



**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
20 YEARS ON
FROM THE
EARTH SUMMIT**

Progress, gaps and strategic guidelines for Latin America and the Caribbean

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United Nations



RIO+20

United Nations Conference
on Sustainable Development

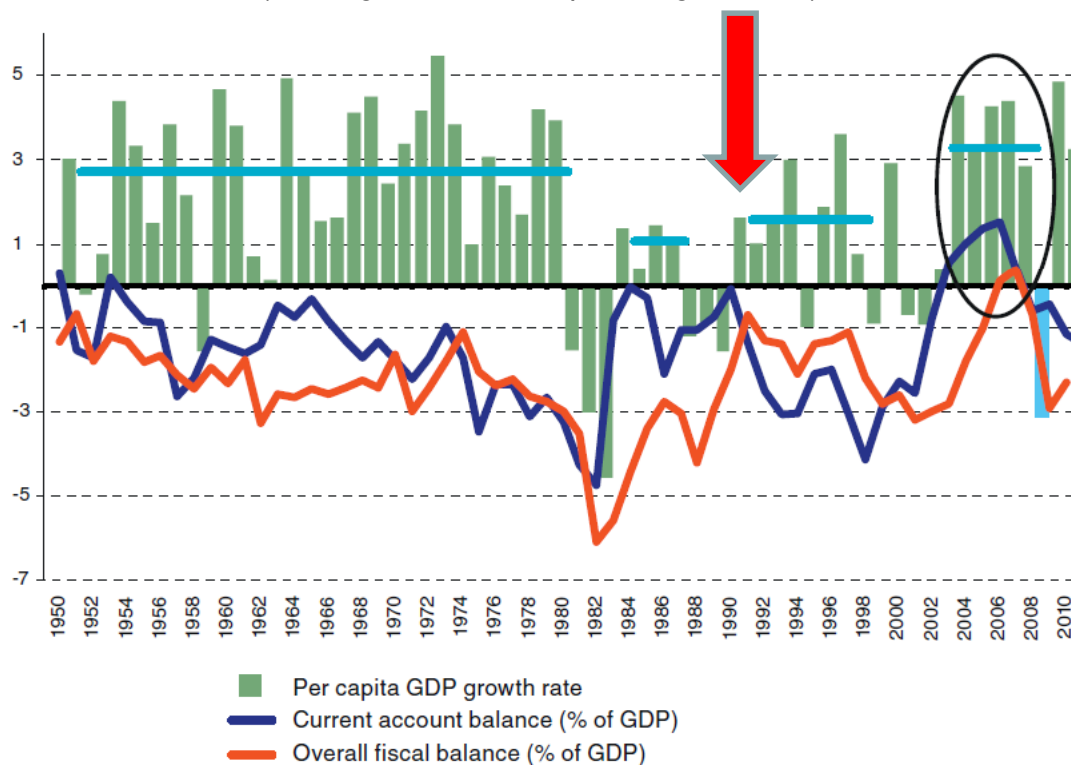
GLOBAL CONTRASTS

- In the 1990s, the world moved along two parallel tracks.
 - A private economic track: a globalized economy, financial capitalism. speculative money, money producing money, unconnected with the real economy. Trade and financial openness. Reduced role of the State.
 - A global normative track: UN world summits towards a development decade: sustainable development, women, population, social development, education, and financing for development, and the Millennium Summit.
- Results: two decades of light and shadow: commitments but without clear financial support or effective transfer of technology.
- Principle 7 of the Rio Declaration relating to common but differentiated responsibilities became watered down internationally within the framework of trade negotiations and is now limited to non-binding, environmental agreements.
- Twenty years later, we are more acutely aware but in a weaker and more worrying position because time has run out.

The regional context: the situation today is very different from what it was in 1992

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: PER CAPITA GDP GROWTH, CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE AND OVERALL FISCAL BALANCE

(Annual growth rates and percentages of GDP)



Fuente: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official figures.

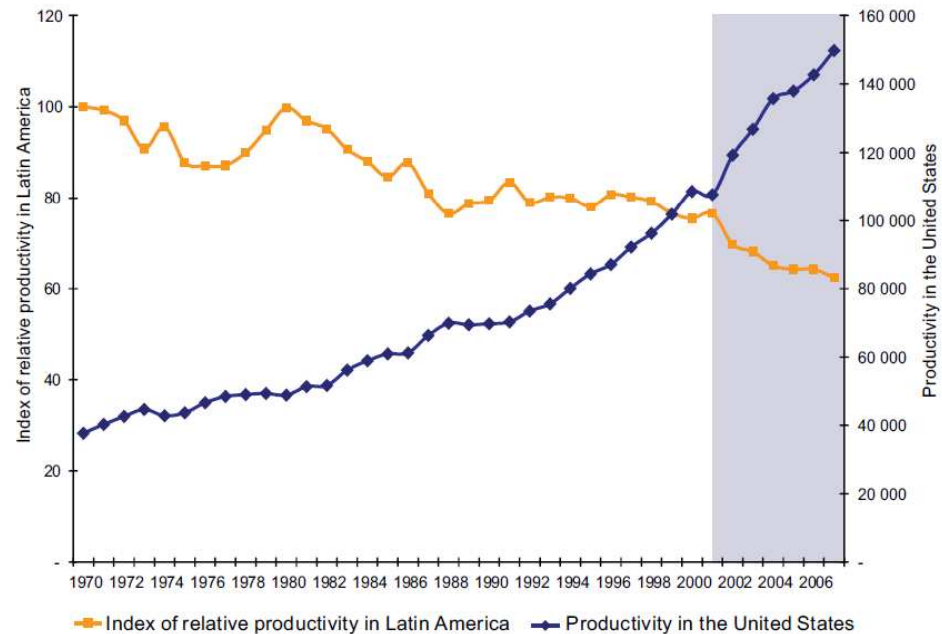
In 1992, the region was emerging from a "lost decade" of low growth, high inflation and external debt constraints.

Currently, despite the recent global economic crisis, the region has enjoyed nearly a decade of relatively high growth; inflation is under control in nearly all countries and, in general, stable economic conditions prevail.

