

Time use data: Key information toward Care Society

International Seminar

*“The Care Work and the Sustainability of Life and
Economy” G20 Women's Empowerment Working Group*



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The global context

- The world is facing a series of cascading crises, which are widening historical gaps. Over the past three years, the region's social indicators have shown setbacks, jeopardizing fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- The region is facing a development crisis and yet another lost decade.
- The countries and the region as a whole are at a turning point. We must act with a sense of urgency, with more ambitious and wider-reaching policy action.
- Now is not a time for gradual or timid changes, but for bold and transformational policies capable of moving the needles of development.
- It is a time for transformative changes such as those proposed by the **care society**.

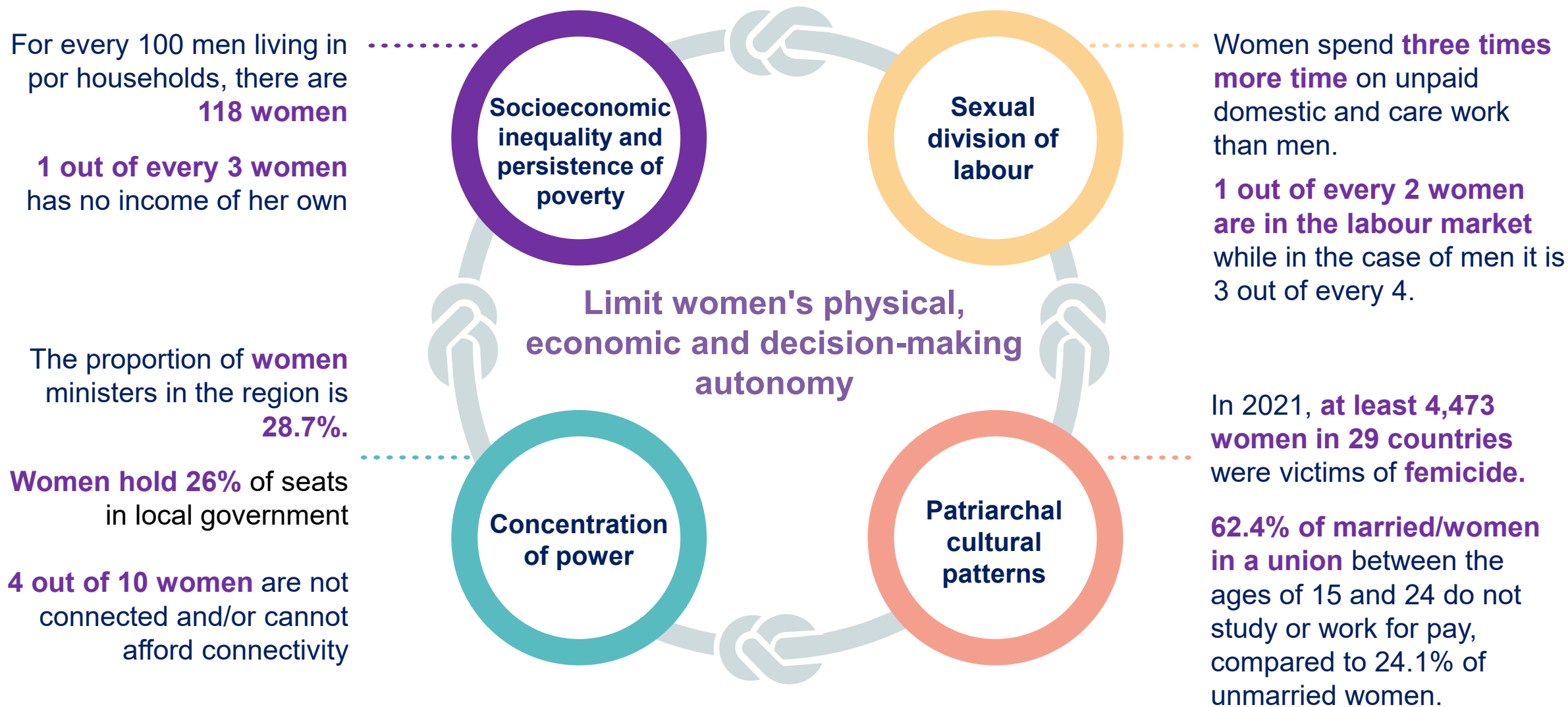


The care society

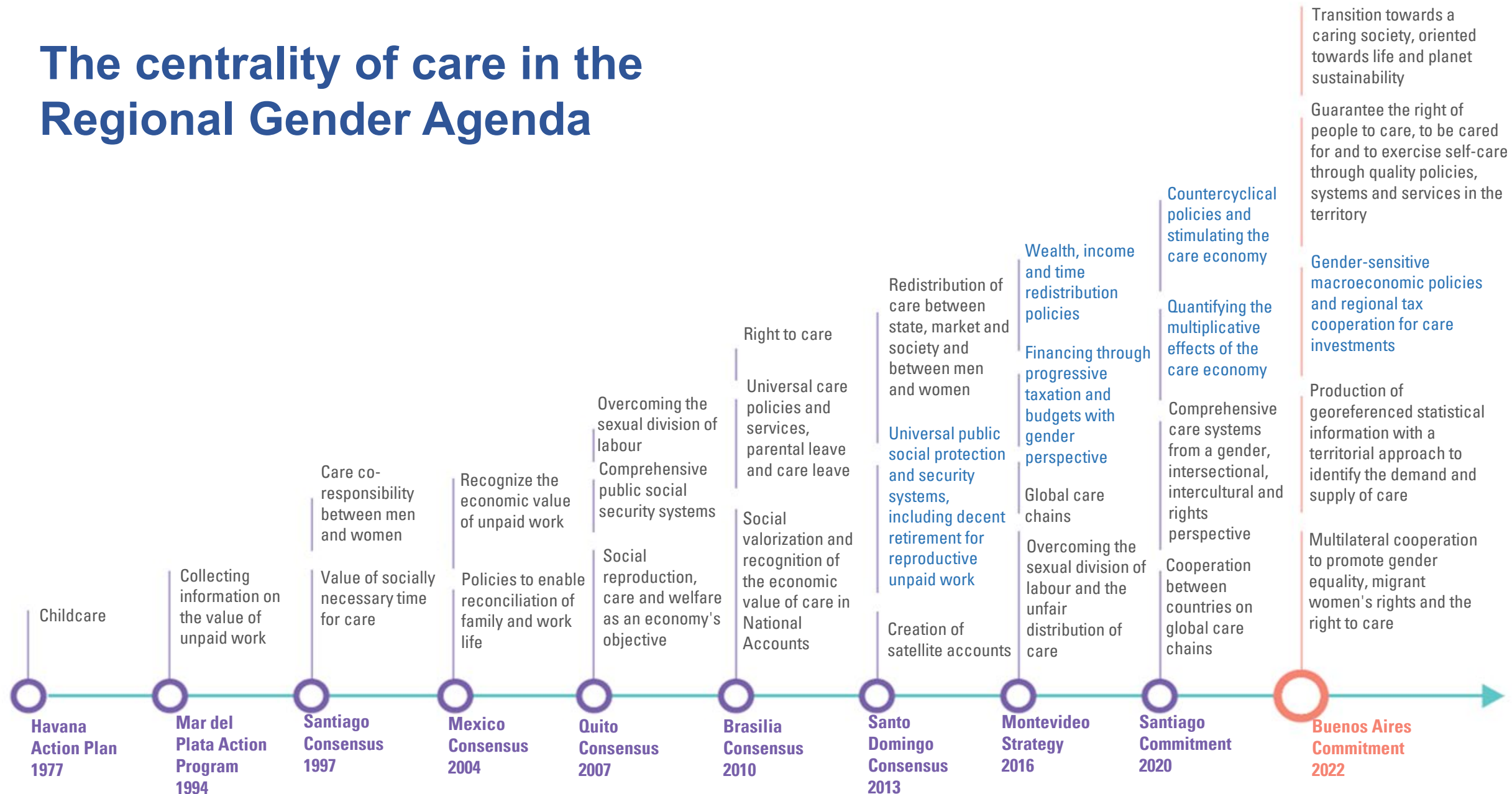
- The care society is a proposition that requires **collective, multiscale construction, with gender and social co-responsibility**.
- **The Regional Gender Agenda, the contributions of feminist economics, the proposals of women's and feminist movements and the paradigm of *buen vivir* (living well)** guide the principles that underpin the construction of a society that places care and sustainability of life at the centre, with gender equality.
- To avoid widening gender gaps and move towards substantive equality, **it is vital to build greater recognition of care for people and the planet**. In addition, care sectors have the potential to **boost economies and create jobs**.
- Given the demographic and epidemiological transition in the region, **demand for care is expected to grow considerably**.



