

The lives of Latin American and Caribbean women over the past 40 years

Regional Conference
on Women in
Latin America and the Caribbean
Havana 1977-2017

Alicia Bárcena Executive Secretary



Havana: 40 years on the road to gender equality in Latin America and the Caribbean

Fundamental principle:

 Equality based on effective rights ownership throughout the life cycle

Objectives:

- Equality in access to education, health and social security
- Equality in income and the labour market, wages and time
- Equality with innovation, productive and territorial convergence

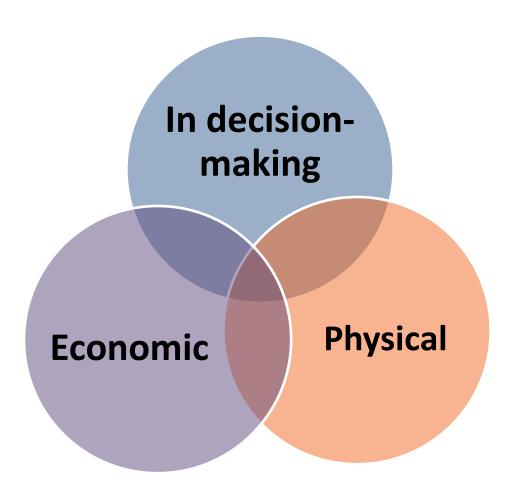


Why gender equality?

- The durability of the wealth-concentration model is being challenged by global food, energy and climate crises
- Three dimensions reflecting tensions:
 - Culture of privilege/culture of equality
 - Distribution of productivity gains between capital and work (wages)
 - Rent-seeking and extractivism/environmental resource governance
- Inequality is a structural challenge that hinders sustainable development and is a focus of the 2030 Agenda



Three types of autonomy for the full emancipation of women





Where are we?

- Latin American women and societies have experienced profound changes over the past 40 years.
- Inequalities persist despite varying degrees of progress.
- Today we reaffirm the principles of equality based on three types of autonomy, as outlined in the Beijing Platform for Action and the Consensuses of Quito, Brasilia, Santo Domingo and Montevideo.
- The aim is to strengthen women's economic autonomy and to consolidate the progress made in achieving physical and political autonomy or in decision-making.



Demographic changes serve as the backdrop for many of the transformations in women's lives

Latin America and the Caribbean (37 countries and territories): female population, 1977-2017 (Millions)







327

Latin America: Life expectancy at birth, female population, by five-year periods (Years)

1975-1980





171

Latin America:
Distribution of

female population in urban and rural areas, 1970-2015 (Percentages)





2015

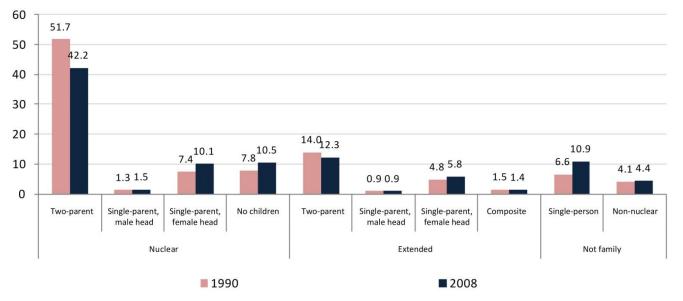




Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), CEPALSTAT, 2017.

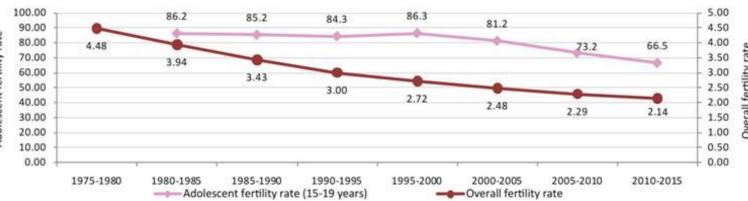
Families are more diverse; women are having fewer children; but adolescent pregnancy persists

