lanes are marked with red/green buoys. Maps showing the location of the sanctuaries are available at the Fisheries Divisions in Antigua and Barbuda.

"We encourage anyone fishing or boating in Barbuda's waters to get the boat card that shows where Barbuda's coastal zones are located," said Ramdeen, who added that "honoring Barbuda's protected areas, is both a right and a responsibility." ■

ECLAC  
EXECUTIVE  
SECRETARY  
CITES PLANNING  
AS CRITICAL FOR  
2030 AGENDA

**T**he High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), the main UN process for the review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), was held at the UN Headquarters in New York from 9 to 18 July 2018, under the theme, "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies".

One of the highlights of the HLPF was a side event, at which ECLAC Executive Secretary, Alicia Bárcena, emphasized that planning was key to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean. Organized by ECLAC and the government of Guatemala,



this side event entitled, 'Policy Coherence: From the Global to the National and Local Levels', presented a methodology for identifying the critical links and nodes between the 2030 Agenda and planning.

Bárcena stated that long-term planning requires high quality data, including disaggregated data and statistics as the basis for making decisions, which means it is imperative that national and regional statistical institutions be strengthened.

"The 2030 Agenda calls on us to change our fragmented and isolated institutional culture in order to act in a coordinated, articulated and inclusive way, with multi-sectoral approaches and by identifying the interconnections and critical links between the economic, social and environmental

dimensions of sustainable development," Bárcena said.

She noted that public policy is effective when it is nationalized and has budgetary backing, adding that planning guarantees coherence among public policies. Bárcena recalled that today 20 of the 33 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean have national coordination mechanisms for the implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda on a national level.

"The 2030 Agenda and the SDGs do not involve goals that are different from those prioritized by States, but they do entail a different way of addressing them, and that is why it is important to seek the virtuous circles between the different targets and goals," she stated.

In addition, she pointed to the relevance of the Regional Observatory on Planning, a space for analysis, information and the collective construction of knowledge for governments, academia, the private sector and civil society, with regard to planning for development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Other participants in the panel were Secretary of Planning and Programming at Guatemala's Office of the President, Miguel Ángel Moir, Guatemala's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Jorge Skinner-Klée, and Social Affairs Officer from ECLAC's subregional headquarters in Mexico, Humberto Soto. ■



## A MAJOR NEW RUM DISTILLERY IS COMING TO GRENADA

**L**ong hailed as one of the Caribbean's top rum-producing countries, the island of Grenada is about to get a major new addition. The United Kingdom-based Renegade Rum company has officially broken ground on its new Renegade Rum Distillery in the parish of St Andrew on the island's east coast.

The company will use locally-grown sugarcane to create a series of premium rums. Sugar cane production is already underway. The project will have an overall investment of \$40 million pounds, according to Renegade Rum CEO, Mark Reynier, and this includes \$20 million invested specifically in the distillery and \$20 million in cultivation and plant operations.

It's the brainchild of London-based Renegade Spirits, which has a long background in whisky distillation. "Our goal is a simple one: to distil and mature the most profound rum the world has ever seen," the company website states.

Renegade Rum has already planted more than 200 acres of sugarcane to facilitate production when the distillery becomes fully operational in 2019. The plan is to bring the rum to market

around 2021, according to Renegade. "When a project like this comes to a rural community, it sends a message that there is good potential and the spinoff activities will be enormous," said Grenada Prime Minister, Dr. Keith Mitchell, who was on hand for the recent sod-turning ceremony. "This project is good for the agricultural sector and for growth in the area."

The distillery will also be eco-friendly, with plans to use bagasse to generate 80% of its electricity needs. It's a big step for Grenada, which has found regional and international renown with a pair of brands: Clarke's Court and Westerhall. The centuries-old River Antoine distillery is a legend in the region. ■

# STATE *of* AFFAIRS



Antigua and Barbuda

## GREEN CLIMATE FUND AGREEMENT

- Sept -

The government of Antigua and Barbuda completed the final step of the accreditation process via the signing of an Accreditation Master Agreement (AMA) with the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Prime Minister, Gaston Browne signed the agreement on behalf of the Department of Environment, unlocking opportunities for the continued strengthening of the climate resilience agenda of the country. The AMA provides a framework for the country's direct access to climate finance from the GCF to implement projects.

## ESCAZU AGREEMENT

- Sept -

Antigua and Barbuda is among various other countries expected to sign the "Escazú Agreement" on regional environmental matters at a high-level ceremony at United Nations headquarters, New York. The Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (the Escazú Agreement) will be open for the signature of all the countries in the region within the framework of the UN General Assembly. Other Caribbean countries expected to sign the agreement include Guyana, Saint Lucia, and St Vincent and the Grenadines.



