Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development
Initial proposal for discussion

Lais Abramo, Director
Social Development Division, ECLAC

Third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
Santiago, 23 April 2019
A regional agenda for inclusive social development for Latin America and the Caribbean

Resolution 2(II) that was approved by the Ministers and High Authorities of social development during the Second Session of the Regional Conference on Social Development stated agreement for “the definition of a regional agenda for inclusive social development based on public policies that act on the region’s structural inequalities”

- Instrument that addresses structural inequalities and the new challenges that the region faces, with rights-based, gender equality and life cycle perspectives and with an approach of universalism that is sensitive to differences, within the framework of the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda (Resolution 2(II) from de RCSD 2017)
Why a Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development (RAISD)?

- Shared challenge of implementing the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda requires cooperation and multilateralism; RAISD as a platform

- In a less favorable economic context, with greater fiscal restrictions, it is urgent to protect progress, avoid setbacks and strengthen the social agenda in the region

- Social and labour inclusion and reducing inequalities are central to achieve the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda: identifying policies and strengthening state capacities is key

- The critical obstacles for achieving inclusive social development must be identified and addressed by the Social Development Ministries and equivalent entities, with agreement on shared priorities among the countries

- Respond to regional specificities in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda – eg. the ethnic-racial dimension
Bases to identify the areas of RAISD

- The **2030 Agenda**, its social dimension and its call to eradicate poverty, leaving no one behind
- The notion of inclusive social development, its emphasis on inequalities and gaps in access to well-being and the approach of a **universalism that is sensitive to differences**
- The **critical obstacles** (structural and emerging) to inclusive social development in the region
- **Agreements on social development** reached at several intergovernmental forums
- **Missions of the Social Development Ministries** and equivalent entities and their areas of competence
The implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its social dimension as a starting point: a challenge that demands regional integration and cooperation

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Linkages between the social and production spheres: Gaps, pillars and challenges (LC/CDS.2/3), Santiago, 2017. Updated version.
Critical obstacles for inclusive social development in the region: barriers for sustainable development

1. **Poverty** and vulnerability to poverty
2. **Inequalities** and the culture of privilege
3. Gaps in the development of **human capacities** and access to **basic services**
4. **Decent work** deficits and changes in the world of work
5. An unequal and partial access to **social protection**
6. A **social institution framework** that is still under construction
7. **Insufficient funding** of social investment
8. **Emerging obstacles:**
   - diverse forms of violence
   - disasters
   - demographic, epidemiological and nutritional transitions
   - migrations
   - technological changes
Missions of the main public entities dedicated to social development

- Poverty and social development
- Social protection
- Well-being of different groups (those in poverty, women, children, adolescents, young people, older persons, indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants, persons with disabilities, migrants, rural population, urban population and displaced persons, LGBTI+ population)

Institutional Framework Database for Social Policy in Latin America and the Caribbean

A range of social development commitments adopted in regional and sub-regional forums

- Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNDP)
- Regional meeting of Ministers of Education of Latin America and the Caribbean (UNESCO)
- Regional American Meeting (ILO)
- Regional Conference on Migration (IDOM)
- Pan American Sanitary Conference (PAHO)
- Subsidiary bodies and intergovernmental meetings of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Statistical Conference of the Americas
- Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee
- Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications
- Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Summit of Heads of State and Government (Meso-America project)
- Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)
- Council of Ministers of the Social Area
- Meeting of Ministers of the Social Area (ALADI)
- Meeting of the Central American Social Integration Council (SICA/SISCA)
- Meeting of the ministerial Council of the social area (ALBA)
- Andean Council of Ministers of Social Development
- Meeting of Ministers of Health of the Andean Area (CAN)
- Council of Ministers for Social and Human Development (OECO)
- Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs (OTCA)
- Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities of Social Development (MERCOSUR)
- Central American Parliament
- Andean Parliament
- MERCOSUR Parliament (PARLASUR)
- South American Council for Social Development (UNASUR)

Current analysis includes forums with SDM presence

- 1,179 commitments
- 65 documents
- 16 meetings
- 12 organisms

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Towards a regional agenda for inclusive social development: Bases and initial proposal (LC/MDS.2/2), Santiago, 2018.
THE REGIONAL AGENDA FOR INCLUSIVE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Initial proposal
Objectives of the regional agenda for inclusive social development

Support the implementation of the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly in those areas related to the mandates of the Social Development Ministries and equivalent entities, taking into account the achievements, opportunities and critical obstacles to inclusive social development in the region.

Specific objectives

1. Identify a set of axes and lines of action in order to deepen the progress made in social development, eradicate poverty and achieve increasing levels of social inclusion and equality
2. Promote high-quality social development public policies
3. Address the critical obstacles that hinder inclusive social development
4. Strengthen the positioning of the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda and the role of the SDM, fortifying the intersectoral coordination
5. Support regional and sub-regional cooperation spaces
Principles of the regional agenda for inclusive social development

1. The **rights-based approach** as a normative horizon
2. **The empowerment and autonomy of people**
3. **Dignified life and progressive well-being**
4. **An approach of universalism that is sensitive to differences**
5. **A redistributive approach with solidarity and financial sustainability**
6. **A systemic perspective** of sustainable development
7. **High-quality public policies**
8. **Alliances and social pacts** to consolidate State policies
Axes of the RAISD: a proposal

- Universal and comprehensive **social protection systems**
- **Social and labour inclusion** policies
- A strengthened **social institutional framework**
- **Cooperation** and regional integration

➤ Each axis includes specific **lines of action**

➤ **Each country decides** the level of depth, specific relevance and ways of implementing
Links between RAISD axes and Sustainable Development Goals

