

UNDP in Latin America and the Caribbean **PARTNERING AND INNOVATING FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

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Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean should address social, economic and political exclusions in this era of sustainable development. Power, gender and racial relations must be at the centre of responses.



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"No time to lose: Addressing challenges in a changing region

The Latin American and Caribbean region has made enormous advances in development in recent decades. Yet the percentage of citizens who are satisfied with their democratic system has fallen from 44 to 30 percent over the last 10 years, according to 2017 data from Latinobarómetro. The region, as a whole, achieved the majority of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015, which was a historic achievement, and now needs a different approach to achieve the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Leaving no one behind is a crucial challenge for this region, which remains the least equitable in the world.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) partners with **governments, civil society organizations and the private sector** to achieve a 'multidimensional' level of progress that extends beyond economic gains. This requires transforming traditional development models and raising the quality of life of all people, while also preserving and restoring biodiversity and protecting ecosystems. This is crucial for the Latin America and the Caribbean region, which is considered a '**biodiversity superpower**', in possession of one of the greatest endowments of natural capital in the world, according to a UNDP report.

With the addition of more than 90 million people to a growing middle class in just 10 years, and which now represents approximately 35 percent of the population, the current challenge is to maintain the gains. In spite of the progress, two in every five women and men in the region risk falling into poverty should an unforseen event, or shock—such as a hurricane, a family illness or an economic crisis—occur.

Among the most vulnerable are women and young people, particularly in poor or rural communities, indigenous peoples, people of African descent, LGBTI persons and other groups. That's why boosting social, economic and political inclusion is an essential part of the work of UNDP in the region.

Poor people, especially women, suffer disproportionately from climate change, natural disasters related to natural hazards and irreversible changes to ecosystems, all of which decrease options for direct and indirect income and well-being.



The Latin America and the Caribbean region is a biodiversity superpower according to a UNDP report. Policies in a sustainable development era must unleash the potential to transform traditional development models and raise the quality of life of millions by preserving and restoring biodiversity and eco-system services.

OUR WORK

... UNDP Strategic Plan

ON-THE-GROUND PARTNERSHIPS

With 25 offices and a regional hub covering 40 countries and territories in Latin America and the Caribbean, UNDP works with **governments, civil society organizations** and the **private sector** to help countries drive and sustain development that improves everyone's lives, while protecting the environment.

VISION: THREE BIG GOALS; SIX SIGNATURE SOLUTIONS

At the national and regional levels, our work is anchored in the UNDP Strategic Plan 2018-2021, which focuses on eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, accelerating structural transformations for sustainable development and building resilience to shocks and crisis. We are improving the way we plan, design, monitor and implement programmes, ensuring that we deliver results effectively and efficiently.



APPROACH: SIX SIGNATURE SOLUTIONS



SIGNATURE SOLUTION 1: KEEPING PEOPLE OUT OF POVERTY



SIGNATURE SOLUTION 4: PROMOTING NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS FOR A SUSTAINABLE PLANET



SIGNATURE SOLUTION 2: STRENGTHENING EFFECTIVE, INCLUSIVE AND ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE



GOVERNANCE SIGNATURE SOLUTION 3: ENHANCING NATIONAL PREVENTION AND

RECOVERY CAPACITIES FOR

RESILIENT SOCIETIES



SIGNATURE SOLUTION 5: CLOSING THE ENERGY GAP



SIGNATURE SOLUTION 6: STRENGTHENING GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS





WHAT WE DO

- Advocacy and applied policy advisory, facilitating dialogue and providing technical support
- Integrated development solutions
- Management and delivery support, improving the execution of projects aligned with national development plans, promotion of results-based management, fund management and procurement support

HOW WE WORK

- Partnerships
- UNDP as integrator

Development challenges are highly complex, interrelated and require ever greater collaboration across sectors and partners to deliver impact at scale and utilize limited resources efficiently. The breadth of expertise and country presence of UNDP make it unique



among United Nations funds and programmes, enabling it to help countries 'connect the dots' on the most complex sustainable development issues. Through country support platforms, UNDP is helping countries to design and deliver integrated solutions to complex development problems that require actions in multiple sections across economic, social and environmental issues to promote 'whole-ofgovernment' and 'whole-of-society' responses vital for transformational change.



In Argentina, UNDP supports the National Council for Social Policy Coordination—an agency within

the President's office in charge of adopting the 2030 Agenda. Through an ambitious project that stemmed from a Mainstreaming Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) approach, the partnership includes a series of activities with ministries and autonomous institutions, sub-national governments, the private sector, universities and nongovernmental organizations (including faithbased organizations). UNDP is also supporting Argentina's presidency of the G20 on issues related to the 2030 Agenda. In Jamaica, Aruba, Trinidad and Tobago, El Salvador, Dominican Republic, Brazil and Curaçao, UNDP, in partnership with the wider United Nations system, has carried out a MAPS missions to support the mainstreaming of Agenda 2030 in national development mechanisms, and to develop a road map for the implementation of the SDGs.

