DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE ECLAC SYSTEM, 2021
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INTRODUCTION

The draft programme of work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) for 2021 is hereby submitted to the member States of the Commission for their consideration. This draft programme is based on the programme of work for the Commission and the priorities for 2021 that will be considered by the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the United Nations General Assembly as part of the intergovernmental reviewing exercise.

The overall purpose of the programme is to promote the economic, social and environmentally sustainable development of Latin America and the Caribbean through international cooperation, by undertaking applied research and comparative analysis of development processes and providing relevant normative operational capacity development and technical cooperation, as well as advisory services in support of regional development efforts.

The mandate for the programme, which falls within the purview of ECLAC, derives from Economic and Social Council resolution 106(VI), by which the Council established the Commission for the purpose of contributing to and coordinating action towards the economic and social development of the region and reinforcing economic relationships among the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, and with other regions and countries of the world. In 1996, pursuant to ECLAC resolution 553(XXVI), the Commission was instructed, inter alia, to collaborate with member States in the comprehensive analysis of development processes geared to the design, monitoring and evaluation of public policies and the resulting provision of operational services in the fields of specialized information, advisory services, training and support for regional and international cooperation and coordination.

The Commission will continue to pursue key objectives to support the development pillar of the United Nations, to foster economic integration at the subregional and regional levels, to support member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda together with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and to facilitate sustainable development by helping to bridge economic, social and environmental gaps between and among countries of the region and the industrialized economies.

To achieve these objectives, ECLAC will continue to offer its value proposition to member States by combining its three main functions: performing analytical and normative work in its role as a leading think tank for innovative thinking in the region; bringing together regional leaders and experts through its intergovernmental platforms and subsidiary bodies thanks to its convening power; and through its operational role by providing technical cooperation, advisory services and peer learning forums, anchored in data and rigorous, evidence-based analysis and understanding of the realities of the region. ECLAC will also continue to foster a multisectoral and integrated approach to development, and provide a voice to countries in special situations, including the only least developed country of the region, Haiti, as well as to landlocked developing countries, the small island developing States (SIDS) of the Caribbean, and middle-income countries.

The Commission’s overall strategy for achieving the objectives of the programme is structured around 13 interdependent and complementary subprogrammes, implemented through an integrated and multidisciplinary approach, ensuring that the gender mainstreaming strategy of the Commission is reflected throughout the programme plan for 2021.

In the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the SDGs, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, ECLAC has made major efforts to realign and restructure its programme of
work to better respond to the demands and needs of its member States. In order to continue to strengthen the support the Commission provides to the countries of the region, it is hereby proposed to restructure subprogramme 1, linkages with the global economy, integration and regional cooperation, subprogramme 2, production and innovation, and subprogramme 8, natural resources and infrastructure, in line with the reform process of the United Nations development system at the regional level. This will better position ECLAC and make it fit for the purpose of supporting member States in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda and attain the SDGs. The new realities of the Latin American and Caribbean region in terms of infrastructure and integration, and the governance of natural resources are issues of the highest priority that should be tackled in this process.

In the current international context, Latin American and Caribbean countries face challenges to redefine and adapt their international integration strategies, by strengthening their participation in intermediate value chains, diversifying their export basket and reinforcing production linkages with other emerging economies. To meet these challenges regional integration must be deepened, especially in areas key to the functioning of value chains, such as logistics, facilitation, regulatory convergence and human mobility. The region’s progress in integrating into the global economy and implementing the SDGs will depend on improving the coverage and, increasingly, the quality of its logistics and infrastructure. Overcoming this challenge implies going beyond the traditional focus on mobilizing public and private investment in infrastructure or improving sectoral policies; it requires a gradual transformation of the overall governance of the logistics infrastructure sector, in terms of both construction and maintenance, and the provision of logistics and mobility services. In the light of these challenges, it is proposed to include and highlight the logistics and infrastructure subject area in the objective of subprogramme 1, linkages with the global economy, integration and regional cooperation. It is therefore proposed that subprogramme 1 should be renamed “International trade, integration and infrastructure”.

Moreover, regional production patterns are characterized by their high dependency on natural resources, contributing to a regional development pathway that is unsustainable in the long term. The region has not taken advantage of the positive commodity cycle to innovate, add value and diversify its economies. The lack of technological innovation means that the region depends on imports of high-value-added goods and services, leading it to intensify the exploitation of its natural resources and increasing its dependency on the commodity cycle. In this context, ECLAC proposes that the governance of natural resources be improved in order to build a new sustainable development paradigm based on equality and productive diversification, covering not only non-renewable, but also renewable resources, agriculture and biodiversity. In this regard, it is therefore proposed to refine the objective of subprogramme 8, which focus on natural resources, to enhance the institutional capacities of countries of the region for good governance and sustainable exploitation of natural resources, focusing not only on water, energy and extractive resources, but also on biodiversity, food security and sustainable agriculture. Lastly, it is proposed that subprogramme 2, production and innovation, should concentrate on the issues of productivity growth, innovation, digital infrastructure and the digital economy.

The Latin American and Caribbean region faces important challenges. Average growth rates have remained low in recent years, barely above 1%, with uneven performances among countries. In addition, considerable uncertainties persist in the political, economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. This situation, coupled with increased financial volatility and low regional investment rates, limits productivity and the structural changes needed to progress towards a new style of development. It also threatens the social progress achieved by Latin American and Caribbean countries over the past few decades, particularly with regard to the reduction of poverty
and inequality. In a region where significant structural gaps persist and poverty reduction has stalled—some 182 million people still live in poverty—, there is a risk of greater social deterioration. This raises concerns and highlights the need for new policy options using an approach based on rights and universal coverage.

In this context, ECLAC is part of a system-wide effort to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which includes: (a) developing and strengthening regional and national institutions to promote policy coherence and the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development; (b) mainstreaming the SDGs into national plans, fiscal frameworks and budgets, and ensuring policy and institutional coherence, consistency and coordination; (c) strengthening the capacity of member States to collect, process, analyse and disseminate data, statistics and indicators; and (d) supporting effective leveraging of the means of implementation.

Considering the rapidly evolving demands of member States, ECLAC will continue to provide timely and relevant analysis and policy recommendations regarding development issues. The Commission will work closely with the governments of the region and other stakeholders to reinforce linkages between individual national experiences and regional perspectives, facilitate data comparability and the exchange of good practices, and provide effective technical cooperation services for transboundary issues within its purview. The Commission will prioritize analytical, normative, advocacy and capacity-building work to strengthen the design of sustainable development strategies and public policies and to facilitate the ongoing follow-up and monitoring of the SDGs in accordance with the 2030 Agenda. Operational services in the areas of specialized information, technical cooperation and training will foster cooperation, networking and the sharing of good practices at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, including South-South cooperation.

ECLAC will continue to provide integrated and comprehensive follow-up, with a regional perspective, to global summits, in particular by coordinating the region’s approach to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In that connection, it will also continue to act as the secretariat of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, thus providing support for follow-up and review at the regional level, and to report to the high-level political forum on sustainable development at the global level, thereby linking the national, regional and global dimensions of the process. The Commission will continue to actively foster substantive coordination among all participating entities of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs.

ECLAC will continue to make its intergovernmental architecture available for consensus building and regional dialogues that analyse the key means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to share experiences in this area, serving as the technical secretariat for the Committee of the Whole of ECLAC, the Committee on South-South Cooperation, the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies, and the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

ECLAC will also continue to collaborate with the Bretton Woods institutions, especially the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, as well as with other inter-American and Ibero-American organizations, such as the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Ibero-American Secretariat (SEGIB) and the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF).
Furthermore, ECLAC will reinforce its close cooperation with various subregional integration mechanisms and will also strengthen its collaboration with private sector associations, non-governmental and civil society organizations, think tanks and academia to promote policy dialogue and to engage them in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

ECLAC will continue to enhance its bilateral and multilateral collaboration with cooperation partners within and outside the United Nations system, in order to strengthen its strategic partnerships and mobilize additional extrabudgetary resources to enhance the implementation of the programme of work and maximize its impact in beneficiary countries and the region as a whole. The Commission will continue to build donors’ trust and confidence by undertaking strategic dialogues with them on a regular basis; supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda; ensuring the efficient delivery of mandates; showing concrete new and results-oriented achievements; and providing comprehensive information on the use of donor contributions.

The content of the 13 subprogrammes is presented in the following pages. The subprogrammes have been clustered thematically as follows: the first three relate to ECLAC activities in the field of economic development (subprogrammes 1–3); followed by social development (subprogrammes 4–6); activities relating to environmentally sustainable development (subprogrammes 7 and 8); cross-cutting programmes focusing on training and public management (subprogramme 9) and statistics (subprogramme 10); and three subprogrammes focused on subregional activities and regional integration, one of which focuses on Mexico, Central America and the Spanish-speaking Caribbean and Haiti (subprogramme 11), one on the small island developing States of the Caribbean (subprogramme 12) and the last one, which seeks to reinforce Latin America and Caribbean integration processes and the participation of the region in interregional and global political dialogues (subprogramme 13).

Each subprogramme is introduced by a brief description setting out the main development challenges to be addressed and the corresponding thematic areas, in addition to its objective. The strategy and proposed list of activities to be implemented during 2021 are also presented. Furthermore, the main contributions of all the subprogrammes to and attainment of the SDGs, and thus the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, are identified and summarized in table 1. This approach is in line with the Commission’s efforts to continue building an institutional accountability culture within the organization, including through the improvement and strengthening of monitoring and evaluation.
Table 1
Main links between the SDGs and the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system for 2021, by subprogramme

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SUBPROGRAMME 1: INTERNATIONAL TRADE, INTEGRATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Objective

The main objective of the subprogramme is to improve regional integration, logistics and infrastructure in order to promote full development with equality and strengthen the role of Latin America and the Caribbean in international trade and the global economy.

Presentation

Over the past two decades, developing countries have greatly increased their share of global GDP and trade, gradually shifting the centre of gravity of the world economy from North to South and from the Atlantic to the Pacific. This has led to a sharp increase in the role of South-South trade, which is expected to surpass North-North trade soon. A reflection of these changes is that China has displaced the European Union as the second largest trading partner of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The sustained increase in the weight of developing economies in world trade is matched by the reconfiguration of global and regional logistics and value chains in the context of rapid technological changes, shifts in global purchasing power and the digital revolution. Since the global financial crisis of 2008, foreign direct investment (FDI) in the region has stagnated and the goods trade has been slow to recover, however the services trade and international payments for intangible assets have grown sharply.

The trade landscape has also changed as the negotiations of trade agreements have been adjusted to reflect the current global context, as illustrated by the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership and the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement. Changing dynamics in international trade and concerns regarding the multilateral system have intensified pressure for reform of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The current challenge for Latin American and Caribbean countries is to redefine and adapt their international integration strategies in the light of the major transformations under way. In this regard, they will need to improve the quality of their linkages with the region’s traditional trading partners, diversify its export basket and strengthen production linkages with emerging economies in East Asia and other regions, by reducing the infrastructure gap and logistics costs. In addition, efforts should be made to deepen regional integration, especially in areas key to the functioning of value chains, such as logistics, trade facilitation, regulatory convergence and human mobility. It is also necessary to promote the participation of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in international trade and to coordinate trade policy more closely with other spheres of public policy.

The region’s progress in integrating into the global economy and implementing the SDGs will depend on improving the coverage and, increasingly, the quality of logistics and infrastructure. Overall, the insufficient and unsustainable provision of infrastructure and logistics services remains a major bottleneck for the region’s development process, acting as a serious limitation to economic competitiveness, undermining national and regional policies for structural change, reproducing social, economic and gender inequalities, and slowing progress towards greater environmental sustainability. Overcoming this challenge implies going beyond the traditional focus on mobilizing public and private investment in infrastructure or improving sectoral policies; it requires a gradual transformation of the overall governance of the logistics infrastructure sector, in terms of both construction and maintenance, and the provision of logistics and mobility services.

Against this backdrop, under subprogramme 1, major developments in the world economy and global trade will be monitored to assist governments of the region in designing and implementing their international integration strategies. In view of the growing importance of global value chains in international trade, activities will be geared towards providing deeper insight into
production systems and the opportunities they provide for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. In particular, under the subprogramme, ways to strengthen value chains and logistics within the region will be assessed.

These issues are intrinsically linked to public-private partnerships for trade and development, infrastructure, production and export diversification. The subprogramme activities will also contribute to the reduction of poverty and inequality; gender equality, social cohesion and the inclusion of women in the economy; the promotion of sustainable and inclusive economic growth; the fostering of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development; and environmental sustainability, which includes climate change mitigation.

**Strategy**

Responsibility for the implementation of the activities under subprogramme 1 rests with the Division of International Trade, Integration and Infrastructure, working in close collaboration with other ECLAC divisions and offices in Brasilia and Washington, D.C.

The subprogramme activities will focus on the following subject areas: 1. Trade policies and negotiations, regional integration and world economic trends; and 2. Infrastructure and logistics for production, trade and distribution. Therefore, their main contributions to the 2030 Agenda will mainly be in connection with SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 10, SDG 12 and SDG 17.

In particular, the subprogramme components will concentrate on:

(a) Proposing adjustments to national and regional trade policies to face emerging challenges, particularly with regard to innovation and technological progress; digital trade; services (including modern services such as telecommunications, computer and information services, financial services, insurance and pension services, royalties, and other business services); global and regional value chains and internationalization of SMEs; new public and private standards; environmental sustainability; and links with emerging issues.

(b) Negotiation, implementation and administration of trade agreements at the bilateral, regional or multilateral level, including monitoring developments in trade and regional integration, including trade relations with Asia and the Pacific.

(c) Promotion of export diversification, enhancement of inter-agency coordination and public-private cooperation, institutional modernization, trade facilitation and aid-for-trade initiatives.

(d) Promotion of integrated logistics and mobility policies and their coordination at the subregional level, including sharing good practices and lessons learned, taking into account regional integration initiatives, to address the infrastructure investment gap in the region.

(e) Analysis of logistics, trade facilitation and infrastructure development at the national and binational levels in landlocked developing countries and other countries with special needs.

The Commission will respond to the needs of stakeholders by providing updated information, analysis and policy recommendations. It will provide technical assistance and support knowledge dissemination and the sharing of best practices through expert meetings, seminars and workshops. Furthermore, the Commission will continue to implement a research agenda and provide technical assistance aimed at promoting better governance of logistics and infrastructure, in line with the request made by the ministerial delegations at the High-level Regional Dialogue on Governance of Natural Resources and Infrastructure, held in 2016. The main beneficiaries of the subprogramme activities will be policymakers, public and private sector institutions and other organizations at the local, subregional and regional levels.
The Commission will continue to coordinate its activities and cooperate with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), WTO, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and OAS, the International Trade Centre (ITC), the Bretton Woods institutions, the secretariats of regional and subregional integration mechanisms, IDB, CAF, and other entities from the United Nations development system and those working in the areas of trade, public works, transport, logistics, integration and development.

Activities

Subject area 1.1: Trade policies and negotiations, regional integration and world economic trends

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

Ad hoc expert groups

(i) An expert meeting to consider the links between trade and other policies in countries of the region in the light of developments in the global economy and international trade. Particular attention will be paid to the impact of such policies on the region’s participation in international value chains.

