

Gender data and analysis to inform trade policy and strengthen accountability mechanisms in Latin America and the Caribbean



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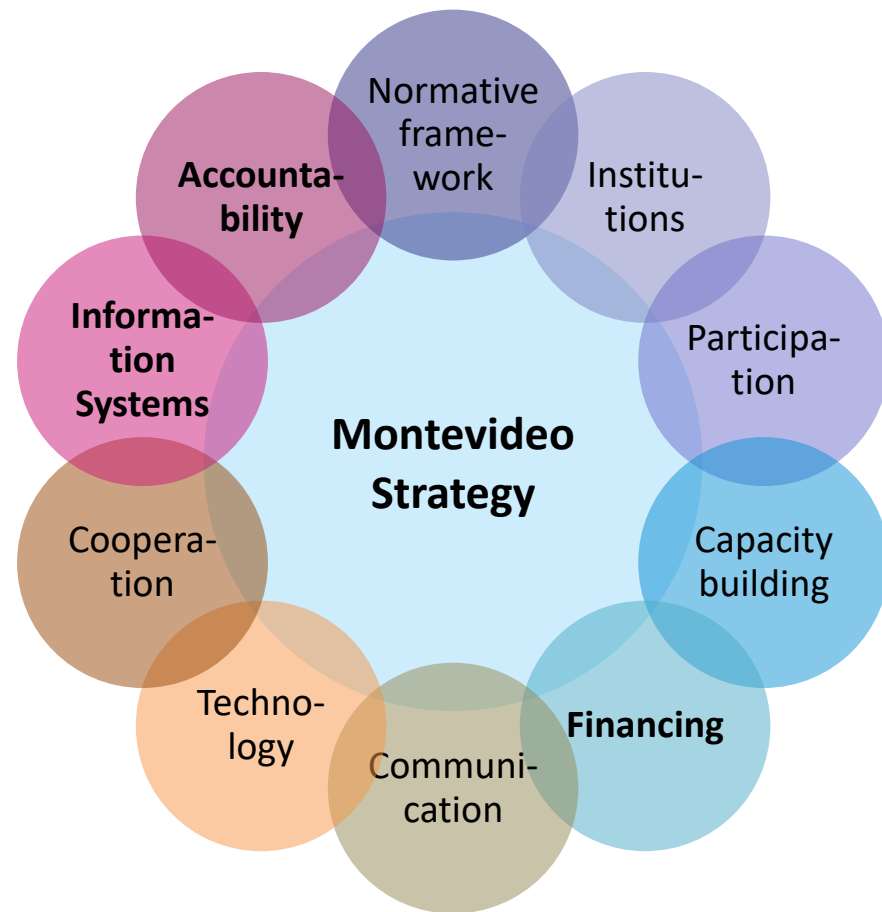
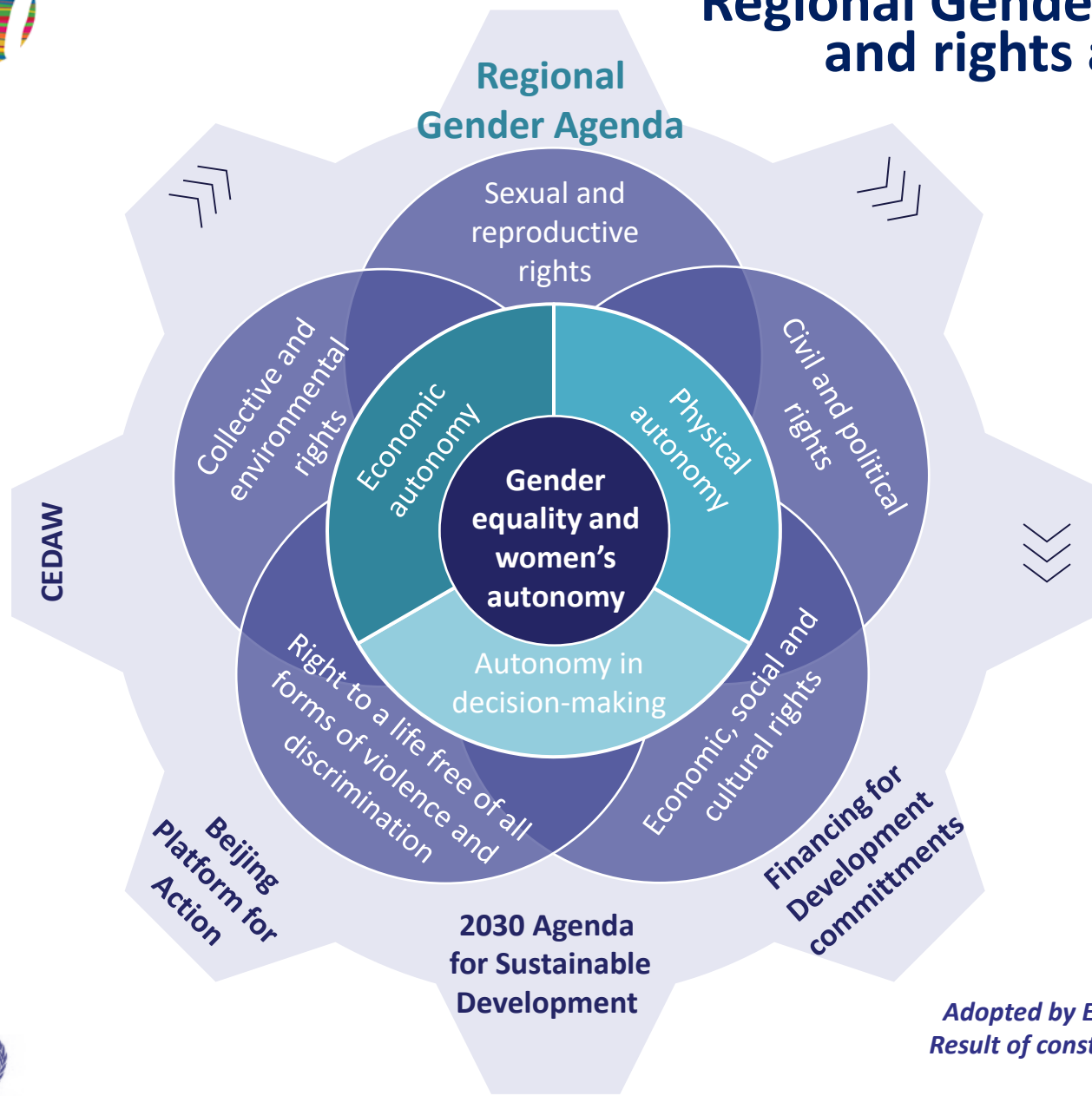
Panel Discussion on Trade and Development, themed 'Advocacy and Accountability: Who Gets To Be at The Trade Negotiating Table?'

