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AMERICAS**  
**THE JOINT SUMMIT  
WORKING GROUP**

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***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***  
***IMPLEMENTATION OF MANDATES FROM THE VII***  
***SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS:***  
***INSTITUTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS***



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# ACRONYMS OF THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE JOINT SUMMIT WORKING GROUP (JSWG)

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| OAS<br>.....        | Organization of American States   |
| CABIE<br>.....      | Central American Bank for Economic Integration  |
| CAF<br>.....        | Latin American Development Bank   |
| CDB<br>.....        | Caribbean Development Bank  |
| ECLAC<br>.....      | Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean   |
| IDB<br>.....        | Inter-American Development Bank   |
| IICA<br>.....       | Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture   |
| ILO<br>.....        | International Labour Organization   |
| IOM<br>.....        | International Organization for Migration  |
| PAHO<br>.....       | Pan American Health Organization  |
| UNDP<br>.....       | United Nations Development Programme  |
| World Bank<br>..... | International Bank for Reconstruction and Development –<br>International Development Association – World Bank Group |



# **INTRODUCTION**

The Summits of the Americas brings together the Heads of State and Government of the member states of the Hemisphere to discuss common policy issues, and to enter into joint commitments for national and regional actions to address present and future challenges.

Since the launch of the Summits Process, the Hemisphere's Heads of State and Government have established a broad agenda for discussing issues related to strengthening democracy, social development, migration, expanding access to education, protecting the environment, and other topics of importance to the region.

The Third Summit of the Americas, held in Quebec City, Canada in 2001, identified the need to design a mechanism to assist the countries in the region in meeting the commitments set in the Declarations of Principles, the Plans of Action of the Summits of the Americas, and the resulting mandates. The Plan of Action agreed on in Quebec City underscores the need for permanent coordination among the agencies of the Inter-American system to implement the Summits commitments to support the ministerial meetings



processes, and it welcomes the involvement of international organizations at all stages of the Summits Process.

In response to that call, in June 2001 the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), in resolution AG/RES. 1847 (XXXII-0/02), acknowledged the importance of a coordinated, timely, and effective follow-up of the Plan of Action of Quebec City and previous Plans of Action, and of timely, effective support in the preparatory work for the Fourth Summit of the Americas. As a result of that mandate, in June 2001 a Letter of Understanding was signed by senior authorities of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), and the OAS General Secretariat.

Subsequent to the signing of the “Letter of Understanding” by the aforementioned organizations, over the years and at the invitation of the JSWG, the following agencies have also signed up: the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the Latin American Development Bank (CAF), the World Bank, the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABIE), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the International Labour Organization (ILO), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The creation of this group was intended to ensure closer coordination in the implementation and follow-up of the mandates agreed on by the Hemisphere’s Heads of State and Government. The goal of keeping it functional arises from the need to design a mechanism for action and verification that complies with the commitments in support of the countries in the region.

This material has been prepared on the basis of the document “Implementation of Mandates from the Seventh Summit of the Americas: Institutional Contributions,” produced by the OAS Summits of the Americas Secretariat pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 2902 (XLVII-O/17) “Support for and Follow-up to the Summits of the Americas Process.”

At the Seventh Summit of the Americas (Panama City, 2015), the Heads of State and Government of the Americas agreed to pursue a series of mandates related to the Summit’s nine thematic areas: (i) education, (ii) health, (iii) energy, (iv) the environment, (v) migration, (vi) security, (vii) citizen participation, (viii) democratic governance, and (ix) hemispheric partnership for development. The mandates adopted at the Seventh Summit of the Americas may be found in document CA-VII/INF.4/15.

Through this publication the OAS, as the technical secretariat and institutional memory of the Summit Process and Chair of the JSWG, showcases the main institutional contributions made by the agencies that make up the JSWG in support of the countries as follow-up to the declaration “Prosperity with Equity: The Challenge of Cooperation in the Americas. Mandates for Action” between the Seventh Summit of the Americas (Panama, 2015) and the Eighth Summit of the Americas (Peru, 2018).



# EDUCATION

## INTER-AMERICAN EDUCATION AGENDA



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND POLICY DIALOGUE

► The IX-Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education (The Bahamas, 2017), promoted political dialogue and cooperation among the Ministers of Education of the OAS member states, allowed for the analysis and discussion of the most pressing educational issues in the region and adopted the Inter-American Educational Agenda, marking a milestone to advance in the following themes:



The OAS, as the technical secretariat of the Ministerial Meeting on Education and the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE), played a key role in this process and provided advice to the host country.

## STRATEGIES, PROGRAMS, AND PUBLIC POLICIES FOR IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION PROCESSES



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

► CAF has contributed to the implementation of the Inter-American Education Agenda (IEA) in conjunction with the OAS and other actors, by working to further the education plans and policies of its shareholder countries. CAF promotes and funds interventions aimed at expanding and improving education supply, combining actions to: (i) increase access to education, with emphasis on the poorest segments of the population, (ii) improve the quality of education at all levels, with emphasis on equity, and (iii) strengthen the relevance of education by bolstering ties between schools, skills, and jobs, particularly for young people as they enter the labor market.

► ILO provides technical assistance for the generation of quality information. Example: by administering the School-to-Work Transition Survey (SWTS) and in the design of programs to promote youth employment. Example: in Brazil, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, and Peru.

► The World Bank funded: In Guyana, the Early Childhood Education Project (ECE) in 2015, which has led to improvements in the reading, writing, and arithmetic skills of kindergarten and first-grade children.

In Uruguay, the Project to Improve Quality in Initial and

Primary Education (2016) intended to improve teaching practices and the learning environment within primary education, and to strengthen evaluations of the education system.

► ECLAC has focused on analyzing the role of education in social inclusion by monitoring its gaps, progress, and challenges. For example, as part of its Norwegian Cooperation Program, it has closely examined how the supply of technical and professional training and education serves as a key factor in the social and labor inclusion of the region's youth. Capacity-building in the context of technological changes that have a major impact on the job market is a topic that received keen attention in the position paper presented at the Second Meeting of the Regional Conference on Social Development, held in Montevideo in October 2017.



## INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

► The development of better policies for technical education and professional training in Latin America is an essential element in meeting productivity challenges. CAF, in conjunction with the Inter-American Dialogue and Mathematica Policy Research, published the report *“The Challenge of Skill Development in Latin America. A Diagnostic Assessment of the Problems and Public Policy Solutions,”* to help states strengthen their capacities and thus capitalize on public policy instruments to better align their study plans and skills taught with the demands of the labor market, improve education quality, and increase completion rates in secondary and tertiary education.



## GENERATION OF KNOWLEDGE

► At a time when Professional Technical Education (PTE) is again receiving attention from governments and international organizations, ECLAC conducted the regional study *“Panorama of Technical Professional Education in Latin America and the Caribbean,”* which provides an overview of the main characteristics of the formal education supply in the region, and places particular emphasis on organizational issues related to the provision of education.

► ECLAC, OECD and CAF prepared the “Economic Outlook for Latin America 2017: Youth, Skills and Entrepreneurship”, which was presented at the Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State (Colombia, 2016).



## POLITICAL DIALOGUE

► In compliance with the Declaration and Plan of Action of Cancun, adopted during the XIX Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML) held in Cancun, Mexico in 2015, the Ministers of Labor in coordination with the Ministers of Labor Education in the region committed to strengthen and continue the education system to prepare the workforce according to the demands of the productive sector, and improve youth employment. One technical action arising from this commitment was the development of the “Intersectorial Workshop on Youth Employment: Articulation between Education and Work” (Brazil, 2016). The event served as an opportunity to exchange successful experiences in the promotion of youth employment, highlighting strategies for vocational training, vocational and technical education, competency certification, first job programs and employment services, from which derived recommendations for the formulation of public policies on the subject.

# HEALTH

## HEALTH: UNIVERSAL ACCESS AND COVERAGE



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

► According to PAHO, the countries of the Americas have made considerable progress in providing their citizens with access to health systems and services. Its member states have already reaffirmed their commitment to improving equity, health, and development with the adoption the Strategy for Universal Access to Health and Universal Health Coverage under the aegis of the PAHO Directing Council in October 2014.

### PAHO data:

- Nineteen of the countries in the region have drawn up comprehensive national health policies, strategies, or plans: Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela.
- Fifteen countries have prepared and implemented financial frameworks for universal health: Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic,

Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama, Peru, United States, and Uruguay. In addition, Chile, Colombia, Guyana, Haiti, and Peru have adopted the social protection of health as a basic principle, while El Salvador, Mexico, Peru, and Uruguay have improved or updated their guaranteed health provision packages.

- ▶ Eleven countries have designed regulatory frameworks for making progress toward universal health: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru, Suriname, and Uruguay.
- ▶ Thirty countries and territories participate in the Strategic Fund for Medicines and Health Technologies, through which they can access more than 150 high-quality products.



## COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE FOR ALL



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ▶ PAHO has served as the technical secretariat of the “A Renewed Promise for the Americas” initiative of 2013, which since 2017 has been the interagency coordinating mechanism responsible for supporting the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in interpreting and adapting to specific situation of the Global Strategy for the Health of Women, Children, and Adolescents.

## RESPONSE OF NATIONAL HEALTH SYSTEMS TO DISEASES AND PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ▶ PAHO continues working to reduce risks in the health sector through:

Safe Hospitals Initiative and Hospital Safety Index: a tool to assess the probability of a health facility being able to operate during an emergency.



Smart Hospitals Initiative: created to ensure that hospitals continue to function during emergencies and to reduce their impact on the environment.

## PREPARING FOR AND RESPONDING TO OUTBREAKS OF EPIDEMIC DISEASES



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

► The annual reports of the States parties of the region of the Americas presented to the 70<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly (2017) continue to show considerable heterogeneity with respect to the basic skills required by the International Health Regulations (IHR). However, progress has been made with all of them, particularly those related to designated entry points, laboratories, surveillance and management of zoonotic events, and food safety.

WHO: The International Health Regulations of 2005 (IHR 2005) are a legally binding international agreement signed by 196 countries, including all the member states of the World Health Organization (WHO). Its purpose is to assist the international community in preventing and responding to serious threats to public health that can cross borders and endanger the world's population.

## PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES



### POLITICAL DIALOGUE

► The Inter-American Working Group on Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs), a strategic alliance of Inter-American organizations and associated international organizations, led by PAHO, organized a joint session of the Permanent Council of the OAS and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) on the importance of adopting an intersectoral approach toward noncommunicable diseases (NCDs). That meeting took place in Washington, D.C., on March 19, 2018, and was attended by thirty OAS member states, the Government of Spain, representatives of the World Bank, the IDB, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the NCD Alliance, and various other bodies.

► PAHO actively participated in building an agreement between Heads of State and ministers from across the world on actions to reduce the suffering and deaths caused by NCDs. That agreement was set out in the “2018-2030 Montevideo Road Map” on the fight against NCDs as a priority for sustainable development.



## ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

► PAHO has devised a Protocol for Evaluating Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene in Health Facilities, based on experiments conducted in Peru, Honduras, and Paraguay during 2017, and it is planning to conduct these experiments in Bolivia, Panama, Nicaragua, and Guatemala during 2018.

► As part of its efforts to build the countries's capacities in the region to meet the SDG 6, PAHO has assisted the countries in preparing baselines for indicators 6.1.1 (water) and 6.2.1 (sanitation).

► CAF supports national, regional, and local governments in designing, structuring, and funding projects to build, optimize, and expand infrastructure for universal drinking water access, through technical assistance programs that ensure the progressive improvement of service provision, particularly for the more vulnerable segments of the population.



### INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

► PAHO continues to promote risk-management approaches for reducing the incidence of diseases related to water and basic sanitation, through its Water Safety Framework, Water Safety Plans (WSPs) and through Sanitation Safety Plans (SSPs) in the countries in the region.



### GENERATION OF KNOWLEDGE

Particularly noteworthy is the launch of CAF's massive on-line course (MOOC) on *“Sustainability of Rural Water and Sanitation Services in Latin America,”* together with its studies “Water and Gender” and “Drinking Water and Sanitation in the New Rural Context in Latin America”.

