

2022 system-wide results report of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean (RCP LAC)

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A man in a blue jacket is standing in a mountainous landscape, holding a small plant. The background shows steep, rocky mountains under a clear sky. The entire image has a blue tint.

I. Executive summary

I. Executive summary

The 2022 system-wide results report of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean (RCP LAC) provides an overview of the regional context and United Nations system actions undertaken to support countries in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the region.¹

Economic growth in Latin America and the Caribbean slowed considerably in 2022, as inflationary pressures stemming from global rising energy costs and supply chain disruptions created sharp rises in food and energy prices, forcing governments to tighten monetary policy and curtail public spending. As a result, growth in the region returned to pre-pandemic levels, while the region has not fully recovered from the loss of progress made. Extreme poverty is expected to have reached 13.1% – a 25-year setback. Economic instability, household vulnerability and food insecurity remain widespread across the region, and the greater incidence of poverty and extreme poverty disproportionately affects populations such as children and adolescents, women and girls, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, Afrodescendants, and rural populations, as a result of deeply rooted inequalities. These inequalities were exacerbated by high market informality and fragmented health and social protection systems often inaccessible to the lowest income quintiles.

In 2022, the RCP LAC intensified its engagement with Resident Coordinators (RCs) and United Nations country teams (UNCTs). The RCP LAC responded to the requests for support made by RCs and UNCTs in line with United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (Cooperation Frameworks). It assisted United Nations entities in the region in translating, adapting and contextualizing global policy in response to the multiple regional, subregional and transboundary challenges.

The type of support delivered included capacity-building, advisory policy support and analysis, and inter-agency programming. These services were provided at the regional, subregional and national levels to support the following programming areas: climate change and resilience, crime and violence, equitable growth, financing for development, governance and institutions, and human mobility. The cross-thematic working groups of the RCP LAC also provided support in the areas of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, and youth. Furthering its ability to provide regional level support, the RCP LAC also completed its rosters of expertise to enable access to system-wide expertise based on areas of common interest and finalized the regional business operations strategy (R-BOS), allowing the United Nations system to avoid a projected US\$ 4 million in costs from 2022 to 2024.

The coming year marks the mid-point in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which presents immense challenges and remarkable opportunities for the region. The RCP LAC will respond to the region's urgent needs by stepping up its actions to provide coordinated and integrated support to RCs and UNCTs in regional, subregional and cross-border contexts. The revamped regional support platform – RCP LAC 2.0 – will leverage United Nations regional level expertise while relying on streamlined working procedures and a sharper thematic focus.

This updated RCP LAC will provide strategic direction in three main priority areas: promoting regional coherence regarding global priorities, supporting RCs and UNCTs in addressing SDG gaps in transboundary and subregional contexts, and building partnerships with regional stakeholders such as international financial institutions and subregional development actors.

¹ This report was prepared in line with the commitment of the United Nations Secretary-General's report *Implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, 2019* (A/74/73–E/2019/141), aiming to enhance transparency and report annually on United Nations system-wide results at the regional level in support of the 2030 Agenda.

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II. Overview of key regional development challenges



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In 2022, economic growth slowed significantly in most Latin America and the Caribbean countries.

While the region's GDP expanded by an average of 3.7%, this was a remarkable deacceleration after experiencing 6.7% growth in 2021.² This slowdown was accompanied by continued inflationary pressures reflecting a sharp increase in food and energy prices following global supply chain disruptions and the war in Ukraine. Labour participation rates remained below pre-pandemic levels, and regional median real wages fell by 0.6% in the second quarter of 2022 after rising for six consecutive quarters.³ The post-pandemic recovery is slowing significantly and all indications suggest that the region is returning to a slow growth path characterized by structural weaknesses and compounding crises that have weighed on its economic outlook since before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Slowing growth and an unfavourable global economic outlook pressured governments to meet their fiscal targets and undermine fiscal efforts to make progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As the economic rebound of 2021 approaches its end—the average regional growth rate is projected to be 1.3% in 2023⁴—rising global borrowing costs, as a result of tight monetary policies and heightened sovereign risk, will likely increase fiscal constraints and curtail public spending in the future. In addition, Latin American and Caribbean countries' low tax collection rates compared to other countries with a similar level of development⁵ and weak and

regressive tax systems limit governments' scope to systematically address the region's interconnected socioeconomic challenges.

The severe price increases in energy and food items in 2022 are of particular concern, as they have eroded the purchasing power of the most vulnerable populations and further undermined food security across the region. This erosion extended beyond the lowest income quintiles to impact more vulnerable middle-income earners as well. In 2022, extreme poverty is expected to have reached 13.1%, representing a 25-year setback for the region. In several Latin American and Caribbean countries, real wages have fallen, and roughly a third of the population (32.1%) remains in poverty despite slight employment and household income increases.⁶ Lower real wages and rising food prices are expected to exacerbate malnutrition, causing increases in undernutrition, overweight and obesity. By 2021, 40.6% of the population was already experiencing moderate or severe food insecurity, compared to 29.3% worldwide.⁷

While economic instability, household vulnerability and food insecurity remain widespread across the region, the greater incidence of poverty and extreme poverty affecting population groups such as children and adolescents, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, Afrodescendants and rural populations is a key concern. Additionally, female poverty exceeds male poverty by an average of 3.4 percentage points in Latin America.⁸ These

2 Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean*, 2022 (LC/PUB.2022/18-P), Santiago, 2022.

3 Ibid.

4 Ibid.

5 Ibid.

6 ECLAC, *Social Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean*, 2022 (LC/PUB.2022/15-P), Santiago, 2022.

7 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and others, *Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition – Latin America and the Caribbean 2022: Towards Improving Affordability of Healthy Diets*, Santiago, 2023.

8 ECLAC, *Social Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean*, 2022 (LC/PUB.2022/15-P), Santiago, 2022.

socioeconomic disparities and inequalities are deeply rooted across the region, and archaic patterns of wealth distribution and a widespread culture of privilege remain pervasive in the most unequal region in the world and a key barrier to leaving no one behind.⁹

High labour market informality and weak, fragmented health and social security systems continue to deny comprehensive access to basic services and social protection to a significant proportion of the population, who are only able to access jobs in precarious conditions and without labour rights. Roughly one of every two people in the region is informally employed with no social protection coverage.¹⁰ Additionally, contributory social security coverage differs widely across income groups. In most of the region's countries, less than 20% of the population's lowest income quintile benefits from coverage, while in the highest quintile that proportion doubles and in some cases approaches 80%.¹¹ Most countries in Latin America and the Caribbean invest less than the minimum 6% of GDP in health and allocate less than 30% of the health budget to the first level of care, as recommended by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). While 77% of the population in the region had health coverage in 2019, one third of the population still faced significant barriers to accessing care.¹²

Inequality lies at the heart of the profound educational crisis undermining universal access to inclusive, equitable and quality education across Latin America and the Caribbean. Educational attainment in the region is fundamentally a question of income. While 84.6% of students from the highest income quintile complete secondary education, only 44.1% of the lowest quintile do so. With regard to financing for

education, 15 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean have reduced their public investment in education since 2015. Further, the region is still reeling from the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to one of the longest school closures in the world and left around 170 million children and adolescents, mainly from already vulnerable populations, without access to in-person instruction.¹³

Socioeconomic challenges were compounded by disasters and the impacts of climate change, including rising sea levels, increasing temperatures and changes in rainfall patterns. In addition, inequality and high concentrations of populations in urban areas, agricultural intensification and resource extraction for minerals and hydrocarbons will place additional pressure on the biodiversity and ecosystems that provide the foundation for the region's current and future economies.¹⁴ Those same pressures may exacerbate disasters, leading to higher economic damage and loss of life. These are amplified for small island developing States in the Caribbean, which are already significantly impacted by the effects of climate change and heightened disasters. It is estimated that a comprehensive response to disasters and the climate crisis, pollution and biodiversity loss will require massive realignment of public, private, national and international financing flows with climate goals amounting to between 7% and 19% of annual GDP to build essential infrastructure and undertake the necessary social investments to build resilient economies and societies across the region by 2030.¹⁵

Compounding the region's interlinked socioeconomic and climate-related vulnerabilities are its current political and governance systems,

9 Y. Gaudin and R. Pareyón Noguez, "Brechas estructurales en América Latina y el Caribe: una perspectiva conceptual-metodológica", *Project Documents* (LC/TS.2020/139-LC/MEX/TS.2020/36), Mexico City, ECLAC, 2020.