Gender and Development Forum

ECLAC



Regional Gender Agenda: women's autonomy and rights at the core of sustainable development



Adopted by ECLAC member States in the sessions of the Regional Conference on Women in LAC. Result of constructive dialogue between Governments, women's and feminists' organizations and movements, and the UN system.





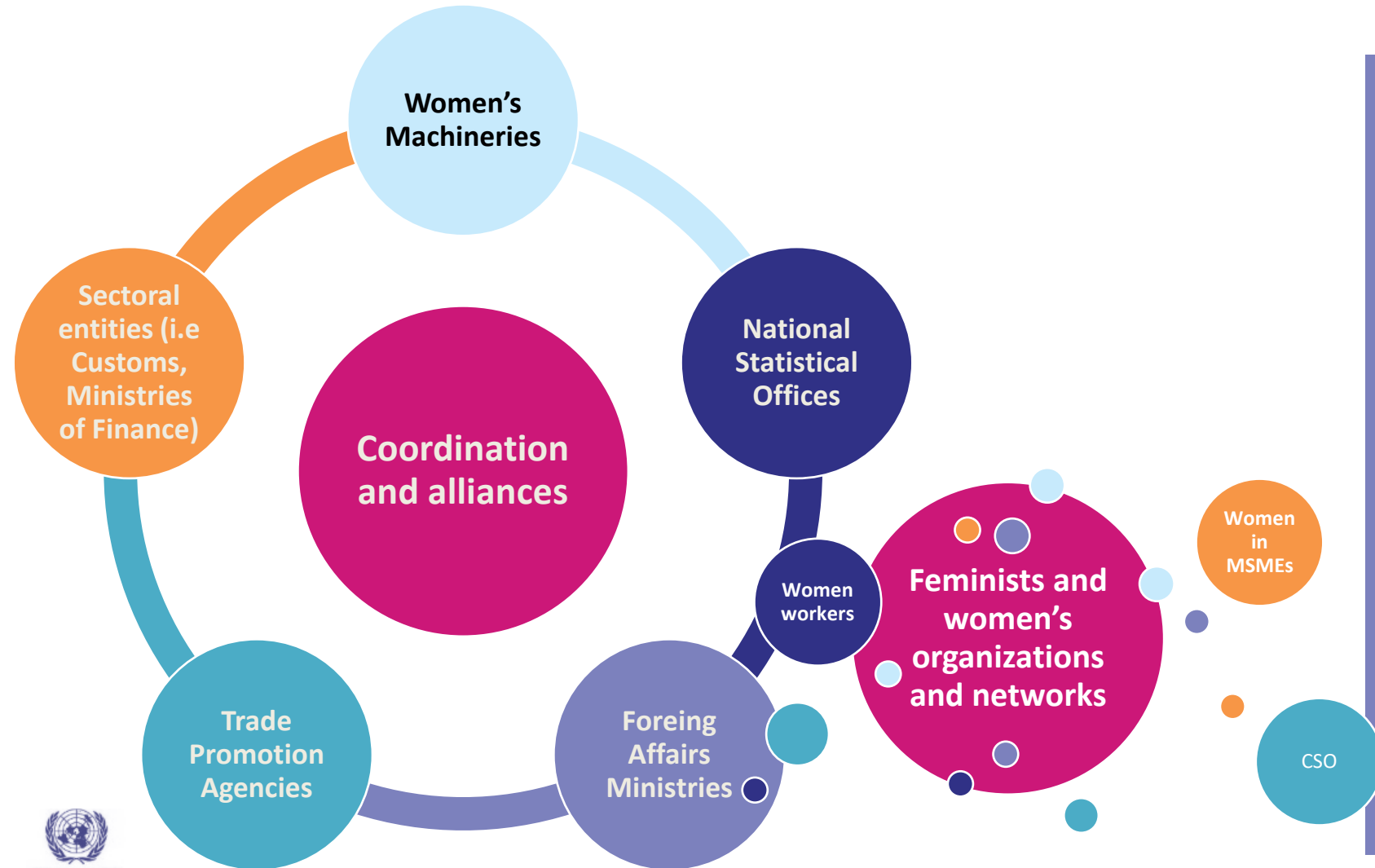
Regional Gender Agenda commitments on gender, trade and development