# STRENGTHENING FOOD AND NUTRITION STRATEGIES



**Taxes on sugary drinks and unhealthy foodstuffs  
(Barbados, Chile, Dominica, Ecuador, and Mexico)**



## **INSTITUTIONAL** STRENGTHENING

► PAHO continued to support the execution of several effective policy options intended to prevent obesity at all stages of life among the citizens of its member states. The following are particularly notable in this regard:



**Front-of-package labeling (Chile and Ecuador)**



### Innovative nutrition guidelines (Brazil and Uruguay)



### Regulations for the marketing of unhealthy products, particularly those targeted at children (Chile and Mexico)



### Thoroughfares set aside for recreational purposes, such as cycle paths (Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, and United States)



### School nutrition (Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, and Uruguay)



## GENERATION OF KNOWLEDGE

- The collaboration between the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and WHO for organizing the Regional Symposium on Sustainable Food Systems for Healthy Diets (2017), provided an opportunity to examine challenges and opportunities related to sustainable foods systems that effectively promote human right for appropriate and healthy food in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- ECLAC, in agreement with the World Food Programme (WFP), conducted a pilot study on the *“Social and Economic Impact of the Double Burden of Malnutrition”* in Chile, Ecuador, and Mexico. This study provided a satisfactory verification of the methodology designed to estimate the social and economic burden countries face on account of undernutrition, overweight, and obesity among children and adults.





# IMPROVING MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH



## **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

► PAHO continued to support the countries in the region in their pursuit of increasing access to primary health care services for mothers and their children. By the end of 2017, member states reached 93% coverage of critical interventions for maternal and reproductive health.

► PAHO's technical cooperation efforts to reduce maternal and child mortality in its member states has promoted the expansion of coverage in prenatal care and childbirth assistance by trained personnel, the access to and the use of modern contraceptive methods, as well as guidelines and training to improve obstetric and pediatric care.



# ENERGY

## UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO ENERGY

According to IDB forecasts, Latin America and the Caribbean will be the first region to attain universal access to energy.

*Access to electricity in the region currently stands at*



In accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations, the goal of universal access to electricity by 2030 must be achieved. The 17 million people currently without access to energy should be incorporated into this service, this is no small task. Achieving universal coverage requires effort from countries which involves a great deal of planning and coordination. However, this work is very important to guarantee universal access to modern energy services that will undoubtedly have profound benefits for the population in the region.



## EXPANSION OF ENERGY INTEGRATION, INTERCONNECTION AND STRATEGIES FOR ENERGY COOPERATION



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

► Through the Regional Energy Efficiency Program (REEP), which seeks to generate a database, – both nationally and regionally – it measures the performance of energy efficiency policies and formulates policies and programs on informed basis. CAF and ECLAC have actively promoted the development of an energy efficiency market in the Latin American countries. The REEP has succeeded in encouraging corporate investments in energy efficiency, green business, and in strengthening the capacities of the financial institutions that support energy efficiency solutions.

► To raise awareness about sustainable energy, ECLAC has organized several political dialogues on energy efficiency.

► In order to strengthen the capacity-building in countries in the region, CAF, together with the International Energy Agency (IEA) and Eletrobras, organized the Energy Efficiency Training Week for Latin America, which enabled more than 100 participants from 15 Latin American countries to receive training on energy efficiency for the following demand sectors: (i) buildings, (ii) industry, (iii) lighting, (iv) machinery and domestic appliances, and (v) transportation.

► To assist Argentina in reaching its goal of covering 20% of its energy consumption with renewable energies by 2025, the Board of the World Bank approved a guarantee of \$480 million to promote private investment in the energy sector. Currently, only 2% of the energy Argentina consumes is generated by wind or solar power. The development of renewable energy sources in Argentina is crucial in diversifying its electricity network and helping mitigate climate change.



## GENERATION OF KNOWLEDGE

► Latin America is one of the world's richest regions in water resources. In order to estimate the potential for hydroelectric generation at the national and regional levels, CAF has supported national and local governments in making sustainable use of their water resources. The data collected will allow the publication of the first regional Hydroenergy Atlas, covering countries such as Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Panama, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Venezuela.



## POLITICAL DIALOGUE

► Because of the OAS, the commitment to the transition towards renewable energy policies or energy transition was reaffirmed, the Ministers of Energy adopted the "2018-2019 Plan of Action" at the III Ministerial Meeting of the Energy and Climate Partnership for the Americas (ECPA). In total, the countries identified more than thirty cooperative actions addressing the ECPA's seven basic pillars:



energy efficiency, renewable energy, more efficient and less polluting use of fossil fuels, energy infrastructure, energy shortages, regional energy integration, and energy research and innovation.