Barbados

## INCREASED US AIRLIFT

- Sept -

Barbados Minister of Tourism and International Transport, Kerrie Symmonds, disclosed that American Airlines will be providing daily service to Barbados from Charlotte, North Carolina and three daily flights from Miami during the coming winter season. Although the increased airlift is temporary the minister explained, "I am confident that if we do the right things, we can maintain the level of interest in Barbados year-round and keep those extended flights that we now have in winter on the table as we go into the future."

## GUYANA TO PREPARE ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT

- Sept -

President David Granger has announced that Guyana will prepare to sign a framework agreement for economic cooperation with Barbados. The decision was taken following attendance at the ninth meeting of the Prime Ministerial Sub-committee of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) in Barbados during the month of September. Reference was also made to the CSME's long-term aim of creating a single economic space with an enlarged market producing globally competitive goods and services.



Saint Lucia

## TAIWANESE MEDICAL VOLUNTEERS

- Sept -

A team of medical experts from the Changhua Christian Hospital in Taiwan have volunteered to work at Saint Lucia's Saint Jude Hospital. Ambassador Douglas C.T. At a welcoming ceremony for the medical team, Ambassador Shen explained that a steady flow of personnel exchange has become a tradition since Changhua Christian Hospital and St Jude Hospital signed a twinning agreement in 2009. Thus far, more than 120 medical experts from Taiwan have performed volunteer work at St Jude Hospital, offering services to over 6,000 patients in southern Saint Lucia.

## WORLD BANK HEALTH LOAN

- Sept -

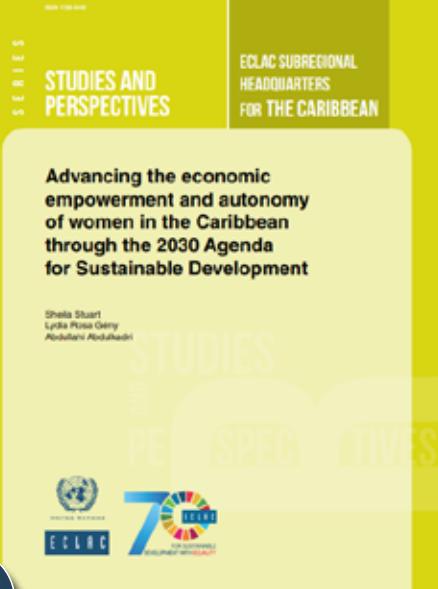
The World Bank's board of executive directors has approved US \$20 million from the International Development Association for strengthening Saint Lucia's public health care system by improving accessibility, efficiency and responsiveness of key health services. The health system strengthening project will roll-out a package of health services, introduce financial incentives to improve service delivery, as well as upgrade health infrastructure and scale up preparedness and response for public health emergencies.



ECLAC

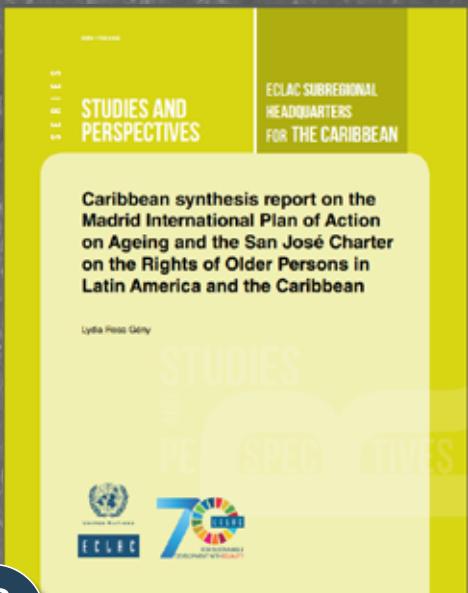
ECLAC CARIBBEAN'S

# Recent Publications



1.