- Conduct **assessments** of the impact on **human rights of trade and investment policies** and agreements from a **gender equality** perspective
- Promote the generation of **quality employment** and entrepreneurship **opportunities** for women in international **trade**.
- Operate in a **coordinated** manner at the **regional** level, **avoiding harmful competition among countries**, in order to prevent taxation, wage-cutting and **gender inequalities being used as adjustment variables to increase exports and attract investment**.
- Harmonize regional norms consistent with women's human rights and **evaluate the extraterritorial effects of the legislation** and policies adopted, with respect to transnational issues such as global value chains and global care chains.
- Promote that the position of LAC countries in international discussions on **macroeconomic policy, and trade, investment and financial agreements**, incorporates the commitments of the RGA and SDG.



Strengthen data collection and analysis on gender and trade, inter-sectorial coordination, South-South cooperation and accountability mechanisms



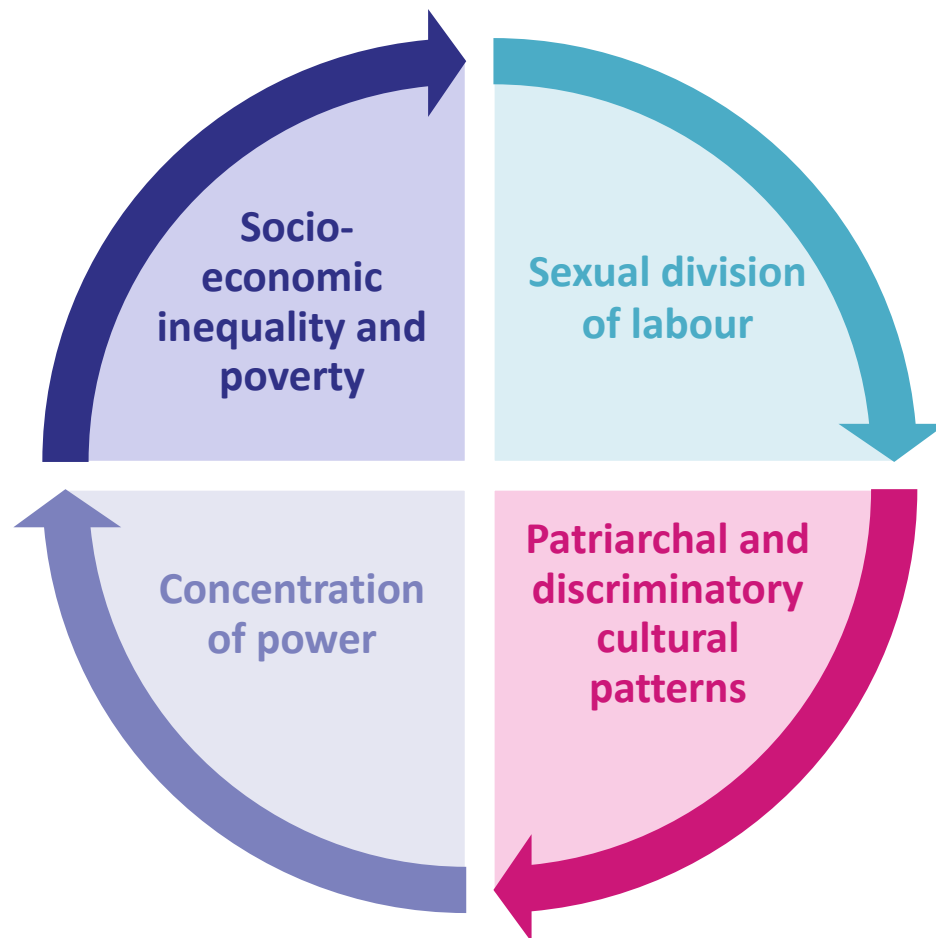
Examples of initiatives supported by ECLAC

