The LAC Community of Practice on VNRs as a learning space between peers on the 2030 Agenda

Regional workshop for Latin American and Caribbean countries that will present their Voluntary National Review in 2022

Mareike Eberz, Economic Affairs Officer, Office of the Executive Secretary, ECLAC

Virtual Meeting
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Content

1. **The VNRs from the region of Latin America and the Caribbean**

2. **The LAC Community of Practice on VNRs as a learning space between peers on the 2030 Agenda**

3. **Resources from VNRs to Policy Action**

The VNRs from the region of Latin America and the Caribbean

- **The 2030 Agenda continues to be the roadmap for recovering from the pandemic and building forward better**. Despite the multiple challenges posed by COVID-19, the commitment of countries to deliver on the 2030 Agenda is uninterrupted. Between 2016 and 2021, 28 of the 33 LAC countries have submitted a VNR, with 20 countries presenting their VNR after the initial outbreak.

- Of the **45 countries** that will present their VNR in 2022, **8 countries** are from the LAC region: **Dominica, Suriname, Saint Kitts and Nevis** and **Grenada** for the 1st time**, Jamaica** and **El Salvador** for the 2nd time, **Argentina** for the 3rd time and **Uruguay** for the 4th time.

- For the first time, **most LAC VNR countries are from the Caribbean**. **Haiti** remains the only country without a VNR by 2022.

- The **46 VNRs submitted by the countries of the region between 2016 and 2021** constitute a wealth of information, analyses, processes, good practices and lessons learned.

The Community of Practice on VNRs as a learning space between peers on the 2030 Agenda

ECLAC Community of Practice on the Voluntary National Reviews

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE FOR THE CARIBBEAN (IN ENGLISH)

10 Dec 2019 - Expectations for the Community of Practice

15 Jan 2020 - Data and Statistics for SDG implementation

10 Mar 2020 - Stakeholder engagement and results from the regional workshop

14 Apr 2020 - The socioeconomic impact of COVID-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean

12 May 2020 - Virtual meeting of the national authorities on 2030 Agenda implementation

- **Virtual space** for exchange between **Governments** regarding the **2030 Agenda** and the preparation of the **VNRs**

- **Open** and **informal discussions among peers** at the **technical level** for sharing **best practices**, **challenges** and valuable **lessons learned**

- Since **December 2019**, **40 monthly meetings** with **experts from ECLAC, governments, civil society** and other institutions tailored to demands from member States addressing **diverse topics**, such as: impact and response to COVID-19, climate Change, Data & Statistics, Integration of the SDGs, Stakeholder Engagement, Financing for Development, etc.
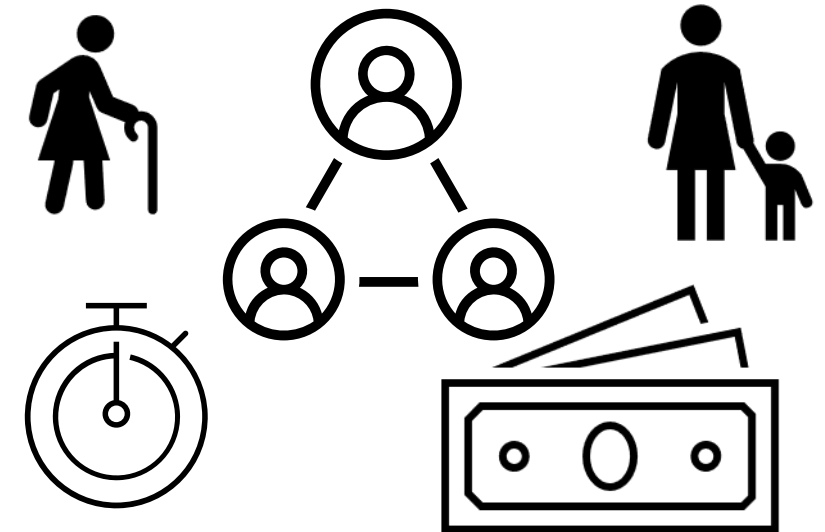
Key messages from the Community of Practice and VNRs from the LAC region

- **The VNR is much more than a report presented at the HLPF.** VNRs strengthen government policies and institutions, enable follow-up of SDG implementation, facilitate alignment with other national, regional and global development frameworks, drive implementation of the 2030 Agenda both nationally and locally, mobilize multi-stakeholder support, foster partnerships, generate resources, and strengthen public awareness of the SDGs.

- **The nature of VNRs is evolving.** Of the 28 of LAC countries, that have submitted a VNR, half of them have submitted a VNR more than once. VNRs present an increasingly analytical monitoring 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, identify challenges and concrete solutions, and dedicate a chapter to the impact of the pandemic and how to overcome it. The meaningful engagement of diverse stakeholders in the VNR process has increased and more VNRs integrate the principle of leaving no one behind.