10 International Labour Organization (ILO), 2022 *Labour Overview: Latin America and the Caribbean. Executive summary*, Lima, 2023.

11 ILO, "Overview of social protection systems in Latin America and the Caribbean: progress and setbacks in the face of the pandemic", *Labour Overview Series*, 2021.

12 PAHO, "Advancing towards universal health in Latin America and the Caribbean: Lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic", December 2022 [online] www.paho.org/en/stories/advancing-towards-universal-health-latin-america-and-caribbean-lessons-covid-19-pandemic.

13 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)/ECLAC/United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), *Education in Latin America at a crossroads: regional monitoring report SDG4 - Education 2030*, Santiago, 2022.

14 World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC), *The State of Biodiversity in the Latin America and the Caribbean: A Mid-term Review of Progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets*, Cambridge, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 2016.

15 L. Galindo, B. Hoffman and A. Vogt-Schilb, "How much will it cost to achieve the climate goals in Latin America and the Caribbean?", IDB Working Paper Series, vol. 1310, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), 2022.

which have been challenged to effectively respond to the needs and expectations of the population.

Poor economic performance and high-levels of inequality in income and wealth distribution, combined with democratic disaffection, fragmentation and polarization of the political system, and deterioration in the rule of law, drive the declining quality of the region's governance and governability. In several countries in the region, restrictions on freedom of speech

and of association, the weakness of institutional spaces for social dialogue, attacks on electoral authorities and judges, and the hollowing-out of constitutional control over the authority of the executive branch have the potential to produce severe consequences for civil and political liberties, the organization of free and fair elections and the exercise of full citizen participation.¹⁶

¹⁶ International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA)/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Governance, Democracy and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2022.

A person wearing a blue hairnet, glasses, and a white face mask is working in a fish processing facility. They are wearing a blue apron over a blue shirt and are using a knife to cut a fish on a white table. Several other fish are laid out on the table in front of them. The background shows other workers and the industrial structure of the facility, all under a blue color overlay.

III. Consolidating the United Nations Secretary-General's reforms at the regional level

III. Consolidating the United Nations Secretary-General's reforms at the regional level

In 2022, the RCP LAC intensified regional cooperation and engagement with RCs and UNCTs. Issue-based coalitions (IBCs)¹⁷ and thematic working groups crafted menus of service that included support offers such as integrated policy advice, normative and programmatic support, and technical capacity assistance.¹⁸ In April 2022, RCs and UNCTs presented a consolidated list of needs for regional support, addressed to IBCs and working groups, which were reviewed, analysed and prioritized according to their capacities. The list emphasized the need for support in dealing with cross-border and subregional challenges across all areas of the RCP LAC. It included information-sharing mechanisms, analysis of regional trends and their implications for the United Nations, knowledge repositories, strategic partnerships and common positioning. The RCP LAC then undertook an internal survey among its stakeholders, such as regional directors, technical members of the IBC working groups and UNCTs, to review its working arrangements and facilitate a more effective response to UNCTs in 2023. Strategic discussions were held during the first in-person retreat in August, during which the RCP LAC principles of engagement were approved.

In August 2022, RCP LAC also significantly advanced its rosters of expertise to enable access to system-wide competencies, which document United Nations regional assets and capabilities according to the thematic focus of IBCs and working groups and the Peer Support Group (PSG). The rosters provide an overview of different categories of expertise. To facilitate access to the consolidated regional expertise and to foster cross-agency collaboration at the regional level, the RCP LAC is working on a new RCP LAC website, which will be launched in the first semester of 2023. New functionalities were also added to the regional knowledge management platform ([SDG Gateway](#)),¹⁹ such as an integrated GIS-based mapping application for SDGs, an updated section on the regional architecture, and the inclusion of additional data and statistics to support monitoring of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The working group on SDG data and statistics continued its efforts to bring coherence to the United Nations work on data availability by supporting ongoing initiatives that seek to address SDG data gaps in the region.

17 RCP LAC is supported by six time-bound, demand-driven and results-oriented IBCs that unite existing expertise from United Nations development system (UNDS) entities to advance work on cross-border, subregional, and regional issues in areas of common interest: climate change and resilience; crime and violence; equitable growth; financing for development; governance and institutions; and human mobility. The themes of youth and gender equality and empowerment of women and girls are covered under two working groups, and addressed across the six areas. It also has operational and programmatic working groups: the Advisory Board on the Comprehensive Development Plan for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south-southeast Mexico; the Knowledge Management Hub Steering Committee; the Partnerships and Communication Working Group; the Peer Support Group (PSG); the Regional Operations Management Team (ROMT); and the SDG Data and Statistics Group.

18 Support is provided in line with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for engagement of the United Nations Resident Coordinators and United Nations country teams in Latin America and the Caribbean with the Regional Collaborative Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean, developed in 2021.

19 See [online] agenda2030lac.org.

These efforts included the United Nations system's provision of technical assistance and updating the database on United Nations statistical technical assistance activities within the SDG Gateway. The Working Group has furthermore supported the implementation of an online information system to assess government capacities to monitor the 2030 Agenda and to produce SDG indicators in collaboration with the Statistical Coordination Group for the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean (in which national statistical offices meet to shape regional priorities regarding the 2030 Agenda). It has also engaged with the Statistical Conference of the Americas and strengthened its ties with the RCO Data Management Officers Network.

