The Joint Summit Working Group
The number of institutions that make up the Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG)
On behalf of the member institutions of the **Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG)**, the Organization of American States (OAS) is pleased to present an indicative summary of some of the advances made by the institutions of the JSWG in follow up or related to the initiatives emanating from the VII Summit of the Americas held in April 2015 in Panama City, Panama. The implementation of these initiatives reflects the commitment of the JSWG institutions to the Summits process, and ultimately to the citizens of the hemisphere in the areas of education, health, energy, environment, security, citizen participation, democratic governance and hemispheric partnership for development.

The JSWG was created after the III Summit of the Americas held in Quebec City, Canada, in 2001, which underscored the need for permanent coordination in the implementation of mandates through the involvement of international organizations. Since then, the 12 member institutions that make up this group, under the coordination of the OAS, have actively supported the Summits process in the implementation of initiatives, as well as during the preparation phase of the process prior to each Summit.

The OAS would like to extend its appreciation to the JSWG for their contributions and continuous support to the Summits process.

**Organization of American States**

For more information, please visit: [www.summit-americas.org](http://www.summit-americas.org)
Security

The Project of Prevention of Crimes Related to Irregular Migration in Mesoamerica is implemented with the objective of promoting and supporting strategies for the prevention of irregular migration, especially in those areas with high propensity to emigrate; creating and strengthening human and institutional capacities to confront the smuggling of migrants; and promoting the formulation and implementation of policies for the protection of the human rights of migrants, particularly vulnerable groups. This Project is carried out in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic. The Project promotes the formulation and implementation of policies for the protection of human rights of migrants, particularly groups in vulnerable situations, such as: women, children, adolescents, indigenous people, people with disabilities and LGBT. Main achievements of the project include: more than 4,400 beneficiaries (in secondary schools and communities) sensitized about the risks of irregular migration; more than 440 national officials trained in migratory border control, human rights and victim identification.

Establishment of an Asset Recovery Network for the Caribbean

This project aims to promote the development of international cooperation among the Caribbean jurisdictions in asset recovery and asset sharing and to assist them in the implementation of international standards through the creation of an asset recovery network.
Main achievements of this project include: the level of awareness in officers when exchanging information in a timely manner to locate assets in foreign jurisdictions increased and the best practices in exchanging information in money laundering investigations were implemented. Additionally, the OAS/CICTE is working on initiatives that encourage women to pursue a career in digital security. For instance, the Cybersecurity Program is organizing, in partnership with the National Cybersecurity Institute (INCIBE), the First International Forum on “Gender and Cybersecurity: creating a more inclusive digital world,” which will take place in June 2017.

**Democratic Governance**

The OAS is a recognized center of excellence in the area of electoral processes, working with Member States to improve the quality of oversight and the integrity of voter’s lists and registers. The OAS organize and deploy 27 Electoral Observation Missions from 2015 to 2017. Democratic integrity in the functioning of governments is also a priority of the Department of Effective Public Management, which this year launched the OAS School of Governance.

**The Universal Civil Identity Program in the Americas (PUICA)** is the area of the OAS in charge of strengthening civil registration and identification systems and promoting universal civil identity in the region. PUICA supports Member States in their efforts to eradicate under-registration, in order to ensure recognition of the right to civil identity for all persons in the region.

**The Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC)** is an intergovernmental instrument with civil society participation established within the framework of the OAS. It assists member states with implementation of the Convention by making recommendations on ways to enhance their legal and institutional tools for fighting corruption. Currently, the MESICIC is working on the following Convention-related topics: merit-based selection of public servants, their training and salaries; transparent and efficient government hiring systems; criminalization of acts of corruption and protection for whistleblowers.

**Access to Public Information**

The OAS, though the Department of International Law (DIL) has led activities of the Organization in the area of access to public information and has focused its efforts on the promotion and implementation of the Model Inter-American Law on Access to Information, as well as in the dissemination and coordination of the Inter-American Program in Argentina, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Peru.