- Technical assistance to El Salvador : generation of gender and trade statistics, capacity building to trade negotiators, design gender-responsive export-promotion strategies.
- Cooperation with Government of Chile and Uruguay in the framework of implementation of Gender Chapter of Bilateral Agreement.
- Policy dialogue at Regional Conference on Women and Presiding Officers Meetings (i.e high-level dialogue with Panamá, Barbados, Ecuador, Chile, Feminists experts and organizations).



COVID-19 crisis deepens the structural challenges to achieve gender equality in the region and threatens women's autonomy

- Women overrepresented in poverty and informality: rising poverty and inequality (2.9% increase in Gini coefficient).
- Women concentrated in low-skilled sectors and MSMEs hardest hit by the crisis as part of low diversified productive structures: risk of lock in path of primarization without investment and structural change.
- 4 in 10 women do not have internet access and can't afford connectivity in a context of digital platforms boom.

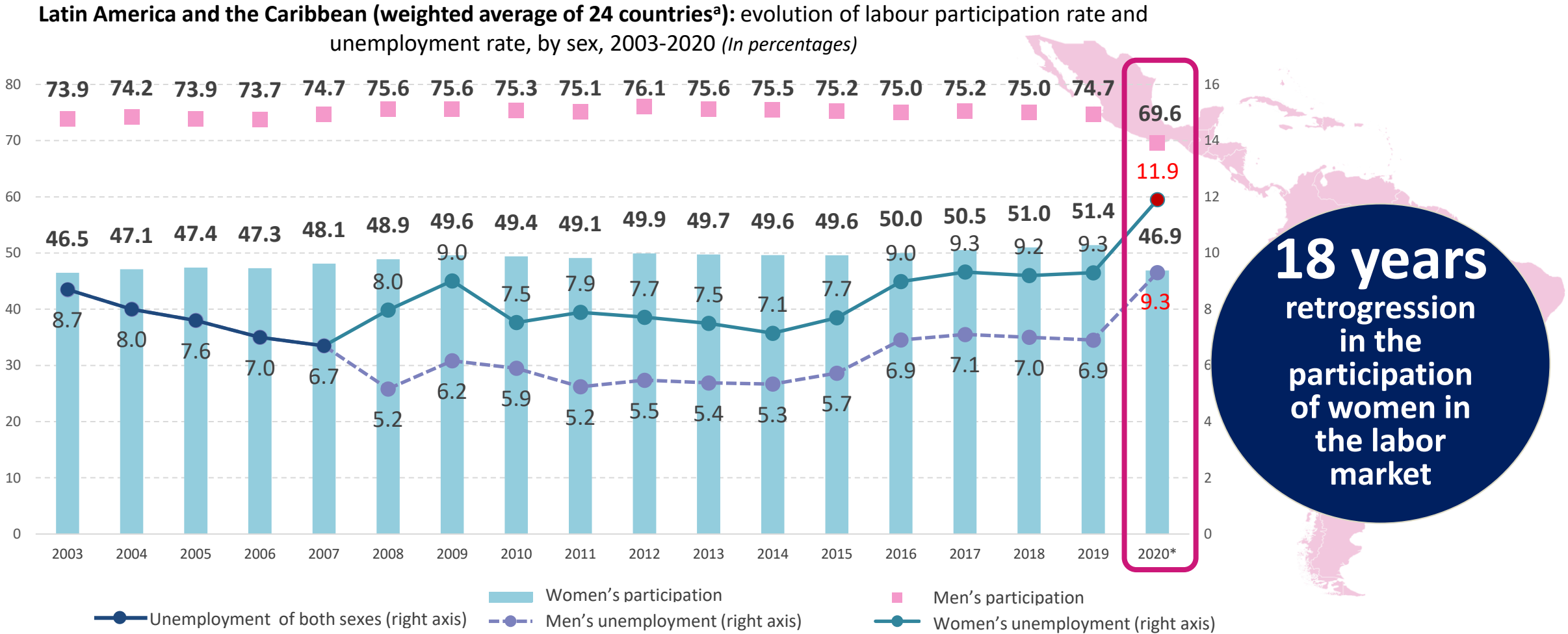


- Women spend triple the amount of time in unpaid care as men: increased burden due to COVID-19.