The productivity gap between the region and developed countries is becoming wider

RELATIVE PRODUCTIVITY INDEX OF LATIN AMERICA (SELECTED COUNTRIES) AND PRODUCTIVITY IN THE UNITED STATES

(Index: 1970=100 and constant dollars at 1985 prices)



The region has not succeeded in transforming its production structure, which remains heavily reliant on natural-resource-intensive sectors.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Time for equality: closing gaps, opening trails* (LC/G.2432(SES.33/3)), Santiago, Chile, 2010.

Progress and gaps I: 1990-2010 (latest data)

Progress

- Poverty: from 48% to 31.4%
- Income inequality: Gini from 54% to 52% (lower=better)
- Social Public expenditure: 10% to 18%
- Annual growth of total GDP: 3.6 % to 6%
- Annual growth of per capita GPP: 1.9% to 4.8 per cent
- Malaria decreased by 53%

Gaps

- Productivity index down by 20%.
- Secondary school completion by income (2008): aprox. 84% rich vs 25% poor
- Maternal mortality
- Teenage pregnancy
- Under-nourished: from 54M to 52 M

Progress and gaps 2: 1990-2010 (latest data)

Progress

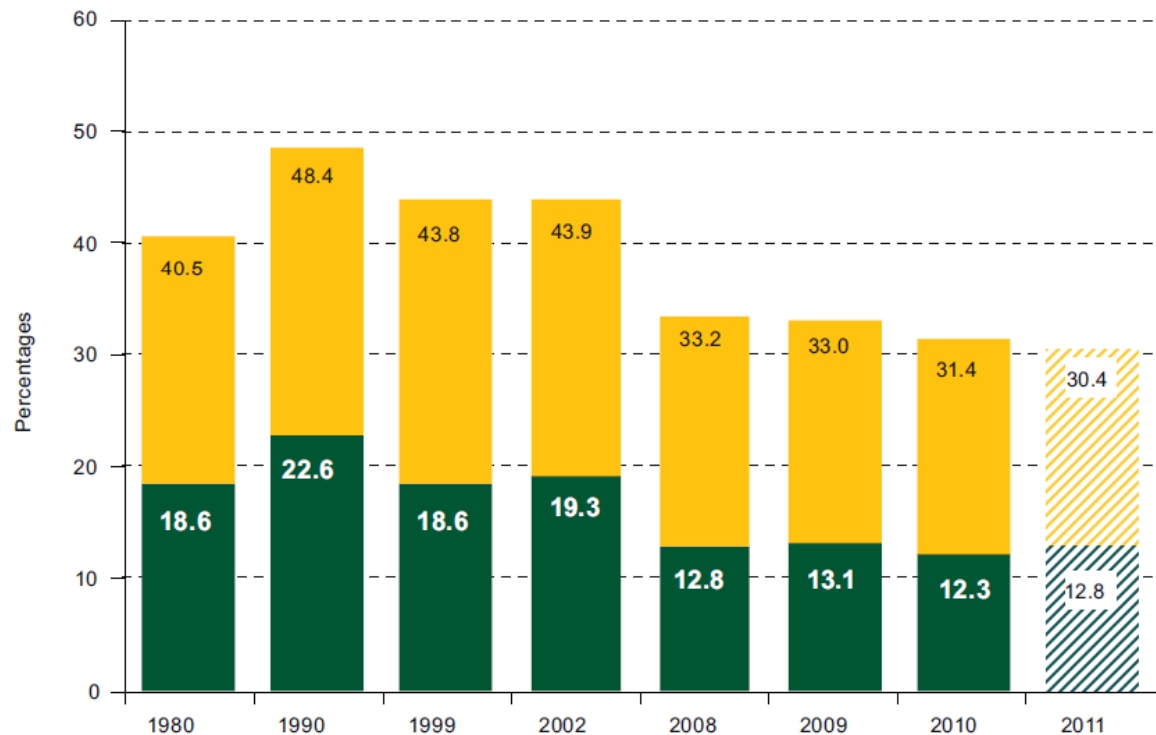
- Energy intensity of GDP improved
- Access to water: 83% to 93%
- Access to sanitation 69% to 79%
- Ozone-depleting substances: 74,600 tons to 5,400 tons

Gaps

- People with no electricity: 76 to 39 million
- People in slums: 105 million to 110 million
- Renewable energy supply: from 25% to 23%
- Forest cover: from 52% to 47%

Between 1990 and 2010 poverty fell by 17 percentage points, from 48.4% to 31.4%

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (19 COUNTRIES):
POVERTY AND INDIGENT, 1980-2011 ^a**
(Percentages)