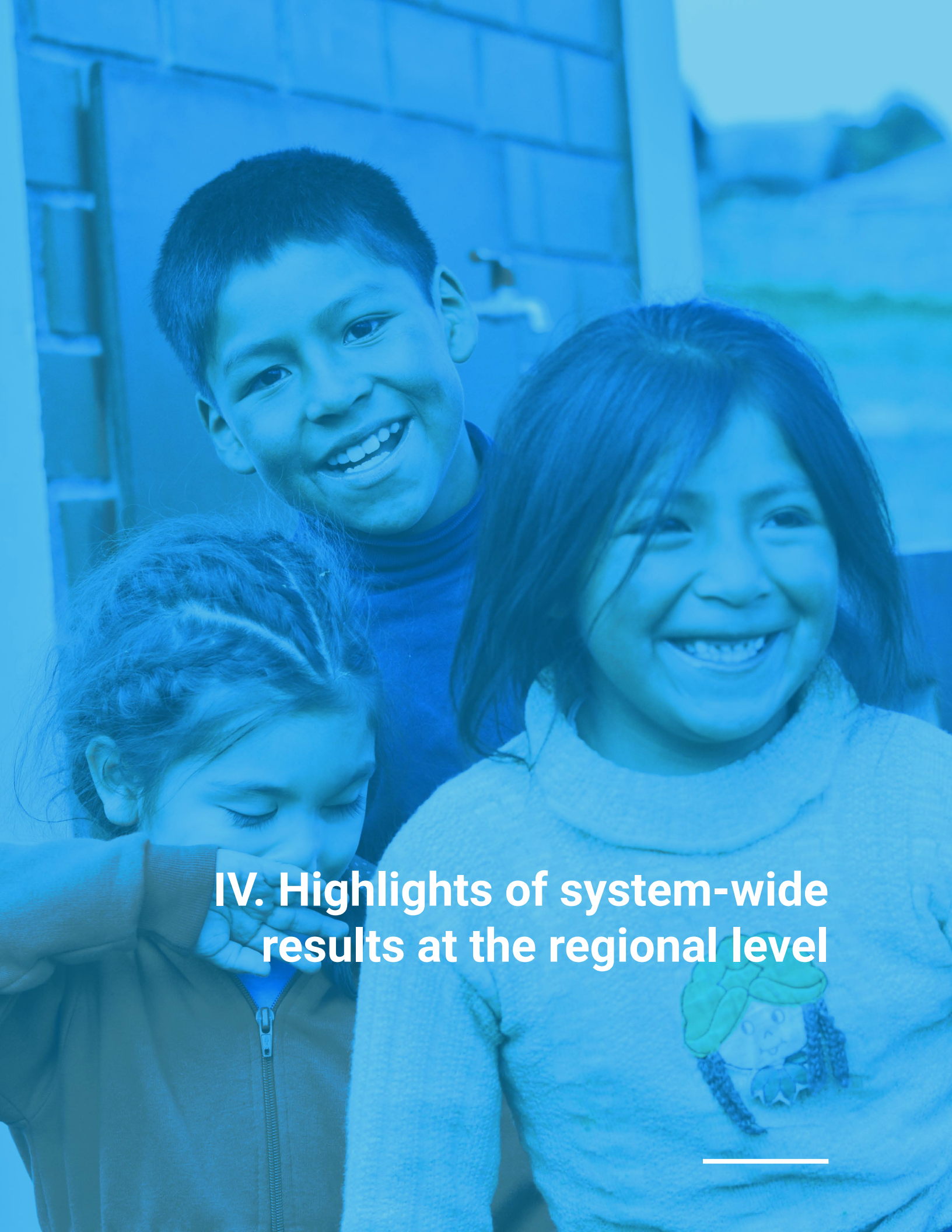
The regional operations management team (ROMT) finalized the Regional Business Operations Strategy in May 2022 which was endorsed by 13 United Nations entities.²⁰ It includes cooperation in 18 common services,

projecting a total estimate efficiency gains of US\$ 4 million for the period from 2022 to 2024 in relation to material and service procurement, labour costs, and expense savings. The majority of cost avoidance will result from implementing common administration services – particularly for travel.

The RCP LAC fostered joint communication through the partnerships and communication working group. In July 2022, the bi-monthly RCP LAC bulletin *United Actions* was launched to showcase the efforts of the United Nations system and its collective results at the regional level. The three issues of the bulletin have reached close to 900 downloads. The RCP LAC is also reinforcing advocacy in response to requests made by UNCTs that align with RCP LAC priorities. For Human Rights Day, the working group launched an inter-agency campaign that was joined by the 24 United Nations entities of the RCP LAC²¹ and reached 14.5 million people.

20 DCO, ECLAC, FAO, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNOPS, UN-Women, and WFP.

21 DCO, DPPA, ECLAC, FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, OCHA, OHCHR, PAHO/WHO, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNDRR, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNODC, UNOPS, UN-Women and WFP.



IV. Highlights of system-wide results at the regional level

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A. Regional results on priority and emerging issues

This section provides an overview of the work conducted by the RCP LAC IBCs and thematic working groups, as well as other inter-agency results supporting regional priorities. Initiatives responded to the consolidated requests for support received from RCs and UNCTs as well as the priorities identified in Cooperation Frameworks across the region. The types of support delivered included advisory policy support, analysis, inter-agency programming (including those with a subregional focus), advocacy and capacity-building on priority issues.

1. CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESILIENCE

In response to requests for support received from RCs and UNCTs, the IBC on climate change and resilience carried out a series of capacity-building processes on strategic topics to increase knowledge and capacities on climate action and disaster risk reduction. Capacity-building sessions included a workshop for government officials on Infrastructure for climate action as part of the sustainable and resilient infrastructure leadership programme in Latin America, and four webinars on: (i) [green and gender-sensitive agendas in Latin America and the Caribbean](#), which identified strategic entry points for climate action in the region; (ii) [infrastructure for climate action](#), organized in the context of the fifth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development;

(iii) sustainable infrastructure: opportunities for economic revival; and (iv) [Infrastructure asset management's role in a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery from COVID-19](#), held as a side event of the 2022 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

In terms of regional advocacy efforts on climate action, the IBC provided support to the organization of the [Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week](#) 2022 and contributed to the organization of the LAC Regional Consultation on Sustainable Infrastructure as well as the high-level launch of the [report State of the Climate in Latin America and the Caribbean 2021](#).²²

A task force was also formed in response to the increasing intensity of wildfires in the region to analyse and coordinate a coherent approach to this issue, providing tools and resources to United Nations entities and UNCTs of the region. A technical brief was finalized and presented to UNCTs of the Gran Chaco region in February 2023, to improve the understanding of risk and strengthen risk governance capacities in the subregion.

Finally, the United Nations system actively supports the development of a common framework of sustainable finance taxonomies in the region. The Working Group on Sustainable Finance Taxonomy in Latin America and the Caribbean is preparing a common framework of sustainable finance taxonomies for the region to be finalized in 2023, which will establish a set of guiding principles for taxonomies to ensure harmonization and interoperability with taxonomies globally, with a focus on climate change.²³

²² World Meteorological Organization (WMO), State of the Climate in Latin America and the Caribbean 2021, Geneva, 2022.

²³ The Working Group on Sustainable Finance Taxonomy in Latin America and the Caribbean, created as part of the Inter-agency Technical Committee of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, comprises UNEP and its Finance Initiative, the World Bank Group, IMF, UNDP, ECLAC, IDB, CAF, FAO, and the European Commission, as an external technical adviser.

2. CRIME AND VIOLENCE

The issues of violence, crime prevention and response remained high on the agendas of UNCTs across the region. As part of the consolidated requests for support to the RCP LAC, the issues related to **narcotrafficking, organized crime, corruption, gender-based violence and human rights were prioritized**. In response, the IBC on crime and violence strengthened thematic analysis of crime and violence in Common Country Analysis (CCA) and Cooperation Frameworks and provided substantive expertise in the development of those documents. With support from the IBC on human mobility, the IBC developed two policy briefs on trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants, which provide an in-depth analysis of the current situation of migration in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras and offer concrete recommendations for RCs and UNCTs to prevent and respond to trafficking and smuggling in the subregion.

To facilitate access to knowledge on preventing and responding to corruption, organized crime, and other related topics that affect the region, the IBC on governance and institutions joined efforts with the IBC on crime and violence to develop an online laboratory (LabCC), which will be launched in the second quarter of 2023. RCs and UNCTs will be able to use the laboratory as a knowledge management tool to support inter-agency collaboration and coordination of the work of RCP LAC members in the region.

In fostering collaboration with the working group on SDG data and statistics and the working group on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, the IBC on crime and violence organized a regional presentation of the [statistical framework for measuring the gender-related killings of women and girls](#), recently endorsed by the [United Nations Statistical Commission](#), to disseminate its content for the development of UNCT products in the region and to support UNCT activities related to strengthening statistical systems across the region.

3. EQUITABLE GROWTH

The IBC on equitable growth responded to the consolidated requests for support by RCs and UNCTs to **strengthen capacity across the areas of social protection systems, establish and expand care systems, and consolidate the common positioning of countries that depend on extractive industries to achieve the SDGs**. To that end, a community of practice was established with the network of economists of Resident Coordinator Offices (RCOs) to strengthen capacities and ensure close collaboration in response to needs presented by RCs and UNCTs. In addition, the IBC began collaboration with the RCO in Jamaica to discuss economic transformation initiatives for the blue economy and to identify practical solutions that the United Nations system can provide to support the Government of Jamaica in furthering its development.

