Regional Voluntary National Review (VNR) and Voluntary Local Review (VLR) Workshop for Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries

Mid-point of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda: Progress and challenges on the road to 2030 in the LAC region

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• All **33 LAC countries** have **institutions** in place that support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

• **14 countries** have established **ad hoc coordination mechanisms** to monitor the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

• The remaining **19 countries**, mostly in the Caribbean, have designated an **existing public institution** responsible for monitoring, whether attached to the presidency, ministry, or another public agency.
Between 2016 and 2022, 31 of the 33 LAC countries reported their progress in ownership, monitoring & implementation of the 2030 Agenda by submitting at least one VNR to the HLPF, including 16 countries more than once.

The Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) in Latin America and the Caribbean

- The 53 VNRs submitted by the LAC countries provide a wealth of information, analysis, processes, good practices, and lessons learned on the road to 2030.
Of the 40 countries that will present their VNRs at the HLPF 2023 in New York, 4 are from the region of Latin America and the Caribbean: **Saint Kitts and Nevis** for the first time, **Barbados** and **Guyana** for the second time, and **Chile** for the third time.
Based on the latest analysis by ECLAC of the trends in 126 SDG targets, only a quarter are on course to be achieved and are progressing at a sufficient pace. Around half of the targets are moving in the right direction but require greater efforts to accelerate progress over the next seven years. The remaining quarter are moving in the wrong direction.

The results of the exercise differ among SDGs. Goals 1 (no poverty), 10 (reduced inequalities), 11 (sustainable cities and communities), 13 (climate action) and 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) are at high risk to not be achieved by 2030.

Goals 3 (good health and well-being), 7 (affordable and clean energy), 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), 12 (responsible production and consumption), 15 (life on land) and 17 (partnerships for the Goals) are better positioned to be achieved.
Regional Overviews
SDGs 6, 7, 9, 11 & 17

Halfway to 2030 in Latin America and the Caribbean: progress and recommendations for acceleration

Regional overview

Halfway to 2030 in Latin America and the Caribbean
Progress and recommendations for acceleration

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)
Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
SDG Gateway, CEPALSTAT and Regional Observatory on Planning for Development
ECLAC’s Community of Practice on the Voluntary National Reviews

ECLAC has tailored its analysis and policy advice to support all Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) Member States, including Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Middle Income Countries (MICs), and Least Developed Countries (LDCs), to deliver on the 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs.

The Community of Practice addresses diverse topics, including the following:

1. Impacts of COVID-19
2. Financing for Development
3. Data and Statistics
4. Climate Change
5. Localization of the SDGs
6. Stakeholder Engagement
7. SDG Integration
8. Regional Frameworks
9. Leaving no one behind

ECLAC’s Community of Practice on the VNRS in Numbers

- 48 virtual meetings since December 2019
- 8 joint sessions for Latin American and Caribbean countries
- 12 different topics tailored to the demands of Member States
- 188 regular members
- 61% women, 39% men
- 33 countries from the region of Latin American and Caribbean

Quick Facts about ECLAC’s Community of Practice on the VNRS

- Informal mechanism for exchanging best practices and lessons learned between countries tasked with monitoring and coordinating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the process of elaborating the VNRS.
- It includes government officials, professionals, researchers and technical experts as well as representatives of ECLAC and the rest of the UN system, including RCOs. Occasionally, it invites representatives of youth, civil society, the private sector, academia, local authorities, and other stakeholders.
- Informal monthly discussions since December 2019 among peers at the technical level in English and Spanish or with interpretation for sharing best practices, challenges and valuable lessons learned in the VNR process.
ECLAC’s website for the Community of Practice

- Quick access
  - The Voluntary National Review (VNR) and the Community of Practice
  - Alignment of the SDGs with national and regional frameworks
  - Meaningful engagement of multiple stakeholders

- Subscription
  - Get ECLAC updates by email

- Data and statistics
Lessons learned on the road to 2030 and beyond

• **The VNR is much more than a report.** VNRs strengthen government policies and institutions, enable follow-up of SDG implementation, facilitate alignment with other national, regional and global development frameworks, mobilize multi-stakeholder support, foster partnerships, and strengthen awareness of the SDGs.

• **The nature of VNRs is evolving.** VNRs present an increasingly analytical monitoring tool of the complex national reality. More and more VNRs provide information on the **2030 Agenda as a whole**, integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development, and offer continuity between the first and subsequent reports. Many VNR processes **align budgets with the SDGs** and identify concrete **challenges** and **solutions**. The meaningful engagement of stakeholders in the VNR process has increased and more VNRs integrate the **principle of LNOB**.

• **LAC countries have made significant progress in the localization of the SDGs.** VNRs have generated an exponentially **growing interest in the contribution of subnational and local actors** to the fulfillment of the 2030 Agenda. Although VNRs continue to be the main mechanisms for reviewing progress in the implementation of the SDGs, local authorities are increasingly involved in the development of **Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs)**.

• **Challenges persist in the VNR process,** such as complex multilevel and interinstitutional coordination; limited human, financial, and time resources; difficulty to reach most marginalized groups and leaving no one behind; lack of data and statistics; loss of institutional memory when administration changes occur; among others.
Thank you

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