Cascading crises reveal structural challenges in achieving gender equality in the region

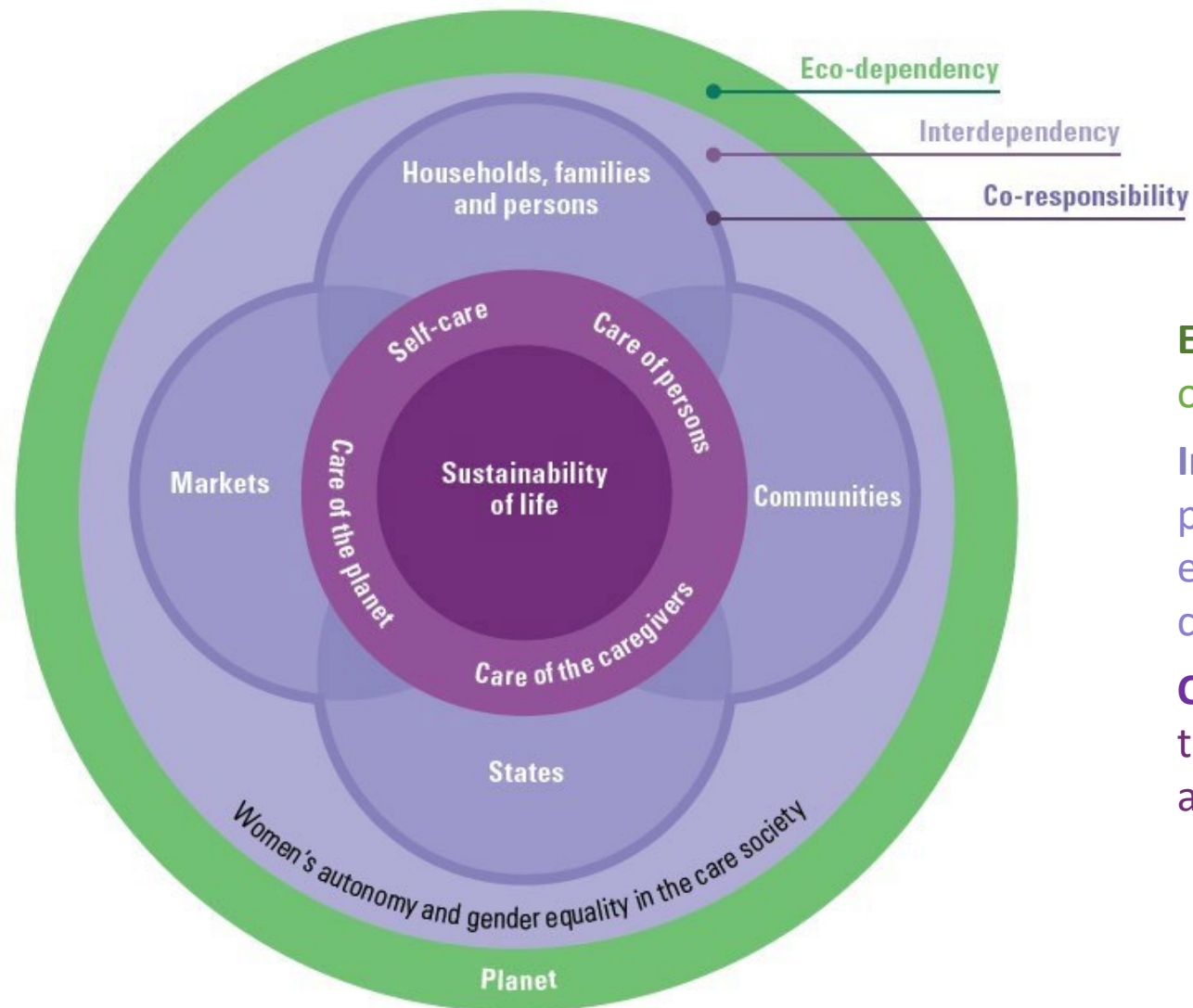


The centrality of care in the Regional Gender Agenda



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean

Components of progress towards the care society



Eco-dependency: human dependence on nature.

Interdependency: dependence among people and different areas, such as the economic, socio-environmental and cultural spheres.