Advancing the economic  
empowerment and autonomy of  
women in the Caribbean through  
the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable  
Development



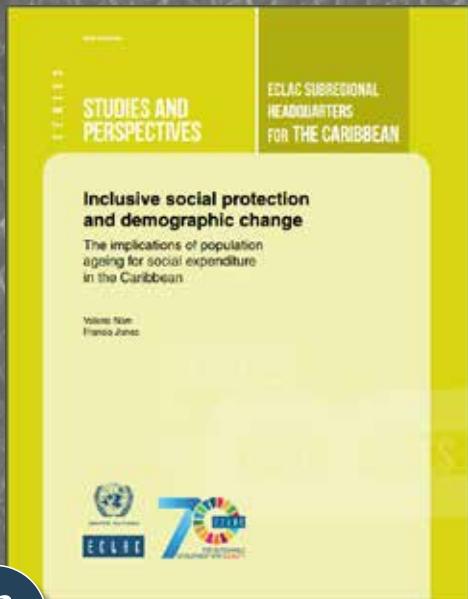
3.

Caribbean synthesis report on the  
Madrid International Plan of Action  
on Ageing and the San José Charter  
on the Rights of Older Persons in  
Latin America and the Caribbean

**AVAILABLE NOW!**

**CLICK ON COVER TO DOWNLOAD.**

HARDCOPIES AVAILABLE AT ECLAC CARIBBEAN WHILE STOCKS LAST.



Inclusive social protection and demographic change: The implications of population ageing for social expenditure in the Caribbean

2.

## DIANE'S CORNER

The Director's views and thoughts on the occasion of:



**DIANE QUARLESS**  
Director of ECLAC Caribbean

27/9



### World Tourism Day

Tourism has emerged as a vital engine of growth for many economies around the world. This is especially the case for Caribbean SIDS, where this sector is not only the lifeblood of many service economies but is also a major driver of improved living standards and social welfare.

#DirectorsTake

<http://vrb.al/directors-take>





## CARIBBEAN SEA JAZZ FESTIVAL

**G**etting in gear for the 12th edition of the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival (CSJF) on 21-22 September 2018, here is a sneak peek into this year's program. In recent years, Aruba's greatest festival has grown from a music enthusiasts' gathering into the island's most renowned cultural event.

Whether you like to explore new dance steps with music from around the world, or indulge yourself with local food and visual art spectacles, the 2018 CSJF is the place to be! Vallenato singer Jorge Celedón, has been named as one of the early performers for the first day. This Colombian heartthrob has won a Latin Grammy award for his folksy album 'Son... Para El Mundo' (Sound... For The World).

Directly from Cuba, there will be the all-girl band, Anacaona, who performed at this festival before. Also for the first day's event will be Althea René, who will bring the Jazzy atmosphere alive, alongside the band, Havana Vieja All Stars.

For Saturday 21st, the star of the evening will be Kathy Sledge of the famous Sister Sledge. She shares the stage with Di Mongo, a trio consisting of Goudsmit, Montis and Directie. The well-known rock band, Di-Rect, all the way from Holland will also entertain, alongside Yellow Jackets and Eric Darius, for some R&B, Hip-Hop and Pop. ■



## LEGAL FRAMEWORKS FOR STATISTICS EXPLORED DURING REGIONAL WORKSHOP

In every country, National Statistical Systems (NSS) provide official, relevant, comprehensive, reliable and objective statistical information and are thus extremely important, in an era where statistical information is a fundamental element for decision making.

The role of NSS is particularly relevant in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in light of the need for adequate statistics and indicators for their follow-up. Moreover, the wide statistical demand of the global indicator framework adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission reinforces the need for clearly defined and closely coordinated NSSs that adequately comply with the fundamental principles of official statistics.

Cognizant of the above, ECLAC and the government of Colombia, organized a workshop in Bogotá, Colombia from 3 to 5 July 2018, which focused on the status of statistical laws in the region, and which tabled the establishment of a regional action plan on the strengthening and implementation of statistical laws.

Attended by ECLAC Caribbean's Coordinator of the Statistics and Social Development Unit, Dr. Abdullahi Abdulkadri, this Regional Workshop on

Legal Frameworks for the Production of Official Statistics provided a forum for reflection and discussion about the state of the NSS of the region and the main challenges of the institutional framework and its legal frameworks, based on the exchange of experiences, processes and activities on statistical laws.

A basic condition for NSS to face the demand for current information is the existence of adequate legal frameworks. However, the formulation and implementation of statistical laws poses challenges and questions of various kinds. These include aspects related to the definition of the National Statistical System and which institutions should be part of them, the mechanisms of institutional coordination, the minimum requirements to guarantee the quality of the data collection, the guarantees of confidentiality and the mechanisms to exchange and access the data produced, among others.