- Women represent 73% of health-sector workers, but they receive 24% less income than men.
- Afro-descendent women receive an income equivalent to 57% of that received by non-Afro-descendent men.

They are at the root of the unsustainability of the dominant development style.



International trade is not neutral to gender inequalities in the labor market

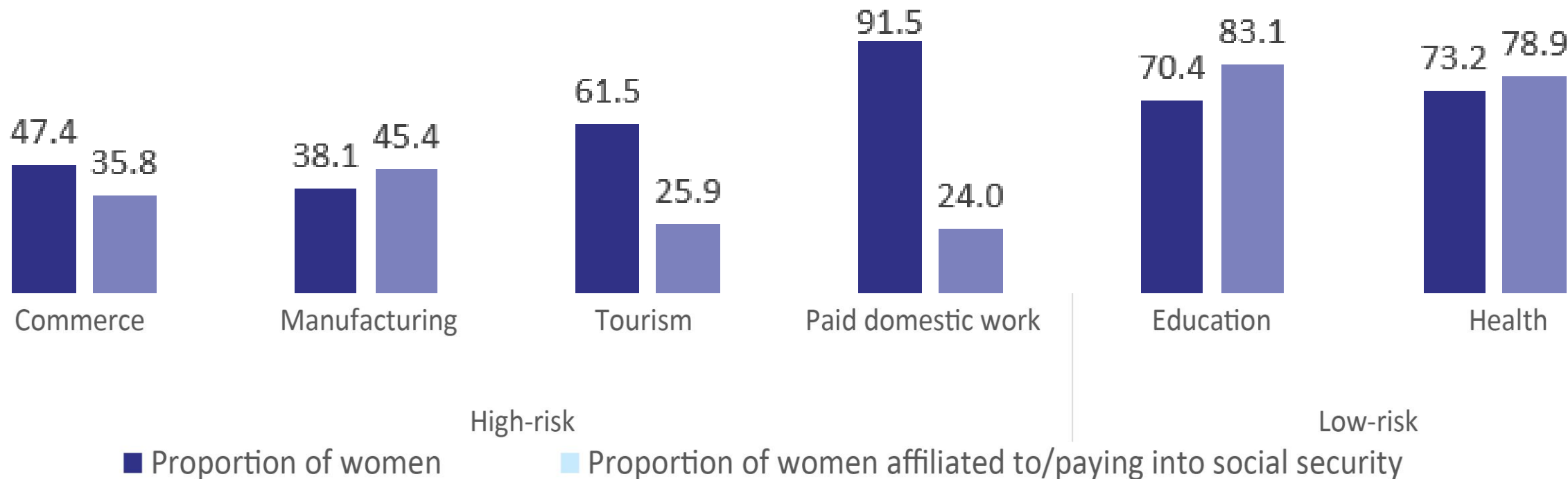


Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), based on household surveys of the respective countries. * Preliminary figures
a Data from 2003 to 2007, corresponding to 20 countries for the participation rate and 22 countries for the unemployment rate

Gender labour market segregation in the region: sectors with large women's participation at greater risk of job and income loss

Sectors of the care economy
27.9% of employed women in LA

Latin America (17 countries): employment characteristics in selected high- and low-risk sectors with large female workforces, weighted averages, around 2019



Latin America: GDP -6.8%

Sectors with higher risk of loss of employment
56.9% of employed women in Latin America
High rates of informality, low pay and low skills

The Caribbean: GDP -7.5%

54.3% of employed women in the Caribbean
in high-risk sectors: tourism and commerce