**Citizen Participation**

Virtually all areas of OAS activities reach beyond Member States to engage the cooperation of other sectors of expertise, including business, academics, civil society and other stakeholders. Open Government programs reinforce the importance of inclusive approaches in legitimizing government action. In its own meetings and deliberations, the OAS is at pains to widen participation, through webcast as well as in ensuring mechanisms to incorporate civil society participation in its major deliberative bodies - the General Assembly and the Summits of the Americas.

**ABOUT OAS**

The OAS is the world’s oldest regional organization and constitutes the principal forum of debate in the Hemisphere on political, security, judicial, and social issues. At the core of the OAS mission is an unequivocal commitment to democracy, as expressed in the Inter-American Democratic Charter. Building on this foundation, the OAS works to promote good governance, strengthen human rights, foster peace and security and address the complex problems caused by poverty and inequality, crime and corruption.
Education

In 2016, the IDB and Fundación Chile, with the support of the Education Ministries of Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay launched SUMMA - the first Education Research and Innovation Laboratory for Latin America and the Caribbean. SUMMA’s mission is to contribute to and increase the quality, equity and inclusion of the educational systems in the region, through the improvement of the decision-making process regarding educational policies and practices. In recent months, SUMMA has established a small technical team, based in Fundación Chile, to implement the initiative, developed a web portal, www.summaedu.org, held launch events to disseminate the initiative in Washington, DC and Santiago, Chile; initiated research on regional education financing, to bring to the region an application of the Global Commission on Education Financing’s 2016 report; and has convened a group of global experts to serve in its Advisory Council.

Health

Since 2015 the IDB belongs to the Inter-American Task Force on Non-Communicable Diseases, which jointly with PAHO, OAS, CIM, IOM, IICA, ECLAC, and the WB, promotes collaboration across government sectors in the Americas for a comprehensive response to Non-Communicable Diseases at the national, sub-regional and regional levels. IDB is partner of the Regional Multiagency Coordinating Mechanism (RMCM), with UNICEF, UNFPA, WB, PAHO, USAID and UNAIDS. RMCM which in 2017, will facilitate achievement of targets of the Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health 2016-2030 in LAC countries in tackling the root causes of maternal, child and adolescent mortality and morbidity, including health inequities and related social determinants.

Energy

In the last 5 years, the IDB has approved an average of over US$1 billion per year in lending to support the region’s energy needs, with an aim of increasing access to efficient, sustainable, reliable, and affordable energy, providing a diversified and secure energy source, while reducing poverty, promoting improved quality of life, and fostering competitiveness, economic growth, and development. As example, the Bank is continuing to serve as the hub for Latin America of the Sustainable Energy for All Initiative (SE4ALL) in the areas of energy access, renewable energy and energy efficiency in coordination with the governments and executing agencies in the region.

Environment

In 2016, IDB took important steps toward better supporting countries in the region pursuing environmental sustainability in their development. Given the prioritization of mainstreaming climate change and environmental sustainability in its Institutional Strategy, we consoli- dated the functions, resources, and expertise in climate change, sustainable cities, and sustainable landscapes into a single Climate Change and Sustainable Development Sector department to ensure a coordinated and consistent approach. In addition, the Bank piloted procedures for improved risk assessments to strengthen investments in more resilient communities and infrastructure.

Migration

In 2016, the governments of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras assigned around USD $2.9 billion to support the implementation of the Plan of the Alliance for the Prosperity of the Northern Triangle, whose objective is to prevent migration through articulated and coordinated interventions that strengthen institutions and security, aim for a more inclusive society, and build trust with the private sector and citizens. The IDB continued acting as Technical Secretariat of the Plan in 2016, providing technical assistance to the governments for its implementation. During this period, the IDB has provided coordination support amongst the Northern Triangle countries, the U.S. government, and civil society.

Security

The IDB work with governments in the Caribbean to improve data on citizen security through primary data generation, to better inform evidence-based policy. The findings of a standardized crime victimization survey, implemented in five Caribbean countries (Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and Suriname), were published in the regional report Restoring Paradise in the Caribbean: Combatting Violence with Numbers. These surveys cover a representative sample of the population and allow for measuring the percent-
age of the population victimized by different types of crimes, as well as the details of these experiences. Similarly, the report includes findings from a survey module on crime victimization of businesses in 13 Caribbean countries. IDB is also working with governments across the Caribbean, UN Women and the Global Women’s Institute, to implement nationally representative surveys on Violence against Women (VAW), using a standardized World Health Organization (WHO) questionnaire and protocol.

