



PARTICIPATION OF SOCIAL ACTORS IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SUMMITS OF THE AMERICAS PROCESS

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Methodology for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations and Social Actors in the Follow-up and Implementation of the IX Summit of the Americas

The purpose of this methodology is to provide Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Social Actors with information regarding their participation in the follow-up and implementation phase of the Ninth Summit of the Americas.

The follow-up phase provides CSOs and social actors with the opportunity to have an impact on the Process by formulating recommendations on actions related to the mandates of the IX Summit for the consideration of the countries participating in the Summits Process. In addition, several spaces are provided that allow CSOs and social actors to showcase projects and initiatives they are implementing in their respective communities, and exchange good practices among themselves and with other stakeholders of the Summits Process.

This document includes information about the Summits Process, the methodology for participating in the activities of the follow-up of the IX Summit, a preliminary schedule of activities, and contact information.

I. Summits of the Americas Process

The Summits of the Americas Process is a mechanism for regional dialogue that brings together the Heads of State and Government of the Hemisphere and other stakeholders in order to discuss common policy issues, seek solutions, and develop a shared vision for future socioeconomic and political development in the region. The declarations, political commitments, action plans, initiatives, and mandates that are adopted at the Summits reflect the determination to develop effective, practical, and joint solutions to resolve the problems facing citizens of the Americas.

To date, nine (9) Summits of the Americas and two (2) Special Summits have been held.¹

The Summits of the Americas Process is a cyclical process composed of three phases:

- Preparatory phase towards each Summit, where documents to be adopted by participating countries of the Summits Process are negotiated.
- Summit of the Americas, where Heads of State and Government meet to discuss common and relevant issues to the region and adopt mandates.

1. Miami, USA (1994); Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia (Special Summit-1996); Santiago, Chile (1998); Quebec City, Canada (2001); Monterrey, Mexico (Special Summit-2004); Mar de Plata, Argentina (2005); Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago (2009) Cartagena, Colombia (2012), Panama City, Panama (2015); Lima, Peru (2018); Los Angeles, United States (2022).

- Follow-up and implementation phase, where adopted mandates are implemented.

The Summits Process includes a wide array of stakeholders: participating states of the Summits Process, which comprise the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG),² government representatives that participate in the OAS ministerial meetings, international and regional institutions of the Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG)³, CSOs and other social actors, such as youth, women's organizations, labor unions, Afro-descendants, indigenous peoples, the private sector, academia, among others.

The **Ninth Summit of the Americas** took place in **Los Angeles, United States, at the beginning of June 2022**.

The theme of the Ninth Summit, proposed by the Government of the United States in its capacity as Chair of the Summits Process, was **“Building a Sustainable, Resilient, and Equitable Future.”** Five (5) thematic pillars were established which resulted in mandates reflected in the following documents:

[Action Plan on Health and Resilience in the Americas](#)

[Regional Agenda for Digital Transformation](#)

[Accelerating the Clean, Sustainable, Renewable, and Just Energy Transition](#)

[Our Sustainable Green Future](#)

[Inter-American Action Plan on Democratic Governance](#)

After the IX Summit, the different stakeholders of the Summit Process, including CSOs and social actors, will work on the follow-up and implementation of the IX Summit mandates. These mandates highlight the participation and importance of CSOs and social actors to advance their development and implementation. Mandates are available at the following link: [SISCA \(summit-americas.org\)](https://www.sisca.org).

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2. The SIRG is the core management body of the Summits Process and is comprised of government officials of the countries of the hemisphere, which are represented in the SIRG by their appointed National Coordinators.
 3. The JSWG coordinates the support of 13 inter-American and international institutions to the Summits process. These institutions are: the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the United Nations Economic Commission on Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the World Bank (WB), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

II. Methodology for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations Social Actors: Thematic-Subregional Working Groups

In order to ensure effective and inclusive participation in the follow up phase, CSOs and social actors are invited to join *the thematic-subregional working groups*, which were created during the preparatory phase of the IX Summit.⁴

During the follow-up phase, the objective of the *working groups* will be to dialogue and formulate recommendations on actions related to the IX Summit mandates, as well as present and showcase CSO and social actors' initiatives related to the thematic of the commitments.