Community of Practice for Caribbean Countries presenting their Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs)

UNITED NATIONS

ECLAC

NACIONES UNIDAS

CEPAL

Comunidad de Practica sobre los Informes Nacionales Voluntarios de América Latina y el Caribe

Key messages from the Community of Practice and VNRs from the LAC region

- **LAC countries have made significant progress in integrating the SDGs into their national development plans** and in the **localization of the SDGs**. The reviews have generated an exponentially growing interest in the contribution of subnational and local actors to the fulfillment of the 2030 Agenda. In several countries, there is a gradual process of decentralization of the governance of the 2030 Agenda, from the national to the subnational level.

- **VNRs are raising awareness on the SDGs at the national and local level**. Many countries developed websites, use diverse social media channels and create partnerships with media to disseminate the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

- **Challenges persist in the VNR process**, such as complex multilevel and interinstitutional coordination; limited financial and time resources as well as capacities; urgent demands posed by the health crisis vs. the implementation of medium and long-term strategies to deliver on the 2030 Agenda; difficulty to reach most marginalized groups and the meaningful engagement of non-state actors; loss of institutional memory in the face of administration changes; incorporation of data and statistics; continuity between subsequent VNRs.
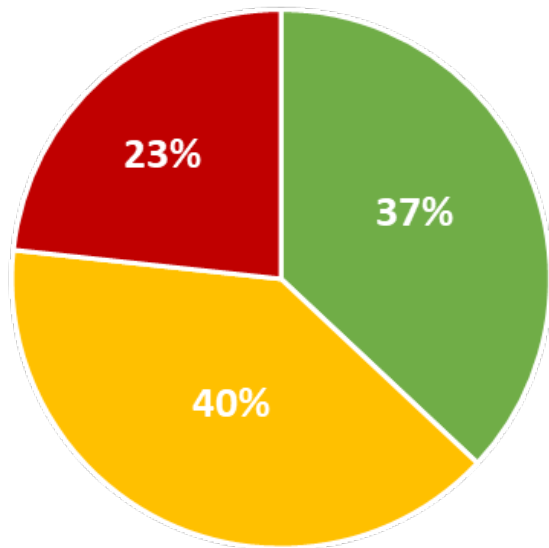
On course, slowing progress and setbacks: mixed regional performance

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: NUMBER OF SDG UNDERLINE INDICATORS ANALYSED (146), BY POSSIBILITY OF ACHIEVING TARGET

N. de Indicadores   Resultados esperados

54 — **Target already reached or likely to be reached on the current trend**

58 — Target likely to be reached **only with public policy intervention** — **The trend is moving in the right direction, but not enough to achieve the target**
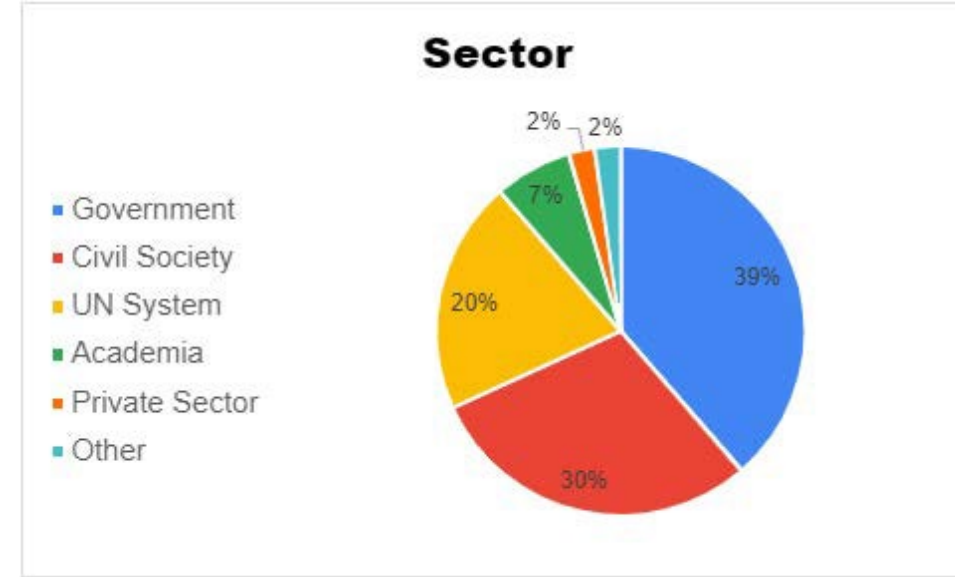
34 — **The trend is moving in the wrong direction**