The IBC also responded to a specific request from the UNCTs in Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Suriname regarding the need for differentiated messaging and a common position for Caribbean countries that depend on extractive industries to achieve the SDGs. A webinar was organized to highlight practices and tools to ensure that extractive industries contribute to sustainable and inclusive development, focusing on transformative economic development, employment creation and transformation, and the implications of the inclusion of women and youth as well as the macroeconomic and growth policies necessary to leverage the potential of extractive industries. The seminar's discussions also highlighted the need for a new generation of macroeconomic and growth policies that align economic growth with social objectives and the goals of the Paris Agreement and nationally determined contributions (NDCs).

The UN development system (UNDS) also provided policy support and facilitated intergovernmental spaces for peer-to-peer learning to strengthen social protection systems. The [XIV Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean](#) was held together with the [fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of](#)

[the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean](#). On that occasion, member States adopted the [Declaration of Cuenca](#), in which it was agreed to move towards social protection systems that promote inclusive and sustainable growth, reduce poverty and the population's vulnerabilities and enhance their fundamental role in building resilience. In their agreements at that meeting, the Presiding Officers highlighted the importance of moving forward with the implementation of the Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development and placed emphasis on strengthening social policy institutions for the development of universal, comprehensive, sustainable and resilient social protection systems that leave no one behind in the achievement of the SDGs.

UNDS also addressed the need to promote care systems at the [fifteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean](#). Member States adopted the [Buenos Aires Commitment](#), in which they recognized the right to provide and receive care and to exercise self-care based on the principles of equality, universality and social and gender co-responsibility that must be shared by people of all sectors of society — such as families, communities, businesses and the State.

4. FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT

In a region comprised mostly of middle-income countries, strengthening access to financing for development remains a key priority for governments' capacity to finance the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. Created at the request of the RCs of the region, the IBC on financing for development was operationalized in 2022 and organized three webinars on key priority areas for the region: financing for gender equality, health financing and health systems resilience and innovative financial instruments.

The webinar on gender equality in the context of sustainable development provided an opportunity to share good practices on the inclusion of a gender dimension in financing public policies. Other objectives included analysing the impacts and challenges for gender equality and the

empowerment and autonomy of women arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, exchanging strategies that include a gender perspective in the analysis of public finances, promoting the care economy as a key driving force for recovery with equality, and encouraging investments aligned with the SDGs and the [Regional Gender Agenda](#). Experiences discussed at the webinar presented possible entry points for UNCTs to engage authorities in supporting countries' efforts to finance structural reforms toward an inclusive and equitable post-pandemic recovery.

The webinar on health financing and health systems resilience focused on the experiences of three countries —Argentina, Peru and Uruguay— in financing resilient health systems and showcased possible entry points for UNCTs to support national authorities in their reforms to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and achieve the SDGs.

The webinar on [innovative financial instruments and good practices to achieve the SDGs and the Paris Agreement](#), organized jointly with the IBC on climate change and resilience, explored the role of public and private financial institutions in Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Panama to facilitate impact investments that contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030. The event, which was joined by 20 countries, highlighted the growing opportunity for the countries in the region to establish a common framework on sustainable finance taxonomies and to facilitate access to cross-border financial markets for innovative financing.

5. GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONS

In 2022, the IBC on governance and institutions focused on creating, curating and disseminating knowledge on politically complex cross-cutting themes related to key regional challenges in the areas covered mainly by SDG 16. In response to UNCT requests, the IBC convened a series of virtual dialogues on: promoting and protecting civic space; preventive audit and the efficiency of public spending for just, peaceful and inclusive societies;

and youth, peace and security (in collaboration with the regional working group on youth). These dialogues raised awareness among UNCTs of the global policy guidelines “[Protection and Promotion of Civic Space](#)”, presented practical resources such as guidelines for the implementation of [Security Council resolution 2250 \(2015\) on youth, peace and security](#), and created spaces for exchanging regional good practices on the role of the United Nations system in supporting supreme audit institutions.

These initiatives provided an opportunity to strengthen partnerships between the RCP LAC and non-United Nations organizations, such as the Organization of Latin American and Caribbean Supreme Audit Institutions (OLACEFS), and to position the United Nations as a partner of choice for Member States to strengthen fair public management. The events on civic space and youth, peace, and security created spaces to advance dialogue and connect with intergovernmental institutions such as the International Youth Organization for Ibero-America and non-governmental organizations such as CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation.

The IBC also prepared a guidance note on “Good practices on the generation of data related to the SDGs” in collaboration with the working group on SDG data and statistics, which provided information and raised awareness on specific data resources for monitoring SDG indicators, such as the relevant data portal and baseline reports. In addition, it provided easy-to-access information on reference materials relevant to regional, subregional and thematic indicators.

6. HUMAN MOBILITY

Migration is one of the main concerns in the region. At the request of UNCTs, the IBC on human mobility established itself as a regional dialogue platform to facilitate a coordinated and collaborative approach to address the challenges

posed by increasingly complex mixed movements.

The IBC promoted common key advocacy, prepared statements such as common messages and analyses that included common information management products developed to support the response to prioritized human mobility situations, strengthened synergies among members in working with existing human mobility-related processes and initiatives and supported RCs and UNCTs along mixed-movement routes in analysing and planning their response to the resulting emerging challenges. The regional group also regularly updated data and information on the complex dynamics of mixed movements in the region to support evidence-based actions by RCs and UNCTs. Data analysis was accompanied by periodical analysis meetings organized by DCO and the co-chairs of the IBC and the RCs of concerned countries to strengthen a coordinated approach and support the technical assistance needs of countries along mixed-movement routes.

To support RCs and UNCTs in systematically addressing the structural causes of migration and displacement across the region and facilitate implementation of the plan as a UN system-wide strategy, the RCP LAC established an advisory board on the [Comprehensive Development Plan \(CDP\) for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south-southeast Mexico](#).²⁴ Its implementation strategy envisions a five-year agenda with 114 costed projects organized into four pillars: economic development; social well-being; environmental sustainability, climate change, and disaster risk reduction; and comprehensive management of the migration cycle. Implementation has advanced through a bottom-up, phased execution plan with two levels of action: one at the national level and another connecting subregional and transboundary issues. At the national level, the RCs of CDP countries and the respective UNCTs, in collaboration with regional DCO, worked with national authorities to develop implementation strategies to ensure alignment between national priorities, CDP pillars and UNCFs. Guatemala has been chosen as the pilot country for CDP implementation.

