

Subprogramme 4

Social development and equality

Objective

- 21.96 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to improve the overall well-being of the people of the region and achieve greater social and economic equality in line with the 2030 Agenda and a human rights-based approach.

Strategy

- 21.97 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will support countries in implementing a regional agenda for inclusive social development in line with the outcomes and agreements reached at the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean. The subprogramme will carry out applied research, generating analyses, disseminating results, providing training and advisory services and formulating policy recommendations to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders to perform sound assessments of social issues for application in policy design and implementation. In addition, it will promote policy dialogue and the implementation of the regional agenda for inclusive social development among policymakers, academics, civil society organizations and other stakeholders and facilitate the exchange of experiences and good practices. Priority areas will include: addressing the multiple dimensions of poverty, inequality and well-being; bridging gaps in well-being and tackling inequalities, including those related to gender, race, ethnicity, age, disability and territory; ensuring access to universal social protection; promoting social and labour inclusion policies; coordinating social, economic and environmental policies; and improving the capacity of social policy to adapt to new and emerging challenges related to such topics as demographic transition, migration, new technologies and climate change. The subprogramme's deliverables will focus on the following subject areas: assessment of the social situation of the population and social policies for equality and social protection.
- 21.98 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will assist countries with capacity-building and technical cooperation on the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of strategies, policies and programmes. Research and advisory services will emphasize, in particular, social protection systems based on a human rights-based, equality-oriented and sustainable approach; the protection and promotion of the rights of women, children, young people, indigenous peoples, people of African descent, migrants and persons with disabilities; social investment; and education and public health systems, thus contributing to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals 1 (End poverty in all its forms everywhere), 2 (End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture), 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages), 4 (Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all), 8 and 16.
- 21.99 Actions will be carried out at both the regional and national levels, in partnership with other ECLAC divisions, as well as with the Commission's subregional headquarters and country offices, other agencies of the United Nations system and, when feasible, the resident coordinator system. The main beneficiaries under the subprogramme will be government institutions of the countries of the region, especially the authorities and officials responsible for social policy management (design, implementation and evaluation); regional and subregional organizations; academic institutions and other research centres and non-governmental organizations. Cooperation is envisaged with other regional commissions, intergovernmental and multilateral institutions, as well as South-South cooperation.
- 21.100 The subprogramme plans to support member States on issues related to COVID-19 by providing counterparts with up-to-date knowledge through the Observatory on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean web tool and by assisting Governments in tackling the socioeconomic

consequences of COVID-19 through advisory services and knowledge-sharing activities in social policy areas affected by the crisis.

- 21.101 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:
- (a) A deeper understanding of the structural social challenges and disparities that characterize the region;
 - (b) Measures and public policies promoting greater social and economic equality and overall well-being of the people of the region.
- 21.102 As specified in more detail in result 3 below, the planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in expanding social protection systems, that take into consideration the social impact of the pandemic as one of the challenges to tackle in the coming years.

Programme performance in 2020

- 21.103 Programme performance in 2020 includes the below result that emerged during 2020, as well as programme performance presented under results 1 and 2 below.

Adoption of the national policy on social protection and promotion in Haiti

- 21.104 At the request of Haiti, the subprogramme has been assisting the Government with the development of a coherent social protection strategy. Together with the World Food Programme and ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico, ECLAC assisted the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour of Haiti in the conceptualization, drafting, discussion, and costing of such a strategy.
- 21.105 The subprogramme built on the work carried out in previous years to strengthen the capacities of government officials, especially those in the Ministry of Social Assistance and Labour, and other stakeholders in the area of social protection, provide advisory services and contribute to the drafting and discussions about the national policy on social protection and promotion. Furthermore, the subprogramme developed a report on the costs of implementing the cash transfers proposed as part of that policy.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 21.106 The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the adoption of the National policy on social protection and promotion by the Government of Haiti in June 2020 (see table 21.6).

Table 21.6
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)
The Government of Haiti identified and filled capacity gaps with regard to policy development in the area of social protection	The Government of Haiti accessed a wide range of technical assistance to support the development of a national policy on social protection and promotion	The Government of Haiti adopted the national policy on social protection and promotion and an agreement on the costing of the implementation of cash transfer programmes

Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery

- 21.107 In response to the pandemic, the subprogramme identified a demand for the development of a database on social protection interventions and for reports on the social impact of the pandemic as part of the Commission's comprehensive analyses made available through the COVID-19

Observatory web tool. Those activities made it possible to support member States on policy issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, within the overall scope of its objectives, namely technical cooperation on social protection and institutional improvement. The new deliverables contributed to results in 2020, as specified under result 3 below.

