DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE ECLAC SYSTEM, 2024
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INTRODUCTION

The draft programme of work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) for 2024 is hereby submitted to the member States of the Commission for their consideration. It highlights the annual priorities that will be considered by the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) and the United Nations General Assembly as part of the intergovernmental reviewing exercise.

The overall purpose of the programme is to promote the economic, social and environmentally sustainable development of Latin America and the Caribbean through international cooperation, by performing analytical, normative and advocacy work, undertaking applied research and evidence-based comparative analysis of development processes, and providing technical cooperation, and advisory and capacity-building services in support of regional development efforts.

The mandate for the programme derives from the priorities established in relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 106(VI) of 25 February 1948, by which the Council established the Commission for the purpose of contributing to, and coordinating action towards, the economic and social development of the region, and reinforcing economic relationships among the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, and with other regions and countries of the world. In 1996, pursuant to ECLAC resolution 553(XXVI), the Commission decided, inter alia, to collaborate with member States in the comprehensive analysis of development processes geared to the design, monitoring and evaluation of public policies and the resulting provision of operational services in the fields of specialized information, advisory services, training and support for regional and international cooperation and coordination. The Commission’s support aimed at developing the capacity of governments to formulate and implement policies for sustainable development is also provided through an array of instruments, including the regular programme for technical cooperation, Development Account projects, and extrabudgetary projects and programmes.

The Commission will continue to support the development pillar of the United Nations, to foster economic integration at the subregional and regional levels, to support member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and implementation of international agreements stemming from the major summits and conferences in the development field, and to facilitate sustainable development by helping to bridge economic, social and environmental gaps within and among countries in the region, as well as with other regions of the world.

To achieve these objectives, ECLAC will continue to offer its value proposition to member States by combining its three main functions: the think-tank and thought leadership role in performing analytical, normative and knowledge management work; the convening role through its intergovernmental platforms and subsidiary bodies; and the operational role by providing technical cooperation, advisory and capacity development services, as well as peer learning, anchored in data and rigorous evidence-based analysis and understanding of the realities of the region.

Latin American and Caribbean countries have been hit hard by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and the impact of the resulting crisis is equivalent to the loss of a decade of progress. Great challenges remain, compounded by the region’s increasingly complex economic and social circumstances. Persistent structural problems have been aggravated, such as low productivity, fragmented social protection systems, and lack of access to basic public goods. Global challenges and uncertainties derived from geopolitical conflicts, continuing disruption of supply chains, steep increases in prices of fuel, fertilizers and food, and the emergence of high inflation rates are also affecting the recovery from the pandemic. In this context, the region is witnessing an increase in poverty and extreme poverty, as well as in inequality. As an organization fully committed to the development of the countries of the region, ECLAC continues to support governments, decision-makers, the business community and civil society with analysis and proposals that contribute to a transformative recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, to leave no one behind and avoid setbacks in achieving the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.
With regard to cooperation with other entities at the global, regional and national levels, the Commission will continue to work closely with the governments of the region and other stakeholders (such as the business community, academia and civil society) to reinforce linkages of national experiences with regional perspectives, comparability and exchange of good practices, and provide effective technical cooperation services for transboundary issues. Finally, the implementation of the Secretary-General’s reform of the United Nations development system (UNDS) has enabled the Commission to deepen coordination and collaboration with United Nations agencies, funds, and programmes in the region, as well as with the resident coordinator system, including through the Regional Collaborative Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean.

ECLAC will continue to provide integrated and comprehensive follow-up to world summits from a regional perspective, by coordinating the region’s approach to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. It will also continue to act as the secretariat of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, providing support for the follow-up and review process of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the regional level, as well as for the reporting by the Forum to the high-level political forum on sustainable development at the global level, thereby linking the national, regional, and global dimensions of the process.

Furthermore, the Commission will continue to make its intergovernmental architecture available for consensus-building and regional dialogues to analyse the key means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda and share experiences in this area, serving as the technical secretariat for the Committee of the Whole of ECLAC, the Committee on South-South Cooperation, the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies, and the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Concerning cooperation with other entities, ECLAC will continue to collaborate with the Bretton Woods institutions, in particular the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, as well as with other inter-American and Ibero-American organizations, such as the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Ibero-American Secretariat (SEGIB) and the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF). ECLAC will reinforce its close cooperation with various subregional integration mechanisms and strengthen its collaboration with private sector associations, non-governmental and civil society organizations, think tanks and academia to promote policy dialogue and to engage them in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, which is primarily driven by member States. The Commission will continue its active participation to foster substantive global coordination among all participating entities in the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG).

ECLAC will continue to enhance its bilateral and multilateral collaboration with cooperation partners within and outside the United Nations system, to strengthen its strategic partnerships and mobilize additional extrabudgetary resources to enhance the implementation of the programme of work and maximize its impact in beneficiary countries and at the regional level. The Commission will continue to consolidate development partners’ trust and confidence by undertaking strategic dialogues with them on a regular basis, ensuring the efficient delivery of mandates, showing concrete results-oriented achievements, and providing comprehensive information on the use of their contributions.

The Commission’s overall strategy for achieving the objectives of the programme is structured around 13 interdependent and complementary subprogrammes, implemented through an integrated and multidisciplinary approach, ensuring that the gender mainstreaming strategy of the Commission is
reflected throughout the programme of work for 2024. In line with the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS) and the ECLAC Disability Inclusion Strategy (CEPALDIS), the Commission is implementing inclusive and comprehensive measures regarding accessibility, security and improvements in audiovisual technology in conference rooms, reasonable adaptation of office spaces and furniture, and access to employment opportunities for persons with disabilities to facilitate their full participation in the daily work of the Commission, with a view to further advancing their inclusion and ensuring the full realization of their rights.

The content of the 13 subprogrammes is presented in the following pages. The subprogrammes have been clustered thematically as follows: the first three relate to ECLAC activities in the field of economic development (subprogrammes 1–3); followed by social development (subprogrammes 4–6). Activities relating to environmentally sustainable development are grouped under subprogrammes 7 and 8, while cross-cutting programmes focusing on training and public management are contained in subprogramme 9 and statistics in subprogramme 10. The remaining three subprogrammes focus on subregional activities and regional integration: one relates to Mexico, Central America and the Spanish-speaking Caribbean and Haiti (subprogramme 11); one is devoted to small island developing States of the Caribbean (subprogramme 12); and the last one seeks to reinforce Latin America and Caribbean integration processes and the participation of the region in interregional and global political dialogues (subprogramme 13). Each subprogramme features an objective, a brief presentation setting out the main development challenges to be addressed and the corresponding thematic areas. The strategy and proposed list of activities to be implemented during 2024 are also presented. For all the subprogrammes, the main linkages with the SDGs are identified and summarized in table 1. This approach is in line with the Commission’s efforts to continue building an institutional accountability culture within the organization, including through the improvement and strengthening of monitoring and evaluation.
Table 1
Main links between SDGs and the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system for 2024, by subprogramme

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<td>Subprogramme 12: Subregional activities in the Caribbean</td>
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<td>Subprogramme 13: Support for regional and subregional integration and cooperation processes and organizations</td>
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Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).
SUBPROGRAMME 1: INTERNATIONAL TRADE, INTEGRATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Objective

The objective to which this subprogramme contributes is to advance sustainable development and strengthen the role of Latin America and the Caribbean in international trade and the global economy by deepening regional integration and enhancing logistics and infrastructure.

Presentation

In recent years, the outlook for global trade has undergone drastic changes. Firstly, technologies such as additive manufacturing, the Internet of things, and artificial intelligence have enabled automation of more and more industrial processes and growing substitution of trade in physical goods with digital products. Secondly, the combined effects of increasing geopolitical tensions and conflicts and the COVID-19 pandemic have revealed the fragility of global supply chains. As a result, governments are increasingly prioritizing resilience over cost minimization, and concepts such as nearshoring and strategic autonomy have become common in trade policy discussions. These transformations may redefine the geography of globalization in the coming years, particularly through increased regionalization of production and trade. Meanwhile, regional agreements such as the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (RCEP), the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CCTPP) and the Agreement between the United States of America, the United Mexican States, and Canada (USMCA) will play an increasingly important role in the governance of global trade, especially against the backdrop of a weakened multilateral trading system.

Latin America and the Caribbean does not appear well-prepared for the substantial transformations taking place in global trade. The region’s share of world merchandise exports remains at about the same level as in the 1970s and its export basket remains heavily reliant on raw materials, particularly in South America. In trade in services, the region is overly dependent on tourism, while exports of services enabled by information and communications technology (ICT) remain underdeveloped. Moreover, the lack of an integrated regional market is leaving the region lagging behind the rest of the world in terms of export development and resilience.

Countries of the region need to rethink their trade and integration strategies, to diversify their export baskets towards more knowledge-intensive goods and services. The greatest effort should be put into deepening regional integration, since the regional market is the main destination for industrial exports and for exports from small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Deepening regional integration involves working on several areas which are key for the smooth functioning of value chains: infrastructure and logistics, trade facilitation, regulatory convergence, and labour mobility. Increasing SME involvement in international trade will also require greater coordination of trade policy with other spheres of public policy, such as skill development and financing.

In this context, the insufficient provision of infrastructure and logistics services severely limits economic competitiveness, undermining national and regional policies for structural change, reproducing social, economic and gender inequalities. Overcoming this challenge entails going beyond the traditional focus on mobilizing public and private investment in infrastructure. It requires a gradual transformation of the overall governance of the logistics infrastructure sector, and the provision of logistics and mobility services.

Strategy

Responsibility for implementation of the activities under subprogramme 1 lies with the International Trade and Integration Division of ECLAC, working in close collaboration with other divisions and the offices in Brasilia and Washington, D.C.
Under the subprogramme, major developments in the world economy and global trade will be monitored, to assist governments in designing and implementing international trade and integration strategies. Activities will be geared towards providing deeper insights into the structural transformation of production systems and the opportunities they provide for the countries of the region. In particular, under the subprogramme there will be an assessment of ways to strengthen value chains and logistics within the region. The export diversification opportunities provided by services, e-commerce and products with a low environmental footprint will also be key components to support the Commission’s efforts with regard to a big push for sustainability.

The subprogramme activities will focus on the following subject areas: 1. Trade policies and negotiations, regional integration, and global economic trends; and 2. Infrastructure and logistics for production, trade, and distribution. Therefore, the main contributions to the 2030 Agenda will be in connection with SDGs 8, 9, 10, 12 and 17.

In particular, the subprogramme components will concentrate on:

(a) proposing adjustments to national and regional trade policies to address emerging challenges and harness new opportunities regarding innovation and technological progress; linkages with the circular economy; cross-border digital trade; services; global and regional value chains and internationalization of SMEs; new public and private standards; gender mainstreaming; environmental sustainability; and links with emerging issues.

(b) evaluating the negotiation, implementation and administration of trade agreements at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels, including monitoring developments in trade and regional integration, as well as in trade relations with Asia and the Pacific.

(c) promoting export diversification, enhancement of inter-agency coordination and public-private cooperation, institutional modernization, trade facilitation and aid-for-trade initiatives.

(d) promoting integrated logistics and mobility policies and their coordination at the subregional level, taking into account regional integration initiatives, including sharing good practices and lessons learned, to address the infrastructure investment gap in the region.

(e) analysing logistics, trade facilitation and infrastructure development at national and transboundary levels in landlocked developing countries and other countries with special needs.

Activities under the subprogramme will respond to the needs of stakeholders by providing updated information, analysis and policy recommendations. It will provide technical assistance and support knowledge dissemination and sharing of best practices through expert meetings, seminars and workshops. The main beneficiaries will be policymakers, public sector institutions and other organizations at local, subregional and regional levels.

The subprogramme activities will continue to be coordinated and pursued in cooperation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Trade Organization (WTO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Organization of American States (OAS), the International Trade Centre (ITC), the Bretton Woods institutions, and the secretariats of regional and subregional integration mechanisms, regional development banks (IDB, CAF, Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)), as well as entities from the United Nations development system and those working in the areas of trade, public works, transport, logistics, integration and development.
Activities

Subject area 1.1: Trade policies and negotiations, regional integration and world economic trends.

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

   Ad hoc expert groups

   (i) A meeting of experts to discuss the links between trade and other policies in countries of the region in light of developments in the global economy and international trade.

   (ii) A meeting of experts to consider the relationship between regional trade and the achievement of the SDGs.

   (iii) A meeting of experts to consider developments in, and the outlook for, integration, cooperation, and trade facilitation initiatives in the region.

2. Recurrent publications

   (i) *International Trade Outlook for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2024.*

       This annual publication monitors trends in global and regional trade. It also explores the repercussions of international negotiations in which the countries of the region are engaged at bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral levels. Further, the publication examines the main trends and initiatives of trade policies and possible courses of action which could increase the contribution of trade to sustainable development.

   (ii) A study on economic relations between the United States and Latin America and the Caribbean.

   (iii) Reports on capital flows to Latin America and the Caribbean (in English only; three issues per year).

   (iv) Three reports on the United States economy (in English only; three issues per year).

   (v) A study to examine scenarios regarding the impacts of plurilateral and/or multilateral trade negotiations on Latin America and the Caribbean

3. Non-recurrent publications

   (i) A study on recent trends in global trade and their impact on the participation of selected countries of the region in regional and global value chains.

   (ii) A study on strategic aspects of bilateral trade and foreign direct investment relations between countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and Asia.

   (iii) A study on the linkages between trade and the SDGs in the region.

   (iv) A study on emerging trade and financial issues in the global economy that have a potential impact on implementation of the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean (in English only).

   (v) A study to assess developments in regional and subregional integration initiatives and their impact on selected countries of the region.

   (vi) A study on recent trends in trade in modern services and electronic commerce and their impact on the region’s trade.

   (vii) A study on the participation of Latin American and Caribbean firms in global and regional value chains, with a particular focus on SMEs and their competitiveness.
(viii) A study on the implementation of trade facilitation measures and strategies to encourage smooth and paperless connectivity across the region.

4. Other substantive activities

Technical materials

(i) Development, maintenance and updating of the Interactive Graphic System for International Trade Data (SIGCI), which contains trade data at national, regional, and global levels.

(ii) Development, maintenance and updating of the database Observatory of Latin American and Caribbean Bond Issuance, Spreads and Credit Ratings.

Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits

(i) Statistical Bulletin: International Trade in Goods in Latin America and the Caribbean (four issues). This is a quarterly publication to monitor trends in regional trade.

(ii) CEPAL News (12 issues), a monthly note by the ECLAC office in Washington, D.C. (in English only).

5. Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to government ministries and agencies, business and trade promotion organizations, SME promotion agencies, and other stakeholders, at their request, in the following areas:

(i) Promoting the potential benefits of subregional integration and strategies for the development of value chains.

(ii) Trade facilitation and aid-for-trade initiatives, including the design and implementation of trade policies that promote the SDGs.

(iii) Negotiation, implementation and administration of trade agreements and plurilateral and multilateral rules.

(iv) Linkages among trade, social and environmental issues (such as poverty, income distribution, productivity gaps, gender and employment creation), including the environmental footprint of exports and trade in environmental goods and services.

6. Intermediate activities

(i) Coordination of inter-agency activities with other United Nations entities and other organizations outside the United Nations working in trade, as well as with subregional integration institutions and regional development banks.

(ii) Coordination of activities in the framework of the Summit of the Americas process and/or the Tripartite Committee (ECLAC, IDB and OAS).