• UNDP as operational backbone

The broad UNDP footprint in the country means that it can serve as an operational platform for United Nations organizations and other partners for many years. Many United Nations organizations utilize UNDP implementation capacity (including information technology, finance and human resources infrastructure) to enable them to operate effectively and cost-efficiently in difficult and, sometimes, risky operational contexts.

A United Nations Secretary-General report to the Security Council highlighted UNDP's support in establishing the United Nations Mission in **Colombia** in its initial logistical setup in 2016. The Mission verified the commitments of the Government of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia – People's Army to the ceasefire and cessation of hostilities, and the laying down of arms process, completed in 2017.

Knowledge-sharing

UNDP shares know-how, models and tools and actively promotes South-South cooperation within the region and beyond. We work with governments to share our knowledge and expertise in areas, such as: social protection, cash transfer initiatives, gender equality in the private and public sectors, citizen security, disaster risk reduction and clean energy.

Transparency

Transparency is at the heart of the UNDP mission, and we are committed to working openly to accelerate the development of a sustainable future for all. Information and online data about activities, funding, results and stories are open and accessible, marking UNDP out as one of the world's most transparent development organizations,



according to the Aid Transparency Index. See open.undp.org for more information.

Host government partnerships

In most countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, we essentially work with government contributions to programmes or projects in these same countries, a modality known as government cost-sharing. These domestic resources are used for sustainable development projects that are in line with national development plans. This modality supports 63 percent (2018) of all funding for our work in the region, exemplifying the status of UNDP as a trusted partner in the domestic context.

Private sector partnerships

In several countries, UNDP engages with the private sector as a key ally to achieve sustainable development.



In **Brazil**, UNDP and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) partnered with TV Globo, the

largest broadcaster (fourth in the world), in an advocacy campaign seen daily by 100

million people during primetime in June 2018, encouraging people to produce less garbage and recycle more.

UNDP partnered with the World Economic Forum and the Ibero-American Secretariat (SEGIB, in Spanish) to boost social, economic and environmental gains for countries in Latin America and in the Iberian peninsula, focusing on businesses for sustainable development, or the fourth sector (not being from the three traditional sectors: public, private and nonprofit (www.elcuertosector.net).

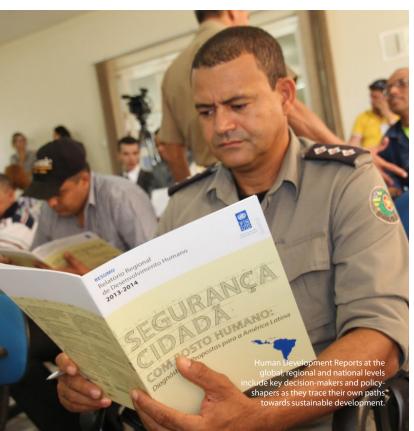
In **Ecuador**, UNDP is partnering with the private sector, including an award-winning chocolate brand, and the Ministry of Agriculture to design and implement a traceability system using blockchain to improve the inclusion of small farmers in the cocoa and tea value chain.

• Civil society partnerships and increased citizen participation

We work with a diverse range of civil society organizations at regional, national and local levels to help lift people out of poverty, build strong, independent and resilient communities and promote human and sustainable development. This entails helping to facilitate dialogue between governments and civil society to enhance partnerships and ensure civic participation in policy planning and reform, and open spaces for civil society to foster and contribute to development as an equal partner.

Thought leadership

For over 25 years, the Human Development Reports at the global, regional and national levels have brought new thinking to major development issues. The Human Development Index (HDI), our composite measure of longevity, education and income, has become the most widely accepted alternative to narrow measures of national progress such as the gross domestic product. The official incorporation of HDI data and analysis in policy planning in our region, accomplished in partnership with UNDP, has helped to raise health and education standards for millions of people.



A series of papers on multidimensional poverty and gender, derived from the Human Development Reports, provide key policy recommendations for the advancement of gender equality in the region.

These include:

- 'Applying PovRisk to 15 countries in Latin America.'
- 'Paid domestic workers in the Southern Cone of Latin America: A struggle to overcome a history of exclusion.'
- 'Shedding light on hidden deprivations: Time-income poverty and public policies in Latin America Lessons from the LIMTIP experiences.'
- 'Comparing policy interventions on domestic violence in Latin America: Criminalization, female empowerment and male engagement.'
- 'Beyond income: Discrimination, violence, exclusions and poverty affecting women in Latin America and the Caribbean.'

REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORTS



Human Development Report for Latin America and the Caribbean 2016 'Multidimensional Progress: Well-being beyond income.'



Caribbean Human Development Report 'Multidimensional progress: human resilience beyond income'



Human Development Report for Latin America and the Caribbean 2013-2014 'Citizen Security with a Human Face: Evidence and Proposals for Latin America'



Caribbean Human Development Report 2012 'Human Development and the Shift to Better Citizen Security'



Regional Human Development Report for Latin America and the Caribbean 2010 'Acting on the Future: Breaking the Intergenerational Transmission of Inequality'



Human Development Report for Central America 2009-2010 'Open Spaces for Citizen Security and Human Development'



Human Development Report for MERCOSUR (Southern Common Market) 2009-2010 'Innovation for Inclusion'



CARIBBEAN SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS)

Caribbean SIDS are challenged by debt, unemployment, climate change and sea level rise, which make their path towards sustainable development complex. Climate change, for example, hits the Caribbean SIDS hard, even though, historically, these countries have not contributed significantly to the problem. Extreme exposure to hazards, such as: flooding, hurricanes, droughts, landslides and earthquakes place these countries in an extremely vulnerable position.

The occurrence of two consecutive category five hurricanes in 2017 signalled a dangerous

change in the intensity and frequency of climate-related storms, heralding the advent of a new normal.

Structural and environmental stressors exacerbate the vulnerability of the SIDS. Therefore, responses should analyse and encompass both the level of the state and individual levels of peoples and households to promote resilience.

One such structural vulnerability is financing to meet the SDGs. Given that Caribbean countries for the most part are ineligible for concessional finance, due to their status as middle-income countries, factors beyond income need to be taken into consideration as part of eligibility criteria and a more 'multidimensional' approach to finance needs to be employed.

UNDP works in all Caribbean SIDS: Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.

REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL INITIATIVES

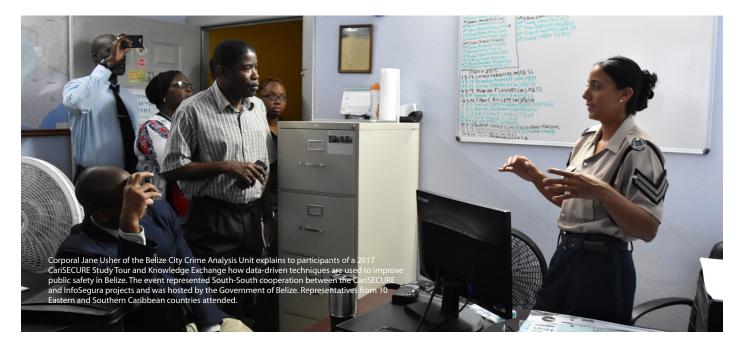
In the Caribbean, the Strengthening Evidence-Based Decision-Making for Citizen Security in the Caribbean (CariSECURE) project, a UNDP-USAID partnership, has been working since 2016 to increase the capacities of national authorities across 10 eastern and southern Caribbean countries to collect, share and analyse crime and violence data in standardized and disaggregated ways, consistent with international standards. The project has pioneered the **first ever** Caribbean Citizen Security Toolkit with strategic instruments to help the police, courts, rehabilitation and statistical offices across all countries to report on key citizen security indicators, and to adopt the International Classifications of Crime for Statistical Purposes. Over 200 law enforcement officials, and wider

national authorities involved in crime data management, have been trained on Toolkit components.

The Japan-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership is supporting climate action in eight Caribbean countries via National Adaptation Plan and Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action processes, where, between 2016 and 2018, 300 persons have been trained in developing these policies. With the Japan-UNDP partnership, 38 pilot projects have been approved and implementation is under way in the areas of water resource management, sustainable agriculture, climate resilient infrastructure and renewable energy, and energy efficiency, with 110,000 persons across 270 communities currently benefiting from these interventions.

InfoSegura is a UNDP-USAID initiative with the governments of Belize, Costa Rica,

Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras that has been strengthening the quality of citizen safety information in the region, while increasing regional coordination and collaboration. In addition to promoting South-South cooperation, it supports civil society engagement through a Central American (including the Dominican Republic) Academic Network of citizen security researchers and www.conose.org, boosting research and exchanges on citizen security and policy formulation. Infosegura funded and advised first-hand data collection processes, such as specialized surveys on youth resilience in Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras, and on violence against women and peace and victimization in El Salvador, to name but a few. Infosegura includes a Transparency Portal, www.transparencia.pnc.gob.sv, where citizens can follow violence indicators and which is expanding to several other countries.