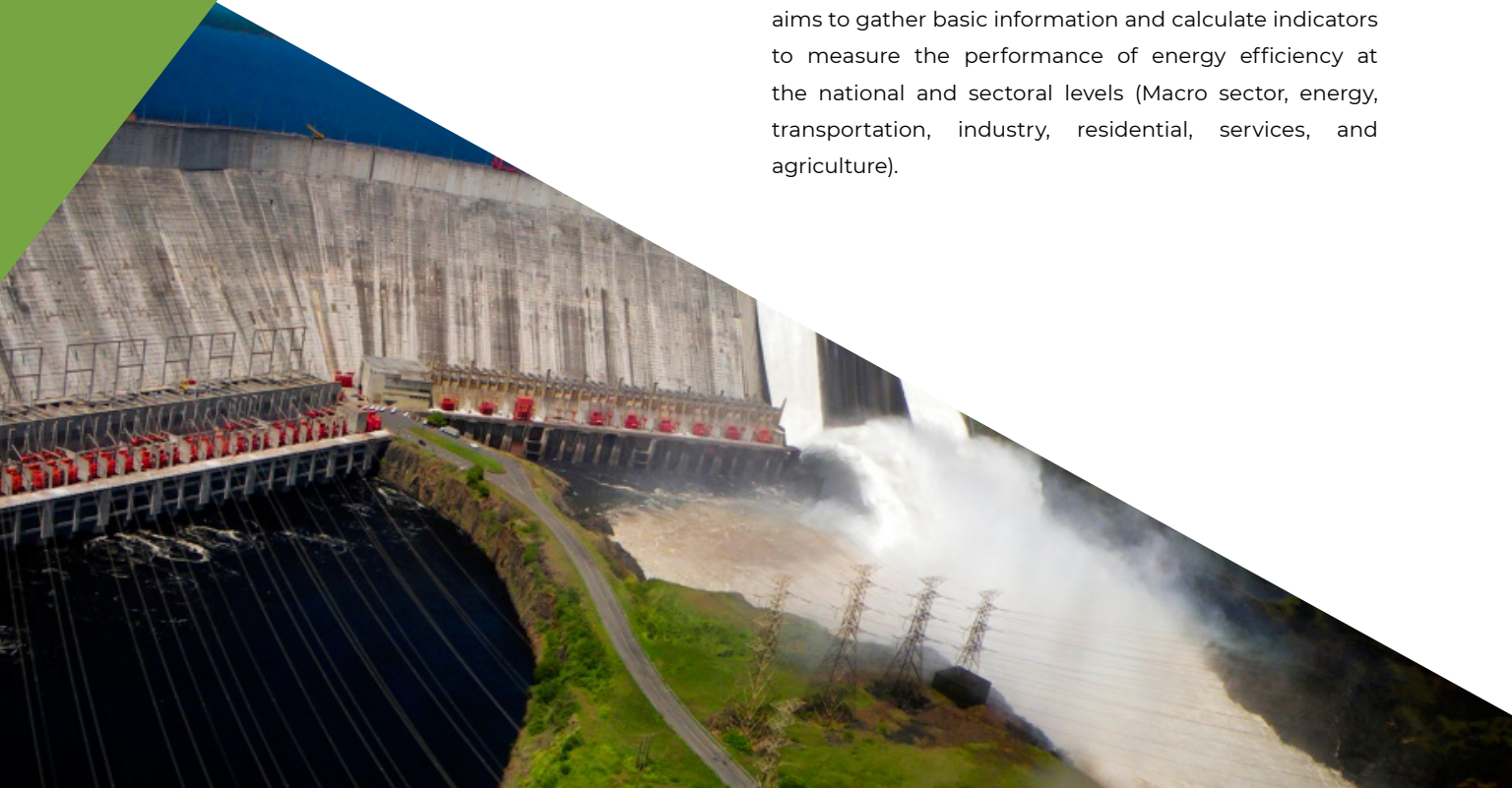
► CAF has played a significant part in the working group formed by ALADI, ARPEL, CIER, ECLAC, OAS, OLADE, and WEC, which focuses on the development of a working agenda for region wide energy matters. These efforts have allowed the launch of a regional energy efficiency program, the completion of a study to develop a repository of twenty strategic energy security projects, and the design of a postgraduate program on energy integration and planning for the public sector in collaboration with CIER and OLADE.

## UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO MODERN ENERGY SERVICES



### **GENERATION OF KNOWLEDGE**

► ECLAC has continued to consolidate the Database for Energy Efficiency Indicators (BIEE) regional program, an initiative funded by Germany's GIZ fund with the aim of building technical capacities within the institutions responsible for designing national energy saving programs. Using a common methodology, the project aims to gather basic information and calculate indicators to measure the performance of energy efficiency at the national and sectoral levels (Macro sector, energy, transportation, industry, residential, services, and agriculture).



# ENVIRONMENT

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## HEMISPHERIC EFFORTS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ▶ In 2017 the IDB stepped up its efforts to strengthen crosscutting integration programs and instruments related to sustainability and climate change in all the IDB Group's operational areas. Among the activities related to sustainability and climate change, the following stood out: The launch of NDC Invest, the IDB Group's single window for supporting the countries in the region in adapting their nationally determined contributions (NDCs) into investment plans for the Paris Climate Agreement, for facilitating the access to the resources needed to create and fund individual projects, and the contribution to the food security strategy through the AgroLAC 2025 multi-donor financing platform. The platform aims to bring together a wide range of public and private sector donors from all over the world to identify and support sustainable agricultural practices and market systems in the region.
- ▶ ECLAC has continued analyzing interrelations between economic progress, environmental protection, urban development, and social equality in the context of climate change. Its activities include technical assistance, training

activities, and publications. Regarding the environment, the following publications are among the developments worthy of note: "Vulnerability and Adaptation of Latin America Cities to Climate Change," and "Inventory of Green Tax Instruments in Latin America: Experiences, Effects, and Scope."



### INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

- ▶The Inter-American Commission for Integral Development (CIDI) recommended that the OAS General Assembly adopt the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development (PIDS), which sets priorities and policy guidelines for sustainable development and the environment, defines a strategic hemispheric framework to complement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and addresses new priorities and emerging challenges in the Hemisphere. The objectives of the PIDS are based on decisions adopted by the Summits of the Americas, and in resolutions of the OAS General Assembly, CIDI, and the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development (CIDS).
- ▶Another IDB effort to strengthen crosscutting integration programs and instruments for sustainability and climate change was the adoption of the IDB Group's "2016-2020 Plan of Action for Climate Change," which sets out the roadmap for attaining the target of 30% of the plan's funding by 2020 and systematically incorporating climate change considerations into all the Group's operations.

## SUSTAINABLE AND PRODUCTIVE AGRICULTURE BY OPTIMIZING AND IMPROVING THE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

► IICA carried out its cooperation agenda through initiatives on the competitiveness of productive chains, resilience and climate change, inclusion, and family agriculture (a strategy for agricultural health and food safety) three multinational projects on innovation, biocomponents, and added value, and twelve regional integration mechanisms.

The Institute's 34 member countries paid timely attention to phyto- and zoo-sanitary issues, thanks to the countries' participation in international forums, the development of public-private partnerships, training exercises on regulatory frameworks, the Codex Alimentarius, and emergency responses to pests and diseases.



### GENERATION OF KNOWLEDGE

► IICA's "Inclusion in Agriculture and Rural Territories" project emphasizes the inclusion of those segments of the population who have traditionally been excluded from the benefits of the development processes in agriculture and rural economies.