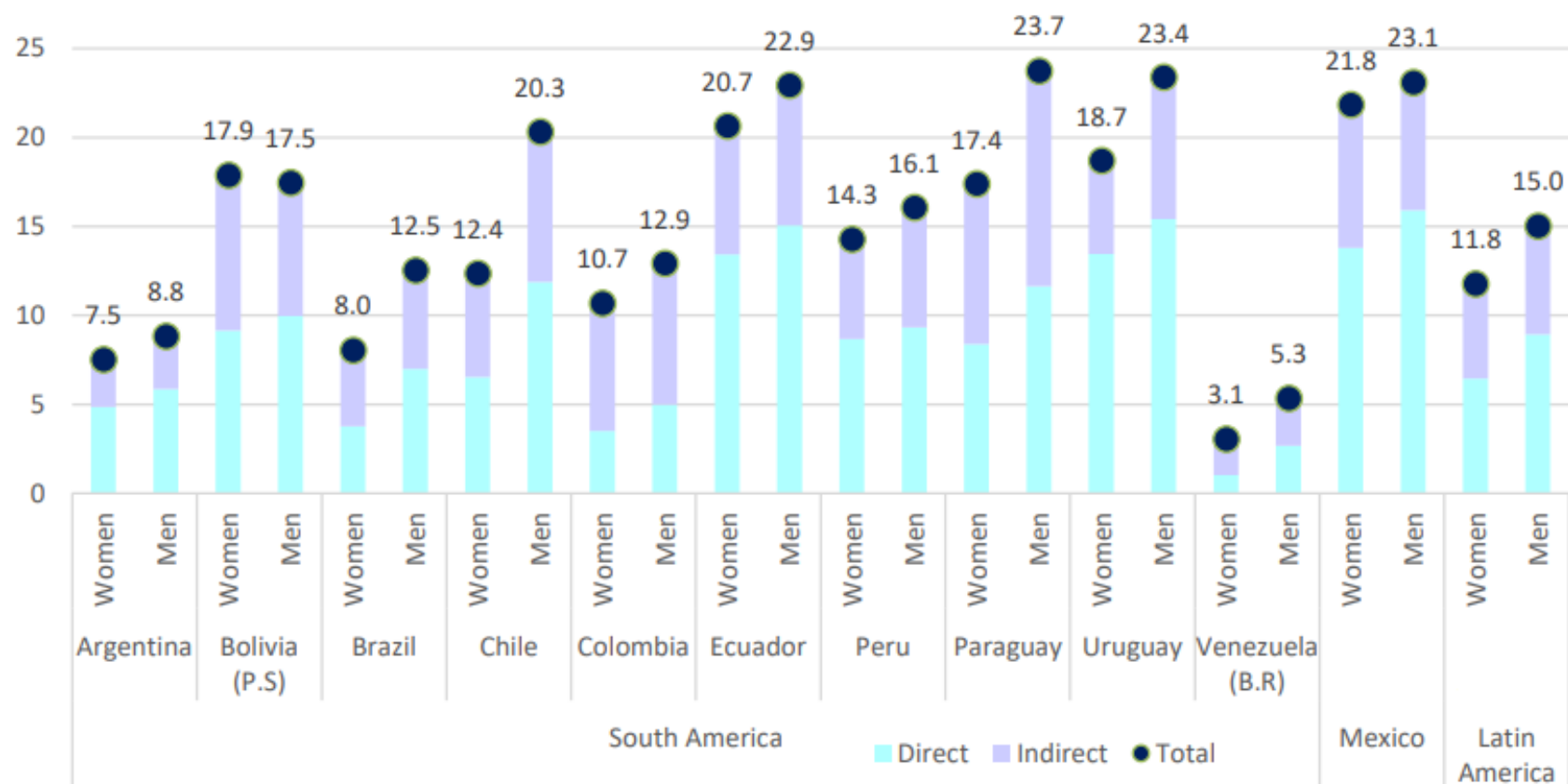


CEPAL

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of Household Survey Data Bank (BADEHOG).

Link between trade specialization and gender labour market segregation: export sector does not contribute significantly to women's employment

Latin America (11 countries): direct and indirect export-sector employment as a share of total employment, by sex, 2018
(In percentages)



1/3
of export
employment is
composed by
women

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) on the basis of the Household Survey Data Bank (BADEHOG) and output tables of the countries.

Strong impacts of the pandemic on export sectors that are labor-intensive for women: textiles, clothing and footwear, and tourism

Latin America (11 countries): Trade and export- related employment developments, 2020 and 2018

(rates of change in percentages, percentages in total export employment, proportion of employed women in export employment by sector)