²⁴ The plan was prepared under the coordination of ECLAC with the support of 20 United Nations entities (FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, UNAIDS, OHCHR, UNHCR, PAHO/WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, UNESCO, UN-Women, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UNIDO, UNDRR, UNOPS, UNODC, UNFPA and WFP), as well as DCO and the United Nations Resident Coordinators in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

The [United Nations Regional Network on Migration for Latin America and the Caribbean \(UNNM-LAC\)](#)²⁵ supported Member States, subregional consultative processes, civil society and other stakeholders in participating in the first International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), held in May 2022. A series of regional webinars were organized to encourage concrete commitments to advance the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. As a result of this support, [11 governments submitted their migration voluntary national reviews; 28 pledges were submitted; two new champion countries](#) (Panama and Peru) were included for a total of nine champion countries; [82 practices](#) were uploaded to the [Repository of Practices](#); the regional consultative processes issued declarations towards the International Migration Review Forum, including the [Regional Conference on Migration](#), the [South American Conference on Migration](#), and the [Ibero-American Network of Migration Authorities](#); MERCOSUR member States and associate member countries also presented an official statement at the IMRF. [Four thematic regional webinars around the IMRF](#) were also organized that reached over 1,200 representatives from government, civil society, the private sector and United Nations entities; the [Report on the regional review of the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean](#) was prepared; and support for civil society participation in the IMRF was provided with the establishment of the Civil Society Open and Permanent Dialogue Mechanism in Latin America and the Caribbean and other stakeholders across the region as the main platform to discuss progress, challenges, and recommendations for implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

The [Regional Group on Risks, Emergencies and Disasters for Latin America and the Caribbean \(REDLAC\)](#)²⁶ promoted inclusive participation of

diverse stakeholders to improve the regional response to disasters. Through the REDLAC platform and its 10 sectoral groups led by United Nations entities at the regional level, regional partners were able to provide a more cohesive set of solutions to disasters such as the Peru oil spill, Hurricane Ian in Cuba, the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Haiti amid the resurgence of cholera, and drought in Paraguay's Gran Chaco. Through REDLAC Regional Protection Cluster, the UNDS supported the preparation of a special research bulletin on children and adolescents in human mobility situations in Northern Central America, Mexico and Panama.

In support of Venezuelan refugees and migrants across the 17 host countries in the region, the [Regional Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela \(R4V\)](#)²⁷ provided assistance to 2.44 million people, including refugees and migrants from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, as well as affected host communities under the [Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan \(RMRP\)](#). R4V partners provided support in food security, health and nutrition, shelter, humanitarian transportation, and water, sanitation and hygiene, reaching the most vulnerable populations with direct in-kind support or through cash and voucher assistance. In response to increasingly complex protection environments, partners provided protection-related assistance and specialized services in child protection, gender-based violence, and human trafficking and smuggling. R4V partners supported national documentation, registration, regularization and legal stay alternatives through advocacy, capacity-building initiatives, and direct assistance. Income generation and access to work were also enabled through entrepreneurship support and other training opportunities. Venezuelan refugee and migrant children and adolescents were able to access schools thanks to partners' support for enrolment processes and efforts to address barriers to education and provide school supplies,

25 The UNNM-LAC executive committee is comprised of the following entities: DESA, ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, WHO and WBG; network members include an additional 29 entities.

26 REDLAC members include FAO, IOM, OHCHR, PAHO/WHO, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNDRR, UNEP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNOPS, UNV, UN-Women and WFP, as well as Action against Hunger, ADRA, Aldeas Infantiles SOS Internacional, CADENA, CALP Network, CARE, Catholic Relief Services, Danish Refugee Council, ICVA, Habitat, HIAS, ICRC, IFRC, MDM ORG, MSEF, Norwegian Refugee Council, OXFAM, Plan International, Save the Children, TECNO, RET, TSFI, World Animal Protection and World Vision INT.

27 This is co-led by UNHCR and IOM, with 228 organizations, including other United Nations entities, NGOs, international financial institutions, academia and civil society organizations.

uniforms, meals and transportation. Sociocultural events and information campaigns improved social cohesion between refugees and migrants and host communities. To align the RMRP with the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs and support host governments' efforts to integrate SDGs into their national development plans and strategies, the R4V designed and implemented a [regionally coherent results framework](#) linked to the SDG results framework. Through this alignment, R4V actors more closely aligned the regional response with the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

To further support people on the move in Latin America and the Caribbean, the UNDS launched a regional framework for monitoring the right to education for people on the move, supporting countries in improving information to trace and monitor the educational situation of migrants and develop informed policies to ensure their right to education. The web platform "[Education & Mobility](#)" facilitates traceability of students' educational trajectories on the move and provides a comprehensive picture of the situation and the commitments, efforts and aspirations specific to each participating country, including validated indicators comparable across countries. This initiative has supported advancement towards achieving SDG 4, by advocating for the right to education for people on the move and by mobilizing political will to advance this right across the region to the extent that it is now reaffirmed by Member States in the Quito Process, regional forums on Education Beyond Borders, and the 2022 Declaration of Buenos Aires of the III Regional Meeting of Ministers of Education of Latin America and the Caribbean.

7. GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

In 2022, the United Nations system continued to promote gender equality and women's empowerment across the region, including through the actions of the working group on

gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. Actions included mainstreaming gender in CCAs, Cooperation Frameworks and other UNCT processes led by RCs in the region and supporting the gender-responsive implementation of the SDGs.

To further support work at the national level and in line with [ECOSOC resolution \(E/RES/2019/2\)](#), the working group strengthened the capacities of national gender theme groups. It provided strategic support and advice to UNCTs in enhancing their gender mainstreaming efforts.

This initiative consisted of the organization of two webinars to roll out the new Gender Thematic Group Standards and Procedures promulgated this year by the United Nations Sustainable Development Group. The webinars served to reinforce the knowledge and understanding of the national gender theme groups; support the definition of common objectives, priorities, and challenges in the region; and formalize the creation of a network to exchange experiences and lessons learned. A total of 21 national gender theme groups were engaged in this exercise, including gender focal points from most of the United Nations entities and representation of the RCOs.

In addition, the working group strengthened joint communication and advocacy campaigns on International Women's Day and the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence. These campaigns supported the positioning of joint messages by the United Nations system for advocacy and awareness-raising on gender equality and women's empowerment and focused especially on eradicating violence against women. Campaigns were shared widely through the social networks of the members of the working group and national gender theme groups.

The UNDS also raised awareness on the issue of child marriage and early unions. The Regional Programme on Child Marriage and Early Unions²⁸ engaged closely with governments and civil society organizations promoting the participation of young women leaders through side events at the fourth session of the Regional Conference

28 Prepared by UNICEF, UNFPA and UN-Women.

on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and the fifteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean. The policy brief “[Child, early and forced marriages and unions deepen gender inequalities](#)”²⁹ was presented at regional events. These advocacy efforts contributed to the inclusion of the concerns on child marriage and early unions in the [Buenos Aires Commitment](#) adopted by member States at the fifteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women.

In addition, under the Latin America Regional Programme of the Spotlight Initiative, the UNDS progressed in strengthening the capacities of government officials, policymakers, justice operations and civil society activists and organizations in the design and implementation of legal frameworks that are aligned with regional and international norms and human rights standards in the region — specifically contributing to SDG indicators 5.1.1, 5.2.1 and 5.2.2.

8. YOUTH

In response to the United Nations Youth Strategy “Youth 2030” and the request for support by RCs, UNCTs, and member States, the working group on youth provided updated data and evidence on the situation of adolescents and youth in the region. Synthesizing the results of the second United Nations survey on Latin American and Caribbean youth within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the working group’s second report analysed how youth in the region experienced and adapted to the pandemic. The [report](#) was presented and discussed in focal group discussions with youth from the region.

To establish a network for communication, coordination, technical support, knowledge and experience exchange on youth issues, the working group undertook a mapping exercise to identify youth focal points in UNCTs and United Nations entities at the country level. To facilitate cooperation across regions, the group co-chairs

also joined the global inter-agency platform, United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development. Regional youth networks were also included in the design and implementation of working group activities, such as the definition of the work plan, and an open channel of communication and engagement was established with the LAC Children, Adolescent, and Youth Group; the United Network of Young Peacebuilders; and the International Youth Organization for Iberoamerica.

To engage youth focal points in the peace and security agenda, a regional coordination meeting with youth focal points and peace and development advisers was organized in the framework of International Youth Day, and a regional webinar on youth, peace and security in Latin America and the Caribbean was co-organized with the IBC on governance and institutions. The objective of the webinar was to raise awareness about the principles and approaches recommended in the second report of the United Nations Secretary-General on youth, peace, and security (S/2022/220) and to generate an exchange of experiences and perspectives on ways to advance the implementation of the youth, peace and security agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean.