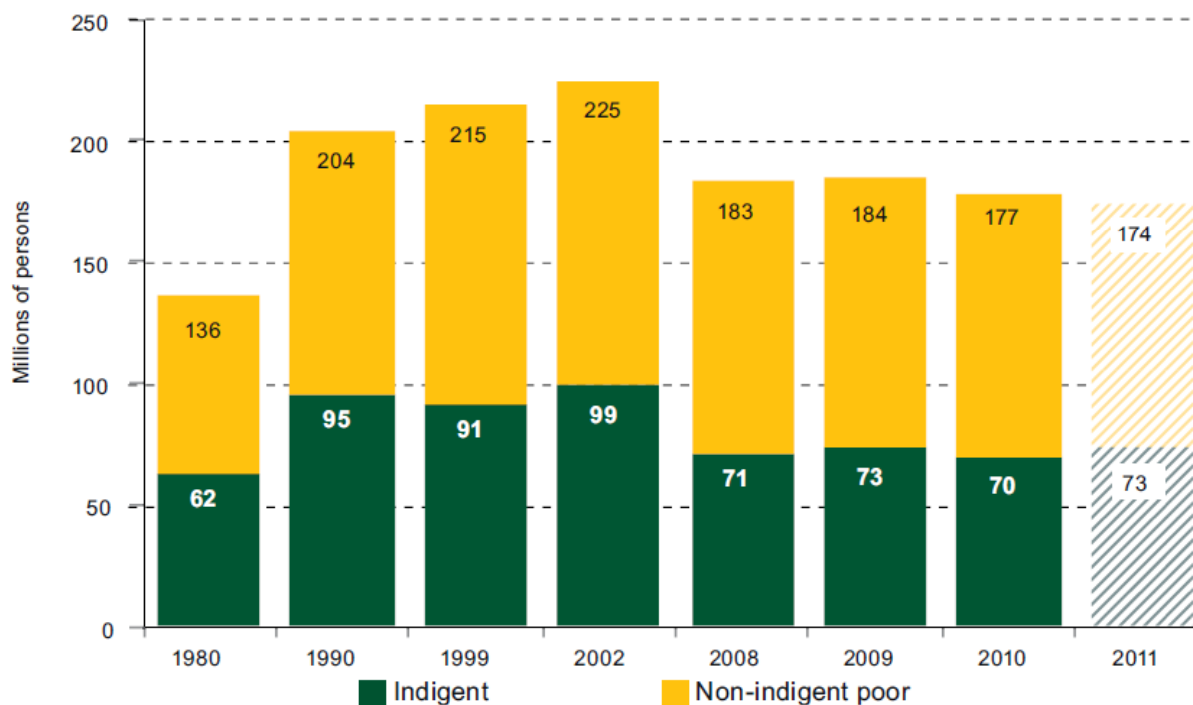


Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries.

^a The figures at the top of the bars represent the percentage of poor persons (indigent plus non-indigent poor). The figures for 2011 are projections.

Although significantly lower as a percentage of the total population, the poor population in 2010 was larger in absolute terms than in 1980

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (19 COUNTRIES): POVERTY AND INDIGENCE, 1980-2011^a (Millions of persons)

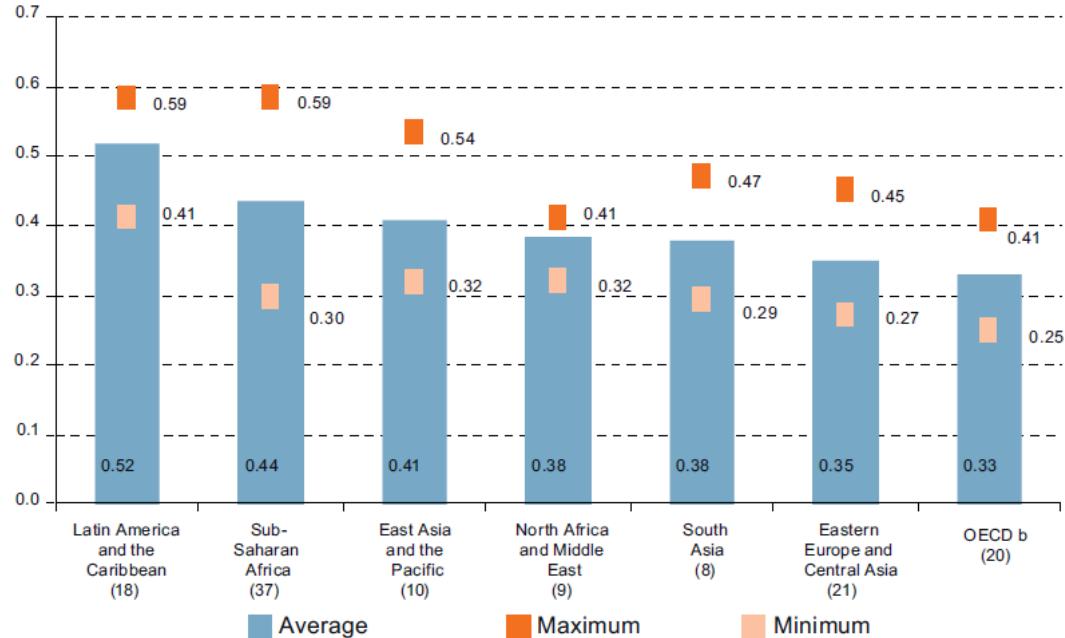


Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries.

^a The figures at the top of the bars represent the total number of poor persons (indigent plus non-indigent poor). The figures for 2011 are projections.

Despite advances in income distribution, the region is still the most unequal in the world

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN AND OTHER REGIONS OF THE WORLD: GINI COEFFICIENT, AROUND 2009 ^a
(Millions of persons)



The average Gini coefficient for Latin America and the Caribbean is higher than the average for all other regions.

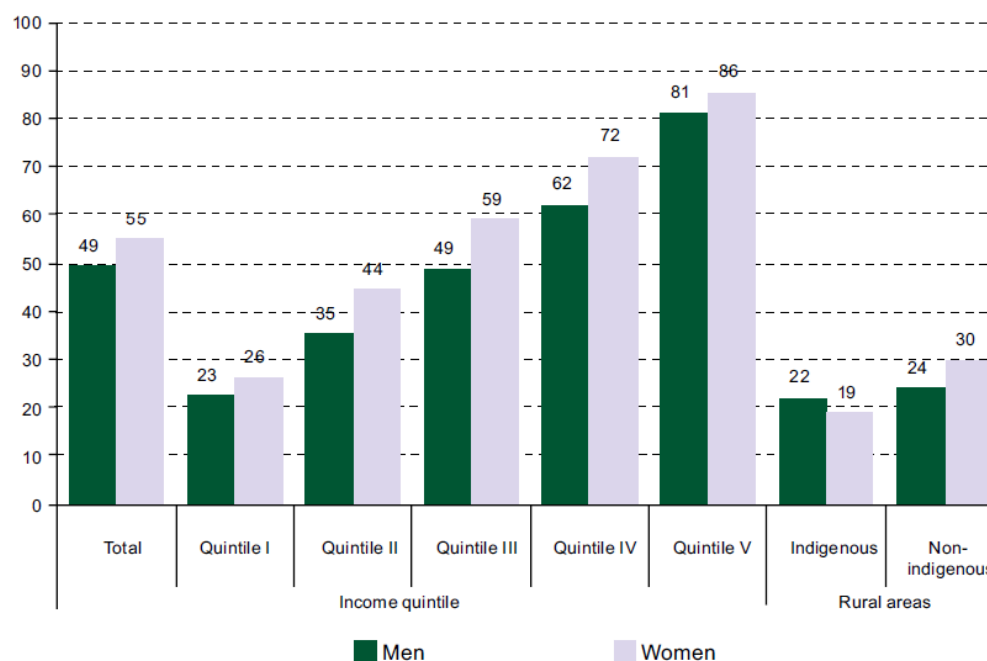
Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries; World Bank, World Development Indicators [online] <http://databank.worldbank.orgddp/home.do>.

