

Questions registered during the event "Water dialogues in Latin America and the Caribbean 2021"

The questions have been grouped into the following topics:

The human right to safe drinking water and sanitation

- How to ensure that governments in Latin America, especially the economically weakest countries, comply with access to drinking water and sanitation, and not resort to privatization that affects the most vulnerable population?
- To advance IWRM, what route or actions should be considered to "correct" the concentration of water rights in agents with greater power? that is, how to reorder regulated access to water so that the vulnerable population are not excluded?
- If the private sector participates in the management of drinking water and sanitation, what is the most appropriate way of its intervention?
- What are the challenges they face and what actions should the operators of drinking water and sanitation services in Latin America strengthen? How to handle the issue of Unregistered Water and Unbilled Water?
- What is the response of member countries to ECLAC's recommendation to invest to close the gap in service coverage?
- How does the securitization of water on the New York Stock Exchange impact in water accessibility objectives in the poorest and driest areas of Latin America?
- In the region, how are differences according to gender in access to the rights to water and sanitation being considered? Are measures being taken to guarantee such access, use, and handling?

Payment for Environmental Services

- How to strengthen the payment system for Ecosystem Services that protect and conserve water resources, considering that the progress of this instrument is scarce in the region? What lessons learned can be drawn from Costa Rica, Mexico, Colombia? Is it considered functional in transboundary basins (upper parts of the basin)?
- What other types of financial instruments make it possible to ensure the protection, recovery, and sustainable use of water resources?

Ancestral knowledge

- Considering that it is important to respect, rescue, and revalue traditional knowledge and incorporate modern technologies at the same time, how to assertively link Native Communities in the processes of development and strengthening of capacities?
- In the right to water and sanitation programs, how has the traditional knowledge of local communities been incorporated on its use, recognition of problems, and proposed solutions?

Circular economy

- It is recognized that the incorporation of new paradigms and approaches such as circularity is important. What efforts is the private sector incorporating to accelerate this change?
- How feasible is wastewater recycling/recirculation? Can initiatives that relate IWRM to waste treatment like the Israel and Spain models be shared?

- How far are we from changing the paradigm and seeing wastewater as a resource?
- Is work being done to include a circular economy in sanitation regulations?
- Is there a training program on innovation in water and sanitation (circular economy) proposed by ECLAC and UNESCO for public officials?

Governance

- What mechanisms can be recommended to promote cooperation and articulate SDG 6 from the most basic (local) level and then scale to national and regional levels to achieve integrated management of water resources? Examples of successful case studies mention the watershed councils (Peru), micro-watershed (Guatemala), and Honduras.
- What organizational instances are recommended to promote the participation of native communities in the management of water resources?
- What kind of actions and advances are taking place in transboundary management, endorheic basins, and groundwater considering the growing demands of the different regions, since many times it has a more complex level of governance?

Climate change

- What measures and actions are being taken before the evidence of global warming in the retreat of glaciers and the expected trend of another decade of droughts in our arid and semi-arid regions?
- How can a greater allocation of resources be encouraged to adapt to the effects of climate change in the countries of the region?
- What are the actions that come after the 2030 Agenda, are actions for 2050 or 2100 being considered?

Information

- How can the flow and exchange of information from the National Statistical Institutes and Global Entities be managed and facilitated to complement the actions for SDG 6?
- What holistic and modeling-based tools to support integrated water resources management are being promoted?
- The need for a more inclusive science is prevailing. What effective communication strategies and mechanisms are being promoted to convey the knowledge generated by researchers and scientists to end-users, especially the most vulnerable, such as indigenous communities so that they can act?

COVID

- The detection of coronavirus in water is being considered, there are advances in wastewater, would it be possible to introduce it in the environmental surveillance of Latin American and Caribbean countries for future pandemics?