(iii) Coordination of inter-agency activities to follow up on economic cooperation initiatives, including on gender issues.
The ECLAC office in Washington, D.C. will be responsible for the execution of the activities indicated in subparagraphs 2 (ii), (iii) and (iv), 3 (iv), 4 (ii) and (iv), and 6 (ii) and (iii), and will contribute to the activities indicated in paragraph 5.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 1.2: Infrastructure and logistics for production, trade and distribution

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   A meeting of experts to examine new challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean in relation to investment and infrastructure policies in the context of the 2030 Agenda.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

   (i) A study on public policies in the field of infrastructure financing.

   (ii) A study on a specific topic relating to logistics services in the region with special focus on the status of landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), considering social or gender issues in the context of the 2030 Agenda.

   (iii) A study on a specific topic relating to technologies applied to logistics in the region.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   Maintenance and updating of the Maritime and Logistics Profile of Latin America and the Caribbean and other infrastructure services data, including infrastructure investments in Latin America and the Caribbean.

   **Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits**

   Six issues of the *FAL Bulletin* on logistics and transport and trade facilitation in Latin America and the Caribbean.

4. **Advisory services**

   Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, at their request, in relation to logistics or transport infrastructure.

5. **Technical cooperation projects**

   During the year, projects are expected to be undertaken in the following areas: provision of infrastructure and logistics services to promote economic efficiency, social equality and environmental sustainability; and increasing logistical integration in the region.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 2: PRODUCTION AND INNOVATION

Objective

The objective to which this subprogramme contributes is to enhance the diversification of productive structures through innovation and the diffusion of new technology and to strengthen linkages and networks between firms.

Presentation

The Latin America and the Caribbean region is still facing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the recovery process has been slow. Even before the pandemic, transformative changes were taking place that were reshaping the global economy. While digital technologies were becoming increasingly important to production processes, the increased linkage between the digital economy and the real economy had created a new economic pattern in which global digital platforms were becoming one of the main mechanisms for integration among countries, companies, and people around the world. These trends have continued and become more complex in the ongoing recovery phase. In this context, digitization is creating new forms of value creation with the potential to enhance competitiveness, well-being and environmental sustainability.

In the future, value creation will be based on knowledge of consumers, citizens, companies and organizations, through intelligent systems fed with data from production and consumption processes. This will enable products and services to be offered based on preferences, thus improving production performance owing to greater operational flexibility and a more efficient use of supplies, with positive effects on sustainability, among other areas. Competitive advantages will increasingly depend on the ability of countries to develop the technologies required for this new model and to incorporate them into their economic apparatus. In the case of developing countries, the pace of digital transformation will depend on the ability to produce, imitate, diffuse, and adopt digital technologies. This must be done in a complementary way to processes of structural change, reconfiguration of innovation systems, construction of fundamental infrastructure (electrical, logistics and digital), and normative and regulatory adaptation.

In this process, the countries of the region are lagging behind and success has been limited because of pre-existing gaps in both access to and use of digital technologies. A minimum base must be created, enabling comprehensive adoption of digital technologies to unlock their transformative potential.

Diversification of the productive structure and development of technical skills are intertwined and must be addressed as two parts of the same development process, which requires a combination of industrial and technological policies. These are especially important in middle-income countries owing to learning externalities and the growth momentum built up by more knowledge-intensive sectors and activities. Within the framework of the 2030 Agenda, industrial policies must also reduce carbon intensity and improve the sustainability of production and consumption patterns, in line with the ECLAC proposal for a big push for sustainability, also integrating local knowledge with a key territoriality perspective for micro- and small enterprises.

Strategy

Responsibility for implementing the activities under subprogramme 2 rests with the Division of Production, Productivity and Management, working in close collaboration with other divisions and national and subregional offices of ECLAC.

To contribute to diversification of the production structure through innovation and the diffusion of new technologies, the subprogramme will focus on the convergence of innovation and new low-carbon
technologies in production processes, with emphasis on the convergent adoption of digital technologies (which is to say the integration of the Internet of things, 5G, big data, artificial intelligence, information technology and cognitive science) and new manufacturing processes (industrial Internet), as well as on the development of skills in digital technologies. It will also bring to the fore the gender dimension of structural change in relation to productivity and digital and employment gaps, among other areas.

Owing to the rapid changes in the technological context and its profound impact on the digital economy, many of the challenges posed by the new economic landscape are still unknown. Therefore, under the subprogramme, economic analysis will be conducted, combined with applied research based on the generation, processing, and analysis of information and indicators in various databases. The results of these studies will be disseminated, and policy recommendations made available to governments, regional bodies, and other relevant parties. Diffusion of new and low-carbon technologies and their integration into production processes will contribute to the achievement of SDG 12 and should also have positive effects on aggregate productivity growth, thus contributing to the achievement of SDG 8.

To contribute to the strengthening of links and networks among companies, under the subprogramme work will be done on linking micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises with larger companies that use advanced technologies to integrate them into the learning and competitiveness process in foreign and national dynamics, thus increasing the diffusion of technology. Likewise, the impact of foreign direct investment will be analysed and measured to design industrial policies with positive effects on learning and the diversification of productive and export structures. Foreign direct investment can have favourable effects on technology transfer and export expansion. Activities under the subprogramme will also support the analysis, development and implementation of industrial policies and strategies through technical assistance and upon request from countries, thus contributing to the achievement of SDG 9.

The activities under the subprogramme will promote policies and the exchange of experiences and best practices regarding productive development at the regional, national, and local levels among high-level authorities responsible for innovation, ICT, digital policies, industrial development, investment, and the promotion of SMEs, to place innovation and structural diversification at the centre of the development agenda. Activities under the subprogramme will also continue to support member States in their recovery processes and increase the resilience of national productive sectors through specific studies, meetings, seminars, and online forums, including the provision of technical cooperation services and training.

Activities

Subject area 2.1:  Analysis and trends in innovation and diffusion of new technologies

1. Substantive servicing of meetings
   Intergovernmental meetings

   Preparatory meeting for the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies.

   Ad hoc expert group meetings

   A meeting of experts to study the trends and progress of the digital economy in the region.

2. Non-recurrent publications

   (i) A study on adoption of digital technologies, production, and innovation for recovery.
(ii) A study monitoring the adoption of digital technologies in the economy, differentiating adoption by individual users and in productive processes.

(iii) A study of technological, productive or trade performance in Argentina.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   Development, maintenance and updating of databases on economic activity in specific sectors, based on census information, big data, household surveys or other microdata sources for Latin American and Caribbean countries.

4. **Advisory services**

   Provision of technical cooperation services to the countries of the region and other key stakeholders, at their request, in areas relating to policies on ICT and other new and emerging technologies.

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

   (i) International school on digital transformation and innovation in Latin America, 2024.

   (ii) Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations, and regional bodies, upon request, to conduct or support training activities in areas relating to innovation for development and policies on ICT, as well as other new and emerging technologies.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

   The ECLAC office in Buenos Aires will be responsible for the execution of the activity indicated in subparagraph 2 (iii).

**Subject area 2.2:** Analysis of recent developments and trends in the region’s production structure and sectors and firms

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   (i) A meeting of experts to analyse recent structural changes in the region.

   (ii) A meeting of experts to examine recent trends in economic agents’ behaviour in sectors and countries of the region.

2. **Recurrent publications**

   *Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2024*

   This publication reviews trends and developments in the field of FDI and provides updated statistical information on the topic. It also includes an analysis of the patterns in the origin and destination of these investments in terms of both countries and sectors.
3. **Non-recurrent publications**
   (i) A study on the dynamics of the production structures of the countries of the region.
   (ii) A study on industrial policies in the region.
   (iii) A study on economic agent characteristics and behaviour.

4. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**
   (i) Development, maintenance and updating of statistical information on the investment and corporate activity of the main economic agents in the region.
   (ii) Development, maintenance and updating of the software for the analysis of the competitiveness of nations (TradeCAN).

5. **Advisory services**
   (i) Provision of technical cooperation services to the countries of the region, business organizations and other key stakeholders, at their request, in areas relating to the design and implementation of policies and strategies for productive development and competitiveness.
   (ii) Provision of technical cooperation services to the countries of the region, upon their request, in areas relating to SMEs.

6. **Training courses, seminars, and workshops**
   (i) Summer School on Latin American Economies, 2024.
   (ii) Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations, and regional bodies for the development of training activities in areas relating to trends, emerging issues and lessons learned in implementing policies and instruments related to new production models and their implications for the region.
   (iii) Seminar to enhance productive structure diversification through innovation and diffusion of new technology and strengthen linkages and networks between firms.

7. **Technical cooperation projects**
   During the year, it is expected that extrabudgetary projects will be undertaken in areas related to analysis of recent developments and trends in the region’s production structure, industries, and firms.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 3: MACROECONOMIC POLICIES AND GROWTH

Objective

The objective to which this subprogramme contributes is to foster sustainable and inclusive growth in Latin America and the Caribbean by strengthening the capacity of policymakers and other stakeholders in the region to analyse current and emerging macroeconomic and development finance issues and to evaluate, design and implement development-centred macroeconomic and development financing policies that incorporate a gender perspective and are based on comparative policy analysis.

Presentation

Latin America and the Caribbean must overcome significant challenges to achieve a transformative recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. Weakening global macroeconomic fundamentals, the rise in inflation rates and higher debt levels threaten to undercut growth in the region, increasing the risk of returning to stagnant economic and social development. Challenges and uncertainties, derived from geopolitical conflicts and the performance of international financial and commodities markets, are aggravating regional economic vulnerabilities, creating additional pressure to adopt contractionary monetary policy, and curtailing space for active fiscal policies. Limited growth continues to weigh heavily on labour markets, which have struggled to recover after the pandemic, especially for women and the young.

The barriers to achieving a transformative recovery in the short-term are accentuated by the need to overcome the long-standing structural gaps that characterize the region. Entrenched poverty, inequality, and informality coupled with productive structures characterized by low levels of productivity and limited provision of public goods and services limit economic growth and social development. These challenges are increasingly magnified by the accelerating impact of climatic change, to which the region is particularly vulnerable. Climate change adaptation and mitigation will require significant investment, not only in infrastructure, but also in support for vulnerable families and firms. For hydrocarbon-producing countries this represents a twofold challenge: addressing emissions and investing in productive structure transformation while also wrestling with a significant loss of public revenues and rising public debt.

Active macroeconomic policies and financing for development policies are crucial to ensuring a just transition that fundamentally reshapes the region’s development paradigm. In this regard, pro-growth fiscal policies are needed that unlock the region’s economic and social potential. Public spending needs to be reframed as an instrument for development, favouring investments with large economic, social and environmental returns. These efforts must be accompanied by a fiscal sustainability framework, focused on strengthening public revenues, to ensure continuity over time. Bolstering tax revenues within this framework will require short-term actions —tackling evasion and reviewing tax expenditures— and medium-term reforms to increase tax revenues, particularly through direct taxes on income and property.

Macrofinancial policy frameworks need to be further developed in the region to manage the economic cycle and ensure sustained growth in the medium term. It is crucial to expand the spectrum of monetary, exchange rate and macroprudential policy instruments beyond using interest rates alone to manage inflationary pressure and create the underlying financial market conditions required to support economic growth. These efforts must be accompanied by measures to expand financial inclusion, incorporating the informal sector —both households and firms (SMEs)— in the formal financial system. National development banks can play a key role in bridging the management of macrofinancial policy and the development of financial markets for underserved populations.
Labour markets play a crucial role in channelling the benefits of strengthened macroeconomic fundamentals to society. In the region, this mechanism of transmission is hampered by high levels of informality and inequality, as well as insufficient provision of labour market intermediation services and training. These challenges are being aggravated by rapid changes in the world of work, with accelerating creation of new occupations, such as those tied to digital platforms, that are less amenable to existing social security systems. The COVID-19 crisis has also widened already large gender and income inequalities in labour markets. Overcoming these barriers must be a policy priority to undergird economic and social development in the region.

Achieving the SDGs is contingent on successful mobilization of financing for development. Creating conditions conducive to active policymaking at the national level will require building consensus at the international level. Efforts are needed to expand and redistribute global liquidity—including through voluntary reassignments of unused special drawing rights (SDRs)—and strengthen the lending capacity of development banks. Given the rising debt burden of developing countries, including middle-income economies, it is important to support measures to reform the international debt architecture and integrate liquidity measures and debt reduction initiatives.

**Strategy**

Responsibility for implementation of the activities under the subprogramme rests with the Economic Development Division, in close collaboration with other ECLAC divisions and subregional and national offices. Work carried out under the subprogramme will be based on analysis of current and emerging macroeconomic, social and development financing trends, policies and strategies in the region in the region. It will focus on two key outcomes: (i) strengthened capacity of policymakers and other stakeholders in the region to analyse current and emerging macroeconomic and development finance issues; and (ii) increased capacity of policymakers to evaluate, design and implement macroeconomic and development financing policies, incorporating a gender perspective, based on comparative policy analysis. These efforts will contribute to the attainment of SDGs 8, 16 and 17.

The subprogramme’s knowledge products will provide timely and in-depth analysis of current and emerging macroeconomic and policy trends, incorporating a gender perspective. High-frequency macroeconomic monitoring and the release of updated GDP projections throughout the year will provide policymakers with global, regional and country-level comparative data. Applied policy analysis will support formulation, implementation and evaluation of pro-growth macroeconomic policies that promote sustainable development in the region.

Support to member States will also include the creation of spaces for South-South dialogue to discuss emerging macroeconomic policy issues. In particular, the Regional Seminar on Fiscal Policy, the preeminent forum for the discussion of fiscal policy issues in the region, will bring together policymakers, representatives of international organizations, analysts, academics, and civil society to discuss current trends and propose innovative policies. Additionally, support will be provided under the subprogramme for establishment of networks for sharing experiences and good practices, as well as the provision of technical cooperation and advisory services to member States, upon request.

Under the subprogramme, work will be done in close collaboration with the Bretton Woods institutions, OECD, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, ILO, UNCTAD and United Nations regional commissions. It will also work with regional partner institutions such as CAF, the Latin American Association of Development Financing Institutions (ALIDE), the Inter-American Center of Tax Administrations (CIAT), the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), IDB, CDB and the Latin American Reserve Fund (LARF). The subprogramme activities will also be coordinated at the country level with the resident coordinator system.
**Activities**

**Subject area 3.1:** Review and analysis of the performance of the Latin American and Caribbean economies

1. **Recurrent publications**

   (i) *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2024.*

   The *Economic Survey* is prepared annually and published mid-year. It consists of three parts. Part one summarizes recent trends in Latin America and the Caribbean, analysing changes and trends that have occurred in the region, as well as economic policy. Part two presents a set of studies on an economic development issue of major relevance to the region. Part three contains reports on individual countries and presents a systematic analysis of the economic performance of each. An appendix provides statistical tables with information on key economic indicators.

   (ii) *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2024.*

   The *Preliminary Overview* contains a description and assessment of the region’s annual economic performance and is published at the end of each year. It presents detailed, up-to-date information on the comparative results of the macroeconomic variables of the region as a whole and of individual countries. This publication also presents economic growth forecasts for the next year.

   (iii) *Fiscal Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2024.*

   The *Fiscal Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean* provides in-depth coverage of the region’s fiscal situation and is launched in conjunction with the annual Regional Fiscal Policy Seminar of ECLAC. In addition to providing an up-to-date analysis of current trends, it includes chapters that delve into key and emerging fiscal policy issues for the region.

   Outputs 1 (i), (ii), and (iii) are prepared with substantive contributions from the ECLAC subregional offices in Mexico City and Port of Spain, the country offices in Bogotá, Brasilia, Buenos Aires and Montevideo and the liaison office in Washington, D.C.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

   A study on a high-priority issue relating to the macroeconomic challenges facing Latin America and the Caribbean.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   (i) Development and maintenance of databases of macroeconomic indicators for Latin America and the Caribbean.

