



Regional Water Dialogues in Latin America and the Caribbean 2023
Towards the UN Water Conference 2023
ECLAC, Santiago de Chile: 1, 2 and 3 of February 2023
Preliminary agenda

Introduction

The Regional Water Dialogues 2023, organized by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), will take place at its headquarters in Santiago de Chile in a hybrid format (onsite and virtual) from Wednesday the 1st to Friday the 3rd of February 2023. The event is part of the regional preparatory process for the [UN Water Conference 2023](#), which aims to assess progress related to SDG 6 (water and sanitation) in the framework of the ["Mid-term comprehensive review of the activities of the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development" \(2018-2028\)](#), and launch a **Regional Water Action Agenda**.

Objectives

The objectives of this event are i) to analyze the progress of SDG 6 with respect to the commitments acquired, to accelerate its implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) and move towards a sustainable and inclusive water transition; and ii) exchange experiences and lessons learned to achieve the objectives of the Decade of Action for Water 2018-2028; and iii) launch a regional agenda for action for water with a multi-stakeholder approach.

Structure and Contents

The sessions of the Regional Water Dialogues 2023 are oriented along the thematic lines that will be carried out at the [UN Water Conference 2023](#): i) Water and Climate; ii) Water and Sustainable development; iii) Water and Financing; iv) Water and cooperation; v) Water, energy and food. High-level national authorities will participate in each of them. In addition, there will be technical sessions to discuss water solutions at various scales to accelerate the achievement of SDG 6 under the water valuation initiative. During the Dialogues, the capacity-building project ROSA: Water Sustainability Network and Observatory will be launched.

Reasoning

Water is a vital element for the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda. ECLAC identified through open consultations that [LAC's water priorities](#) are to strengthen governance and institutions, ensure access to safe drinking water and sanitation, and incorporate nature-based solutions, which require partnerships and cooperation to accelerate the implementation of SDG 6. Therefore, ECLAC promotes spaces for dialogue and exchange in the framework of the Decade of Action for Water 2018-2028 and calls on the countries of the region to share their progress on water issues, in order to share experiences, mobilize cooperation and provide concrete solutions to move towards a sustainable and inclusive water transition.

Note: The following agenda is a preliminary version. Please don't spread.



UNITED NATIONS

ECLAC

Wednesday 1st of February

Registration (8:00-9:00)

High-Level Day

Opening Panel (9:00-9:45)

Open the 2023 Regional Water Dialogues and announce the advances of the region's commitments towards a Regional Agenda of Action for Water, and its contributions to the United Nations Water Conference.

Break (9:45-9:50)

Session: Global and regional context of water as a vector of development (9:50-10:30)

Present the challenges the region faces in terms of water, to move towards the ECLAC proposal for a sustainable and inclusive water transition in Latin America and the Caribbean, along with sharing international perspectives to achieve the Human Right to water and global progress.

Coffee break (10:30-10:45)

Panel: Water and Sustainable Development (10:45-12:30)

Showcase the achievements of the region's countries in water governance, to move towards more sustainable management, contemplating the reinforcement of existing institutions, filling institutional gaps and facilitating coordination between them.

In co-organization with OAS and CODIA



Lunch (13:30-14:30)

Special Panel: Launch of ROSA (Red y Observatorio para la Sostenibilidad del Agua) (14:30-15:30)

Official launch of the LAC Network and Observatory for Water Sustainability (ROSA), together with the founding countries. Present the main needs for capacity building for the development of evidence-based water policies in the region.

Panel: Water and Climate (15:30-17:00)

Present the challenges of the Caribbean countries in terms of the risk of suffering climate change impacts related to water, and present the advances for its management: both in improving resilience, as well as in disaster risk reduction, and Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM).

In co-organization with WMO and UNESCO



Closing Remarks of High-Level Day (17:00-17:10)

Group photo under the Tile at the entrance of the ECLAC building (17:10-17:25)

Cocktail in Explanada Norte (17:00-17:40)

Thursday 2nd of February

High-Level Day

Panel: Water and Financing (9:00 – 11:00)

Explore investment mechanisms that allow the drinking water and sanitation sector to access new sources of financing, as well as show examples of the benefits of investing in the circular economy for the sector.

With support from GIZ and UNPDF projects



United Nations
Peace and Development Trust Fund

Coffee break (11:00-11:15)

Panel: Water and regional and territorial cooperation (11:15-13:30)

Call for action on the need to strengthen regional and territorial water cooperation to be inclusive, intersectoral and action-oriented. Demonstrate benefits at multiple scales and across sectors.

In co-organization with OAS and IDB



OAS
More rights
for more people



Lunch (13:30-14:30)

Panel: Water, Energy and Food (14:30-16:00)

Showcase progress and policies in the region that consider the synergies and interrelationships of the water, energy and food/environment sectors, in decision-making and planning, in terms of the potential they offer for achieving the sustainable development commitments of the Agenda 2030.

In co-organization with FAO



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Open exchange session (16:00-16:50)

Space for open interventions of participants onsite and online, in relation to the construction of a Regional Agenda of Action for Water.

Closing Remarks of High-Level Day (16:50-17:00)

Cocktail in Explanada Norte (17:00-17:30)



UNITED NATIONS

ECLAC

Friday 3rd of February

Technical Day:

Brainstorming Solutions for valuing water and accelerating the achievement of SDG 6

Opening (9:00-9:20)

Provide concrete solutions to contribute to the sustainable and inclusive water transition based on the pillars of the SDG 6 global acceleration framework (financing, data and information, capacity development, innovation and governance) and the Valuing Water Initiative of the Kingdom of Netherlands.

In collaboration with:



Kingdom of the Netherlands

Valuing
Water
Initiative



Deltares



Session: SDG 6, Global Acceleration Framework and Water Valuation Principles: Towards a Sustainable and Inclusive Water Transition in LAC (9:20-10:00)

Session: Water valuation and governance mechanisms in basins in Latin America and the Caribbean (10:00-11:15)

Coffee break (11:15-11:30)

Session: Development of innovative capacities and data for the valuation of water (11:30-12:30)

Session: Valuation of water applied to innovative financial mechanisms as a driver for change (12:30-13:30)

Elaboration and adoption of the Regional Water Action Agenda (13:30-14:00)

Closing remarks of the Regional Water Dialogues (14:00-14:30)