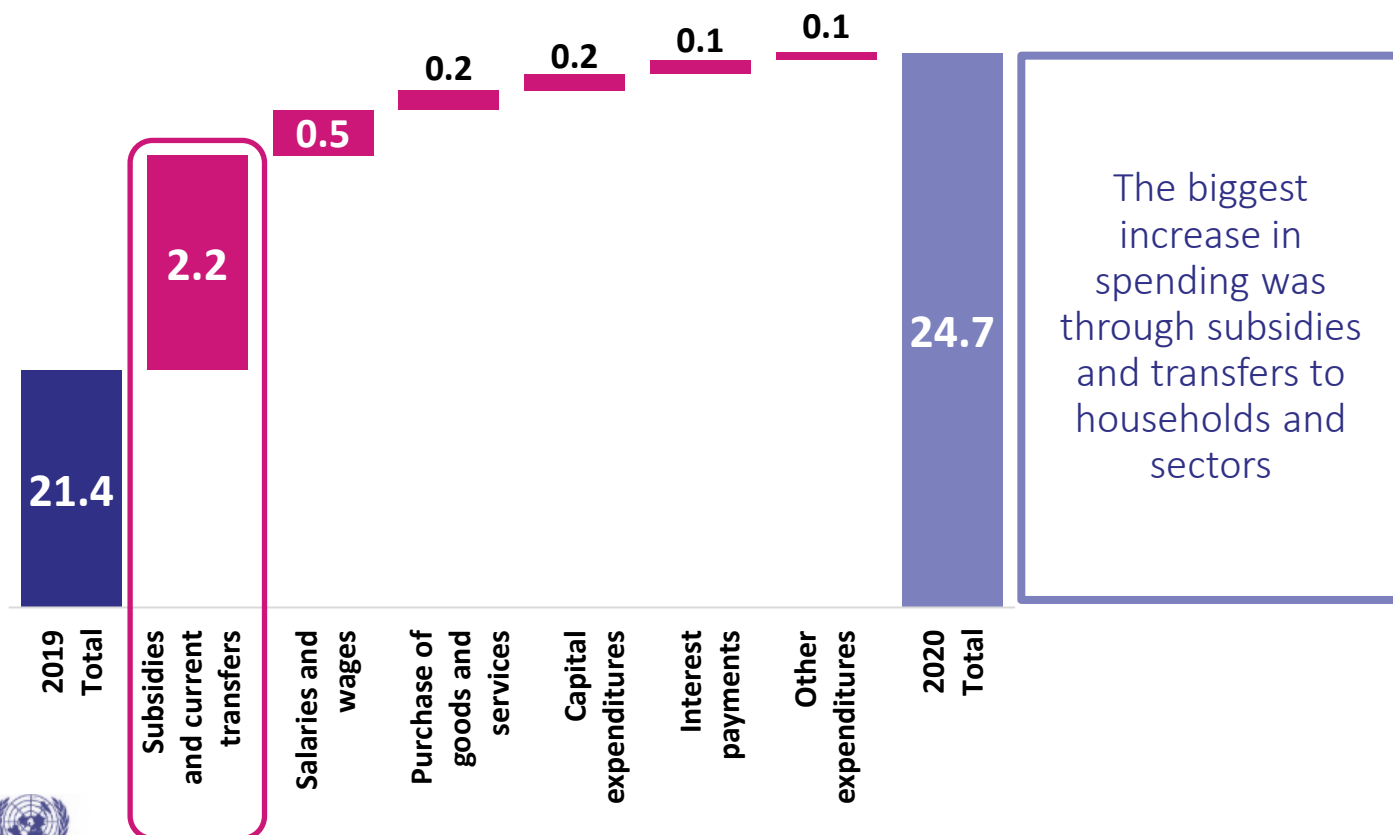
Economic sectors	Change in exports 2020/2019	Export-related employment total, 2018 (% of total)	Women's export- related employment (% of total)	Proportion of women employed in the sector
Agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing	-5.4	19.6	15.3	26.6
Oil and mining	-17.3	10.1	8.4	14.0
Food, beverages and tobacco	0.5	15.2	14.6	41.1
Textiles, clothing and footwear	-23.0	4.1	6.7	67.9
Wood, cellulose and paper	-9.9		2.0	25.2
Chemistry and pharmaceuticals	-20.2		4.0	34.1
Rubber and plastic	-9.8		1.4	29.1
Non-metallic minerals	-16.5		0.8	22.1
Metals and metal products	-6.6		4.2	10.7
Machinery and equipment	-19.4		3.8	19.8
Machinery and electrical appliances	-8.3		7.5	40.3
Motor vehicles and parts thereof	-24.6		6.7	21.5
Other manufactures	-15.6		3.2	35.9
Electricity, gas and water	-7.8		0.1	17.8
Construction	-76.4		0.1	4.0
Transport and storage	-24.7		1.6	10.8
Post and telecommunications	0.6		0.3	32.3
Financial intermediation	-13.7		0.3	51.3
Business Services	-11.8		2.9	44.7
Other services	-2.4			
Tourism	-61.5	10.8	16.2	57.9
All economic sectors	-15.3	100.0	100.0	30.3