Planned results for 2022

- 21.108 The planned results for 2022 include results 1 and 2, which are updates of results presented in the preceding proposed programme plans and therefore show both the programme performance in 2020 and the proposed programme plan for 2022. Result 3 is a new planned result.

Result 1: achieving the implementation of a regional commitment towards inclusive social development⁷

Programme performance in 2020

- 21.109 Under the direction of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development, the subprogramme coordinated activities to implement the Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development, adopted in 2019. To that end, the subprogramme set up working groups with countries in order to expand networking and South-South cooperation. Furthermore, the subprogramme organized five virtual meetings and a virtual community of practice to facilitate discussions on social protection and social inclusion among representatives of national social authorities.
- 21.110 The above-mentioned work contributed to the identification of common implementation challenges in tackling the social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the sharing of data on 263 emergency social protection programmes during 2020, and policy design to enhance social protection and social inclusion, such as the assistance to Haiti, mentioned above, and the Jajapo national poverty reduction plan in Paraguay as part of that country’s social protection system, which met the planned target of Latin American and Caribbean countries developing strategies for improving institutional frameworks and formulating good-quality policies in order to implement their commitment to inclusive social policies that leave no one behind, reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 21.111 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will focus on implementing the mandates of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, maintaining the Observatory on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean web tool and developing a workplan for the implementation of the Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see table 21.7).

Table 21.7
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (planned) ^a	2022 (planned)
Countries identified obstacles in the area of inclusive social development in countries of the region	Countries committed to inclusive social development, in line with the 2030 Agenda	Countries developed strategies for improving institutional frameworks and formulating good-quality policies in	Countries implement social policies and programmes that promote inclusive social development	Countries develop policies and programmes in line with the workplan of the Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development

⁷ As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 21)).

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2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (planned) ^a	2022 (planned)
		order to implement their commitment to inclusive social policies that leave no one behind		

^a To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

Result 2: improved and more effective, efficient, transparent and sustainable social policy institutions⁸

Programme performance in 2020

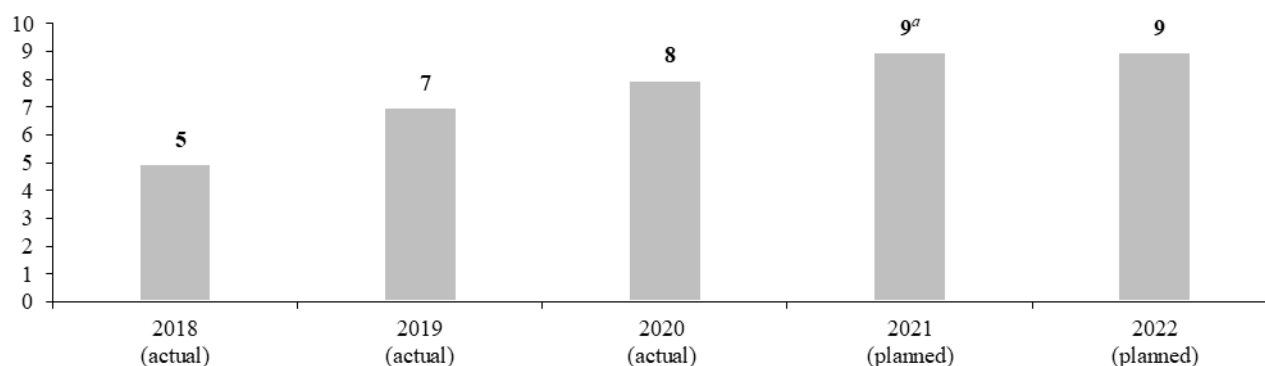
- 21.112 The subprogramme assisted countries in improving their policy institutions in various policy areas. In Chile, ECLAC was invited to join the social cohesion council coordinated by the Ministry of Social Development and Family and contribute to its analysis and to the drafting of a report with recommendations to mainstream social cohesion as a cross-cutting and long-term objective for all public policies. The subprogramme developed and maintained the Observatory on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean web tool with up-to-date information on social institutions, social expenditure and non-contributory social protection programmes in the countries of the region, among other things. The subprogramme assisted countries with data and policy analysis related to the social crisis resulting from the pandemic in the form of special reports made available through the COVID-19 Observatory web tool, such as a study on the institutional innovations and challenges of social information systems and social registries in 15 countries of Latin America. Furthermore, in collaboration with the ECLAC subregional headquarters in the Caribbean, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility, the subprogramme assisted 18 Caribbean member States and associated members with a virtual workshop entitled “Leaving no one behind in the Caribbean”, which was aimed at building resilience and sustainable development through universal social protection.
- 21.113 The above-mentioned work contributed to an expansion of the collaboration with and between countries and with eight social policy institutions based in countries that include Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Paraguay that acknowledge improvements in the public action they take as a result of technical assistance provided by ECLAC, which met the planned target of eight such social policy institutions reflected in the programme budget for 2021.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 21.114 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will keep the Observatory on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean web tool up to date, produce new policy analysis reports and develop new forms of policy analysis, provide technical assistance to the Governments of the region and expand new spaces for South-South cooperation. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 21.XII).