Co-responsibility: among the State, the market, communities, families and individuals.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

The Regional Gender Agenda and the indicators of the regional framework

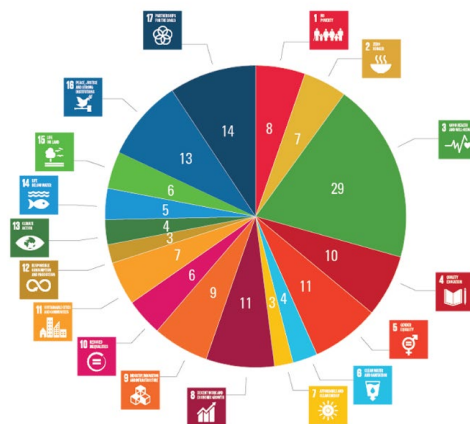
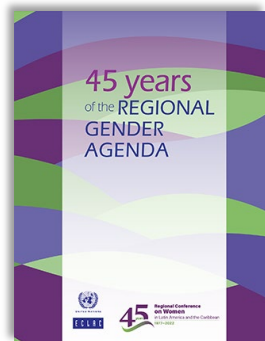
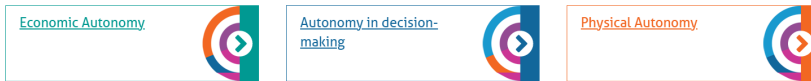
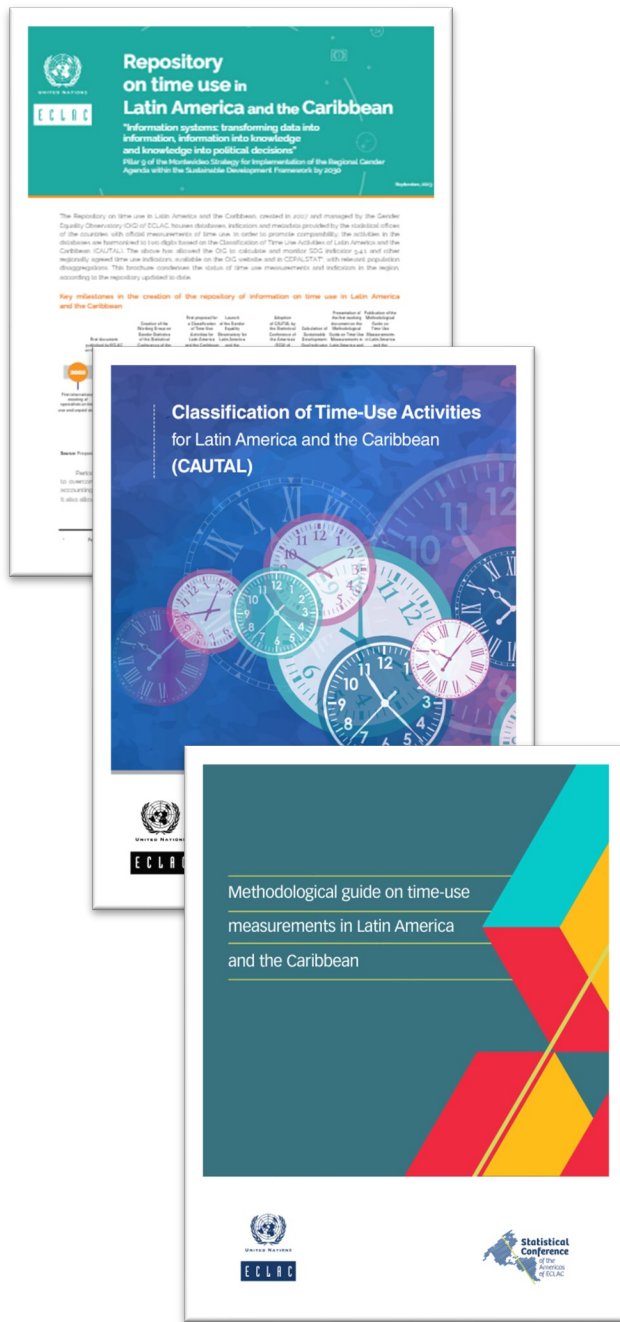


Gráfico: Conjunto de indicadores priorizados por el Grupo de Coordinación Estadística para la Agenda 2030 en América Latina y el Caribe
(Número de indicadores seleccionados por Objetivo de Desarrollo Sostenible)
Fuente: División de Estadísticas, CEPAL.

- Knowing and understanding how, and in what activities people spend their time is fundamental for understanding both the personal and the social experience of the organization of life and time.
- Time-use data are crucial for analysing the inequalities inherent in its use and distribution, the levels of well-being among the population, and its contribution to society and the economy.
- Time-use surveys are key tools for capturing this information and have proven highly relevant for the design, implementation and monitoring of public policies, and for research in different areas, including sexual division of labour.
- The 2030 Agenda has reinforced the need to recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work, recognizing that this contributes directly to women's autonomy in the public and private spheres (target 5.4). Indicator 5.4.1 (Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location) has been proposed to follow up on this target (United Nations, 2015).

Sources: ECLAC, 45 years of the Regional Gender Agenda, 2023.



- Despite countries' reaffirmation of the relevance of time-use data through the agreements of the Regional Gender Agenda and the Working Group on Gender Statistics of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, the region faces the challenge of increasing the harmonization and comparability of measurements on time use and unpaid work.
- The methodological differences between the various surveys make it harder to generate regional aggregate data. In view of this, the adoption as a regional standard of the CAUTAL, as well as the Methodological Guide on time use measurements in Latin America and the Caribbean, constitute important milestones to promote the comparability of time use measurements in the region.
- Additionally, the Repository on time use in Latin America and the Caribbean, created in 2007 and managed by the Gender Equality Observatory (OIG) of ECLAC, houses databases, indicators and metadata provided by the statistical offices of the countries with official measurements of time use.