   (ii) Development and maintenance of a database on fiscal statistics for Latin America and the Caribbean.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
Subject area 3.2: Analysis of development strategies and economic and social policies in the region

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

   Ad hoc expert group meetings

   (i) A meeting of experts to examine a selected macroeconomic policy issue of relevance to the region.

   (ii) A meeting of experts to examine selected fiscal policy issues of relevance to Latin America and the Caribbean.

2. Non-recurrent publications

   (i) A study on fiscal policy challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean.

   (ii) A study on policies to foster sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

   (iii) A study on financial policies for sustainable growth paths.

   (iv) A study on a high-priority subject relating to sustainable economic growth and the labour market with a gender perspective in the region.

   (v) A study on specific economic issues in Uruguay.

   (vi) A study on a high-priority issue concerning macroeconomic and development policies in Colombia.

3. Advisory services

   (i) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, in relation to macroeconomic policy coordination and the design and implementation of fiscal and labour policies, and structural reforms.

   (ii) Provision of technical cooperation services to member States and regional bodies, upon request, in the development of systems for monitoring economic development and the design of analytical indicators.

   (iii) Provision of technical cooperation services, upon request, in the fields of social policy, equality and structural change in Uruguay.

   (iv) Provision of technical cooperation services to public agencies of Colombia, at their request.

4. Training courses, seminars and workshops

   Cooperation with government entities, universities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society and regional and subregional bodies in support of training activities on topics such as fiscal policy and labour market institutions.

   The ECLAC office in Montevideo will be responsible for the delivery of the activities referred to in 2 (v) and 3 (iii). The ECLAC office in Bogotá will be responsible for the delivery of the activities referred to in 2 (vi) and 3 (iv).
The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 3.3: Analysis of development financing strategies and economic policies in the region

1. **Recurrent publications**
   A report on financing for development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**
   (i) A study of a high-priority aspect of financing for development for Latin America and the Caribbean.
   (ii) A study on trends and emerging issues relating to sustainable development finance and economics in Brazil.

3. **Advisory services**
   Provision of technical cooperation services to countries and institutions in the region, at their request, in areas relating to the design and implementation of financing for development schemes and policies geared towards financial and productive development and/or social protection.

4. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**
   Development and maintenance of a database on financial variables and indicators for Latin America and the Caribbean.

   The ECLAC office in Brasilia will be responsible for delivery of the activity referred to in 2 (ii).

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 4: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY

Objective

The objective to which the 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 with full respect for human rights.

Presentation

Even though levels of poverty and extreme poverty had been slowly climbing since 2015 in Latin America and the Caribbean, the impact of the pandemic led to a steep rise, marking a return to the levels of 12 and 20 years ago, respectively. Persistent and emerging risks are having a toll on the recovery process, which is proceeding slowly. While in some cases social policies and protection systems have been adjusted to reduce the vulnerability of low- and middle-income strata, in response to the sudden deterioration in their living conditions, structural challenges remain and are being aggravated by uncertainties derived from global geopolitical conflicts, higher inflation rates and disruption of supply chains affecting food security, hampering attainment of the SDGs. Widening of social gaps in areas such as education levels, women’s labour force participation in paid work, formal employment and contributions to social protection systems are some examples of the dire effects of the pandemic and the slow recovery process. Furthermore, factors including the impact of climate change, more frequent natural disasters and rapid demographic change are endangering sustainable development processes. Lastly, the region is facing an accelerated digital transformation, with changes that impact the labour market —and go beyond it— affecting how social policies and programmes are developed.

Under the subprogramme, work related to the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda will continue, in accordance with the Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development and the guidance and decisions stemming from the Regional Conference on Social Development. Within the framework of the subprogramme, the Commission will also continue to provide data and analysis on the social situation of the region and support countries by providing capacity-building and technical cooperation on design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of social development policies.

In this context, the priorities for the subprogramme in 2024 will include: (i) addressing the multiple dimensions of poverty, inequality and well-being; (ii) bridging gaps in well-being and tackling inequalities, including those related to gender, race, ethnicity, age and territory; (iii) ensuring access to universal social protection for all population groups, according to their specific characteristics and needs; (iv) promoting social and labour inclusion policies, in order to improve social rights, with access to health systems, pension systems, quality education and inclusive work; and (v) improving social institutional design and the capacity of social policy to adapt and respond to new and emerging challenges related to the demographic transition, migration, new technologies and climate change, among other factors.

Strategy

Responsibility for the implementation of subprogramme 4 rests with the Social Development Division, in close collaboration with other ECLAC divisions, as well as with subregional and national offices. Under the subprogramme, work will also be done in close coordination with other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and the resident coordinator system.

The subprogramme’s activities will focus on the following subject areas: 1. Assessment of the social situation of the population and 2. Social policies for equality and social protection. Research and advisory services will be oriented towards improving the quality and impact of social policies, with an emphasis on: (i) universal, comprehensive, sustainable and resilient social protection systems, underpinned by full respect for human rights, equality and sustainability considerations; (ii) protection
and promotion of the rights of women, children, adolescents and young people, indigenous peoples, Afrodescendants, migrants and persons with disabilities; (iii) social investment and institutional frameworks; and (iv) education, labour inclusion and health systems. Therefore, the main contributions to the 2030 Agenda will be related to its social pillar, namely SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10 and 16. Under the subprogramme, data and analysis on the social situation of the region will continue to be provided, as well as assistance for countries with capacity-building and technical cooperation on the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of social development policies. Activities under this subprogramme will promote a comprehensive approach that will include carrying out applied qualitative and quantitative research, generating analyses, disseminating results, providing training and advisory services, and formulating policy recommendations to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders to perform sound diagnostic assessments of social issues for application in policy design and implementation, as well as capacity-building activities and technical assistance to member States, upon request.

Another important element of the strategy will be to promote social and policy dialogue and the implementation of the Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development among policymakers, civil society and NGOs, the business community, scholars and other stakeholders, and to facilitate the exchange of experiences and good practices on poverty eradication, reducing inequalities, social protection systems and social policies with a multidimensional and gender approach, and citizen participation.

The main beneficiaries under the subprogramme will be governments, especially ministries of social development, as well as other government institutions responsible for the coordination and implementation of social policies (design, implementation and evaluation). Other beneficiaries will be regional and subregional organizations, academic institutions and other research centres, and NGOs. The strategy includes cooperation with other intergovernmental and multilateral institutions, as well as South-South cooperation.

Activities

Subject area 4.1: Assessment of the social situation of the population

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

   Ad hoc expert group meetings

   (i) A meeting of experts to examine new trends in social issues and the progress made with regard to the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda.

   (ii) A meeting of experts to discuss trends and new issues concerning social policies to promote equality.

2. Recurrent publications

   Social Panorama of Latin America, 2024.

   The Social Panorama is prepared annually to examine recent trends in inequality and poverty in the region and analyse the structural challenges in the area of social policies faced by the countries.

3. Non-recurrent publications

   (i) A study on health systems and inequality.

   (ii) A study on education and inclusion.

   (iii) A study on labour inclusion policies.

   (iv) A study on a high-priority issue concerning social and productive inclusion of youth and women in Colombia.
(v) A study of social or labour dynamics in Argentina.

4. Other substantive activities

Technical materials

Development, maintenance and updating of the Observatory on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, which includes databases on social investment, non-contributory social protection, youth and social inclusion, and institutional frameworks for social policy, among other matters.

Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits

Preparation of infographics, policy guidelines and/or policy briefs to facilitate dissemination of the subprogramme’s research findings and policy recommendations.

5. Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to countries and institutions in the region, at their request, in areas relating to the situations of vulnerability that different population groups face.

6. Training courses, seminars and workshops

Cooperation with government, academic and non-governmental, regional and subregional institutions, upon request, in support of training activities on the analysis of poverty, inequality and the multiple dimensions of well-being.

7. Technical cooperation projects

Implementation of technical cooperation projects with countries and social sector institutions in the region, at their request, assessing social issues such as poverty, vulnerability, inequality, access to social rights, social inclusion and cohesion.

8. Intermediate activities

Preparation and coordination of selected inputs on social and economic issues to be presented at or used for the ECLAC session or publications of other subprogrammes and the ongoing coordination of activities with other divisions for the flagship publication *Social Panorama of Latin America*.

Preparation and coordination of interdivisional, inter-agency and interregional documents, seminars and meetings.

Implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to availability of extrabudgetary resources.

The ECLAC office in Bogotá will be responsible for execution of the activity indicated in subparagraph 3 (iv). The ECLAC office in Buenos Aires will be responsible for execution of the activity indicated in subparagraph 3 (v).

Subject area 4.2: Social policies for equality and social protection

1. Substantive servicing of meetings
Intergovernmental meetings

A meeting of the Presiding Officers of Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Ad hoc expert group meetings

(i) A meeting of experts to examine new and recurrent challenges related to social protection policies.

(ii) A meeting of experts to discuss trends and new issues concerning social policy institutions.

2. Non-recurrent publications

(i) A study on trends in policy concerning non-contributory pension systems.

(ii) A study on the challenges of social policy institutions.

3. Other substantive activities

Technical materials

Preparation, upon request, of analytical and methodological proposals to foster the universalization of social policies and social protection systems and the improvement of their impact on equality gaps.

4. Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to countries and institutions in the region, at their request, in areas relating to social protection and inclusive social policies and quality institutions for greater equality.

5. Training courses, seminars and workshops

Cooperation with government, academic, non-governmental, regional and subregional institutions, upon request, on training activities on policy formulation for poverty eradication and inequality reduction, increasing access to social protection systems, education and health among different population groups.

6. Technical cooperation projects

It is expected that projects will be undertaken in areas related to analysis of recent developments and trends in the region’s social protection, education, health and pension systems, and in labour inclusion and social institutional policies.

7. Intermediate activities

Preparation and coordination of interdivisional, inter-agency and interregional documents, seminars and meetings.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 5: GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN’S AUTONOMY

Objective

The objective to which this subprogramme contributes is to strengthen gender equality and women’s autonomy in sustainable development strategies of the Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Presentation

Gender inequality has historically been a structural characteristic of Latin America and the Caribbean and is at the core of the prevailing development model, which is no longer sustainable. Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated not only the structural challenges of gender inequality but also the unfair social organization of care. Thus, the need to put care and sustainability at the centre of the development model is urgent. The path to a care society entails reducing precariousness related to the care sector, considering the multiplier effects of the care economy on well-being and its capacity to drive a transformative recovery with equality and sustainability.

Moving towards a care society also requires well-established and interconnected institutions, innovative and effective public policies that support and build on a gender equality architecture, as well as clear gender mainstreaming strategies and participatory processes. It is also essential to continue promoting regional and South-South cooperation to share experiences at the regional level.

The Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, as a subsidiary body of ECLAC, represents a regional institutional framework and a high-level and ministerial platform for discussion, follow-up and periodic evaluations of regional and international agreements on women’s rights, women’s autonomy and gender equality. With its variety of actors, scope and capacities, the Conference offers an enabling environment for the construction of a shared vision and new political alliances that can promote progress towards fulfilment of the commitments under the Regional Gender Agenda and the SDGs, especially in the framework of the Montevideo Strategy for Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the Sustainable Development Framework by 2030.

Within the framework of this subprogramme, ECLAC will continue to play an active role in mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development. Under the subprogramme, there will be follow-up on implementation of the commitments of the Regional Gender Agenda adopted at the sessions of the Regional Conference on Women, including the Montevideo Strategy and the Santiago Commitment.

Activities during the year will be underpinned by fostering synergies between the Regional Conference on Women and the Statistical Conference of the Americas, producing and disseminating gender indicators to break the statistical silence and preparing empirical studies, especially through the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Strategy

Responsibility for implementation of the activities under subprogramme 5 will lie with the Division for Gender Affairs, in close coordination with other ECLAC divisions, and subregional and national offices, and in collaboration with other United Nations agencies, in particular the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), other regional organizations, and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

The activities of the subprogramme will contribute to strengthening gender equality and women’s autonomy in sustainable development within national policies, including their formulation, implementation and follow-up. Efforts will continue to be undertaken to build the capacity of member States through the production of knowledge products and the development of gender statistics and
indicators, by continuing to expand the scope and quality of data and indicators housed in the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean. Additionally, the subprogramme will strengthen the communication strategy of the Division for Gender Affairs and the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Under the subprogramme, technical assistance will be provided to the countries of the region, upon request, concerning development of policies to promote gender equality with full respect for human rights and to strengthen the capacities of national machinery for the advancement of women, national statistical offices and other specialized national agencies. The exchange of knowledge on gender equality and women’s autonomy in the region will continue to be promoted, as well as the dissemination of knowledge products and research findings to policymakers and other stakeholders. Special attention will be given to issues related to women’s economic autonomy in an integrated framework, with links to physical autonomy and political autonomy.

Given its cross-cutting nature, the subprogramme’s main contributions to the 2030 Agenda will be related to SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16 and 17, integrating the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

Activities

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Intergovernmental meetings**

   Two meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, including preparation of reports and substantive documentation.

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   (i) Two meetings of experts to consider priority issues emerging from the fifteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean on the following topics: (i) evaluation of best practices and challenges in the implementation of gender policies; (ii) promotion of an economic agenda for gender equality; (iii) monitoring of the 2030 Agenda; and (iv) analysis of policies on gender equality and women’s autonomy.

   (ii) An inter-agency meeting with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, including preparation of substantive support documents and reports.

   (iii) A meeting with governmental agencies and organizations involved in the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.

2. **Recurrent publications**

   (i) Two issues of the *Gender Affairs series*, which will focus on topics such as women’s economic autonomy, physical autonomy or decision-making autonomy.

   (ii) One issue of the *Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean Studies*.

3. **Non-recurrent publications**

   Two studies on issues relating to the incorporation of gender equality perspectives in the development of countries of the region, in accordance with the subject areas addressed at the thirty-ninth session of ECLAC and the fifteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.
4. **Other substantive activities**

**Technical materials**

(i) Development, maintenance and updating of the ECLAC website on gender statistics with data from household and time-use surveys and other sources.

(ii) Development, maintenance and updating of the website of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean with data provided periodically by government authorities.

**Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits**

Infographics and other information tools using data from the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean and other relevant ECLAC sources.

5. **Advisory services**

Provision of technical cooperation to countries and institutions, at their request, on matters related to the fulfilment of international and regional agreements on gender equality, the 2030 Agenda and the outcomes of the fifteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

6. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

(i) Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies to develop or support training activities in areas related to gender equality in the design and implementation of development policies.

(ii) Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies to support training activities in areas related to women’s economic and physical autonomy, planning for development with a gender perspective and gender statistics.

7. **Technical cooperation projects**

During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken in the following areas: (i) the care economy and unpaid work; (ii) gender equality and sustainable development policies; (iii) women’s economic autonomy; and (iv) women’s physical and decision-making autonomies.

8. **Intermediate activities**

(i) Preparation of inputs on gender issues for the *Social Panorama of Latin America*, the *International Trade Outlook for Latin America and the Caribbean*, the *Fiscal Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean*, and other institutional documents prepared by the Commission.

(ii) Provision of technical support, upon request, for mainstreaming the gender perspective into ECLAC programmes, projects and activities.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 6: POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Objective

The objective to which this subprogramme contributes is to fully integrate population issues into development planning, policies and programmes of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Presentation

Inequalities related to age, gender, income, ethnicity, race, territory and disability are very high in Latin America and the Caribbean and affect population dynamics and distribution in several ways. Thus, the provision of accurate population data and support in incorporating demographic analysis into public policies are crucial to closing equality gaps. Moreover, the negative socioeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on specific population groups, such as indigenous people and Afrodescendants, is exacerbating existing inequalities and requires disaggregated demographic data to support evidence-based policies, guide recovery efforts and inform the public response to address the situation of those who have been left behind. In this context, it is vital to identify, analyse and consider in decision-making processes the impacts of the pandemic on the three components of demographic dynamics: fertility, mortality, and migration.