Social and labour inclusion

Universal social protection

Social institutional framework

Cooperation and regional integration

SDGs that are indirectly related:

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.
Axis 1: Universal and comprehensive social protection systems

1.1 Strengthen **comprehensive and universal** social protection systems, mainstreaming gender, ethnic and racial, life cycle, territorial and disability **perspectives**

1.2 Establish mechanisms for **inter-institutional work**

1.3 Advance in guaranteeing a **basic level of income** for all people: coverage and amounts, evaluating a universal transfer for children and a universal basic income

1.4 Integrated **social information** systems

1.5 **Articulation** between components of social protection systems

1.6 Address **emerging risks**

1.7 Response capacity and the resilience of populations affected by humanitarian **crises** and **disasters**

1.8 **Integrated early childhood development** systems

1.9 Include **care** in social protection systems
Axis 2: Social and labour inclusion policies

2.1 Information about the **inequalities and inclusion gaps among different populations**

2.2 Policies and programs that allow **young people to build paths of inclusion**

2.3 Autonomy, dignity and integral respect of the **rights of older persons**

2.4 Incorporation of a **gender and an ethnic-racial perspective**

2.5 Policies and programs for **labour and productive inclusion for women**

2.6 Progress in the fight against **racism**

2.7 Policies to promote racial equality and guarantee the **rights of Afro-descendants**

2.8 Collective rights of **indigenous peoples**, promote equality and the improvement of their living conditions

2.9 Combat **homophobia and transphobia** - access to education and decent work without discrimination, participation and eradicate violence experienced by LGTBI+ persons
Axis 2: Social and labour inclusion policies

2.10 Accessibility and opportunities for **persons with disabilities**

2.11 Protect the rights of **migrants** and promote their inclusion in education, health, social protection and decent work

2.12 Reduce **territorial inclusion gaps**: basic services and infrastructure and access to productive employment and decent work

2.13 Promote access to **housing** policies and programs

2.14 Reduce the **digital gap** (access, knowledge and skills)

2.15 Digital government that includes the cultural, educational and capacity **specificities**

2.16 Social and labour inclusion initiatives in **ministries** in charge of productive policies and technological development

2.17 **Mainstream the social inclusion approach** in decision-making processes in all public policies
Axis 3: A strengthened social institutional framework

I. Establish, formalize and strengthen social institutions

3.1.1 National legal frameworks adapted to international legal instruments

3.1.2 Strengthen legal framework of entities in charge of social policies

3.1.3 Regulatory and policy design frameworks that guarantee the recognition, well-being and rights of different population groups

3.1.4 Strengthen participation of recipients and civil society organizations

3.1.5 Dissemination, transparency and accountability mechanisms for existing benefits

3.1.6 Horizontal coordination mechanisms for the management of intersectoral policies

3.1.7 Mechanisms of vertical coordination between the different levels of government

3.1.8 Information, monitoring and evaluation systems for social entitlements

3.1.9 Identification and statistical visibility of different groups
Axiss 3: A strengthened social institutional framework

II. Safeguard and consolidate the financing of social policy

3.2.1 Prioritize, consolidate and safeguard the financing of social policy

3.2.2 Sustainability of social protection entitlements, safeguarding the levels of investment reached, at least at their real value and avoiding abrupt cuts

3.2.3 Advocate for the development of fiscal rules that ensure the necessary resources to give sustainability to the policies

3.2.4 Social policy financing as an investment
Axis 4: Cooperation and regional integration

4.1 **Link the commitments and exchanges** of regional forums on social development to support the regional implementation of the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda

4.2 Strengthen the spaces and capacities of **South-South cooperation** channels in matters of development and social protection

4.3 **Joint working groups** on specific issues and policy areas identified by governments

4.4 **Exchange of experiences** in terms of the institutional framework and management of social development policies and programs

4.5 **Comparative research** and regional exchange around social protection systems

4.6 **Exchange and disseminate information and statistical data** through observatories and forums related to social development
THE PROCESS OF PREPARING THE REGIONAL AGENDA FOR INCLUSIVE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
Workplan 2019

May - June
- Reception of comments on the draft of the RAISD (May 15)
- Systematization of comments
- Consultations with civil society

June – July
- Consultation and discussion of the document
- Final draft RAISD
- Preparation of document for III Meeting RCSD according to current structure

Fourth trimester
- Third session of the Regional Conference on Social Development
WORKPLAN FOR DIALOGUE WITH CIVIL SOCIETY
Participation of Civil Society in the agreements of the RCSD

Resolution 2(II) of the second session of the RCSD states:

“13. Urges States, in the preparation and discussion of that agenda, to actively engage civil society, academia and the private sector, in line with the multi-stakeholder approach enshrined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in accordance with their normative and institutional frameworks”

The second session of the Presiding Officers of the RCSD established “that the regional agenda for inclusive social development should be prepared with the active participation of the members of the RCSD in Latin America and the Caribbean, under the leadership of the Presiding Officers, and should include means for consultation with civil society”
Workplan for dialogue with civil society

Towards the RAISD

April 2019

Santiago de Chile

III Session
Presiding Officers RCSD
defines the workplan for dialogue with civil society

Santiago de Chile

III Forum LAC on Sustainable Development
Civil society will be informed about the RAISD process

May / June 2019

Virtual presentations for CS: explain the process towards RAISD and receive comments on axes
In Spanish
In English
Reception of comments until three weeks after presentations

June – September 2019

Received comments will be synthesized to be presented as a document at the III Session RCSD

October 2019

Mexico

III Session RCSD
Civil society day
Reading in plenary of the civil society declaration
Thank you