^a The regional data are expressed as simple averages, calculated using the latest observation available in each country for the 2000-2009 period.

^b Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The quality of education remains highly uneven between different socioeconomic levels and between the rural and urban populations

LATIN AMERICA (18 COUNTRIES) ^a: POPULATION AGED 20-24 WITH COMPLETE SECONDARY EDUCATION BY PER CAPITA INCOME AND SEX, AROUND 2008
(Percentages)



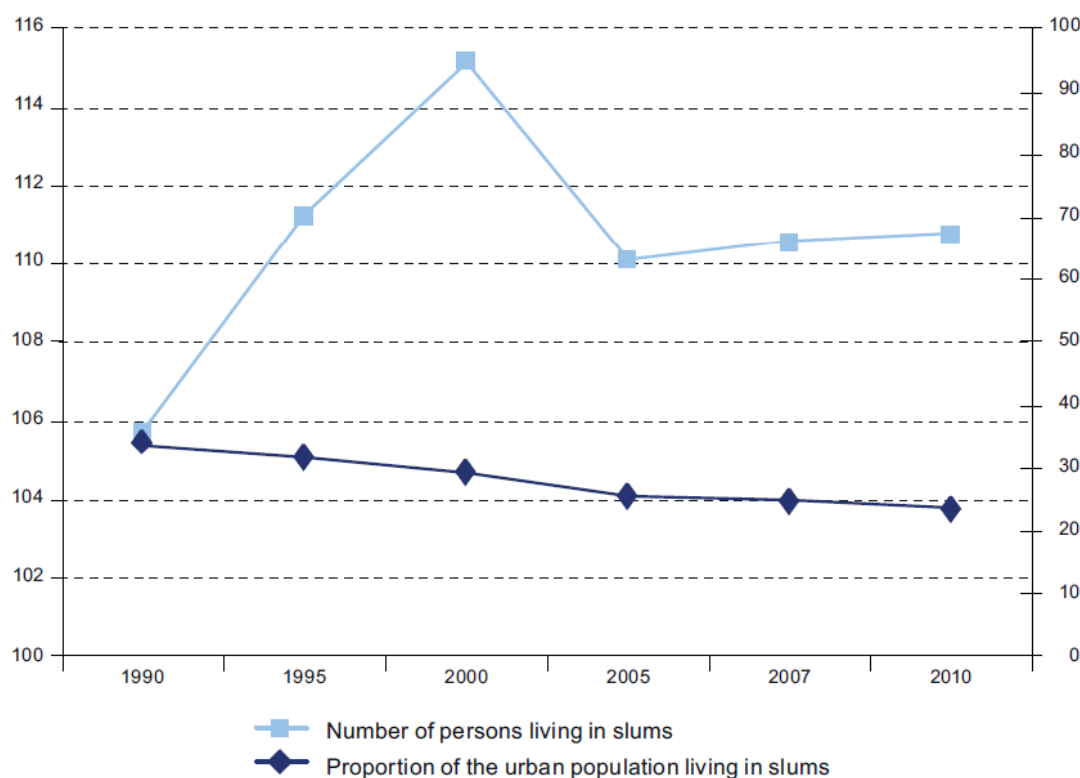
Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Social Panorama of Latin America 2010* (LC/G.2481-P), Santiago, Chile, 2010. United Nations publication, Sales No.E.II.II.G.6.

^a The data for indigenous and non-indigenous youth refer to eight countries and correspond to 2007.

The proportion of the population living in slums has fallen from 34% in 1990 to 24% in 2010

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: URBAN POPULATION LIVING IN SLUMS, 1990-2010

(Millions of persons and percentages of the urban population)^a

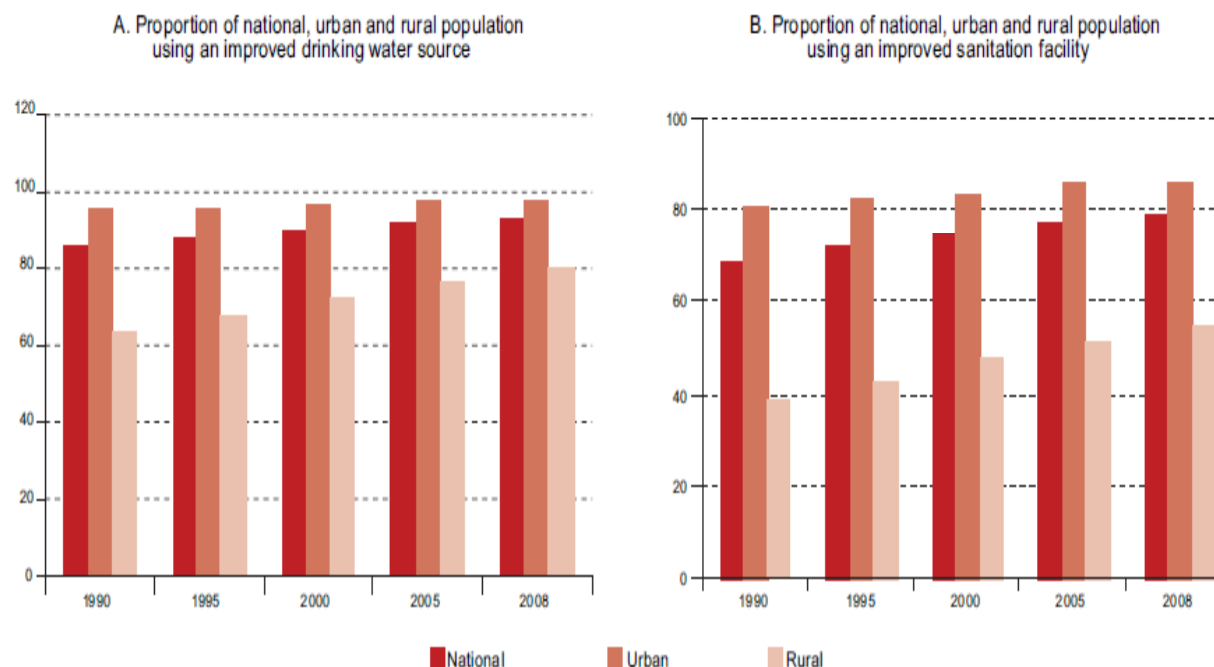


Source: United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), *State of the World's Cities 2010/2011. Cities for All: Bridging the Urban Divide*, Earthscan, 2010.