Latin America and the Caribbean: progress in the measurement of time use and unpaid work, 1998-2023

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Countries with time
use measurements



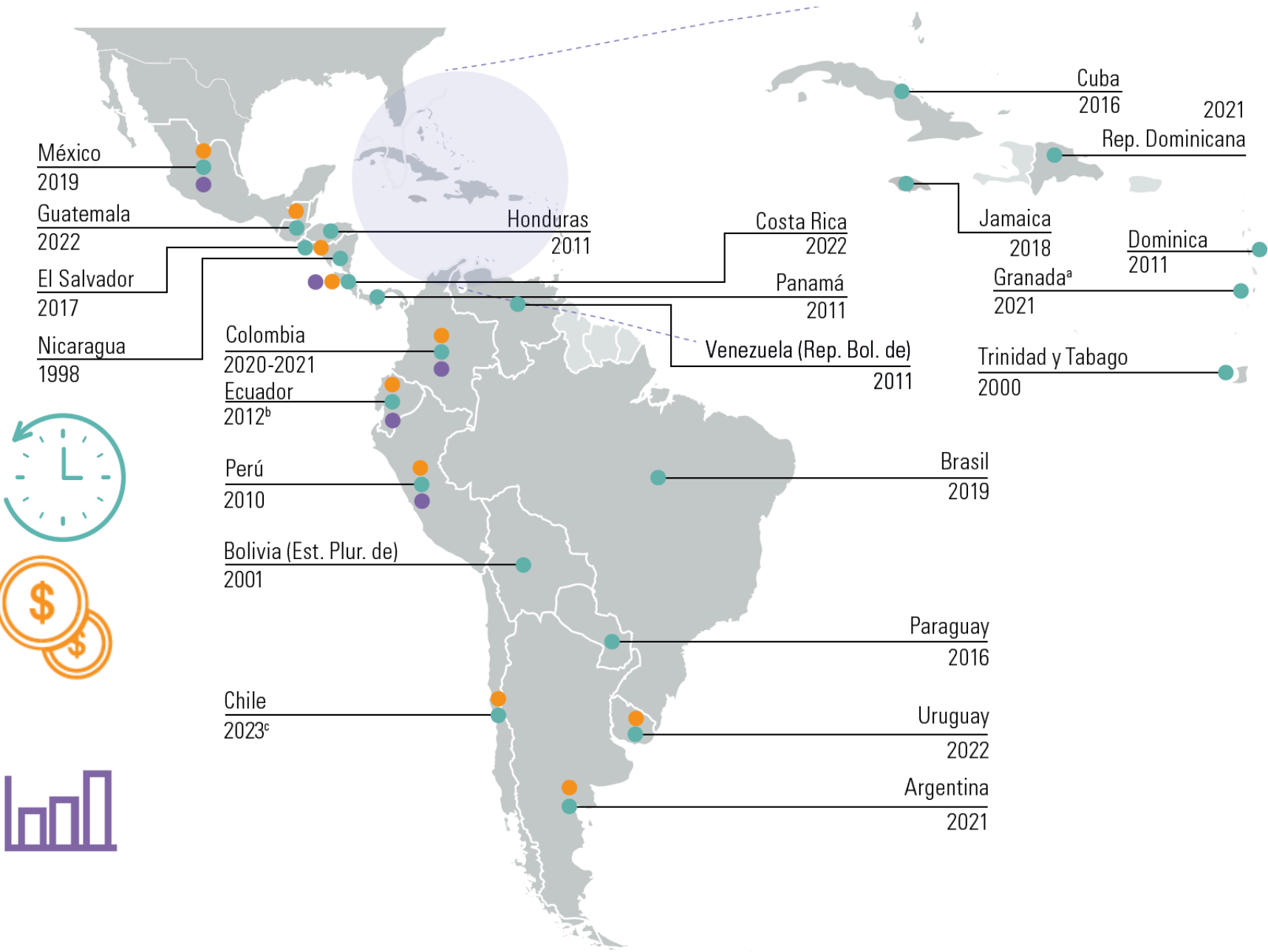
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Countries with economic
valuation of unpaid domestic
and care work in households



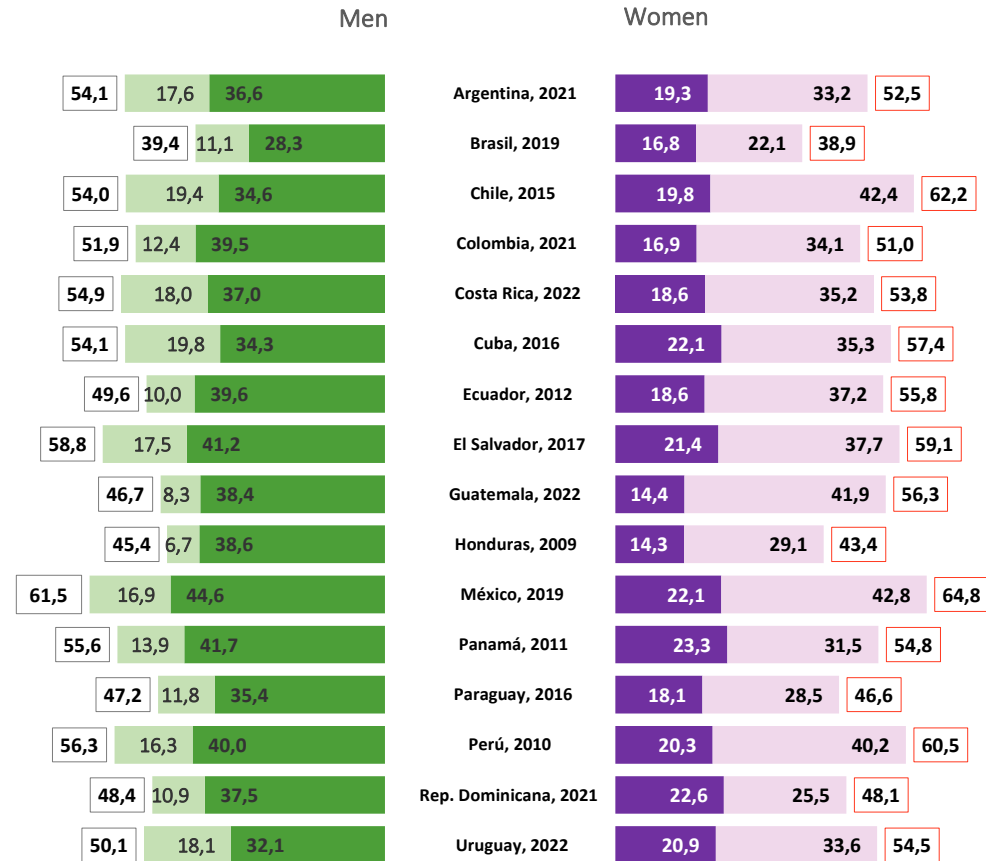
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of them with satellite
accounts for unpaid domestic
and care work in households



Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Average hours per week spent on unpaid and paid work combined (total workload), by sex, population aged 15 years and over, 2023 (Goal C-5.4) (*Number of hours per week*)



■ Paid work ■ Unpaid work ■ Total work time

- In most countries, women work higher total hours, but with a smaller proportion in paid hours. The data from countries with available information are not comparable to each other due to methodological differences.
- In 16 countries in Latin America with this indicator, **women** dedicate between **22.1** and **42.8 hours per week to unpaid domestic and care work**, while men dedicate between 6.7 and 19.8 hours.
- The **labour force participation rate for women in households with children is 61.6%**, compared to 73.5% for women in households without children. For men, these rates are 95.2% and 88.3%, respectively.
- In 8 of the 16 countries, women work more total time, always with a lower proportion of paid hours. The data from the countries that have information are not comparable with each other due to methodological differences.

