

XIV Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
Cuenca (Ecuador), 29-30 September 2022
Logistic Note

Organization of the XIV Ministerial Forum for Development

1. The XIV Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, co-organized by UNDP, ECLAC, and the Government of Ecuador, will be held in Cuenca, Republic of Ecuador, on 29-30 September 2022. The opening of the Forum will take place on September 29 at 8:30 (UTC/GMT-5), with the opening ceremony. With this note, we aim to provide international delegates with useful information about the event to facilitate their participation in the meeting.
2. All session times are indicated in local Cuenca time (UTC/GMT-5). The agenda will be published daily with detailed information on the day's sessions, and other information of general interest, on the Forum website and on the mobile application that will be available during the Forum.

Thematic Areas and Documentation

3. The XIV Ministerial Forum for Development will focus on how to resume the path towards the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean in a context of greater uncertainty. The dialogues during the Forum will be organized around four ministerial roundtables, each of which will delve into the necessary mechanisms to adjust the course of action and include a series of parallel events. The program, the concept notes, and the list of supporting documents, including the thematic notes for the ministerial roundtables, will be made available on the Forum's website. In addition, to ensure the organization of a sustainable event, participants are advised to bring their personal computers or portable devices so that they can electronically access documents and thus avoid printing documents. The meeting rooms will have Wi-Fi access.

Participants

4. The Ministers of Social Development and related areas of thirty-three countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, are the main audience of the Forum. In addition, experts from UNDP and ECLAC will also attend. Among the high-level attendees, they will be the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility of Ecuador, Juan Carlos Holguín; the Minister of Economic and Social Inclusion of Ecuador, Esteban Bernal; the Minister of Economy and Finance, Pablo Arosemena; the UNDP Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, Luis Felipe Lopez-Calva; the ECLAC Executive Secretary a.i., Mario Cimoli,



as well as other representatives of governments from the region and special guests.

Working Languages

5. Forum sessions will be held in English and Spanish. Official documents will also be available in both languages. Simultaneous interpretation services will be provided in Spanish, French, English, and Portuguese. The documentation will be published in Spanish and English versions that provide faithful transcripts of their interventions to facilitate the work of the media.

Attention to the media and access to information

6. During the Forum, the UNDP Communications Officer, together with the official appointed for these purposes by the Government of Ecuador, will oversee the PR with the press and public information matters. Contact information can be found below:

UNDP: Ana Maria Currea, Head of Communications – ana.maria.currea@undp.org

Government of Ecuador: Valeria González, Director of Communications of the Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion (MIES) - valeria.gonzalez@inclusion.gob.ec

7. The Forum website is available at the following webpage: <https://www.undp.org/es/latin-america/forodesarrollolac>

Platform of the Ministerial Forum

8. The Forum will be held under an in-person modality, however, remotely participation of delegates and official guests will be considered. Connection details will be available on the website: <https://www.undp.org/es/latin-america/forodesarrollolac> and will be communicated individually.

Correspondence and general inquiries

9. All correspondence regarding the Forum should be directed to the following email address: xivforocuenca@undp.org
10. Travel and tourism information will be available for international delegates and official guests on the Forum website.





Venue of the Ministerial Forum

11. The Forum will be held at the Convention Center Mall del Rio in Cuenca, located at:
Av. Circunvalación Sur y Felipe Segundo. Centro Comercial Mall del Rio, Cuenca.
Telephone: (+593) 99 784 1819
Website: <https://convencionesdelrio.com>

Travel to Ecuador

12. Participating delegations should contact the nearest diplomatic or consular mission in Ecuador to obtain information on entry visa requirements when necessary.

Please visit the website <https://www.cancilleria.gob.ec/2020/06/15/visas-en-el-ecuador/> or contact the UNDP office in Ecuador to receive guidance on visa application procedures to the email xivforocuenca@undp.org.

Biosafety protocol

13. The Government of Ecuador will adopt a risk-based approach to security management related to COVID-19 at the Forum and associated public activities throughout the event. To achieve this, appropriate policies and procedures will be in place to minimize the risk of the spread of COVID-19 (prevention) and to react if any member of a delegation, support staff or volunteer contracts COVID-19 during any of the activities (reaction).
14. National authorities will provide information on the guidelines and conditions to ensure that all participants are protected against COVID-19. This includes measures at the country's entry airports, at the event location, and the availability of health services and contact monitoring mechanisms.
15. Guidelines for entering mainland Ecuador can be found here: <https://www.turismo.gob.ec/los-lineamientos-de-ingreso-al-pais-se-actualizan-desde-el-viernes-18-de-julio//>
16. All forum participants from abroad will be required to comply with the following regulations:
 - A mandatory vaccination certificate with a QR code or the vaccination card against COVID-19 must be shown with at least 14 days of validity after completing the scheme; and the negative result of an RT-PCR test performed up to 72 hours before boarding to Ecuador.
 - Any person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 by PCR test, with more than one month from the date of onset of symptoms and who continues to present positive PCR tests, as long as there



are no symptoms, must present a Medical Certificate issued in the country of origin that guarantees their health status for entry to Ecuador.