Although decreasing fertility and ageing are common characteristics across the region, countries are at different stages of the demographic transition. Some are still experiencing an increase in the proportion of working-age people relative to the rest of the population, which is particularly conducive to economic development. Others have rapidly ageing populations, which has significant impacts on the financing of national pension, health and care systems.

To take advantage of the opportunities and to respond to the challenges presented by the demographic transition, integrated public policies which consider population dynamics and the promotion of sexual and reproductive rights are required. Such policies are also needed to respond to new migration trends, in which intraregional migration flows have increased substantially. International migration is an increasingly complex issue that calls for promotion of migrants’ human rights of and increased visibility of their contribution to sustainable development. The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration is a road map for managing migration at the national, regional and global levels.

In a context marked by post-pandemic recovery efforts and a need to achieve greater equality, support will continue to be provided under the subprogramme to fulfil the goals and recommendations of international agreements, including the 2030 Agenda, the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development.

Moreover, efforts to follow up and review the indicators of the SDGs and the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development call for effective advice on collection, processing, dissemination and analysis of data from the 2020 census round, to provide detailed geographically disaggregated information. In addition, new and better sources of demographic information are needed, such as improved vital statistics registration systems and surveys.

Lastly, global conferences and processes and regional cooperation have been instrumental in advancing towards population and development goals and guidelines. In this regard, the subprogramme serves as the technical secretariat of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the regional intergovernmental body that addresses population issues, as well as the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean, which is responsible for follow-up of the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, in the region.
Strategy

Responsibility for implementation of the activities under subprogramme 6 rests with the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE)-Population Division of ECLAC. The subprogramme activities will cover four main areas: 1. demographic analysis and population projections; 2. population information; 3. integration of sociodemographic variables into social programming; and 4. regional cooperation in population and development. Implementation of the subprogramme will be underpinned by the Montevideo Consensus, focusing on the full integration of population dynamics into rights-based sustainable development plans with equality, as well as the 2030 Agenda, in particular SDGs 1, 3, 5, 10, 11 and 17.

The subprogramme’s activities will take into consideration the impact and challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic in the region and focus on: (i) generating knowledge on population and demographic trends in the region as the foundation for evidence-based policymaking and the inclusion of sociodemographic inputs in the design and implementation of public policies at the national and local levels; (ii) improving the use of census data, vital statistics and surveys through the generation of data and development of procedures, computer programs and information systems; (iii) providing national and local institutions with training on demographic analysis and population estimates and projections; and (iv) providing technical support for follow-up of international agreements and the population-related 2030 Agenda targets.

Under the subprogramme, technical assistance and advisory services, delivered upon request, will seek to strengthen national capacities to monitor population trends and address population and development issues, with a gender-sensitive approach and a rights-based approach to disability, and to monitor and implement the recommendations and goals of relevant global and regional agreements including the 2030 Agenda; the Framework of Action for the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014; the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development; the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002; and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. Workshops and seminars will be held to facilitate South-South cooperation, networking and sharing of successful experiences. In addition, applied research and analysis, including recommendations on how to reduce inequalities, will be carried out and disseminated through publications. ICT will be used to reach the wider public.

Close collaboration with other ECLAC divisions and the ECLAC subregional and national offices will seek to increase the impact of those outputs. In addition, under the subprogramme work will be done with other United Nations entities involved in the population cluster and collaboration will be sought with other international and intergovernmental organizations, as well as with the resident coordinator system. Efforts will be made to create synergies and continue to support the United Nations Network on Migration at the regional level, as well as other networks relevant to population issues such as the National Transfer Accounts Network. The contribution of and dialogue with civil society organizations will be encouraged.

The main beneficiaries of the subprogramme activities will be government authorities and officials from countries of the region, particularly those working on population-related issues in national statistical offices as well as in ministries of planning, social development, health, education, gender and housing. Other beneficiaries will include public, private and civil society entities, professional associations and academia.

Activities

Subject area 6.1: Demographic analysis and population projections

1. Recurrent publications

One issue of the Demographic Observatory, 2024.
2. **Non-recurrent publications**

A study on the situation of demographic phenomena in the region, taking a gender-sensitive approach.

3. **Other substantive activities**

**Technical materials**

(i) Maintenance and updating of the database on demographic trends and population projections by sex and age.

(ii) Development of guidelines to facilitate production of demographic estimates and population projections at the national and subnational levels.

4. **Advisory services**

Provision of technical assistance to countries of the region, at their request, in the areas of population data collection, demographic analysis and methodologies for the preparation of population projections and estimates.

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

A workshop on the use of methodologies and tools for demographic analysis and projections.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 6.2: Population information**

1. **Non-recurrent publications**

Two studies on high-priority issues in Latin America and the Caribbean related to migration, demographic trends or ageing, taking a gender-sensitive approach.

2. **Other substantive activities**

**Technical materials**

(i) Development and updating of computer modules to facilitate the use of population data from censuses, surveys and vital statistics, based on the software for the retrieval of data for small areas by microcomputer (REDATAM) and using geographic information systems.

(ii) Maintenance and updating of the regional databank of censuses on population and housing, and vital statistics.

(iii) A technical document on population censuses or population estimations and projections in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits**

One issue of *REDATAM Informa.*
3. **Advisory services**

Provision, upon request, of technical assistance to countries of the subregion on designing and using REDATAM-related computer applications.

4. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

Two workshops on the use of REDATAM-related computer applications and the creation of related databases.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 6.3: Integration of sociodemographic variables into social programming**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   A meeting of experts to discuss demographic changes and their consequences for development, including for indigenous peoples, people of African descent and migrants, in the context of ageing societies, taking a gender-sensitive approach.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

   Two studies on the socioeconomic effects of demographic change in the region, taking a gender sensitive and ethnicity-based approach.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   Maintenance and updating of population statistics and indicators, including on ageing and older persons, maternity, indigenous peoples and Afrodescendants, internal and international migration, and spatial distribution and urbanization.

4. **Advisory services**

   (i) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, at their request, in areas related to the incorporation of sociodemographic variables into development policies, programmes and projects, taking a gender-sensitive approach and considering specific groups (such as indigenous peoples, Afrodescendants, migrants, persons with disabilities, older persons).

   (ii) Provision of technical cooperation services, upon request, in areas related to local or national development in Argentina.

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

   (i) Cooperation with government entities, universities, NGOs and regional and subregional bodies for the development of training activities on emerging issues related to the incorporation of sociodemographic variables and emerging issues into development policies, programmes and projects.
Cooperation with government and intergovernmental entities, universities, NGOs, and regional and subregional organizations, at their request, in support of training activities on quantitative analytical methods and techniques.

6. Technical cooperation projects

During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken in the areas of migration, the socioeconomic impact of population dynamics, indigenous peoples and Afrodescendants, and ageing, taking a gender-sensitive approach.

7. Intermediate activities

Contributions to ECLAC institutional and inter-agency publications, including the Social Panorama of Latin America.

The ECLAC office in Buenos Aires will be responsible for the execution of the activities indicated in subparagraphs 4 (ii) and 5 (ii).

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 6.4: Regional cooperation in population and development

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

Intergovernmental meetings

Fifth session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, including preparation of the related technical documents and reports.

2. Recurrent publications

Two issues of Notas de Población to disseminate research findings and studies on population and development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

3. Other substantive activities

Technical materials


Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits

One issue of the Boletín Envejecimiento y Desarrollo, with information on the progress made by countries of the region in the formulation and execution of policies relating to older persons.

4. Advisory services

(i) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, at their request, in areas related to the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America
and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, taking a gender-sensitive approach, the 2030 Agenda, and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

(ii) Provision of technical support services to the region’s intergovernmental forums on population and development issues.

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

(i) Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations, NGOs, and regional and subregional bodies for the development or in support of training activities in areas related to population and development.

(ii) Conduct of a regional course on demographic analysis, with a gender-sensitive approach, geared towards government officials in the region.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 7: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Objective

The objective to which this subprogramme contributes is to ensure the integration of environmental, climate and urban development concerns and opportunities into policymaking and policy implementation, with a rights-based approach, and ensuring that no one is left behind.

Presentation

Rising demand for natural resources, the impact of climate change, expansion of urban areas and the need to foster economic growth will put further economic pressure on the endowment of natural resources of Latin America and the Caribbean. Low regional growth in recent years and the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic have led to weaker enforcement of environmental standards and regulations, thereby increasing the risk of failing to achieve the environmental SDGs. The region’s population is increasingly urban, and the upward trend in urbanization rates and poorly planned urban expansion will continue, together with persistent challenges related to exclusion, inequality, low quality public services and growing insecurity. Geopolitical conflicts and disruption of global supply chains, along with substantial increases in prices of fertilizers and food, increase the vulnerability of regional food and energy systems, among other areas, adding to environmental pressure. A gender perspective needs to be incorporated into the analysis of these issues, as well as in the resulting public policy proposals.

At the country and city levels, there is a severe lack of urban and territorial statistics and data with which to track and address the related SDGs, posing challenges for evidence-based policymaking and effective follow-up and reporting. Development of national capacities and mobilization of resources are needed, to generate the information authorities need to assess progress towards the SDGs and implementation of the New Urban Agenda, including use of land value capture instruments, and application of related public policies. In this context, adoption of an integrated and participatory approach to planning and building sustainable cities will be a priority under the subprogramme. Improvements in the use of economic tools to evaluate urban and environmental policies will lead to more relevant policy analysis, thus supporting an equitable transition towards lower-carbon economies.

In this context, the subprogramme’s activities will address the gaps and relationships among the three pillars of sustainable development from a perspective of public policy, taking into account the ECLAC proposal set forth in the document Building a New Future: Transformative Recovery with Equality and Sustainability, which identifies key sectors that can contribute to sustainable development by reducing social gaps, the balance of payments restriction and the environmental footprint. The activities of the subprogramme are also guided by the 2030 Agenda, as well as by the outcomes of major conferences that connect the global and regional agendas, namely the Paris Agreement; the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030; the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III); and the priorities established by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme. In addition, the subprogramme will continue to act as technical secretariat of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement) and provide assistance to the countries of the region in its implementation.

Lastly, support will continue to be provided under the subprogramme to countries of the region in the implementation of the international climate agenda set forth in the Paris Agreement, as well as on the financing and technology transfer mechanisms required to achieve the commitments under the agreement, including regulatory and fiscal policies. Other emerging issues, such as the use of new sources of data, circular economy approaches, financial market alignment, improved urban services, low-carbon urban development strategies and the increasing participation of local governments in multilateral discussions will also be covered by the activities under this subprogramme.
Strategy

Responsibility for implementation of the activities under subprogramme 7 lies with the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, in close coordination with other ECLAC divisions and offices to mainstream environmental concerns, particularly those related to climate change and the SDGs in the context of the 2030 Agenda. The work under the subprogramme is structured around three main subject areas: 1. Policies for sustainable development and environmental performance; 2. The economics of climate change; and 3. Sustainable cities. Therefore, the main contributions to the 2030 Agenda under the subprogramme will be related to SDGs 11, 12, 13, 15 and 16.

Knowledge of the region’s economic, social and environmental profiles is crucial for public policies that take into account the three pillars of sustainable development. Likewise, the ability to convene and involve governments, academia, civil society, business and other stakeholders is also necessary to foster participatory decision-making and a rights-based approach. In this context, implementation of the subprogramme will focus on two main types of activities: (i) assessing progress made by countries in integrating sustainability criteria into public policies, including monitoring implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, as stated in the Escazú Agreement, and providing support to the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development; and (ii) strengthening national and local capacities to design and implement public policies for the sustainability of human settlements and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and the nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement.

The main beneficiaries of the subprogramme will be the decision-making authorities responsible for sustainable development and for sustainable cities. Economic and sectoral authorities are an important target group for mainstreaming sustainable development and climate change issues into areas that extend beyond environmental institutions. Other beneficiaries include regional and subregional organizations, universities and academic research centres, business sectors and civil society organizations. The strategy will also include creating networks with a wide range of stakeholders. In implementing the subprogramme, the Division will continue to hold consultations and undertake joint actions with the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, the resident coordinator system, and regional and subregional development banks.

Activities

Subject area 7.1: Policies for sustainable development and environmental performance

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

Intergovernmental meetings

Meeting of countries to strengthen regional cooperation and implementation of the Escazú Agreement.
A meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Escazú Agreement.

Ad hoc expert group meetings

A meeting of experts to examine the trends, emerging issues and lessons learned in implementing policies and instruments related to sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and their implications for the mainstreaming of sustainable criteria into public policies and institutions.
2. **Recurrent publications**

A study on the environmental progress made towards sustainable development and/or relevant SDGs.

3. **Non-recurrent publications**

(i) A study on the environmental opportunities for green recovery policies with the goal of mainstreaming environmental concerns into economic decisions, such as circular economy.

(ii) A study compiling best practices regarding access to information and participation in environmental matters in the light of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.

4. **Other substantive activities**

**Technical materials**

(i) Development, maintenance and updating of quantitative applications for sustainable development assessment.

(ii) Development, maintenance and updating of the Observatory on Principle 10 in Latin America and the Caribbean.

5. **Advisory services**

(i) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, to assess the progress and performance towards achieving sustainable development.

(ii) Provision of technical cooperation and secretariat services to countries of the region, upon request, regarding access to information and participation in environmental matters in the light of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.

(iii) Provision of technical cooperation services to the Government and policymakers in Brazil, at the national or subnational level, at their request, in areas relating to climate change, environmental issues and sustainable development.

6. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies in the area of sustainable development in support of training activities on sustainable development and/or environmental economics.

7. **Technical cooperation projects**

During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken in Brazil, upon request, in the areas of economic, social and environmentally sustainable development, in close collaboration with ECLAC substantive divisions.

The ECLAC office in Brasilia will be responsible for the execution of the activities indicated in subparagraph 5 (iii) and paragraph 7.
The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 7.2: Economics of climate change

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**
   
   (i) A meeting of experts to analyse the region’s priorities regarding the economics of climate change mitigation and adaptation.
   
   (ii) An event related to the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change process to discuss the results of climate change studies and to explore cooperation opportunities.

2. **Recurrent publications**

   One issue of the regional overview of the implications of climate change for Latin America and the Caribbean.

3. **Non-recurrent publications**

   (i) A study on long-term, low greenhouse gas emissions development strategies and related public policies.
   
   (ii) A study on the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of economic public policies related to climate change in order to comply with nationally determined contributions and other related national targets.
   
   (iii) A study on the political economy related to economic instruments pertinent to climate change.

4. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   Development, maintenance and updating of a repository of data, publications, technical materials and public policies related to climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean.

5. **Advisory services**

   Provision of technical cooperation services to the countries of the region, upon their request, in areas related to public policies and climate change.

6. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

   (i) Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies to develop training activities on climate change issues.
   
   (ii) A regional course on issues related to climate change.
   
   (iii) A seminar to foster the debate on climate change and just transition legislation and initiatives in Latin America.
7. **Technical cooperation projects**

During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken in the areas of climate change adaptation and mitigation.

8. **Intermediate Activities**

Preparation, upon request, of substantive inputs related to climate change for the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development.