Source: ECLAC and others, "Banco de datos regional para el seguimiento de los ODS en América Latina y el Caribe".
Note: A regional average is not provided due to methodological differences between countries.

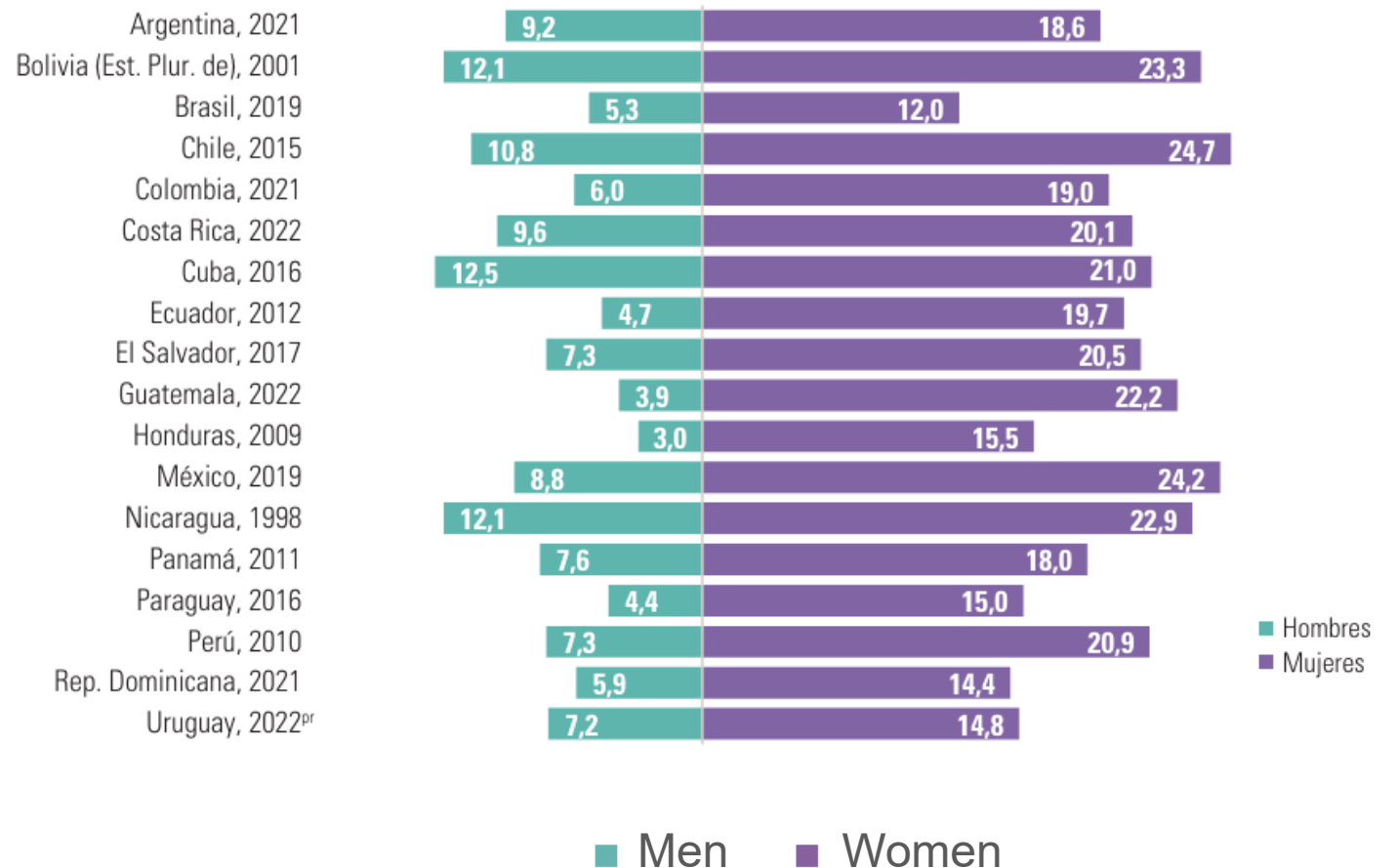
Sexual division of labour and the unfair social organization of care: structural challenge of inequality

Women spend 3 times as much time on domestic and care work than men

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), based on special tabulations of the time-use surveys of the respective countries. Information updated as of September 5, 2023. Note: Calculated based on metadata published in United Nations Statistics Division as of July 13, 2018. Domestic and care work performed for own household, other households or the community, and volunteer work are considered, except in the cases of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cuba, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Data correspond to the national total, except in the cases of Argentina, where they refer to 31 urban conglomerates, or Cuba, where they are limited to Old Havana. Data refer to the population aged 15 years or older, except in Nicaragua where the population aged 6 years or older is considered. Estimates for Uruguay are preliminary. Translated with DeepL.com (free version)

Latin America and the Caribbean (18 countries): time spent on unpaid domestic and care work by gender (Sustainable Development Goal indicator 5.4.1)