Latin America (18 countries): Household trends according to family type, 1990-2008 (Weighted average)



Latin America and the Caribbean: Overall fertility rate and adolescent fertility rate, by five-year periods

(Number of children per woman and number of living children per 1,000 adolescent women aged 15-19)

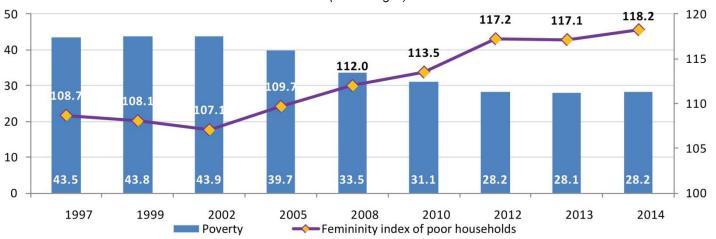




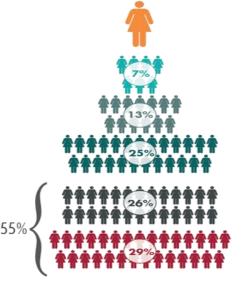
Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries.

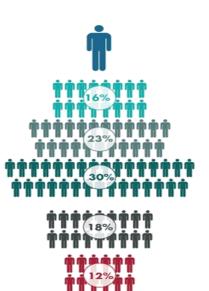
Monetary poverty has a bigger impact on women

Latin America (18 countries): Poverty and femininity index of poor households, 1997-2014
(Percentages)



Latin America (17 countries): distribution of the population aged 15 and older on the basis of income compared to the minimum wage, around 2014





INCOME EQUAL TO OR HIGHER
THAN 4 TIMES THE MINIMUM
WAGE

INCOME EQUAL TO 2-4 TIMES THE MINIMUM WAGE

INCOME EQUAL TO 1-2 TIMES THE MINIMUM WAGE

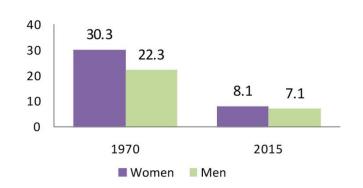
INCOME LOWER THAN THE MINIMUM WAGE

POPULATION WITHOUT OWN INCOME

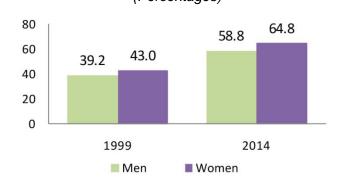


The illiteracy gap is closing; more women are gaining access to secondary education; they represent the majority of students in higher education and 40% of R&D researchers

Latin America and the Caribbean: Illiteracy in the population aged 15 and older, 1970-2015 (Percentages)



Latin America (15 countries): Percentage of population aged 20-24 having completed secondary education, by gender (Percentages)



Latin America and the Caribbean: Gender parity in higher education





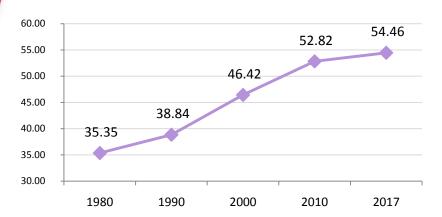


Women are expanding work boundaries.

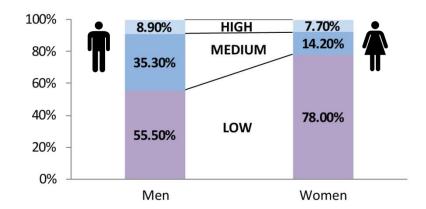
More women are participating in the labour market, but in areas of low productivity, and they continue to do unpaid care and domestic work

Latin America (20 countries): Female participation in the labour market

(Percentage of population aged 15 and older)

