



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
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.



Wednesday 1st of February

Registration (8:00-9:00)

High-Level Day

Opening Panel (9:00-9:55)

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.

Introductory and welcoming remarks

- Mrs Maisa Rojas, Minister of the Environment, Chile (10 min)
- Mrs Mariana Mazzucato, University College London (UCL) (video 10 min)
- Mr Manuel Otero, General Director, IICA (10 min)
- Mr Mario Lubetkin, Regional Representative of Latin America and the Caribbean for FAO (10 min)
- Mr José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, Executive Secretary, ECLAC (10 min)

Moderation Mrs Jeannette Sánchez, Director of the Natural Resources Division, ECLAC

Break (9:55-10:00)

1. Session: Global and regional context of water as a vector of development (10:00-10:30)

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.

Panelists

- International perspective: towards the United Nations Water Conference, Mr Henk Ovink, Special Envoy of the Netherlands to the United Nations (10 min)
- The Human Right to Water in Latin America and the Caribbean in the face of the United Nations Water Conference, Mr Pedro Arrojo, Special Rapporteur on the Human Right to Water (online) (10 min)
- Advances and challenges in water management: towards the water transition in LAC, Mrs Rayén Quiroga, Head of the Water and Energy Unit, ECLAC (10 min)

Coffee break (10:30-10:45)

2. Panel: Water and Sustainable Development (10:45-13:30)

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



Moderation and context

- Mr Mark Lambrides, Director of the Sustainable Development Department, OAS (10 min)

Main speaker

- Mr Félix Ulloa, Vice President, El Salvador (10 min)

Panelists

- Mrs Maisa Rojas, Minister of the Environment, Chile (10 min)
- Mr Pavel Isa, Minister of Economy, Planning and Development, Dominican Republic (10 min)
- Mr Aníbal José Pérez, Vice Minister of Water and Basic Sanitation, Colombia (10 min)
- Mr Erwin Freddy Mamani, Vice Chancellor, Plurinational State of Bolivia (10 min)
- Mr Juan Carlos García, Minister of Public Works, Chile (10 min)
- Mrs Mar Gracia, Permanent Technical Secretariat, CODIA (10 min)
- Mrs Silvia Saravia Matus, Economic Affairs Officer, ECLAC (10 min)

Dialogues and key messages

- Space for intervention and closing, Mrs Marina Gil, ECLAC (20 min)

Lunch (13:30-14:30)

3. 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.

Presentation of ROSA project

- Mrs Silvia Saravia Matus, Economic Affairs Officer, ECLAC (10 min)

National Interventions

- Mr Pavel Isa, Minister of Economy, Planning and Development of the Dominican Republic (10 min)
- Mr Aníbal José Pérez, Vice Minister of Water and Basic Sanitation, Colombia (10 min)
- Mr Carmelo Valda, Vice Minister of Drinking Water and Basic Sanitation, Plurinational State of Bolivia (10 min)
- Mr Leonidas Rodríguez, Consejo Nacional del Agua, Panama (10 min)
- Mr Jorge Castaneda, President of ASA, El Salvador (10 min)

4. 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



Moderation and context

- Mrs Diane Quarless, Director of the Caribbean Subregional Headquarters, ECLAC (10 min)
- Mrs Rayén Quiroga, Head of the Water and Energy Unit, ECLAC (10 min)

Panelists

- Mr Matthew Samuda, Minister without Portfolio in the Ministry of Economic Growth, Jamaica (10 min)
- Mr Konris Maynard, Minister of Infrastructure and Public Services, Saint Kitts and Nevis (online) (10 min)
- Mrs Shaira Ali, Operations Manager, Water and Sewerage Authority, Trinidad and Tobago (online) (10 min)
- Mr Julián Báez, Director of Regional Office, World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) (10 min)
- Mr Miguel Doria, Specialist and program coordinator, UNESCO (10 min)

Dialogues and key messages

Space for intervention and closing, Mr Julián Báez, Director of Regional Office, WMO (10 min)

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

- Mrs Jeannette Sánchez, Director of the Natural Resources Division, ECLAC

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

Cocktail in Explanada Norte (17:25-18:00)



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Thursday 2nd of February

High-Level Day

5. Panel: Water, Financing and Health (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, UNPDF and IDB



United Nations
Peace and Development Trust Fund



Moderation and context

- Mr Francisco Canal, Vice Minister of Territorial Environmental Planning, Colombia (10 min)

Panelists

- Circular Economy and Investment Needs
 - Mrs Marina Gil, ECLAC (10 min)
 - Mrs Sunny Guidotti, Regional Specialist in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, UNICEF (10 min)
- Investment Plans and Efforts in Water and Sanitation
 - Mrs Mariana Navarro, CONAGUA, México (online) (10 min)
 - Mr Rafael Reyes, IDAAN, Panama (10 min)
 - Mr José Carlos Revelo, ANDA, El Salvador (10 min)
 - Mr Didac Borrás, Aguas Andinas, Chile (10 min)
- Challenges and examples of innovative water financing in Latin America and the Caribbean
 - Mr Henry Moreno, Main Specialist of the Water and Sanitation Division, IDB (10 min)
 - Mr Franz Rojas Ortuste, Director of Water and Sanitation Analysis, CAF (online) (10 min)
 - Mr Héctor Serrano, Lead Water Supply and Sanitation Specialist, WB (online) (10 min)