^a Figures are based on estimates, since not all the countries have data on informal settlements and the interpretation of the indicators may vary from one country to another.

The region has made significant progress in expanding drinking water and sanitation services

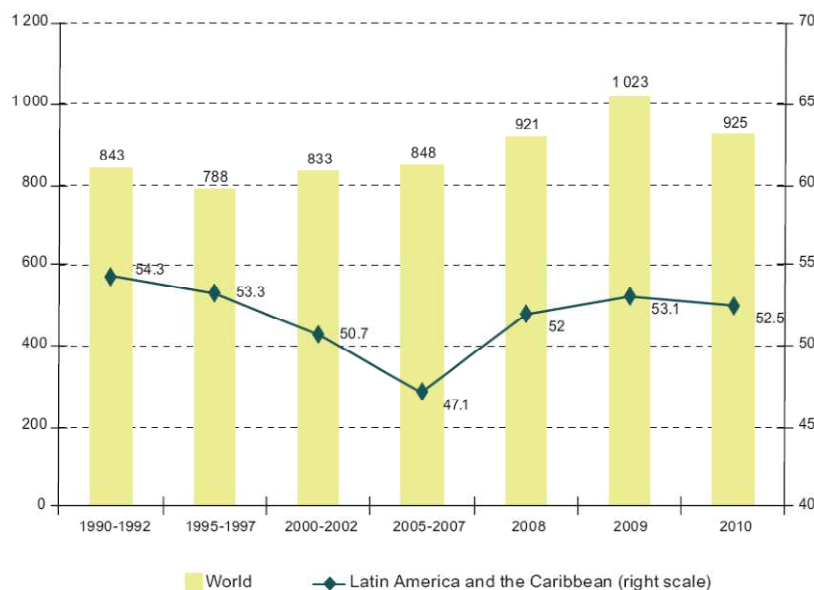
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: PROPORTION OF NATIONAL, URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION USING AN IMPROVED DRINKING WATER SOURCE AND AN IMPROVED SANITATION FACILITY, 1990-2008



Source: United Nations, Millennium Development Goals indicators database [online] <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/mdg/Default.aspx>, on the basis of information from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Date of reference: December 2011.

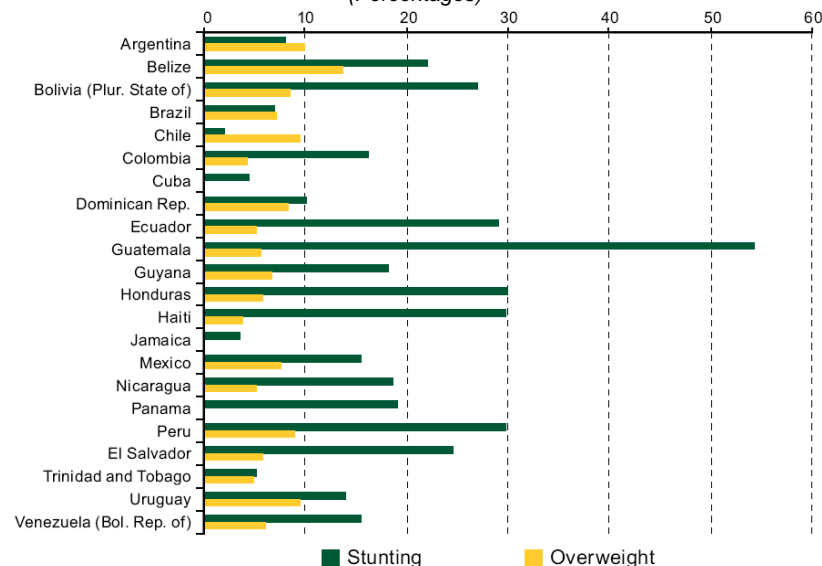
Despite progress, hunger and disease are still challenges

NUMBER OF UNDERNOURISHED PEOPLE IN THE WORLD AND IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, 1990-1992 TO 2010
(Millions of persons)



Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), *Panorama of Food and Nutrition Security in Latin America, 2010*, Santiago, Chile, 2010.

UNDERNUTRITION AND OVERWEIGHT IN CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS, 2000 TO 2009
(Percentages)



Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), *Panorama of Food and Nutrition Security in Latin America, 2010*, Santiago, Chile, 2010.

- There has been progress in reducing some communicable diseases: for example, the incidence of malaria fell by 53% between 1992 and 2009.
- The prevalence of HIV/AIDS has remained stable in Latin America in recent decades, at between 0.3% and 0.5% of the general population.
- Tuberculosis-related deaths in the region fell from 8 per 100,000 inhabitants in 1990 to 2.1 per 100,000 in 2009.

Strengthening the environmental pillar

- Since 1992, environmental legislation and institutions have been strengthened and sustainable development has become an established concept in the context of public policies.
- Since the 1990s, the region has made considerable headway in developing regulations on atmospheric and waterborne industrial emissions and waste.



Since 1990 the proportion of officially protected areas in Latin America and the Caribbean has doubled