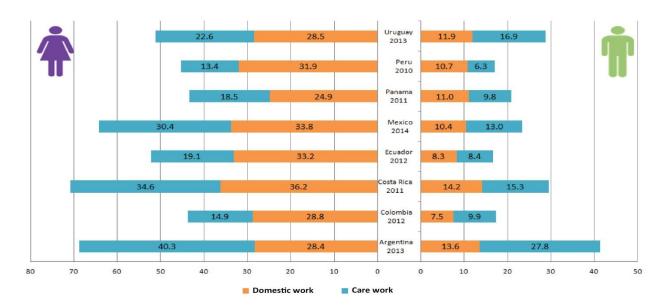


Latin America (18 countries): Jobs according to productivity of sectors, around 2014 (Percentages)



Latin America (8 countries):
time spent on unpaid
domestic and care work
by the population aged
15 and older in
households where care
is needed, by gender
(Hours per week)

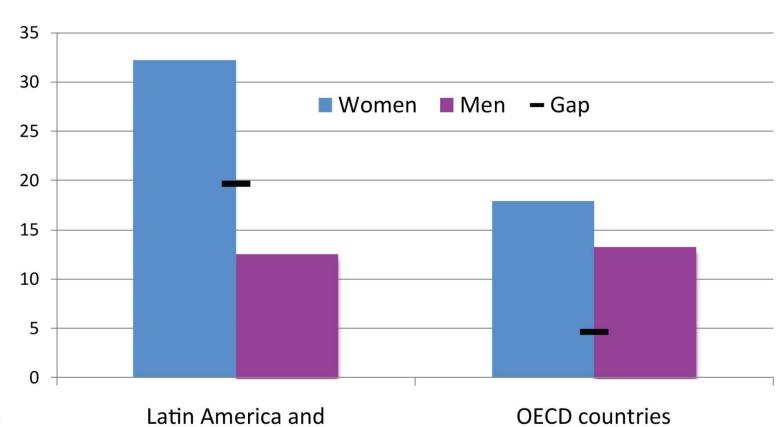




Obstacles to labour force participation: 30% of young people not in school or in employment are women (compared with 11% of men)

YOUNG PEOPLE NOT IN EMPLOYMENT, SCHOOL OR TRAINING IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN AND IN OECD COUNTRIES, 2014

(Rates and gaps in percentage points)

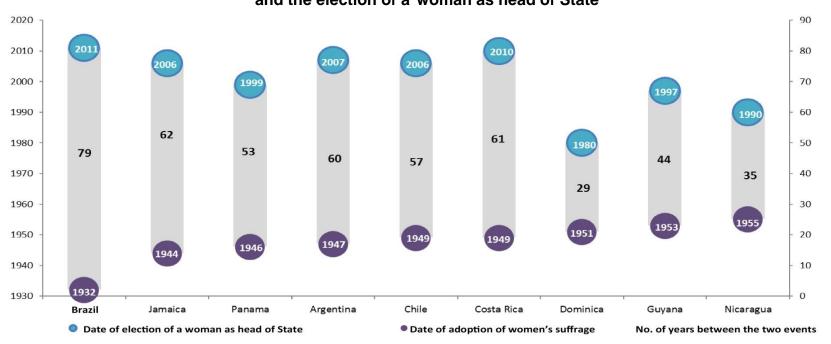


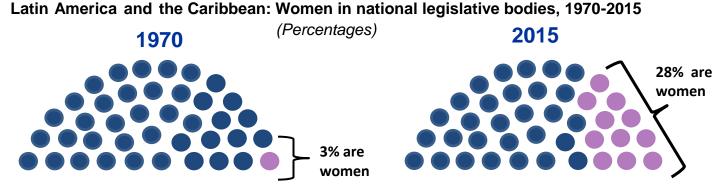
the Caribbean



From the exercise of citizenship to the exercise of power More women are occupying decision-making roles, but parity is still

Latin America and the Caribbean (9 countries): Years since the adoption of women's suffrage and the election of a woman as head of State