Democratic Governance

MapaInversiones is a regional initiative to develop and implement technological platforms for information management in Latin America and the Caribbean. The aim of these platforms is to make public investments in countries in the region transparent, contributing to improvements in their quality and efficiency. The platforms will present data and information through an interactive map, visualizations, and text, which may be of interest to governments, citizens, and businesses. The initiative has been officially launched at the regional level alongside a website that includes information about the initiative, and knowledge products. Paraguay, one of the countries participating in the initiative, has developed an app for mobile devices that allows the public investment executing agencies to upload photos of the projects to the MapaInversiones Paraguay platform.

Citizen Participation

The IDB is working to improve the production and dissemination of updated information about civil registry and legal identity to promote the standardization of procedures and systems in this area. It has supported specialized studies, workshops and events to dissemi-nate and discuss new challenges around birth registry and access to legal identity. With the collaboration of the OAS, the IDB supported the organization of two of the annual meetings of the Latin American and Caribbean Council of Civil Registry, Identity and Vital Statistics (CLARCEIV) and an on-line course, Right to identity, civil registry and vital statistics. It has supported the publication and dissemination of two books: Toward Universal Birth Registration: a systematic approach to the application of ICT, in collaboration with UNICEF and Civil Registry Dictionary, which have contributed to the use of standardized concepts and to define guidelines to promote the use of information and communication technology (ICT) in birth registry.

Hemispheric Cooperation

Broadband access to overcome the digital gap

During the last year, the IDB continued deepening its work to bridge the digital gap in terms of connectivity and its use for the development of the digital economy. The Bank published, with the OECD, a toolkit with recommendations for IDB members on specific actions from the supply and the demand side. Also, it launched an updated version of the digilac platform (www.iadb.org/digilac) on the status of the LAC Region in terms of digitalization, regulatory policy and availability of digital infrastructure.

Investment in infrastructure and its effectiveness

In 2016, the IDB, CAF, and ECLAC launched the open data portal INFRALATAM with up-to-date information on investment in economic infrastructure for 18 Latin American and Caribbean countries. This initiative proposes not only an annual update of the figures, but also an extension of the coverage to a greater number of countries, and a process of continuous improvement of the available data. Given the sizable infrastructure gap faced by the region, the portal will be useful for establishing the level of investment required, guiding the allocation of public resources, establishing priorities and programming projects, prompting private involvement, and incentivizing the use of resources with a high potential for impact for sustainable development and quality of life is countries of the region.
Education

ECLAC has prioritized the analysis of the role of education in social inclusion, monitoring progress, gaps and challenges. For example, a study was prepared on gaps and educational inequality, and on school segregation in the Latin America and the Caribbean region, recognizing that this is one of the key factors of social inequality. On the other hand, the incorporation of Information and Communication Technologies in schools is seen as an opportunity to reduce inequalities of access to technologies, but also of learning and formation of new skills required in the information society. ECLAC supports the activities of the Observatorio Regional de Educación Inclusiva (OREI). ECLAC also participated in the effort coordinated by the OAS, to develop an inter-American agenda of education. In addition, together with OECD and CAF, ECLAC prepared the “Perspectivas económicas de América Latina 2017: Juventud, Competencias y Emprendimiento”, which was presented to the Heads of State at the Ibero-American Summit.

Health

ECLAC is carrying out the pilot study “Impactos sociales y económicos de la doble carga de la malnutrición”. This study, carried out under the current agreement with the World Food Program for nutrition issues, tests a methodology for estimating the social and economic burden for countries, associated with undernutrition and overweight and obesity in children and adults. Chile, Ecuador and Mexico participated in this pilot and will be replicated in other countries of the region. In digital health, ECLAC has worked on the design of a methodology for the analysis of processes and evaluation of the impact of investments, which is being applied in Uruguay to the program “Salud digital.uy” with the technical assistance of the ECLAC.