9. OTHER REGIONAL PRIORITIES

(i) Education

In response to the dramatic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the region’s education sector, the report [Two Years After: Saving a Generation](#)³⁰ was written to call for urgent action to mitigate the ongoing learning crisis. The report set out a clear and simple dual strategy focused on the return to schooling and the learning recovery across the region.

In addition, the report [Education in Latin America at the Caribbean at a crossroads: regional monitoring report SDG4-Education 2030](#)³¹ takes

²⁹ ECLAC, 2022.

³⁰ World Bank/UNICEF/UNESCO, 2022.

³¹ UNESCO, 2022.

stock of the implementation of SDG4-E2030 in Latin America and the Caribbean. It highlights the importance of strengthening political alliances and dialogue through processes that encourage long-term policies and increase States' capacities, and it views the quality and quantity of education investment as key aspects for accelerating progress towards achieving SDG4 by 2030. The report served as a regional input for decision-makers and the [Transforming Education Summit](#).

(ii) Health

In support of the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health in Latin America and the Caribbean, the "[Every Woman Every Child Latin America and the Caribbean](#)"³² initiative continued to develop and collect innovative tools and [resources](#) to reduce equity gaps in the health sector. These resources included a framework for the measurement of social inequalities in health, data use and advocacy tools, such as a data dashboard to visualize trends in social inequalities in health in the region; a methodology for setting targets for the reduction of inequalities; and a compendium of tools, instruments, and methods to identify and address social inequalities in health.

In addition, the report [No Time to Lose: Health Challenges for Adolescents in Latin America and the Caribbean](#)³³ makes an urgent call to policymakers to take action to improve the living conditions and prospects for adolescents living in the region, using a multisectoral, equity and evidence-based approach. Specific recommendations include strengthening health systems and the reach of services, engaging adolescents in designing interventions and solutions to their problems, promoting good mental health and including mental health services in primary health-care systems.

Finally, an overview of social inequalities in several indicators related to the health of women, children and adolescents in a region deemed to

have high levels of inequality can be found in the publication [Health Inequalities in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Sustainable Development Goal baseline assessment for women, children, and adolescents](#).³⁴

(iii) Food systems

Following up on the commitments made at the United Nations Food Systems Summit, and in response to the urgency posed by recent developments in global commodity markets, the United Nations system stepped up efforts to support countries in transforming local, regional and global food systems. A regional task force³⁵ was established to provide coordinated support to countries in implementing national pathways in close collaboration with RCs. The task force is establishing close connections with national convenors, developing workplans to support the implementation of the national pathways, and organizing regional-level activities to improve joint advocacy, decision-making, policy creation, and joint programming. Four objectives guide the work of the task force going forward: (i) developing tailored action plans for countries that request support; (ii) supporting capacity strengthening through events, dialogues and exchange of experiences; (iii) ensuring effective knowledge management on food systems through publications and technical studies; and (iv) providing a liaison between the food systems hub in Rome and the countries in the region to ensure that the needs and priorities of the region are being considered. Currently, the task force is providing support to the following 16 countries in the region: Belize, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Plurinational State of Bolivia and Uruguay.

To support governmental and non-governmental actors in implementing policies and investments that foster efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems and improve the affordability of healthy diets, the [Regional overview](#)

32 PAHO/UNICEF, 2022. Participating entities included the World Bank, UNOPS, the MesoAmerican Health initiative, UNAIDS, UN- Women, UNFPA, UNICEF and USAID.

33 Participating entities included the World Bank, UNOPS, the MesoAmerican Health initiative, UNAIDS, UN- Women, UNFPA, UNICEF and USAID.

34 PAHO/UNICEF, 2022.

35 The regional task force includes ECLAC, FAO, IFAD, PAHO/WHO, UNEP and WFP.

[of food security and nutrition in Latin America and the Caribbean 2022: towards improving affordability of healthy diets](#)³⁶ was launched. The report presents the regional food security and nutrition situation, including trends of undernourishment, food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition. It provides an overview of the socioeconomic state of the region and presents national and regional data and trends regarding the costs and affordability of healthy diets, and the possible drivers behind the high cost of healthy diets and their unaffordability. It also introduces regional policies and investments that aim to reduce the cost of nutritious foods and improve the affordability of healthy diets.

B. Operational and programmatic support to Resident Coordinators and United Nations country teams

In response to requests received from RCs and UNCTs, the Peer Support Group (PSG) continued to provide system-wide support to CCA and Cooperation Framework processes across the region. This involved conducting regional and country specific training workshops with the eight countries that will start implementation of a new generation of Cooperation Frameworks in 2023 – including the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia. To ensure compliance with globally agreed quality criteria, PSG members from 30 entities helped facilitate in-person and online workshops and consultations between governments, UNCTs, and other stakeholders and contributed to the common understanding of global Cooperation Framework guidance through supporting stakeholders in generating agreements on common priorities and strengthening theories of change and results frameworks. With support from the Regional Interagency Monitoring and Evaluation Task Team, Cooperation Framework evaluations were supported and strengthened in Colombia, Ecuador and the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

The PSG also held two cross-regional dialogues with the PSGs from Africa and Europe and

Central Asia to expand the repository of country experiences, lessons learned and good practices in Cooperation Framework processes. Collaboration with the IBC on climate change and resilience provided targeted country support in Costa Rica. Additionally, regular PSG and Monitoring and Evaluation Task Team meetings have helped strengthen a culture of teamwork, mutual trust and active engagement of United Nations entities.

2022 marked the start of efficiency reporting via the Business Operations Strategy (BOS) 2.0 platform. After the Operations Management Teams initiated the first review and reporting exercise, 24 out of 26 countries finalized the 2022 BOS Annual Review.³⁷ Technical and quality assurance support on BOS in the region was provided through regional webinars and on-demand training. The second annual review was completed by 25 out of 26 countries in March 2023, indicating that the region increased the estimated efficiencies from US\$ 29.4 million in December 2021 to US\$ 40.2 million in December 2022 for the period of 2019-2028. On the reporting side, the Operations Management Teams disclosed having US\$ 5 million in efficiencies from 2019 to 2021 and additional US\$ 4.7 million in 2022. More than 400 opportunities for collaboration were identified by the Operations Management Teams for implementation in the next five years, including 18 at the regional level, with a total estimated cost avoidance of US\$ 4 million.

The common premises target was rolled out in July 2021, with all 26 Operations Management Teams actively involved in the process. The common premise stocktaking exercise was completed in 2022 and reported 555 single, common and government co-located premises in the region. 14 countries reported interest in setting common premises and consolidating projects, and several common premises projects are ongoing in the region. Technical and quality assurance support was provided through regional webinars and on-demand training. Brazil is currently the first country in the region engaged with an ongoing common back office target.

³⁶ FAO/IFAD/PAHO/WHO, UNICEF/WFP, 2023.

³⁷ Barbados and Nicaragua. In the case of Nicaragua, the development exercise was completed in December 2021.

To support member States in conducting regular and inclusive progress reviews of SDG implementation at the national and subnational levels, regular sessions of the [Community of Practice on the voluntary national reviews \(VNRs\) of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean](#) continued to be organized.³⁸ The Community of Practice is a regional platform for peer-to-peer learning, collaboration and exchange of experiences, knowledge, and best practices regarding the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in general and the VNR processes in particular.

C. Engagement with key regional stakeholders

The United Nations Deputy Secretary-General, in her capacity as Chair of the RCP LAC has urged the Platform to step up its efforts to provide collective, targeted and demand-driven support to the multidimensional challenges faced by countries in the region. In response, the Platform has established a Partnership Task Force and prepared the RCP LAC Partnership Strategy to scale up regional partnerships — particularly on emerging issues (food systems, energy transition and digitalization). In addition, the RCP LAC Partnerships Strategy prioritizes engagement with international financial institutions and intergovernmental bodies on subregional issues such as deforestation and wildfires in Amazonia, statistics in the Caribbean, human mobility in Central America and Mexico, and the rights of children and youth in the Gran Chaco.

