

# REPORT

on the activities  
of the Commission

## 2023



UNITED NATIONS

ECLAC



Fortieth session  
of ECLAC

Lima, 9–11 October

2024

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## Foreword

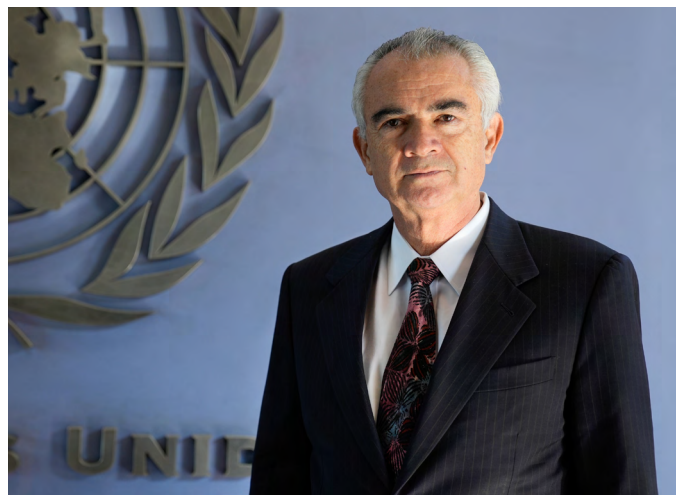
In 2023, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary. Since its establishment in 1948, ECLAC has been a leader in generating applied knowledge and research from the perspective of the region. The Commission's commitment has remained strong throughout these past decades, contributing to the design and implementation of public policies taking into consideration the needs and demands of member States.

This report on the activities undertaken by ECLAC in 2023 highlights the Commission's key achievements and contributions and is hereby submitted for the consideration of member States in accordance with the accountability and transparency framework promoted by the United Nations.

Throughout the year, ECLAC continued to support governments, decision makers, the business community and civil society with analysis and proposals to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in accordance with the principle of leaving no one behind. ECLAC documents and policy proposals helped to stimulate discussion on key regional development issues to move towards more productive, inclusive and sustainable development in Latin American and Caribbean.

The Commission continued to serve as technical secretariat for its subsidiary bodies and intergovernmental conferences, including the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, and to provide integrated and comprehensive follow-up to world summits from a regional perspective. ECLAC reiterated its commitment to supporting the agenda for small island developing States, backed by its "Caribbean first" strategy, and continued to give a voice to the two landlocked developing countries and to the only least developed country in the region.

The member States have my sincere gratitude for their continuous support and trust in the work of ECLAC.



**José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs**

Executive Secretary  
Economic Commission for Latin America  
and the Caribbean (ECLAC)





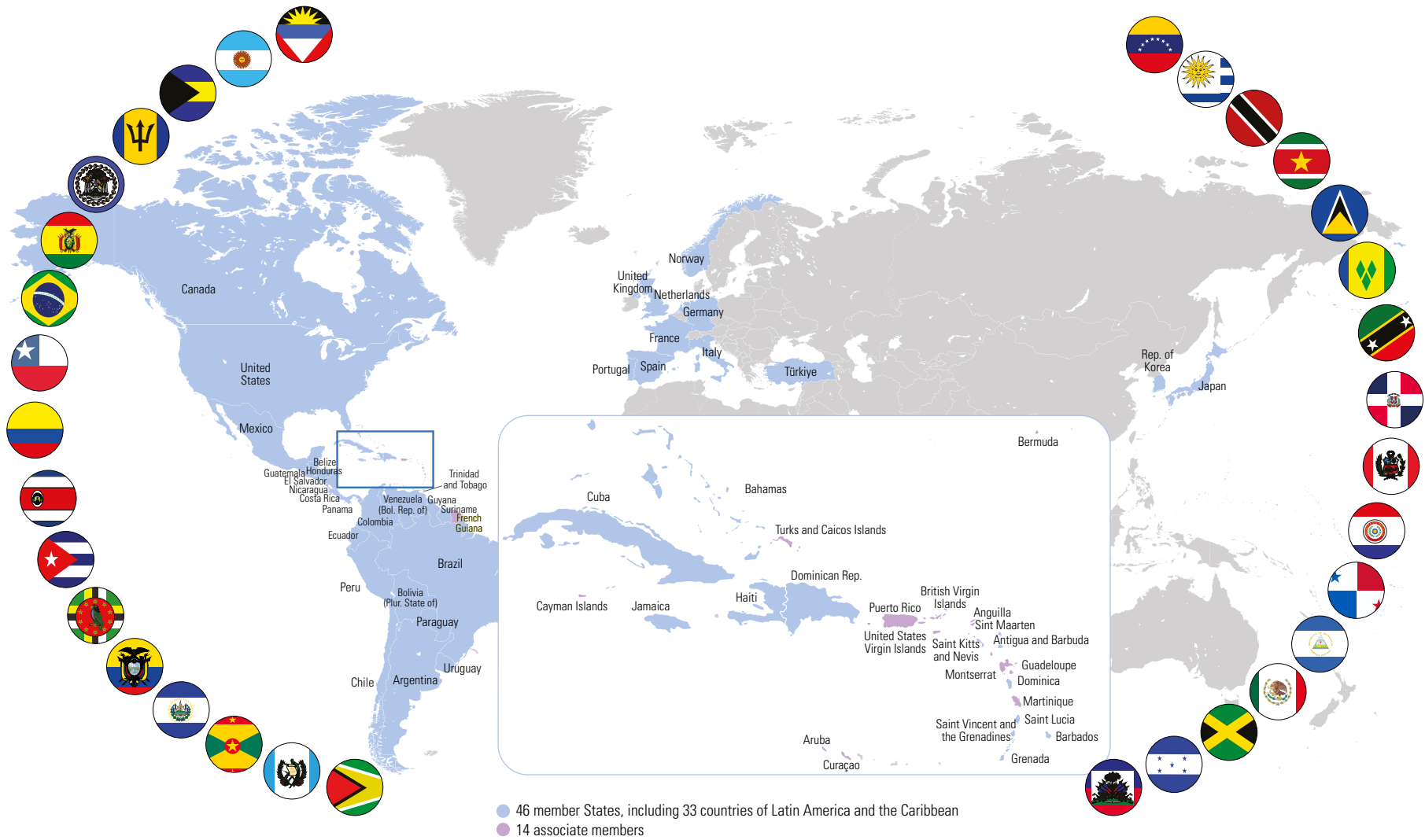
## About ECLAC

ECLAC is one of the five regional commissions of the United Nations. Established in February 1948 and headquartered in Santiago, the Commission's main mandate is to contribute to the sustainable development of Latin America and the Caribbean. In June 1951, the Commission established the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico City, which serves the needs of the Central American countries, as well as Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Mexico, and in December 1966, the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean was founded in Port of Spain, to serve the Caribbean subregion. In addition, ECLAC has country offices in Argentina, Bogotá, Brasilia, and Montevideo, and a liaison office in Washington, D.C. The Commission's 46 member States comprise the 33 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean plus 13 Asian, European and North American countries that have historical, economic and cultural ties with the region. Fourteen non-independent territories of the Caribbean are associate members of the Commission.

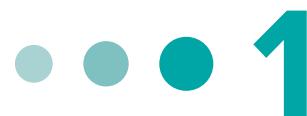
### Mission statement

*“To function as a centre of excellence charged with collaborating with member States in a 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 specialised information, technical cooperation services, (advisory services) training and support for regional and international cooperation and coordination”.*

Resolution 553(XXVI) of the twenty-sixth session of the Commission, San José, 1996



**Note:** The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



## Main highlights in 2023

### Seventy-fifth anniversary of ECLAC

In 2023, ECLAC celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary, holding a series of activities throughout the year. It was an occasion not only to commemorate the significant contributions of the past but also to reflect on the challenges facing the Commission and the region today, in the pursuit of more productive, inclusive and sustainable development. ECLAC launched a dedicated [website](#) featuring the history of the organization from the 1950s to the present, as well as important publications presenting its analysis and policy proposals to foster the development of the region. In addition, it organized a series of keynote addresses with distinguished speakers, such as José Antonio Ocampo, Ricardo Hausmann, Arancha González, Santiago Levy, Adela Cortina, Winston Dookeran, Aloizio Mercadante, Daniel Innerarity and Lant Pritchett. Topics included the future of democracy in a digital society, education policies for transformative growth, and how to build a more inclusive international trade system. ECLAC also held the seventeenth Raúl Prebisch Lecture, in October 2023, which was delivered by Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

### Sixth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development

The [sixth meeting of the Forum](#) was held in Santiago from 25 to 28 April 2023. Over 650 people attended the event, comprising nearly 170 government representatives, more than 300 participants from civil society, academia and the private sector, and around 150 representatives of the United Nations system, including Resident Coordinators. At the meeting, ECLAC presented the document [Halfway to 2030 in Latin America and the Caribbean: progress and recommendations for acceleration](#), which proposed seven transformative initiatives with the capacity to produce synergistic and multiplier effects to accelerate the achievement of several SDGs at once. In the Forum's outcome document, ministers and high-level representatives agreed on the urgency of promoting bold and transformative actions to course-correct efforts to achieve the SDGs. In the framework of the Forum, on 24 April, representatives of ECLAC, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO),

the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), along with the Resident Coordinator in Chile, participated in the fifth forum of children, adolescents and youth of Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Santiago. During the meeting, working groups convened to discuss Goals 6, 7, 9, 11 and 17, which were prioritized for the 2023 high-level political forum on sustainable development.

## Second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement)

ECLAC convened the [second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Escazú Agreement](#), held in Buenos Aires in April 2023. Belize, Chile and Grenada were welcomed as new States Parties. Members of the Committee to Support Implementation and Compliance were elected, and the Parties adopted the Buenos Aires Declaration, which highlights the rights to access to information, public participation and justice in environmental matters and their role in the promotion of human rights and sustainable development. In June 2024, the Agreement had been signed by 24 countries and ratified by 16.



## Third edition of the Regional Water Dialogues

In preparation for the 2023 United Nations Water Conference, ECLAC convened the [Regional Water Dialogues](#) in February 2023 with the aim of communicating and strengthening existing commitments to accelerate progress on Goal 6, as well as to exchange experiences and lessons learned. More than 20 countries from the region participated in the meeting. The **main outcome was the adoption of the Regional Water Action Agenda 2023 for Latin America and the Caribbean**, which emphasizes the need for a sustainable and inclusive water transition based on four action pillars: (i) guaranteeing the human right to safely managed drinking water and sanitation through a big investment push in the sector, leaving no one behind; (ii) promoting regulatory changes to facilitate equitable and affordable access and thereby eradicate water poverty, using social rates and other innovative instruments; (iii) reversing the growing negative externalities associated with pollution, overexploitation and socioenvironmental conflicts by promoting oversight and regulation; and (iv) moving from linear to circular management to reduce pressure on water resources, establishing a trend to decouple extraction from gross domestic product.

## Regional Platform for Tax Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean

Changes in international tax cooperation may affect domestic resource mobilization, and new tax regulations developed in international forums do not necessarily address the concerns of the countries of the region. Colombia, with the support of Brazil and Chile, created the [Regional Platform for Tax Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean](#) to find common ground and build regional positions on the matter, as well as to coordinate efforts and exchange country experiences. The Platform was initially presented at the thirty-fifth Regional Seminar on Fiscal Policy prior to its official launch in July 2023. ECLAC, in its capacity as technical secretariat, has provided assistance to set up and coordinate the working groups of the Platform, which aims to draw attention to the region's concerns on international tax regulation and foster cooperation to enable the mobilization of domestic financing for development.

## Support for sustainable exploitation in the “lithium triangle”

ECLAC is supporting sustainable lithium exploitation and helping to enhance added value, and has supported the Permanent Technical Dialogue Forum on Lithium Innovation, Technological Development and Value Addition in the countries of the “lithium triangle” in the implementation of the Forum's biennial action plan. In 2023, ECLAC developed an online course, attended by technical representatives from the four member countries of the Forum, and organized three face-to-face workshops and technical visits to lithium-related field operations in Argentina, Chile and the Plurinational State of Bolivia, which offered an opportunity to exchange experiences and technical knowledge.



Authorities and specialists from the lithium triangle countries and Mexico on a technical visit to Salar de Uyuni, Plurinational State of Bolivia.



# 2 ● ● ●

## Visits to ECLAC



### Santiago Peña, President of the Republic of Paraguay

As part of his official visit to Chile, the President gave a keynote address at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago on 7 November, in which he called upon the countries of the region to engage in dialogue based on mutual respect, prioritizing above all the interests that unite them, with a view to making Latin America and the Caribbean a beacon of peace in a troubled world, devastated by large-scale conflicts that have affected all the countries of the region.

### António Guterres, Secretary-General

The Secretary-General visited ECLAC headquarters for the first time on 21 November, where he met with all the Organization's staff and the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations present in the country.

## Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General

The Deputy Secretary-General visited ECLAC during the sixth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, held in April 2023.

In the opening session, she urgently called for the promotion of cooperation and the acceleration of efforts to achieve the SDGs, stressing the importance of investing in sustainable development.



## Tarja Halonen, former President of Finland

In September 2023, the former President of Finland visited ECLAC to deliver a keynote address on the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda.