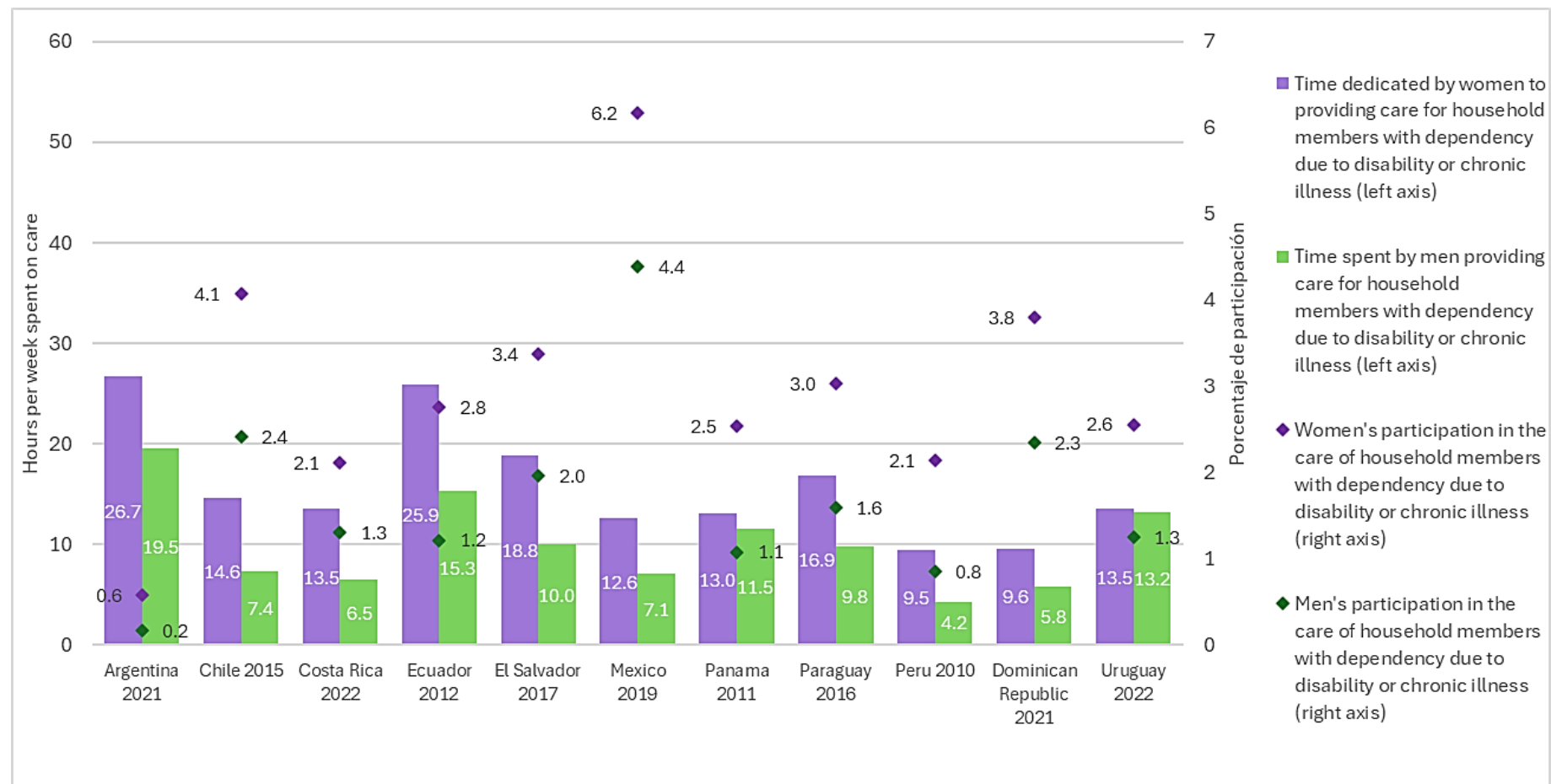
(Percentages)



The region lags far behind in health and home care systems: time spent on care falls disproportionately on women

Latin America (11 countries): participation rate and time spent by the population aged 15 and over providing care for household members with dependency due to disability or chronic illness, by sex.

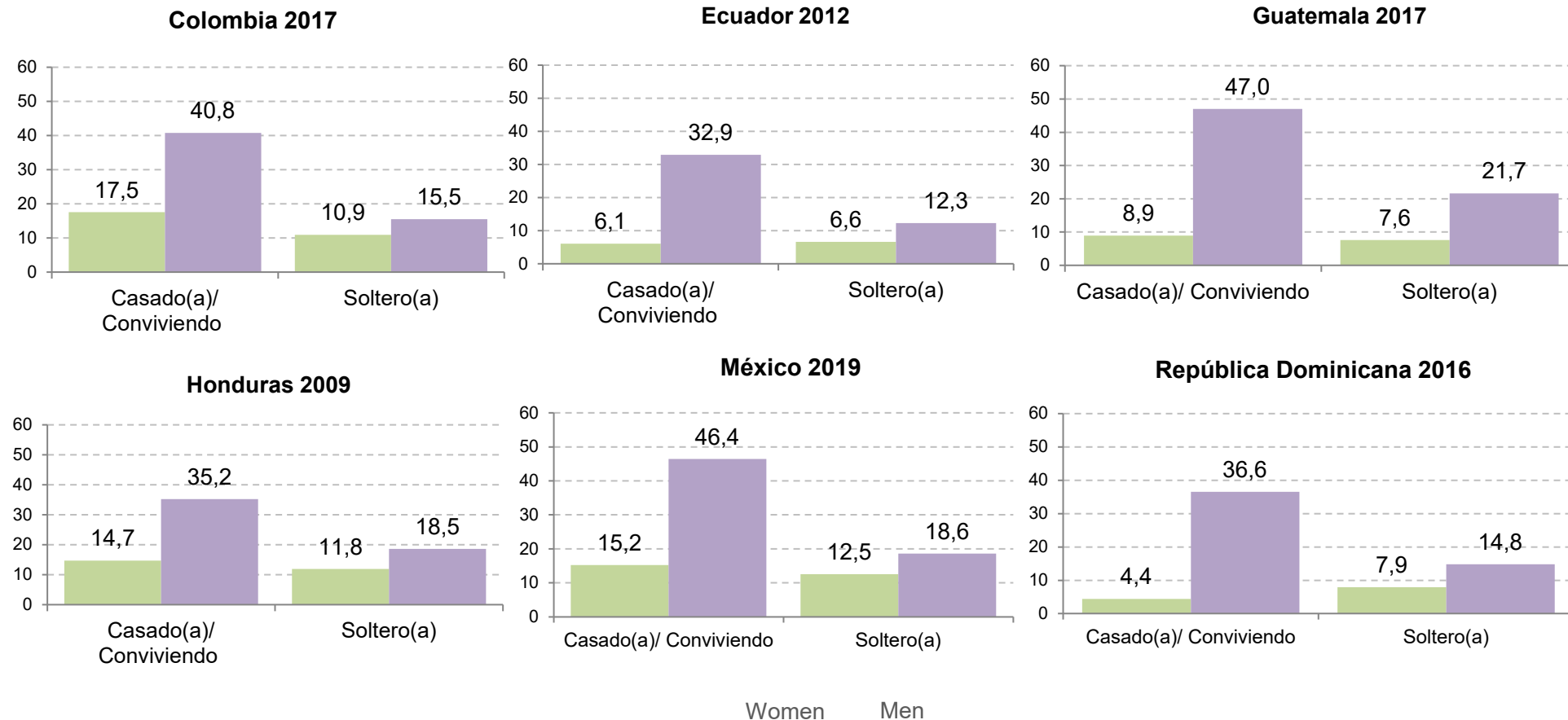
(Percentages and hours per week)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), based on special tabulations of the time-use surveys of the respective countries.