(ii) An expert meeting to consider the relationship between regional trade and the achievement of the SDGs.

(iii) A meeting to consider developments in, and the outlook for, cooperation and trade facilitation initiatives in the region.

2. Recurrent publications

(i) *International Trade Outlook for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2021.*

   This annual publication monitors trends in global and regional trade. It also explores the repercussions of international negotiations in which the countries of the region are engaged at the bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral levels, examines the main trends and initiatives of trade policies and the possible courses of action which could bring about the greatest benefits.

(ii) A study on the economic relations between the United States and Latin America and the Caribbean.

(iii) Reports on capital flows to Latin America and the Caribbean (in English only; three issues per year).

(iv) Three reports on the United States economy.

(v) A study to examine the probable impact of plurilateral and/or multilateral trade negotiations on Latin America and the Caribbean.

3. Non-recurrent publications

(i) A study on recent trends in global trade and their impact on the participation of selected countries of the region in regional and global value chains.

(ii) A study on strategic aspects of bilateral trade and investment relations between countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and Asia.
(iii) A study on the linkages between trade and the SDGs in the region.

(iv) A study on the potential impact of emerging trade and financial issues in the global economy on the implementation of the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(v) A study on Brazil’s foreign trade and its inclusion in international trade agreements and value chains.

(vi) A study to assess developments in regional and subregional integration initiatives and their impact on selected countries of the region.

(vii) A study on the use of public or private international trade standards to improve competitiveness in selected countries of the region.

4. Other substantive activities

Technical materials

(i) Development, maintenance and updating of the Interactive Graphic System for International Trade Data (SIGCI), which contains trade data at national, regional and global levels.

(ii) Development, maintenance and updating of the database Observatory of Latin American and Caribbean Bond Issuance, Spreads and Credit Ratings.

Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits

(iii) Statistical Bulletin on International Merchandise Trade in Latin America and the Caribbean (four issues). This is a quarterly publication to monitor trends in regional trade.

(iv) CEPAL News (12 issues), a monthly note by the ECLAC office in Washington, D.C. (in English only).

5. Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, including government ministries and agencies, business and trade promotion organizations, SME promotion agencies, and other stakeholders, at their request, in the following areas:

(i) Promoting the potential benefits of subregional integration and strategies for the development of value chains.

(ii) Trade facilitation and aid-for-trade initiatives, including the design and implementation of trade policies that promote the SDGs.

(iii) Negotiation, implementation and administration of trade agreements and plurilateral and multilateral rules.

(iv) Linkages among trade, social and environmental issues (such as poverty, income distribution, productivity gaps, gender and employment creation), including the environmental footprint of exports and trade in environmental goods and services.
6. **Intermediate activities**

(i) Coordination of inter-agency activities with other United Nations bodies and other organizations working in the area of trade, subregional integration institutions and regional development banks.

(ii) Coordination of activities in the framework of the Summits of the Americas process and/or the Tripartite Committee (ECLAC, IDB and OAS).

(iii) Coordination of inter-agency activities to follow up on cooperation initiatives.

The ECLAC office in Washington, D.C., will be responsible for the execution of the activities indicated in subparagraphs 2 (ii), (iii) and (iv), 3 (iv), and 4 (ii) and (iv), and 6 (ii) and (iii), and will contribute to the activities indicated in paragraph 5. The ECLAC office in Brasilia will be responsible for the execution of the activity indicated in subparagraph 3 (v).

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and field projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 1.2: Infrastructure and logistics for production, trade and distribution**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   A high-level meeting of experts to examine new challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean in relation to sustainable logistics, mobility and infrastructure policies and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

   (i) A study on public policies in the field of infrastructure.

   (ii) A study on a specific topic relating to logistics or mobility services in the region, focusing on social or gender issues in the context of the 2030 Agenda.

   (iii) A study on a specific topic relating to regional physical integration.

   (iv) A study on the participation of Latin American and Caribbean firms in global and regional value chains, with a particular focus on SMEs and their competitiveness.

   (v) A study on the obstacles to implementing trade facilitation measures in selected countries of the region within a global perspective.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   Maintenance and updating of the Maritime and Logistics Profile of Latin America and the Caribbean and other infrastructure services data, including infrastructure investments in Latin America and the Caribbean.
Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits

Eight issues of the FAL Bulletin on logistics and the facilitation of transport and trade in Latin America and the Caribbean.

4. Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, at their request, in relation to logistics or transport infrastructure.

5. Technical cooperation projects

During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken in the following areas: providing infrastructure and logistics services that promote economic efficiency, social equality and environmental sustainability; and increasing the integration of physical infrastructure in the region.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and field projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
Objective

The main objective of the subprogramme is to enhance structural change, productivity growth, innovation and digital infrastructure in the region.

Presentation

More than a decade after the global financial crisis of 2008, the world economic recovery is taking place in a very different economic and political scenario. The unprecedented connection between the digital economy and the real economy has created a new economic pattern in which global digital platforms have become the main integration mechanisms among countries, companies and people around the world. Given the speed of technological change and its profound impact on the digital economy, many of the challenges posed by the new economic context are still unknown.

In this context, it is of the utmost importance to undertake research that contributes to the understanding of the new economic dynamics and to the design and implementation of industrial and technology policies that foster structural change and build capacities in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Structural change and technical capabilities are intertwined and should be addressed as two parts of the same development process, which requires combining industrial and technology policies. These are especially important in middle-income countries because of the learning externalities and push for growth generated by more knowledge-intensive sectors and activities. In the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, industrial policies also seek to reduce the carbon-intensity and improve the sustainability of production and consumption patterns, as called for by ECLAC in its proposal for an environmental big push.

In the medium term, under the subprogramme, the focus will be on:

(a) Increased use of technology and its effects on aggregate productivity growth, which requires building up capabilities in the whole production structure. The region has lagged behind in the use of digital technologies that are reshaping international competitiveness and the productive landscape. This is happening in a context where the digital technology paradigm converges in the interactions among big data, fifth generation cellular network technology (5G), the Internet of things, blockchains and artificial intelligence, among other technologies. This convergence is moving the technological frontier and will have a disruptive effect on market shares, production structures, new products and services. Therefore, one of the greatest challenges to be addressed by industrial policies will be how to build the technological bases of less carbon-intensive and more inclusive growth.

(b) The adoption of new technologies by SMEs, by linking them with larger firms that use more advanced technologies. Foreign investment and large firms should be embedded in a network with smaller firms with a view to fostering equality and reducing wage and income asymmetries. As new manufacturing processes will require large-scale and high-risk investments, industrial and technology policies, and especially public investment, should play a greater role in order to catch up with the developed economies.
The impact of FDI on the design of industrial and technology policies that seek to boost the incorporation of knowledge into the diversification of production and export structures, in line with the SDGs. Foreign investment may have favourable effects on technology transfer and on increasing exports, but these are unlikely to materialize in the absence of active industrial and technology policies that heighten local innovation and adaptation.

In light of the above, in 2021, the subprogramme will continue to focus on the role of investment and technologies in fostering structural changes and diversification in the region. Research and analytical work will concentrate, in particular, on the adoption of digital technologies in production sectors; the regulatory environment for digital technologies, including cybersecurity issues; and FDI trends and characteristics in non-traditional sectors, such as the digital economy and other emerging areas.

**Strategy**

The Division of Production, Productivity and Management will be responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme, in coordination with other ECLAC divisions and offices. The subprogramme will focus on the following subject areas: 1. Analysis of recent developments and trends in the region’s production structure and sectors; 2. Analysis of the behaviour of the main economic agents in the region; and 3. Analysis of trends in innovation and technology and knowledge management. Particular attention will be paid to the gender perspective in structural change and the appropriation of technology. In this context, the main contributions under subprogramme 2 to the 2030 Agenda will be related to SDG 8, SDG 9 and SDG 17. The strategy will take other relevant aspects of the 2030 Agenda into account, particularly those relating to poverty reduction, by fostering productive employment, promoting a global partnership for development and disseminating the benefits of new technologies.

Under the subprogramme, economic analyses will be conducted, along with applied research based on the generation, processing and analysis of information and indicators in various databases, and policy recommendations will be submitted to governments, regional bodies and other relevant stakeholders. The Division will promote policy advocacy and the sharing of experiences and best practices with respect to the dynamics of production development among stakeholders at the regional, national and local levels through meetings, seminars and electronic forums, including the provision of technical cooperation services, such as specific training courses and workshops. In addition, the creation and operation of networks will be supported to generate, update and disseminate knowledge.

Strategic partnerships will also be established with governments and institutions at the national and local levels and in the various subregions. The Division will bring together governments in the framework of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies, a subsidiary body of the Commission. Nexuses with other international organizations, especially OECD and the European Commission, as well as other bodies of the United Nations system, will also be pursued, especially in the light of the need for deeper collaboration on cross-sectoral issues, as called for by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The main beneficiaries of the subprogramme activities will be government authorities and public officials of the countries of the region, as well as a variety of civil society organizations, academic and private sector institutions, and local, regional and subregional organizations. The subprogramme deliverables will continue to include consultations and close collaboration with high-level authorities responsible for innovation, information and communications technologies (ICTs) and digital policies, industrial development, investment and the promotion of SMEs.
Activities

Subject area 2.1: Analysis of recent developments and trends in the region’s production structure and sectors

1. Substantive servicing of meetings
   
   Ad hoc expert group meetings
   
   A meeting of experts to analyse recent structural changes in the region.

2. Other substantive activities
   
   Technical material
   
   (i) Development, maintenance and updating of databases on economic activity in specific sectors, based on information from censuses, big data, household surveys or other microdata sources for Latin American and Caribbean countries.
   
   (ii) Development, maintenance and updating of the software for the analysis of the competitiveness of nations (TradeCAN).

3. Advisory services
   
   Provision of technical cooperation services to the countries of the region, business organizations and other key stakeholders, at their request, in areas relating to public-private partnerships for industry and economic development, and to corporate social responsibility, including new corporate governance challenges.

4. Training courses, seminars and workshops
   
   Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies for the development of training activities in areas relating to trends, emerging issues and lessons learned in implementing policies and instruments related to new production models and their implications for the region.

5. Technical cooperation projects
   
   Projects financed by extrabudgetary resources are expected to be undertaken in areas related to analysis of recent developments and trends in the region’s production structure, industries and firms.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
Subject area 2.2: Analysis of the behaviour of the main economic agents in the region

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

Ad hoc expert group meetings

A meeting of experts to examine the investment strategies of transnational companies in subsectors and countries of the region.

2. Recurrent publications

*Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2021.*

*Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean* reviews trends and developments in the area of FDI and provides updated statistical information on the topic. It also includes an analysis of the patterns in the origin and destination of these investments in terms of both countries and sectors.

3. Non-recurrent publications

(i) A study on the trends, determinants and impacts of FDI in selected countries of the region to understand the dynamics of FDI and development.

(ii) A study of policies that seek to foster structural change and economic diversification in the region.

4. Other substantive activities

Technical material

Development, maintenance and updating of statistical information on the investment and corporate activity of the main economic agents in the region.

5. Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to the countries of the region, upon their request, in areas relating to policies to promote FDI and on subcontracting networks of transnational companies and local firms.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
**Subject area 2.3:** Analysis of trends in innovation and technology and knowledge dissemination

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**
   
   **Intergovernmental meetings**
   
   A session of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies, 2021.
   
   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**
   
   A meeting of experts to study the trends and adoption of the industrial Internet in the region.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**
   
   (i) A study on the convergence of new technologies, sustainable production and innovation for development.
   
   (ii) A study monitoring the adoption of digital technologies in the region, differentiating between adoption by individual users and adoption as part of production processes.
   
   (iii) A study on regulations for digital technologies.

3. **Advisory services**
   
   Provision of technical cooperation services to the countries of the region, business and trade promotion organizations and other key stakeholders, at their request, in areas relating to policies on ICT and other new and emerging technologies.

4. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**
   
   (i) Summer School on Latin American economies, 2021.
   
   (ii) Summer School on inclusive digital transformation and innovation in Latin America, 2021.
   
   (iii) Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies to develop or support training activities in areas related to innovation for development and policies on ICT and other new and emerging technologies.
   
   (iv) A seminar in Brazil to examine the trends, emerging issues and lessons learned in implementing policies and instruments related to new technologies and their implications for employment and productivity in the Brazilian economy.

   The ECLAC office in Brasilia will be responsible for the execution of the activity indicated in subparagraph 4 (iv).

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 3: MACROECONOMIC POLICIES AND GROWTH

Objective
The main objective of the subprogramme is to achieve sustainable and inclusive economic growth and development in Latin American and Caribbean.

Presentation
Over the last four years, the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean have experienced a sustained slowdown owing to a combination of internal and external factors. With regard to internal factors, low growth rates are the result of poor investment and export performances and a fall in public spending. External factors include trade tensions and geopolitical problems, which have resulted in a slowdown in global growth, increased financial volatility and led to a deterioration in the economic outlook. In this context, the room for manoeuvre of macroeconomic policies has narrowed due to the shrinking fiscal space available to the countries of the region and the difficulties that some of them face in maintaining expansive monetary policies. In addition, faltering economic growth is set against a backdrop of low productivity with sluggish or negative growth rates, further weakening the economies of the region in the medium term.

Sustained, sustainable and inclusive growth requires complementary policies across multiple policy domains. A key challenge for Latin American and Caribbean countries in the coming years will be the development of a countercyclical fiscal framework to serve as the foundation for reinvigorated, sustainable growth. Such a framework must be accompanied by financial policies geared towards stabilizing credit and promoting financial inclusion, as well as monetary policies that support investment.

For the countries of the region to achieve the SDGs a successful financing for development framework is needed, as existing sources of development finance are insufficient. The 2030 Agenda calls for a more holistic view of economic growth, with a focus on the lives and well-being of the region’s residents. Policymakers will increasingly need to evaluate the negative distributional or gender-related impacts of potential reforms that may outweigh their economic gains, exacerbating existing inequalities that the SDGs seek to redress, especially those related to women, older people, youth and other vulnerable populations.

In this context, the Commission is uniquely positioned—due to its close relationship with national authorities and international policy forums—to support the countries of the region in their efforts to adapt and adopt policy instruments that respond not only to short-term concerns arising from the economic cycle, but also to the need to buttress potential growth in the medium and long term, including more effective direct taxation systems, prudent use of public debt to foster growth, and a stronger role for public investment.

Under the subprogramme, countries will continue to be provided with support in their efforts to boost domestic resource mobilization and channel private capital flows towards key sustainable development projects. Additionally, the negative consequences for development financing arising from tax evasion and illicit financial flows will be addressed.