# MIGRATION

## DIALOGUE PROCESSES ON COMPREHENSIVE MIGRATION POLICIES



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ▶ After several years of increasing attention to the relationship between migration, the environment, and climate change (MECC), these topics have emerged in the global policy arena as one of the defining issues of the debate on climate and the environment. The IOM has been at the vanguard of global efforts to understand and propose solutions to these new challenges since the early 1990s.
- ▶ In South America IOM has been providing technical assistance, reviewing legislation on migration, and making technical contributions to migrants' countries of origin, transit, and destination.

- ▶ IOM has continued to build partnerships with regional integration agencies to support the enforcement of international rules through joint projects, and it is seeking to expand its research and technical assistance portfolio with the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), the Central American Integration Systems (SICA) the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the OAS.



### INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

- The Continuous Reporting System on International Migration in the Americas (SICREMI), which is run by the OAS, compiles, analyzes, and publishes statistics on international migration within the Western Hemisphere as well as on migration from the countries of the Americas and the member countries of the Organization for

Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) located outside the Western Hemisphere, with the objective to contribute to the promotion and development of public policies that lead to improved migration management in the Americas.

- ▶ IOM continues to work on the development of a model legal framework for migration that can be used by the countries in the region as a tool for developing or updating their laws.



## GENERATION OF KNOWLEDGE

- ▶ From the ECLAC, the central activities in the area of international migration, human rights, and development, have been strongly related to the follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus and the Second Regional Conference on Population and Development (Mexico, October 2015). For example the document “New Migration Trends and Dynamics in Latin America and the Caribbean,” addresses recent migration dynamics in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and the problem of migrant children including elements related to unaccompanied migrant children.



## POLITICAL DIALOGUE

- ▶ As contribution to the political dialogue on migration issues, since the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML), labor migration has become a pillar of work and an issue that has gained relevance in recent years in the regional forum. During the XIX IACML (Mexico, 2015) the study **“Analysis of Bilateral and Multilateral Social Security Agreements on Pensions,”** was produced through a partnership between the OAS and the Inter-American Conference on Social Security (CISS). The study provides an updated overview of all 83 agreements that exist in the region. It also identifies lessons to be learned, operational difficulties, and proposes recommendations for a future Inter-American agreement. The study was recognized at the XIX IACML as a valuable contribution to the decision to improve the pension rights of migrant workers in the Americas.
- ▶ In late August 2017, ECLAC and IOM jointly organized the preparatory meeting for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration. This meeting used a regional perspective of the human rights of migrants to discuss the factors behind migration, international cooperation, governance, irregular migration, human trafficking, and the contributions that migrants make to sustainable development and decent work.



# SECURITY

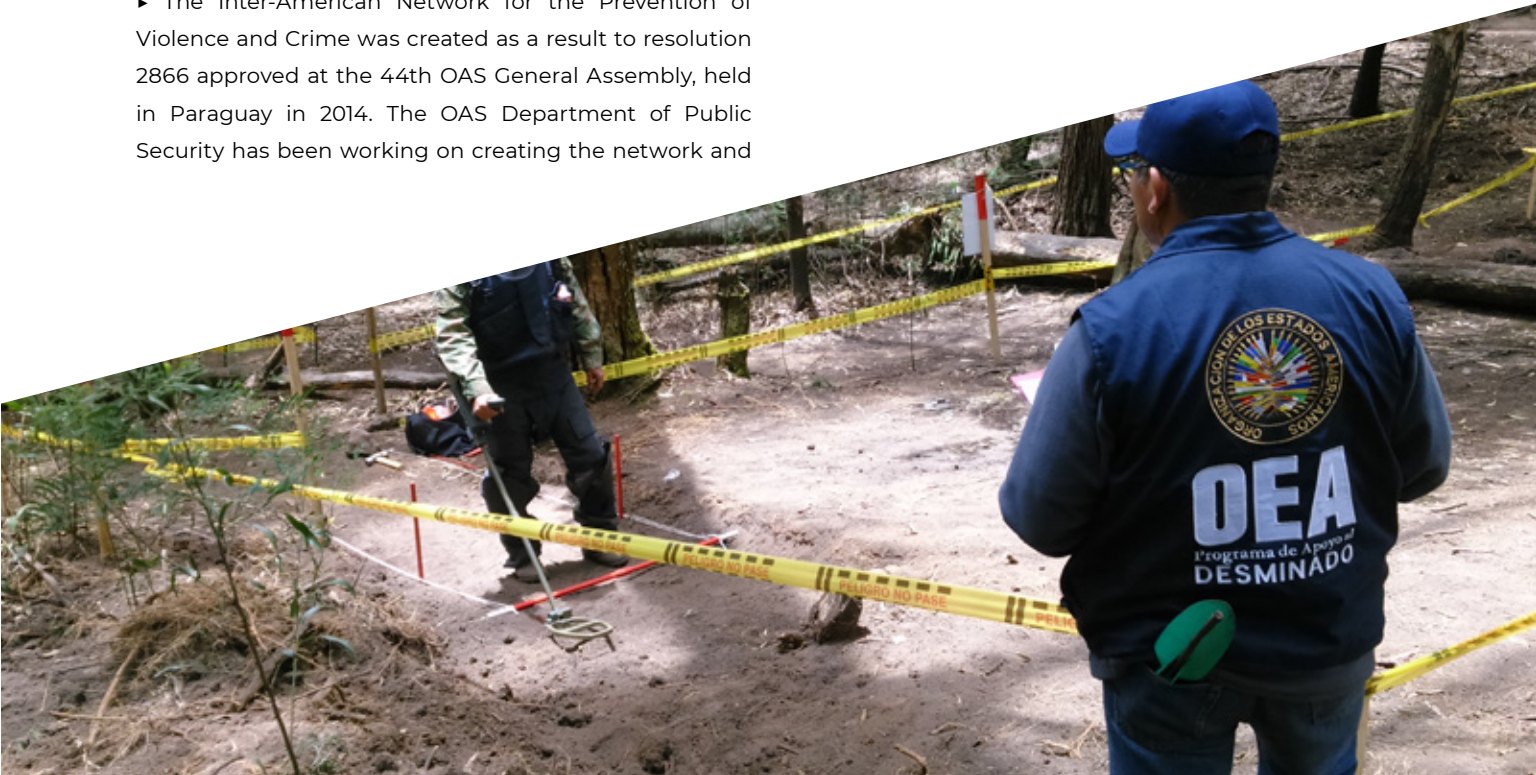
## STRENGTHENING HEMISPHERIC COOPERATION ON SECURITY



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

► The Inter-American Network for the Prevention of Violence and Crime was created as a result to resolution 2866 approved at the 44th OAS General Assembly, held in Paraguay in 2014. The OAS Department of Public Security has been working on creating the network and