The implementation of operational activities including advisory services, training activities and the implementation of technical cooperation projects will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

The ECLAC office in Brasilia will be responsible for the execution of the activities indicated in subparagraph 6 (iii).

**Subject area 7.3: Sustainable human settlements and inclusive cities**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Intergovernmental meetings**

   A session of the General Assembly of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean.

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   A meeting of urban experts to promote policies for the sustainable development of human settlements.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

   A study on urban development instruments as a vehicle for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and/or the 2030 Agenda in the region.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   (i) Updating of the Urban and Cities Platform of Latin America and the Caribbean.

   (ii) Preparation, upon request, of substantive inputs for the General Assembly of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean.

4. **Advisory services**

   Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, to support regional, national and local implementation of the urban dimension of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and the Regional Action Plan for the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2016–2036.
4. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

Cooperation with government and intergovernmental entities, universities, NGOs and regional and subregional organizations, upon request, in support of training activities and experience-sharing seminars, webinars and/or workshops, aimed at building regional capacities related to the sustainable development of human settlements.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 8: NATURAL RESOURCES

Objective

The objective to which this subprogramme contributes is to improve the governance and enhance the sustainable use and exploitation of natural resources in Latin American and the Caribbean, focusing on water resources management, affordable, inclusive, and clean energy, extractive resources efficiency, food security, sustainable agriculture, and biodiversity.

Presentation

The development model in the region, largely based on the exploitation of relatively abundant natural resources, continues to pose socioeconomic and environmental challenges. Countries’ production patterns are characterized by increasing levels of material intensity and waste generation, unequal distribution and management of resources, and vulnerability to global economic shocks. In addition, heavy environmental burdens, trade-offs related to the use of natural resources and distributional issues have led to a growing number of socio-environmental conflicts. The need to ensure sustainable and inclusive development remains paramount.

The region has historically failed to take advantage of positive commodity cycles to innovate, add value, develop capacities and diversify its economies, continuing to rely on commodity exports. In this context, ECLAC has proposed building a new sustainable development paradigm based on equality, productive diversification, and increased value added. Given the complex set of tools, research, data, and information required, and to better respond to countries’ requests and needs, ECLAC will continue to advocate building a common vision of governance and creating a body of knowledge to foster and implement that vision.

Challenges remain in modernizing institutional frameworks for integrated, resilient and sustainable management of water resources, in spite of the significant progress achieved. To attain SDG 6, regional and international agencies must coordinate, to align the work carried out and the technical assistance delivered to countries. The design and implementation of national policies and regional initiatives must recognize the human right to water and sanitation, and the need for a holistic approach for the sustainable management of the water cycle in the context of climate change. Regarding energy, many countries of the region have made progress in the deployment of renewable energies. Nevertheless, the region’s primary energy mix remains highly dependent on fossil fuels, and geopolitical conflicts and rising fuel prices could exacerbate this trend. To achieve SDG 7, a proper governance framework must be developed for the sustainable energy transition and to support countries in the design, implementation and monitoring of their renewable energy and energy efficiency policies and initiatives at the national and regional levels. Plans formulated in the context of the recovery from the pandemic must highlight the importance of scaling up renewable energy generation, which would be beneficial by stabilizing energy prices, creating jobs, supporting energy security and fulfilling climate objectives.

While the extractive sector has contributed significantly to the economic growth of those countries with abundant fossil fuels and minerals, environmental, social and economic challenges are undermining efforts to set up an effective governance framework for the sustainable management of these resources. Cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholder dialogues are needed to develop governance platforms. In addition, initiatives must be coordinated and policies and regulations must foster the efficient management of extractive resources. The extractive industries will be key to the recovery from the pandemic, given their importance as providers of foreign currency and fiscal revenues. However, labour, fiscal and environmental deregulation should be avoided.

The COVID-19 pandemic has also revealed the interconnection between environmental, health and socioeconomic crises, and how impacts can be accentuated by factors such as institutional
and market failures, negative externalities, and international conflicts, which have been identified by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) as drivers of biodiversity loss. As biodiversity is necessary to achieve most of the SDGs, the region needs to consolidate the environmental institutional framework and the mainstreaming of biodiversity issues into economic sectors to advance towards greater intra- and intersectoral coherence and coordination. In this regard, the post-2020 global biodiversity framework represents a space for cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholder policy-dialogue, to induce transformative systemic changes that favour environmental, social, and economic resilience, as well as to address emerging issues.

Lastly, the agriculture sector faces the challenge of increasing production to meet the growing global demand for food, while dealing with climate change pressures. Moreover, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and geopolitical conflicts, as well as the disruption of global value chains and transport services put additional pressure on the sector in terms of the need to ensure food security. Except for the small island developing States (SIDS) in the Caribbean, the region is well-positioned to produce food, considering available agricultural land and water resources and the wealth and diversity of agroecological zones and ecosystem services; however, overexploitation of these biological natural resources and failure to properly account for the environmental impacts of agricultural production often cause their degradation. There is a need for new production models and in-depth reform of agrifood systems to address these challenges and continue contributing to food security. The United Nations Food Systems Summit 2021 identified nature-positive production, the revitalization of traditional food systems and associated knowledge, bioeconomy-related approaches, and the promotion of synergies amongst the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, as factors to consider when rethinking the future of agricultural food systems in the region.

Strategy

Responsibility for implementing activities under subprogramme 8 lies with the Natural Resources Division, in close coordination with other ECLAC divisions and subregional and national offices. The subprogramme will focus on the following subject areas: 1. Water and energy; 2. Non-renewable natural resources; and 3. Agricultural development and biodiversity. The main contributions to the 2030 Agenda under the subprogramme will be related to SDGs 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14 and 15.

Under the subprogramme, analytical work will be conducted to generate knowledge and enhance the provision of technical assistance and advisory services to countries, upon request, on issues related to the sustainable management of biological, soil, water, energy, and mineral resources, with particular emphasis on the economic, environmental and social impacts and paying attention to the need for a sustainable recovery in the wake of the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The region has developed many good practices in the governance of natural resources in recent decades, but the numerous lessons learned indicate that vulnerable and fragmented institutions and scattered policies should be addressed to improve coherence, integration, and coordination. Policy dialogues will be supported to foster exchange, discussion, and dissemination of new policy options and to develop knowledge networks for sharing good practices and lessons learned. Training activities will also be carried out under the subprogramme for decision-makers, public officials, and experts. Gender issues that arise in the governance of natural resources will receive special attention in all activities.

The main beneficiaries under the subprogramme will be government authorities and officials, especially those responsible for the sustainable development and management of natural resources and related issues. Other beneficiaries will include regional and subregional organizations, universities, academic research centres and technical, professional, labour and business organizations.
Under the subprogramme, the Division will continue to work in close collaboration with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Regional Commissions, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the resident coordinator system, and other United Nations system entities engaged in the areas of energy, water, non-renewable resources, agriculture and biodiversity, regional bilateral and multilateral organizations, development banks and the Bretton Woods institutions. The Division will also make efforts to strengthen dialogue and collaboration with other organizations such as the regional centres of the CGIAR System Organization, the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI), the United Nations Inter-Agency Mechanism on All Freshwater Related Issues, Including Sanitation (UN-Water), the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and IPBES.

Activities

Subject area 8.1: Water and energy

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

Ad hoc expert group meetings

A meeting of experts to discuss formulating public policies for sustainable water and/or energy management.

2. Non-recurrent publications

(i) A study on issues related to the status and implementation of SDG 6.

(ii) A study on issues related to the status and implementation of SDG 7.

3. Other substantive activities

Technical materials

Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits

One issue of the *Natural Resources in Latin America and the Caribbean* bulletin.

4. Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, in areas related to public policies, initiatives and instruments on sustainable and inclusive management and governance of water or energy, focusing on improving access, equity and renewability of these essential services.

5. Training courses, seminars and workshops

(i) A regional workshop for relevant stakeholders involved in issues related to the sustainable and inclusive water transition.

(ii) A regional workshop for relevant stakeholders involved in issues related to the sustainable and inclusive energy transition.
6. **Technical cooperation projects**

   During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken on issues related to water and energy transitions.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 8.2: Non-renewable natural resources**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   A meeting of experts to discuss formulating public policies for extractive resources that promote economic efficiency, social equality and environmental sustainability, and their nexus with other sectors in the context of the 2030 Agenda.

2. **Recurrent publications**

   One issue of *Natural Resources and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean*

3. **Non-recurrent publications**

   (i) A study on issues related to natural resources governance in Latin America and the Caribbean.

   (ii) A study on issues related to value chains in the mining sector in Latin America and the Caribbean.

   (iii) A publication on new technology and the future of the mining industry in Latin America and the Caribbean.

4. **Advisory services**

   Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, in areas related to non-renewable natural resources, including those of interest to regional cooperation mechanisms.

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

   A regional workshop for stakeholders involved in the management of non-renewable natural resources.

6. **Technical cooperation projects**

   During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken on issues related to the governance of non-renewable natural resources and other relevant areas of interest in this connection.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
Subject area 8.3: Agricultural development and biodiversity

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**
   
   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**
   
   (i) A meeting of experts to discuss public policies and good practices on areas such as sustainable agricultural development, the bioeconomy, or nature-based approaches in agriculture.
   
   (ii) A meeting of experts to discuss public policies and good practices for digitization in agriculture and related value chains.
   
   (iii) A meeting of regional experts to discuss regional challenges and opportunities in connection with the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**
   
   (i) A study on a high-priority or emerging issue related to innovation and development in agriculture and rural territories in Latin America and the Caribbean, such as sustainable intensification of agriculture, digitization, diversification, increasing value-added, or enhancing climate action.
   
   (ii) A study on policies and actions to address structural and environmental challenges faced by the agriculture sector in Latin America and the Caribbean, such as low productivity and value added, high heterogeneity, limited diversification, and technology gaps.
   
   (iii) A study on issues related to biodiversity and environmental governance or issues related to structural change, sustainable development and implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

3. **Advisory services**
   
   Provision of technical cooperation services, upon request, to the countries of the region, business and trade promotion organizations and other key stakeholders on the design and implementation of policies and strategies for sustainable agricultural and rural development, the bioeconomy and biodiversity, including those related to recommendations arising from the United Nations Food Systems Summit 2021 and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

4. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**
   
   Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies, upon request, to develop or support capacity-building activities in areas related to production, corporate development and digitization in agriculture, the bioeconomy, sustainable use of biodiversity, the rural economy, and industry at the regional, national or local level.

5. **Technical cooperation projects**
   
   During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken on issues related to agriculture and bioeconomy development, and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
   
   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 9: PLANNING AND PUBLIC MANAGEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT

Objective

The objective to which this subprogramme contributes is to enhance planning and public management processes in the region for the advancement of equitable and sustainable development.

Presentation

Planning and public management for sustainable development open opportunities for multi-stakeholder dialogue and for building towards long-term development goals in a collaborative and integrated manner, ensuring cohesion, coherence and rationality in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. State leadership has been fundamental in improving development outcomes in response to the challenges arising from, among other things, low productivity and the infrastructure deficit; segregation and lags in the quality of health and education services, which were exacerbated by the pandemic; persistent gender gaps; and marked inequalities, particularly those affecting minorities and marginalized territories. These challenges are structural and require integrated policy-oriented actions and concerted commitments by a range of development actors, including citizens, the business community, the academia, civil society organizations, local and regional governments, public agencies, and national authorities.

Effective planning and public management require: (i) a systemic approach, as well as the incorporation of a long-term vision in development plans, strategies and public policies to ensure sustainable and transformative recovery from the pandemic; (ii) mainstreaming of resilience to anticipate, foresee, respond and recover from domestic and external shocks caused by natural disasters, including pandemics; (iii) strengthening of institutions to build more transparent and accountable public services; (iv) mainstreaming of intersectoral and multilevel perspectives for coherent and consistent policymaking, particularly in light of the need to support sustainable recovery; (v) active participation and collaboration among diverse actors from the private and public sectors in policy design, formulation and implementation; (vi) mainstreaming of a gender equality, disaster risk reduction and management perspectives into both national and subnational development planning tools and strategies; (vii) interinstitutional collaborative arrangements; and (viii) strengthening of territorial governance, planning and management in public policy processes. The 2030 Agenda offers the countries of the region an opportunity to focus on their long-term development goals and to build effective, inclusive, and strategic institutions to implement sustainable transformational measures for recovering from the pandemic while seeking to attain the SDGs.

For planning to be effective it must be participatory and prioritize comprehensive and sustainable development by interconnecting short-, medium- and long-term outlooks, while fostering high-quality public investment with a territorial focus and strong linkages between development and sectoral plans and budgets. Moreover, effective planning must establish a systematic learning and public innovation culture by fostering multi-stakeholder forums and spaces for further discussing solutions to public problems. Open and digital government helps to reduce structural gaps by enhancing transparency, participation and accountability. To build forward better, public institutions must mainstream lessons learned in their strategic planning, fostering integrated policymaking and collaborative mechanisms. Progress is also required in areas such as transparency, the evaluation of public policies, and the enhancement of methodologies and processes to mainstream the territorial dimension in planning at national and sectoral levels.

Strategy

Responsibility for implementation of subprogramme 9 rests with ILPES. The 2030 Agenda shapes the work of ILPES and the provision of high value-added services, such as applied research, technical advice and training, and the development of networks and communities of practice to that end. ILPES will also provide technical cooperation services to countries of the region to strengthen
the capacities of national planning and public management systems and institutions in the pursuit of sustainable, resilient and inclusive development.

Under the subprogramme, ECLAC will support the alignment of national development planning, public investment and budgets with recovery measures and the 2030 Agenda and contribute to the strengthening of state-of-the-art planning and public management for sustainable development among governments and other policy stakeholders across the region. It will do so by promoting capacity-building and institutional development and the application of strategic tools and methodologies relevant to the eight requirements identified above to address implementation gaps.

Activities implemented under the subprogramme are aimed at strengthening institutional capacities in planning, designing, and executing effective, efficient and coherent actions towards achievement of the SDGs and implementation of the 2030 Agenda. They will be carried out in close coordination with other ECLAC divisions, subregional and national offices, as well as other entities from the United Nations system, including the resident coordinator system. Activities to that end consist in the design and application of new methodologies, instruments and conceptual frameworks, and governance and public management techniques that encourage cooperation, peer-to-peer learning, and the sharing of experiences and good practices. Applied and timely research will be undertaken on cross-cutting planning and public management issues relevant to implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The contribution to the 2030 Agenda under the subprogramme will be related mainly to SDGs 10, 11, 16 and 17.

Under the subprogramme, support will be given to member States, upon request, through the provision of capacity development, technical cooperation and advisory services to: (i) support ongoing institutional capacity-building in planning and public management; (ii) provide government officials and relevant stakeholders with training (in situ and e-learning); (iii) build and strengthen competencies, capabilities and capacity in areas of planning, including disaster risk management, resilience planning and public management for development; and (iv) promote communities of practice for peer learning and experience sharing among countries. For these purposes, a range of existing and new capacity-building and networking instruments, analytical products and approaches will be employed, including dialogues with high-level authorities, practitioners, and experts, the Regional Observatory on Planning for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and relevant methodologies to foster the consolidation of planning and public management systems in the region.

The main beneficiaries under the subprogramme will be government authorities and public officials of the countries of the region, especially those responsible for planning and public management policies and systems at national and subnational levels of government; civil society organizations and academic institutions; and local, regional and subregional organizations.

Activities

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Intergovernmental meetings**

   A meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning.

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   A meeting of experts to discuss the progress made and pending challenges regarding planning for development systems and institutions, including public investment, multiscale and territorial governance, as well as cross-cutting and emerging issues.
2. **Recurrent publications**

One issue of *Panorama del desarrollo territorial en América Latina y el Caribe*.