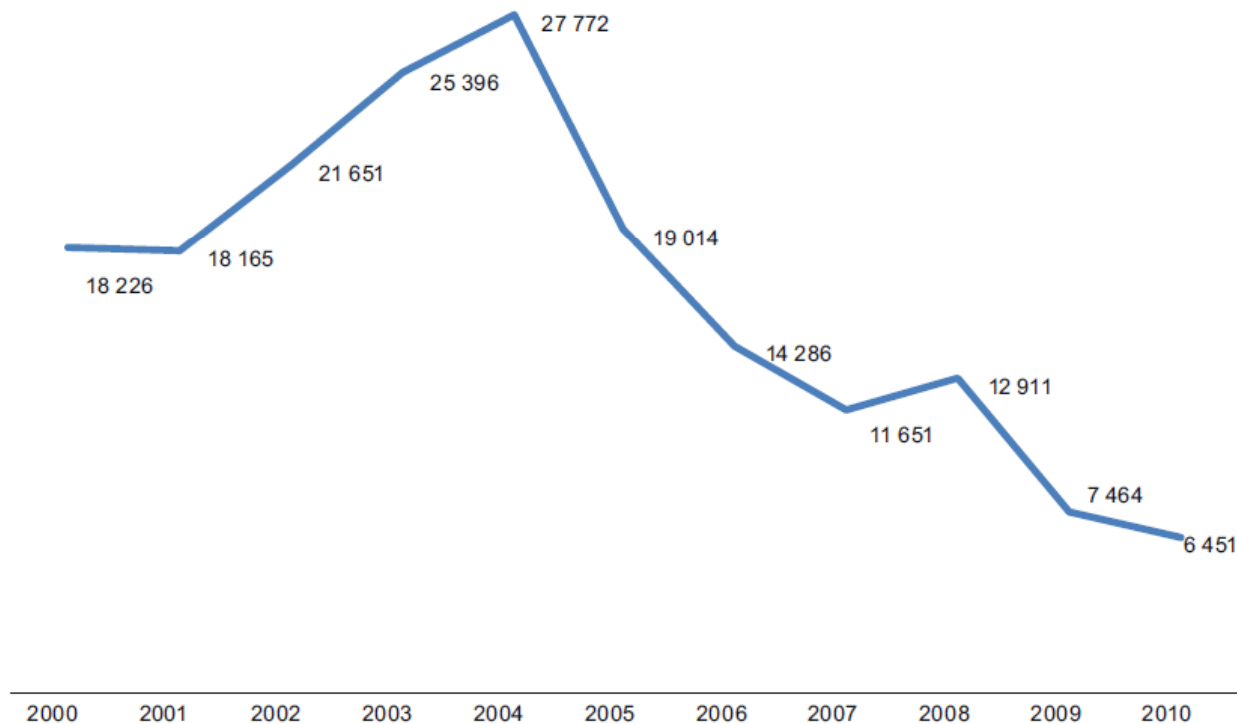
PROPORTION OF TERRESTRIAL PROTECTED AREAS, 1990-2010
(Percentages of the world's land mass)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of World Database on Protected Areas [online] www.wdpa.org/Default.aspx [date of reference: December 2011].

The past five years have seen significant progress in the control of deforestation, especially in the Amazon

BRAZIL: ANNUAL DEFORESTATION RATE IN THE LEGAL AMAZON, 2000-2010
(Square kilometres/year)

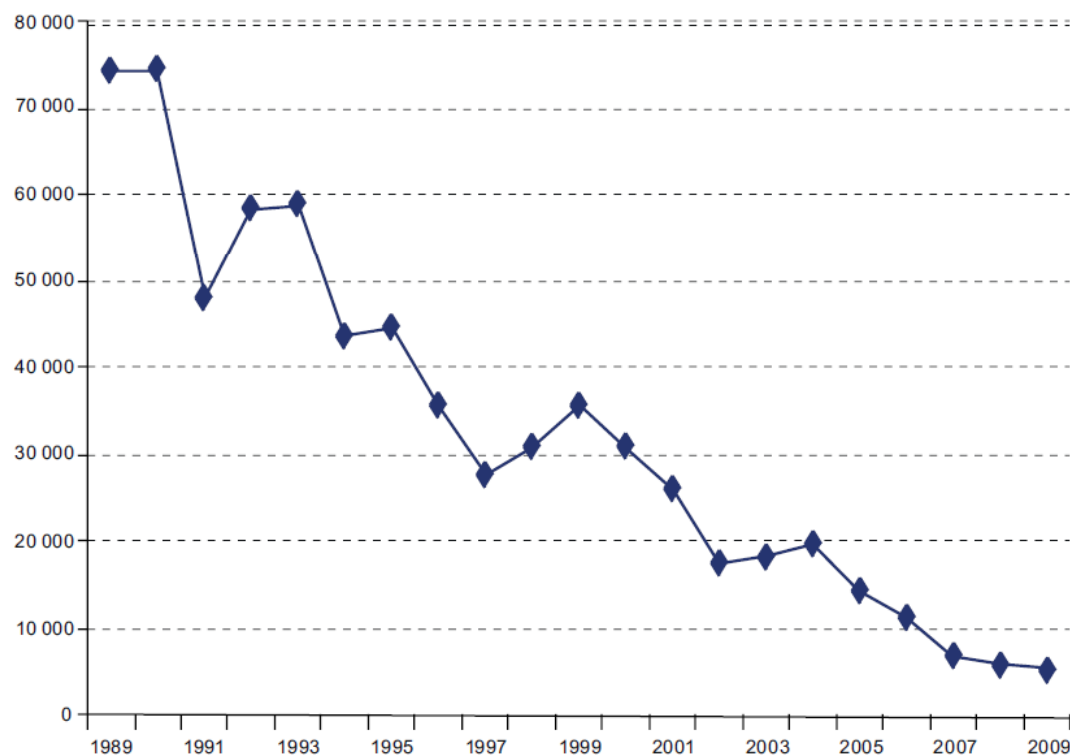


Source: Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais (INPE) , "Taxas anuais do desmatamento - 1988 até 2010" [online]
www.obt.inpe.br/prodes/prodes_1988_2010.htm.

The region's emissions of ozone-depleting substances have fallen steadily in the past 20 years

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: CONSUMPTION OF OZONE-DEPLETING SUBSTANCES, 1990-2009

(Ozone-depleting potential (ODP) tons)