⁸ As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 (A/75/6/Add.1).

Figure 21.XII
Performance measure: number of social policy institutions acknowledging improvements in their public action as a result of technical assistance provided by ECLAC (annual)



^a To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

Result 3: advancing innovative sectoral and intersectoral social policies to address inequalities affecting vulnerable populations

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 21.115 Latin America and the Caribbean have seen increases in levels of poverty and inequality as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic arose in a highly uncertain context marked by structural inequalities as well as by the increased challenges and opportunities of digitalization and the fourth industrial revolution, changes in population structures associated with age and migration, morbidity and mortality transitions, as well as by climate change and disasters. The subprogramme will focus on social analysis and policy proposals relating to the social impacts of the pandemic and emerging transformations. The proposed programme plan for 2022 will enhance sectoral and intersectoral social policies to expand the opportunities while leaving no one behind.

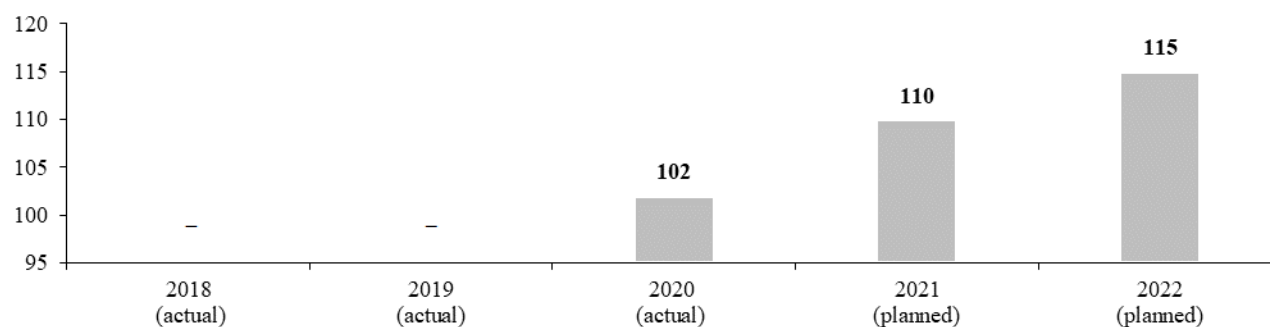
Lessons learned and planned change

- 21.116 The lesson for the subprogramme was that there was a need for support to increase the adoption of and adapt to the use of new technologies and that it was important to close digital inclusion gaps, among other things. It has shown that the work of the subprogramme could be adapted by developing new processes to cover new populations and needs and shifting from face-to-face to virtual missions and seminars with positive effects on efficiency and the environment, among other innovations. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will attempt to expand the use of technologies in a mix of virtual and in-person advisory and technical assistance work to facilitate the work of the subprogramme with countries. Furthermore, the subprogramme will focus on cooperation and knowledge-sharing among countries.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 21.117 This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by survey results for the number of national officers who report that seminars, workshops, technical reports and advisory services of the subprogramme have increased their knowledge and capacities to improve their work in dealing with new challenges related to social issues (see figure 21.XIII).