Dialogues and key messages

- Space for intervention and closing, Mr Diego Fernández, ECLAC (20 min)

Coffee break (11:00-11:15)

6. 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



Moderation and context

- Mr Sergio Campos, Head of the Water and Sanitation Division, IDB (10 min)

Panelists

- Mr Erwin Freddy Mamani, Vice Chancellor, Plurinational State of Bolivia (10 min)
- Mr Francisco Canal, Vice Minister of Territorial Environmental Planning, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Colombia (10 min)
- Mr Raúl Artiga, Coordinator of the Climate Change and Risk Unit, The Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD) (10 min)
- Mrs Alexandra Moreira, General Secretary, The Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (OTCA) (10 min)
- Mr Jorge Pedraza, Secretary General of the Andean Community (10 min)
- Mrs Lorena Larios, Secretary of Cooperation, SEGIB (online) (10 min)
- Mrs Liseth Hernández, Executive Secretary of the Treaty for the Execution of the Trifinio Plan (10 min)
- Mr Eduardo Ortiz, Adviser, The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) (online) (10 min)

Dialogues and key messages

- Space for intervention and closure, Mrs Rayén Quiroga, Chief of the Water and Energy Unit, ECLAC (10 min)

Lunch (13:30-14:30)

7. 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



Moderation and context

- Mr Mario Lubetkin, Regional Representative of Latin America and the Caribbean for FAO (10 min)

Panelists

- Mr Esteban Valenzuela, Minister of Agriculture, Chile (10 min)
- Mr Luis Rodolfo Castro, Vice Minister of Water, Guatemala (10 min)
- Mr René Mateo, Vice Minister of Soils and Water, Dominican Republic (10 min)
- Mr Óscar Rojas, Vice Minister of Water, Ecuador (10 min)
- Mrs Veronica Sánchez de Cruz, Director-President of ANA, Brazil (10 min)
- Mr Ángel Caviedes, Head of the Innovation Unit, Ministry of Energy, Chile (10 min)
- Mr Gabriel Quijandría, Regional Director for South America, The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (10 min)

Dialogues and key messages

- Space for intervention and closing, Mrs Elisa Blanco, ECLAC (5 min)

8. 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.

Moderation and context

- Mrs Lisbeth Naranjo, Natalia Sarmanto y Alba Llavona, ECLAC

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

- Mrs Jeannette Sánchez, Director of the Natural Resources Division, ECLAC

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



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 United Nations Principles for Valuing Water.

In collaboration with:



Kingdom of the Netherlands

Valuing
Water
Initiative



Deltares



Moderation and context

- Mrs Marina Gil, ECLAC (10 min)

Opening remarks

- Mrs Carmen Gonsalves, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Chile (10 min)
- Mrs Ati Quigua, Colombian indigenous environmentalist and pacifist politician belonging to the Arhuaco community (10 min)

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

- Conceptual framework of the “Valuing water initiative”, Ms Iris Bijlsma, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy, The Netherlands
- Water transition and acceleration pillars of SDG 6 in LAC, Mrs Silvia Saravia Matus, Natural Resources Division, ECLAC

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

Moderation: Fabiola Tábor, GWP

Initiatives and solutions (5 min each)

- Mrs Marissa McMillan, Adopt-a-River Secretariat, Water Resources Agency, Trinidad and Tobago
- Mrs Yonalli Hernández, Municipal Government of Berriozabal, Mexico
- Mr Saúl Vicente, Fondo para el Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas de América Latina y el Caribe (FILAC)
- Mrs Alicia Bolívar and Melissa Céspedes, The Distance State University, Costa Rica
- Mr Luis Miguel Chahuayo, Rural Community of Santa Bárbara, Huancavelica, Peru

Comments

- Mr Guillermo Donoso, International Water Resources Association (IWRA) (5 min)

Coffee break (11:15-11:30)



UNITED NATIONS

ECLAC

Friday 3rd of February

Technical Day:

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

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

Moderation: Mr Reinaldo Penailillo, Deltares

Initiatives and solutions (5 min each)

- Mr Orésteres Paul Escajadillo, Technical Secretary of the Water Council Chancay Lambayeque, Peru
- Mr Diego Aguilar, Fundación León and ADELANTE, Argentina and Mexico
- Fundación Un Alto en el Desierto (FUAD), Chile (15 min)
- Mrs Cristiane Holanda, Nexa Resource, Brazil
- Mrs María Fernanda González, Espacio Fregata, Spain (online)

Comments (3 min each)

- Mr Gerardo Quirós, United Nations Development Programme (online) (UNDP)
- Mr Alberto Manganelli, Regional Centre for Groundwater Management in Latin America and the Caribbean (CeReGAS) (online)

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

Moderation: Mrs Marina Gil, ECLAC

Iniciativas y soluciones (5 min each)

- Mr Pablo Lloret, Plataforma Andina de Fondos de Agua
- Mrs Maren Barbee, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), El Salvador
- Mr Luis Boigues, SABES Association, El Salvador and Honduras

Comments (3 min each)

- Mr Kenneth Alfaro, Latin American Coalition of Youth for Water
- Mrs Mirna Argueta, Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (online) (AIDIS)

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

- Mrs Siliva Saravaia Matus, Economic Affairs Officer and Mrs Rayén Quiroga, Head of the Water and Energy Unit of ECLAC

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

- José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, Executive Secretary of ECLAC
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