2030 AGENDA

"Bringing the Sustainable Development Goals to the local level



A FOCUS ON SDG HOTSPOTS

As underlined by the United Nations Secretary-General's Reform Agenda, SDG acceleration ultimately means assisting countries so they can 'deliver the litmus test for success'. The specific challenges for development services in SDG hotspots are:

- Collecting and harnessing real-time SDG data, with process and impact metrics, geo-referenced data collection, trending analysis, foresight analysis and scenario building
- Implementing **territorial platforms** in cities, neighbourhoods or rural

municipalities, using policy labs, behavioural nudging, political empowerment and local adaptation

 Securing new sources of financing, matching SDGs to equity, debt and insurance instruments

UNDP supports countries in Latin America and the Caribbean to institutionalize the SDGs, while also **mapping each country's response and approach**. This information is included and presented in the Regional Economic Commission's yearly Forum on Sustainable Development. In **Honduras**, UNDP is playing its integrator role by bringing together several United Nations organizations, civil society and experiences from other countries to apply the SDG hotspots approach to tackle some of the most pressing challenges, as agreed by the Government: child malnutrition in the Lempa region, teenage pregnancy and citizen security.

In **Brazil** UNDP has localized SDGs in 54 municipalities of the Western Paraná state. In the northeastern state of Piauí, we also partnered with authorities and Contour Global (a wind energy company operating in the state), and BNDES (the national development bank) to help municipalities plan, monitor and evaluate public policies that contribute to the SDGs, using an artificial intelligence powered tool.

Mexico is localizing SDGs with UNDP support using technology, open government and youth involvement in 15 states.

The **Dominican Republic** is implementing policies to achieve the SDGs in partnership with UNDP. Several SDG-related consultations have been carried out, identifying specific commitments by different actors. The MAPS approach is also being used to accelerate the achievement of defined priorities, focusing on tackling multidimensional poverty, and sustainable production and consumption. Development challenges are highly complex, interrelated and require ever greater collaboration across sectors and partners to deliver impact at scale and utilize limited resources efficiently.





Six signature solutions: Closing gaps and securing hard-won gains



KEEPING PEOPLE OUT OF POVERTY

Latin America and the Caribbean showcase the importance of not only lifting people out of poverty, but also of avoiding setbacks. A population's well-being is defined by more than income alone. It goes beyond living above or below the poverty line and reflects progress in its multiple dimensions.

The 2016 Human Development Report for Latin America and the Caribbean demonstrated that the factors that 'lift people from poverty' (quality education and employment) are different from what helps them to avoid 'falling back into poverty' (existence of social safety nets and household assets).

We focus on how to build 'resilience', the ability to absorb external shocks e.g. financial crises or natural disasters related to natural hazards, without major social and economic setbacks. This is particularly important for the region's over 220 million vulnerable women and men: those who are neither 'poor', living below a poverty line of \$4 per day, nor who have risen to the middle class.



UNDP is working in Latin America and the Caribbean, with governments and in partnership with sister United Nations organizations to implement the recommendations of this report as a gateway to achieve the SDGs. Our partnership with countries, the vast majority of which are middle-income countries, aims to support them as they find their own paths towards sustainable development, and seek to reduce poverty and inequality. This entails the implementation of policies that encourage economic growth and deliver social gains for all, while also ensuring environmental sustainability. In **Mexico**, nearly 150,000 children under the age of six years have a disability. Many of them have parents or guardians who work, are looking for work, are students and are lowincome earners, and can't access care services for their children. That may present parents with the impossible choice of caring for their child or making a living. UNDP partners with other agencies and the federal government to place staff at over 6,000 day care centres in 19 states, who can identify early signs of disabilities or developmental challenges in children. That way, children get the care they need, and parents can earn money and create a future for their families.



In Uruguay, UNDP and sister United Nations organizations have been working with the Government on a more inclusive social protection scheme that includes care services as a critical component of social protection to allow women to balance their work and family lives. In collaboration with civil society and the Government, we were able to position early childhood, disability, old age and care services in the Government's social protection agenda. The National Integrated Care System had an initial \$45 million budget in 2015, aiming to reach around \$240 million by 2020.

In Panama, where one in every four people is young and 11 percent are unemployed, some young people look for new horizons through music, which acts as a refuge from street violence and encourages school enrolment.

More than 1800 children and adolescents, over half of them girls, are part of The National Network of Children's and Youth Orchestras and Choirs of Panama, a project of the National Institute of Culture with UNDP to invest in young women and men, and in particular atrisk youth.