Girls who marry or enter into a union spend twice as much time, the equivalent of a full-time job, performing unpaid work as unmarried girls

Latin America (6 countries): time spent by persons aged 18 or under performing unpaid work, by sex and civil status
(Hours per week)

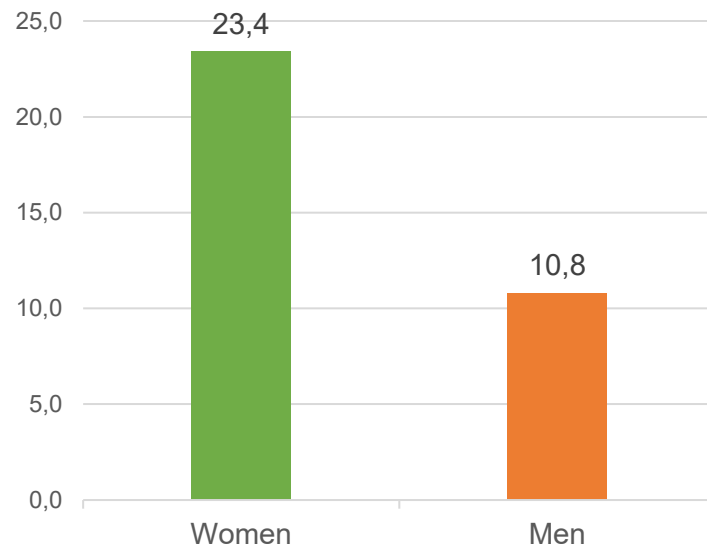


Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of time-use surveys from the respective countries.

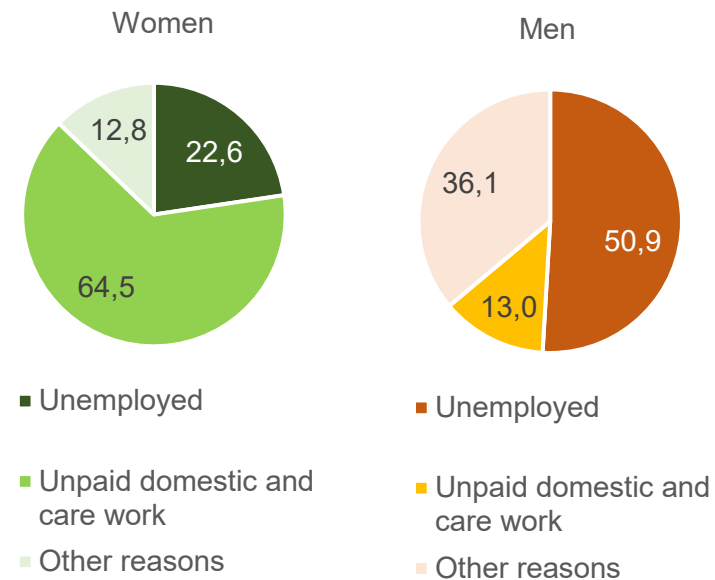
Note: A regional average is not provided due to methodological differences between countries.

Young women face greater obstacles in employment than men and women in other age groups

Latin America (18 countries): Population aged 15 to 24 years who are neither studying nor employed, by sex
(Percentages)



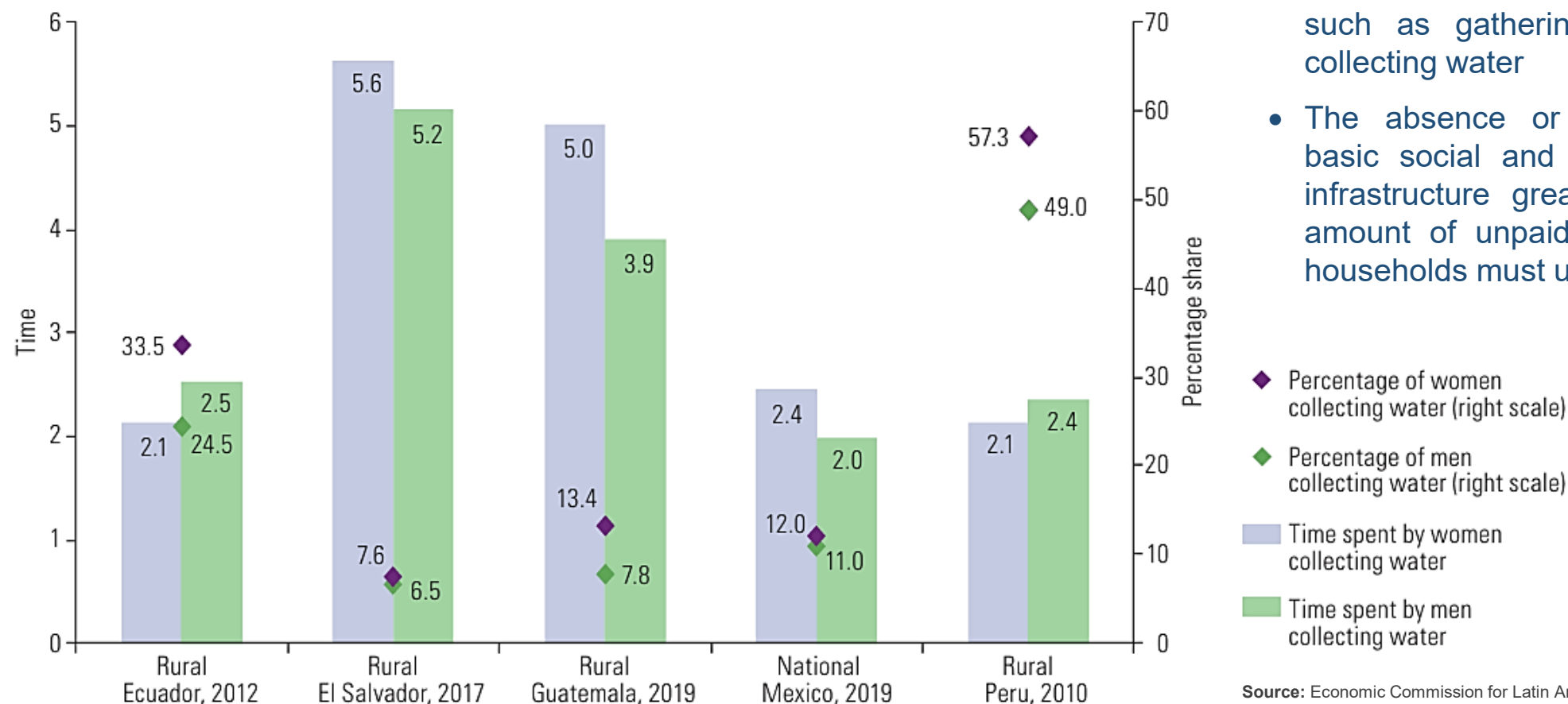
Latin America (18 countries): Distribution of the population aged 15 to 24 years who are neither studying nor employed, by reason and sex
(Percentages)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of the Household Survey Data Bank (BADEHOG).