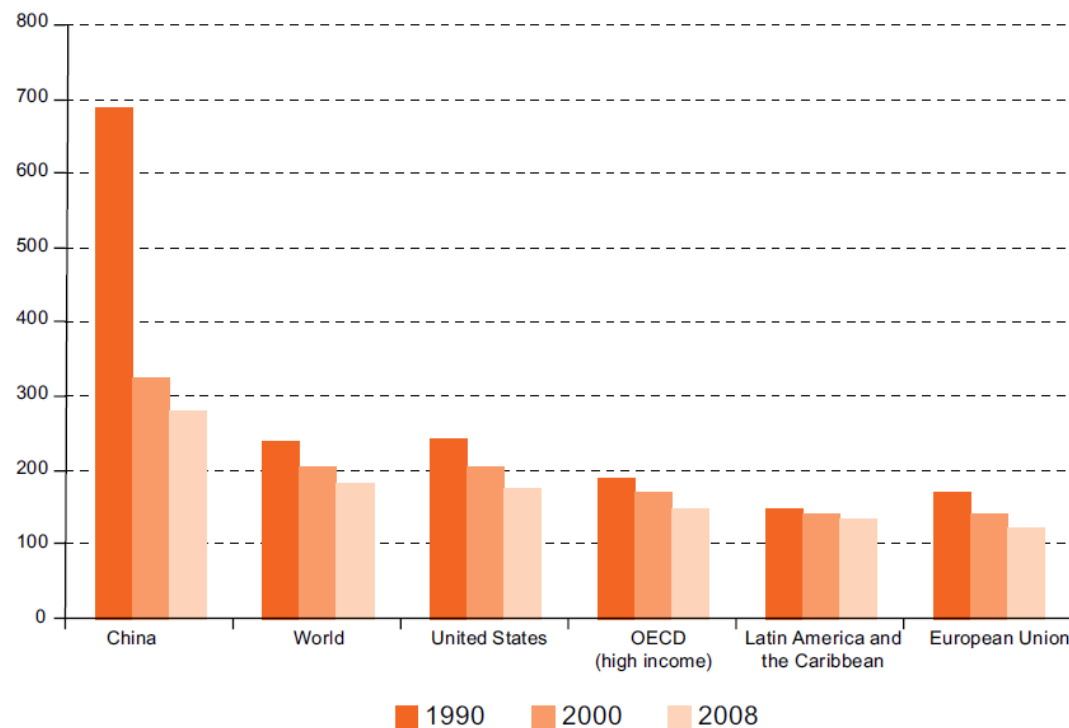
This reflects successful efforts made under the Montreal Protocol

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of United Nations Millennium Development Goals indicators database, based on figures from the Ozone Secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) [online] http://ozone.unep.org/Data_Reporting/Data_Access/ [date of reference: May 2011].

Energy intensity has been declining much more slowly in Latin America and the Caribbean than in other regions

ENERGY INTENSITY OF THE ECONOMY

(Kg of petroleum equivalent per US\$ 1,000 of GDP at constant 2005 PPP prices)



This is attributable to the region's production patterns, the fact that environmental and health costs are not factored into policy decisions, the use of hydrocarbon consumption and production subsidies, and the low priority that policymakers have assigned to energy efficiency, among other factors.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of World Bank, World Development Indicators [online] <http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/world-development-indicators> [date of reference: December 2011].

Energy access in Latin America

Estimate of total population w/o electric power is: 39 million or 6.4 %
Of these, the poor population without electric power stands at 30 million or 73%

LUZ PARA TODOS PROGRAMME IN BRAZIL:

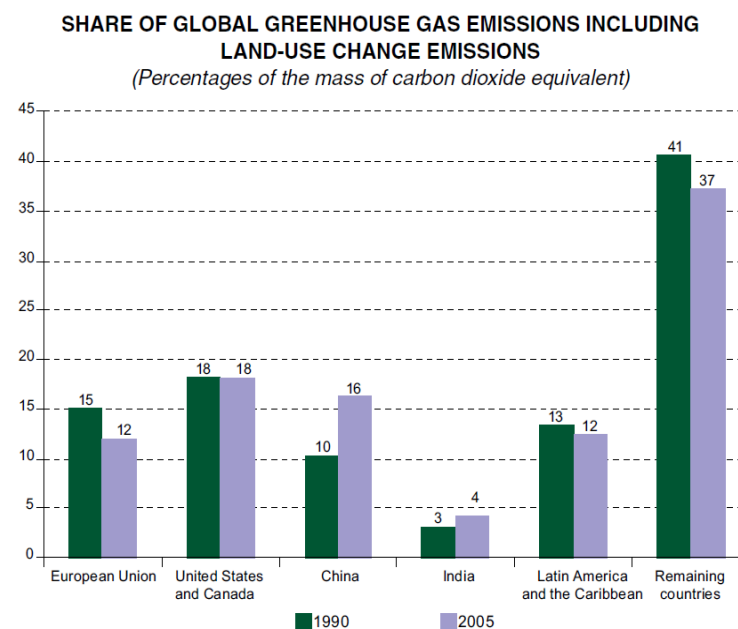
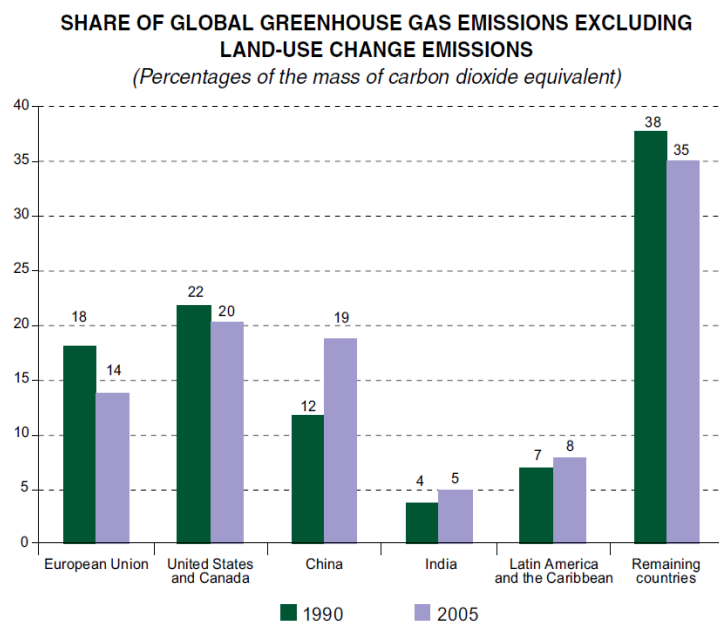
- Brazil launched the programme *Luz para todos* in 2003 to provide electric power to 10 million rural inhabitants by 2010 at no installation cost for the beneficiaries.
- By May 2009, two million hook-ups, benefiting 10 million people, had been made.
- Results:
 - 40.7% of the beneficiary families enjoy better opportunities for studying,
 - 34.2% have better work opportunities
 - 35.6% earn a better income
 - 22.1% have access to better health care

Source: Ministry of Mines and Energy of Brazil, "Light for all: A historic landmark. 10 million Brazilians out of the darkness" [online], <http://luzparatodos.mme.gov.br/luzparatodos/Asp/publicacoes.asp>, 2010.