SOLUTION 2:

STRENGTHENING EFFECTIVE, INCLUSIVE AND ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE

Democratic governance is essential to achieve and secure sustainable development. Strong vision and leadership at the political level, together with policies

that put people first and high-quality public services, can produce transformational changes in people's lives.

UNDP supports national and local institutions to build efficient and accountable public administrations, fight corruption, promote fair and accessible justice systems, ensure national and local level public services are gender sensitive and reach all citizens, especially those who need them most. We partner with institutions to strengthen governments, parliaments, judicial institutions and local authorities.

UNDP also promotes the rule of law and the modernization of the security and justice sectors, strengthening of criminal



policies, reduction of impunity, institutional development and training of civil servants to prevent violence (including violence against women and femicide) and improve citizen security. This includes preventing, managing and resolving conflicts by supporting legal reform and regulation and human rightsbased approaches that avoid the recurrence of violent conflicts.



A key area of our work is supporting governments to ensure that public policies and provision of services include gender considerations, and also collecting and presenting separate

data on men and women to better assess their different needs and challenges. This includes guaranteeing their political participation and inclusion to attain equal involvement of men and women in politics. This 'gender lens' helps to provide tailored responses to ensure that public services effectively reach women and girls and also supports coordination mechanisms. In **Haiti**, UNDP and Global Focal point for Police, Justice and Correction, co-led by UNDP and the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations, have helped to sustain rule of law support through the drawdown of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti and the establishment of the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti.

In **El Salvador**, the National Council for Citizen Security and Coexistence supported institutions to implement the El Salvador Seguro Plan, which contributed to a decrease in homicides from 103 per 100,000 inhabitants in 2015 to 60.1 per 100,000 inhabitants in 2017, which represents a reduction of 58.3 percent, and a reduced victimization rate from 24.5 percent in 2015 to 23 percent in 2017.

In **Trinidad and Tobago**, government agencies in the justice sector are cooperating, coordinating and standardizing the application of crime intervention strategies providing responses to youth offenders, while protecting the rights of the offender.

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MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS FOR GOVERNANCE

The UNDP Management Systems for Governance (known by its Spanish acronym SIGOB, for Sistemas de Información para la Gobernabilidad) is a team of management, governance and information technology experts that works with public institutions—in the region and beyond—to boost effectiveness of public institutions by strengthening efficiency, coordination, transparency and accountability through innovation in management methods and information tools. UNDP-SIGOB has carried out more than 200 projects with 136 institutions in 24 countries, most of them in Latin America and the Caribbean, and often working with the offices of presidents, prime ministers and governors, but also with ministries, Supreme Courts and specialized agencies. About 23,000 public officials in Latin America work regularly with these methods and information tools to meet citizens' expectations. Beyond our region, SIGOB has worked in Afghanistan, Georgia, Libya, Iraq and Timor-Leste.

In the **Dominican Republic**, an innovative Integrated Presidential Dashboard combines progress on priorities, financial delivery and institutional performance. In **Paraguay** and **Panama**, the initiative helped enhance governments' capacity to deliver results on the 2030 Agenda by pioneering big data SDG platforms that gather previously existing data scattered across institutions and development partners. In Colombia, UNDP provides integral support to the national transitional justice infrastructure, entitled the Comprehensive System of Truth, Justice, Reparation, and Non-Repetition. Its selection committee carried out an objective, rigorous and time-bound process to appoint the Comprehensive System's high-level positions, including 52 judges for the Special Jurisdiction for Peace, the Director of its Investigation and Accusation Unit, 11 members of the Truth Commission and the Director of the Missing Persons Unit. A highly transparent selection process ensured remarkable gender, ethnic and territorial representation. In partnership with UN Women and the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNDP supported the Executive Secretariat of the Special Jurisdiction for Peace to become operational in 2017. Furthermore, more than 7,000 cases were identified by the Historical Memory Center, with UNDP support, to be considered by the Truth Commission, including cases of sexual and gender-based violence and enforced disappearance. Collective reparation plans were implemented in several regions of the country, satisfying the rights of 20,486 victims of the armed conflict.

The disappearance of his brother Boniface and nephew Ramon in 1985 still today is a cause of immense pain for Balbino Estupiñan. More than three decades later he still searches for them and fights for the truth. He is one of 35 families, victims of enforced disappearance in northern Colombia who took part in a photo exhibit with a national foundation, the national victims' unit, UNV and UNDP. The exhibit is part of the process of reparation, to keep the memories alive and to avoid repetition.



STRENGTHENING CITIZEN SECURITY THROUGH ENGAGEMENT AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

UNDP works with governments, national institutions and civil society organizations at the national and local levels to improve legal frameworks and ensure the comprehensive design and effective implementation of public policies. We contribute to the development of national capacities and boost institutional reforms, particularly in the justice and security sectors.