3. **Non-recurrent publications**

Four studies on topics covering one or more of the following issues: (i) planning for development systems and institutions, and the formulation of integrated public policy agendas, strategies and plans that incorporate multiscale and territorial governance and planning; (ii) integrated public management systems and practices (planning and programming; budgeting and public investment systems; monitoring and evaluation systems; and accountability and control), including multiscale and territorial management; and (iii) planning and public management for development in cross-cutting and emerging issues, such as mainstreaming gender and participatory approaches and practices, open government, and digital government, among others.

4. **Other substantive activities**

**Technical materials**

(i) Maintenance and updating of the virtual platform of the Regional Observatory on Planning for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(ii) Development, maintenance and updating of technical manuals and software applications to support training (in situ and e-learning) and technical cooperation.

**Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits**

Infographics, policy briefs and newsletters on planning and public management for development.

5. **Advisory services**

Provision of advisory services to countries of the region, upon request, in the areas of: (i) planning for development systems and institutions, including the formulation of integrated public policy agendas, strategies and plans; (ii) integrated public management systems and practices, including programming, budgeting and public investment systems, as well as monitoring, evaluation, accountability and control systems; (iii) cross-cutting programming, covering matters such as gender mainstreaming and stakeholder engagement, open government and digital government, and emerging issues.

6. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

Strengthening of e-learning training to provide 10 training courses (in situ and e-learning) on the following topics: (i) planning for development systems and institutions, and the formulation of integrated public policy agendas, strategies and plans, including multiscale and territorial governance and planning; (ii) integrated public management systems and practices (planning and programming; budgeting and public investment systems; monitoring and evaluation systems; and accountability and control), including multiscale and territorial management; (iii) planning and public management for development in cross-cutting and emerging issues, such as mainstreaming of the gender perspective and participatory approaches and practices, open government and digital government; and (iv) priority issues to be defined with member States.
7. **Technical cooperation projects**

It is expected that projects will be undertaken in the areas of planning and public management for development, including plans and programmes to implement the 2030 Agenda.

8. **Intermediate activities**

(i) Support for the operation of virtual networks and information exchange on topics related to the subprogramme.

(ii) Surveys and governmental dialogues on planning and public management for development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(iii) Support for the organization of training courses, in response to requests made under other subprogrammes, on topics such as sustainable development, social development issues, mainstreaming of the gender perspective, climate change and innovation strategies.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training, and technical cooperation projects in the field, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 10: STATISTICS

Objective

The objective to which this subprogramme contributes is to improve the production, dissemination and use of statistics for evidence-based decision-making in the region.

Presentation

Production of reliable and easily accessible national official statistics is essential for policymakers and a prerequisite for good governance at country level. Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean have made progress in strengthening their national statistical capacities. Some have updated their national statistical legislation, while others have increased the use of administrative records and other data sources for statistical purposes, thus improving the timeliness and availability of indicators. Countries have also adopted new methodologies and processes, as well as modernizing their data dissemination platforms. With the support of the subprogramme, through innovative data collection techniques the countries of the region managed the disruption of traditional data collection modalities caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nevertheless, there are still challenges to overcome to build strong and well-coordinated national statistical systems. In March 2022, there were still insufficient data to assess progress towards achieving 34% of the 2030 Agenda targets at the regional level. Most national statistical legislation still falls short of fully adhering to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and national statistical offices have the challenge to strengthen their function as data stewards for other national data providers. Additional efforts are required to incorporate quality and transparency criteria in line with international best practices, to improve the quality of official statistics and promote their use among economic agents, social actors and decision makers.

To overcome the different statistical development challenges, the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC serves as a unique regional forum to foster collaborative work among countries in close cooperation and coordination with other United Nations development system entities. This work is undertaken through different working groups and other forms of collaboration, as well as at high-level seminars. In addition to supporting the work of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, the subprogramme activities play a central role in the development of statistical production, analysis and dissemination in Latin America and the Caribbean. Activities are structured around four main subject areas: (i) economic statistics and national accounts; (ii) social statistics and household surveys; (iii) environmental, climate change and disaster statistics; and (iv) innovation, dissemination and follow-up in relation to the SDGs. Within these areas, support is provided to improve existing statistical sources and processes, and to foster the development of administrative records and non-traditional data sources, such as geospatial information and big data. Work on data sources is complemented by the support that is provided for the institutional strengthening of national statistical systems and coordination of data producers and users. Given its cross-cutting nature, the deliverables under the subprogramme will contribute to all the SDGs.

Strategy

Responsibility for the implementation of the subprogramme rests with the Statistics Division, in close cooperation with other ECLAC divisions and offices. The work of the subprogramme will be structured around three strategic lines of action. The first aims to strengthen national technical and institutional capacities through advisory services and training courses and seminars. As a lesson learned from the pandemic, virtual modalities will continue to be used, where feasible, to conduct expert meetings and online training, thus fostering wider participation across the region. Special emphasis will be placed on coordination with relevant agencies and international organizations to avoid the duplication of efforts and maximize the complementarity of activities.
The second line of action addresses data compilation and harmonization, the dissemination of regionally comparable data, and the development, regional adaptation and translation of statistical methodologies, standards and recommendations. This line of action will build on the work carried out under the subprogramme in the redesign and improvement of CEPALSTAT, the main data portal of ECLAC, which provides access to a broad array of statistical and geospatial databases and methodological publications. In addition to CEPALSTAT, data will be disseminated through the regional Household Survey Data Bank (BADEHOG), the Economic Indicators and Statistics Database (BADECON), the Regional Knowledge Platform on the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean (SDG Gateway) and the Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, the Division will undertake methodological research and contribute to various ECLAC flagship publications and documents.

The third line of action is the reinforcement of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, which is the main regional platform for statistical coordination among countries and international organizations. The Division will continue to provide technical secretariat services to the Conference and its various working groups, ensuring that their work is consistent with the regional priorities defined by the Conference. In collaboration with the Division for Gender Affairs, the Statistics Division will foster the integration of the gender perspective in all working groups of the Conference and their respective outputs. The Knowledge Transfer Network platform of the Statistical Conference will be used to organize periodical virtual seminars and expert meetings, to develop communities of practice around topics of interest and to disseminate methodologies and best practices.

Subject areas that have been traditionally addressed under the subprogramme, such as national accounts and economic statistics, environment statistics, household survey implementation and national coordination mechanisms for SDG follow-up, will be complemented with emerging topics, such as integration of statistical and geospatial information —including satellite image processing— climate change and disaster risk reduction, and data disaggregation through small-area estimation.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced statistical institutions to adjust data collection and statistical production activities. This context increased requests for support from the United Nations system as a whole to measure the impact of the crisis, and to address measurement issues, to analyse and disseminate the indicators obtained, and define post-crisis measurement strategies. To this end, actions will be undertaken under the subprogramme to develop new training courses, provide technical assistance and bolster the production of documents and capacity-building materials.

Under the subprogramme, the Division will work in close collaboration with bilateral and multilateral partners, such as the United Nations Statistics Division, United Nations regional commissions and other United Nations statistics entities, as well as international organizations such as the World Bank, Eurostat and IDB. Specific priorities for the region will be conveyed through active participation in global events, such as meetings of the Statistical Commission, the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (CCSA), the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UNGGIM) and the various global working groups and expert groups. Under the subprogramme, ECLAC will liaise with the SDG Data and Statistics Group to support the United Nations country teams in the follow-up, review and reporting processes for the SDGs.

The main beneficiaries of the subprogramme will be national statistical and geographical offices, as well as other institutions that are part of the national statistical systems.
Activities

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

   Intergovernmental meetings

   A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Conference, including the preparation of progress reports and substantive documentation.

   Ad hoc expert group meetings

   (i) A meeting of experts to evaluate the inclusion of the recommendations of the System of National Accounts 2008 (SNA 2008) and preliminary elements of SNA 2025 in national accounts data, and their adjustment to the specificities of the region’s economies, and progress in the 2021 round of the International Comparison Programme.

   (ii) A meeting of experts to make recommendations on promoting technical and methodological improvements in the field of social statistics, household surveys and administrative records.

   (iii) A meeting of experts to analyse and steer progress in the field of environment statistics, environment SDG indicators, environmental accounts, climate change indicators and disaster statistics.

2. Recurrent publications

   Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2024.

3. Non-recurrent publications

   (i) Two studies on the progress made in the region on any of the following topics: the implementation of SNA 2008 and the preparation of SNA 2025; comparisons of price levels and purchasing power parities; external trade indicators; short-term economic statistics; or sector indicators.

   (ii) A methodological and/or analytical study on measuring poverty, inequality and/or subjective well-being indicators in the region.

   (iii) A methodological study on the improvement of data sources for social statistics, including household surveys and/or administrative records, and data disaggregation for relevant population groups.

4. Other substantive activities

   Technical materials

   (i) Development, maintenance, upgrading and updating of the CEPALSTAT statistical information system and the databases, including the incorporation of the geospatial component, under direct responsibility of the Statistics Division, and coordination with other divisions of the activities relating to the maintenance of their databases.

   (ii) Development, maintenance and updating of BADEHOG and BADECON through the compilation and harmonization of household and economic surveys from the region’s countries, as an input for the analysis and production of indicators by the Statistics Division and other ECLAC divisions.
(iii) Six issues of *ECLAC Statistical Briefings*, on economic, social, and environment and climate change statistics, as well as on geospatial information and statistical innovation.

5. **Advisory services**

(i) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, in areas related to the development of environment, climate change and disaster statistics, environment SDG indicators and environmental and ecosystem accounts.

(ii) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, in areas related to the development of economic and national accounts statistics.

(iii) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, in areas related to the development of social statistics and household surveys, and the adoption of small-area estimation methods for data disaggregation.

(iv) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, upon request, in areas related to geospatial information.

(v) Provision of technical cooperation services to the region’s countries, upon request, to support the implementation of the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda and the SDG indicators.

6. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

Cooperation with government entities, universities, NGOs, and regional and subregional bodies in support of training activities on topics relating to economic statistics, environment, climate change and disaster statistics, social statistics and geospatial information.

7. **Technical cooperation projects**

During the year, projects financed by extrabudgetary resources are expected to be undertaken in various areas related to the 2030 Agenda, including economic statistics, national accounts and purchasing power parities; household surveys and social statistics; environment, climate change and disaster statistics; the SDG monitoring process; and the integration of statistical and geospatial information.

8. **Intermediate activities**

(i) Supporting the working groups created by the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, including organizing and servicing meetings of the working groups, preparing background documents and other materials, preparing meeting reports and monitoring the tasks assigned to each working group.

(ii) Drafting one or more chapters on poverty, social vulnerability and income inequality, and preparing statistical information, for the 2024 edition of *Social Panorama of Latin America*, in coordination with the Social Development Division.

(iii) Preparing, in coordination with the Economic Development Division, statistical information for the 2024 edition of the *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean*. 
(iv) Preparing, in coordination with the Economic Development Division, statistical information for the 2024 edition of the *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean*.

(v) Providing statistical support for the execution of ECLAC studies and projects in the field of economic, social, environmental and sustainable development, and for inter-agency work, in the context of the 2030 Agenda.

(vi) Preparing statistical information related to the SDGs and contributions for the *Annual report on regional progress and challenges in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean* (2024 edition), in coordination with the Office of the Executive Secretary.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 11: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN CENTRAL AMERICA, CUBA, THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, HAITI AND MEXICO

Objective

The objective to which this subprogramme contributes is to improve the formulation of evidence-based public policies in the economic, social and environmental fields in the countries of the subregion.

Presentation

The crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic exposed the enduring lack of universal social protection systems and effective redistributive policies in the subregion, in addition to structural problems such as growing inequalities, labour insecurity, low per capita GDP growth, environmental degradation and the weakening of multilateralism. Poverty and inequalities have risen, with ramifications for migration, violence, and political sentiment. To address the effects of the crisis, countries of the subregion implemented unprecedented policy measures, more focused on the immediate response than on bringing about structural changes. Moreover, long school closures during lockdowns will have lasting repercussions in terms of education rates, female labour market participation and productivity growth.

The subregion faces significant macroeconomic challenges in the short, medium and long term. In the short term, monetary and sectoral policies must be formulated to address high inflation, while limiting its impact on economic activity. In the medium and long term, fiscal reforms should be implemented to curb tax evasion and tax avoidance, as well as fiscal incentives for fast-growing economic sectors. Innovative mechanisms are also needed to manage public debt.

Even though economic growth is important for tackling poverty, the recovery from the pandemic should not mean a return to the same development strategy. Rather, it should lay the foundations for productive and welfare regimes —with the necessary public capacities to sustain them— capable of forging a new equilibrium of economic prosperity, equality and resilience in the countries of the subregion. The role of the State must, more than ever, be at the centre of this development and welfare strategy. The necessary rethinking of the development model in the subregion must also consider crucial issues such as access to development finance, the effectiveness of the justice systems, gender issues, inclusive adaptation to climate change, the new forms of political expression and reforms to multilateralism. The rethought development model in the subregion will also need to consider the recent and deep changes in occupational and employment structures, recognition of new patterns of urbanization and in rural areas, multiple forms of inequality and increased concentration of wealth. Quality data and statistics are also required, to inform the design, implementation and evaluation of public policies.

One of the areas in which social justice commitments should be reflected is the fiscal system. In this regard, a coordinated global tax reform that reduces tax avoidance and evasion is required. Fair and equitable taxation can lay the foundations for a new society that respects and promotes the well-being of all. Businesses should also bear a fair share of the fiscal burden. Citizens call for the State to assume greater leadership and participation in the economy, and for a new social contract to be forged with greater local democracy. Public services must be considered investments in future resilience, especially in a region vulnerable to natural disasters. Women’s autonomy and minimum income policies are required components of any risk prevention and development strategy.

Regional integration should be key to a new development strategy. Intraregional trade within the Central American Common Market (MCCA) represents one quarter of the bloc’s total trade, the largest in Latin America, and countries of the subregion may take advantage of their participation in diverse regional and global value chains. Notwithstanding, the subregion must deepen intraregional trade, advance on trade facilitation and forge new regional value chains. USMCA can also be a tool for promoting an industrial
policy based on the strategic trade relations among these countries. Furthermore, Central America has become the most dynamic subregion in Latin America in terms of the share of renewables in the energy mix, electricity integration and energy efficiency, and in this regard Mexico and the Central American countries could become one integrated and interconnected electricity market in the near future.

Human mobility remains an important issue in the subregion. Linking development and migration will allow further work on addressing the structural causes of human mobility and advancing regional approaches to this crucial issue. Family remittances showed significant resilience during the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and have increased notably in recent years as a percentage of GDP. Innovative strategies to promote the investment of remittances in productive development initiatives could be a powerful instrument to accelerate economic and social development in rural areas.

Lastly, the subregion is highly vulnerable to extreme natural events and the effects of climate change. To respond to climate change effects, public policies have been developed by countries, but coordination across institutions for their implementation remains a challenge. Climate change and the health and socioeconomic crises have common roots in the inequitable and unsustainable structure of the current production system and consumption patterns. Several initiatives have been developed and reflect a significant effort to transition to more equitable and sustainable development models. The challenge for the coming years is scaling up such initiatives, including the necessary development of human capacities and interinstitutional and financial support.

Strategy

Responsibility for implementation of the subprogramme rests with ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico, in close coordination with other ECLAC divisions and offices. The focus of the subprogramme is on the countries of Central America, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Mexico, and the main contribution to the 2030 Agenda will be in connection to SDGs 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 10, 13 and 17.