launching its activities. It aims to provide the member states with assistance in developing and implementing public policies, programs, and initiatives for preventing violence and crime, through a range of actions including the launch of the network's website and the organization of on-site forums.



## PRIORITIZATION OF ACTIONS TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS



### INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

► In recent years, the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) has succeeded in positioning itself as a hemispheric reference point for furthering equality and eliminating discrimination and violence against women. The CIM is the technical secretariat of the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará, 1994). The work of the follow-up

mechanism of the Convention (MESECVI) includes: strengthening the technical capacities of the national mechanisms for the advancement of women and other national sectors, the intersectoral response to violence against women, and the increase in social awareness of this problem.

► The “CIM’s 2016-2021 Strategic Plan” includes developing or strengthening the capacities of the OAS member states to effectively incorporate gender-related concerns and its interrelation with human in normative and programmatic dimension.



### GENERATION OF KNOWLEDGE

► In 2016, PAHO, WHO, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) published the report “Accelerating Progress toward Reducing Teenage Pregnancies in Latin America and the Caribbean,” which identifies teenage pregnancy as one of the region’s main public health challenges. Trends in child, early and forced maternity are a growing concern in the region and reflect the violence perpetrated against women and girls.

## COMPREHENSIVE POLICIES FOR THE DRUG PROBLEM IN THE AMERICAS



### INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

► The “2016-2020 Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs” of the OAS Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) serves as a guide for the implementation of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy (2010) and identifies

objectives and priority actions to be pursued in each of the OAS member states along the five strategic areas identified as: institutional strengthening, demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, and international cooperation. As part of the “Plan of Action”, the institutional strengthening pillar includes specific goals and activities related to gender equity.



## POLITICAL DIALOGUE

► From a gender and human rights approach, the CIM, in collaboration with WOLA, the International Consortium on Drug Policy, DeJusticia and Open Society Foundations, have worked to increase awareness and capacity of policy and decision makers regarding drug policies in several countries in the region, particularly in Costa Rica and Colombia, in order to promote legislative and public policy reforms associated with the involvement of women in the sale of illicit substances.

# PREVENTING AND COMBATING ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, AND EXPLOSIVES



## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

► The Technical Secretariat of the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA) has provided the member states with technical assistance for the drafting of seven model laws, two model regulations, and four guides covering areas addressed by the Convention. Including the criminalization of offenses, firearm marking and tracing, confiscation or forfeiture, security measures to prevent loss or diversion, strengthening controls at points of export, controlled delivery techniques, and record keeping, confidentiality, and exchanges of information.



### Model Regulations

1. Model Regulations for the Control of International Traffic in Firearms, their Parts, Components and Ammunition
2. Model Regulations for the Control of International Traffic in Firearms, their Parts, Components and Ammunition - Provisions on Intermediaries





## **INSTITUTIONAL** STRENGTHENING

► In the “2018-2022 Course of Action”, adopted at the Fourth Conference of CIFTA States Parties (Mexico City, April 4 and 5, 2018), the states parties agreed on specific measures to guide the functioning and enforcement of the CIFTA.



## **POLITICAL** DIALOGUE

► The CIFTA Technical Secretariat continues to take actions to strengthen cooperation with other organizations and it has attended several biannual meetings of UN member states to examine the execution of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all its Aspects.

# ACTIONS AND MECHANISMS TO PROMOTE EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL INTEGRATION, SELF- ESTEEM, AND WELL-BEING AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE



## **TECHNICAL** ASSISTANCE

► In 2017, the OAS Department of Public Security (DPS) continued to provide the member states with technical assistance for reducing youth crime through direct

primary and secondary prevention interventions, by prioritizing attention for at-risk children and adolescents, and through tertiary prevention actions focused on young people in conflict with the law. This way:



psychosocial support, personalized treatment for young people according to their needs, educational activities, life skills development, and the promotion of economic opportunities (jobs and entrepreneurship) is provided.

The DPS has also worked to consolidate hemispheric working methods, such as the development of strategies to strengthen the region's prison system, which involve specific actions for young people in conflict with the law, and to disseminate the document "Reducing Criminal Recidivism: Standardized Methodology for the Monitoring and Evaluation of Social Reintegration Projects and Programs Aimed at Reducing Recidivism" prepared by the DPS.



## POLITICAL DIALOGUE

► The DPS worked with the member states to include venues for discussing good practices on the agenda of the Sixth Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Public Security (MISPA VI).



# CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

## PARTICIPATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY AND SOCIAL ACTORS IN DIALOGUES WITH THE STATES



### INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

► In the Declaration of Cartagena, adopted in April 2018 at the Sixth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean in Colombia, the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean adopted the eLAC 2020 Digital Agenda. This plan encourages regional cooperation for continued progress with inclusion, digitalization of production, skill-building among the population, open government, and forms of governance that bolster cooperation between countries.



### POLITICAL DIALOGUE

- At the 47th General Assembly of the OAS (Cancun, Mexico - June 2017), civil society organizations participated under a new scheme: "I work in self-managed thematic coalitions". 23 coalitions participated.
- Taking into account the experience and lessons learned from the coalition scheme, the Summits of the Americas Secretariat, in collaboration with the OAS Secretariat for

Access to Rights and Equity, implemented this format for the participation of civil society and social actors in the preparation of the Eighth Summit in order to promote the impact of this sector, and to inform and enrich the deliberations of the States participating in the Summit Process. 28 official coalitions participated, each with their own recommendations that were presented to the states during the Summit Process.