Figure 21.XIII
Performance measure: number of national officers acknowledging that they increased their capacity to develop innovative sectoral and intersectoral social policies (annual)



Legislative mandates

21.118 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

66/164	Promotion of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms	71/178 71/180 71/191	Rights of indigenous peoples International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination The right to food
66/165	Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons	71/197	Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights
66/168	Elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief	72/235 73/141	Human resources development Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
66/172	Protection of migrants	73/142	Inclusive development for and with persons with disabilities
70/126; 72/142	Promoting social integration through social inclusion	73/163 73/246	Human rights and extreme poverty Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)
70/127	Policies and programmes involving youth	73/262	A global call for concrete action for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action
70/131	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	73/291	Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
70/132	Improvement of the situation of women and girls in rural areas	74/2	Political declaration of the high-level meeting on universal health coverage
70/138	The girl child		
70/153	Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights		
70/163	National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights		
70/166	Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities		
70/223	Agriculture development, food security and nutrition		
71/177	Rights of the child		

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2009/5	Recovering from the crisis: a Global Jobs Pact	2017/12	Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and strengthening the mainstreaming of disability in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
2012/11	Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda		
2014/32	Establishment of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	2018/5	Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all
2016/8	Rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world	2020/9	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolution

722 (XXXVII);	Regional Conference on Social Development
742 (XXXVIII)	in Latin America and the Caribbean

Deliverables

21.119 Table 21.8 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2020–2022 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 21.8

Subprogramme 4: deliverables for the period 2020–2022, by category and subcategory

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2020 actual</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	1	–	10	1
1. Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	1	–	1	1
2. Session of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	–	–	9	–
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	2	2	2	1
3. Field projects on social protection, social and labour inclusion policies, human capacities and a human rights approach within social protection systems; social investment and emerging challenges for social policies	2	2	2	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	10	10	14	14
4. Meetings of experts to analyse the formulation of new policy recommendations on the rights of specific population groups; to examine mechanisms to promote better coordination within social protection systems, with a rights and equality approach; to examine mechanisms that contribute to increasing coverage and ensuring progressive equality within national social protection systems; to examine the advances and challenges of public policies for labour and productive inclusion	4	4	8	8
5. Training activities on policies on poverty reduction, equality and well-being, and policy formulation for poverty alleviation, access to social protection networks and capacity-building	6	6	6	6
Publications (number of publications)	7	6	9	9
6. <i>Social Panorama of Latin America</i>	1	–	2	1

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<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2020 actual</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>
7. Country office studies: ECLAC office in Bogotá, study on inclusive social and production policies, and critical obstacles to inclusive social development in Colombia; ECLAC office in Buenos Aires, study of social and labour trends in Argentina; and ECLAC office in Montevideo, study on broad aspects of social policy, poverty and inequality in Uruguay	1	1	3	3
8. Studies on topics including social rights among specific population groups, social protection including access to decent work, poverty reduction and income distribution, education, and social policies and programmes	5	5	4	5
Technical materials (number of materials)	2	2	2	2
9. Technical materials on social development policies; analytical and methodological proposals to foster the universal implementation of social policies and enhance their impact on equality gaps, to enhance intersectoral and inter-institutional cooperation and to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of social policies	2	2	2	2
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: advice to member States, upon request, on social policies for equality, decision-making in social policy, and social investment and policies; analytical and methodological proposals to enhance intersectoral and inter-institutional cooperation, aimed at improving effectiveness and efficiency; design, implementation and evaluation of social policies.				
Databases and substantive digital materials: Observatory on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, which includes databases on social development, young people, non-contributory social protection, social institutions, and regional commitments.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: knowledge management tools, including on the strengthening of the Latin American and Caribbean Network on Social Development.				

Subprogramme 5 Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development

Objective

- 21.120 The objective, to which the subprogramme contributes, is to mainstream a gender equality perspective into sustainable and inclusive development strategies in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Strategy

- 21.121 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will continue to produce knowledge and develop gender statistics and indicators, expanding the scope and improving the quality of data and indicators available from the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean. The subprogramme will provide technical assistance to the countries of the region in developing policies to promote gender equality, using a rights-based approach and strengthening the capacities of national mechanisms for the advancement of women as well as those of national statistical offices. To promote increased knowledge-sharing on gender resources in the region, the subprogramme will foster increased dissemination of publications and research findings among policymakers and other relevant stakeholders. Particular attention will be devoted to the economic autonomy of women in an integrated framework, connected to physical autonomy and to decision-making autonomy. Given its cross-cutting nature, the main contributions under the subprogramme will be related to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 3, 4, 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls), 8, 11 (Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable), 16 and 17.