Strategy
Substantive responsibility for the execution of the subprogramme activities rests with the Economic Development Division, which will work in close collaboration with other ECLAC divisions and subregional and national offices. The work under the subprogramme will focus on two key outcomes. First, it will aim to strengthen the capacity of policymakers and other stakeholders in the region to analyse current and emerging macroeconomic and financial issues. Second, and in a complementary manner, it will seek to build the capacity of policymakers to design, implement and evaluate macroeconomic
and development financing policies on the basis of comparative policy analysis, including a gender perspective, thus fostering sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

Subprogramme deliverables will therefore focus on the following subject areas: 1. Review and analysis of the performance of the Latin American and Caribbean economies; 2. Analysis of development strategies and economic and social policies in the region; and 3. Analysis of development financing strategies and economic policies in the region. The main contributions to the 2030 Agenda under the subprogramme will therefore be related to SDG 8, SDG 10, SDG 16 and SDG 17.

Under the subprogramme, the Division will conduct applied research in macroeconomic and development financing policies of Latin American and Caribbean countries, and provide timely and accurate information and analyses, disaggregated by gender whenever possible, and policy options and recommendations through its recurrent and specialized publications, workshops and seminars. It will also support the establishment and operation of networks for sharing experiences and good practices and provide technical cooperation activities and advisory services, as requested. Additionally, the Commission will support capacity-building efforts in the areas of macroeconomic, labour and development financing policies, among others, by creating instances for South-South cooperation through its expert meetings and seminars.

To ensure the accuracy of information, relevance of its publications and contribution to policy dialogues, the Commission will collaborate closely with its national counterparts, namely ministries of finance, central banks and other stakeholders concerned with macroeconomic policies, which will also be the main direct beneficiaries of the work carried out under subprogramme 3. Other beneficiaries will include academia and research institutes, the private sector and civil society.

The Commission will work in close collaboration with the Bretton Woods institutions, OECD, Bank for International Settlements (BIS), the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, ILO and UNCTAD. It will also work with regional partner institutions such as CAF, the Latin American Association of Development Financing Institutions (ALIDE), the Inter-American Center of Tax Administrations (CIAT), the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), IDB, the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the Latin American Reserve Fund (LARF), among others. The Commission will also coordinate its work at the country level with the United Nations resident coordinator system.

Activities

Subject area 3.1: Review and analysis of the performance of the Latin American and Caribbean economies

1. Recurrent publications

(i) *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2021.*

The *Economic Survey* is prepared annually and published mid-year. It consists of three parts. Part one summarizes recent trends in Latin America and the Caribbean, analysing changes and trends that have occurred in the region as well as economic policy. Part two presents a set of studies on an economic development issue of major relevance to the region. Part three contains reports on individual countries of the region and presents a systematic analysis of the economic performance of each. A statistical appendix provides statistical tables with information on key economic indicators.
(ii) *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2021.*

The *Preliminary Overview* contains a description and assessment of the region’s annual economic performance and is published at the end of each year. It presents detailed, up-to-date information on the comparative results of the macroeconomic variables of the region as a whole and of the individual countries. This publication also presents economic growth forecasts for the next year.

(iii) *Fiscal Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2021.*

The *Fiscal Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean* provides in-depth coverage of the region’s fiscal situation and is launched in conjunction with the annual Regional Fiscal Policy Seminar of ECLAC. In addition to providing an up-to-date analysis of current trends, it includes chapters that delve into key and emerging fiscal policy issues for the region.

Outputs 1 (i), (ii), and (iii) are prepared with substantive contributions from the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico City and Port of Spain and the country offices in Bogotá, Brasilia, Buenos Aires, Montevideo and Washington, D.C.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

A study on a high-priority issue relating to the economic situation in Latin America and the Caribbean.

3. **Other substantive activities**

**Technical material**

(i) Development, maintenance and updating of databases on economic performance in Latin America and the Caribbean, in particular those containing the information needed for the preparation of the aforementioned recurrent publications.

(ii) Development, maintenance and updating of an observatory of public policies implemented in Latin America and the Caribbean that monitors and evaluates public policies implemented in the region.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 3.2: Analysis of development strategies and economic and social policies in the region**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   (i) A meeting of experts on a selected macroeconomic policy issue of great relevance to the region.
(ii) A meeting of experts on selected fiscal policy issues of great relevance in Latin America and the Caribbean.

2. Non-recurrent publications

(i) A study on a high-priority aspect of the macroeconomic situation in the region.

(ii) A study on a high-priority financial policy issue in the region.

(iii) A study on policies to foster sustainable, equitable economic growth in the region.

(iv) A study on a high-priority issue concerning economic policymaking in the region.

(v) A study on the dynamics of the external sector and its influence on growth in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(vi) A study on specific economic issues in Uruguay.

3. Advisory services

(i) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, in relation to macroeconomic policy coordination and the design and implementation of fiscal policies and structural reforms.

(ii) Provision of technical cooperation services to member States and regional bodies, upon request, in the development of systems for monitoring economic development and the design of analytical indicators.

4. Training courses, seminars and workshops

Cooperation with government entities, universities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and regional and subregional bodies in support of training activities on topics such as fiscal policy and labour market institutions.

The ECLAC office in Montevideo will be responsible for the delivery of the activity referred to in 2 (vi).

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 3.3: Analysis of development financing strategies and economic policies in the region

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

Ad hoc expert group meetings

(i) A meeting of experts on a selected issue relating to financing for development.

(ii) A meeting of experts on a selected issue relating to domestic, regional and global financing for development architecture.
2. **Recurrent publications**

A report on financing for development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

3. **Non-recurrent publications**

(i) A study of a high-priority aspect of finance and the real economy.

(ii) A study of a high-priority aspect of financing for development.

(iii) A study of a high-priority aspect of cooperation with middle-income countries to overcome structural development gaps in Latin America and the Caribbean.

4. **Advisory services**

Provision of technical cooperation services to countries and institutions in the region, at their request, in areas relating to the design and implementation of financing for development schemes and policies geared towards financial and productive development and/or social protection.

5. **Other substantive activities**

**Technical materials**

Development, maintenance and updating of a database on financial variables and indicators in Latin America and the Caribbean, in particular those containing the information needed for the preparation of the aforementioned recurrent publications.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 4: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY

Objective

The main objective of the subprogramme is to achieve greater social and economic equality and improve the overall well-being of the people of the region.

Presentation

Between 2002 and 2014, the Latin American and Caribbean region made significant progress in combating poverty and inequality. However, since 2015, poverty levels have increased and social gaps persist in the region, due, inter alia, to worsening labour market conditions, fiscal restrictions and greater vulnerability. This reflects a structural heterogeneity and a multidimensional social inequality matrix that are characteristic of the region.

Today, Latin American and Caribbean countries are confronted with complex social and economic issues, persistent structural challenges and disparities which compound one another. Stalled progress on poverty reduction, in conjunction with emerging trends associated with the technology revolution and demographic changes, magnified by more frequent natural disasters and other factors such as migration, raise uncertainty levels and put sustainable development processes in the region at risk.

Given these complexities, activities under this subprogramme will adopt a comprehensive approach that will include analytical work on the multiple dimensions of inequality, as well as advocacy activities to promote universal policies that are sensitive to differences in the social and labour domains, in order to contribute to the inclusion of all people and their well-being.

To achieve the SDGs, the region must reduce inequality, ensuring that no one is left behind. To assist in this process, ECLAC will continue, under this subprogramme, the work related to the social dimension and the “extended social pillar” of the 2030 Agenda, in accordance with the outcomes and agreements adopted by governments at the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean. An example of this work is the development and implementation of a regional agenda for inclusive social development, which has gained importance among countries. Under the subprogramme, the Commission will also continue to provide data and analysis on the social situation of the region, and to assist countries with capacity-building and technical cooperation on the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of social development policies.

Consequently, the priorities for 2021 will include: (i) expanding social and labour inclusion policies, with decent work, under a rights-based and sustainable approach; (ii) bridging gaps in well-being and tackling inequalities, including those related to gender, race, ethnicity, age and territory; (iii) addressing the multiple dimensions of poverty, inequality and well-being; (iv) promoting social and labour inclusion and effective participation of citizens in social policies; (v) ensuring access to universal social protection for all population groups, according to their specific characteristics; (vi) coordinating social, economic and environmental policies; and (vii) improving the capacity of social policy to adapt to new and emerging challenges related to demographic transition, migration, new technologies and climate change, among others.

Strategy

The Social Development Division will be responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme, in close collaboration with other ECLAC divisions, as well as with the Commission’s subregional headquarters and country offices, other agencies of the United Nations system and, when feasible, the resident coordinator system. The subprogramme’s deliverables will focus on the following subject areas: 1. Assessment of the social situation of the population; and 2. Social policies for equality.
and social protection. Research and advisory services will be oriented towards improving the quality and impact of social policies, with an emphasis on social protection systems based on a human rights, equality and sustainable approach; on the protection and promotion of the rights of women, children and young people, indigenous peoples, Afrodescendants, migrants and persons with disabilities; on social investment; and on education and health systems. Therefore, the main contributions to the 2030 Agenda under the subprogramme will therefore be related to SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 10 and SDG 16.

The Commission will continue to implement activities under the subprogramme with an inclusive perspective, in line with a vision of universalism sensitive to differences, to be promoted mainly through the enhancement of national governments’ capacity to formulate policies, plans and programmes that address the structural and emerging equality gaps affecting different socioeconomic and population groups.

The strategy will consist of carrying out applied qualitative and quantitative research, generating analyses, disseminating results, providing training and advisory services and formulating policy recommendations to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders to perform sound diagnostic assessments of social issues for application in policy design and implementation. Another important element of the strategy will be to promote policy dialogue and the implementation of the regional agenda for inclusive social development among policymakers, scholars and other stakeholders, and to facilitate the exchange of experiences and good practices on poverty eradication, social protection systems with a human-rights, multidimensional and gender approach, reduction of inequalities and citizen participation.

The main beneficiaries under the subprogramme will be government institutions of the countries of the region, especially the authorities and officials responsible for social policy management (design, implementation and evaluation); regional and subregional organizations; academic institutions and other research centres and NGOs. The strategy contemplates cooperation with other regional commissions, intergovernmental and multilateral institutions, as well as South-South cooperation.

Activities

Subject area 4.1: Assessment of the social situation of the population

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

   Intergovernmental meetings

   A session of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

   Ad hoc expert group meetings

   (i) A meeting of experts to examine new trends in social issues and the progress made with regard to the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

   (ii) A meeting of experts to discuss emerging issues in sectoral social policies.

2. Recurrent publications

   (i) Social Panorama of Latin America 2021

   The Social Panorama is prepared annually. It provides analysis of the structural
challenges facing Latin American and Caribbean countries in the area of social policies and presents changes and recent trends that have occurred in the region regarding inequality and poverty. A statistical appendix provides statistical tables with information on key social indicators.

(ii) Position document for the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

3. **Non-recurrent publications**

(i) A study on health and malnutrition trends and policy requirements for achieving related SDG targets.

(ii) A study on education trends and policy requirements for achieving related SDG targets.

(iii) A study of social and labour trends in Argentina.

(iv) A study on inclusive social and production policies in Colombia.

4. **Intermediate activities**

(i) Preparation and coordination of selected inputs on social and economic issues to be presented at or used for the ECLAC session or publications of other subprogrammes and the ongoing coordination of activities with other divisions for the flagship publication *Social Panorama of Latin America*.

(ii) Preparation and coordination of interdivisional, inter-agency and interregional documents, seminars and meetings.

5. **Other substantive activities**

**Technical materials**

(i) Preparation, upon request and in collaboration with other agencies, of substantive inputs for intergovernmental meetings on social development policies, such as the meetings of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), the CELAC-European Union Summit, the Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, and other intergovernmental meetings held under the auspices of OAS, the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), the Central American Integration System (SICA) and other subregional bodies.

(ii) Development, maintenance and updating of a regional social observatory using databases containing information on social spending, non-contributory social protection, youth and social inclusion and social institutions, among others.

6. **Advisory services**

Provision of technical cooperation services to countries and institutions in the region, at their
request, in areas relating to social policies for greater equality.

7. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

   Cooperation with government, academic and non-governmental, regional and subregional institutions, upon request, in support of training activities on disseminating policies relating to poverty reduction, equality and the multiple dimensions of well-being.

8. **Technical cooperation projects**

   During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken in the areas of social protection and other social policies; employment and decent work; monitoring progress towards the SDGs in specific spheres related to social issues, poverty and inequality.

   The ECLAC office in Buenos Aires will be responsible for the delivery of the output referred to in paragraph 3 (iii). The ECLAC office in Bogotá will be responsible for the delivery of the output referred to in 3 (iv).

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to availability of extra budgetary resources.

**Subject area 4.2: Social policies for equality and social protection**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   (i) A meeting of experts to examine new and recurrent challenges in the areas of social policy and inclusion.

   (ii) A meeting of experts to discuss trends and new issues concerning social policy institutions.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

   (i) A study on policy trends and recommendations regarding the social protection and social inclusion of specific populations following the axes of the social inequality matrix.

   (ii) A study on broad aspects of social policy, poverty and inequality in Uruguay.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   Preparation, upon request and in collaboration with other agencies, of analytical and methodological proposals to enhance intersectoral and inter-institutional cooperation, improving the effectiveness and efficiency of social policies.

4. **Advisory services**
(i) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries and institutions in the region, at their request, in areas relating to social policy decision-making, particularly regarding policy design, implementation and management.

(ii) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries and institutions of the region, at their request, in areas relating to design, management, monitoring and evaluation of social policies.

5. Training courses, seminars and workshops

Cooperation with government, academic, non-governmental, regional and subregional institutions, upon request, on training activities on policy formulation for poverty eradication and inequality reduction, increasing access to social protection systems, education and health among different population groups.

6. Technical cooperation projects

It is expected that projects will be undertaken in the following areas: promoting a human-rights approach within social policies; social investment; and emerging challenges for social policies.

The ECLAC office in Montevideo will be responsible for the delivery of the outputs referred to in paragraph 2 (ii), which will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

The implementation of the operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 5: MAINSTREAMING THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Objective

The main objective of the subprogramme is to mainstream a gender equality perspective into sustainable and inclusive development strategies in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Presentation

The Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the SDGs provide a global framework for achieving a more sustainable world and overcoming all types of discrimination affecting women and girls. As a regional institutional framework and subsidiary body of ECLAC, the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean serves as a ministerial platform for discussing, reaching agreements and following up on the Regional Gender Agenda and for undertaking periodic assessments of regional and international agreements on the subject. In this connection, the sixty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean will take place in 2021.

With its diversity of actors, scope and capacities, the Regional Conference provides a supportive environment for building a shared vision and new political alliances that can drive progress in the implementation of the SDGs, especially in the framework of the Montevideo Strategy for Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the sustainable development framework by 2030, adopted at its thirteenth session.

Although progress has been made in the region, it remains the most unequal in the world; wide gender gaps persist and, in some cases, there is insufficient data to assess and monitor the situation of women. In the light of the prevailing uncertainty in the region and amid transformations in the economy, public policy and technology, a new policy dialogue and a stronger regional framework for gender equality are needed.

The new challenges facing the region call for innovative and effective public policies that support, and are supported by, a gender equality architecture based on well-established and interconnected institutions, as well as on clear gender mainstreaming and participation processes. To achieve gender equality in the region, the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean must be consolidated as a platform for progress in gender equality and women’s autonomy. It is also crucial to follow up the implementation of the Montevideo Strategy within the 2030 Agenda framework with policies and instruments to advance women’s economic, decision-making and physical autonomy. Furthermore, it is essential to continue promoting regional and South-South cooperation with a view to sharing experiences at the regional level.