Climate change represents a new challenge to the region's development

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Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of Climate Analysis Indicators Tool (CAIT), Version 7.0, Washington, D.C., World Resources Institute, 2010.

Science and technology

- Use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) has increased in various fields in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- For example, due to advances in satellite technology, vulnerable areas such as the Amazon can now be monitored almost in real time. Government agencies can therefore provide a timely response to crises and chart the course of long-term policies more effectively.
- The number of scientific publications in Latin America and the Caribbean doubled between 1997 and 2006, and accounted for 4,9% of the world's total in 2008.

Information for decision-making and civil society participation

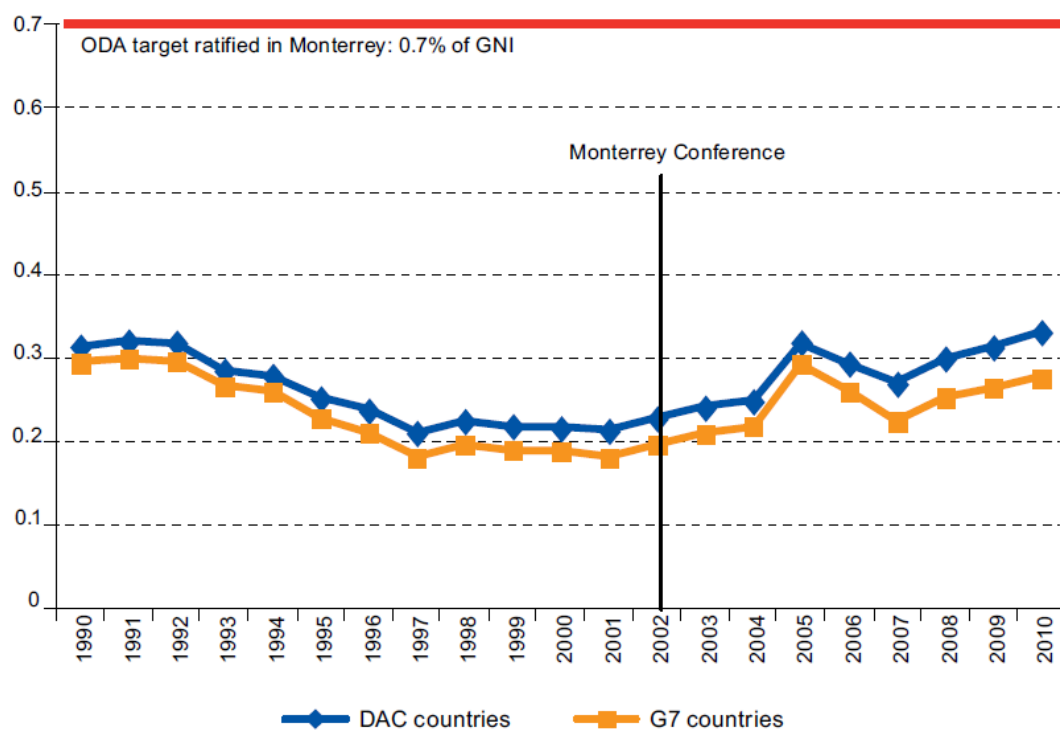
- Many countries have yet to enact legislation to facilitate implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration, while others are encountering implementation difficulties.
- Although it is recognized that the participation of women is important to achieve sustainable development, their participation in decision-making and in leadership positions is still low at every level.



The failure to fully meet international cooperation commitments plays a critical part in perpetuating the gaps

OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE GRANTED BY COUNTRIES OF THE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT COMMITTEE (DAC), 1990-2010

(Percentages of gross national income of donor countries)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) statistics, variation in official development assistance (ODA) and World Bank, World Development Indicators for gross national income [date of reference: January 2012].

Key issues for the sustainable development of Caribbean Small Island Developing States

- International financing is vital for these economies if they are to make headway towards sustainable development.
- The priority issues include reducing the risk of disasters; adapting to climate change; reducing dependence on fossil fuels; creating stronger incentives for proper waste and chemical management; protecting marine, coastal and freshwater resources and biodiversity; and ensuring that the tourism industry is compatible with sustainable development.

Guidelines for achieving sustainability

- **Guideline 1: Create synergies** between inclusion, social protection, human security, empowerment of people, disaster risk reduction and environmental protection
 - Public transport
 - Treatment of wastewater
- **Guideline 2: Measure the sustainability** of development
 - Adoption of green net domestic product and/or the United Nations System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA)
- **Guideline 3: Internalize** the environmental and social costs and benefits of public and private economic decisions
 - Pricing of activities that pollute or cause environmental degradation
 - Eliminate direct or indirect subsidies for activities that damage the environment
 - Apply mechanisms such as royalties to channel resources into human capital to facilitate transformation of production structure

Guidelines for achieving sustainability

- **Guideline 4: Improve** the **coordination** and consistency of public action in relation to sustainable development policies
 - Create bodies to coordinate public action among different authorities, sectoral areas and levels of government (interministerial commissions, council of ministers, municipal consortia)
- **Guideline 5: Produce** and disseminate **statistics and information** on the environment and sustainable development
 - Strengthen environmental information systems
- **Guideline 6: Formulate** better **policies based on** a more informed, **participatory process**
 - Effective implementation of principle 10 of the Rio Declaration
- **Guideline 7: Strengthen** education, culture, science and technology in order to build **human capital for sustainability**
 - Reform curricula to include education for sustainable development
 - Improve science and technology systems to boost competitiveness in environmentally friendly sectors

INTERNATIONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL CONDITIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- Improve international governance for sustainable development (consistency, coherence, efficiency and effectiveness), particularly around **natural resources**
- Comply with ODA commitments
- Develop further an open, fair, non-discriminatory, rule-based trading and financial system
- Improve international cooperation to allow access to new technologies (technological weaknesses and the world intellectual property system limit such transfers)
- In a very heterogeneous region, international and regional support and the creation of compensation mechanisms for less developed countries are vital
- Strengthen the Economic and Social Council to ensure that the three pillars are integrated



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