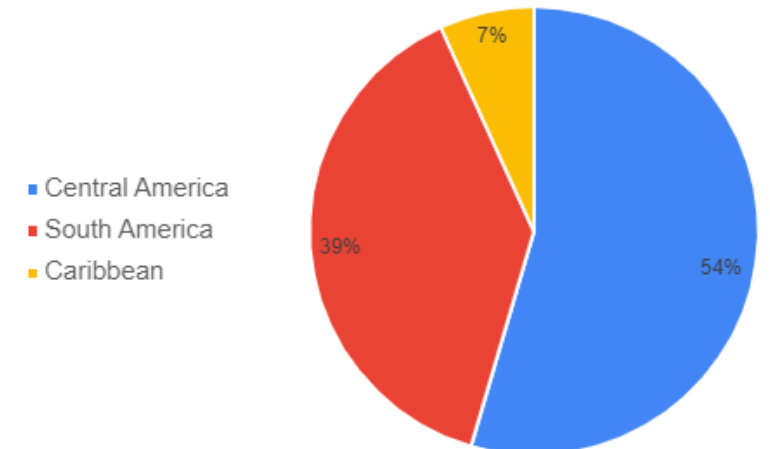**Greater quantity of statistical information available for monitoring the 2030 Agenda**

	2020	2021	2022
Statistical series	72	177	**359**
Indicators	67	110	**146**

ECLAC

The SDG Acceleration Actions

- **SDG Acceleration Actions** are initiatives voluntarily undertaken to accelerate the SDG implementation by **governments** and **non-state actors**, individually or in partnership.

- Moving ahead on the **Decade of Action for the SDGs**, the recovery from the COVID-19 crisis is an opportunity for governments and stakeholders alike to build forward better.

- The **SDG Acceleration Actions online database** is a tool to mobilize actions for the SDGs and speed up the recovery process: https://sdgs.un.org/partnerships/action-networks/acceleration-actions

- 3/4 of the **329 Acceleration Actions** address **multiple SDGs**, while 1/4 focus on one SDG only. **SDG 17** has mobilized the largest number, followed by **SDGs 13, 6, 1, 16, 4 and 5**. 35% of registered actions come from Europe; 20% from Africa; **14% from Latin American and the Caribbean**; 12% from Asia and the Pacific; 10% from West Asia; and 9% from North America.

Sector

- Government — 39%
- Civil Society — 30%
- UN System — 20%
- Academia — 7%
- Private Sector — 2%
- Other — 2%

Geographic Breakdown

- Central America — 54%
- South America — 39%
- Caribbean — 7%

The SDG Acceleration Actions

- Initiatives include the **Sustainable City Development Index** in **Brazil**; the **Multidimensional Poverty Index** in rural communities in **Honduras**; the **CONCAUSA Youth Sustainable Development Leadership Program**; **Accessible Energy for All**; **Inclusive Social Protection for Women** in **Mexico**; **Private Sector contributions to achieve the SDGs** in the **Caribbean**.

- **The Sustainable City Development Index** is based on **88 indicators** referring to diverse action areas of public administration, assigning a specific score **for 770 municipalities in Brazil** along the set of 17 SDGs. Considering that **84% of the Brazilian population live in cities**, it is a powerful tool to indicate progress towards the 2030 Agenda and flag territorial inequalities. As **Data** is essential to achieving the SDGs, this tool helps making the complex data accessible to all: https://idsc-br.sdgindex.org/

Resources from VNRs to Policy Action

Regional Forum of LAC countries on Sustainable Development

https://foroalc2030.cepal.org/2022/en

Community of Practice

https://www.cepal.org/en/topics/2030-agenda-sustainable-development/eclac-community-practice-voluntary-national-reviews

SDG Acceleration Actions

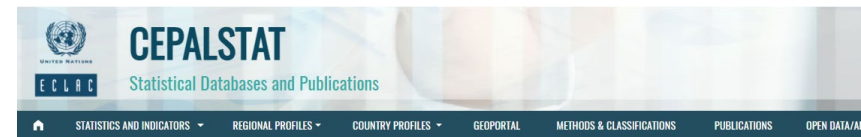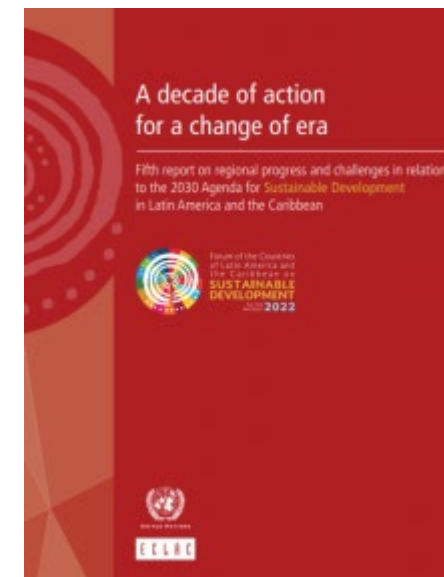https://sdgs.un.org/partnerships/action-networks/acceleration-actions

SDG Gateway

https://agenda2030lac.org/es

CEPALSTAT

https://statistics.cepal.org/portal/cepalstat/index.html?lang=en

Thank you