Energy

ECLAC has worked in energy cooperation through the program BIEE (Base de indicadores de Eficiencia Energética) that seeks to generate a database - both at national and regional level - which will serve to measure the performance of energy efficiency policies and formulate policies and programmes. In addition, since February 2016, ECLAC is a member of the United Nations “SE4ALL/Americas” initiative, which pursues the following objectives: a) ensure universal access to modern energy services; (b) double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency; and, c) duplicate the participation of renewable energies in overall energy mix.

Migration

The core activities in international migration, human rights and development have been strongly related to monitoring the “Consenso de Montevideo” and the “Segunda Conferencia Regional sobre Población y Desarrollo” (Mexico, October 2015). The report: “Nuevas tendencias y dinámicas migratorias en América Latina y el Caribe”, describes the recent migratory dynamics of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Among other activities, ECLAC continued processing 2010 census information corresponding to ten countries to update the data base of the research on International Migration in Latin America (IMILA). The publications in this field include “Oportunidades e incertidumbre a la luz del Segundo Diálogo de Alto Nivel sobre Migración Internacional y Desarrollo”, in the journal “Coyuntura Demográfica”.

Environment

In April 2017, the countries of the region reaffirmed their collective commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development during the first meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, which was created as the regional mechanism for implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda. The Sixth Meeting of the Negotiating Committee of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, was organized by ECLAC and the government of Brazil in March 2017, toward reaching a regional agreement this year on rights of access to environmental information, participation and justice, enshrined in Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (Rio + 20).
Democratic Governance

ECLAC published “Panorama regional de los datos abiertos: avances y desafíos en América Latina y el Caribe”. It analyzes the efforts of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to take advantage of the opportunities offered by information technologies to manage data and make it available to citizens via portals, as well as, through initiatives to give public value and generate new applications that give new results and solve common problems. “La contribución del gobierno electrónico y los datos abiertos en la integración regional”, which offers an overview of integration using e-government services and applications developed with open government data with special attention to sustainable development and development of small and medium-sized enterprises.

Citizen Participation

ECLAC has continued offering the course on “Planificación participativa para el cambio estructural”, of which 200 students have participated to date. The purpose of the course is sharing theoretical frameworks, and case studies in development of best practices in the region and a methodological exercise on how to carry out a strategy of participation in the construction of public policies. A manual has also been published: “La planificación participativa para lograr un cambio estructural con igualdad: las estrategias de participación ciudadana en los procesos de planificación multi-esca lar”.

Hemispheric Cooperation

Access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation: ECLAC organized the event “Gobernanza del Nexo Agua, Energía y Alimentación: Desafíos de la Agenda 2030 en Agua y Saneamiento” (Antigua, Guatemala, 6 of September 7, 2016). ECLAC published “Desafios de la seguridad hídrica en América Latina y el Caribe” and “América Latina y el Caribe hacia los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible en agua y saneamiento: Reformas recientes de políticas sectoriales”.

Broadband access to overcome the digital gap: ECLAC promotes the creation of a regional digital market in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will contribute to development with equality and environmental sustainability in the region. This was proposed during the Fourth Latin American Telecommunications Congress which was held in Cancun, Mexico, in August 2016. The report “Estado de la banda ancha en América Latina y el Caribe 2016” was published, which highlights the significant increase in the use and access to the Internet in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2015.

Investment in infrastructure and its effectiveness: ECLAC, together with CAF and IDB launched, in August of 2016, the database on investment in infrastructure in Latin America and the Caribbean, made available on the INFRALATAM website that offers data on infrastructure investments from countries of the region. This joint initiative, seeks to measure and promote the analysis of investments in this area, and includes data of investment in infrastructure for 15 countries in Latin America, for the period 2008-2013.

Access to credit geared toward human development: ECLAC published the document “El financiamiento para el desarrollo en América Latina y el Caribe”, which discuss the evolution of the flows of financing available to Latin America and the Caribbean for their spending on consumption and investment - public and private.
Health

Universal Access to Health and Universal Health Coverage Strategy:

PAHO/WHO has worked with countries to expand access to health through initiatives such as financing, legislation, improvements in management and service delivery, preparedness for outbreaks, and support to health systems to achieve universal health coverage. Important parts of this effort have focused on human resources for health, access to medicines and health-technologies.

Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health:

PAHO/WHO worked to address adolescent pregnancy in the Southern Cone and in Central America and the Dominican Republic to monitor inequalities on maternal, child and adolescent health. Also developed recommendations to improve the health of women, children and adolescents and commit to implement the Global Strategy for Women’s Children’s and Adolescents’ Health.

Nutrition:

PAHO/WHO provided support to countries on maternal, infant and young child nutrition, and prevention of malnutrition. This covered activities to prevent obesity in children and adolescents through promotion of breastfeeding, reduction of salt consumption, and guidance on policies to regulate food marketing and nutrition labeling.
Access to water and sanitation:

To reduce the risk of water-borne diseases such as cholera, typhoid and polio, PAHO/WHO strengthened a rapid-response regional team to respond to outbreaks and intensified activities for water and sanitation security planning.

Inter-American Task Force on NCDs:

PAHO/WHO continued to support countries in the Americas to prevent and control noncommunicable diseases, working with the Inter-American system to provide policy advice, technical assistance, resource mobilization and capacity building. The aim is better coordinate actions that will help the countries reduce the high burden of these diseases, which are responsible for 80% of all deaths in the Americas.

International Health Regulations and Control of Outbreaks:

PAHO has advanced in work to control international spread of disease through the International Health Regulations, in areas including risk management and improving preparedness for acute public health events. To better handle the approximately 100 acute events each year that have potential international health implications, PAHO has established a Health Emergencies Department which has handled outbreaks such as Zika Virus and Yellow Fever, activating an Incident Management System when needed and deploying field response teams to affected countries.

ABOUT PAHO

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is an international public health agency with more than 100 years of experience in working to improve health and living standards of the countries of the Americas. It serves as the specialized organization for health off the Inter-American System. It also serves as the Regional Office for the Americas of the World Health Organization (WHO) and enjoys international recognition as part of the United Nations system. The Organization’s essential mission is to strengthen national and local health systems and improve the health of the peoples of the Americas, in collaboration with Ministries of Health, other governments and international agencies, nongovernmental organizations, universities, social security agencies, community groups, and many others.
Education
Regional Program for the Development of the Teacher Profession in Latin America and the Caribbean

The World Bank Education team has been working to follow up on the commitment Vice President Jorge Fami liar made at the Summit of the Americas to support improvements in the quality of education. The Bank has facilitated a series of regional summits in Bogota, Puebla and Buenos Aires since February 2016 and participated in the Ministerial Meeting in Bahamas in February, 2017. In Buenos Aires, 25 countries representatives and multilateral organizations (OEI, OAS, UNESCO IESALC and OREALC, IDB, CAF) signed a declaration establishing the Regional Program for the Development of the Teacher Profession in Latin America and the Caribbean. The program seeks to improve initial and in-service teacher training in the region through: the identification, dissemination, and replication of innovative experiences in teacher training policies, institutions and programs; the development of a common quality assurance framework for teacher training programs; and the promotion of advanced degrees for professors of teacher training institutions. The program’s steering committee (composed of five countries and four multilateral institutions) and technical committee have begun implementation and anticipate early results this coming fall.
The World Bank is an international financial institution that provides low-interest loans, interest-free credits and grants to developing countries for a wide array of purposes that include investments in education, health, public administration, infrastructure, financial and private sector development, agriculture and environmental and natural resource management.

The World Bank is made up of two unique development institutions owned by 187 member countries: the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA). Each institution plays a different but collaborative role in advancing the vision of inclusive and sustainable globalization. The IBRD aims to reduce poverty in middle-income and creditworthy poorer countries, while IDA focuses on the world’s poorest countries.
IICA provides technical cooperation for agriculture in hemispheric, regional, and national projects in accordance with the priorities identified by its Member States. Through the implementation of 5 inter-American projects, 12 multinational projects, 12 regional integration mechanisms, and 31 rapid response actions. This set of initiatives was complemented with 208 externally funded projects. Some of these cooperation activities, linked to the themes of the 7th Summit of the Americas, are:

**Education**

Promotion of knowledge-intensive agriculture through networks, grants, and information systems. Of special importance is the approval of grants to enable students to take master’s and doctoral degree courses under the program with Mexico’s National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT). The Institute organized training events designed to enhance the expertise of people and share knowledge about various subjects: Codex Alimentarius, good agricultural practices, climate change adaptation, water management, soil use, renewable energies, food safety, risk management, associative enterprises, financing, and market linkages, among others.