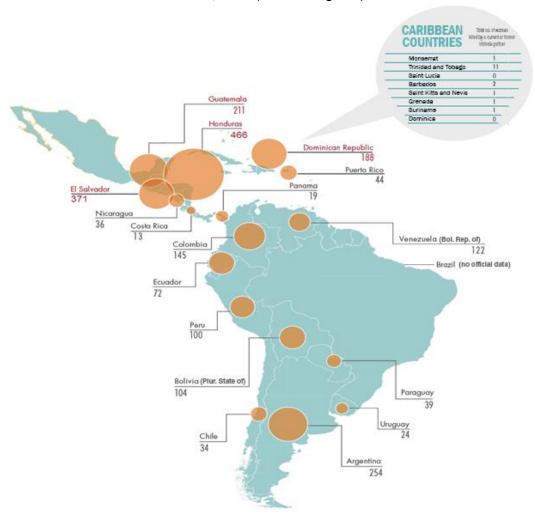




Source: 1970: ECLAC, Report of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in the Economic and Social Development of Latin America, 1977; 2015: ECLAC, Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2015.

The most dramatic and radical expression of violence against women: feminicide

Latin America (17 countries) and the Caribbean (8 countries): Femicide or feminicide, 2016 (Absolute figures)



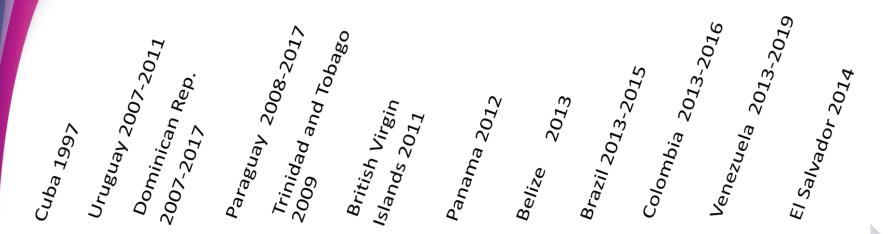


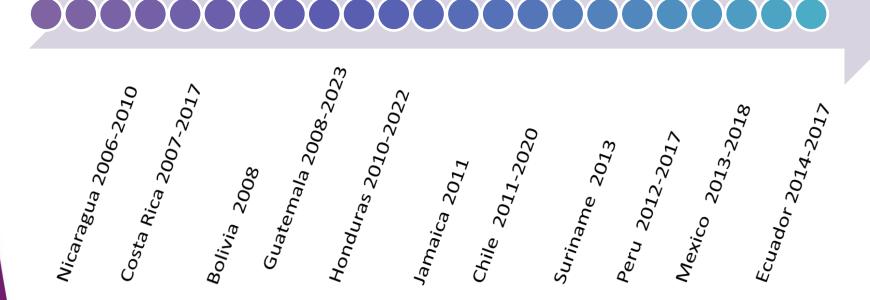
Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean [online] http://oig.cepal.org/en.

Over the past 40 years, the Regional Gender Agenda has fostered transformative public policies



There are gender equality plans in 23 of the region's countries but they must still be linked with sustainable development plans and budgets





All countries in the region have laws on violence against women, 10 have comprehensive laws on violence against women and 17 have laws on feminicide

Latin America: countries that classify femicide, feminicide or gender-based aggravated homicide

Country	Name of regulation	Year	Criminal offence
Argentina	Law No. 26.791	2012	Aggravated homicide
Bolivia (Plur. State of)	Law No. 348	2013	Feminicide
Brazil	Law No. 13.104	2015	Feminicide
Chile	Law No. 20.480	2010	Femicide
Colombia	Rosa Elvira Cely Law	2015	Feminicide
Costa Rica	Law No. 8.589	2007	Feminicide
Dominican Republic	Law No. 779	2012	Femicide
Ecuador	Organic Comprehensive Penal Code (COIP)	2014	Femicide
El Salvador	Decree No. 520	2010	Feminicide
Guatemala	Decree No. 22-2008	2008	Femicide
Honduras	Decree No. 23-2013	2013	Femicide
Mexico	Decree to reform and enhance different measures of the Federal Penal Code, of the General Law on women's access to a life free of violence, of the Organic Act on Federal Public Administration and of the Organic Act of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic	2012	Feminicide
Nicaragua	Law No. 779	2012	Femicide
Panama	Law No. 82	2013	Femicide
Paraguay	Law No. 5.777	2016	Feminicide
Peru	Law No. 30.068	2013	Feminicide
Venezuela (Bol. Rep. of)	Law reforming the Organic Act on women's right to a life free of violence	2014	Femicide