# Contribution of ECLAC to the Sustainable Development Goals



Launched the Observatory of Social Development of the Pacific Alliance to reduce gaps in data on poverty reduction, inequalities and education access

**Subprogramme 4**



Supported regional agrifood trade to allow Latin America and the Caribbean to consolidate its position as a stable supplier of agrifood products for the region and the world

**Subprogramme 1**



Made progress in the design of productive development policies for pharmaceutical and medical device industries in Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Uruguay

**Subprogramme 2**

Promoted spaces for dialogue on Afrodescendent populations and health

**Subprogramme 6**



Supported the design and implementation of the plan in Honduras to strengthen educational trajectories and prepare young people for the school-to-work transition

**Subprogramme 4**



Enhanced economic autonomy of women in Argentina by contributing to the Parenting Index policy and the regulation on consumer over-indebtedness

**ECLAC Office in Argentina**

Helped with the design and implementation of a trade policy with a gender perspective in Uruguay

**Subprogramme 5**



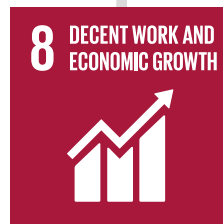
Enhanced municipalities' technical capacities in implementing circular solutions at wastewater treatment plants in Mexico

**Subprogramme 8**



Strengthened energy integration in the Central American Integration System

**Subprogramme 11**



Assisted Costa Rica in updating the National Labour Demand Survey to inform labour market policymaking

**Subprogramme 3**

Built a database on employment in Uruguay, providing analysis and policy suggestions focused on trends in employment and wages

**ECLAC Office in Montevideo**



**9** INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Helped with the organization of the tenth International Industry Innovation Congress in Brazil, with an emphasis on eco-innovation  
**ECLAC Office in Brasilia**

**10** REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Supported Panama in the design and implementation of the National Regional Development Strategy, which outlines key guidelines for reducing structural inequalities at the territorial level  
**Subprogramme 9**

**11** SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Advanced the implementation of the National Urban Development Policy in Costa Rica  
**Subprogramme 7**

**12** RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Coordinated support for the implementation of the Reindustrialization Policy of Colombia, launched in February 2023  
**ECLAC Office in Bogotá**  
Organized a conference to analyse the contribution of regional trade in services to sustainable development and e-commerce as a "driver" of regional integration  
**ECLAC Office in Washington, D.C.**

**13** CLIMATE ACTION

Trained 40 technical experts in Panama to develop a coherent and consolidated set of environmental indicators  
**Subprogramme 10**

Encouraged the integration of climate considerations in public projects in the Dominican Republic  
**Subprogramme 7**

**14** LIFE BELOW WATER

Organized the Regional Water Dialogues, which included an assessment of the impact of climate change on artisanal fishing  
**Subprogramme 8**

**15** LIFE ON LAND

Held a conference on financing communities for the conservation and restoration of biodiversity to promote synergies among megadiverse countries in the region  
**Subprogramme 7**

**16** PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Improved institutional accountability in the Dominican Republic and Mexico by strengthening monitoring and evaluation systems  
**Subprogramme 9**

**17** PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Worked with Saint Kitts and Nevis in the preparation of its first voluntary national review and the presentation of its report  
**Subprogramme 12**

Facilitated multilateral discussions at the first session of the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean  
**Subprogramme 13**



# 4 ● ● ●

## Collaboration with the regional United Nations development system

The reform of the United Nations development system has paved the way for an understanding and recognition of its unique set of capacities and added value at the regional level, resulting in increased engagement and collaboration among entities and leading to joint action to leverage capacities across multiple areas, in particular regarding cross-border and subregional challenges.

Through its intergovernmental subsidiary bodies, ECLAC works closely with regional agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations. Examples include the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, which is organized jointly with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women); the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, organized jointly with UNDP; the Forum of Ministers and High-level Authorities on Housing and Urbanism in Latin America and the Caribbean, organized jointly with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat); and the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, organized jointly with UNFPA.

ECLAC has continued to actively support resident coordinators and United Nations country teams through the provision of analytical support to bring the regional, subregional and cross-border issues into the common country assessments and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks.

The Commission continued to serve as Vice-Chair of the Regional Collaborative Platform in Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2023, the Regional Collaborative Platform sharpened its thematic focus and simplified its operating procedures by launching its version 2.0, enabling issue-based coalitions and working groups to provide coordinated and integrated support to Resident Coordinators and country teams in regional, subregional and cross-border contexts. In response, the Platform's issue-based coalitions provided support in the areas of climate change and resilience, equitable growth and financing for development, governance for peace, justice and strong institutions, and human mobility.

In 2023, the Regional Collaborative Platform received 52 requests for support from 14 resident coordinators and country teams<sup>1</sup> across the region, including some requests aligned with key transitions: 15 were related to climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, 6 to jobs and social protection, and 3 to digital connectivity. As part of the regional peer support group, ECLAC supported cooperation framework planning in Colombia, Cuba and Paraguay, quality assurance regarding road maps and the design of a results matrix in Colombia, and forward-looking approaches to the common country analysis in Paraguay.

<sup>1</sup> Argentina, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Panama and Peru.

## 2023 key achievements: highlights in the implementation of the regional review



### Knowledge management hub

Access to assets and knowledge

- Geographical information system (GIS)-based mapping application for SDGs
- Data for monitoring 2030 Agenda
- Regional Collaborative Platform in Latin America and the Caribbean website launched with community pages
- Rosters of expertise for thematic priorities
- Communities of practice on data, gender and partnerships



### Enhance transparency and results-based management

on results and impacts achieved

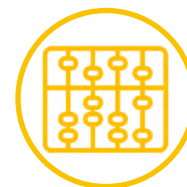
- 2023 system-wide results report drafted
- Reporting session conducted at the sixth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development
- Regional Collaborative Platform partnerships strategy
- Partnerships and communication officers networks
- United Actions bulletin
- Advocacy inter-agency campaigns



### Data and statistics

Consolidation of capacities

- Updated technical assistance database
- System to assess government capacities
- Collaboration with the Statistical Coordination Group for the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC
- Data management officers network



### Regional efficiencies

Common services and premises

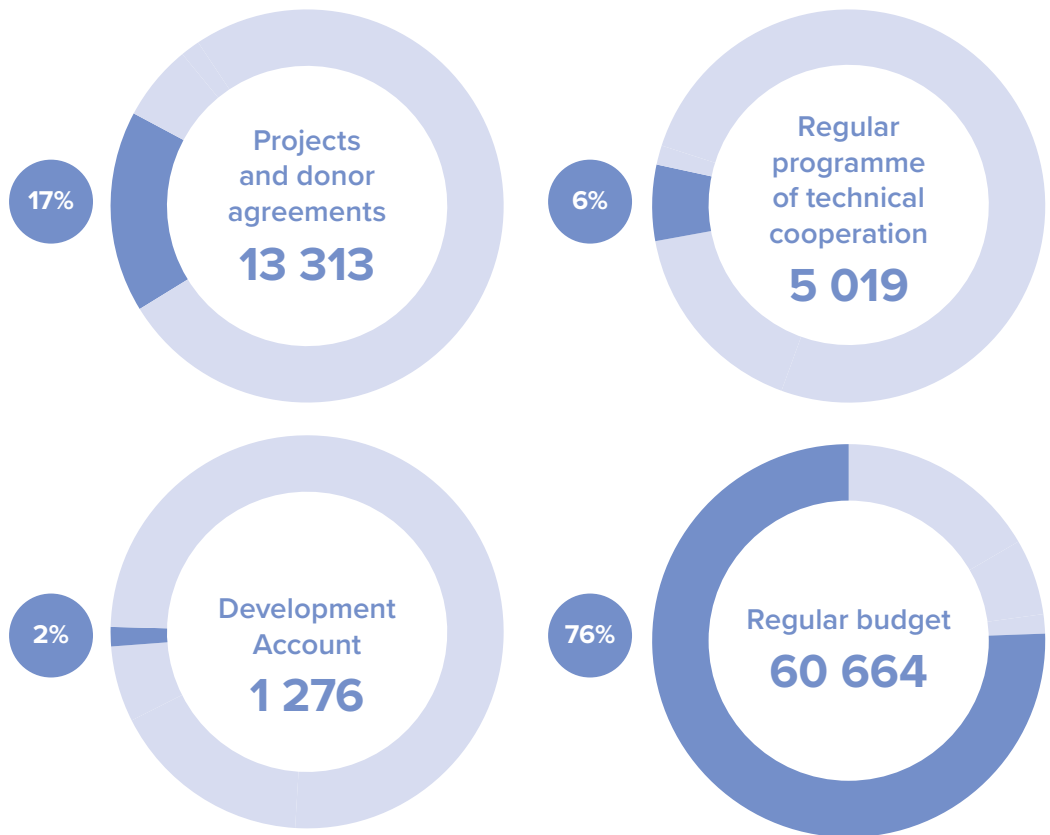
- Regional business operations strategy 2.0 finalized
- 18 common services
- 24 business operations strategy annual reviews finalized
- 2019/2021 Latin America and the Caribbean cost avoidance: US\$ 3,5M
- 2022/2024 Latin America and the Caribbean cost avoidance: US\$ 4M



# 5 ● ● ●

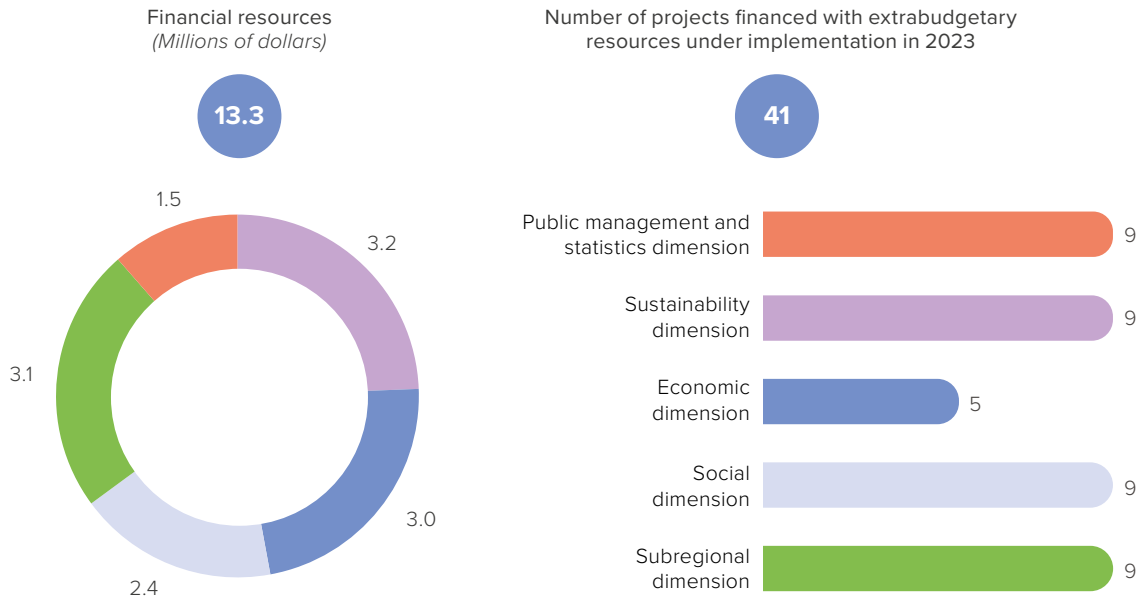
## Financial resources

**Figure 1**  
General overview of ECLAC funding by source, 2023  
(Thousands of dollars and percentages of total resources)

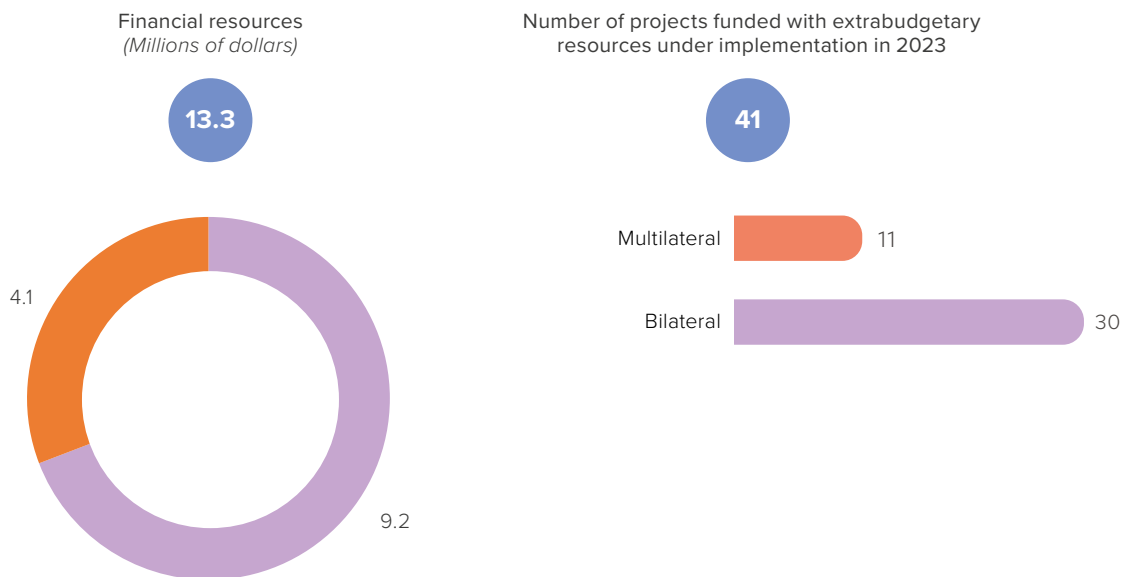


**Figure 2**  
Breakdown of extrabudgetary resources, 2023

**A. Grants and donor agreements, by thematic dimension**  
*(Millions of dollars and number of projects)*



**B. Grants and donor agreements, by type of development partner**  
*(Millions of dollars and number of projects)*



# 6 ● ● ●

## Subsidiary bodies and intergovernmental meetings

### Thirty-seventh session of the Committee of the Whole of ECLAC

17 October 2023



The thirty-seventh session of the Committee of the Whole was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York, with Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives from 34 ECLAC member States in attendance. At the meeting, the Executive Secretary of the Commission presented an update on the economic and social context in the region and highlighted the ECLAC proposal to transform the region's development model to achieve productive, sustainable and inclusive development. The programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2025, was adopted by member States in Committee resolution 767(PLN.37).

### Twenty-ninth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning

17–19 January 2023

At the meeting, held in Santiago, the Presiding Officers considered the proposed content of the position document for the nineteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), to be held in the final quarter of 2023.

### Meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

8 and 9 February and 11 and 12 October 2023

At the [sixty-fourth meeting](#) of the Presiding Officers, the delegations exchanged views on the actions planned for the implementation of the Buenos Aires Commitment, adopted at by the Regional Conference on Women at its fifteenth session. A report on the Regional Fund in support of Women's and Feminist Organizations and Movements was also presented. The Chair of the Fund shared that assistance had been provided

to 17 women's and feminist organizations from 10 countries of the region, focusing on topics including women's empowerment, economic autonomy, and digitalization. At the [sixty-fifth meeting](#) of the Presiding Officers, delegations adopted the subject of political, economic, social, cultural and environmental transformations as a means of advancing the care society and gender equality as the central theme for the sixteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women, to be held in Mexico in 2025.

## First session of the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean

30 and 31 May 2023

At the meeting, ECLAC hosted government representatives from 26 countries of the region, as well as United Nations officials and other representatives from other intergovernmental organizations. Over 300 participants, including 100 government delegates and members of other stakeholder groups, discussed the evolving challenges of international cooperation for development, opportunities for multi-stakeholder cooperation, and international cooperation in the comprehensive management of risks and disasters. They also agreed upon the promotion of innovative international cooperation mechanisms that go beyond the graduation criteria based on per capita gross domestic product, such as multidimensional or vulnerability indicators. In its [resolution 1\(I\)](#), the [Regional Conference](#), called for a renewed agreement for international development cooperation with the aim of addressing the vulnerabilities of the region.