Violence prevention in all its forms is at the heart of the work of UNDP. Focusing on addressing the drivers that perpetuate violence against women and femicide, on social cohesion and social and political dialogue, job creation for target groups and implementation of advocacy initiatives, data development and analysis, as well as sharing of best practices are all essential components of the UNDP approach.

CITIZEN INSECURITY

Crime and violence are the cause and consequence of a number of development challenges confronting Latin America and the Caribbean. Despite its economic growth, the region continues to be the most unequal and one of the most violent on the planet.

Violence and fear limit people's opportunities and are barriers to human development, the exercising of human rights and the strengthening of



democratic governance. For that reason, citizen security should not be seen exclusively as a reduction of delinquency rates, but rather as a result of policy that comes from an integral, sustainable, participatory and multidisciplinary strategy. This strategy should include elements for the improvement of the quality of life of the population, community action for crime prevention, accessible, agile and effective justice, and education based on values and respect for the law and human rights.

In addition to reducing crime, efforts should focus on preventing violence or creating living conditions that dissuade criminality. Protecting the lives of the entire population, as well as safeguarding people's integrity and patrimony are fundamental elements for human development, free from fear, risks, and threats.

CURBING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Reducing violence against women is a key priority in our region. Even though

nearly all countries in the region have policies to curb violence against women, our region is still the most violent for women, according to a 2017 joint UNDP-UN Women report.

In response, UNDP promotes integrated approaches involving security, justice, health, education, social protection agents and engaging communities in the debate and design of public policy and national action plans to eliminate violence against women. The approach includes integrating gender issues into the development of local-level citizen security plans, building the capacities of regional, national and local institutions to collect, analyse and use information on violence against women more effectively for policy development and response, building capacities of municipalities to work with civil society on prevention of violence against women, producing cutting edge research and analysis to highlight the dimensions of the problem in the region, through to working with other United Nations organizations in regional and national awareness building campaigns.



WORKING ON HIV, HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

The HIV epidemic in Latin America and the Caribbean remains an important public health challenge. While the number of people with HIV in the region has decreased slightly due to increased access to antiretroviral treatment, structural factors such as stigma and discrimination, gender inequality and the presence of punitive laws continue to limit progress towards eliminating the epidemic.

Despite its proportionately small population size, the Caribbean has the second highest HIV prevalence rate globally, after sub-Saharan Africa. New HIV infections have risen by nine percent between 2010 and 2015 and, in addition, in 2016 an estimated 17,000 people were newly infected. In the Caribbean, where same sex acts are largely illegal, sex work is criminalized and key populations experience high levels of stigma, discrimination and violence. In collaboration with the Pan-Caribbean Partnership Against HIV/AIDS, UNDP successfully organized a regional forum of 50 parliamentarians focusing on key populations and HIV. As a result, Caribbean Members of Parliament agreed to advocate for a broad-based stakeholder engagement to address issues affecting key populations with emphasis on stigma, discrimination and HIV transmission.





SIGNATURE SOLUTION 3:

ENHANCE NATIONAL PREVENTION AND RECOVERY CAPACITIES FOR RESILIENT SOCIETIES

On their path to development all countries face a wide range of risks, shocks and crises that could have an impact on their short and long-term target goals. Shocks can range from being localized or short-term, such as: geophysical and climatic hazards, disease outbreaks, sudden economic disruption, violence or political tensions; to protracted crises, such as: conflict, major droughts, epidemics, and economic collapse. The nexus of climate change, disasters and conflict is of particular importance, with growing resource insecurity and displacement around the world.

As a result of better preparedness and prevention measures, the region has experienced a consistent decrease in the number of disaster-related deaths. However, the number of affected persons is constantly increasing. In the Americas, between 2008 and 2018, disasters killed more than 247,000 people, and affected over 209 million, according to the Emergency Events Database (Université catholique de Louvain).

The UNDP Strategic Plan emphasizes a risk-informed approach and focuses on the state's responsibilities to pro-actively prevent crises, address vulnerability, and leave no one behind. This requires proactive, evidence-based and holistic resilience building, risk management, and prevention approaches that support the planning capacities of national and local authorities, and that build political will and governance systems that foster the positive engagement and innate capacities of communities and individuals. This offer will be critical to contribute to the overall 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the targets set by the Sendai Framework.

Hence, this signature harnesses the UNDP developmental approach and expertise across the issues of conflict prevention,

peacebuilding, disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and crisis response, in order to help countries avoid crises and return quickly to stable development after crises occur. Building resilience is a challenge that needs to be addressed by working collectively with governments, the private sector and civil society at regional, national and local level.