**Health**

Agricultural health and food safety assurance in the Americas through the training of sanitary officials, the harmonization of processes to gain access to markets, the use of good agricultural and production practices,
emergency response actions, and the management of risks, particularly those associated with climate change.

**Environment**

Promotion of technological and commercial innovations aimed at improving agro-ecological production, agroindustry, fish farming, beekeeping, and water resource management, and reducing food loss. The improvements adopted can be seen in products such as rice, vegetables, poultry, cacao, coffee, flowers, avocados, tomatoes, potatoes, and cassava.

Increase of public sector capabilities for integrated water resource management, the use of irrigation systems and water harvesting, waste management, and the implementation of measures to combat soil degradation.

Coordination of institutional efforts designed to achieve climate-smart agriculture, promoting capacity development within the ministries of environment and agriculture, the development of plans for climate change adaptation in agriculture, and the integration of the gender perspective to address the threat that climate change poses.

**Hemispheric Cooperation**

Assessment, design, and formulation of innovative policies and strategies for agricultural and rural development, aimed specifically at facilitating business activities and promoting innovation, participatory management, inclusion, and family farming.

Development and linking to markets, through the creation of committees for competitiveness; training in management, entrepreneurship, associative enterprises, and value added; and the operation of market information systems.

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**ABOUT IICA**

The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) is the international organization of the Americas specializing in agriculture and rural well-being. It is the only agency of the Inter-American System focused on those areas that provides technical cooperation, innovation and specialized knowledge to promote the competitive and sustainable development of agriculture in the Americas and the improvement of the life of rural inhabitants in its member countries. Since its founding, in 1942, IICA has provided its Member States the vast experience it has gained in technical cooperation in the areas of technology and innovation for agriculture, agricultural health and food safety, agribusiness, agricultural trade, rural development and training. IICA works very closely with the ministries of agriculture of its 34 Member States, providing support on issues of common concern through actions carried out at the hemispheric, regional and national levels.
Education

CABEI promotes projects and programs focused on school and university infrastructure, equipping schools and university centers and strengthening the capacities of students and teachers.

The Program to Strengthen the Research and Development Capacities in Argentina (PROFOCAID) and the Program to Invest in Infrastructure, Machinery and Equipment for Universidad de San Carlos in Guatemala (USAC) seek to strengthen scientific and/or professional research and development capacities in order to carry out research projects that lead to increased knowledge between Argentina and the Central American countries.

Health

CABEI focuses part of its efforts on the healthcare sector aimed at disease prevention and through investments in potable water and environmental sanitation systems.

The Potable Water and Sanitation Program for Coastal Areas, Quality Management and Service Efficiency in Costa Rica, which has financing amounting to US$164.1 million. The initiative will contribute to increased universal coverage of potable water and wastewater treatment services in the country.

The Sanitation Program for the Arraiján and La Chorrera Districts in Panama, which has US$100.0 million in financing. This project aims to recover the rivers and streams of Panama City, which currently pose a risk to public health, in addition to expanding collection systems and constructing a wastewater treatment system.

Energy

Since its founding, CABEI has approved US$5.8 billion in credits to support the generation, transmission and distribution of electric energy in the Central American isthmus. Energy development works financed by CABEI have generated more than 5,920 megawatts (MW) of electrical energy, representing 38% of installed capacity in the countries of the region.

CABEI’s resources have also been aimed at the construction of high voltage lines capable of transmitting hundreds of megawatts efficiently and economically, as well as substations to facilitate the transmission of energy from the production centers. With regard to the distribution area, funds have been approved to build medium and low voltage lines, thus improving the coverage, quality and reliability of industrial, commercial and residential users. These projects have benefited 8.9 million users, generating 7,019 temporary jobs.