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean [online] http://oig.cepal.org/en and official websites of the respective countries. (Updated as of 2017)

Positive measures to accelerate women's participation in decision-making processes

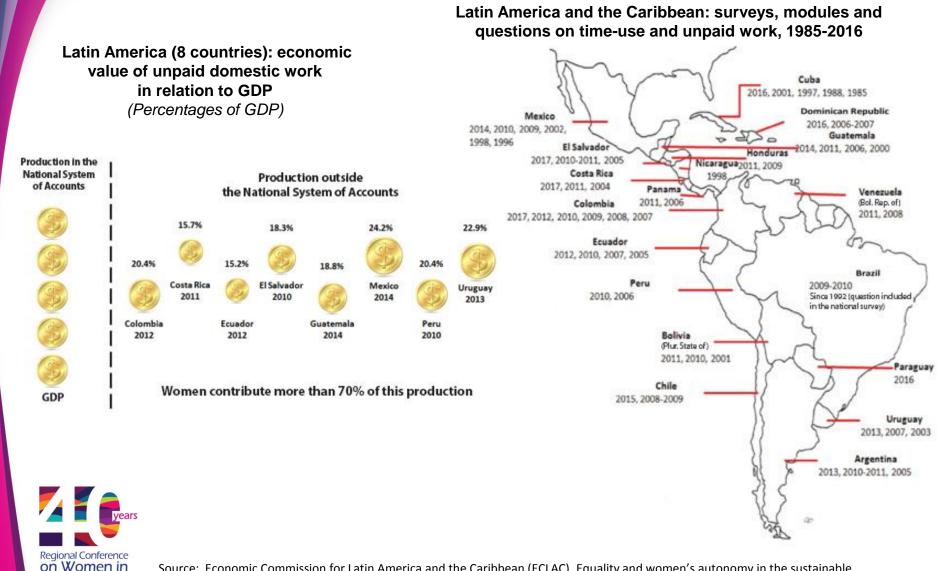
Latin America and the Caribbean: laws on quotas and parity, year of the first positive measure



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Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, on the basis of legislation in the respective countries. Quota Project, Inter Parlamentary Union (IPU)/ IDEA/ Stockholm University. [online: http://www.quotaproject.org/] (Updated as of 2017).

19 countries in the region implement some form of time-use measurement. This has helped to determine the economic value of unpaid domestic and care work



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Equality and women's autonomy in the sustainable development agenda (LC/G.2686(CRM.13/3)), Santiago, 2016.

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Strengthening the regional framework

- Consolidate the Regional Conference on Women in Latin
 America and the Caribbean as a platform for progress in gender equality and women's emancipation
- Implement the Montevideo Strategy for Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the sustainable development framework by 2030 with policies and instruments to achieve the three types of autonomy: economic, political and physical
- Promote the regional Gender Equality Observatory and break the statistical silence
- Discuss the regional follow-up of the Sustainable
 Development Goals with the participation of the entire
 UN System



 Promote regional and South-South cooperation with a view to sharing experiences at the regional level

Changing the conversation

- A new policy dialogue is needed amid transformation of the economy, policy and technology and a period of uncertainty for the region
- The 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals represent a framework of guidelines built around values shared by the entire international community
- This forum, with its diversity of actors, scope and capacities, is a supportive environment for building a shared vision and new political alliances that can drive sustainable development



Without gender equality, sustainable development is neither genuine development nor sustainable