Under this subprogramme, ECLAC will continue to play an active role in gender mainstreaming within regional development. Its work will focus on women’s economic autonomy and its connections with the physical and political spheres, using the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Regional Gender Agenda. Empirical studies and the production and dissemination of gender indicators to break the statistical silence, particularly through the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, will underpin the activities during the year.

Strategy

The Division for Gender Affairs will be responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme. In the light of the interdisciplinary nature of gender mainstreaming in regional development, the Division will work in close coordination with, and provide support to, ECLAC divisions, subregional headquarters
and country offices. Given its cross-cutting nature, the main contributions to the 2030 Agenda under the subprogramme will be related to SDG 1, SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 5, SDG 8, SDG 10, SDG 11, SDG 16 and SDG 17.

Under the subprogramme, the Division will undertake analytical work to generate knowledge, using statistics and gender indicators, to build the capacities of the countries of the region for formulating, implementing and monitoring strategies to mainstream the gender perspective with a rights-based approach into national policies. Particular attention will be devoted to women’s economic autonomy in an integrated framework, connected to physical autonomy and decision-making autonomy. Governments will also receive assistance in building policies for gender equality in these areas and in implementing the 2030 Agenda.

The subprogramme will seek to promote dialogue and strengthen links between public actors and other stakeholders in relation to gender equality. In this regard, the Division will also continue to strengthen coordination and partnerships with other United Nations agencies and the resident coordinator system, as well as regional organizations.

Lastly, member States will benefit from the use of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean and from the insight gained through increased knowledge-sharing to tackle current regional issues, through the wide dissemination of the main publications and findings of the subprogramme among policymakers, academics and other stakeholders.

Activities

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

Intergovernmental meetings

Two meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, including the preparation of reports and substantive documentation (to be held in the first and second halves of 2021).

Ad hoc expert group meetings

(i) Two meetings of experts to consider priority issues emerging from the fourteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean on the following topics: (a) evaluation of best practices and challenges in the implementation of gender policies; (b) promotion of an economic agenda for gender equality; (c) monitoring of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and (d) analysis of policies on gender equality and women’s autonomy.

(ii) An inter-agency meeting with United Nations programmes, funds and specialized agencies, including the preparation of substantive support documents and reports.

(iii) A meeting with agencies and organizations involved in the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.

2. Recurrent publications

(i) Two issues of the Gender Affairs series, which will focus on topics such as women’s physical autonomy and women’s autonomy in decision-making.

(ii) Annual report of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.
3. **Non-recurrent publications**

Two studies on issues relating to the incorporation of gender equality perspectives in the development of countries of the region, in accordance with the subject areas addressed at the thirty-eighth session of ECLAC and the fourteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

4. **Other substantive activities**

**Technical materials**

(i) Development, maintenance and updating of the ECLAC website on gender statistics with data from household and time-use surveys and other sources.

(ii) Development, maintenance and updating of the website of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean with data provided periodically by government authorities.

**Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits**

Infographics and other information tools using data from the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean and other relevant ECLAC sources.

5. **Advisory services**

Provision of technical cooperation to countries and institutions, at their request, on matters related to the fulfilment of international agreements on gender equality, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the outcomes of the fourteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

6. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

(i) Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies to develop or support training activities in areas related to gender mainstreaming in development policies.

(ii) Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies to support training activities in areas related to women’s economic autonomy.

7. **Intermediate activities**

(i) Preparation of selected inputs on gender issues for recurrent publications of other subprogrammes, in particular the *Social Panorama of Latin America*.

(ii) Providing technical support, upon request, for mainstreaming the gender perspective into ECLAC programmes, projects and activities and into the substantive work of the organizational units of the Commission, including subsidiary bodies.
(iii) Strengthening the communication strategy of the Division for Gender Affairs and the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.

8. **Field projects**

During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken in the following areas: (a) unpaid work and the social protection of women; (b) gender equality and sustainable development policies; (c) women’s economic autonomy; and (d) women’s physical and decision-making autonomy.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 6: POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Objective

The main objective of the subprogramme is to fully integrate population issues into development planning, policies and programmes of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Presentation

Falling fertility and mortality rates in Latin America and the Caribbean are slowing population growth and quickly altering the region’s age composition. Young societies gradually become mature and enter a period of potential economic growth when the share of the working-age population is larger than the non-working-age share of the population (known as the demographic dividend). However, as further declines in population growth hasten population ageing, the emergence of aged societies produces new economic and social challenges.

Inequality in the region takes many forms, some of which have a more direct effect than others on different aspects of the population dynamics and distribution. In particular, gender inequalities are reflected in obstacles to women’s ability to exercise fully their sexual and reproductive rights and to participate equally in production activity. Meanwhile, territorial inequalities, which result in isolation, discrimination, underdevelopment and vulnerability, affect deprived population groups or those who face discrimination, particularly on account of their ethnic origin or race.

In the context of the 2030 Agenda and the Montevideo Consensus, it is essential to provide countries with effective advice on how to collect, process, disseminate and exploit data from the 2020 round of censuses, which will underpin the development of indicators. Governments will continue to demand support to meet data users’ requirements. This is particularly important given the fact that the increasing demand for geographically disaggregated information for small areas is usually met with census data. In addition, in the context of the data revolution, new and better sources of demographic information, such as improved vital statistics registration systems and surveys that deal with population issues, are necessary to advance in the generation of sociodemographic information.

Thus, the provision of accurate population data and support in incorporating demographic analysis into policy development are of key importance to close gaps. Regional cooperation has been instrumental in gauging advances towards the commitments, goals and guidelines defined at international conferences with respect to population and development. In this context, the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE)-Population Division of ECLAC acts as the technical secretariat of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the regional intergovernmental body dealing with population issues. Therefore, as an entity with a long-standing reputation for technical assistance and cooperation, and expertise on population issues in the region, CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC will continue to foster compliance with the goals and recommendations of international agreements, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Under the subprogramme, CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC will continue to support evaluations of the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development undertaken by the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, in line with the indicators to be used for monitoring the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014.

Strategy

CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC will be responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme. The subprogramme activities will focus on the following subject areas: 1. Demographic analysis and population projections; 2. Population information; and 3. Integration of sociodemographic
variables into social programming, and regional cooperation in population and development. The implementation of the subprogramme will be guided by the Montevideo Consensus, which is centred on the full integration of population dynamics into rights-based sustainable development with equality. Therefore, the main contributions to the 2030 Agenda under the subprogramme will be related to SDG 3, SDG 10, and SDG 17.

In particular, the deliverables of the subprogramme will focus on: providing national and local institutions with training on demographic analysis, population estimates and projections; providing technical support in the follow-up of international agreements and the population-related 2030 Agenda targets; generating knowledge of population and demographic trends in the region to underpin evidence-based policymaking; improving the use of census data, vital statistics and surveys through the generation of data and development of procedures, computer programs and information systems; and providing technical assistance for the inclusion of sociodemographic inputs in the design and implementation of public policies at the national and local levels.

Technical assistance and advisory services provided under the subprogramme will contribute to strengthening national capacities to monitor population trends and address population and development issues, with a gender-sensitive approach, and to monitor and implement the recommendations and goals of the Framework of Action for the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014, the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Workshops and seminars will be held to facilitate South-South cooperation, networking and sharing of successful experiences. In addition, applied research and analysis, including recommendations on how to reduce inequalities, will be carried out and disseminated through publications. ICTs will be used to reach the wider public.

The work of the subprogramme will be undertaken in close collaboration with other ECLAC divisions, and the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean and in Mexico. The Commission will work with other United Nations entities involved in the population cluster, and with other international and intergovernmental organizations. It will seek to continue to serve as the lead entity for the region of the United Nations Network on Migration.

The main beneficiaries of the subprogramme activities will be government authorities and officials from the region, particularly those working on population-related issues in ministries of planning, social programming, health, education, gender and housing, and in national statistical offices. Other beneficiaries will include public, private and civil society entities, professional associations and academia.

Activities

Subject area 6.1: Demographic analysis and population projections

1. Recurrent publications

One issue of the Demographic Observatory, 2021.

2. Non-recurrent publications

A study on the situation of demographic phenomena in the region, taking a gender-sensitive approach.
3. **Other substantive activities**

**Technical materials**

(i) Maintenance and updating of the database on demographic trends and population projections by sex and age.

(ii) A technical study on the methodology for population estimations and projections in Latin America and the Caribbean.

4. **Advisory services**

Provision of technical assistance to countries of the region, at their request, in the areas of population data collection, demographic analysis and methodologies for the preparation of population projections and estimates.

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

A workshop on the use of methodologies and tools for demographic analysis and projections.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 6.2: Population information**

1. **Non-recurrent publications**

(i) Two publications on high-priority issues in Latin America and the Caribbean related to migration, demographic trends or ageing, taking a gender-sensitive approach.

(ii) A study on high-priority issues related to demographic trends among indigenous peoples and Afrodescendants in Latin America and the Caribbean.

2. **Other substantive activities**

**Technical materials**

(i) Development and updating of computer modules to facilitate the use of population data from censuses, surveys and vital statistics, based on the software for the retrieval of data for small areas by microcomputer (REDATAM) and using geographic information systems.

(ii) Maintenance and updating of the regional databank of censuses on population and housing, and vital statistics.

**Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits**

One issue of REDATAM Informa.
3. **Advisory services**

   Provision, upon request, of technical assistance to countries of the subregion on designing and using REDATAM-related computer applications.

4. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

   (i) Two workshops on the use of REDATAM-related computer applications and the creation of related databases.

   (ii) Cooperation with government and intergovernmental entities, universities, NGOs, and regional and subregional organizations, at their request, to support training activities on quantitative analytical methods and techniques.

   The ECLAC office in Buenos Aires will be responsible for the execution of the activity indicated in subparagraph 4 (ii).

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 6.3:** Integration of sociodemographic variables into social programming

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   A meeting on demographic changes and their consequences for development.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

   (i) A study on the socioeconomic effects of demographic dynamics in the region, taking a gender-sensitive approach.

   (ii) A study on the socioeconomic development of the provinces of Argentina.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   (i) Maintenance and updating of the Spatial distribution and urbanization in Latin America and the Caribbean (DEPUALC) database.

   (ii) Maintenance and updating of the database on Internal Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean (MIALC).

   (iii) Maintenance and updating of the international migration databank for the programme Investigation of International Migration in Latin America (IMILA).

   (iv) Maintenance and updating of the databank on Indigenous and Afrodescendent Peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean (PIAALC).

   (v) Maintenance and updating of the regional database on maternity (MATERNILAC).
4. Advisory services

(i) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, at their request, in areas related to the incorporation of sociodemographic variables into development policies, programmes and projects, taking a gender-sensitive approach and considering specific groups (such as indigenous peoples, Afrodescendants, persons with disabilities, older persons).

(ii) Provision of technical cooperation services, upon request, in areas related to local development gaps.

5. Training courses, seminars and workshops

Cooperation with government entities, universities, NGOs and regional and subregional bodies for the development of training activities on emerging issues related to population and development.

6. Technical cooperation projects

During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken in the areas of migration, the socioeconomic impact of population dynamics, indigenous peoples and Afrodescendants, and ageing, taking a gender-sensitive approach.

7. Intermediate activities

Contributions to ECLAC institutional and inter-agency publications, including the Social Panorama of Latin America.

The ECLAC office in Buenos Aires will be responsible for the execution of the activities indicated in subparagraph 2 (ii) and 4 (ii).

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 6.4: Regional cooperation in population and development

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

Intergovernmental meetings

A meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, including the preparation of the related technical documents and reports.

2. Ad hoc expert group meetings

A meeting of experts to examine progress in implementing the recommendations of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.
3. **Recurrent publications**

Two issues of *Notas de Población* to disseminate research findings and studies on population and development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

4. **Other substantive activities**

**Technical materials**

(i) Maintenance and updating of the Regional System of Indicators on Ageing (SISE) to follow up on the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, taking a gender-sensitive approach.


(iii) Maintenance of a databank of policy and programmes related to population and development.

**Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits**

One issue of the *Boletín envejecimiento y Desarrollo*, with information on the progress made by countries of the region in the formulation and execution of policies relating to older persons.

5. **Advisory services**

(i) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, at their request, in areas related to the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development and the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, taking a gender-sensitive approach.

(ii) Provision of technical support services to the region’s intergovernmental forums on population and development issues.

6. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

Cooperation with government entities, universities, NGOs and regional and subregional bodies for the development of training activities on demographic analysis, with a gender-sensitive approach, geared towards government officials from the region.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 7: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Objective

The main objective of the subprogramme is to ensure the integration and due consideration of environmental, climate and urban management concerns and opportunities in policymaking and policy implementation.

Presentation

The interrelationship between economic growth, environmental protection, climate change, urban development and social and gender equality is increasingly important for governments and the main social stakeholders in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The outcomes of a number of major conferences have had an impact on the activities under this subprogramme by connecting the global and regional agendas. In recent years, the whole set of commitments under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the SDGs, the Paris Agreement, the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the agreements reached at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), and the priorities established by the United Nations Environment Assembly, have set the framework for the subprogramme’s activities in the short and medium term.

The effects of climate change, the growing demand for natural resources and the need to foster economic growth through investment will place further economic pressures on the natural endowment of Latin America and the Caribbean, and in many cases, lead to socio-environmental conflicts. The population of the region is increasingly urban and the upward trend in urbanization rates and urban sprawl will continue together with persistent challenges related to exclusion, inequality and growing insecurity. A gender perspective needs to be taken into account in the analysis of these issues, as well as in the resulting public policy proposals. At the country and city levels, there is a serious lack of urban and territorial statistics and data. The scarcity of spatially- or territorially-relevant data to track and address the SDGs presents challenges for evidence-based policy making and effective reporting and follow-up. Countries need the capacities and resources to generate information that will allow them to assess their progress towards attaining the SDG and New Urban Agenda targets and how best to reach their goals. In this context, the implementation of an integrated approach to planning and building sustainable cities and urban settlements will be a priority under the subprogramme. Improvements in the use of economic tools to evaluate environmental policies will lead to more relevant policy analysis, thus supporting a transition towards lower-carbon economies.

The international climate agenda set forth in the Paris Agreement focuses on following up on the commitments made by the countries regarding mitigation and adaptation, and on the financing and technology transfer mechanisms required to achieve these goals. ECLAC will continue to promote and support the big push for sustainability to improve the capacity of national and local governments to adopt participatory and evidence-based approaches to environmentally friendly policymaking, in line with the SDGs, the Rio Principles and the Paris Agreement. Emerging issues, such as using new technologies to improve the provision of urban services (smart cities), and linking economic growth and job creation to investments that strengthen countries’ sustainable development (big push for sustainability), will also be covered by the activities under this subprogramme.

Strategy

The Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division will be responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme and will work in close coordination with other ECLAC divisions.
and offices in order to mainstream environmental concerns with respect to climate change and the SDGs in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The work under subprogramme will be structured around three main subject areas: 1. Policies for sustainable development and environmental performance; 2. The economics of climate change; and 3. Sustainable human settlements and inclusive cities. Therefore, the main contributions to the 2030 Agenda under the subprogramme will be related to SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13, SDG 15 and SDG 16.