Environment

CABEI’s 2015-2019 Institutional Strategy includes Environmental Sustainability as a cross-cutting axis in or-
The Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) is an international multi-lateral financial institution for the integration and development of Central America. Its resources are continuously invested in projects that foster development to reduce poverty and inequality; strengthen regional integration and the competitive insertion of its member countries in the global economy; providing special attention to environmental sustainability. The Bank has been a pioneer in the backing of social programs and has brought support to the private sector, including micro, small and medium sized enterprises.

Security

CABEI has been supporting the SICA countries in their efforts to improve security in the region, in addition to supporting the implementation of the Central American Security Strategy (ESCA). The Integral Security Program in Belize is being implemented; it involves the rehabilitation of existing civil works, the construction of new works and the provision of equipment for institutions responsible for Belize’s national security. In El Salvador, the Special Program for Citizen Security in El Salvador (PESCES) is being developed; it involves the rehabilitation and readjustment of existing civil works, construction of new works and provision of basic and specialized police equipment for the National Civil Police (PNC).

Democratic Governance

CABEI obtained a 6 Pillar Assessment accreditation by the European Union through an evaluation of the following 6 pillars: Internal control system, Accounting system, Independent external audit, Management of non-reimbursable funds, Procurement processes; and Financial instruments.

The accreditation granted by the European Union is an endorsement of transparency and effectiveness in the management of external resources, which enables CABEI to administer funds from such organizations.

Hemispheric Cooperation

CABEI forms part of the Central American Integration System (SICA); it is the system’s financial arm. In this sense and pursuant to its mission of promoting the economic integration and balanced economic and social development of its member countries, CABEI has been working closely with regional institutions to identify and promote regional programs and projects that are in line with SICA policies and strategies.

Important achievements were made at the institutional level, consolidating CABEI’s commitment to meeting the highest environmental standards. Noteworthy achievements include its entry as an observer to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); its accreditation as a regional entity of the Green Climate Fund; its first issue of Green Bonds in international markets; and the updating of its Environmental and Social Policy in accordance with international standards.
Education

CAF has collaborated with the OAS in the development of the Inter-American System of Education to develop a guide of practices, programs and initiatives aimed at reducing educational inequality. In addition, CAF has promoted an educational agenda aimed at strengthening technical and vocational education for its shareholder countries. One of the pillars of this agenda is aimed at promoting the relevance of education, by strengthening links between school, skills and employment, especially for young people entering the labor market.

CAF also promoted alliances with the Inter-American Dialogue to study the structured learning or dual apprenticeship systems and for the realization of a Regional Seminar on technical education and vocational training; Technical assistance and financing for the development of a Higher Technical Institute in Panama; funding for projects such as “Entrepreneurial Capacity Development in Argentina” or the study “Policies for the reduction of school drop-outs”, which is expected to incorporate a gender perspective.

Health

CAF’s major contribution in the area of health has been the financing, advice and technical cooperation provided for the construction, expansion and rehabilitation of drinking water and sanitation systems in countries of the region. Through the implementation of the recently created gender safeguard, it is hoped to identify access and control gaps in water resources and generate mechanisms to increase women’s participation in projects and programs, thus having a greater impact on their health and well-being. In recent years, CAF has provided loans of more than $ 3.5 billion and has earmarked more than $ 12 million in non-reimbursable cooperation for this purpose.

Energy

CAF has provided support to national and local governments for the sustainable use of their water resources with the purpose of publishing an atlas of the hydroelectric potential of most countries of South America.

CAF has continued to promote the development of an energy efficiency market in Latin American countries through the Regional Energy Efficiency Program (PREE). CAF has provided technical assistance and credits aimed at electricity generation, transmission and distribution, while promoting financing for companies seeking energy efficiency.

Environment

In the environmental field, the Performance-Based Climate Finance Facility is an innovative tool that CAF has developed to foster low-emission sustainable development in the region, removing barriers that limit investment in greenhouse gas mitigation measures at sector level. CAF has supported the design of the Sector Mitigation Mechanism for the solid urban waste sector in Ecuador and the renewable energy sector in Colombia.
ABOUT CAF

The Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) was set up in 1970 and is made up of 19 countries - 17 from Latin America and the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal - and 13 private banks in the region.