## EMPOWERING WOMEN AND PROTECTING AND GUARANTEEING THEIR RIGHTS



### GENERATION OF KNOWLEDGE

- In order to incorporate the gender agenda into electoral processes, the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), in collaboration with the OAS School of Governance, promotes the Elvia Carrillo Skill-building Course for Female Candidates. This course seeks to strengthen the development of skills among women candidates in the areas of communicating and constructing a political agenda, running and organizing electoral campaigns, managing electoral budgets, negotiation and conflict resolution, and the women's rights and gender equality agenda. This effort is part of a series of on-site and on-line courses on women's human rights and gender equality that the CIM offers to the member states. The CIM is the leading forum for discussing and formulating policies on the rights of women and gender equality in the Americas.

# DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

## STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY AND THE RULE OF LAW



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

► The OAS General Secretariat, through the Department of Legal Cooperation, is developing cooperation tools as part of its commitment to strengthening the states' legal and institutional systems for increasing transparency and fighting corruption. These tools address issues such as the systematized compilation of domestic laws and the preparation of legislative guides on the topics examined by the Mechanism for Follow-up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC).





## INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

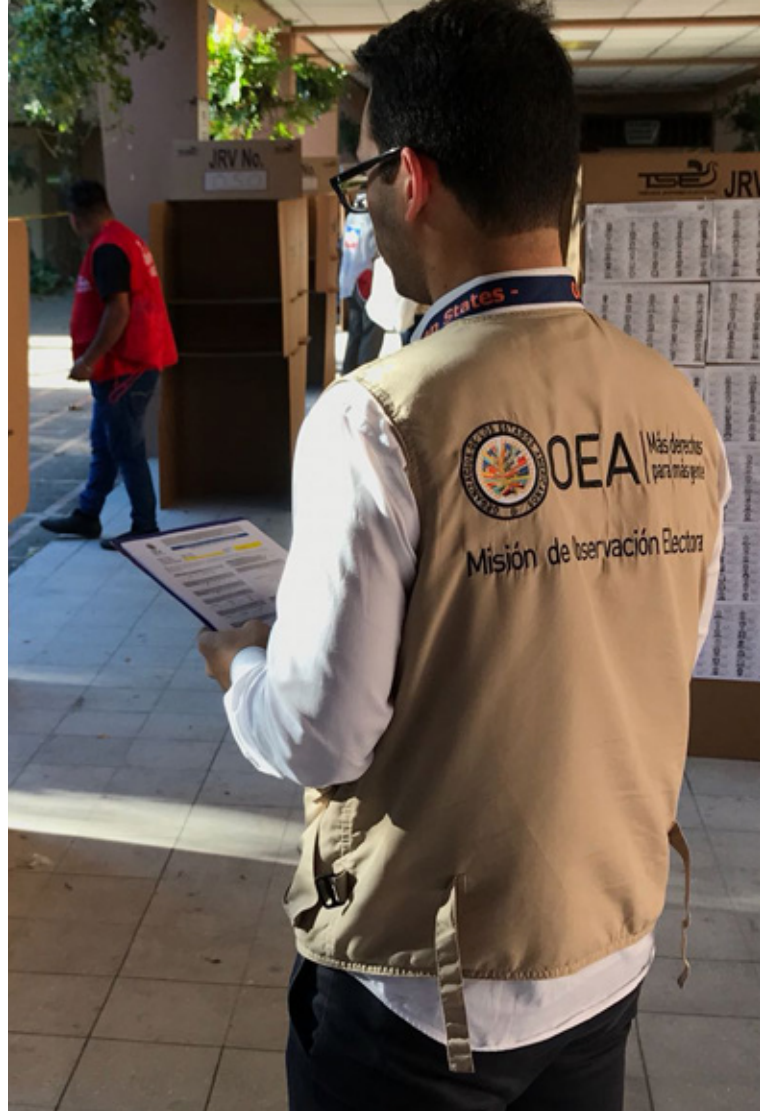
► In March 2017, the OAS Department of International Law (DIL) presented the Inter-American Program on Access to Public Information before the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP) of the OAS Permanent Council, in order to further promote transparency and citizen participation in public affairs. The program was adopted by the General Assembly, setting a clear roadmap to continued advancing in the protection of the right of access to public information in the Hemisphere. The program emphasizes the fundamental role of access to public information in electoral and democratic processes, state governance, transparency, anticorruption efforts, and the protection and promotion of human rights.

## STRENGTHENING INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL AGENCIES TO GUARANTEE INTEGRITY IN ELECTIONS



## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

► The OAS Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO) provides and maintains a permanent and professional electoral observation and technical cooperation service for the member countries. The work of the Electoral Observation Missions (EOMs) that DECO carries out covers the pre-election phase, election day, and the postelectoral phase. EOMs collect and examine information on matters related to equity and transparency



in elections, including organizing elections, electoral technology, media access, mechanisms for electoral justice, political participation by women, overseas voting, participation by people with disabilities, indigenous and Afro-descendent peoples, campaign finance, electoral violence, and state interference in elections.





**MORE THAN 250 ELECTORAL  
OBSERVATION MISSIONS  
HAVE BEEN DEPLOYED TO 27  
COUNTRIES WITHIN THE REGION**

## UNIVERSAL CIVIL REGISTRATION AND PROMOTION OF OPEN GOVERNMENT AND TRANSPARENCY



### **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

► The Program for Universal Civil Registry in the Americas (PUICA) supports the member states in their efforts to eradicate under-registration, in order to guarantee recognition of the right of civil identity for all the people in the region. **Currently, registration problems affect three million children in the Americas (6% of all children under-five) and a similar number of adults.**

All PUICA's activities are geared toward meeting the five goals set by the Inter-American Program for Universal Civil Registry and the Right of Identity: (1) universalization and accessibility of civil registration and the right to identity, (2) strengthening policies, public institutions, and legislation, (3) participation and awareness, (4) identification of best practices, and (5) international and regional cooperation.