Knowledge of the region’s economic, social and environmental profiles is crucial for well-designed policies that take into account the three pillars of sustainable development. Likewise, the ability to convene and involve governments, academia, civil society and other stakeholders is also necessary to fostering participatory decision-making. In this context, implementation of the subprogramme will focus on two main types of activities: (i) assessing the advances made by countries in integrating sustainability criteria into public policies, including monitoring implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration as stated in the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, and providing support to the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development; and (ii) strengthening national capacities to design and implement public policies for the sustainability of human settlements and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and the intended nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement.

The principal beneficiaries under the subprogramme will be the decision-making authorities responsible for sustainable development and for human settlements. Economic and sectoral authorities are an important target group for mainstreaming sustainable development and climate change issues into areas that extend beyond environmental institutions. Other beneficiaries include regional and subregional organizations, universities and academic research centres, business sectors and NGOs. The strategy will also include creating networks with a wide range of stakeholders in the environmental sphere and the economic and social sectors related to climate change, including government institutions, civil society organizations, private sector representatives and relevant sectoral bodies.

In implementing the subprogramme, the Division will continue to hold consultations and undertake joint actions with the specialized agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system, including the resident coordinator system, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), as well as with regional and subregional development banks.

Activities

Subject area 7.1: Policies for sustainable development and environmental performance

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

Intergovernmental meetings

A meeting of the countries signatory to the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Ad hoc expert group meetings

A meeting of experts to examine the trends, emerging issues and lessons learned in implementing policies and instruments related to sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and their implications for the mainstreaming of sustainable criteria into public policies and institutions.
2. **Recurrent publications**

A study on the environmental progress made towards sustainable development and/or relevant SDGs.

3. **Non-recurrent publications**

(i) A study on the environmental impacts of public policies with the goal of mainstreaming environmental concerns into economic decisions.

(ii) A study compiling best practices regarding access to information and participation in environmental matters in the light of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.

4. **Other substantive activities**

**Technical materials**

(i) Development, maintenance and updating of quantitative applications for sustainable development assessment.

(ii) Development, maintenance and updating of a database on information on environmental matters in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

5. **Advisory services**

(i) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, to assess the progress and performance towards achieving sustainable development.

(ii) Provision of technical cooperation and secretariat services to countries of the region, upon request, regarding access to information and participation in environmental matters in the light of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.

(iii) Provision of technical cooperation services to the Government of Brazil and its institutions, upon request, in relation to assessing their performance and progress towards achieving sustainable development.

6. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies for the development in support of training activities on sustainable development and/or environmental economics.

The ECLAC office in Brasilia will be responsible for the execution of the activities indicated in subparagraph 5 (iii).

The implementation of operational activities including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
Subject area 7.2: Economics of climate change

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

Ad hoc expert group meetings

(i) A meeting of experts to analyse the region’s priorities regarding climate change mitigation and adaptation.

(ii) A side event at the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to discuss the results of the climate change studies and to explore cooperation opportunities.

2. Recurrent publications

One issue of the regional overview of the implications of climate change for Latin America and the Caribbean.

3. Non-recurrent publications

(i) A study on public policies for mitigation and/or adaptation and related co-benefits.

(ii) A study on the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of economic public policies related to climate change in order to comply with intended nationally determined contributions and other related national targets.

(iii) A study on experiences related to the transition towards a low-carbon economy and its synergies with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

4. Other substantive activities

Technical materials

(i) Preparation, upon request, of substantive inputs related to climate change for the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development.

(ii) Development, maintenance and updating of a repository of publications, technical materials and public policies related to climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean.

5. Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to the countries of the region, upon their request, in areas related to public policies and climate change.

6. Training courses, seminars and workshops

(i) Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies to develop training activities on climate change issues.

(ii) Regional course on strategies for the implementation of the intended nationally determined contributions.
7. **Technical cooperation projects**

During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken in the areas of climate change adaptation and mitigation.

The implementation of operational activities including advisory services, training activities and the implementation of technical cooperation projects will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 7.3: Sustainable human settlements and inclusive cities**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Intergovernmental meetings**

   A session of the General Assembly of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean.

   **Ad-hoc expert group meetings**

   A meeting of experts to promote policies for the sustainable development of human settlements resilient to climate change.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

   A study on the implementation of the urban dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the region, including an inclusive gender perspective.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   (i) Preparation, upon request, of substantive inputs related to urban issues for the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development.

   (ii) Preparation, upon request, of substantive inputs for the General Assembly of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean.

4. **Advisory services**

   Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, at their request, in areas of public policy relevant to sustainable development and urban sustainability.

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

   Cooperation with government and intergovernmental entities, universities, NGOs and regional and subregional organizations, at their request, in support of training activities on human settlement issues.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extra budgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 8: NATURAL RESOURCES

Objective

The main objective of the subprogramme is to improve good governance and promote the sustainable exploitation of natural resources, focusing on water resources, affordable and clean energy, extractive resources, biodiversity, food security and sustainable agriculture in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Presentation

The current pattern of development in Latin America and Caribbean countries is based on the exploitation of their relatively abundant wealth of renewable and non-renewable natural resources, which poses social, distribution and environmental challenges. Regional production patterns are characterized by high levels of material intensity and waste generation, distribution problems and vulnerability to fluctuations in the world economy, in particular in commodity prices. In addition, the heavy environmental burden, the trade-offs related to the use of the region’s natural resources and distributional issues have caused an increasing number of socioenvironmental conflicts, contributing to a development pathway that is unsustainable in the long term.

The region failed to take advantage of the most recent positive commodity cycle to innovate, add value and diversify its economies. The lack of technological innovation means that the region depends on imports of high-value-added goods and services, leading it to intensify the exploitation of its natural resources and increasing its dependency on the commodity cycle. In this context, ECLAC has proposed an improved governance of natural resources in order to build a new sustainable development paradigm based on equality and production diversification. In view of the complex set of tools, research, data and information required, and in order to provide a better response to countries’ requests and needs, ECLAC will advocate for building a common vision of governance and creating a body of knowledge to foster and implement that vision.

With regard to energy, the countries of the region have made progress in diversifying their energy matrices over the last two decades, by including more renewable components. However, the primary energy matrix still remains highly dependent on fossil fuels. In order to successfully monitor and make progress towards achieving SDG 7, countries require support to design evidence-based policies, tools and mechanisms. It will be essential for the future of the region to develop good governance of the sustainable energy transition of Latin American and Caribbean countries, by promoting progressive structural change with equality and social, economic and environmental sustainability, while taking advantage of the opportunities offered by international cooperation and sharing best practices.

In connection with SDG 6, many countries have made considerable progress in modernizing their institutional frameworks for water resource management, but still face major difficulties in implementation. It is of the utmost importance to assist countries of the region in achieving this Goal through the design and implementation of national policies and regional initiatives that recognize the human right to water and sanitation in the context of sustainable management of the water cycle is a milestone on the path towards sustainable development with equality.

While the extractive sector has contributed significantly to the economic growth of those countries with abundant extractive resources, environmental, social and economic challenges have undermined efforts to institute proper governance of those resources and foster the conditions for inclusive and sustainable development.
Lastly, the agriculture sector faces specific challenges with respect to inclusion, productivity, competitiveness and sustainability. Higher demand for food as a result of population growth and rising incomes in developing countries, together with greater competition for commodities, the effects of climate change and shortages of both land and water, could limit food production and increase its cost. Dealing with these multiple challenges and the concomitant ecological and social trade-offs requires a new approach to production, for example the bioeconomy or the circular economy. Governance must also improve through policies that foster the sustainable management of natural resources relevant to agriculture, forestry, and fisheries and aquaculture production, and that prioritize the conservation of biodiversity.

Latin America and the Caribbean, which has been bestowed with a wealth of biodiversity, faces the great challenge of preventing the irreversible loss of these essential ecosystem assets. The region has seen many developments and good practices in biodiversity and environmental governance in recent decades, but the numerous lessons learned indicate that its vulnerable and fragmented institutions and scattered policies should be reinforced to improve coherence, integration and coordination.

**Strategy**

The Natural Resources Division will be responsible for implementing the subprogramme, in close coordination with other ECLAC divisions, offices and subregional headquarters. The subprogramme will focus on the following subject areas: 1. Water and energy, 2. Non-renewable natural resources; and 3. Agriculture and biodiversity. Therefore, the main contributions to the 2030 Agenda under the subprogramme will be related to SDG 2, SDG 6, SDG 7, SDG 13, SDG 14 and SDG 15.

Under the subprogramme, analytical work will be conducted to generate knowledge and technical assistance and advisory services provided to countries, at their request, on issues related to the management of energy, mineral, soil and water resources, with particular emphasis on the economic, environmental and social impacts. With regard to activities related to extractive resource governance, the focus will be on enhancing transparency of government revenues and expenditures, material efficiency and dematerialization challenges, and unequal ecological exchange issues, in order to promote the desired progressive structural change. Support will be given to discussion forums to foster dialogue and disseminate new policy options and knowledge networks for sharing good practices and lessons learned. Training activities for decision makers, public officials and experts in those areas will also be carried out under the subprogramme. In these processes special attention will be paid to gender issues that exist in the governance and exploitation of natural resources.

The main beneficiaries under the subprogramme will be government authorities and officials, especially those responsible for the sustainable development and management of natural resources and related issues. Other beneficiaries will include regional and subregional organizations, universities, academic research centres and technical, professional, labour and business organizations.

Under the subprogramme, the Division will continue to work in close collaboration with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and other United Nations system entities engaged in the areas of energy, water, non-renewable resources, agriculture and biodiversity, including the resident coordinator system, as well as the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the Ibero-American Association of Energy Regulatory Entities, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the Regional Committee for Electrical Integration (CIER), regional bilateral and multilateral organizations, development banks and the Bretton Woods institutions.
Activities

Subject area 8.1: Water and energy

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

Ad hoc expert group meetings

A meeting of experts on formulating public policies and/or addressing regional energy challenges related to and/or in support of the achievement of SDG 7, promoting economic efficiency, social equality and environmental sustainability, in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. Non-recurrent publications

(i) A study on the issues related to implementation of SDG 7.

(ii) A study on energy indicators and/or the energy planning sector.

(iii) A study on water resource issues related to sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

3. Other substantive activities

Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits

One issue of the Natural Resources Bulletin for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

4. Advisory services

(i) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, in areas related to public policies on and governance of water and energy.

(ii) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, in areas related to topics of interest to regional cooperation mechanisms in the water and energy sectors.

5. Training courses, seminars and workshops

Regional workshop for public and private sector stakeholders involved in the management of natural resources.

6. Technical cooperation projects

During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken on issues related to energy efficiency and the water-energy-food nexus.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and field projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
Subject area 8.2: Non-renewable natural resources

1. Substantive servicing of meetings
   Ad hoc expert group meetings

   A meeting of experts on formulating public policies for extractive resources that promote economic efficiency, social equality, environmental sustainability and its nexus with other sectors in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. Non-recurrent publications

   (i) A sectoral study on issues related to the governance of natural resources in Latin America and the Caribbean.

   (ii) A study on the material intensity of economies and the socio-environmental conflicts related to natural resources exploitation in Latin America and Caribbean.

3. Advisory services

   Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, in areas related to non-renewable natural resources, including those of interest to regional cooperation mechanisms.

4. Training courses, seminars and workshops

   A regional workshop for stakeholders involved in the management of non-renewable natural resources.

5. Technical cooperation projects

   During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken on issues related to the governance of non-renewable natural resources.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and field projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 8.3: Agriculture and biodiversity

1. Substantive servicing of meetings
   Ad hoc expert group meetings

   A meeting of experts on formulating public policies for sustainable agricultural development in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. Recurrent publications

   *The Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Development in the Americas: A perspective in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2021.*
3. **Non-recurrent publications**

(i) A study on a high-priority issue related to innovation and development in agriculture and rural territories in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(ii) A study on capacities to adopt, the penetration of and strategies for new technologies and lower carbon-intensive production methods in the agricultural and related industrial sectors.

(iii) A study on policies and actions to add value to agrifood exports from Latin America and the Caribbean.

4. **Advisory services**

Provision of technical cooperation services, upon request, to the countries of the region, business and trade promotion organizations and other key stakeholders on the design and implementation of policies and strategies for sustainable agricultural and rural development, and the bioeconomy.

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies to develop or support training activities in areas related to production and corporate development in agriculture, bioeconomy, the rural economy and industry at the regional, national or local level.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and field projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 9: PLANNING AND PUBLIC MANAGEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT

Objective

The main objective of the subprogramme is to enhance planning and public management processes in the region for the advancement of equitable and sustainable development.

Presentation

Planning and public management for sustainable development is a tool for ensuring cohesion, coherence and rationality in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Latin American and Caribbean countries, and continued progress in the development of the region. State leadership has been pivotal in improving development outcomes in Latin America and the Caribbean. The region’s development challenges are reflected in, among other things, low productivity and an infrastructure deficit; segregation and lags in the quality of health and education services; persistent gender gaps; and inequalities affecting minorities and geographical territories. These challenges are structural and require a concerted and committed response by a range of development actors, including citizens, the private sector, civil society organizations, communities, local government, public agencies, and national and subnational governments. Today, effective planning and public management requires: (i) the incorporation of a long-term vision in medium-term development plans and public policies; (ii) the mainstreaming of a cross-cutting approach and perspectives for coherent and consistent policymaking; (iii) the active inclusion of multiple and diverse actors from both the private and public sectors in policy design, formulation and implementation; and (iv) the strengthening of territorial governance, planning and management in public policy processes. The 2030 Agenda offers the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean an opportunity to focus on their long-term development goals and to build effective, inclusive and strategic institutions to implement the SDGs.

The institutional capacity of governments is forged through processes that reinforce governance systems and capacities in the public sector. Modern planning processes are participatory and prioritize comprehensive and sustainable development through medium- and long-term visions, while fostering high-quality public investment and strong linkages between development and sectoral plans and budgets. Gender mainstreaming and open government help to reduce structural gaps by enhancing participation and accountability. Public institutions are evolving and improving on multiple fronts, including with regard to transparency; the quality of public policies and means of measuring their impact; and methodologies and processes to mainstream the territorial dimension into planning at the national and sectoral levels, and to develop long-term visions of the future and public policy agendas.

Under this subprogramme, ECLAC supports the alignment of national development planning exercises and budgets with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, through capacity-building and institutional development and the application of strategic tools and methodologies in connection with each of the four aforementioned requirements to address implementation gaps, thus contributing to the strengthening of state-of-the-art planning and public management for sustainable development among regional governments and actors.