BUILDING BACK BETTER AFTER THE HURRICANES

In September 2017, two consecutive and powerful hurricanes unleashed fury in the Caribbean, leaving catastrophic damage in their wake. UNDP helped inspect and assess damage in Antigua and Barbuda and **Dominica** using high-tech tools to collect data in real time—assessing a building in an average time of seven minutes. All the structures in Barbuda were assessed in five days. With a \$5million support from China to Dominica and Antigua and Barbuda, UNDP worked with partners to rebuild roofs and boost resilience. The UNDP emergency work programmes in debris clean up and community infrastructure rebuilding in **Dominica, British Virgin Islands and Turks** and Caicos also created temporary jobs for those who lost everything, involving them in the recovery effort.

BOOSTING PREPAREDNESS

With the International Federation of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent Societies and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency, UNDP is supporting six countries (Antigua Barbuda, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Saint Lucia) to analyse and address Early Warning System gaps. The initiative is adapting an analysis checklist to the context of SIDS, facilitating and drawing on tools and technical assistance from Cuba, while bringing the national and community actors closer for better warnings, messaging and training. The initiative is funded by the General Directorate of Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid of the European Union.

INDEX FOR RISK MANAGEMENT

UNDP is working to strengthen risk knowledge management capacities at national and regional levels to improve disaster risk reduction. The INFORM initiative focuses on the generation and use of information to support decision-making in the Caribbean, transferring early warning systems knowledge and tools through South-South cooperation. In Central America, INFORM is building capacities for risk-informed programming at regional and national levels. The initiative is a partnership between regional coordination mechanism CEPREDENAC, UNDP, OCHA and UNICEF, implemented with the support of European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid **Operations** (ECHO).

SIGNATURE SOLUTION4:

PROMOTE NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS FOR A SUSTAINABLE PLANET

The management of land and natural resources is one of the most critical challenges facing developing countries today, which is why UNDP supports countries to sustainably manage ecosystem services and goods, improve governance of water sources and oceans and properly manage waste and chemical residues.

UNDP partners with governments to harness their extractive industries for a peoplecentred and sustainable development process by strengthening democratic governance and preventing environmental degradation and conflicts, while assisting



in post-conflict recovery. The impartiality of UNDP and its convening role are important factors in facilitating dialogue and collaboration among communities, with a special focus on indigenous peoples, and in working with governments and the private sector.

In Costa Rica, illicit deforestation is a critical issue. The lack of readily available evidence makes the enforcement of legislation extremely difficult. To address this problem, Costa Rica's Ministry of Environment partnered with UNDP and the Green Commodities Programme to develop a system for monitoring land use change in the country, including the use of satellite images. This makes it the first countries in the world to annually monitor forest gain and loss associated with export commodity production, as well as the only one to provide the necessary evidence for 'deforestation-free' certification of commodities. UNDP Costa Rica will further work with the Good Growth Partnership and UNDP Global Programme on Nature for Development as part of a global pilot to scale up this approach through the United Nations Biodiversity Lab, a spatial data partnership (powered by the MapX tool) that brings together cutting edge data from NASA, UNDP, UNEP and other premier research organizations.

With technical assistance from UNDP, **Chile** received grants from the Climate and Clean Air Coalition and the Multilateral Fund for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol to strengthen the adoption of ozone-friendly refrigeration systems in the supermarket sector. The special technology that had not been applied previously in the country, and to a very limited degree in the rest of Latin America, is now being used by four major chains, representing 90 percent of the supermarket sector, including Walmart (through the brand Líder), Cencosud, Tottus, and SMU. In Latin America and the Caribbean, UNDP supports countries' efforts to reduce deforestation in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Suriname.

FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

To reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, UNDP assists countries to enact and implement policies and measures for REDD+, putting special emphasis on land, policy and governance reforms, on green commodities, as well as on the full and effective engagement of indigenous peoples and forest communities.

Globally, UNDP manages a \$400 million portfolio of national REDD+ projects, working through a diverse network of institutions and partners, including the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and UNEP, the UN-REDD Programme in 64 countries. UNDP also serves as delivery partner for the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility in seven countries and supports bilateral investment programmes for REDD+ in five countries. Another key area of our work is managing the Community-Based REDD+ initiative in six countries. UNDP also supports pioneer countries with leveraging REDD+ investments and finance—including through the Green Climate Fund.

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN CUBA

In 1993, the first of a series of projects was initiated in the Sabana-Camagüey ecosystem to conserve valuable ecosystems, prioritize biodiversity in development planning, and build sustainable communities. The effect of these changes has been to restore ecosystem health, with additional benefits for food security and economic prosperity. The work that started in the Sabana-Camagüey archipelago provided the basis from which Cuba, in partnership with UNDP and Global Environment Facility, has built an entire portfolio of interconnected and complementary projects that address multiple issues across the entire country.