## Twelfth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC

26–28 September 2023

At the meeting, authorities from national statistical offices in the region called for greater consolidation of environmental, climate change and disaster statistics and indicators to provide reliable and timely metrics for decision-making and to move forward on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In addition, the Statistical Conference issued a statement on the use of data held by the private sector for the purposes of official statistics, in which it encouraged the establishment of partnerships with the private sector and addressed the issue of safeguarding data privacy and confidentiality.

## Fifth session of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

3–5 October 2023

ECLAC organized the Regional Conference jointly with the fifteenth Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean of UNDP. In attendance were 108 delegates from 18 countries of the region, along with representatives of United Nations entities, financial institutions, development banks and cooperation agencies, civil society, and academia. Following the presentation of the document *Institutional Frameworks for Social Policy in Latin America and the Caribbean: a Central Element in Advancing Towards Inclusive Social Development*, five panel discussions addressed relevant issues for the [Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development](#). Member States reiterated the indispensable nature of the sustained creation of productive employment and decent work, together with comprehensive, universal, sustainable and resilient social protection systems that make it possible to ensure access to quality education and health, housing and basic services, and care policies that ensure co-responsibility between the State and society and between women and men.



## Twenty-first meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee

3 November 2023

The meeting, which was held in Port of Spain, was chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation of Suriname, in his capacity as Chair of the Committee. The meeting addressed topics related to repositioning the Caribbean in a dynamic and competitive global environment, strategies to advance recovery and economic transformation, furthering the small island development States agenda in the Caribbean, and confronting the implementation deficit. On 1 and 2 November, ECLAC convened a Monitoring Committee seminar on the role of data in positioning the Caribbean in the knowledge economy. During five panel discussions, regional policymakers, development partners and experts shared practical strategies to revitalize Caribbean economies and enhance government capacities through data, innovation and digitalization.

## Nineteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning

7–9 November 2023

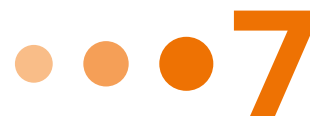
At the meeting, held in Santo Domingo, ECLAC presented the document *Foresight for Development: Contributions to Forward-looking Territorial Governance* for consideration and discussion by member States. The aim of the document was to encourage reflection on planning and foresight by exploring different types of foresight exercises conducted in the region, including their characteristics and approaches, and to identify enabling conditions for, and obstacles to, the institutionalization of foresight in State structures. It also sought to identify the means for conducting systemic foresight activities at the territory level that reflect ethnic, cultural and productive diversity, as well as multiple stakeholders and differing realities.

## Fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development

### Special session “10 years of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development”

14 and 15 November 2023

At the meeting—which was attended by nearly 500 in-person participants, including more than 260 from civil society— national authorities reaffirmed that the Montevideo Consensus and the decisions adopted by member States in the context of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean are a road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda with a rights-based approach and full respect for human rights, in order to leave no one behind. In addition, member States welcomed the ECLAC document *Population, Development and Rights in Latin America and the Caribbean: draft second regional report on implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development*.



## Publications

In its role as a leading think tank in Latin America and the Caribbean, ECLAC undertakes research and prepares documents and studies in substantive areas related to the three dimensions of sustainable development in the region. The analytical effort of gathering, organizing, interpreting and disseminating information and data led to the production of over 340 publications, technical materials and project documents in 2023. During the year, ECLAC publications were downloaded a total of 21,553,019 times. An illustrative selection of these publications is presented in this section. All publications are available for download on the ECLAC website.

### Table 1

#### Six flagships: annual reports that track a comprehensive vision of development

Preliminary Overview  
of the Economies of  
Latin America and  
the Caribbean, 2023

Economic Survey  
of Latin America and  
the Caribbean, 2023

Social Panorama of  
Latin America and  
the Caribbean, 2023

International  
Trade Outlook for  
Latin America and  
the Caribbean, 2023

Statistical Yearbook  
for Latin America and  
the Caribbean, 2023

Foreign Direct  
Investment in  
Latin America and  
the Caribbean, 2023

**Table 2**  
Key figures: outreach for flagship publications, 2023

	Download icon	Downloads by language	Press conference	Press coverage
Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2023		Spanish <b>32 990</b> English <b>5 123</b> Portuguese <b>118</b>	Live broadcast viewers <b>1 433</b>	<b>685</b> press clippings in <b>45</b> countries
		Total <b>38 231</b>		
Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2023		Spanish <b>23 184</b> English <b>1 606</b> Portuguese <b>86</b>	Live broadcast viewers <b>146</b>	<b>824</b> press clippings in <b>44</b> countries
		Total <b>24 876</b>		
International Trade Outlook for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2023		Spanish <b>8 290</b> English <b>1 656</b> Portuguese <b>112</b>	Live broadcast viewers <b>864</b>	<b>375</b> press clippings in <b>55</b> countries
		Total <b>10 058</b>		
Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2023		Spanish <b>4 229</b> English <b>775</b> Portuguese <b>20</b>	Live broadcast viewers <b>490</b>	<b>623</b> press clippings in <b>54</b> countries
		Total <b>5 024</b>		
Social Panorama of Latin America, 2023		Spanish <b>12 292</b> English <b>1 608</b> Portuguese <b>214</b>	Live broadcast viewers <b>166</b>	<b>473</b> press clippings in <b>34</b> countries
		Total <b>14 114</b>		
Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2023		Bilingual English/Spanish <b>10 073</b>		
		Total <b>10 073</b>		

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

## Support for subsidiary bodies and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals

Foresight for Development: Contributions to Forward-looking Territorial Governance (ILPES)

Institutional Frameworks for Social Policy in Latin America and the Caribbean: a Central Element in Advancing towards Inclusive Social Development (Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean)

The 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals: halfway to 2030. Goals, targets and indicators

Methodological document on statistical use of economic administrative records (Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC)

## CEPAL Review and other institutional publications

Latin American Economic Outlook 2023: Investing in Sustainable Development

CEPAL Review No. 140

## Selection of thematic publications

Public debt and development distress in Latin America and the Caribbean

The Circularity Gap Report: Latin America and the Caribbean

Lithium extraction and industrialization: opportunities and challenges for Latin America and the Caribbean

Gender equality and women's and girls' autonomy in the digital era: contributions of education and digital transformation in Latin America and the Caribbean

Contributions of international migration to development in Latin America and the Caribbean: good practices, challenges and recommendations

Gobernanzas multiactor y multinivel para las políticas de desarrollo productivo en agrociudades y territorios rurales

Brechas de género en las cadenas globales de valor de América Latina y el Caribe: nuevos y viejos retos en un escenario de incertidumbre

Iberoamérica: espacio de oportunidades para el crecimiento, la colaboración y el desarrollo sostenible

## Joint publications with other agencies

The Sociodemographic and Economic Context of Aging in Latin America  
(Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and United Nations)

Digital Trade Regulatory Review for Asia-Pacific, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean  
(Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP))

Advances in care policies in Latin America and the Caribbean: towards a care society with gender equality  
(UN Women)

International Decade for People of African Descent: brief review of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNFPA)

“Towards the creation of better jobs in the post-pandemic era”, Employment Situation in Latin America and the Caribbean  
(International Labour Organization (ILO))

Early childhood, inequalities and rights in Latin America and the Caribbean  
(United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF))

### Accessible publication

In 2023, ECLAC presented its first accessible publication for persons who are blind or have low vision, marking the launch of a new institutional editorial line. The publication, *Social Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2022. Executive summary: accessible format*, is compatible with screen readers.



## Activities and results

Under subprogramme 1, International trade, integration and infrastructure, ECLAC provided technical assistance on topics such as trade policy, export promotion, regional integration, internationalization of small and medium-sized enterprises, road safety, and trade facilitation. In the area of **trade and regional integration**, ECLAC helped the countries of the Andean Community to develop a subregional programme to generate **international trade statistics** that take into account the characteristics of firms, which will enable a deeper knowledge of the sector and of the impact of trade on national economies. The Commission also supported improvements to El Salvador's single window.

Another major focus of the subprogramme was to support **regional agrifood trade**, with a view to positioning Latin America and the Caribbean as a stable agrifood supplier for the region and the world. In 2023, work in that regard involved presenting technical studies and fostering **spaces for dialogue** among the countries of the region, in coordination with FAO, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, the International Food Policy Research Institute and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

Following the implementation of a two-year project funded by the United Nations **Road Safety Fund**, the National Road Safety Agency of **Argentina** committed to pilot programmes proposed by ECLAC. The Commission provided support in the design, modification and implementation of measures for speed management on urban and rural roads. In addition, in the framework of a project supported by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), ECLAC provided technical support to **Colombia** to assess the impact of **electromobility** policies. The aim of that project was to illustrate the importance of decarbonization and green production as part of the big push for sustainability proposed by ECLAC.

ECLAC supports the empowerment of women entrepreneurs in international trade. It delivered technical assistance to the Latin American and Iberian Network of Export and Foreign Direct Investment Promotion Agencies (Red Ibero) on **gender and trade**, which consisted of compiling and presenting experiences and good practices in the empowerment of women entrepreneurs in cross-border e-commerce activities, in multiple webinars and publications and in an online repository of solutions for supporting small and medium-sized enterprises in markets.

With the support of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation, ECLAC has delivered technical support to member States on how to promote cross-border e-commerce, including greater participation of small and medium-sized enterprises. As a result, the availability of data on e-commerce has increased and been made publicly

### Introduction to digital trade regulations in Asia and Latin America

Modality 42h online course  
Timeframe 16 October - 26 November



available through the Latin America and the Caribbean Marketplace Explorer platform and a data repository on digital trade regulations. In addition, a specialized course on best practices in digital trade regulations was delivered to government officials.

Under the subprogramme, a [virtual course](#) on innovative technologies to support **small and medium-sized enterprises** engaged in exports and cross-border e-commerce was held in the context of the CORPYME project, supported by the Government of the Republic of Korea and implemented by ECLAC. The aim was to strengthen national capacities regarding the internationalization of small and medium-sized enterprises in the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC). There were 139 participants from 17 countries in attendance. In addition, the Commission for the Promotion of Peruvian Exports and Tourism (PROMPERU) benefited from technical capacity-building support to implement strategies for the promotion of women-led, small and medium-sized export enterprises.

Alongside ECA and ESCAP, ECLAC is part of the [Regional Digital Trade Regulatory Integration Initiative in Latin America and the Caribbean](#) to better understand the **digital trade policy** environment in Asia and the Pacific, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The development of a common analytical framework and regulatory databases that are comparable across the regions is enabling policymakers, practitioners and academics to design evidence-based digital trade policies, prepare for negotiations and hold open dialogues to identify commonalities and share good practices among economies and regions. Since 2023, information for Latin America and the Caribbean has been included in the digital platform.

Lastly, under the subprogramme, ECLAC supported the High-level [Latin America Regional Review Meeting of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024](#), held in Asunción in July 2023 in preparation for the third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries.



*I would like to thank ECLAC for its valuable support and the useful information that it generated through broad and detailed studies on external trade and integration. This has led to the creation of a robust regional agenda that has produced significant results, benefiting both the country and the region.*

Lotty Andrade, Ambassador of Ecuador in Chile



Under subprogramme 2, Production and innovation, ECLAC intensified its advocacy for productive development policies in Latin America and the Caribbean, including fostering innovation and progress in the digital transformation.

A significant milestone was the launch of the [Platform for Cluster and Other Territorial Productive Articulation Initiatives in Latin America and the Caribbean](#), with the support of GIZ. The aim of the platform is to strengthen and increase the use of cluster initiatives to implement productive development policies, by connecting institutions and stakeholders and fostering mutual learning and collaboration. Over 290 initiatives have been registered, including activities in research, professional training, the exchange of experiences and the development of methodologies and tools.

The work of the subprogramme was critical in deepening productive development cooperation between Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union. A [document](#) prepared by ECLAC and presented at the Third Summit of Heads of State and Government of CELAC and the European Union, held in July 2023, identified a portfolio of strategic sectors for investment and collaboration between the two regions.

In 2023, ECLAC began a partnership with the European Commission to strengthen the [Digital Alliance Initiative of the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean](#), a strategic framework aimed at fostering substantial biregional cooperation on a wide spectrum of digital issues. ECLAC leads one of the components of this initiative, which seeks to facilitate knowledge exchange with European counterparts. That, in turn, has enhanced the region's ability to design and implement effective digital transformation policies while fostering deeper regional understanding and policymaking capacities, in

particular in the areas of meaningful connectivity and artificial intelligence. The partnership with the European Commission seeks to leverage synergies associated with the role of ECLAC as technical secretariat of the Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean and of the Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2024), a policy dialogue platform that aims to foster digital cooperation in the region, through research, capacity-building and advisory services.

The publication *Latin American Economic Outlook 2023*, launched by the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF), ECLAC, the European Commission and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in December 2023, emphasized the urgent need for a comprehensive investment agenda to propel productive, sustainable and inclusive development. It also advocated for coordinated action among policymakers, the private sector and international partners, with a focus on innovative financing mechanisms and revitalized international partnerships in sectors that countries identified as strategic under their national and local productive development policies.

Capacity-building activities were carried out throughout the year under the subprogramme. The workshop for Latin America on policies and policy instruments in science, technology and innovation for the SDGs, a joint effort of several United Nations agencies, including ECLAC, UNCTAD, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and the United Nations University (UNU)-Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology (United Nations inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, workstream 6), was held online in March 2023, in the framework of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of ECLAC. The aim was to increase awareness and understanding of key aspects of relevant policies and instruments, as well as innovation and entrepreneurship processes, and how they relate to the SDGs. In August, ECLAC and the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture organized a [regional meeting on science, technology and innovation policies](#), with a focus on a green and just transition, to discuss challenges in the formulation and implementation of public policies related to the green transition, and national and international cooperation in that area. In addition, Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Uruguay benefited from technical support in designing and implementing better productive development policies for pharmaceutical and medical device industries.

*I would like to thank ECLAC for the technical assistance provided to the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism —through its subsidiary office, Colombia Productiva— to design the methodology for the supply chain analysis that informed the implementation of the programme EnCadena Mejores Proveedores.*

Aurelio Mejía Mejía, General Director, Colombia Productiva, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism of Colombia

Under subprogramme 3, Macroeconomic policies and growth, ECLAC leveraged its convening role to support key discussions on **fiscal matters**. The Commission supported the Ministries of Finance of Colombia, Brazil and Chile in the creation of the Regional Platform for Tax Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean (see Main highlights). In its role as technical secretariat for the Platform, ECLAC supported Colombia in organizing the First Latin American and Caribbean Summit for an Inclusive, Sustainable and Equitable Global Tax Order. Technical support was delivered to the eight members of the Platform, as well as to other guest countries, in the context of a regional analysis of the progressivity of tax structures, tax benefits and green taxation, which was conducted as part of the activities of the Platform's technical working groups.