Strategy

The Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) is responsible for implementing this subprogramme. The 2030 Agenda shapes the work of ILPES and, in particular, the provision of high value-added services, such as applied research, technical advice and training, and the development of networks and communities of practice to that end. The general objective of ILPES is to provide technical cooperation services to countries of the region to strengthen the capacities of national planning and public management systems and institutions in the pursuit of sustainable and inclusive development.
As the 2030 Agenda calls for multidisciplinary efforts and a multisectoral approach, actions under the subprogramme will be carried out in close coordination with the other substantive divisions, subregional headquarters and country offices of ECLAC, and with strategic stakeholders, including other United Nations entities, particularly the resident coordinator system. Under the subprogramme, ECLAC will support the strengthening of public institutions at the national and subnational levels, through the application of new methodologies, instruments and conceptual frameworks, and governance and public management techniques, and it will encourage cooperation, peer-to-peer learning, and the sharing of experiences and good practices in planning and public management. In this context, the contribution to the 2030 Agenda under the subprogramme will mainly be related to SDG 11, SDG 16 and SDG 17.

The main beneficiaries under the subprogramme will be government authorities and public officials of the countries of the region, especially those responsible for planning and public management policies and systems at national and subnational levels of government; civil society organizations and academic institutions; and local, regional and subregional organizations.

In implementing its strategy, ILPES engages in permanent dialogue with countries and systematizes their requests for assistance, in terms of the subjects and areas of planning and public management to be covered and the types of services requested. The strategy of the subprogramme is fourfold: (i) to undertake applied, timely research in cross-cutting planning and public management issues of relevance for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean; (ii) to provide technical cooperation services to support ongoing institutional capacity-building in planning and public management systems and processes; (iii) to provide government officials and relevant stakeholders with training (in situ and e-learning) to build and strengthen competencies, capabilities and capacity in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the areas of planning and public management for development; and (iv) to promote the sharing of experiences and good practices among countries to build and strengthen learning networks. For these purposes, a range of innovative capacity-building and networking instruments with new analytical products and approaches are employed, including planning dialogues with high-level authorities, the Regional Observatory on Planning for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the PlanBarometer, which is a diagnostic tool for understanding the consolidation of planning and public management systems in the region.

Activities

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Intergovernmental meetings**

   A meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning.

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   Two meetings of experts to discuss progress and challenges regarding planning for development systems and institutions; the formulation of integrated public policy agendas, strategies and plans, including multiscale and territorial governance and planning; integrated public management systems and practices, including multiscale and territorial management; and cross-cutting and emerging issues related to planning and public management for development.

2. **Recurrent publications**

   The Latin American and Caribbean Outlook for Planning and Public Management for Development.
3. **Non-recurrent publications**

Three studies, including the preparation of technical material and handbooks, on topics related to: (i) planning for development systems and institutions, and the formulation of integrated public policy agendas, strategies and plans, including multiscale and territorial governance and planning; (ii) integrated public management systems and practices (planning and programming; budgeting and public investment systems; monitoring and evaluation systems; and accountability and control), including multiscale and territorial management; and (iii) planning and public management for development in cross-cutting (such as mainstreaming gender and participatory approaches and practices, open government, the data revolution and e-government) and emerging issues (such as planning for resilience).

4. **Other substantive activities**

**Technical materials**

(i) Development, maintenance and updating of the virtual platform of the Regional Observatory on Planning for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(ii) Development, maintenance and updating of technical manuals and software applications to support training activities (in situ and e-learning), as well as databases on planning and public management for development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits**

Infographics, policy briefs and newsletters on planning and public management for development within the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

5. **Advisory services**

(i) Provision of advisory services to countries of the region, upon request, on planning for development systems and institutions, and the formulation of integrated public policy agendas, strategies and plans, including multiscale and territorial governance and planning.

(ii) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, in areas related to integrated public management systems and practices (planning and programming; budgeting and public investment systems; monitoring and evaluation systems; and accountability and control), including multiscale and territorial management.

(iii) Provision of advisory services to countries of the region in planning and public management for development, upon request, in cross-cutting (such as mainstreaming gender and participatory approaches and practices, open government, the data revolution and e-government) and emerging issues (such as planning for resilience).

(iv) Provision of technical cooperation services to the Government of Brazil, upon request, in relation to assessing its performance and progress towards the adoption of better planning and budgeting processes and the better implementation of government policies.
6. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

Ten training courses (in situ and e-learning) on the following topics: (i) planning for development systems and institutions, and the formulation of integrated public policy agendas, strategies and plans, including multiscale and territorial governance and planning; (ii) integrated public management systems and practices (planning and programming; budgeting and public investment systems; monitoring and evaluation systems; and accountability and control), including multiscale and territorial management; and (iii) planning and public management for development in cross-cutting (such as mainstreaming gender and participatory approaches and practices, open government, the data revolution and e-government) and emerging issues (such as planning for resilience); and (iv) priority issues to be defined with member States.

7. **Technical cooperation projects**

During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken in the areas of planning and public management for development, including plans and programmes to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs.

8. **Intermediate activities**

(i) Support for the operation of virtual networks and information exchange on topics related to the subprogramme.

(ii) Surveys and governmental dialogues on planning and public management for development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(iii) Support for the organization of training courses, in response to requests made under other subprogrammes, on topics such as sustainable development, gender mainstreaming, natural resource management, population issues and innovation strategies.

The ECLAC office in Brasilia will be responsible for the execution of the activity indicated in subparagraph 5 (iv).

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training and technical cooperation projects in the field, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 10: STATISTICS

Objective

The main objective of the subprogramme is to improve the production, dissemination and use of statistics for evidence-based decision-making in the region.

Presentation

Reliable and easily accessible information systems are essential to policymakers and a prerequisite for good governance at the country level. Economic, social and environmental statistics, produced on a regular basis, provide key inputs for the design, monitoring and evaluation of policies. Latin American and Caribbean countries face many different challenges in the development of their statistical systems. The demand for official statistics is constantly growing, and so countries are urgently required to improve the timeliness and frequency of their data, expand their coverage to different domains and enhance their comparability by adopting international best practices.

The size and urgency of these challenges have grown with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs and the global, regional and national indicator frameworks for their measurement. As a result, the production of new indicators in emerging areas, the improvement of non-traditional sources of information, the coordination of activities among a growing number of information providers and the deployment of major efforts to track inequalities and leave no one behind are crucial.

In this context, the activities under the subprogramme play a central role in the development of statistical production, analysis and dissemination in Latin America and the Caribbean. They are structured around four main subject areas: economic statistics and national accounts; social statistics and household surveys; environmental statistics; and follow-up of the SDGs. Within these areas, support is provided to improve existing statistical sources and processes, as well as foster the development of administrative records and non-traditional data sources such as geospatial information and big data. Work on data sources is complemented with support for the institutional strengthening of national statistical systems and coordination of data producers and users.

Strategy

The Statistics Division will be responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme. Given its cross-cutting nature, the deliverables under the subprogramme will contribute to all the SDGs.

The strategy for achieving the subprogramme’s objective will be based on three main lines of action. The first is to strengthen national technical and institutional capacities in statistics through specialized advisory services and online and in situ training courses, expert meetings and seminars. Technical assistance will focus on the development of basic statistics and institutional coordination mechanisms, in areas that include national accounts, basic economic statistics and price statistics; environmental statistics, climate change and disaster risk reduction; household survey design and implementation; integration of statistical and geospatial information systems; and national coordination mechanisms for SDG monitoring. Special emphasis will be placed on coordination with agencies and international organizations to avoid the duplication of efforts and maximize the complementarity of activities.

The second line of action addresses data compilation and harmonization, the dissemination of regionally comparable data, and the development, regional adaptation and translation of statistical methodologies, standards and recommendations. Regionally comparable data are required as a benchmark for regional statistical development and as an input for major ECLAC publications and recommendations. The Commission will continue compiling and harmonizing a large number of economic, environmental and social statistics and indicators, as well as its regional Household Survey
Databank (BADEHOG). Dissemination will be undertaken through CEPALSTAT (the main ECLAC statistical database), the Statistical Yearbook and the SDG Gateway. In addition, the Division will contribute analytical and substantive inputs to several ECLAC flagship publications and documents.

The third line of action is the reinforcement of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, which is the main regional platform for statistical coordination among countries and international organizations. The Division will continue to provide technical secretariat services to the Conference and its various working groups, ensuring that their work is consistent with regional priorities.

The Commission will emphasize the joint implementation of projects and initiatives and work in close cooperation with other ECLAC offices and divisions, as well as bilateral and multilateral partners, including the Statistics Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the regional commissions and other United Nations statistics entities, and international organizations such as the World Bank, the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the Twenty-first Century (Paris 21) and IDB. The Division will also convey region-specific priorities through its active participation in global events, including the Statistical Commission and the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities. The main beneficiaries of activities under the subprogramme will be national statistical systems, academia, civil society and the private sector.

Activities

Subject area 10.1: Technical cooperation among member States and within regional and global statistical bodies

1. Substantive servicing of meetings
   (i) A meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.
   (ii) A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Conference, including the preparation of progress reports and substantive documentation.

2. Intermediate activities

Support for the working groups created by the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, including organizing and servicing meetings of the working groups, preparing background documents and other materials, preparing meeting reports and monitoring the tasks assigned to each working group.

Subject area 10.2: Statistical databanks and dissemination of regional statistics and indicators

1. Recurrent publications

   *Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2021.*

2. Other substantive activities

   Technical materials
   (i) Development, maintenance and updating of the CEPALSTAT statistical information system and the databases under direct responsibility of the Statistics Division, and coordination with other divisions of the activities relating to the maintenance of their databases.
Development, maintenance and updating of the ECLAC Household Survey Databank (BADEHOG) through the compilation and harmonization of household surveys from the region’s countries, as an input for the analysis and production of social indicators by the Statistics Division and other ECLAC divisions.

3. Intermediate activities


(ii) Preparation, in coordination with the Economic Development Division, of statistical information for the 2021 edition of the Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean.

(iii) Preparation, in coordination with the Economic Development Division, of statistical information for the 2021 edition of the Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean.

(iv) Statistical support for the execution of ECLAC studies and projects in the field of economic, social and sustainable development, and for inter-agency work, particularly in the context of monitoring fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Subject area 10.3: System of National Accounts and economic statistics

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

   Ad hoc expert group meetings

   A meeting of experts to evaluate the inclusion of the new SNA 2008 international recommendations in national accounts data and their adjustment to the characteristics of the region’s economies.

2. Recurrent publications

   One issue of Cuadernos Estadísticos de la CEPAL on economic and environmental statistics.

3. Non-recurrent publications

   A study on the progress made in the region in implementing new international recommendations on SNA 2008 upgrades.

4. Training courses, seminars and workshops

   Cooperation with government entities, universities, NGOs and regional and subregional bodies in support of training activities on topics relating to economic statistics, including basic statistics, national accounts and satellite accounts, foreign trade in goods and services, and price indices.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
Subject area 10.4: Statistics and quantitative analysis of social trends

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

   Ad hoc expert groups

   A meeting of experts to make recommendations on promoting technical and methodological improvements to social information systems, household surveys and administrative records.

2. Non-recurrent publications

   (i) A methodological and/or analytical study on measuring poverty, inequality and/or other objective and subjective aspects of well-being in the region.

   (ii) A methodological study on the improvement of data sources for social statistics, including household surveys and/or administrative records, and data disaggregation for relevant population groups.

3. Training courses, seminars and workshops

   Cooperation with government entities, universities, NGOs and regional and subregional bodies to support training activities on topics related to poverty, inequality, income distribution, employment, social cohesion and vulnerability.

4. Intermediate activities

   Production of one or more chapters on poverty, inequality, social vulnerability and income inequality for the Social Panorama of Latin America, in coordination with the Social Development Division.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 10.5: Environment statistics

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

   Ad hoc expert group meetings

   A meeting of experts to analyse and steer progress in the field of environment statistics, environment SDG indicators and environmental accounts.

2. Non-recurrent publications

   A study on the situation or experience of environment statistics, environment SDG indicators or environmental accounts in the region.

3. Advisory services

   Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, in areas related to the development of environment statistics, environment SDG indicators and environmental accounts.
The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 10.6: Support for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

1. **Advisory services**

   Provision of technical cooperation services to the region’s countries, upon request, to support the implementation of the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDG indicators.

2. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

   Cooperation with government entities, universities, NGOs and regional and subregional bodies in support of training activities on the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDG indicators.

3. **Technical cooperation projects**

   During the year, projects financed by extrabudgetary resources are expected to be undertaken in different areas related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including economic statistics and national accounts; household surveys and social statistics; environment statistics and the SDG monitoring process.

4. **Intermediate activities**

   Preparation of statistical information related to the SDGs and contributions for the *Annual report on regional progress and challenges in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean* (2021 edition), in coordination with the Office of the Executive Secretary.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 11: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN CENTRAL AMERICA, CUBA, THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, HAITI AND MEXICO

Objective

The main objective of the subprogramme is to improve the formulation of evidence-based public policies in the economic, social and environmental fields in the countries of the subregion.

Presentation

Economic growth in the subregion has decelerated in recent years. Several factors have affected economic performance, such as the impact of escalating trade disputes, the adverse effects on private consumption and investment worldwide, and increased volatility in international financial markets, among others.

In this context, countries in the subregion face major challenges including, in particular, persistently wide fiscal deficits, public debt levels exceeding 40% of GDP, low investment rates and modest productivity growth. Efforts to increase social spending remain subject to prevailing fiscal constraints that limit public expenditure, impeding the expansion of social protection programmes to reduce multidimensional poverty and inequality. The subregion's labour markets do not guarantee decent jobs for all and informal jobs generate inadequate levels of income and social protection for half of the population of Central America. In this context, access to education, health, housing, social protection services, decent employment and other basic needs are more restricted for young people, women, older persons and minorities. Economic, social and environmental challenges are particularly reflected in an increase in migration flows from countries in the subregion to the United States of America, generating tensions in the countries of origin, transit and destination.

Against this backdrop, attaining equality between women and men across all economic sectors remains a central issue in the subregion. Sustained efforts are needed to formulate policies that close gender gaps and help to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and thus work towards attaining SDG 5.

Although intraregional trade has increased in the subregion, there is room for improvement and external challenges remain. Despite progress in the customs union, greater institutional capacity in trade facilitation and trade administration is required. External challenges include the establishment of new trade agreements, the fulfilment of agreed commitments such as trade facilitation measures and cooperation on competition policy, the opening of new markets and the ramping-up of regional value-added production.

In a subregion affected strongly by high oil prices, energy issues have also been given priority in national agendas. In this context, most small and remote rural towns require off-grid solutions supported by renewable energies. Some 55 million people are dependent on firewood for cooking, most of them in Haiti and in rural areas of Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. At the subregional level, the greatest challenges are the provision of universal access to modern energy services, the reduction and alleviation of energy poverty, and a multisectoral approach to territorial development to curb social opposition to some renewable energy technologies (especially hydropower), in pursuit of a transition towards renewable energies, cleaner fuels (biofuels) and greater energy efficiency.

There are also major challenges relating to the agricultural sector and food security, such as the need to increase agricultural production and expand land use while securing an adequate supply of water and other inputs; and to address the increasing reliance on imports for basic foodstuffs, which exposes countries of the subregion to food security risks deriving from increased climate risks in major
producing countries, possible export restrictions and the securitization of global food commodity markets. The subregion is highly vulnerable to extreme events and to the adverse impacts of climate change, with more frequent episodes of intense rainfall and drought in recent years. Nevertheless, there are opportunities, particularly in relation to the protection and promotion of agricultural biodiversity and healthy food consumption (especially to address the double burden of sustained undernutrition and the health consequences of malnutrition reflected in overweight and obesity), integrated landscape and water basin development, sustainable and organic agriculture, protection and economic valuation of environmental services, development of markets for products with low environmental or greenhouse gas footprints, intraregional trade and transnational value chains.