It promotes a model of sustainable development, through credit operations, non-reimbursable resources and support in the technical and financial structuring of public and private sector projects in Latin America.

 Democratic Governance

CAF has promoted the Transformation Leadership program that seeks to identify, select and train leaders from a country and democratic values perspective so that they can exercise their leadership with responsibility and knowledge, with a view to building a better future for the region. To date, a network has been consolidated of 35,000 young leaders from different sectors who have benefited from this program in 7 countries.

Together with 13 universities in nine countries in the region, 22,000 civil servants, technical teams and civil society leaders have been formed by CAF’s Governance, Political Management and Public Management Program. The program intends to provide knowledge to improve quality in the formulation and implementation of public policies; Analyze and work with reality’s complexity, and encourage the participants to attend to the demands of citizens with proposals for change formulated in a participatory manner.

Hemispheric Cooperation

CAF’s Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Program has continued to support the expansion of the digital ecosystem in Latin America and the Caribbean through the development of broadband communications infrastructures. This program has focused on both the deployment of ICT infrastructure and the strengthening of regulatory frameworks in the countries of the region. CAF has become one of the most important actors within the Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC 2018), which focuses its efforts on establishing an integrated digital market throughout the region.

Also, together with ECLAC and GSMA, a digital training program (EC-Digital) aimed at regulators and authorities in the ICT sector was launched. It is worth noting that in 2017 the Digital Ecosystem Observatory, a public access platform that will seek to be the most important reservoir of statistical information and secondary analysis in the region for the ICT sector, will be launched.

Also, the CAF Geopolis Program, which promotes the development of Indicative Plans for institutional strengthening in disaster risk management associated with natural phenomena (PIFIN) for planning and territorial planning processes carried out at national and subnational levels. In 2016 CAF contributed to the production of knowledge related to the area of seismic engineering; PIFIN was applied in the Colombian road sector at national and local levels; in the telecommunications sector of Peru; and in the road and urban transport sector in Guayaquil. At the moment, a “Guide of Good Practices for the Adaptation of the Roads to the Climate”, is being developed.
The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) is a regional financial institution that came into existence for the purpose of contributing to the harmonious economic growth and development of the member countries in the Caribbean. It promotes economic cooperation and integration among them, having special and urgent regard to the needs of the less developed members of the region. The CDB assists member countries in optimizing the use of their resources, promotes private and public investment and provides technical assistance to its 18 Regional Members.
The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental partners. With 132 member states and 17 observer states, the Organization works to help ensure the orderly and humane management of migration, to promote international cooperation on migration, to assist in the search for practical solutions to migration issues and to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, including refugees and internally displaced persons. Currently, IOM’s staff of 6,690 works on more than 2,000 projects in more than 100 countries around the world providing services and advice to governments and migrants.
The International Labour Organization (ILO) is the only tripartite U. N. agency with government, employer and worker representatives. This tripartite structure makes the ILO a unique forum in which the governments and social partners of the economy of its 183 Member States can freely and openly debate and elaborate international labour standards, programmes and policies promoting Decent Work for all. The main aims of the ILO are to promote rights at work, encourage decent employment opportunities, enhance social protection and strengthening social dialogue on work-related issues. The ILO also addresses global key issues such as the global economic crisis through the recently adopted Global Jobs Pact, the social protection floor initiative, realizing the Millennium Development Goals and promoting social justice and a fair globalization. The Organization won the Nobel Peace Prize on its 50th anniversary in 1969.
The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the UN’s global development network. It advocates for change and connects countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. The organization has country offices in 172 countries, where it works with local governments to meet developmental challenges and develop local capacity. UNDP helps developing countries attract and use aid effectively and provides expert advice, training, and grant support, with increasing emphasis on assistance to the least developed countries. Across Latin America and the Caribbean, UNDP helps countries build and share their own solutions to urgent development challenges, supporting coalitions for change and connecting individuals and institutions so they can share knowledge, experience and resources.
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