Launch of *Latin American Economic Outlook 2023*, ECLAC headquarters, Santiago.



Authorities from 16 countries at the First Summit for an Inclusive, Sustainable and Equitable Global Tax Order.



Launch of a report on revenue statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2023 at the thirty-fifth Regional Seminar on Fiscal Policy.

The thirty-fifth Regional Seminar on Fiscal Policy was held from 15 to 17 May 2023, with the support of IDB, the International Monetary Fund, OECD and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID). The report *Public debt and development distress in Latin America and the Caribbean* was launched at the event provided an analysis of growth and development constraints due to public debt, and implications for fiscal policy. It was produced in response to the Secretary-General's request that ECLAC, in partnership with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and UNCTAD, report on the debt situation of Latin America and the Caribbean (decision 2022/45 of the Secretary-General, deriving from the meeting of his Executive Committee held on 22 December 2022).

Under the subprogramme, ECLAC supported Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, in its role as the pro tempore Chair of CELAC, to convene a meeting of the Ministers of Finance of CELAC countries, where they agreed to advance towards a common regional agenda in response to the global economic crisis.

ECLAC also delivered technical support related to **labour markets** and financing for development. It assisted the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses of Costa Rica to update its national labour demand survey with a view to capturing relevant data (e.g. on digital skills) and generating related statistics. Support was delivered to Cuba to develop an integrated national financing framework for the development emergency modality of the Joint Sustainable Development Goals Fund, including the response to the global crisis in food, energy and finance. Financial service providers, regulators and policymakers, received training and capacity-building in the design of tailored financial products and services to encourage the **financial inclusion of small and medium-sized enterprises** and other local economic actors. Technical support was also delivered to Chile regarding methodological approaches to measuring tax evasion, in the context of the proposed tax reform.

Under the subprogramme, research was conducted on the **participation of women in the region's labour markets**. Work is also under way to support the Budget Office of the Ministry of Finance of Chile in mainstreaming a gender perspective in the national budget, reviewing the budget cycle instruments for capturing that perspective, and preparing a practical training guide for finance officials in other ministries and government agencies on identifying gender-related items in their respective institutional budgets.

*I wish to thank ECLAC for the capacity-building support that it provided to the Institute's personnel on the inclusion of thematic modules in labour market surveys. Both of the tools derived from that support are important for designing statistical operations and will doubtless help to guide the delivery of results in relevant public and private policy areas.*

Floribel Méndez Fonseca, Director, National Institute of Statistics and Censuses, Costa Rica



Under subprogramme 4, Social development and equality, ECLAC **fostered and measured progress in social development** throughout the region. Since 2021, ECLAC has been delivering technical assistance to the countries of the Pacific Alliance (Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru) to reduce data gaps on poverty reduction, inequality and education access, which resulted in the launch of the **Observatory of Social Development of the Pacific Alliance** in 2023 to disseminate information, analysis and collective knowledge.

**Labour inclusion** was a major area of focus throughout the year, in particular with the **third regional seminar on social development**, focused on promoting labour inclusion to overcome inequality and informality in Latin America and the Caribbean. The event, attended by over 250 national officials from 17 countries, provided tools to improve the design of labour inclusion policies and encourage innovation in that regard. The event

also included the launch of the interdivisional publication “[Inequalities, labour inclusion and the future of work in Latin America](#)”. In addition, ECLAC conducted specific research on [disability in labour inclusion](#).

In the area of **education**, ECLAC worked with UNICEF to support the design and implementation of the national plan of Honduras to strengthen educational trajectories and prepare young people for the school-to-work transition. In partnership with OECD, ECLAC held the regional launch of the [Programme for International Student Assessment \(PISA\) 2022](#) at its headquarters. The event’s objective was to disseminate the results of PISA 2022 and encourage their use to address challenges related to learning outcomes, in addition to advocating for a transformation towards **inclusive and quality education**. The event generated considerable interest, as it provided a regional perspective on the first measurement of children’s learning outcomes since the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

The launch of the ECLAC publication “[Salud y desigualdad en América Latina y el Caribe: la centralidad de la salud para el desarrollo social inclusivo y sostenible](#)” was attended by important stakeholders in the health sector, who highlighted the relevance of the analysis and proposals of ECLAC regarding the design of policies and strategies aimed at universal health. In addition, technical assistance was provided to Chile and Guatemala for the implementation of universal primary health-care policies, and to Mexico for the estimation of costs associated with extending health-care services to the population that does not have access to social security.

With the support of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany (BMZ) project “Recover better: overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic consequences in Latin America and the Caribbean”, ECLAC delivered technical support to the Ministry of Social Development of Honduras, in the form of policy recommendations and inputs for updating the national social protection policy and the non-contributory component of a proposal for a comprehensive social protection system, which is under discussion in the National Congress. Technical support was also delivered to the National Secretariat for Care and Family Policies of Brazil in the formulation of the national care policy; to Paraguay in the enhancement of the social housing registry; and to Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Mexico and Peru on social protection issues.

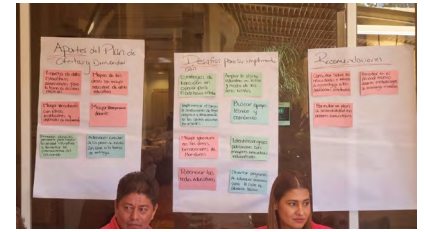
In addition, a synthesis of the online course on social protection was published in [Haitian creole](#), in the context of technical support delivered to Haiti.

*The Secretariat is grateful to ECLAC for its valuable technical assistance in the framework of the ECLAC-BMZ/GIZ project. That support —notable for its unprecedented nature— was critical in designing a non-contributory pension system for older persons, which would constitute the first non-contributory scheme in the history of Honduras.*

José Carlos Cardona Erazo, Secretary of Social Development, Honduras

Lastly, ECLAC was involved in further strengthening **meaningful youth engagement** in the various regional and global processes leading up to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, including the Economic and Social Council youth forum, the forum of children and youth of Latin America and the Caribbean and the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development.

Under subprogramme 5, Gender equality and women’s autonomy, ECLAC has been at the forefront of the region’s transformative proposal to move towards a **care society**. In that regard, ECLAC, ILO, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNDP and UN-Women produced a research document on transforming care systems in the context of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda. In 2023, multiple events were held on topics such as [time use](#), [unpaid care and domestic work](#), and [community-based care](#), as well as their impact on gender equality. Technical support was delivered to the Office of the Mayor of Bogotá on innovative approaches to mapping care systems, including the design, development and implementation of district-level care systems and care maps.



Workshop to support strengthening the education system in Honduras.



In 2023, under the subprogramme, ECLAC, the Latin American Social Science Council, UNDP and UN-Women delivered a new edition of the specialized course on measuring **gender-based violence against women**, including femicide and feminicide. As a result, 436 national officials and other stakeholders from countries of the region have acquired specialized expertise to better inform policymaking. Specific technical assistance was provided on the same topic to various institutions in Ecuador.

With the support of BMZ-GIZ, ECLAC set up a high-level working group to share experiences and develop joint recommendations on feminist development cooperation policies. It also published the document “[Ten years of feminist foreign policy and feminist international development cooperation policy: an opportunity for Latin America and the Caribbean](#)”, and co-led an initiative to spearhead South-South and triangular cooperation, alongside Chile, Colombia and Mexico.

In 2023, ECLAC published [guidelines](#) for mainstreaming the **gender perspective in statistical production**, which provide a methodological and conceptual tool for national statistical offices and other data producers. Although progress has been made in statistical production to better understand the differences between women’s and men’s realities, gender data are still lacking in many areas. Along these lines, and with the support of AECID, technological upgrades to the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean were undertaken to increase the platform’s storage capacity and to improve accessibility and data visualization.

In the area of **trade policy with a gender perspective**, ECLAC delivered technical assistance to Uruguay and supported the development and implementation of the [Observatory on Gender Equality](#) of Cuba, which was launched on June 2023.

Under the subprogramme, and with support from the Wellspring Philanthropic Fund, ECLAC delivered technical assistance to the countries of the region and conducted research and analysis on the interlinkages between women’s rights and economic policies in Latin America and the Caribbean, with an emphasis on the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. ECLAC also helped to strengthen the capacities of the mechanisms for the advancement of women and Ministries of Finance to design and implement gender-responsive economic policies. In addition, it promoted cooperation, dialogue and accountability mechanisms between member States, feminist and women’s rights organizations and experts, with a view to supporting the fulfilment of commitments under the Regional Gender Agenda.

*I am delighted to announce that a document on international trade with a gender perspective in Uruguay is on today’s agenda for consideration by the National Gender Council, in the context of its annual accountability exercise. We are particularly grateful for the support and considerable patience that culminated in this invaluable product, which lays the foundation for the continued broadening and deepening of the Council’s workstreams related to economic autonomy.*

Daniela Tellechea Díaz, Chief, International Relations and Cooperation,  
National Institute for Women, Uruguay



Participants of the fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development.

ECLAC, in its capacity as technical secretariat of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean under subprogramme 6, Population and development, contributed to commemorating **10 years of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development**. At the fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference (see Subsidiary bodies and intergovernmental meetings), ECLAC presented the draft second regional report on the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus, [Population, Development and Rights in Latin America and the Caribbean](#), based on 22 national voluntary reports, and the updated virtual platform to contribute to regional follow-up of the Consensus. In addition, ECLAC participated in a series of commemorative events in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay, and in Antigua and Barbuda during the Caribbean Forum on Population and Development (see subprogramme 12).

Throughout the year, ECLAC provided technical support to the national statistical offices of over 15 countries of the region, in areas such as **population estimates and projections**, planning and road maps for **census processes**, and strategies for **data dissemination**. National officers received capacity-building support on methodologies for processing census data using specialized tools, such as the Census and Survey Processing System (CSPro) and REDATAM, which contributed to ensuring thematic consistency and coherent analyses.

ECLAC worked with various partners to address issues concerning **Indigenous Peoples and Afrodescendent populations**, disseminating information and policy recommendations and eliciting valuable feedback from governments, Indigenous and Afrodescendent organizations, international cooperation bodies, and other stakeholders. ECLAC analysis presented in the document “[Hacia una recuperación económica transformadora de América Latina-Abya Yala: desafíos para garantizar los derechos colectivos de los pueblos indígenas](#)” emphasized the pivotal role of Indigenous Peoples in transformative economic recovery agendas. ECLAC organized a [workshop](#) on Afrodescendant populations and health, with a focus on sexual and reproductive rights. The production and dissemination of information focused on sociodemographic groups highlighted inequalities faced by these populations, prompting discussions on ensuring that public policies are inclusive of people in vulnerable situations.

With the support of the Government of the Republic of Korea, ECLAC implemented a project on demographic trends and population ageing within the frameworks of the Montevideo Consensus and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002. The project facilitated the exchange of best practices in public policy, including at a side event on public policies for older persons with a human rights approach, held during the fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development.

Lastly, in the framework of a United Nations Development Account project, ECLAC supported countries on issues related to migration. Technical assistance was delivered to Chile in drafting its new national policy on migration and foreigners and to Costa Rica regarding its national integration plan, 2023–2027.

*I would like to convey the thanks of the Institute and my personal gratitude to the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE)-Population Division of ECLAC for its continued technical support.*

Dante Carhuavilca Bonett, Chief, National Institute of Statistics and Informatics, Peru

Under subprogramme 7, Sustainable development and human settlements, the commitment of ECLAC to improving urban settlements in the region led to significant milestones across various countries in 2023. In Costa Rica, ECLAC supported the Ministry of Housing and Human Settlements and the Municipality of San José in creating an action plan for developing a public land bank for housing and urban renewal. In Ecuador, ECLAC provided inputs for the new national urban policy, 2023–2036, focusing on adequate housing. ECLAC played a pivotal role in shaping urban planning legislation and integrating financial mechanisms, such as land value capture, into development strategies in Cuba, which culminated in a comprehensive national action plan. It also continued to update the Urban and Cities Platform of Latin America and the Caribbean, which is a one-stop shop for monitoring the implementation of the urban aspects of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and the Regional Action Plan for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2016–2036.

Under the subprogramme, ECLAC provided technical support to incorporate **climate considerations into the design and evaluation of public projects**. [Capacity-building activities](#) and technical support provided to the Dominican Republic led to the publication of a [methodology](#) to estimate the social price of carbon for the purpose of evaluating public investment projects.



Census training in Uruguay.

In September 2023, with the support of the Open Society Foundations, ECLAC launched the [virtual platform](#) and the [Legislative Tracker of the Parliamentary Observatory on Climate Change and Just Transition](#), in collaboration with parliamentary leaders from various countries of the region. The platform monitors relevant legislative activity and offers interactive data visualization regarding economic sectors affected by legislative instruments.

Work related to the implementation of the Escazú Agreement continued in 2023. The second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Escazú Agreement was held in Buenos Aires in April (see Main highlights) and the Second Annual Forum on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Panama in September 2023. In the framework of a United Nations Development Account project, technical support was provided to Ecuador and Argentina to prepare their road maps for the implementation of the Escazú Agreement.

In June, Banco de México, the Biodiversity Finance Initiative, ECLAC and GIZ held a conference on financing communities for the conservation and restoration of biodiversity. Several megadiverse countries in the region participated in the event, which highlighted existing links between the climate and biodiversity agendas and specific opportunities to leverage synergies between the two.



On the margins of the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, ECLAC collaborated with several other United Nations entities to organize an event on the theme “[What human rights at 75 means for climate justice now](#)”, and the Executive Secretary of ECLAC presented a new [report on climate financing needs for Latin America and the Caribbean](#). In addition, several side events held during the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties highlighted the Escazú Agreement.

The circular economy was a major focus of the subprogramme. Uruguay received technical support to draft its national strategy for a circular economy, and the City of Buenos Aires benefited from an [analysis](#) of the value chains with the greatest potential to adopt circular economy practices

In the framework of the ECLAC-BMZ/GIZ cooperation programme and the project “Inclusive, sustainable and smart cities in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean”, [technical support](#) was delivered to Costa Rica regarding its national agenda on electromobility and the energy transition.

Lastly, under the subprogramme, ECLAC provided advisory services and made important contributions to the drafting of Act No. 2327 on environmental liabilities in Colombia, which was enacted in September 2023, and to [efforts to advance electromobility](#) in public transportation in Colombia. Chile, meanwhile, received technical support to advance legislation on requirements regarding batteries, including lithium batteries (Ministry of the Environment [resolution 1138](#)); to assess the feasibility of retrofitting [buses that run on diesel](#) to run on electricity; and to draft a law on land use and management.