The strategy will focus on strengthening the capacity of governments to: (i) design and implement economic, social and environmental strategic reforms aimed at creating decent jobs and reducing poverty and inequality to benefit the most vulnerable populations, and promote socioeconomic rights for all and environmental sustainability; (ii) promote regional integration, particularly in trade and energy, through strategies to enhance intersectoral connections and develop better industrial policies, with particular emphasis on improving value chains; and (iii) promote implementation of climate change policies with an inclusive and sustainable approach. In the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, it will be essential to be aware of the emergence of a new economic regime stemming from profound technological and social changes accelerated by the pandemic itself. Renovated social protection regimes and strengthened public capacities will have to match those changes to maintain the focus on prosperity, equality and innovation that this transition to a new development strategy demands.

Work will also focus on strengthening capacities to incorporate innovative multi-stakeholder approaches to policy design and implementation, the maintenance and updating of relevant databases, including their georeferencing, and carrying out analysis using quantitative and qualitative tools. All of this will contribute to consolidating public institutions and to maintaining the Commission’s commitment to implementation of the 2030 Agenda and attainment of the SDGs in the subregion.

Governments are increasingly interested in designing public policies based on sound empirical evidence and participatory processes with the active engagement of private and social actors. ECLAC has proved to be a valuable partner in the design of methodologies and preparation of in-depth diagnostic studies and has helped to foster the participation and capacity-building of government officials in all phases of technical assistance projects, which is crucial to enhancing local capacities, promoting national ownership and facilitating implementation of policy recommendations.
The main beneficiaries of the subprogramme activities will be government authorities and officials, as well as civil society entities, academic and private sector institutions, and subregional and regional entities, including the Central American Integration System (SICA). Under the subprogramme, the subregional headquarters in Mexico will continue actively collaborating with the United Nations resident coordinator system and the United Nations country teams in the subregion and will provide inputs to United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) implementation at the national level.

Activities

Subject area 11.1: Economic development

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

   Ad hoc expert group meetings

   A meeting of experts to discuss macroeconomic policy issues in the subregion.

2. Recurrent publications

   A study on recent macroeconomic developments and prospects for the Central American subregion.

3. Non-recurrent publications

   (i) A study on macroeconomic policy issues in selected countries of the subregion, devoting particular attention to countercyclical macroeconomic policies.

   (ii) A study on a productive development issue in selected countries of the subregion, focusing on structural analysis.

4. Other substantive activities

   Technical materials

   (i) Maintenance and updating of the database on economic statistics and national accounts in the subregion’s countries.

   (ii) One issue of the report of subregional activities in Central America, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Mexico.

   Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits

   Ten notes on macroeconomic developments in the subregion’s countries during 2023, and the outlook for 2024, which will serve as inputs to the Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean.

5. Advisory services

   Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to countries in the subregion and other relevant stakeholders, in areas relating to building capacities to design and implement fiscal and monetary policies.
6. **Technical cooperation projects**

During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken in the area of sustainable development.

7. **Intermediate activities**

Consultation, coordination and cooperation with key government institutions, the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, and other key partners on issues related to strategies to strengthen productivity, policies to reduce structural gaps between and within countries, and fiscal policy mechanisms to improve income redistribution.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 11.2: Social development**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

*Ad hoc expert group meetings*

A meeting of experts to discuss social issues such as the welfare state, social protection, decent work, inequality, education, health and employment.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

Two studies to examine social issues related to the SDGs in selected countries of the subregion.

3. **Other substantive activities**

*Technical materials*

Maintenance and updating of the statistical document about social indicators of the subregion’s countries.

4. **Advisory services**

Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to countries in the subregion and other relevant stakeholders in the area of policies to strengthen institutional and technical capacities with regard to planning for and implementing the 2030 Agenda, social development issues, poverty, urban development, gender equality and social inclusion, with a particular focus on disadvantaged or marginalized groups, among others.

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

Training on policies to promote achievement of the SDGs.

6. **Intermediate activities**

Consultation, coordination and joint operation with key government institutions, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, major partners and other stakeholders involved in planning for and implementing the 2030 Agenda, and social development issues, with a particular emphasis on multidimensional equality and disadvantaged or marginalized groups.
Implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 11.3: International trade, industry and integration

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

   Ad hoc expert group meetings

   A meeting of experts to analyse the challenges and opportunities arising from productive policies, and international and regional trade trends.

2. Non-recurrent publications

   (i) A study on the importance of regional integration for development.

   (ii) A study on the importance of emerging productive policies for subregional development.

   (iii) A study on the challenges and opportunities arising from international trade trends.

3. Other substantive activities

   Technical materials

   (i) Development, maintenance and updating of ECLAC databases.

   (ii) Development, maintenance and updating of the database on trade and integration in the countries of the subregion.

4. Advisory services

   (i) Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to countries in the subregion and other relevant stakeholders in the areas of international trade, integration processes and training on ECLAC databases.

   (ii) Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to countries in the subregion and other stakeholders in areas relating to sectoral policy, particularly strategies and programmes to strengthen productive development, and the corresponding analysis instruments.

5. Intermediate activities

   Consultation, coordination and joint operation with key government institutions, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, major partners and other stakeholders on integration or cooperation matters.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
Subject area 11.4: Climate change and agriculture

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

Ad hoc expert group meetings

A meeting of experts to analyse challenges and opportunities related to sustainable agriculture and food systems adapted to climate change.

2. Non-recurrent publications

(i) A study on the challenges and opportunities related to sustainable agriculture and food systems adapted to climate change in selected countries of the subregion.

(ii) A study to analyse challenges and opportunities for selected fiscal or sectoral policies aimed at a sustainable and inclusive response to the climate emergency in selected countries of the subregion.

3. Other substantive activities

Technical materials

(i) Development, maintenance and updating of the database for the agricultural sector, rural development and food security in countries of the subregion.

(ii) Development, maintenance and updating of the database on climate change in countries of the subregion.

4. Advisory services

(i) Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to countries in the subregion and other relevant stakeholders in areas relating to agriculture and food security, including insurance, statistics and information systems and other relevant issues.

(ii) Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to countries in the subregion and other relevant stakeholders in areas relating to sustainable and inclusive responses to the climate emergency.

5. Training courses, seminars and workshops

Training activities related to agriculture and food security or sustainable and inclusive responses to the climate emergency in other sectors.

6. Technical cooperation projects

During the year, it is expected that projects will be undertaken in the areas of climate change adaptation and mitigation.

7. Intermediate activities

Consultation, coordination and joint operation with key governmental and integration system institutions and other key partners, including those in the United Nations system, on issues related to agriculture and food security, rural development, and the response to the climate emergency.
Implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 11.5: Energy and natural resources

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**
   
   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**
   
   A meeting of experts to follow up on specific energy issues related to the 2030 Agenda, particularly SDG 7 and its nexus with other SDGs.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**
   
   A study on specific topics related to SDG 7 and its nexus with other SDGs, the energy transition and/or energy integration.

3. **Other substantive activities**
   
   **Technical materials**
   
   (i) Development, maintenance and updating of the database on the hydrocarbon sector in the subregion’s countries.
   
   (ii) Development, maintenance and updating of the database on the electricity sector in the subregion’s countries.

4. **Advisory services**
   
   (i) Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to countries in the subregion and other relevant stakeholders in areas relating to economic, environmental, and social sustainability in the energy sector.
   
   (ii) Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to regional cooperation institutions or mechanisms, including the SICA energy forums, the Mesoamerican Integration and Development Project (Mesoamerica Project), Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) and the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE).

5. **Intermediate activities**
   
   Consultation, coordination and joint operation with key government institutions, United Nations agencies funds and programmes, major partners and other stakeholders on issues related to the energy sector and energy efficiency.

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 12: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

Objective

The objective to which this subprogramme contributes is to strengthen the sustainable development processes in the Caribbean, in the economic, social and environmental dimensions, and to enhance the subregion’s cooperation with Latin America.

Presentation

As SIDS, countries of the Caribbean face significant challenges that constrain their ability to achieve sustainable development. These include high debt levels, low economic growth, finance constraints, declining export capacity, high unemployment (particularly among women and youth), high vulnerability to exogenous events, the varied impacts of climate change—notably extreme weather events—and environmental degradation. All these challenges are of an existential nature for Caribbean countries. The fundamental task, therefore, remains that of building long-term resilience to respond effectively to these obstacles.

The COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated the multidimensional vulnerability of the countries of the subregion. Measures implemented to curb the spread of the disease have significantly increased financial stress for countries already burdened with high debt and debt servicing levels. Urgent injections of liquidity, at a low cost, are therefore needed to ease the pressure on already narrow fiscal space, to help countries build resilience to the impacts of the pandemic and the ongoing threat of climate-related and other exogenous events. The Caribbean Resilience Fund, proposed by ECLAC as an integral part of its debt for climate adaptation swap initiative, would respond to this need by converting the subregion’s debt into a source of investment in resilience and growth.

Science, technology and innovation, and particularly ICT, have assumed a pivotal role in the subregion’s development, especially in the wake of the pandemic. Governments, the private sector, and other key development stakeholders must prioritize strategies to strengthen knowledge creation, including regional and domestic scientific, technical and innovation capacities.

Expanding and strengthening ICT infrastructure will also be crucial to progress toward the SDGs, particularly given the increased reliance on technology for governance, commerce, communication and education, in view of the ongoing restrictions on physical movement imposed by the pandemic. Work will also be done to assess and promote the design of public policies for more effective use of ICT and the provision of public services that facilitate resilience-building in a post-pandemic era. In this effort, special attention will be given to persons who are most vulnerable, including persons living with disabilities.

Support will be provided for member States to redesign trade policies to further promote intraregional and extraregional trade and investment. In addition, support will be given to innovative strategies to facilitate the recovery of the tourism industry in the subregion and promote youth employment through skills development and entrepreneurship. Exploration of measures to determine how best to harness the skills and resources of the Caribbean diaspora will be undertaken to assist in the economic recovery of the subregion. Economic diversification will be assessed through further exploration of pandemic-proof business opportunities in the creative industries. Greater attention will also be given to promoting and supporting mainstreaming of the gender perspective, gender equality and women’s empowerment, tackling increasing threats of gender-based violence and defending the right to decent work.

To address the continuing challenge of data deficiency in the subregion, priority attention will be given to strengthening infrastructure and expanding capacity for data collection and analysis, particularly in areas such as environmental data; the multisectoral impact of the pandemic, climate impacts and the informal economy; and the production of gender-disaggregated data.
Subregional and national action will continue to be framed by global platforms that advance sustainable development in SIDS, within the wider context of the 2030 Agenda and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, with a view to ensuring that activities under the subprogramme continue to support sustainable growth and development for both members and associate members of ECLAC. Emphasis will be placed on strengthening the institutional infrastructure of Caribbean States, with a view to enhancing governance, integrated policy planning, and monitoring and reporting for the SDGs, the SAMOA Pathway and other sustainable development platforms. Relevant responses to and lessons learnt from the COVID-19 pandemic will be integrated into all activities as necessary.

**Strategy**

Responsibility for implementation of the subprogramme rests with the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean. Activities implemented under the subprogramme will focus on the following subject areas: 1. Caribbean development and cooperation; 2. Economic development and integration; 3. ICT for development; 4. Social development; 5. Statistics; and 6. Climate change, SIDS and disaster risk management. Therefore, the main contributions to the 2030 Agenda under this subprogramme will be related to SDGs 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 17.

The subregional headquarters will provide technical assistance and advisory services to member States, upon request, and conduct training activities, seminars and workshops for knowledge-sharing and the exchange of best practices and lessons learned. It will work closely with Caribbean development partners—including the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) institutions, other subregional intergovernmental organizations and international donor institutions—and in coordination with the United Nations country teams in the Caribbean to inform policymaking in the subregion, including through the provision of advisory and technical cooperation services.

The strategy is built on five pillars. First, activities under the subprogramme will be implemented in close cooperation with the substantive divisions and other subregional and national offices of ECLAC, in the context of the “Caribbean first” strategy launched by the Commission, and in collaboration with the wider United Nations development system. Second, as the secretariat for the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), the subregional headquarters will ensure that the work remains relevant to the subregion’s needs. Third, the activities will facilitate the Caribbean’s engagement in the follow-up to global conferences and frameworks, including the 2030 Agenda, the SAMOA Pathway, the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Sendai Framework, the Paris Agreement and the Addis Ababa Agreement. The COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery strategies will be integrated into these development platforms. Fourth, the multidisciplinary response to the development needs of the countries will include: (i) promoting sound fiscal management, trade and industry development; (ii) promoting wider application of ICT for development; (iii) strengthening institutional infrastructure and refining monitoring mechanisms for more effective oversight and coordination of implementation of global agendas; (iv) emphasizing the role of social development, including mainstreaming the gender perspective throughout the work under the subprogramme; (v) addressing climate change, and disaster risk reduction; (vi) strengthening the statistical capacity of Caribbean countries; and (vii) supporting efforts to develop a multidimensional vulnerability index to enable access to concessional finance and to review criteria for graduation from middle-income status.

Special attention will be paid to supporting national efforts to secure access to both short- and long-term resources according to the vulnerability of each country. These resources will be used to support the recovery of Caribbean economies in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and disasters that have occurred. Fifth, and fulfilling its think tank and thought leadership role, the Commission, through its subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, will continue to undertake research and analysis.
and to promote strategies for sustainable development, and disaster risk management, paying particular attention to the COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery plans. The visibility of its work will be enhanced through a vibrant outreach programme.

The main beneficiaries under the subprogramme will be government authorities and officials from the region’s countries, civil society entities, academic and private sector institutions, and subregional entities.

Activities

Subject area 12.1: Caribbean development and cooperation

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**
   - **Intergovernmental meetings**
     A meeting of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC).
   - **Ad hoc expert group meetings**
     A meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable.

2. **Recurrent publications**
   - An issue of *The Caribbean Outlook*.

3. **Other substantive activities**
   - **Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits**
     (i) Four issues of *FOCUS Magazine*.
     (ii) Twelve issues of *The Hummingbird* newsletter, covering matters such as ICT for development and economic, environmental, social and statistical development.
     (iii) One issue of *Caribbean in Brief*, covering matters such as ICT for development and economic, environmental, social and statistical development.

4. **Intermediate activities**
   - Contribution to substantive servicing of selected activities of the Decolonization Unit of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) on issues related to Non-Self-Governing Territories.

Subject area 12.2: Economic development and integration

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**
   - **Ad hoc expert group meetings**
     (i) A meeting of experts on issues relating to economic restructuring and resilience-building in the Caribbean.
     (ii) A meeting of experts to discuss issues related to a selected area of trade reforms for sustained growth and development in the Caribbean.
2. **Recurrent publications**
   (i) *Economic Survey of the Caribbean, 2024.*
   (ii) *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of the Caribbean, 2024.*

3. **Non-recurrent publications**
   (i) A study on issues relating to economic restructuring and resilience-building in the Caribbean.
   (ii) A study on a selected area of trade reforms for sustained growth and development in the Caribbean.

4. **Other substantive activities**
   **Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits**
   A policy brief on economic and trade issues in the Caribbean.

5. **Advisory services**
   Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation and advisory services to countries on macroeconomic policies and regional integration.

6. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**
   Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies to develop or support training activities in areas relating to trade policy indicators.

7. **Technical cooperation projects**
   It is expected that a project will be undertaken on the post-COVID-19 pandemic recovery of tourism-based economies in the Caribbean.

8. **Intermediate activities**
   Contributions to the *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean, International Trade Outlook for Latin America and the Caribbean* and the *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean.*

   Implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 12.3: ICT for development**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**
   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**
   A meeting of experts to discuss a selected area of ICT for development in the Caribbean.
2. **Recurrent publications**
   A study on a selected area of ICT for development in the Caribbean.