To strengthen engagement with key regional stakeholders, RCP LAC members participated in the [fifth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development](#). Chaired by Costa Rica and convened under the auspices of ECLAC, the Forum provided a space for member States, the UNDS, and other stakeholders in the region to reaffirm their commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ensuring that no one is left behind. The Vice-Chairs of the RCP LAC presented the system-wide results at the regional level with a report on support provided to RCs

and UNCTs to help member countries achieve the 2030 Agenda. The Forum provided regional space for peer-to-peer learning through interactive sessions for the implementation, measurement and monitoring of the SDGs addressing SDG data gaps in the region while promoting dialogue and collaboration between different stakeholders. The meeting brought together 1,200 participants that included representatives from 33 member States, 8 associate members, 10 non-Forum Member States of the United Nations that participated as observers, 22 United Nations entities, 22 Resident Coordinators, 21 officials from intergovernmental organizations, 19 individuals from financial institutions and 300 people from the academic sector, private sector and civil society. The sessions were also broadcasted and streamed on social media platforms for a wider and broad audience. The meeting resulted in the adoption of [106 conclusions and recommendations](#) that contributed to the 2022 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

In addition, several existing subsidiary bodies and intergovernmental meetings of the Regional Commission were organized with other United Nations entities to foster regional consensus, policy dialogue, peer learning, exchange of experience and multi-stakeholder engagement to reflect on the progress made and challenges faced in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in synergy with regional agendas. These meetings included the [Regional Conference on Women](#), the [Regional Conference on Social Development](#), the [Regional Conference on Population and Development](#), the [Statistical Conference of the Americas](#), the [Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee](#) and the [General Assembly of Ministers and High-level Authorities on Housing and Urban Development in Latin America and the Caribbean](#). The meetings also reflected and responded to regional agendas, such as the [Regional Gender Agenda](#), the [Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development](#), and the Montevideo Consensus, among others.

³⁸ The Community of Practice on the VNRs are organized by ECLAC with the support of RCOs and contribution of other United Nations entities.

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V. A way forward

V. A way forward

2023 marks the mid-point in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the SDG Summit to be convened in September during the United Nations General Assembly. Confronted by multiple and interlocking challenges facing the region, coordinated and system-wide actions are needed more than ever to accelerate efforts leading up to the 2030 deadline for achieving the SDGs.

The RCP LAC is responding to this urgency by stepping up efforts to provide integrated and coordinated support from the United Nations, translating global commitments to country-level action to achieve the 2030 Agenda. It will continue to provide regional and cross-border joint analysis and initiatives to support transformative UNDS programming and accelerate progress on the regional reform by further enhancing support to RCs and UNCTs.

The RCP LAC will also continue to provide strategic direction and decision-making by assisting United Nations entities in the region in translating, adapting and contextualizing global policy in response to the multiple regional, subregional and transboundary challenges. This includes supporting region-wide actions on key transitions and global priorities in energy, food systems, digital transformation, education, climate (including biodiversity) and finance — all while delivering benefits to young people, advancing gender equality while securing decent employment and strengthening social protection.

To ensure that United Nations expertise and assets at the regional level are put fully at the disposal of RCs and UNCTs, in April 2023 the RCP LAC will launch the RCP LAC 2.0, which relies on simplified working methods and a sharpened thematic focus. The updated working mechanisms of the regional platform will further facilitate engagement between the members of the platform, RCs and UNCTs, will improve communication, streamline the current configuration of its IBCs and working groups, and make available a regional roster of expertise to tackle unaddressed challenges as well as to enable timely and targeted responses to requests made by RCs and UNCTs. In 2023, the updated RCP LAC will provide strategic direction in three main priority areas:

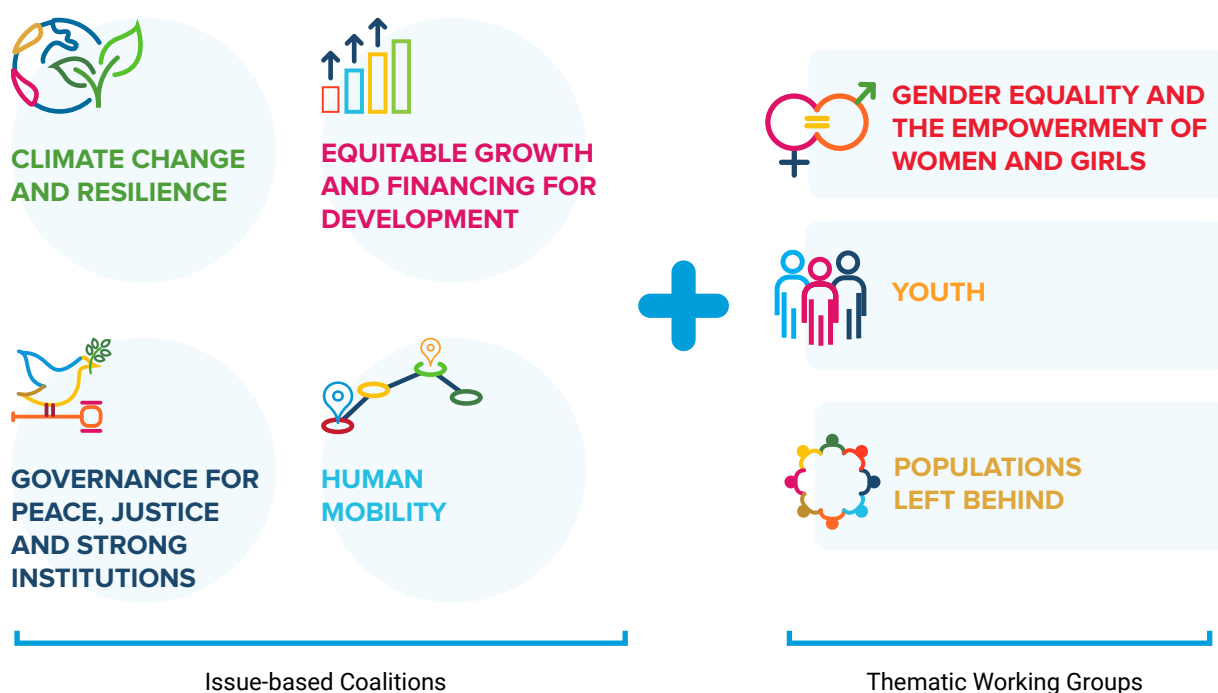
- > Promoting regional coherence regarding global priorities, including food systems, energy transitions, digital transformation, care and social protection systems, and education, with an approach based on “leaving no one behind”.
- > Supporting RCs and UNCTs in addressing SDG gaps at the subregional level and in cross-border contexts with a particular focus on human mobility, climate change and biodiversity protection.
- > Building partnerships with regional partners, international finance institutions and other subregional development actors.