*On behalf of the Ministry for the Environment, Water and the Ecological Transition and the Government of Ecuador, I wish to thank ECLAC for its invaluable support in outlining a national road map for our continued implementation of the Escazú Agreement.*

José Naula, Director of International Cooperation, Ministry for the Environment, Water and the Ecological Transition, Ecuador

Under subprogramme 8, Natural resources, ECLAC continued to support the sustainable management of natural resources in the countries of the region, with a view to contributing to their economic and social development.

ECLAC further strengthened the Permanent Technical Dialogue Forum on Lithium Innovation, Technological Development and Value Addition, which promotes technical exchanges on strategies for productive development and **sustainable lithium mining practices and new extraction methodologies**. The forum fosters collaboration and innovation among its member countries (Argentina, Chile, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and, since 2023, Mexico). Notably, it facilitated on-the-ground learning opportunities through workshops and field visits to lithium operations in [Argentina](#), [Chile](#) and [the Plurinational State of Bolivia](#). Furthermore, technical assistance was provided to develop a robust lithium supply chain in Mexico, including guidance on the strategic planning of the national lithium company, focused on alignment with the SDGs and socioenvironmental safeguards. The support provided by ECLAC to Mexico was acknowledged in a [national decree](#) that established a lithium mining zone.



Second exchange of experiences and knowledge, Salar de Atacama, Chile.

ECLAC launched a special [report](#) highlighting the importance of a productive development agenda centred on **lithium** in the region and supported the organization of the [thirteenth Annual Conference of Mining Ministries of the Americas](#), held in Chile, where countries addressed the regional impacts of the increasing demand for **critical minerals for the energy transition**.

In July, within the framework of a United Nations peace and development trust fund project supported by the ECLAC-BMZ/GIZ cooperation programme, a training session was conducted under the subprogramme to [enhance the technical capacities](#) of municipalities of Quintana Roo State, Mexico, in designing investment plans on **renewable energy for the water sector**, which is crucial for the region's tourism-dependent economy. Under the subprogramme, the [fourth meeting of the regional expert group on water resources in Latin America and the Caribbean](#) was held online in December, focused on collaborative efforts in water resource management.



Training workshop for officers from municipalities of Quintana Roo State, Mexico.

Throughout the year, work under the subprogramme also focused on the role of women in the [bioeconomy](#), nature-based solutions, [agrifood systems](#) and the [digitalization of agriculture](#). Technical assistance was delivered to Uruguay to develop a proposal for the production and utilization of biopackaging within the food industry, and to Ecuador to identify opportunities for the development of waste-based biorefineries in the banana, palm oil, cocoa, rice and tagua agro-industrial chains. In September 2023, in partnership with FAO and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, ECLAC launched *The Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Development in the Americas: A Perspective on Latin America and the Caribbean 2023–2024* at the XXII Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture.

In 2023, ECLAC also made significant contributions to support national energy transitions. Under the subprogramme, a high-level [workshop](#) was convened to prepare a special report on the region's energy-related needs and opportunities, which was included in the International Energy Agency's *World Energy Outlook 2023*. Various policy dialogues were organized throughout the year to discuss how to strengthen regional value chains in the energy transition and electromobility. This included a side event at the United Nations high-level political forum on sustainable development on [transformative policy actions to accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda](#) through the transition to green energy and related industries. In addition, ECLAC provided [technical assistance](#) to Costa Rica to review investment estimates on electromobility in San José and discuss regulatory challenges.

*We express our sincere thanks for the training mission that was jointly organized in Playa del Carmen, Quintana Roo, Mexico. The valuable insights and results obtained during the mission will guide the evaluation of projects being implemented in other facilities across the country. In addition, the information provided will help build a body of evidence to drive circular reconversion efforts in our municipalities, thereby stimulating environmental, social and economic sustainability.*

Silvia Chávez Cereceda, Director of International Cooperation of the National Water Commission of Mexico

Under subprogramme 9, Planning and public management for development, ECLAC continued to provide technical cooperation, training and applied research on planning and public management at the national and subnational levels to strengthen governance and foster equitable and sustainable development in the countries of the region. Within the framework of a United Nations Development Account project and the cooperation programme between ECLAC and the Republic of Korea, technical assistance was delivered to Honduras and Chile to support the participatory drafting of the [fifth Open Government Action Plan](#) and [sixth Open Government Action Plan](#), respectively. Technical support was also delivered to the Ministry of Science, Innovation, Technology and Telecommunications of Costa Rica, the Government Office for Information and Communications Technologies of the Dominican Republic and the Government of Córdoba in Argentina on issues related to digital governance, interoperability and data governance.



Discussions on the 2050 State Development Plan of Guanajuato State.

Under the subprogramme, in August 2023, a [proposal to enhance digital governance](#) was presented to the President of the Dominican Republic to shape discussions on the law on digital innovation and development. With the support of AECID, a toolbox for designing more integrated public policies was developed, based on an in-depth review of medium- and long-term planning instruments for 27 countries in the region. The toolbox systematizes the main variables of analysis that can be used to close inequality gaps in Latin America and the Caribbean.

On issues related to foresight and planning, technical support was provided to the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Panama in the [design and implementation of the 2050 National Strategy for Regional Development](#), which outlines key guidelines for

reducing structural territorial inequalities in the long term, thereby advancing the implementation of Goal 10. In Mexico, the Institute of Planning, Statistics and Geography of the State of Guanajuato (IPLANEG) received support to design and implement future scenarios using a participatory methodology for the drafting of the [2050 State Development Plan](#) with a rights-based approach. This technical assistance helped to expand participation of citizens and municipal stakeholders, thereby incorporating traditionally excluded voices in the design of the State's long-term development vision. Technical support was also delivered to the National Council for the Evaluation of Social Development Policy of Mexico and to the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development of the Dominican Republic to improve accountability and generate a culture of continuous institutional learning by strengthening monitoring and evaluation systems.

ECLAC worked to strengthen capacities in public management in the region through several in-depth courses. In the course [on transitioning from digital government to smart government](#), over 50 mid-level and senior civil servants were trained in providing solutions to the needs of citizens and organizations through digital government and in incorporating new knowledge to advance evidence-based decision-making and data-driven policies. Other courses focused on the creation of [public value](#) and application of results-based management principles and tools in national and subnational public service, and on [open government](#) in Latin America and the Caribbean.

*The technical assistance received has been very important for the Ministry. To date, three in-person workshops and multiple virtual meetings have been conducted to improve governance and digital government, in which 20 institutions participated and were fully engaged.*

Paula Bogantes Zamora, Minister of Science, Innovation, Technology and Telecommunications of Costa Rica

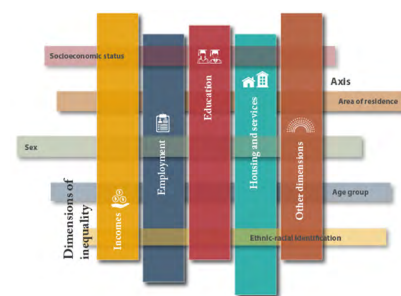
Under subprogramme 10, Statistics, ECLAC advanced the production and use of internationally comparable, accurate, timely and relevant statistical information for the formulation, follow-up and evaluation of economic, social and environmental development policies in the region.

Under the subprogramme, work was undertaken with member States to **strengthen institution-building in national statistical systems**, which led to the adoption of the [Code of Good Practice in Statistics for Latin America and the Caribbean 2023](#) at the twelfth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas.

In September, ECLAC hosted the [twenty-first International Meeting of Information Specialists on Time Use and Unpaid Work](#), which focused on time use surveys to **increase the visibility of women's economic contributions** and highlighted the inequalities in the gender division of labour at household level. That same month, the [Portal of Inequalities in Latin America](#) was launched. This online platform provides a comprehensive overview of inequalities within and across countries of the region, in areas such as income distribution, access to employment and education, housing and basic services.

Under the subprogramme, ECLAC responded to requests to **improve the measurement of climate change and environment statistics and indicators**. Support was delivered to [Panama](#) and [Cuba](#) through the training of more than 30 technical experts to develop a coherent and consolidated set of environment statistics and indicators related to the 2030 Agenda, the Escazú Agreement, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030. ECLAC provided support to national technical officers from [Ecuador](#) to implement the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting 2012. In addition, capacities were enhanced through [workshops](#) for the national statistical offices of **Caribbean small island developing States to monitor climate change and natural disasters**.

Collaboration between national statistical offices and statistics departments of central banks was also encouraged to **streamline data collection processes**. In particular, support was provided through the subprogramme to the National Institute of Statistics of the Plurinational State of Bolivia in finalizing its 2023–2026 strategy. In addition,



Technical assistance on consumer prices delivered to the National Statistics Institute of Guatemala.

seven countries of the region improved their collection and processing of price data in order to compile their consumer and producer price indexes. Other notable developments included the change of the reference year for the national account of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the incorporation of institutional sectors in the national accounts of Argentina and Paraguay, and the development of a satellite account for culture in Chile and the Dominican Republic.

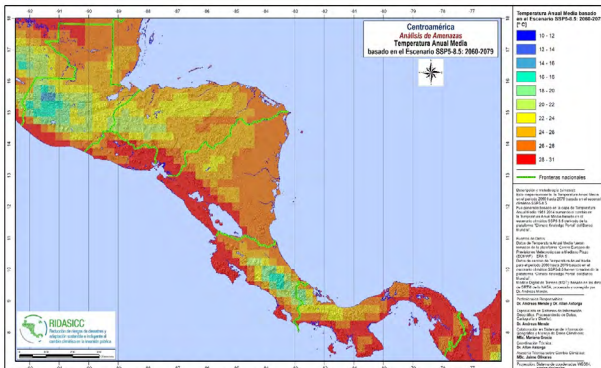


ECLAC also prioritized **improving national capacities in small area estimation methods** to produce disaggregated SDG indicators, with seminars held in [Bogotá](#), [Mexico City](#) and [Sao Paulo](#). Technical assistance was also provided to member States to improve household surveys, such as the transition to a [continuous national employment and income survey in Guatemala](#). Moreover, ECLAC collaborated with the Ministry of Social Development and Family in Chile in the [estimation of official national indicators on income poverty](#), based on the 2022 National Socioeconomic Survey.

Technical assistance was provided through the subprogramme to national geospatial agencies to implement guidelines established by the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management. National workshops were carried out in Argentina, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Saint Lucia to develop roadmaps for the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework. ECLAC also supported the implementation of statistics geoportals to disseminate georeferenced statistical data in Argentina, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and Paraguay.

*I would like to extend special thanks to the ECLAC teams for their preparation of the report “Measuring income and poverty in Chile”, based on the 2022 National Socioeconomic Survey. The study is fundamental to this important initiative and is an example of one of the most valuable aspects of the survey, which is the support provided by prestigious technical organizations such as ECLAC and other national and international entities.*

Paula Poblete Maureira, Undersecretary of Social Assessment of the Ministry of Social Development and Family of Chile



A screenshot of a new platform forecasting average annual temperatures in Central America.

Subprogramme 11, Subregional activities in Central America, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Mexico, addressed the structural issues specific to countries of the subregion with respect to progress on sustainable development. **Regional energy integration** continued to be a priority of the Central American Integration System (SICA) member countries. ECLAC supported SICA in the formulation of regional energy compacts and the regional climate change adaptation and mitigation goals for the energy sector to operationalize the 2030 sustainable energy strategy for SICA member countries. Meetings held with the Directors of Energy of SICA member countries and the Secretary General of SICA focused on developing a joint intersectoral agenda for energy and environmental ministries, as well as a road map for its implementation.

A project supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, focused on incorporating **disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in public infrastructure** investment projects to increase the resilience of public works in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic, achieved significant outcomes in 2023. In collaboration with countries' ministries of finance and planning, GIS platforms were successfully installed in the spatial data infrastructure frameworks of seven national institutions.

Cuba's financial situation presents a range of unique challenges for securing development financing. In response, work was undertaken with UNDP and the Office of the Resident Coordinator with support from the Joint Sustainable Development Goals Fund to develop a [Cuban integrated financing framework for the SDGs \(CIFFRA\)](#) as a tool for planning,

defining and evaluating gender-sensitive financial policies and promoting the resource mobilization needed to achieve the SDGs. ECLAC and its partners presented a proposal for an integrated national financing framework for Cuba and developed four tools for modernizing public finances. This highly collaborative process with the Government of Cuba resulted in the strengthening of civil servants' capacities in designing and implementing public policies related to development financing.

Under the subprogramme, ECLAC has provided technical support to Cuba on issues related to **ageing and care systems**. In 2023, a professional exchange was organized for national officers from Cuba and Mexico to share experiences and good practices and promote peer learning on caregiving. Furthermore, a panel discussion was organized on caregiving experiences in selected countries, where representatives from Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Peru shared their insights on legal, political and economic challenges related to ageing and social and care systems. National officers from Cuba highlighted how these opportunities enabled them to mainstream a gender perspective, advance towards legal consolidation and develop monitoring indicators. Subsequently, the Government of Cuba requested additional future support and the Council of Ministers of Cuba approved a proposal for a care system.

Within the framework of the project “New narratives for rural transformation in Latin America and the Caribbean”, which was financed by the International Fund for Agricultural Development and concluded in 2023, an in-depth review of the scope and limitations of the classic definition of rurality was carried out to generate analytical work on recent rural transformations in middle-income countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. The two main outcomes of the project were (i) a methodological framework to improve understanding of the public policy implications of recent rural transformations in Latin America and the Caribbean, identifying the key elements to consider when allocating public funds for territorial development in rural areas; and (ii) the development of protocols for the analysis of structural gaps, with special emphasis on territorial gaps in the context of the transformations that shape the new rurality.

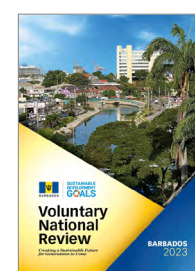
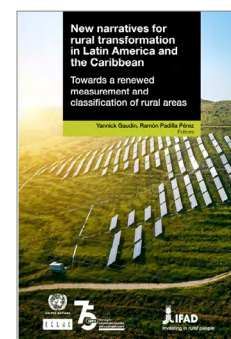
Once again, I would like to thank you and the ECLAC team for the professionalism, responsibility and commitment with which you took on and led the joint programme as a foreign counterpart. It was enjoyable and easy working together as a team because the focus at all times was on meeting deadlines, achieving planned tasks, collaborating and providing mutual support.