As mentioned above, there are **15 subregional thematic working groups**:

1. Working Groups on Health and Resilience
 - Canada, the Caribbean and the United States
 - Mesoamerica
 - South America
2. Working Groups on Our Green Future
 - a. Canada, the Caribbean and the United States
 - b. Mesoamerica
 - c. South America
3. Working Groups on Clean Energy
 - a. Canada, the Caribbean and the United States
 - b. Mesoamerica
 - c. South America
4. Working Groups on Digital Transformation
 - a. Canada, the Caribbean and the United States
 - b. Mesoamerica
 - c. South America
5. Working Groups on Democratic Governance
 - a. Canada, the Caribbean and the United States
 - b. Mesoamerica
 - c. South America

The thematic-subregional working groups shall:

1. Be comprised of CSOs representatives and social actors from the following sub-regions: (a) Canada, the Caribbean, and the United States; (b) Mesoamerica; (c) South America⁵; and that its work focuses on the five thematic pillars⁶.

⁴ To learn more about the participation guide for the preparatory phase, please access the following link: [here](#).

⁵ a) Canada, the Caribbean, and the United States Subregion: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, the Bahamas, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and the United States; (b) Mesoamerica Subregion: Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Panama; (c) South America Subregion: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Venezuela.⁵

⁶ Health and Resilience, Green Future, Clean Energy, Digital Transformation, and Democratic Governance.

2. Be self-managed. Each group defines its work methodology, including the process of selecting spokespersons, who have the role of compiling and presenting the recommendations of each thematic group to the government representatives, coordinating the work of their groups, and being the point of contact with the Summits Secretariat. Currently, there are 15 spokespersons.
3. The working groups of Canada, the Caribbean, and the United States subregion work and prepare their reports in English, while the working groups of the Mesoamerica and South America subregions in Spanish.

It is expected that the inputs of each group will be presented to the government representatives during the follow-up and implementation phase of the IX Summit, by spokespersons selected by their peers. These reports of recommendations will be made available on the civil society and social actors' section of the [Summits Secretariat website](#).

Process to request participation in the working groups

In order to consider the applications of new CSOs and social actors interested in participating in the thematic-subregional working groups, their requests should be submitted before **November 30, 2022**, by completing the form: <https://summitamericas.typeform.com/to/tuS0QB3z>.

The participation request form requires the following information:

- Acceptance of the *Terms and Conditions of the Principles for Participation of Civil Society Organizations and Social Actors*.
- General information about the CSO or social actor.
- Identification of the subregions of the Hemisphere where the CSOs or social actors work.
- Identification of Ninth Summit thematic pillar(s) that the organization or social actor would like to work on (a maximum of 3 thematic pillars may be selected for each organization or social actor).
- CSOs and social actors will be allowed to participate in all selected working groups⁷
 - In the case of CSOs, they will have to assign one representative per subregional thematic working group in which they wish to participate.

The lists of members of the working groups by thematic pillar are available at the following link:

[Our Green Future](#)
[Health and Resilience](#)
[Digital Transformation](#)
[Democratic Governance](#)
[Clean Energy](#)

These lists will be updated with the names of new members periodically.

⁷ There may be events and working group meetings that may take place at the same date and time.

III. Activities with civil society organizations and social actors during the follow-up and implementation phase of the Ninth Summit.

In order to continue a dialogue process with CSOs and social actors on the implementation of the IX Summit mandates, the US Government, in collaboration with the Summits Secretariat, plans to carry out the following activities:

Preliminary Calendar of Activities*

October 2022 – March 2023		
Open Call for Participation: Subregional Thematic Working Groups	November 2022	Virtual
Summit Lab: Training Workshop on Strategic Communication	November 2022	Virtual
Confirmation of the approval of the application for participation in the working groups	December 2022 - January 2023	Virtual
Open Call for Photo Contest on the implementation of the mandates of the IX Summit	December 2022	Virtual
Open Call for Initiatives Fair on the implementation of the mandates of the IX Summit	December 2022	Virtual
Summit Lab: Training Workshop on Digital Literacy	February- March 2023	Virtual
Summit Lab: Training Workshop on Digital Transformation	February -March 2023	Virtual
Summit Talk: Dialogue on the IX Summit outcomes	February - March 2023	To be confirmed


*These are preliminary activities and dates. CSOs and social actors will be notified in a timely manner of any changes to the dates, as well as of registration procedures for each activity.

IV. Contact Information of the Summits of the Americas Secretariat

- If you have any questions, please contact: summitcso@oas.org.
- For further information on the Summits Process, please visit our web page and follow us on social media:

- www.summit-americas.org

 [SummitAmericas](https://www.facebook.com/SummitAmericas)

 [SummitAmericas](https://twitter.com/SummitAmericas)

 [SummitAmericas](https://www.instagram.com/SummitAmericas)