Women in rural areas not only spend more time than men doing unpaid work; they also spend more time on such tasks than men and women in urban areas do

Latin America (5 countries): time spent collecting water by persons 15 and over, by sex
(Hours per week and percentages)



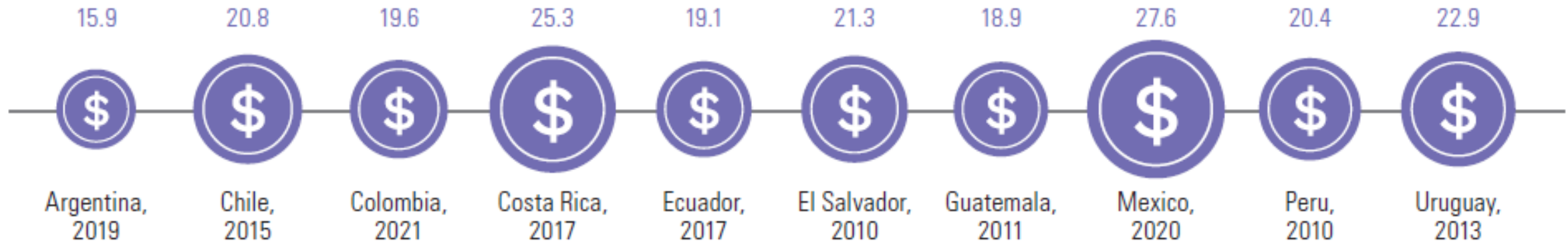
- Care work in rural areas involves a number of indirectly related tasks, such as gathering firewood and collecting water
- The absence or insufficiency of basic social and physical service infrastructure greatly adds to the amount of unpaid work that rural households must undertake.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of time-use surveys from the respective countries.

Note: A regional average is not provided due to methodological differences between countries.

Putting a cash value on unpaid work in the region shows that it plays a critical role in the economy

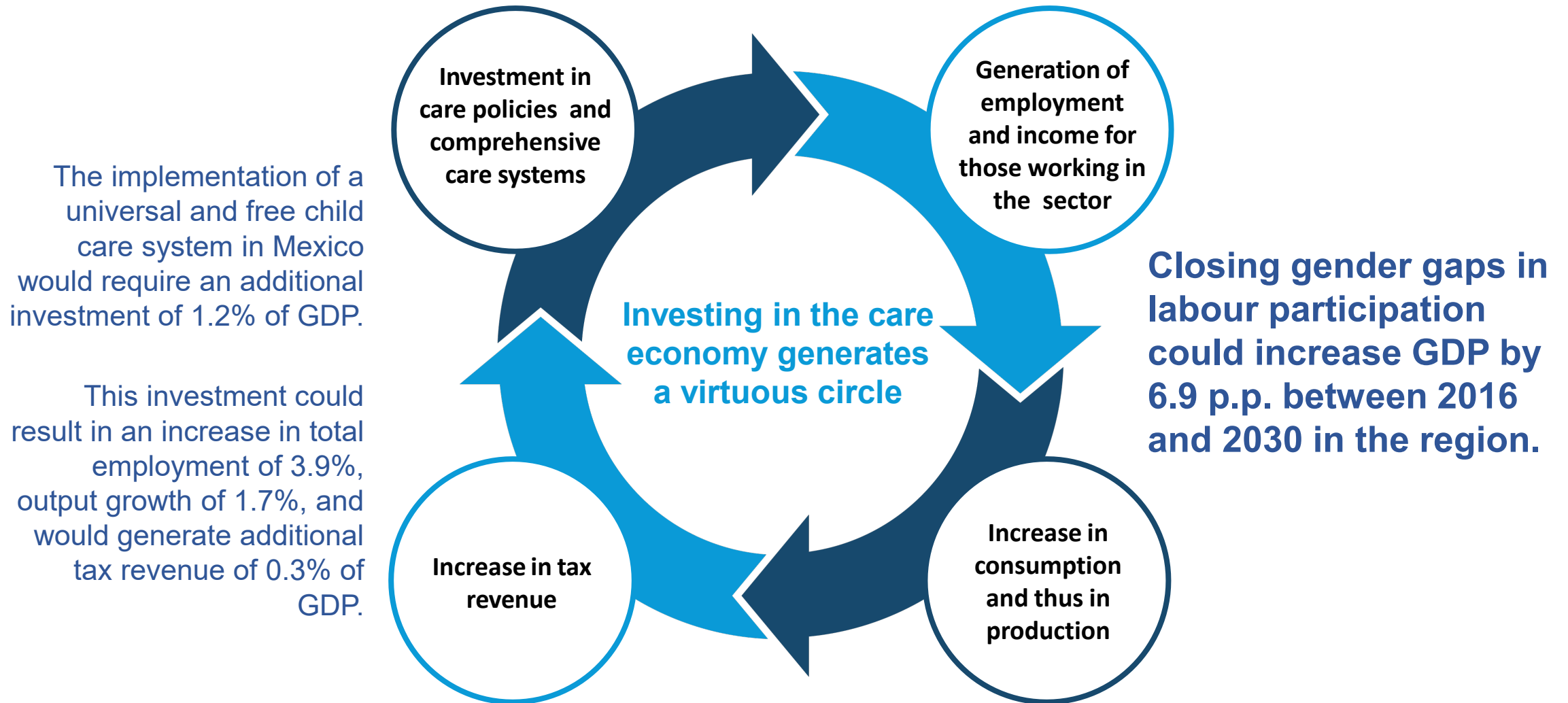
Latin America (10 countries): value of unpaid work performed in households, 2010–2021
(Percentages of GDP)



74% of unpaid work is performed by women

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of valuation of unpaid work calculated by the lead agencies for the preparation of annual accounts, and unofficial calculations for Argentina and Uruguay.

Care as a generator of employment and a driver of the economy



Care Society Measurement Community of Practice



- This Community of Practice was launch during the XXIV International Meeting on Gender Statistics, September 2023 in Aguascalientes, México.
- The objective is to contribute to strengthening the production of statistical data for public policies toward care societies in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Constitutes a multilateral space for the exchange of experiences, knowledge and publications.

Transform data into information, information into knowledge and knowledge into political decision to advance towards substantive equality

Axis 9 of the Montevideo Strategy

XIII Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