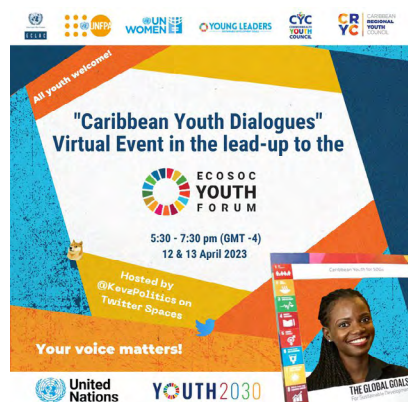
Susset Rosales Vázquez, Director of Strategic Planning and Development of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Planning of Cuba

Under subprogramme 12, Subregional activities in the Caribbean, ECLAC supported Caribbean countries in overcoming challenges that hinder their ability to implement sustainable development. In 2023, ECLAC identified that progress towards achieving the SDGs in the subregion had been hampered by a lack of efficient national **coordination mechanisms**. Through workshops, training activities and technical assistance provided to member States, support was provided to Caribbean countries to fill these governance gaps. Under the subprogramme, technical support was provided to Saint Kitts and Nevis for the preparation of the country's first **voluntary national review and its subsequent presentation to the high-level political forum on sustainable development**. The voluntary national review process fostered national ownership of the 2030 Agenda and facilitated a national self-assessment of progress towards achieving the SDGs. Support continued to be provided to Saint Kitts and Nevis to maintain the initial momentum. In addition, work was undertaken with authorities in Barbados to prepare the country's voluntary national review and produce multimedia components for its presentation to the high-level political forum.



Meeting and field visit for Cuban officials to “La Espiga” Development Centre for Ageing in Mexico.





In the context of the sixth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, the virtual event “Caribbean Youth Dialogues” was supported through the subprogramme, in preparation for the Economic and Social Council youth forum held in April 2023.

The Caribbean Forum on Population and Development was organized in collaboration with the Government of Antigua and Barbuda and UNFPA. This forum, attended by high-level representatives from various Caribbean countries and territories and regional and international organizations, reviewed the subregion’s progress in implementing the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development. Discussions during the forum centred on **key challenges affecting the Caribbean subregion**, such as high levels of external migration, ageing populations, climate change impacts, adolescent pregnancy rates, youth unemployment, crime and violence, including gender-based violence.

ECLAC was also active in supporting countries in the subregion on substantive policy issues such as **innovation and technology**. At the request of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, ECLAC supported the preparation of a draft national science, technology and innovation policy and conducted a mapping exercise to assess the current science, technology and innovation policy, as an input to the [workshop](#) organized by the Ministry of Education and National Reconciliation with the support of ECLAC.

Under the subprogramme, a regional synthesis report was prepared detailing the progress in implementation of the Samoa Pathway in the **Caribbean small island developing States** for the [regional preparatory meeting for the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States](#), which would be held in Antigua and Barbuda in 2024.



In 2023, a United Nations Development Account project focused on capacity-building in Caribbean small island developing States for the development of selected, relevant and prioritized **indicators and metrics to monitor climate change and natural disasters** was closed. The project improved data quality and contributed to the strengthening of resilience to climate change and natural disasters in the subregion, where sustainable development has been—and will continue to be—deeply affected by the consequences of climate change. A key result was the establishment of an Environment Statistics Advisory Committee in some of the beneficiary countries, such as Belize and Grenada.

Work was also undertaken to engage Caribbean policymakers and practitioners in a high-level seminar entitled “Positioning the Caribbean in the knowledge economy: the role of data”. During the event, panel discussions explored the value and culture of data in a knowledge economy; artificial intelligence and the Caribbean data revolution; citizen-generated data and other unofficial sources of data; and advancing digital inclusion through data and measurement.

*I want to express my gratitude for your comprehensive analysis and insights into the data gaps surrounding the SDGs. I commend your efforts in highlighting areas where data collection and monitoring are lacking, as well as identifying potential strategies for addressing these gaps. [...] Our team is committed to taking proactive steps to enhance data collection, analysis and reporting in alignment with the SDGs. We recognize the critical role that accurate and timely data play in informing policy decisions, guiding resource allocation and driving progress towards sustainable development.*

Roxie McLeish-Hutchinson, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Export Development of Grenada

Subprogramme 13, Support for regional and subregional integration and cooperation processes and organizations, enhanced collaboration with bilateral and multilateral cooperation partners through substantive contributions to meetings, technical assistance and the facilitation of multilateral discussions, including the [first session of the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean](#), held in May 2023, which was convened by ECLAC and chaired by Argentina.

**Disability inclusion** is crucial for advancing sustainable development in the region. Inclusion and equal opportunities for persons with disabilities require a coordinated approach from diverse partners in the region. In April 2023, ECLAC hosted a **side event** to the sixth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development to discuss inclusive international cooperation by establishing effective partnerships between public and private actors for the inclusion of persons with disabilities and for the equalization of opportunities in all development-related sectors. The outcomes of the discussions were shared with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility. Additionally, discussions within ECLAC aimed to enhance awareness and practices for including persons with disabilities in all aspects of its work. These discussions included preparatory sessions, dialogues with staff and a session with safety and security staff.

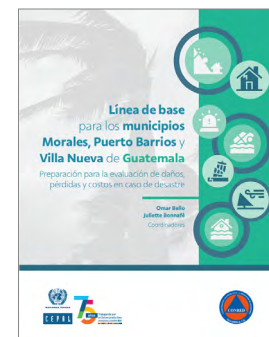


In addition, under the subprogramme, further efforts were made to **advance gender equality in international development cooperation**. ECLAC, in collaboration with the Chilean Agency for International Cooperation for Development, showcased South America's leadership on the topic of international cooperation and feminist foreign policy at a **two-day meeting** in November on achieving gender equality in South America through cooperation and foreign policy. On that occasion, representatives emphasized the importance of integrating gender perspectives into cooperation initiatives for more effective development outcomes and the significance of gender equality in building fairer and more democratic societies, reducing structural vulnerabilities and accelerating progress towards substantive equality for women and girls.

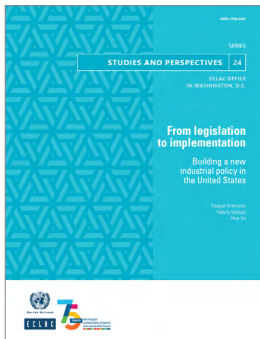
ECLAC also continued to expand the development, support and application of the Damage and Loss Assessment methodology within the countries of the region. The methodology, which allows for detailed measurement of the capital exposed to different types of threat and identifies and classifies the local population to determine its vulnerabilities, was used to create a multisectoral baseline in **three municipalities of Guatemala**. Furthermore, the methodology was used to establish a baseline of assets and flows for three categories: museums, libraries and heritage buildings. This work was detailed in a **document** developed jointly by ECLAC and the National Cultural Heritage Service of the Ministry of Cultures, Arts and Heritage of Chile, with support from the National Disaster Prevention and Response Service of Chile.

*We wish to emphasize that, without this work carried out by the ECLAC team, the country would be very far from meeting a very important commitment undertaken by the State: to quantify the direct economic losses of cultural heritage that has been damaged or destroyed by disasters.*

Nérida Pozo Kudo, National Director of the National Cultural Heritage Service of Chile



## ECLAC national offices



The **ECLAC office in Washington, D.C.** continued to serve as a liaison office with international and inter-American organizations based in Washington, D.C., supporting intergovernmental processes and fostering cooperation among the region's stakeholders.

Particular focus was placed on analysing the **implementation of the new industrial policy legislation** in the United States and its potential implications for Latin America and the Caribbean. Other publications in 2023 included the annual report on trade between Latin America and the Caribbean and the United States and publications on economic conditions in the United States and capital flows to Latin America and the Caribbean. The latter reports also included an expanded analysis of sustainable bond issuance in the region.

The office also participated in the Bretton Woods institutions' Spring Meetings held in Washington, D.C. This setting deepened the collaboration with the technical secretariat of the Intergovernmental Group of Twenty-four on International Monetary Affairs and Development, contributing to **raising awareness of the region's economic challenges**.



ECLAC staff presenting at the twelfth Conference of the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Researchers and Policymakers in Services.

ECLAC, in collaboration with the regional programme Alliances for Democracy and Development with Latin America of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, organized the twelfth Conference of the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Researchers and Policymakers in Services. The meeting focused on opportunities for **regional integration in services**, including considerations on regional value chains, the contribution of regional trade in services to sustainable development and e-commerce as a driver of regional integration.

Lastly, the office has continued to support the Summit of the Americas. In 2023, the focus was on helping to implement the mandates of the ninth Summit of the Americas, particularly the following political commitments: Our Sustainable Green Future and Regional Agenda for Digital Transformation.

*Foremost, I would like to thank you for your valuable contributions [...] on the occasion of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States. That meeting was an opportunity to reflect together on what has been achieved this far in the follow-up and implementation phase of the ninth Summit, as well as to hear your perspectives on how to strengthen the work of the Joint Summit Working Group in this phase and going forward. We look forward to continued collaboration to advance the follow-up and implementation of the ninth Summit of the Americas.*

María Celina Conte, Director of the Summits of the Americas Secretariat of the Organization of American States



A meeting with **key Colombian government entities** as part of the project "Inclusive, sustainable and smart cities in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

The **ECLAC office in Bogotá** provided support and assistance to Colombia's national and regional governments in their efforts to **transition to a sustainable economy**. The national office played a key role in coordinating ECLAC support for implementation of the reindustrialization policy launched by the Government of Colombia on 20 February 2023.

Furthermore, the project "**Inclusive, sustainable and smart cities in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean**", implemented by ECLAC through the ECLAC-BMZ/GIZ cooperation programme, is researching the potential of sustainable mobility to accelerate Bogotá's decarbonization efforts. In April, the office organized a series of meetings with national counterparts involved in regulatory framework adaptation, productive and industrial development management, and public transport, as well as with potential private investors and producers. These meetings aimed to disseminate ECLAC work promoting

the creation of regional value chains and the acceleration of conversion processes as mechanisms to attract the investment required for the implementation of productive development policies.

*The ECLAC proposal focuses on how to reconvert mass transportation systems, switching from fossil fuel vehicles to electric vehicles without transitioning to hybrids. This is the primary objective for both the continent and Colombia to reactivate their industries.*

Ricardo Bonilla González, President of Financiera de Desarrollo Territorial (FINDETER), Colombia

The **ECLAC office in Brasilia** has been contributing to a transformative recovery for a productive, inclusive and sustainable future in Brazil by promoting a big push for sustainability. In 2023, the office published a [proposal](#) to mobilize public and private investments for a transition to a low-carbon economy while also fostering growth and equity. The publication was launched at a high-level [seminar](#) held on World Environment Day and co-organized by ECLAC, the National Bank for Economic and Social Development (BNDES) and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. Following the seminar, [BNDES and ECLAC signed a memorandum of understanding](#) to formalize their cooperation and explore sustainable investment opportunities in Brazil.

The office also deepened its collaboration with the industrial and productive sector in Brazil. ECLAC provided support to the National Confederation of Industry to organize the tenth International Industry Innovation Summit, in which over 4,000 people participated in person and 16,000 did so remotely. The office developed a [white paper](#) that informed the conference themes and sessions, and supported the preparation of the [proposal](#) for a national eco-innovation strategy for Brazilian industry.

In addition, the office expanded its successful matchmaking initiative under the green patents project, supported by the Euroclima+ programme, the National Institute of Industrial Property and the Ministry of Development, Industry, Trade and Services of Brazil. The initiative showcased products and innovations from green technology providers in the fields of renewable energy, sustainable agriculture and waste management. The [matchmaking](#) event saw a high level of participation and resulted in 96 successful connections in 20 Latin American and European countries.

The office also coordinated youth initiatives, namely by supporting the participation of young technical advisors in the Parliamentary Observatory on Climate Change and Just Transition, where they authored the [first legislative bulletin](#) on climate change framework legislation.

*ECLAC has always been a key reference centre for developmentalist, structuralist and innovative economic thinking that combines economic development and the fight against inequality on our continent.*

Aloizio Mercadante, President of BNDES, Brazil



Participants in green technology matchmaking.

The **ECLAC office in Argentina** supports the country's social and economic priorities for productive and inclusive development, and thus played a pivotal role by providing new insights and analysis on payment methods and household indebtedness from a gender perspective. Policy design support in Argentina included work conducted on the parenting index and the [regulations](#) for addressing consumer overindebtedness with a view to enhancing women's economic autonomy. That work was informed by a comprehensive understanding of the financial needs of single mother heads of household, as highlighted in the first [report](#) on debt, gender and care in Argentina. Those initiatives shed light on the challenges faced by women in managing household finances and underscored the importance of addressing issues such as economic violence and ensuring equitable distribution of caregiving responsibilities.

In April 2023, the office worked with the ILO country office to publish the second edition of the [bulletin](#) on the labour situation in Argentina.

The office also provided significant technical assistance on **provincial and territorial development and transformation in Argentina**, supporting the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation in its ambition to improve science and technology infrastructure across the country, which culminated in the publication of a [document](#) examining science, technology and innovation at the federal and territorial levels. The office also developed strategic guidelines for productive transformation in the provinces of [Catamarca](#), [Corrientes](#), [Jujuy](#), [Salta](#), [San Juan](#), [Santa Fe](#), [Tierra del Fuego](#) and [Tucumán](#), which identify the sectors and activities with the highest potential.

*It is very helpful to have the support of ECLAC in analysing income and living conditions from a multidimensional perspective, as well as the economic and productive framework that determines sectoral productivity gaps, resources and the degree of productive diversification.*

Mirta Blazquez de Merlo, Director of Escuela de Gobierno del Provincia de Chaco



Presentation by ECLAC on the preliminary results of a study on employment, informality and wages.

The work of the **ECLAC office in Montevideo** focused on cross-cutting SDG-related issues of strategic importance for civil society and the national government: fostering economic growth with environmental sustainability, creating formal jobs with better wages for higher productivity and reducing inequality.

In October, the office worked with ILO and the Resident Coordinator Office to organize the seminar “Dialogues about the Future of Uruguay”, which addressed such topics as decent employment, social inclusion, and trade and regional integration, and in which government officials, worker organizations and representatives from industry and academia participated.

Working with the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Instituto Juan Pablo Terra, the Resident Coordinator Office and other United Nations agencies, the office collaborated in generating employment research and data, also providing analysis and policy recommendations focusing on employment and wage trends, taking gender, race and inequality into consideration.

Other work included the organization of an international seminar on structural change, social inclusion and environmental sustainability and a seminar on technology and competitiveness in the Department of Tacuarembó, with the participation of subnational authorities and directors of the National Agricultural Research Institute of Uruguay.