**Strategy**

The ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico City will be responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme, in close coordination with other ECLAC divisions and offices. The focus of the subprogramme is on the countries of Central America, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Mexico. The strategy to be followed will put special emphasis on the following subject areas: 1. Economic development; 2. Social development; 3. International trade, industry and integration; 4. Agriculture, food security and rural development; 5. Energy and natural resources; and 6. Climate change. Therefore, the main contribution of these activities to the 2030 Agenda will focus mainly on SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 7, SDG 8, SDG 10, SDG 13 and SDG 17.

The strategy used will pay special attention to national development agendas and strategic reforms and their economic, social and sectoral impacts; and social compacts for equality to benefit the most vulnerable populations and social inclusion in a context of protecting and guaranteeing socioeconomic rights. There will also be a focus on a long-term subregional energy development strategy; trade facilitation and promotion of the social and sustainability benefits of trade; strengthening of subregional integration and the intersectoral connections required to fully achieve the 2030 Agenda; industrial policies and value chains; macroeconomic modelling for key public sector planning entities; and sustainable and inclusive climate change adaptation with joint benefits associated with the transition towards environmentally sustainable economies with low greenhouse gas emissions.

Under the subprogramme analytical work will be undertaken, the creation, dissemination and application of innovative and sound approaches to address the subregion’s development challenges will be fostered, and national and subregional capacities to formulate more integrated and coherent strategies and policies that promote intersectoral connections and subregional and regional cooperation will be strengthened. Policy recommendations will be developed with key partners for consideration by member States, taking into full consideration their different national contexts. Work will focus on continuing to strengthen the subprogramme’s multisectoral and interdisciplinary processing, analysis and systematization of data for the maintenance and updating of relevant databases and on developing analytical models with quantitative and qualitative tools. The provision of training activities and advisory services will contribute to strengthening the institutional capacity to address economic and social issues, particularly regarding poverty eradication and multidimensional equality (including life cycle, gender, ethnicity and territory aspects), and will also help to increase the technical capacity to design, implement and evaluate public policies and measures, including those focused on fiscal matters, trade and integration, energy, agriculture, food security and climate change.

The main beneficiaries under the subprogramme will be government authorities and officials, civil society entities, academic and private sector institutions, and subregional and regional entities, such as those involved in the Central American Integration System (SICA). The ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico City will step up its close collaboration and cooperation with national stakeholders and regional integration institutions in order to strengthen their capacities through the provision of
advisory services, training and fellowships, and the organization and promotion of forums to facilitate policy dialogue. It will also collaborate actively with the United Nations resident coordinator system and United Nations country teams in the subregion, and will provide inputs for the formulation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF).

Activities

Subject area 11.1: Economic development

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**
   
   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**
   
   A meeting of experts to discuss fiscal policy in the subregion.

2. **Recurrent publications**
   
   A study on recent macroeconomic developments and the prospects for the Central American region.

3. **Non-recurrent publications**
   
   (i) A study on fiscal policy in selected countries of the subregion, paying particular attention to innovative strategies to improve income redistribution.

   (ii) A study on the external sector of selected countries of the subregion, with a particular focus on structural analysis based on input-output tables.

4. **Other substantive activities**
   
   **Technical materials**

   (i) Maintenance and updating of the database on economic statistics and national accounts in the subregion’s countries.

   (ii) Continuation of the process of institutionalization and implementation of the in-house knowledge management strategy, and annual monitoring of results, with a view to updating and enriching the strategy.

   (iii) One issue of the annual report of subregional activities in Central America, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Mexico.

   **Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits**

   Ten notes on recent macroeconomic developments in the subregion’s countries during 2020, and the outlook for 2021, which will serve as inputs to the *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean*, and the *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean*. 
5. **Advisory services**

Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to countries of the subregion and other relevant stakeholders, in areas relating to the strengthening of their capacity to design and implement fiscal and monetary policies.

6. **Intermediate activities**

Consultation, coordination and cooperation with key government institutions, United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and other key partners on issues related to strategies to strengthen productivity, policies to reduce structural gaps between and within countries, and fiscal policy mechanisms to improve income redistribution.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 11.2: Social development**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   A meeting of experts to assess and examine alternatives to improve social programmes in the subregion.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

   A study to examine alternatives of improved social programmes for selected countries of the subregion.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   (i) Maintenance and updating of the database on social indicators of the subregion’s countries, with a particular focus on multidimensional inequality assessment.

   (ii) Maintenance and updating of the online course on social policy creation and evaluation with a human-rights-based approach.

4. **Advisory services**

Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to countries of the subregion and other relevant stakeholders in the areas of policies to strengthen institutional and technical capacities for planning and implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to social development issues, poverty, prevention of violence, urban development, gender equality and social inclusion, with a particular focus on disadvantaged or marginalized groups, among others.
5. **Technical cooperation projects**

Field projects are expected to be implemented in the areas of social policies and social protection programmes.

6. **Intermediate activities**

Consultation, coordination and joint operations with key government institutions, United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, major partners and other stakeholders for planning and implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and relating to social development issues, with a particular emphasis on multidimensional equality and disadvantaged or marginalized groups.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 11.3: International trade, industry and integration**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   A meeting of experts to analyse the challenges and opportunities arising from international and regional trade trends.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

   (i) A study on the relevance of the Central American Common Market for development.

   (ii) A study on the challenges and opportunities arising from international trade trends.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   (i) Development, maintenance and updating of ECLAC databases.

   (ii) Development, maintenance and updating of the database on trade and integration in the countries of the subregion.

4. **Advisory services**

   (i) Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to countries of the subregion and other relevant stakeholders in the areas of international trade, integration processes, and training on ECLAC databases.

   (ii) Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to countries of the subregion and other stakeholders in areas relating to sectoral policy, particularly strategies and programmes to strengthen productive development, and the corresponding instruments of analysis.
5. **Intermediate activities**

Consultation, coordination and joint operation with key government institutions, United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, major partners and other stakeholders on integration or cooperation matters.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 11.4: Agriculture, food security and rural development**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   A meeting of experts to analyse the challenges and opportunities in the agricultural sector.

2. **Recurrent publications**

   A study on trends and challenges in the agricultural sector in selected countries of the subregion, including sustainable and inclusive food systems and responses to climate change.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   Development, maintenance and updating of the database for the agricultural sector and food security in the subregion’s countries, with a particular emphasis on links to climate-related risks.

4. **Advisory services**

   Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to countries of the subregion and other relevant stakeholders in areas relating to agriculture, food security, rural development, related statistics and information systems, and other relevant issues.

5. **Intermediate activities**

Consultation, coordination and joint operations with key government and integration system officials, and other key partners on issues related to agriculture, food security and rural development.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
Subject area 11.5: Energy and natural resources

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   A meeting of experts to follow up on specific energy issues related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly SDG 7 and its nexus with other SDGs.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

   A study on specific topics related to SDG 7 and its nexus with other SDGs.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   (i) Development, maintenance and updating of the database on the hydrocarbon sector in the subregion’s countries.

   (ii) Development, maintenance and updating of the database on the electricity sector in the subregion’s countries.

4. **Advisory services**

   (i) Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to countries of the subregion and other relevant stakeholders in areas relating to economic, environmental and social sustainability in the energy sector.

   (ii) Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to regional cooperation institutions or mechanisms, including the energy forums of SICA, the Mesoamerica Integration and Development Project, the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) initiative and OLADE.

5. **Intermediate activities**

   Consultation, coordination and joint operations with key government institutions, United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, major partners and other stakeholders on issues related to the energy sector and energy efficiency.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 11.6: Climate change

1. **Non-recurrent publications**

   A study to identify lessons learned and opportunities for integral management of climate-related risks in the context of public policy responses to climate change in selected countries of the subregion.
2. Other substantive activities

   Technical materials

   Development, maintenance and updating of the database on climate change in the subregion.

3. Advisory services

   Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to countries of the subregion and other relevant stakeholders on areas related to climate change responses, focused on inclusive and sustainable adaptation and mainstreaming the transition to low carbon economies.

4. Intermediate activities

   Consultation, coordination and joint operations with key government and integration system officials, and other key partners on issues related to climate change.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 12: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

Objective

The main objective of the subprogramme is to strengthen the sustainable development process in the Caribbean in the economic, social and environmental dimensions and to enhance the subregion’s cooperation with Latin America.

Presentation

The countries of the Caribbean will face formidable challenges to achieve the SDGs that underpin the 2030 Agenda as a result of poor economic growth, high unemployment (particularly among women and youth), and considerable public debt.

This debt burden and the attendant focus on fiscal consolidation have limited governments’ capacity to sustain a full range of social services, raising concerns about how to address the growing needs of the poor and vulnerable and the rise in non-communicable and other lifestyle diseases.

The subregion’s challenges have been further exacerbated by climate change and sea level rise and by growing exposure to extreme weather events, particularly Atlantic superstorms, which continue to increase in both frequency and intensity, exerting a devastating impact on physical infrastructure and social well-being, and delaying medium-term prospects for positive growth and development. These challenges require long-term, concessional development finance to help reduce economic and environmental risks and build the region’s resilience. Against this backdrop, the strategy of debt swaps for climate change adaptation has been promoted as a means of converting the subregion’s debt into a source of investment in resilience, while at the same time re-energizing growth and promoting economic transformation.

To address the SDGs, Caribbean States must rekindle private and public investment, encourage innovation—especially among youth—and expand employment. They will also need to strengthen their fiscal management, so that the benefits of debt reduction can be preserved. Public expenditure reviews, revenue planning and forecasting are mechanisms that can help to integrate government priorities with efficient public spending. Integral to this is the institutionalization of long-term sustainable development planning that is evidence-based and participatory in nature.

More targeted and consistent investment in human capital is required to build domestic technical capacity and promote innovation. Opportunities for expanded trade and investment with Latin America should be explored. Attention will also be given to addressing the growing demand for social protection services for ageing Caribbean populations. Strategies to benefit positively from migration by harnessing the skills and resources of the Caribbean diaspora will be explored. The creative industries should be further exploited, and greater attention paid to promoting gender equality and women’s empowerment, and the right to decent work.

The effective use of ICTs in the design of public policies and the provision of public services, especially for persons with disabilities, requires greater efforts to minimize the digital and broadband divide.

Data for evidence-based decision-making, focused on economic, social and environmental issues, remains a priority. New forms of generating disaggregated data—including the use of big data—and the strategic use of census data are integral to achieving the SDGs. Policymakers acknowledge the need to strengthen infrastructure and expand capacity for data collection and analysis on increasingly important issues, such as migration rates and remittance flows, the informal economy, persons living with disabilities and gender-based violence. Particular attention should be paid to the production and use of gender-disaggregated data.
Subregional and national actions will continue to be framed by the significant global platforms that advance the sustainable development agenda of small island developing States (SIDS). These will be pursued in synergy with the SDGs, with a view to ensuring that activities under the subprogramme continue to support Caribbean policymakers in promoting sustainable growth and development for the countries of the subregion. Support will also be given to the sustainable development aspirations of the non-self-governing and other territories in the Caribbean that are associate members of the Commission.

Strategy

The ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean will be responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme, which will focus on the following subject areas: 1. Caribbean development and cooperation; 2. Economic development and integration; 3. ICTs for development; 4. Social development; 5. Statistics; and 6. Climate change, SIDS and disaster risk management. Therefore, the main contributions to the 2030 Agenda under this subprogramme will be related to SDG 3, SDG 5, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 13 and SDG 14.

The subregional headquarters will undertake research and analysis of the emerging issues and challenges facing the Caribbean. It will provide technical assistance and advisory services to member States, upon request, and conduct training activities, seminars and workshops for knowledge-sharing and the exchange of best practices and lessons learned. It will work closely with Caribbean development partners—including the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) family of institutions, other subregional intergovernmental organizations and international donor institutions—and in coordination with the resident coordinator system to inform policymaking in Caribbean countries, including through the provision of advisory and technical cooperation services.

The strategy is built on five pillars. First, activities will be implemented within the context of coordination and collaboration with other divisions of ECLAC and the wider United Nations system. Second, as the secretariat for the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean will ensure that the work remains relevant to the subregion’s needs. Third, the activities will facilitate the Caribbean’s engagement in the follow-up to global conferences, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Fourth, the multidisciplinary response to the development needs of the countries will include: (i) promoting sound fiscal management and market diversification; (ii) promoting wider application of ICTs for development; (iii) refining the monitoring mechanism for measuring progress in the implementation of the SDGs; (iv) enhancing the role of social development, including issues on gender; (v) promoting the integration of disaster risk reduction measures into national planning; and (vi) strengthening the statistical capacity of Caribbean countries to support more effective evidence-based policymaking. Fifth, as a think tank, the subregional headquarters will continue to articulate strategies for development. The visibility of its work will be enhanced through a vibrant outreach programme, including more active engagement with Caribbean countries.

The main beneficiaries under the subprogramme will be government authorities and officials from the region’s countries, civil society entities, academic and private sector institutions, and subregional entities.

Activities

Subject area 12.1: Caribbean development and cooperation

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

   Intergovernmental meetings

   A meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC).
2. **Other substantive activities**

   Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits

   (i) Four issues of the FOCUS magazine.

   (ii) Twelve issues of The Hummingbird newsletter covering matters such as ICTs for development and economic, environmental, social and statistical development.

3. **Intermediate activities**

   Contribution to substantive servicing of selected activities of the Decolonization Unit of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs on issues related to Non-Self-Governing Territories.

**Subject area 12.2: Economic development and integration**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   Ad hoc expert group meetings

   (i) A meeting on refocusing the education sector to expand the skillset needed to advance sustainable development in the Caribbean.

   (ii) A meeting to assess the state of financing the implementation of the SDGs in highly indebted middle-income countries in the Caribbean.

2. **Recurrent publications**


   (ii) *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of the Caribbean, 2021.*

3. **Non-recurrent publications**

   (i) A study on refocusing the education sector to expand the skillset needed to advance sustainable development in the Caribbean.

   (ii) A review of the state of financing the implementation of the SDGs in highly indebted middle-income countries in the Caribbean.

4. **Other substantive activities**

   Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kit

   A policy brief on economic and trade issues in the Caribbean.
5. **Advisory services**
   Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation and advisory services to countries on macroeconomic policies and regional integration.

6. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**
   Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies to develop or support training activities in areas relating to trade indicators and trade policy for analysing trade patterns and trade dynamics in the Caribbean.

7. **Intermediate activities**
   Contributions to the *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean, Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy* and the *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean*.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 12.3: ICTs for development**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**
   - *Ad hoc expert group meetings*
     A meeting on a selected area of ICTs for development in the Caribbean.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**
   A study on a selected area of ICTs for development in the Caribbean.

3. **Other substantive activities**
   - *Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kit*
     A policy brief on a selected area of ICTs for development in the Caribbean.
   - *Technical materials*
     Update and maintenance of the Caribbean Knowledge Repository.