3. **Other substantive activities**
   **Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits**
   A policy brief on a selected area of ICT for development in the Caribbean.

4. **Advisory services**
   Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation and advisory services to countries on ICT for development.

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**
   Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies to develop or support training activities in areas relating to selected ICT for development issues in the Caribbean.

6. **Intermediate activities**
   Provision of inputs for ECLAC databases on ICT indicators, including integrated follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Plan of Action and the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC).
   Implementation of operational activities, including advisory services and training activities, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 12.4: Social development**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**
   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**
   A meeting of experts to examine selected social development issues in the Caribbean.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**
   A study to examine selected social development issues in the Caribbean.

3. **Other substantive activities**
   **Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits**
   A policy brief on a particular aspect of social development in the Caribbean.

4. **Advisory services**
   Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation and advisory services to countries on statistics and statistical development, gender equality, social and population development in the subregion.
5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and/or regional bodies for the development of training activities on an aspect or aspects of social development in the Caribbean.

6. **Intermediate activities**

(i) Inputs for the *Social Panorama of Latin America* and the annual report of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.

(ii) Contribution to substantive servicing of selected activities of the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC.

Implementation of operational activities, including advisory services and training activities, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 12.5: Statistics**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   A meeting of experts on a selected area of statistics for sustainable development in the Caribbean.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

   A study on a selected area of statistics for sustainable development in the Caribbean.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   Updating and maintenance of databases on selected statistical indicators.

4. **Advisory services**

   Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation and advisory services to countries on statistics and statistical development in the subregion.

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

   Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and/or regional bodies to develop training activities related to the dissemination of data from the 2020 round of population and housing censuses in the Caribbean.

6. **Intermediate activities**

   Inputs for the *Social Panorama of Latin America, Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean*, and the annual report of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.

   Implementation of operational activities, including advisory services and training activities, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
Subject area 12.6: Climate change, SIDS and disaster risk management

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**
   
   Ad hoc expert group meetings
   
   (i) A meeting of experts on a selected issue related to the environment, science, technology and innovation in the Caribbean.
   
   (ii) A meeting of experts to examine issues related to SIDS and the SDGs in the Caribbean.

2. **Recurrent publications**
   
   A study to examine issues related to SIDS and the SDGs in the Caribbean.

3. **Non-recurrent publications**
   
   A study on a selected issue related to the environment, science, technology and innovation in the Caribbean.

4. **Other substantive activities**
   
   **Technical materials**
   
   Updating and maintenance of the database on the economic, social and environmental costs of extreme natural disasters in the subregion’s countries.
   
   **Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits**
   
   A policy brief on a selected area of environmental development, disaster risk management or resilience-building in the Caribbean.

5. **Advisory services**
   
   Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation and advisory services to countries in the area of environmental development, disaster-preparedness and disaster risk reduction.

6. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**
   
   Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and/or regional bodies for the development of training activities on one or more environmental development, disaster risk management or resilience-building issues relevant to the Caribbean.
   
   Implementation of operational activities, including advisory services and training activities, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
SUBPROGRAMME 13: SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL INTEGRATION AND COOPERATION PROCESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Objective

The objective to which this subprogramme contributes is to enhance regional and subregional integration processes, in order to foster their convergence and the participation of the region through common positions in interregional and global political dialogues in support of the 2030 Agenda.

Presentation

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a complex social, economic and political situation in the region, compounded by uncertainties derived from global geopolitical conflicts. Although some indicators are showing a recovery, challenges remain, related to global trade, increased poverty and unemployment —especially for women— exacerbated inequalities, demographic changes, migration, the impacts of extreme natural phenomena and the digital divide. Sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and its adverse impacts is key to achieving the SDGs by 2030. Increased international cooperation and stronger regional multilateralism are needed to build trust in the international cooperation system and in collective actions for the provision of global and regional public goods, and to strengthen deliberative capacities, transparency and informed debate among citizens. All of this is essential if the region is to build forward better in the post-pandemic transformative recovery phase. In this context, integration and cooperation are more urgently needed than ever and multilateralism has a key role to play.

Latin America and the Caribbean has attached great importance to forming a common voice on global challenges. Several intergovernmental integration schemes and organizations in the region, such as the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), CARICOM, SICA, the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System (SELA), MERCOSUR, the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), the Pacific Alliance and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), have continued to speak with one voice in discussions of major issues on the international agenda. South-South cooperation must be strengthened, and regional joint positions must be forged for multilateral forums and global conferences. The Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development provides a space in this regard. Regional and subregional integration and cooperation organizations, as well as other relevant stakeholders, have initiated a dialogue to find common positions for a sustainable recovery in the aftermath of the health, economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In this context, under the subprogramme activities will be promoted that strengthen subregional and regional organizations, by fostering coordination, cooperation, complementarity and synergies, and by supporting political dialogues with multiple stakeholders when the Commission’s participation is required. Importance will be attached to promoting dialogue and cooperation among the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as with countries outside the region, including South-South, North-South, triangular, bilateral and multilateral cooperation initiatives. The Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean, created by resolution 752(PLEN.36) of the Committee of the Whole, will provide a forum to engage in these discussions.

In line with the priorities of the Sendai Framework, support will be provided under the subprogramme to member States in capacity-building, including in the ECLAC damage and loss assessment (DaLA) methodology, for assessment of the economic, social and environmental impacts of extreme natural disasters, which hinder progress toward the SDGs at the local and national levels.
Under the subprogramme, technical and substantive contributions will continue to be made to facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogues and the establishment of intraregional agreements, and to strengthen the interests and the position of Latin America and the Caribbean in intraregional and global political dialogues, taking also in consideration the ECLAC “Caribbean First” strategy and bringing to the fore the perspective of SIDS, as well as the one least developed country (LDC) in the region, LLDCs, middle-income countries and countries in special situations.

Strategy

Responsibility for implementation of the subprogramme rests with the Office of the Secretary of the Commission, which reports to the Office of the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, in close coordination with the Commission’s substantive divisions, subregional headquarters and country offices.

The subprogramme activities will focus on the following areas: 1. Regional and subregional political dialogues for cooperation for development to promote regional and subregional integration; and 2. Political dialogues between regional and subregional organizations and extraregional stakeholders and third parties. Work under the subprogramme will mainstream the gender and rights perspectives, in accordance with the priorities of ECLAC and the United Nations and will continue to take into account countries’ needs related to tackling the health, economic and social crises resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and in support of the recovery process.

The strategy will focus on the Commission’s convening function as an intergovernmental platform for policy advice and dialogue, providing technical and logistical support to integration and cooperation organizations, mechanisms and coordination schemes, as well as other relevant stakeholders of the region. The subprogramme activities will support their initiatives and interactions with third parties, to strengthen regional and subregional groups and strengthen international cooperation for development. This will help the organizations to build consensus regarding challenges in regional integration and cooperation and to engage in political dialogue with third parties. Special attention will be given to the Caribbean countries and territories in line with the “Caribbean First” strategy of the Commission.

The subprogramme is intended to strengthen regional and subregional and multi-stakeholder approaches to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to ensure the visibility of work and major achievements through active engagement with the member States and the wide dissemination of publications, findings and knowledge products at international meetings, summits, forums and conferences, involving relevant policymakers, academics and other stakeholders from within and outside the region.

Pursuant to ECLAC resolution 700(XXXVI) establishing the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, other relevant intergovernmental regional mechanisms are invited to provide inputs and contributions and inform the Forum, within their existing mandates, on their work related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The subprogramme activities will enhance regional and subregional integration processes, as well as South-South, North-South, multilateral, and triangular cooperation, which will serve as input to the Forum. Through peer learning, the sharing of best practices and discussion of concrete actions and targets, the region will find a cohesive policy voice, thus strengthening global political dialogue.

The main beneficiaries of the subprogramme’s activities will be governments, in particular national authorities responsible for the economic, social and political aspects of integration processes, and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as well as other stakeholders from the civil society, including the business community.

Under the subprogramme, efforts will be made to establish links with cooperation platforms within and outside the region, while cooperation for development initiatives will be promoted for the
achievement of the SDGs and to overcome the pandemic-induced crisis, working in coordination with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes in the region, and with the resident coordinator system.

The newly created Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean will play a key role in this regard. Work will also continue in close coordination with CELAC, the Andean Community, the Pacific Alliance, ACS, CARICOM, OECS, LAIA, MERCOSUR, the Latin American Economic System (SELA) and SICA, among others. Collaboration with other bilateral and multilateral cooperation partners will also be enhanced, such as with parliamentary networks—the Central American Parliament (PARLACEN), the MERCOSUR Parliament (PARLASUR), ParlAmericas, the Latin American and Caribbean Parliament (PARLATINO), the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Organization of Latin American and Caribbean Supreme Audit Institutions (OLACEFS)—and with academia, municipal associations and local government and workers associations. Therefore, the main contributions to the 2030 Agenda under this subprogramme will be linked to SDGs 16 and 17.

**Activities**

**Subject area 13.1:** Regional and subregional political dialogues for cooperation for development to promote regional and subregional integration

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   A meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean.

   **Ad hoc expert group meetings**

   (i) A meeting of experts to examine economic, social and political issues in Latin America and the Caribbean, to consider regional and subregional trends and the performance of regional and subregional integration and cooperation processes and organizations, and to promote common positions for better advancing sustainable development.

   (ii) A meeting between integration organizations and experts (including the private sector and civil society) to discuss and share experiences in regional economic and social policies, in accordance with the priorities established in the programmes of those organizations.

   (iii) A meeting of experts and relevant stakeholders to assess progress in subregional and regional integration and cooperation processes, identifying common positions at the subregional and regional levels.

2. **Non-recurrent publications**

   Two studies on relevant issues and best practices for integration and cooperation strategies, and political dialogue at the regional or subregional level.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   Preparation of one annual substantive input for intergovernmental meetings on integration and cooperation at the request of governments, organizations and other stakeholders.
4. **Advisory services**

Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to regional and subregional processes and organizations in areas relevant to the Commission’s mandate, including the 2030 Agenda, and to countries affected by disasters caused by extreme natural phenomena, through the use of the ECLAC DaLA methodology.

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and regional bodies for the development of training activities in areas relating to cooperation, convergence and integration to better advance and promote sustainable development at the subregional and regional levels, and capacity-building on risk assessment and resilience-building.

6. **Intermediate activities**

(i) Preparation of inputs for multi-stakeholder activities with integration and cooperation organizations to support their programmes and initiatives, as well as their convergence processes.

(ii) Coordination with the region’s governments, relevant officials and non-governmental stakeholders to strengthen the political action of subregional and regional cooperation and integration processes in support of the activities of the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(iii) Coordination with other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, resident coordinators and other international organizations to provide technical cooperation services to interested parties to support regional and subregional integration and cooperation processes and organizations.

(iv) Coordination of activities with integration and cooperation organizations to support their inputs for the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, as well as for other relevant high-level meetings in the region.

(v) Preparation of substantive contributions to be considered as inputs for the position paper that will be presented to the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(vi) Preparation of substantive contributions to the *Annual report on regional progress and challenges in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean*, including other relevant reports that account for cooperation, integration and formation of a common voice to better advance and promote sustainable development at the subregional and regional levels.

Implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

**Subject area 13.2: Political dialogue between regional and subregional organizations and extraregional stakeholders and third parties**

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

**Ad hoc expert group meetings**

A meeting of experts to ensure progress in bi-regional dialogues with partners from outside the region, involving regional stakeholders from the private sector and/or civil society.
2. **Non-recurrent publications**

A study on the relationship between Latin America and the Caribbean and regions or countries outside the region relevant to processes of cooperation and integration at the subregional or regional level.

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   Preparation, upon request, of substantive material for the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean about how to include other relevant stakeholders and third parties, to strengthen participation.

4. **Advisory services**

   Provision, upon request, of technical cooperation services to regional and subregional organizations to support their relationships with extraregional stakeholders and third parties in areas relating to the subprogramme.

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

   Cooperation with government entities, academic institutions, international organizations and/or regional bodies for the development of training activities on integration, international cooperation for development (including South-South, North-South, triangular and multilateral cooperation) and strategies relating to extraregional stakeholders and third parties.

6. **Intermediate activities**

   (i) Coordination of activities with governments in the region, relevant national officials and NGOs to strengthen interactions between Latin America and the Caribbean and specific countries, other regions and third parties.

   (ii) Coordination with United Nations resident coordinator system and agencies, funds and programmes, and other international organizations, to provide technical cooperation services to parties interested in strengthening dialogue with extraregional stakeholders or other interested parties.

   (iii) Coordination of activities with global and regional integration and cooperation organizations with the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development.

   (iv) Coordination of activities with global and regional integration and cooperation organizations with the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
Annex I

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

   Intergovernmental meetings

   Organization of meetings of the representatives of government institutions in the member countries to consider a specific topic relevant to the work of those bodies. In most cases, they refer to the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, for which ECLAC will prepare a report or substantive document on the subject in question. In others, the Commission’s participation will be confined to the execution of the specified activities.

   Ad hoc expert group meetings

   Meetings of specialists from outside the United Nations system for the purpose of providing advisory assistance to the Executive Secretary of ECLAC in respect of a specific subject. The Commission usually prepares a report or substantive document on the topic in question to serve as a basis for the discussion.

2. Recurrent publications

   Studies published by ECLAC at regular intervals specified in advance in the secretariat’s publications programme, such as the Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean and the Social Panorama of Latin America.

3. Non-recurrent publications

   Studies which are published by ECLAC in accordance with its publications’ programme, but which do not appear on a regular basis.

4. Other substantive activities

   Technical materials

   Information contained in databases, computer programs and other media which may be used in the production of the final outputs of scheduled activities, but which are not themselves classified as outputs.

   Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits

   All those outputs whose purpose is to disseminate information on the activities of ECLAC. Examples include pamphlets, information notes and press releases, exhibition posters and visual materials, filmed and videotaped documentaries, material for radio broadcasts, guided tours and special events.

5. Advisory services

   Provision of technical cooperation services to member countries at their request.
6. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**
   Specialized training seminars and courses organized and held for the benefit of member countries.

   **Technical cooperation projects**
   Technical cooperation projects which are expected to be implemented during the year.

7. **Intermediate activities**
   Any activity whose results may be used in the production of final outputs.
Annex II

LEGISLATIVE MANDATES

General Assembly resolutions

55/2 United Nations Millennium Declaration
58/269 Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change
59/57 A Fair Globalization: Creating Opportunities for All - report of the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization
60/1 2005 World Summit Outcome
60/4 Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations
63/260 Development-related activities
64/172; 66/155; 68/158; 71/192; 73/166 The right to development
64/222 Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
64/289 System-wide coherence
65/1 Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals
66/71 International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space
66/84 Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations
66/125 Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
66/157 Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity
66/161 Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights
66/210; 70/211 Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
66/213 Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
66/216; 70/219 Women in development
66/288 The future we want
67/140 Realizing the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond
67/164; 75/175 Human rights and extreme poverty
67/217 Towards a New International Economic Order
67/226 Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
67/230 The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order
68/1 Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council
68/4 Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development
68/6 Outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals
68/151 Global efforts 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
68/198 Information and communications technologies for development
68/201; 75/204; 76/192 International financial system and development
68/202; 76/193 External debt sustainability and development
68/204 Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development
68/210 Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
68/220 Science, technology and innovation for development
68/222; 70/215; 72/230 Development cooperation with middle-income countries
68/230; 70/222; 71/244; 72/237 South-South cooperation
68/234 Towards global partnerships: a principle-based approach to enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners
69/15 SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway
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