*We extend our most sincere thanks for the technical support received this year in implementing the Labour Market System Project for Uruguay.*

Pablo Mieres, Minister of Labour and Social Welfare of Uruguay



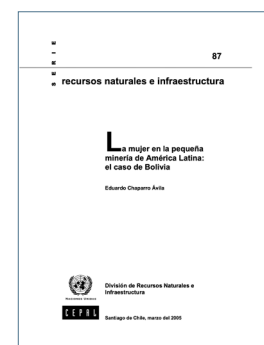
## Gender mainstreaming, disability inclusion and engagement with young people

In line with the Commission's strategies for gender mainstreaming and disability inclusion and the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy, the commitment to gender equality and disability inclusion is embedded throughout its work. The Commission is also strengthening its engagement with young people in line with the United Nations Youth Strategy.

Over the years, ECLAC has supported the region's work to foster gender equality, including by providing evidence-based research analysis and studying women's participation in traditionally male-dominated economic sectors. The Commission has also facilitated informed decision and policymaking by providing technical assistance to governments.

Pioneering studies such as those on [women in small-scale mining in the Plurinational State of Bolivia](#) and [women in the mining sector in Chile](#) assessed **the potential of women's participation in the mining industry**. Meetings and policy dialogues were also convened, including [the intersectoral dialogue on women in the mining sector](#), in which Chilean government authorities participated.

A key issue for advancing equality and women's economic empowerment is **financial inclusion and gender**. Efforts in that regard included the publication of research on [invisible barriers to the social inclusion of women](#), [women's financial inclusion in the Dominican Republic](#) and the [financial inclusion structural gap in Mexico](#). **Gender-responsive budgeting** was addressed in the context of [capacity-building on gender statistics and indicators](#) delivered to the Ministry of Finance of Chile. The Commission has also been providing technical support to the Development Banking System of Costa Rica since 2017, while more recent support has focused on designing a road map to implement the System's [gender equality policy](#).



Financial inclusion informed by a gender-sensitive approach has also been discussed in the [Latin America and the Caribbean Development Banking Community of Practice](#), established by ECLAC in collaboration with the Latin American Association of Development Financing Institutions and IDB. In Argentina, the work of the Commission was key in providing new insights and analysis on **payment methods and household indebtedness from a gender perspective**. In that context, the first report on debt, gender, and care in Argentina, published by ECLAC, informed the [parenting index](#) and the regulation for the prevention and resolution of consumer overindebtedness. Moreover, the unveiling in July 2023 of the [first estimation of the monthly childcare basket](#) by the country's National Institute of Statistics and Censuses bolstered the commitment to recognizing and valuing caregiving work.

Issues of non-neutrality in fiscal policy have also been analysed in the *Fiscal Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean*, an annual ECLAC publication. The [2021 edition](#) included a chapter on **gender-responsive fiscal policy**, while **public spending** in relation to gender equality, Indigenous Peoples, Afrodescendants and persons with disabilities was analysed in the [2023 edition](#).

In the area of international trade, ECLAC developed a methodology to measure women's participation in the export sector and provided technical assistance on the relationship between **women's participation and trade**, as well as on best practices and tools for the inclusion of gender equality provisions in bilateral and multilateral trade agreements. In that context, ECLAC convened a [webinar](#) in May 2021 on measurement and analysis of international trade from a gender perspective, as part of the gender chapter of the free trade agreement between Chile and Uruguay.

In 2022, technical support was delivered to the Pacific Alliance and the Andean Community to measure women's participation in the export sector and assess whether trade policies created incentives to boost that participation. Workshops were also organized to strengthen national capacity to mainstream the gender perspective in trade agreements and identify trade opportunities among the countries of the Pacific Alliance, and on trade policy tools that contribute to women's economic empowerment and gender equality. That work supported nine countries in the Latin American and Caribbean region in undertaking negotiations to incorporate gender chapters in trade agreements.

Sluggish global trade growth in recent years and renewed interest in regional integration have created opportunities for the maritime sector to strengthen regional value chains. In August 2023, the [seventh Meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Port Logistics Communities: Network of Digital and Collaborative Ports](#) included a dedicated session on **women's role in the maritime port industry and gender equality**, which included a presentation on **regional progress and initiatives and women's contributions, on land and at sea, to the maritime, trade and logistics sectors**.

**Climate change mitigation and adaptation** is critical in a region that is home to 13 of the 50 countries hardest hit by climate change, according to the [Latin American Economic Outlook 2022: Towards a Green and Just Transition](#). A pioneering **damage and loss assessment** methodology developed by ECLAC was key in enabling the Commission to deliver skills training on disaster risk management and risk reduction. In 2023, continued cooperation with Honduras evolved towards the preparation of [baseline assessments](#) that **included gender-sensitive analysis** for two of the country's most vulnerable municipalities, La Lima and El Progreso, which evaluated the female population's pre-disaster state and gender-disaggregated employment data in the commerce and manufacturing sectors.

The Commission also conducted studies on closing gender gaps in the context of the **energy transition**. Issues such as gender mainstreaming, gender barriers in labour markets linked with innovative energy sectors, and education and curriculum gaps for girls and women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields were discussed at the [First Latin American Conference on Women and Energy: Capacities for Change, Empowerment, Gender and Energy](#), hosted by ECLAC in 2023 in collaboration GIZ.

Given the vital importance of statistical data in shedding light on structural gaps and facilitating the design and implementation of public policies to reduce disparities, the Commission's work to promote **gender mainstreaming in statistical production** through the Statistical Conference of the Americas is longstanding. In that regard, in 2022, ECLAC launched the publication [Breaking the statistical silence to achieve gender equality by 2030](#), and in 2023, at the twelfth meeting of the Conference, the [Guidelines for mainstreaming the gender perspective in statistical production](#) were adopted by the heads of national statistical offices.

Bearing in mind the need to raise the level of ambition to support countries in advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, ECLAC has developed novel and comprehensive proposals in many strategic sectors. One transformative proposal is [The care society: a horizon for sustainable recovery with gender equality](#), presented by ECLAC at the fifteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and adopted by member States in the [Buenos Aires Commitment](#).

ECLAC has provided specific support for its implementation, including technical assistance for the District Care System of Bogotá in the development of a georeferencing system that provides supply and demand data about care services and also maps the sociodemographic characteristics of target populations. The Commission issued policy recommendations for fiscal mapping and financial sustainability in the document [Financing care systems and policies in Latin America and the Caribbean: Contributions for a sustainable recovery with gender equality](#). ECLAC also aided in the development of a component of the first equality policy in the Province of Buenos Aires, Argentina, focused on women's economic autonomy, care and co-responsibility.

Inclusion is also a priority in the fast-evolving area of digital transformation. At the Eighth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, a discussion was held on closing gaps and enhancing economic autonomy for greater inclusion in digitalization. The meeting document [A digital path for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean](#) evidenced the relationship between digital skills and gender gaps. As an outcome of the Conference, member States adopted the [Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean \(eLAC2024\)](#), containing specific goals for the development of digital skills and competencies (goal 7), accessibility in the digital environment, with a focus on vulnerable population groups and persons with specific needs (goal 21), and gender equality and inclusion in digital policies to ensure the reduction of all digital gender gaps (goal 22). Proposals for the digital transformation, including with regard to **bridging the gender and age digital divides**, were also discussed during the ninth [School for Digital Transformation and Innovation](#), which brought together digital ecosystem policymakers, international experts and national practitioners.



First Latin American Conference on Women and Energy, held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago.



Participants at the ninth School for Digital Transformation and Innovation.

**The national transfer accounts** methodology provides a coherent accounting framework of economic flows from one age group or generation to another, enabling estimations of the economic impacts of demographic change. The 2022 joint ECLAC-PAHO publication *Aging in Latin America and the Caribbean from the Perspective of National Transfer Accounts* sheds light on trends and challenges in the region, including the **importance of strengthening the human capital of children and young people** through improved public education and health care. Methodological developments based on national transfer accounts, such as national time transfer accounts and national inclusion accounts projects, extend analysis to gender and socioeconomic inequalities, respectively. In that context, ECLAC delivered technical assistance and training activities in several countries, including to the National Administrative Department of Statistics of Colombia, resulting in frequent national transfer account updates to the country's **National Statistical Plan** to facilitate socioeconomic policy design and evaluation, more specifically for the **care economy in Colombia**.

In the context of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean, ECLAC also supported the preparation, in 2021, of the document “**Latin American and Caribbean youth and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: an examination from within the United Nations system**”, to review the status of implementation of selected SDGs and their impacts on the youth population of Latin America and the Caribbean and to define lines of action to foster resilient, sustainable and inclusive development in the region's youth sectors.



Youth engagement in the fifth forum of children, adolescents and youth of Latin America and the Caribbean, held in the context of the sixth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development.

The ECLAC office in Brasilia promoted youth participation in the Parliamentary Observatory on Climate Change and Just Transition by supporting legislative leaders' technical advisors under 30 years of age, the authors of the Observatory's first **Legislative Bulletin**, on framework legislation on climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In preparation for the annual Economic and Social Council youth forum, the annual meetings of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development also include back-to-back **youth forums**.

Together with UNICEF and América Solidaria, ECLAC has worked to boost **CONCAUSA**, a regional programme that encourages young leaders in driving transformation and advancing the 2030 Agenda by establishing a network of youth change agents and developing and implementing social innovation projects in their communities.



Youth leaders from Latin America and the Caribbean at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago during the closing session of CONCAUSA, in 2022.

The Commission has also prioritized the **labour inclusion of persons with disabilities**, undertaking initiatives with strategic partners like ONCE Social Group. One example was the joint publication of a [document](#) on persons with disabilities, labour inclusion and the main challenges in the region's social protection systems, followed by a [workshop](#) and a [virtual presentation](#) in which the region's countries participated. Under that partnership, ECLAC sits on the Advisory Council of [Por Talento Latinoamérica](#), which aims to improve employment conditions for persons with disabilities in Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Ecuador. Moreover, with technical assistance from ECLAC, all Latin American countries began including questions on disability in their 2010 census round. Despite this progress, producing statistical information that is comparable across countries continues to pose significant challenges.

Throughout 2023, ECLAC continued to support the [Buenos Aires Group](#), a regional branch of the Washington Group working on disability statistics. CELADE worked alongside countries in the incorporation of the Washington Group's short set of questions in their 2020-decade round of censuses, providing technical assistance in 2023 to Chile, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Panama and the Plurinational State of Bolivia. ECLAC also published a study on [measuring disability using administrative records](#) from educational institutions to advance towards regional harmonization, and continues to provide technical assistance to countries in producing standard national reports on disability statistics.

New methodologies employed by ECLAC allow **data disaggregation estimated through household surveys**, with greater detail than those instruments achieve on their own. In 2023, ECLAC began using small area estimation methods to calculate figures on extreme poverty, poverty and other indicators, disaggregated by location (major administrative division) and by characteristic, such as sex, age, disability status and ethnicity, disseminating them through [CEPALSTAT](#).

ECLAC has also worked on **the challenges of population ageing**, encouraging countries to share experiences with legal, political, economic, social protection and care systems. Support provided to national authorities in Cuba led to the adoption of the National Care System by the Council of Ministers in December 2023. The Commission also delivered technical support to the National Secretariat for Care and Family Policy of Brazil to inform the National Care Policy and National Care Plan. Recommendations on **social protection and care for persons with disabilities** were systematized in a [document](#) published under the ECLAC-BMZ/GIZ cooperation programme.



# 10 ● ● ●

## Strategic partnerships for development

Throughout 2023, ECLAC focused its development cooperation and partnership efforts on strengthening the alignment of its extrabudgetary resource mobilization and implementation strategies with the renewed strategic vision of the Commission for supporting the region's countries in accelerating the profound transformation of productive structures that is essential for achieving and boosting economic growth and social inclusion. These transformations and their main driving sectors overlap significantly with the focus areas of the Commission's development cooperation partners, expanding opportunities for collaboration. In addition to deepening relationships with its development partners, ECLAC seized opportunities to build new partnerships, placing particular emphasis on broadening ties with the private sector and other nontraditional partners and exploring new modalities. As development partners reassess priorities and budgets in response to the cascading crises hindering sustainable development worldwide, the Commission's unique role in regional development and proven track record working with member States remain key differentiators as these partners seek to maximize their impact.

Several large projects with major partners, which had been extended owing to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, were completed in 2023. The Commission's extrabudgetary resource expenditure remained high. Compared with 2022, extrabudgetary resource implementation was stable in 2023 (US\$ 13.3 million and US\$ 13.6 million, respectively), and significantly higher than in previous years: US\$ 8.6 million in 2021, US\$ 6.5 million in 2020, and US\$ 9 million in 2019.

With regard to resource mobilization, ECLAC secured US\$ 11.8 million in 2023, down slightly from the 2022 figure but higher than in 2020 and 2021. On the basis of an analysis of official development assistance trends and other indicators, ECLAC expects to continue to mobilize extrabudgetary resources of between US\$ 11.5 million and US\$ 12.5 million annually in the years to come. Several new project agreements were signed with existing donors and several other projects were launched with new development partners. As such, 41 project agreements were signed in 2023, compared with 33 in 2022. Also of significant note was the number of framework agreements signed in 2023, more than double the 2022 figure (54 and 24, respectively). Even though these agreements do not involve financial resource transfers, they establish a basis for cooperation with ECLAC and clearly indicate development stakeholders' interest in partnering with ECLAC.

As in previous years, the extrabudgetary project portfolio in 2023 covered a wide range of topics and priorities of the member States of the region, and included important projects related to the implementation of the Escazú Agreement; the advancement of gender equality, women's autonomy and care policies throughout the region; support for census and pre-census activities; and fiscal policy, social protection and economic recovery amid the cascading crises facing the region.

## Framework agreements and technical cooperation projects in 2023

Table 3 shows the number of framework agreements signed in 2023. These agreements were signed with governmental and non-governmental agencies and institutions in order to initiate a working relationship that does not involve the transfer of financial resources. Table 4 shows the number of technical cooperation projects signed in 2023. These projects involve the transfer of financial resources from donor institutions.

**Table 3**  
ECLAC technical cooperation framework agreements signed in 2023

Bilateral agreements	
Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean	22
Governments outside the region	8
Non-governmental organizations	8
Academic institutions	1
Private sector and foundations	1
<b>Total bilateral agreements</b>	<b>40</b>
Multilateral agreements	
United Nations system agencies	10
Development banks	1
European Commission	1
Intergovernmental and other organizations	2
<b>Total multilateral agreements</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Total framework agreements signed</b>	<b>54</b>

**Table 4**  
ECLAC technical cooperation projects signed in 2023

Bilateral projects	
Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean	17
Governments outside the region	8
Non-governmental organizations	0
Academic institutions	0
Private sector and foundations	5
<b>Total bilateral projects</b>	<b>30</b>
Multilateral projects	
United Nations system agencies	8
Development banks	0
European Commission	1
Intergovernmental and other organizations	2
<b>Total multilateral projects</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Total projects signed</b>	<b>41</b>

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Many of the activities implemented by ECLAC in 2023 and funded through extrabudgetary resources were conducted in cooperation with countries from the region. While implementation of multi-year projects from previous years continued, the Commission also signed new framework or project agreements with various ministries in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua and Uruguay, including with national and local entities.