In this regard, the three-day workshop facilitated discussions on the challenges of NSS to address the main contents of statistical laws. Participants also reflected on the status of implementation and monitoring of the Regional Code of Good Statistical Practices. ■

# ECLAC CARIBBEAN

## *Family*

### NEW STAFF

**E**CLAC Caribbean welcomed three new members to our Port of Spain family recently, all of whom are in Trinidad and Tobago for the first time. We extend a warm welcome and best wishes for every success in the discharge of their duties. ■



**Luciana Fontes de Meira**

Luciana Fontes de Meira joined ECLAC Caribbean in early 2018 as an Associate Environmental Affairs Officer in the Sustainable Development and Disasters Unit. She is a national of Brazil and a graduate of the Universität Wien in Austria with a Masters in Global Studies. She also holds a BA in International Relations from the Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Minas in Brazil and a Bachelor of Laws from the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, with a specialization in international law.

Luciana has also undertaken additional studies in graphic and audio-visual arts and dedicates her free time to hiking, photography, painting and embroidery. Most recently she served at the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) where she worked on many capacity building activities on topics as diverse as green industry, gender mainstreaming and the future of manufacturing industry. Her prior experience spans working in the legal sector and academia. She has a passion for undertaking research to address socio-economic and environmental issues.

She is enthusiastic about exploring the Caribbean and learning about the region and its challenges.



### **Amelia Bleeker**

Amelia Bleeker is ECLAC Caribbean's Associate Programme Management Officer in the Caribbean Knowledge Management Center (CKMC), from May 2018. She is a national of New Zealand, and possesses a Master of Laws in European and International Human Rights Law from the University of Leiden in the Netherlands (2016) as well as a Bachelor of Laws and a Bachelor of Arts in German and Sociology from the University of Canterbury in New Zealand (2011).

Amelia started her career as a lawyer in the private sector and has several years of experience in domestic and international law and policy. Her most recent roles include serving the UK government as an advisory lawyer and working as a legal researcher for a judge of the International Court of Justice in The Hague. Her interests and experience also include implementing and monitoring social policies, human rights and socio-economic development issues. She has served the New Zealand government's Ministry of Social Development, as well as a non-governmental children's rights organization in Johannesburg, South Africa.



### **Iskuhi Mkrtchyan**

Iskuhi Mkrtchyan is ECLAC Caribbean's newest recruit as Statistics Assistant in the Statistics and Social Development Unit, from July 2018. Iskuhi is a national of Armenia and holds both a Masters and Bachelor's degree in Econometrics and Economics respectively from Yerevan State University.

Prior to her recruitment with ECLAC, she worked as a Data Scientist/Analyst with the UNDP in Yerevan, Armenia and has extensive experience in statistical data analysis, technical cooperation and capacity building. She has also lectured in econometrics.

# Shrimp, Leek, and Spinach Pasta

A hearty pasta packed with vegetables, this meal can be prepared in 20-25 minutes. Sautéed leaks and shrimp combined with a touch of cream, lemon zest, and a handful of spinach serve as the sauce, which offers a mild, fresh flavor but proves easy to throw together. Feel free to use whatever short pasta you have on hand. Clean the leeks thoroughly before cooking; slice the onions down the middle and wash in a bowl of water. Grind a bit of fresh black pepper over each plate.

## What you will need:

$\frac{3}{4}$  pound gemelli, fusilli, or other short pasta  
2 tablespoons unsalted butter  
2 leeks (white and light green parts only), halved lengthwise then crosswise  
Salt and black pepper  
1 pound peeled and deveined medium shrimp (raw)  
Finely grated zest of 1 lemon  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  cup heavy cream  
10 ounces baby spinach

## What you need to do:

1. Cook the pasta according to the package directions; drain and return it to the pot.
2. Meanwhile, heat the butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the leeks,  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt, and  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon pepper and cook, stirring occasionally, until the leeks have softened, 3 to 5 minutes.
3. Add the shrimp and lemon zest and cook, tossing frequently, until the shrimp is opaque throughout, 4 to 5 minutes more.
4. Add the cream and  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt to the pasta in the pot and cook over medium heat, stirring, until slightly thickened, 1 to 2 minutes.
5. Add the shrimp mixture and the spinach and toss to combine.

Serve immediately.



# CONTACT US

ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean,  
1 Chancery Lane, P.O. Box 1113,  
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago,  
West Indies.

Telephone: 1 868 224 8000

## MEDIA CONTACT

Tel.: 1 868 224 8075

E-mail: [eclac-media-pos@eclac.org](mailto:eclac-media-pos@eclac.org)

Give us your feedback at:  
<http://vrb.al/hb-survey>

## SOCIAL MEDIA



[cepal.org/portofspain](http://cepal.org/portofspain)