2021
Trade expansion
driven by recovery
of demand in the US
and China for
commodities, but
which does not
promote export
diversification

Fiscal measures cushioned impacts of the crisis:

During 2020, the region experimented a contraction in public revenues and an sharp increase in public spending

Latin America (16 countries): Year-on year variation in the components of total central government spending, 2019-2020
(Percentages of GDP)



The biggest increase in spending was through subsidies and transfers to households and sectors

A rise in public spending does not automatically translate in closing gender gaps

In January–April 2021, 20 countries announced or extended emergency transfers amounting to US\$ 10 billion (0.26% of 2020 GDP)





Gender-based violence

- Protocols and contingency plans
- Services and refuges
- Hotlines and new attention channels
- Anti violence and discrimination campaigns



Employment and income generation

- Financing and trade promotion activities for women in MSME's (e-networking, digital trade trainings)
- Income support for feminised sectors (i.e tourism)



Care economy

- Movement permits for care responsibilities
- Domestic workers rights
- Care leave
- Co-responsibility campaigns



Social protection

- Increase of amounts and coverage of emergency cash transfers
- In-kind transfers
- Prohibition of suspension of basic services



<https://www.cepal.org/en/topics/covid-19>

Trends and recommendations amidst great uncertainty

Trends:

Primarization and increase
poverty and inequality

Geopolitical tensions and
changes in economic geography

Crisis of multilateralism and
asymmetries between countries

Digital economy and cross-
border e-commerce

Recommendations:

Diversify the productive structure and export basket in knowledge-intensive sectors and quality employment for women.

Promote **regional productive chains** in key dynamic sectors for sustainability of life with participation of women workers and entrepreneurs (i.e health-care manufacturing, sustainable tourism).

Regional cooperation to avoid the race to the bottom, respect policy space and promote coherence between trade policy and women's rights.

Closing gender gaps regarding **access to resources, markets, technologies** and **digital skills**. Guarantee women's labor rights in the digital economy.

COVID -19



Proposals for a transformative recovery with gender equality



**Women's
participation in
productive
economic recovery**



**Inclusive digital
transformation**



**Care economy as a
driver and moving
towards a Care
Society**



**Fiscal compact
for gender
equality**

New economic, social and fiscal compacts between States, the market and society to promote gender equality and women's rights a central element for a sustainable and transformative recovery



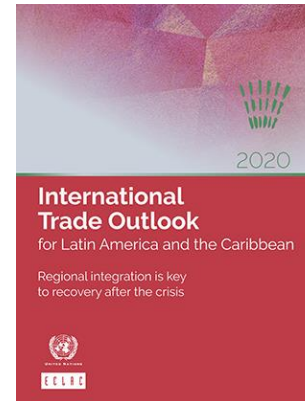
Publications



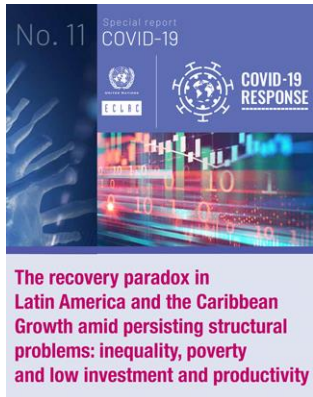
[The economic autonomy of women in a sustainable recovery with equality](#)



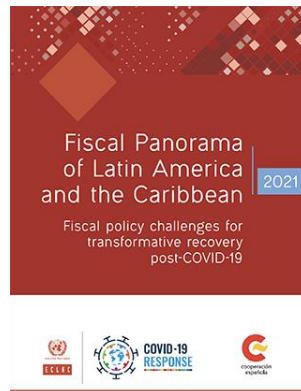
[Women's autonomy in changing economic scenarios](#)



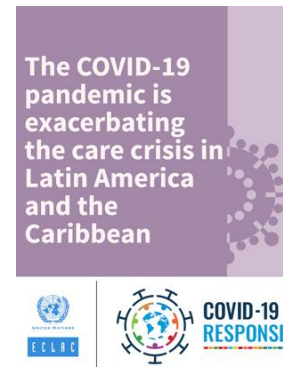
[International Trade Outlook for Latin America and the Caribbean 2021](#)



[The recovery paradox in Latin America and the Caribbean Growth amid persisting structural problems](#)



[Fiscal Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean 2021](#)



[The COVID-19 pandemic is exacerbating the care crisis in Latin America and the Caribbean](#)



Division for Gender Affairs

[Gender Equality Observatory](#)

[COVID-19 Observatory](#)



Thank you!