Bilateral cooperation with governments from outside the region also remained strong, and major agreements were signed with both longtime partners and new contributors, which included framework or cooperation agreements with France, Germany, the Republic of Korea and Spain.

Building on a long history of collaboration, implementation continued in 2023 for several multi-year projects funded by Germany through its Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), including the [CISI project](#) for smart, inclusive and sustainable cities and the [MINSUS](#) regional cooperation project for the sustainable management of mining resources in the Andean countries, which are directly linked to the key transformations for sustainability highlighted in the Commission's strategic vision. Meanwhile, the social and industrial policy components of the project "Recover Better: overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic consequences in Latin America and the Caribbean" were expanded thanks to additional funding. Technical assistance provided to Honduras on social protection informed its new Social Protection Policy as well as the non-contributory component of the integrated social protection bill, currently before the country's Congress.





Spain is a longtime cooperation partner, and in 2023, AECID signed a new two-year cooperation agreement with ECLAC. The agreement contains five lines of work, with focus areas ranging from fiscal policy and social cohesion to gender equality and support for the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Spanish and German cooperation were instrumental through the year in enabling ECLAC to expand the fiscal policymaking technical support provided to member States, demonstrating both nations' commitment to strengthening governance and promoting equitable and sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean. Spain provided funding for the thirty-fifth Regional Seminar on Fiscal Policy and the Ibero-American Conferences on Local Financing, valuable platforms for discussing fiscal challenges and fostering cooperation among the region's countries. With support from Germany, ECLAC delivered technical assistance to Chile in the development of a theoretical framework for gender-responsive national budgeting and in the organization of technical workshops to improve fiscal efficiency.



A new annual agreement between ECLAC and the Republic of Korea provided an opportunity to further cement ties between the two partners. Projects in 2023 focused on topics of mutual concern for the Republic of Korea and Latin America and the Caribbean, including digital and inclusive trade, the impacts of climate change, and population ageing and the rights of older persons. Korean cooperation also supported technical assistance for an inter-agency team tasked with studying national transfer accounts in Guatemala, which strengthened national capacity to incorporate the economic impacts of population dynamics into public policies.



The partnership between France and ECLAC focused on energy policy design, fostering a just and sustainable energy transition in the region and supporting the dissemination of project outputs from past ECLAC-France cooperation agreements. ECLAC also signed an agreement with Expertise France to support the implementation of the Escazú Agreement in Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico and the Plurinational State of Bolivia, and continued to collaborate with the French Development Agency on modelling the impact of climate change.



Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Commission's most recent project with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, "Enhancing human capacities throughout the life cycle for equality and productivity," concluded in mid-2023. The initiative, which focused on inclusive capacity development throughout the region, produced research and analyses at the regional and national levels, provided technical support to several member States and fostered regional and national dialogues with key stakeholders.



The Commission's strategic partnership with the European Union continued throughout 2023, with work progressing on several key projects. After a no-cost extension, the multi-year Regional Facility for Development in Transition initiative concluded. The project included lines of work on a variety of priority topics, such as social stratification and mobility, digital technology and sustainable agriculture, and women's autonomy. Work also continued in 2023 on other joint programmes, including EUROCLIMA and the EU-LAC Digital Alliance.



New topics, such as biodiversity, were incorporated into the joint activities of ECLAC and the EUROCLIMA programme. In that context, ECLAC worked with the Central Bank of Mexico to explore ways to channel funding to local communities for biodiversity conservation and restoration, with several megadiverse countries in the region participating. In collaboration with the Central American Monetary Council, research was conducted on macroeconomic scenarios to evaluate climate impacts, laying the groundwork for future collaboration with the subregion's central banks on assessing the financial stability risks stemming from high climate vulnerability.

In a development that underscores the potential of partnerships with development banks, ECLAC signed a framework agreement with CAF in 2023.

As in years past, ECLAC continued to partner closely with United Nations system agencies, funds and programmes to boost impact and foster coordination and coherence. United Nations system entities comprised half the Commission's top 10 multilateral donors in 2023. New framework or cooperation agreements, amendments or project extensions were signed with ILO, UNDP, UNESCO, the United Nations Environment Programme, UNFPA, UNU, UN-Women and the World Food Programme. Meanwhile, implementation of a project involving ECLAC and UNICEF continued. The agreements signed covered topics such as country-level support for national censuses, the elimination of child marriage, green hydrogen, and the promotion of the Regional Gender Agenda, among others.

Similarly, work continued throughout 2023 on existing projects supported by United Nations trust funds. That included a project funded by the United Nations peace and development trust fund to support drinking water, sanitation and renewable energies in vulnerable municipalities in El Salvador, Mexico and Panama and a United Nations Road Safety Fund project being implemented in Colombia.

The Commission stepped up engagement with the private sector throughout the year, both with existing partners and new donors, and 4 of its 10 top donors in 2023 were private foundations. While activities concluded on a multi-year project on the future of work funded by the Ford Foundation, it maintained the support aimed at fostering civil society participation in the Escazú Agreement. The Commission also deepened its partnership with the Wellspring Philanthropic Fund. A multi-year project on women's rights and autonomy concluded in late 2023, while agreement was reached on two new projects: one building on the results of that project and another to address education gaps in Mexico.

ECLAC received its first grant from the Waverley Street Foundation in 2023. This multi-year, seven-figure initiative supports government implementation plans and regional action plans linked with the Escazú Agreement.

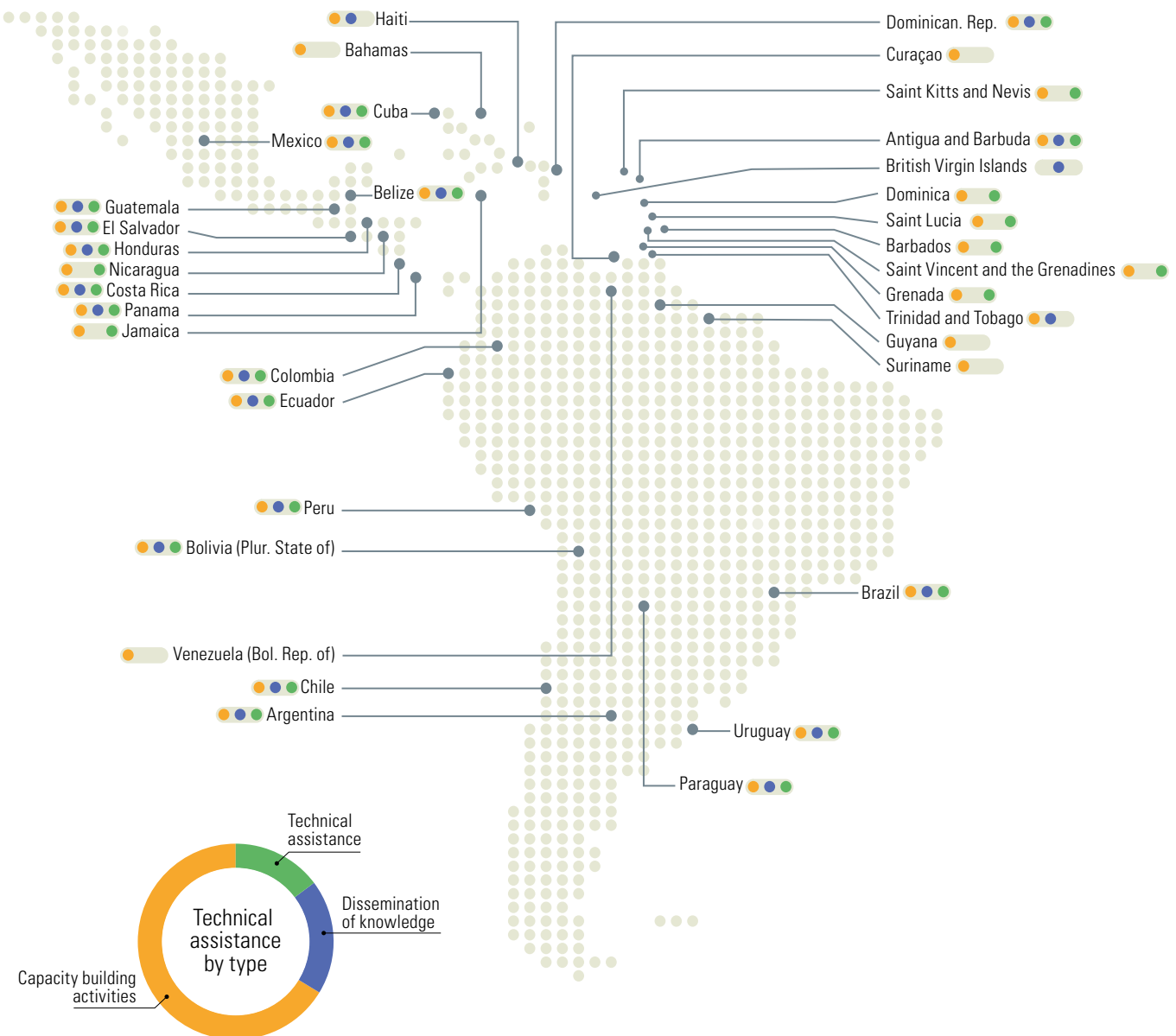
Finally, work continued in 2023 on the Parliamentary Observatory on Climate Change and Just Transition, a project funded by the Open Society Foundations focused on building a regional agenda for climate ambition and a just transition, involving parliamentarians from over 20 ECLAC member States and associate members.





# 11 ● ● ●

## Technical cooperation



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).  
 Note: The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



## Results-based management and outreach

Results-based management is at the core of the Commission’s commitment to use its resources efficiently to deliver the best results, in line with the mandates conferred upon it by its member States.

In 2023, it presented the *draft programme of work of the ECLAC system for 2025* at the thirty-seventh session of the Committee of the Whole, highlighting the overall direction of its programming, which translated into a series of outputs designed to operationalize its objectives. That document served as the basis for the proposed programme budget to be submitted for the consideration of the General Assembly of the United Nations. At the same session, ECLAC presented the *Report on the activities of the Commission, 2022*, containing its achievements and main outcomes in 2022.

The implementation of the programme of work was monitored by the Programme Planning and Operations Division and by all substantive divisions and offices. The Commission delivered 405 outputs, for an overall implementation rate of 96% (see table 5 for details).

**Table 5**  
Implementation of programme of work, 2023  
(Number of outputs)

	Planned	Delivered
Parliamentary documentation	3	3
Substantive services for meetings	19	18
Technical cooperation projects	19	19
Seminars, workshops, fellowships and training events	97	94
Publications	127	121
Technical materials	46	43
Consultation, advice and advocacy	53	50
Databases and substantive digital materials	43	42
Outreach programmes, special events and informative content	2	2
Communications content	13	13

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

In 2023, ECLAC revised its Evaluation Policy and Strategy, incorporating important changes into the evaluation practices of the Commission in accordance with the Secretariat’s rules and regulations on evaluation. The most significant changes included an emphasis on the importance of mainstreaming disability inclusion in evaluation

processes, consideration of the contributions of the regular programme for technical cooperation, and the implementation of best practices to enhance transparency in the communication of ECLAC follow-up actions to implement evaluation recommendations (i.e. management responses).

Evaluation in 2023 focused on projects funded with extrabudgetary resources, including projects in Argentina and Brazil funded by the United Nations Road Safety Fund and one interregional project on the development of value chains, funded by the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation and jointly implemented with ESCAP. Lastly, in accordance with the commitments under the strategy for gender mainstreaming for the period 2020–2025, ECLAC conducted the midterm evaluation of its implementation in late 2023, to take stock of progress and ensure that adjustments were made for the remainder of the period.

The Commission continued to collaborate with the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS), the Joint Inspection Unit and the Board of Auditors to implement recommendations made in the context of external oversight exercises and thereby continuously improve in delivering its mandate. In 2023, all recommendations made by OIOS in the evaluation of subprogramme 3, on macroeconomic policies and growth, were implemented.

## Library

Key figures: Hernán Santa Cruz Library in 2023



### Digital repository

**45 970**

Total records

**1 264**

New records uploaded

**17 905 171**

Downloads



### Library website

**23 560**

Page views

**1 159 589**

Total research guide views



### Social Media

**8 422**

Followers on X  
(formerly known as Twitter)

**1 044**

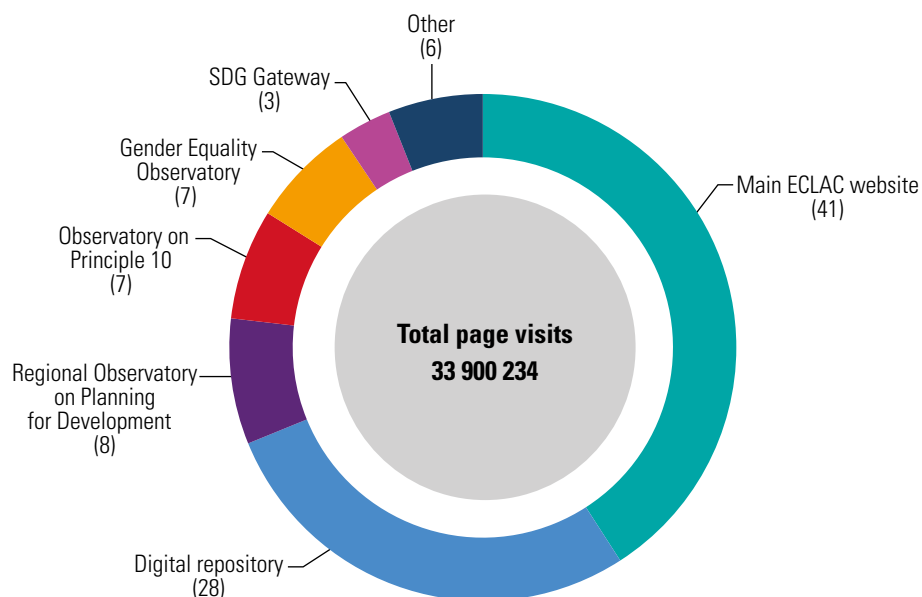
YouTube followers

**4 273**

YouTube video views

## Web Services Unit

(Percentages and number of visits)



## Press and communication

Key figures: ECLAC press and communication in 2023