- Any passenger who, upon arrival in Ecuador, presents symptoms related to COVID-19 (temperature increasing, cough, general discomfort, loss of smell or taste, etc.) regardless of the result of the PCR test or antigen test, will be evaluated by the health personnel of the Ministry of Public Health, before entering the immigration area. If it is determined that it is a "suspicious case", a rapid antigen test will be carried out and if it is positive, it must be isolated ten (10) days after the date of sample collection at home or any accommodations of free choice and at the cost of the traveler. This information must be included in the Traveler's Health Declaration. If the rapid antigen test is negative, the passenger should not be isolated.
- Any person entering Ecuador must comply with the biosafety measures established by the Ministry of Public Health, such as:
 - Mandatory use of a mask.
 - Frequent hand washing with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer: 70%.
 - Maintain a physical distance of two meters.
 - Continuous cleaning of surfaces.

Other health regulations

17. Vaccination against yellow fever is recommended for all travelers (national and international) who include the provinces of the Ecuadorian Amazon (Napo, Pastaza, Orellana, Sucumbíos, Zamora Chinchipe, and Morona Santiago) in their travel itinerary. The vaccination guidelines are aimed at all travelers, regardless of their migratory/administrative status (diplomatic, refugee, returnee, among others).
18. The vaccine must be applied at least 14 days before traveling to risk areas and a single dose provides immunity for life.

Access to the venue of the Ministerial Forum

19. Biosafety measures for access to the Ministerial Forum site will be determined based on what is established by the Emergency Operations Center -COE-, the institution in charge of care and response to dangerous events and emergencies in Ecuador; and will be communicated in a timely manner to the participants of the event via the communication channels of the Forum.



Flight Frequencies

Quito - Cuenca		
28 September	LATAM	06:10
		12:13
		15:48
		18:35
	AVIANCA	06:00
		18:33
29 September	LATAM	06:10
		12:23
	AVIANCA	06:00

Cuenca - Quito		
30 September	LATAM	17:25
		18:29
		20:21
		20:15
	AVIANCA	20:15
1 October	LATAM	09:02
		10:37
		17:37
		20:12
	AVIANCA	07:33
		20:15

Guayaquil - Cuenca		
28 September	LATAM	17:51





	AVIANCA	15:24
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Cuenca - Guayaquil		
30 September	LATAM	19:54
		17:25
	AVIANCA	15:24
01 de octubre	LATAM	09:02
		17:37

(Flights availability may vary according to the airline and dates).

Airport assistance

20. After registration, international delegates and official guests will be asked to indicate flight itinerary details, hotel reservations, and the need for local transportation, among other information. Participants are advised to label their luggage facilitating their identification and avoiding difficulties upon arrival at the airport.
21. If required, participants will have airport-hotel-airport transportation in the city of Cuenca, which will operate following the information specified on arrival and departure flights and the hotel reservation indicated in the online registration form.
22. Computers will be available in the Delegates Lounge at the Forum venue to confirm the date and time of return flights.
23. At <https://ecuador.travel/es/informacion> you can find a guide that compiles a series of recommendations that tourists and visitors should consider when traveling to Ecuador.

Currency exchange and banking services

24. The US dollar is the official currency of Ecuador. If you need to exchange foreign currency, you should do so exclusively at banks or authorized currency exchange establishments, preferably at airports and hotels. As far as possible, it is suggested to conduct the transactions in any bank branch that is located inside a Shopping Center. When going to any bank or ATM, please take any necessary precautions.



First aid

25. A first aid service will be available during the meetings at the Convention Center Mall del Rio.

Registration and accreditation

26. Registration for the Forum will be done through the website (<https://forms.gle/vcmhRGRoYAKnas5n7>). After registration, the organizers of the venue will be contacting the participants. On the day of the event, participants will receive an accreditation, which they must always carry during the Forum. International delegates are reminded that to certify their status as representatives of their country or institution, they must present a duly authorized credential designating them as such. Daily registration will be requested to guarantee security and biosecurity measures and the presentation of the accreditation credential.

Meals

27. The Convention Center Mall del Rio will offer food services: breakfast included in the lodging rate, lunch, and two coffee breaks in its facilities at no cost to the participants during the Forum's working hours.