4. **Advisory services**
   Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation and advisory services to countries on ICTs for development.

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**
   Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies to develop or support training activities in areas relating to selected ICTs for development issues in the Caribbean.
6. **Intermediate activities**

   Provision of inputs for ECLAC databases on ICT indicators, including integrated follow-up to the Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC).

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services and training activities, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 12.4: Social development**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   (i) A meeting to examine selected gender and development issues in the Caribbean.  

   (ii) A meeting to examine selected population and development issues in the Caribbean.  

   (iii) A meeting to assess the status of institutional infrastructures in Caribbean countries and their impact on integrated decision-making.

2. **Recurrent publications**

   A study to examine selected gender and development issues in the Caribbean.

3. **Non-recurrent publications**

   (i) A study to examine selected population and development issues in the Caribbean.

   (ii) A review of the status of institutional infrastructures in Caribbean countries and their impact on integrated decision-making.

4. **Advisory services**

   Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation and advisory services to countries on gender equality, social and population development in the subregion.

5. **Intermediate activities**

   (i) Inputs for the *Social Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean*.  

   (ii) Contribution to substantive servicing of selected activities of the Division for Gender Affairs.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services and training activities, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
Subject area 12.5: Statistics

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

   Ad hoc expert group meetings

   A meeting on a selected area of statistics for sustainable development in the Caribbean.

2. Non-recurrent publications

   A study on a selected area of statistics for sustainable development in the Caribbean.

3. Other substantive activities

   Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kit

   A policy brief on a selected area of statistics in the Caribbean.

   Technical materials

   Updating and maintenance of databases on selected statistical indicators.

4. Advisory services

   Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation and advisory services to countries in the area of statistics and statistical development in the subregion.

5. Training courses, seminars and workshops

   Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and/or regional bodies to develop training activities on the use of REDATAM for the online dissemination of census and household survey data in the Caribbean.

   Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and/or regional bodies for the development of training activities on voluntary national reviews for the 2030 Agenda in the Caribbean.

6. Intermediate activities

   Preparation of inputs for the publications: Social Panorama of Latin America, Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the annual report of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services and training activities, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
Subject area 12.6: Climate change, SIDS and disaster risk management

1. Substantive servicing of meetings
   
   Ad hoc expert group meetings
   
   (i) A meeting on selected SDGs and their implementation in the Caribbean.
   
   (ii) A meeting to examine the implementation of climate adaptation and mitigation strategies in the Caribbean.

2. Non-recurrent publications
   
   (i) A study on selected SDGs and their implementation in the Caribbean.
   
   (ii) A study on the implementation of climate adaptation and mitigation strategies in the Caribbean.

3. Other substantive activities
   
   Technical materials
   
   Updating and maintenance of the database on the economic, social and environmental costs of extreme natural disasters in the subregion’s countries.
   
   Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits
   
   A policy brief on a selected area of environmental development or disaster risk management in the Caribbean.

4. Advisory services
   
   Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation and advisory services to countries in the area of environmental development, disaster-preparedness and disaster risk reduction.

5. Training courses, seminars and workshops
   
   Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and/or regional bodies for the development of training activities on an environmental development issue relevant to the Caribbean.
   
   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services and training activities, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 13: SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL INTEGRATION
AND COOPERATION PROCESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Objective

The main objective of the subprogramme is to enhance regional and subregional integration processes, in order to foster their convergence and the participation of the region, through common positions in interregional and global political dialogue, in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Presentation

The more complex social, political and economic context in the region has put multilateralism at risk. Megaregional trade agreements, mounting global trade tensions, demographic change, migration, environmental crisis and technological revolution are driving a global transformation of economies and societies. Stronger multilateralism is needed to achieve the SDGs by 2030.

Historically, the region of Latin America and the Caribbean has projected an image of a collective identity and has striven to maintain a cohesive regional voice in response to global challenges. However, in recent years, owing to the political context, some regional and subregional integration mechanisms have shown differentiated trends and levels of activity. Several intergovernmental integration schemes and organizations in the region, such as CARICOM, SICA, the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System (SELA), the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), MERCOSUR, the Pacific Alliance and CELAC, have continued to speak with one voice on behalf of Latin America and the Caribbean in discussions focused on major issues on the international agenda. Their aim is to strengthen South-South cooperation and forge a regional joint position in multilateral forums and global conferences in connection with important events, including the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, and to strengthen the region in dialogues with other countries and regions of the world.

In this context, the activities of the subprogramme will continue to support subregional and regional organizations, by promoting coordination, cooperation, complementarity and synergies, and contributing to convergence processes when the Commission’s participation is required. They will also continue to make technical and substantive contributions to facilitate debate and the establishment of intraregional agreements, and to strengthen the interests and the positioning of Latin America and the Caribbean in intraregional and global political dialogue. The efforts undertaken under the subprogramme will strengthen the regional capacity to implement the 2030 Agenda and attain the SDGs.

Strategy

Responsibility for the implementation of the subprogramme rests with the Office of the Secretary of the Commission, which reports to the Office of the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, in close coordination with the Commission’s substantive divisions, subregional headquarters and country offices. The subprogramme activities will focus on the following subject areas: 1. Support for the promotion of regional and subregional integration and cooperation processes and organizations; and 2. Political dialogue between regional and subregional organizations and extraregional stakeholders and third parties. Work under the subprogramme will mainstream the gender perspective, in accordance with the priorities of ECLAC and the United Nations.

The strategy will focus on the Commission’s convening function as an intergovernmental platform for policy advice and dialogue providing technical and logistical support to Latin American and Caribbean integration and cooperation organizations, mechanisms and coordination schemes, in support of their own agendas, convergence efforts and initiatives, and external interactions with third parties,
in order to strengthen regional and subregional groups and schemes. This will help the organizations to build consensus with regard to new challenges in regional integration and cooperation, to pursue social, economic and sustainable development and to engage in political dialogue with third parties. Assistance will also be provided in the follow-up of agreements and their respective implementation mechanisms. The subprogramme is intended to strengthen regional and subregional approaches to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to ensure the visibility of work and major achievements through a dynamic outreach programme, including active engagement with the member States, wide dissemination of publications and findings at international events and relevant conferences, and participation in key forums involving relevant policymakers, academics and other stakeholders from both within and outside the region.

ECLAC resolution 700(XXXVI), which established the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, invites other relevant intergovernmental regional mechanisms to provide inputs and contributions and inform the Forum, within their existing mandates, on their work related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The Forum has become a regional platform for coordination of multiple stakeholders, such as governments—at the national, state and local levels—, members of parliament, United Nations system entities, the private sector, academia and civil society, to implement the 2030 Agenda. The subprogramme activities will benefit from the opportunities for convergence and participation provided by the Forum to enhance regional and subregional integration processes. Through peer learning, the sharing of best practices and discussion of concrete targets, the region will find a cohesive policy voice, thus strengthening global political dialogue.

The Office of the Secretary of the Commission will continue to provide support to subregional and regional organizations, promoting coordination, cooperation, complementarity and synergy and contributing to convergence processes when the Commission’s participation is required. It will make technical and substantive contributions to facilitate debate and the establishment of intraregional agreements, and to strengthen the interests and positioning of the region for participation in interregional and global political dialogue.

The main beneficiaries of the subprogramme activities will be governments, national officials involved with the economic, social and political aspects of all the integration processes, national officials responsible for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and other stakeholders from the business and civil society sectors.

The Office of the Secretary of the Commission will seek to establish links with cooperation platforms within and outside the region and promote South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives for the achievement of the SDGs, working in coordination with United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies in the region, and with the resident coordinator system. It will continue to work closely with CELAC, the Andean Community, the Pacific Alliance, CARICOM, LAIA, MERCOSUR, SELA and SICA, among others. Collaboration with other bilateral and multilateral cooperation partners will also be enhanced.

Activities

Subject area 13.1: Support for the promotion of regional and subregional integration and cooperation processes and organizations

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

   Ad hoc expert group meetings

   (i) A meeting of national experts in economic, social and political spheres in Latin America and the Caribbean to consider regional and subregional trends and the performance of regional and subregional integration and cooperation organizations.
(ii) A meeting between integration organizations and experts (including the private sector and civil society) to discuss and share experiences in regional economic and social policies, in accordance with the priorities set in the programmes of those organizations.

(iii) A meeting of national representatives and experts, with relevant stakeholders to assess progress in the subregional and regional integration processes.

2. Non-recurrent publications

(i) A study on priority themes for the integration strategies of regional and subregional organizations.

(ii) A study on best practices of regional and subregional integration mechanisms for the regional implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

3. Other substantive activities

Technical materials

Preparation of one annual substantive contribution for intergovernmental meetings on integration and cooperation at the request of governments and organizations.

4. Advisory services

Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to regional and subregional processes and organizations in areas relevant to the Commission’s mandate, including the 2030 Agenda.

5. Training courses, seminars and workshops

Cooperation with government entities, as well as with regional and subregional organizations, to prepare training activities relating to strategies and processes for convergence and integration.

6. Intermediate activities

(i) Preparation of substantive contributions to the Annual report on regional progress and challenges in relation to the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

(ii) Coordination of activities with integration and cooperation organizations to support their programmes and initiatives, as well as their convergence schemes.

(iii) Coordination with the region’s governments, relevant officials and other non-governmental stakeholders to strengthen the political action of the subregional and regional integration processes and organizations.

(iv) Coordination with other United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies and other international organizations to provide technical cooperation services to interested parties to support the promotion of regional and subregional integration and cooperation processes and organizations.
(v) Coordination of activities with integration and cooperation organizations to support their inputs to the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 13.2: Political dialogue between regional and subregional organizations and extraregional stakeholders and third parties

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   A meeting on ensuring progress in biregional dialogue with partners from outside the region, involving regional stakeholders from the business sector and/or civil society.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

   Two studies on the relationship between Latin America and the Caribbean and regions or countries to be treated as priorities for subregional or regional integration processes or organizations.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   Preparation, upon request, of substantive contributions for regional or subregional meetings with extraregional stakeholders and third parties, in collaboration with other agencies.

4. **Advisory services**

   Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to regional and subregional organizations in their relationships with extraregional stakeholders and third parties in areas relating to the Commission’s mandate.

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

   Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and/or regional bodies for the development of training activities on strategies relating to extraregional stakeholders and third parties.

6. **Intermediate activities**

   (i) Coordination of activities with integration and cooperation organizations to support their relationship with extraregional stakeholders and third parties.

   (ii) Coordination with governments in the region, relevant national officials and other relevant NGOs to strengthen interactions between Latin America and the Caribbean and specific countries, other regions and third parties.
(iii) Coordination with United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and with other international organizations, to provide technical cooperation services to parties interested in strengthening the dialogue with extraregional stakeholders or other interested parties.

(iv) Coordination of activities with global and regional integration and cooperation organizations with the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
Annex 1
Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 1

General Assembly resolutions

63/199 International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization
66/210 Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
66/260 Improving global road safety
67/222 Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation
69/213 Role of transport and transit corridors in ensuring international cooperation for sustainable development
70/217 Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries
73/219 International trade and development
73/240 Towards a New International Economic Order

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

552(XXVI) Strengthening sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean
608(XXX) Promotion of coordination in studies and activities concerning South America
711(XXXVI) Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024.

Subprogramme 2

General Assembly resolutions and decisions

66/217 Human resources development
67/564 Board of the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns
70/213 Science, technology and innovation for development
73/179 The right to privacy in the digital age
73/218 Information and communication technologies for sustainable development
73/225 Entrepreneurship for sustainable development
73/247 Industrial development cooperation
Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

2008/18 Promoting full employment and decent work for all
2011/37 Recovering from the world financial and economic crisis: a Global Jobs Pact
2017/22 Science, technology and innovation for development
2018/28 Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

653(XXXIII) Follow-up to the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean
672(XXXIV) Establishment of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
724(XXXVII) Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
729(XXXVII) Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean

Subprogramme 3

General Assembly resolutions

63/199 International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization
63/229 Role of microcredit and microfinance in the eradication of poverty
64/193 Follow-up to and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the outcome of the 2008 Review Conference (Doha Declaration on Financing for Development)
65/146 Innovative mechanisms of financing for development
67/12 Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System
67/218 Promoting transparency, participation and accountability in fiscal policies
70/126 Promoting social integration through social inclusion
72/206 Financial inclusion for sustainable development
72/230 Development cooperation with middle-income countries
73/220 International financial system and development
73/221 External debt sustainability and development
73/222 Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development
73/233 Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development
73/247 Industrial development cooperation
Economic and Social Council resolutions

2008/16 Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters
2008/18 Promoting full employment and decent work for all
2009/5 Recovering from the crisis: a Global Jobs Pact
2009/30 A strengthened and more effective intergovernmental inclusive process to carry out the financing for development follow-up
2011/39 Follow-up to the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development: consideration of the possible establishment of an ad hoc panel of experts
2019/6 Addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

655(XXXIII) Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee
713(XXXVI) Regional follow-up to the outcomes of conferences on financing for development

Subprogramme 4

General Assembly resolutions

66/143 Inadmissibility of certain practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
66/164 Promotion of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms
66/165 Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons
66/168 Elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief
66/172 Protection of migrants
66/217 Human resources development
70/126 Promoting social integration through social inclusion
70/127 Policies and programmes involving youth
70/131 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
70/132 Improvement of the situation of women and girls in rural areas
70/138 The girl child
70/140 A global call for concrete action for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action
70/153 Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights
70/163 National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights
70/166 Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities
70/223 Agriculture development, food security and nutrition
71/165  Inclusive development for persons with disabilities
71/177  Rights of the child
71/178  Rights of indigenous peoples
71/180  International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
71/191  The right to food
71/197  Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights
72/142  Promoting social integration through social inclusion
72/235  Human resources development
73/141  Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
73/142  Inclusive development for and with persons with disabilities
73/163  Human rights and extreme poverty
73/246  Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2009/5  Recovering from the crisis: a Global Jobs Pact
2012/11  Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda
2014/32  Establishment of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
2015/4  Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and strengthening the mainstreaming of disability in the post-2015 development agenda
2016/8  Rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world
2017/12  Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and strengthening the mainstreaming of disability in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
2018/5  Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

722(XXXVII)  Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

Subprogramme 5

General Assembly resolutions

66/165  Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons
66/166  Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities
66/173  Follow-up to the International Year of Human Rights Learning
Towards a comprehensive and integral international legal instrument to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons

Promoting efforts to eliminate violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families

Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons

Promotion of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organis of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms: protecting women human rights defenders

Taking action against gender-related killing of women and girls

Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons

Human resources development

Global health and foreign policy

Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls

Promotion of peace as a vital requirement for the full enjoyment of all human rights by all

Human rights and extreme poverty

Migrant children and adolescents

World Survey on the Role of Women in Development

Policies and programmes involving youth

Violence against women migrant workers

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Improvement of the situation of women and girls in rural areas

Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

The girl child

Protection of migrants

Taking action against gender-related killing of women and girls

Intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: domestic violence

Political declaration on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons

Trafficking in women and girls

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Child, early and forced marriage

Protecting children from bullying

Rights of the child

The right to food

Twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women
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