Since 2010, PUICA has carried out projects in a total of nineteen member states of Central America, South America, and the Caribbean, which has allowed the issuing and delivering of more than:



**19 MILLION BIRTH CERTIFICATES  
OR NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION  
CARDS TO CITIZENS IN THE  
AMERICAS**

## TRANSPARENCY, CITIZEN PARTICIPATION, AND SOCIAL INCLUSION



### **GENERATION OF KNOWLEDGE**

► In 2017, IDB member countries significantly increased their demand for support in matters of transparency, integrity and control of corruption. The IDB used its three basic pillars of support: knowledge and dialogue, technical assistance and loan operations.

► Technical assistance programs were approved for more than \$3 million on issues related to financial transparency, open government, governance of natural resources and strengthening of control agencies.

► In terms of loan operations, the IDB approved policies and investment loans for \$320 million.



## GENERATION OF KNOWLEDGE

- ▶ The following documents were published “A Brief History of Financial Transparency”, “The Use of Corruption Indicators in Sovereign Risk Ratings”, “Accountability: The IDB’s Transparency and Anticorruption Agenda (2009-2015)” and “Regulation on final beneficiaries in Latin America and the Caribbean”.
- ▶ The OAS Department of Effective Public Management (DGPE), through the Inter-American Government Procurement Network (RICG) and the OAS School of Government, with the support of the IDB, developed a virtual course on “Information Technology and Communications (ICT) and Public Procurement “, to train public officials in this area.



## POLITICAL DIALOGUE

- ▶ The RICG has developed spaces for dialogue for the exchange of experiences among national agencies of public procurement, the promotion of open contracting, and the promotion of the use of technological tools to improve transparency and citizen participation.

## OPEN GOVERNMENT



### GENERATION OF KNOWLEDGE

- ▶ Within the framework of the efforts to implement open government practices in the region, the OAS implemented the Open Government Fellowship Program in the Americas, which is a leadership program on issues of transparency and citizen participation that has had three editions (2015, 2016 and 2017), with the participation of 69 young leaders from 20 countries of the Americas, the

public sector, civil society and the private sector. The OAS Fellowship has allowed the consolidation of a network of agents of change that brings together young leaders from the region, aiming to shape future conversations and the realities of Open Government in the Americas while encouraging their participation in knowledge transfers and regional cooperation activities.



## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ▶ The DGPE, in the implementation of projects co-executed under the Latin American Initiative for Open Data (ILDA), with financial support from the International Development Research Center (IDRC) of Canada, has provided technical assistance to five countries to strengthen their national ecosystems of open government for the co-creation of a public policy of open data between government and civil society, through the implementation of national tables in Peru and El Salvador (2015), Costa Rica (2016), Guatemala and the Dominican Republic (2017).

## COMBATING CORRUPTION



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ▶ The Mission to Support the Fight against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras (MACCIH) was created in 2016 under an agreement between the Government of Honduras and the OAS. MACCIH fights corruption and impunity by supporting the reforms of the Honduran criminal justice system and dismantling corruption networks. This is accomplished through active cooperation, which means that the Mission forges direct ties with Honduran institutions in order to implement an anticorruption agenda.

# HEMISPHERIC PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT



## INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

► Access to broadband for overcoming the digital divide is one aspect of hemispheric cooperation enshrined in the Mandates for Action of the Seventh Summit of the Americas, and results are expected to improve significantly by 2025. In connection with this, the 2014-2018 Strategic Plan of the OAS Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) includes expanding access to international internet connectivity, particularly in landlocked countries and small island states. Its most recent efforts include:





**The presentation of two proposals that contributed to the establishment of new standards for broadband access that reflect the agreement of the CITELOAS member states at the World Telecommunication Development Conference held under the aegis of UN/ITU (Argentina, October 2017)**



**The adoption of guidelines for digital inclusion and the mass take-up of broadband in the Americas**



**The design of surveys and questionnaires to gather information from CITELOAS member states and associate members, with a view to issuing reports on satellite broadband systems in the Americas**



► The OAS, through the efforts of the Department of International Law (DIL), including the Secured Transactions Project, has been working to develop regimes for secured transactions and their registries in the Americas, strengthening the member states' ability to implement policies and establish frameworks for guaranteed funding that encourages equitable access to credit, paying particular attention to microenterprises, small and medium-sized businesses, and taking into account the modern funding needs of companies owned by women.

Regional standardization and the harmonization of laws governing secured transactions are issues that have been closely examined by the OAS member states. In 2002 and 2009 respectively, two instruments were adopted: the Model Inter-American Law on Secured Transactions, and the Model Registry Regulations. Through the OAS Secured Transactions Project, the DIL is assisting the member states with the modernization and harmonization of their legal frameworks for secured transactions in accordance with those OAS model laws and other international instruments, setting a foundation for the harmonization of laws and economic integration.

# ***AUTHORITIES OF THE JOINT SUMMIT WORKING GROUP***

---



**Luis Almagro** - Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS)



**Luis Alberto Moreno** - President of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)



**Alicia Bárcena Ibarra** - Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean



**Carissa F. Etienne** - Director of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)



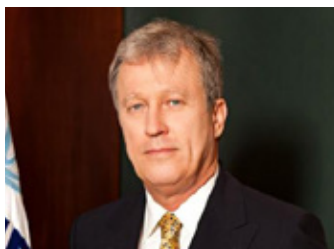
**Jim Yong Kim** - President of the World Bank Group (World Bank)



**Manuel Otero** - Director General of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)

# ***AUTHORITIES OF THE JOINT SUMMIT WORKING GROUP***

---



**Nick Rischbieth Glöe** - Executive President of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI)



**Luis Carranza Ugarte** - Executive President of the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF)



**William Warren Smith** - President of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)



**William Lacy Swing** - Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM)



**Guy Ryder** - Director General of the International Labour Organization (ILO)



**Achim Steiner** - Administrator of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP)



Summits of the Americas Secretariat  
Secretariat for Hemispheric Affairs  
Organization of American States



Address: 1889 F St. NW, Washington  
DC 20006 USA



Phone: + 202 370 0854  
Fax +202 458 3665



@SummitAmericas



<http://www.summit-americas.org>

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