Dress code

28. Formal attire will be required during work sessions and official receptions.

Receptions

29. The Government of Ecuador will host an evening reception on Thursday, 29 September, where transportation will be arranged for international delegates and other guests to the reception location. Details of time and place will be informed later via the communication channels of the Forum.

Weather conditions

30. The city of Cuenca is located at 2,560 meters above sea level. Its maximum daytime temperature in Cuenca is 22° C (71.6° F) and can drop to 9-10° C (48° F) in the afternoon-night. There are generally six hours of sunshine per day, which represents 50% of the 12 hours of light.



Code for international calling

31. The international dial code for Ecuador is +593.

Technological and accessibility services

32. During work sessions a Wi-Fi service will be enabled. Username and password will be available during the different events.

Room reservation for bilateral meetings

33. In the event that a delegation requires space to hold bilateral meetings, a limited number of rooms will be available. To reserve a space, please write to xivforocuenca@undp.org including details of participants, date, and time of meetings. A room assignment confirmation will be sent depending on availability.

Electricity

34. In Ecuador the common voltage is 120 V. The frequency is 60 Hz. The plugs and sockets are type A / B.



Accommodation

35. Given that all the activities of the Forum will take place at the Convention Center Mall del Rio, it is recommended that all official delegations stay at the Four Points by Sheraton or in nearby hotels to facilitate logistics.



Daily transportation will be available for the transfer of delegations from hotels other than the Four Points by Sheraton to the Forum venue. Details of transfer times will be communicated via the communication channels of the Forum.

Hotel proposals are provided below:

Hotel	Information/Address	Room Rates (Rates subject to change and guaranteed with reservation)
Four Points by Sheraton	<p>Junto Al, Mall del Rio, Ave. Circunvalación Sur y Ave. Felipe II Ciudad de Cuenca Telephone: +593 7602-2000</p> <p>https://fourpointssheratoncuencahotel.com-hotel.com/es/</p>	<p>Single rooms \$110 Double rooms \$130</p>
Hotel Oro Verde	<p>Av Ordóñez Lasso S/N, Ciudad de Cuenca Telephone: +593 7409-0000</p> <p>https://www.orovertdecuenca.com/es/</p>	<p>Single rooms \$110 Double rooms \$110</p>
Itza Hotel Boutique Internacional	<p>Av. Benigno Malo 1095-1015 Ciudad de Cuenca Telephone: +593 7282 7100</p> <p>https://www.itzaboutiquehotel.com/</p>	<p>Single rooms \$164,70 Double rooms \$201</p>
Mansión Alcázar	<p>Simón Bolívar 12-55 y Tarqui Ciudad de Cuenca Telephone: +593 99 825 4612</p> <p>www.boutiquehotelmansionalcazar.com</p>	<p>Single rooms \$135 Double rooms \$180</p>
Hotel Santa Lucía	<p>Calle Presidente Borrero, 8-44 Ciudad de Cuenca Telephone: +593 7282 8000</p> <p>https://santaluciahotel.com/</p>	<p>Single rooms \$90 Double rooms \$150</p>



Entertainment in Cuenca

36. Cuenca is known as the Athens of Ecuador and has attractive tourist sites such as:



Centro Histórico:

The Historic Centre is formed by the oldest residential area of the city. That is where most of the churches with architectural merit are located, along with the archaeological zone, the artisan neighborhoods of colonial origin, the central markets, and the Barranco del Tomebamba. Other must-see attractions: the Cathedral of the Immaculate, the Old Cathedral, the Calderón Park, the Flower Market, the Conceptas Museum, the Pumapungo Archaeological Museum, and the Plaza de San Francisco.



El Barranco:

El Barranco, due to its historical and environmental values, constitutes one of the most important monumental sites in the Historic Centre of Cuenca, being the natural limit along the Tomebamba River between the historic center and the new city.

In the Barranco, in addition to the spectacular view, there are cafes and restaurants to enjoy a delicious evening while enjoying a privileged view. It contains about 120 architectural structures, protected as city assets. Here you can find countless attractions such as the Church of All Saints, the Broken Bridge, and the Downhill of All Saints.



Parque Nacional Cajas:

The Cajas National Park is located 33 km from the city of Cuenca, at an altitude of between 3,100 and 4,600 meters above sea level. The Park has a total of 786 bodies of water, among which are around 165 lagoons with more than 1 hectare. This factor, added to the presence of migratory birds and the importance it has for the collection, storage, and provision of water for nearby populations, earned El Cajas National Park recognition as a Ramsar site and a Wetland of International Importance.





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República
del Ecuador



Mirador de Turi:

The Mirador has a unique panoramic view that allows you to observe the city of Cuenca in all its splendor. The place is known as "the balcony of Cuenca".