Haiti ©Pierre Michel Jean

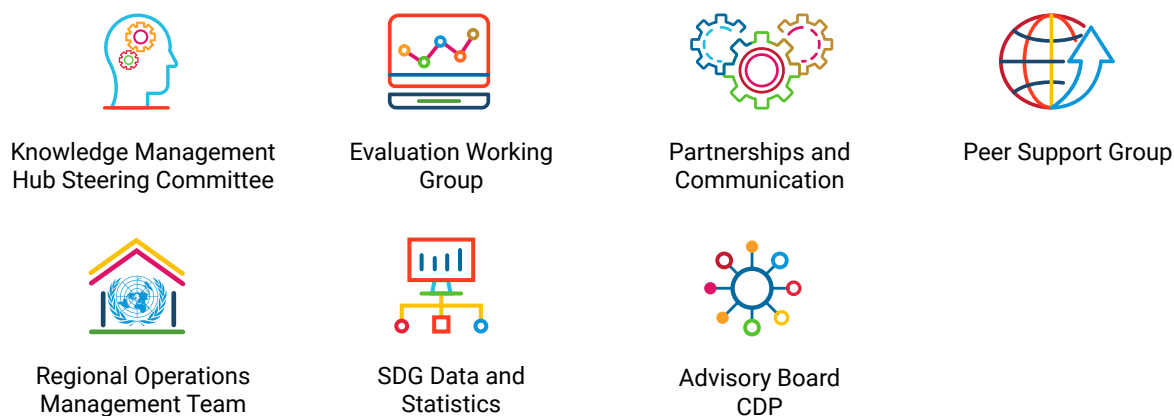
VI. Annexes

Annex I. RCP LAC 2.0: Working Mechanisms

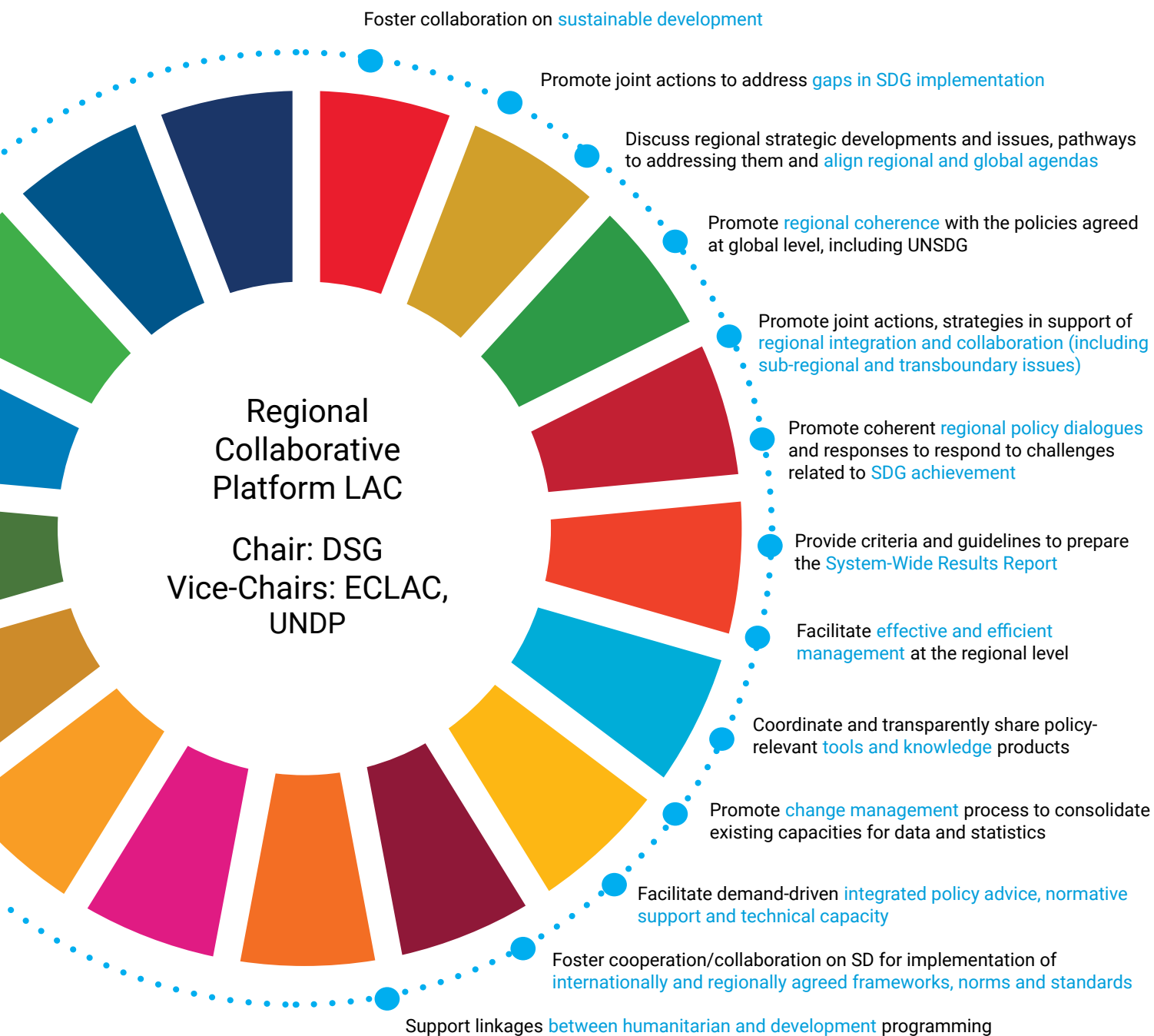
SUBSTANTIVE MECHANISMS



OPERATIONAL AND PROGRAMMATIC WORKING GROUPS



Annex II. Regional Collaborative Platform for LAC: 13 Key Functions



Annex III. Highlights on the implementation of the regional review

Establishment of the RCP Coordinated and agile response	Streamlined RCP LAC 2.0	Simplified SOPs to facilitate access	UNCTs consolidated request of support	Menu of services for IBCs/WGs	RCP LAC Retreat – code of conduct
Knowledge Management Hub Access to assets and knowledge	GIS-based mapping application for SDGs	Data for monitoring Agenda 2030	RCP LAC website	Rosters of expertise completed	COPs on data, gender, partnerships
Enhance transparency on results and impact achieved	2022 System-wide report drafted	Reporting session conducted at V RFSD	United Actions Bulletin	Advocacy - inter-agency HR campaign	Partnerships Strategy
Data and Statistics Consolidation of capacities	Updated technical assistance database	System to assess Gov. capacities	Collaboration with SDG Coordination Group	Statistical Conference of the Americas	Data Management Officers Network
Regional Efficiencies Common services & premises	Regional BOS finalized	16 common services	2022-2024 cost avoidance: US\$4M	24 BOS Annual Reviews finalized	2019-2021 LAC cost avoidance: US\$3.5M

List of acronyms

BOS – Business Operations Strategy
CCA – Common Country Analysis
CDP – Comprehensive Development Plan for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south-southeast Mexico
CF – Cooperation Framework
COVID-19 – Coronavirus Disease 2019
DCO – Development Coordination Office
DPPA – Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
ECLAC – Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECOSOC – Economic and Social Council
FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IDB – Inter-American Development Bank
IBC – issue-based coalition
IFAD – International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFRC – International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
ILO – International Labour Organization
IMRF – International Migration Review Forum
IOM – International Organization for Migration
LAC – Latin America and the Caribbean
MSDCF – Multi-country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
NDC – nationally determined contribution
OCHA – Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OHCHR – Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
PAHO – Pan-American Health Organization
PSG – Peer Support Group
R4V – Regional Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela
RC – Resident Coordinator
RCO – Resident Coordinator's Office
RCP – Regional Collaborative Platform
RCP LAC – Regional Collaborative Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean
REDLAC – Regional Group on Risks, Emergencies and Disasters for Latin America and the Caribbean
RMRP – Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan
ROMT – Regional Operations Management Team
SDG – Sustainable Development Goal
SIDS – small island developing States
SOP – Standard Operating Procedures
UNAIDS – Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCT – United Nations country team
UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR – United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNDS – United Nations development system
UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF – United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO – United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UN-Habitat – United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR – Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNNM-LAC – United Nations Regional Network on Migration for Latin America and the Caribbean
UNODC – United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS – United Nations Office for Project Services
UN-Women – United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
VNR – voluntary national review
WFP – World Food Programme
WHO – World Health Organization