SIGNATURE SOLUTION 5:

CLOSE THE ENERGY GAP

With electricity coverage at more than 96 percent, Latin America and the Caribbean is close to becoming the world's first developing region to achieve universal access to electricity. Over slightly more than four decades, electricity coverage in the region has grown from about 50 percent to more than 90 percent. Some countries have fared better than others, and lack of electricity service is still substantial in the region, with about 22 million people that still do not enjoy these benefits.

Energy is an essential prerequisite for development, and universal access to sustainable energy is aligned with one of the key principles of the 2030 Agenda





of leaving no one behind. Universal energy access will contribute to poverty eradication, education and gender equality, access to quality medical care, reduced infant mortality, and environmental sustainability. Providing energy to those still without access requires solutions based on multiple factors, including institutional and regulatory frameworks, technology, environmental and social contexts, and economic viability. It also requires a multistakeholder approach involving both public and private sector participation to accelerate the implementation of projects.

UNDP supports countries to adopt lowemission, climate resilient strategies and actions that help to transform economies and support the poor. Efforts to expand access to clean energy and improve energy efficiency also directly support the United Nations Secretary-General's global initiative on Sustainable Energy for All (SEforAll) and SDG 7.

ENERGY ACCESS

In **Peru**, the Ministry of Energy and Mines partnered with UNDP to design a cook stove improvement programme to reach some of the poorest people in the country. The first stage of the programme initially supplied 25,000 improved wood stoves to families in different regions of the country, helping people use energy more efficiently, by generating the same level of energy with up to 50 percent less firewood. In addition to reducing the emission of greenhouse gases, the improved wood-burning stove design includes a fireplace, thus eliminating household smoke and the incidence of respiratory ailments.

Uruguay's Wind Energy Programme, implemented by the National Energy Directorate and supported by UNDP and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), contributed significantly to the generation of adequate conditions for the scale-up of renewable energy generation in the country by supporting the implementation of the National Energy Policy 2030. To date, 35 wind farms have been established. supplying 35 percent of the country's total electricity demand. This transformation of the national energy matrix has made it possible for Uruguay to begin a transition towards a sustainable and innovative mobility model, which incorporates electrical technology and will be supported by the UNDP-GEF.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Energy efficiency will play a critical role in limiting world energy demand growth to one third by 2040, while the global economy grows by 150 percent. It offers a unique opportunity to reconcile economic competitiveness with sustainable development, and provides the added benefits of reducing the cost of energy and increasing energy productivity.

UNDP has supported the efforts of the Government of **Colombia** by strengthening the national legal and regulatory framework, eliminating barriers for the commercialization of energy efficient appliances in the country, and strengthening the capacities of public and private actors about the multiple benefits of the efficient use of energy. During this process more than 100 public servants and private sector representatives were trained in crucial aspects of national labelling and energy efficiency.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

The Galapagos Islands is a UNESCO World Heritage site for its rich biodiversity and is located approximately 1,000km west of mainland **Ecuador**. Until 2007, all the Islands' inhabitants relied solely on petroleum to meet their increasing energy needs. To transition to clean energy, the Government of Ecuador partnered with UNDP in a GEF-UN Foundation initiative to install a 2.25 MW wind farm in one of the islands. This has provided clean energy to the inhabitants of the island, while following the highest standards of biodiversity protection and conservation.



SIGNATURE SOLUTION 6:

STRENGTHEN GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

Gender equality is a matter of women's human rights and an important step in ensuring continued regional development. If the region is to achieve the SDGs by 2030, major efforts are required to ensure governments, the private sector and civil society address the significant gender gaps prevailing in the region. Despite all the progress made, women in Latin America and the Caribbean continue to face discrimination.

Advancing gender equality requires removing structural barriers in public and private domains, eliminating gender-based violence, promoting participation and women's access to leadership in all forms of decision-making, and increasing resilience to shocks and crises.

In order to empower women and support their physical, political and economic autonomy, it is crucial that public policies, projects, legal frameworks and regulations have a 'gender lens' that considers the different needs of women and men in tailoring more effective responses.

UNDP activity in this areas focuses on six key priorities at a regional level:

- To measure and improve women's political participation
- To address gender gaps in the private sector



- To eradicate violence against women and femicide
- To support sustainable development policies that promote the rights of women and the poor, and that eliminate barriers to women's economic empowerment
- To enhance women's resilience to climate change and disasters
- To develop capacities of a range of actors to mainstream gender into public policy

ENDING THE SILENCE

During **Colombia's** long civil conflict, sexual violence was prevalent in areas with armed fighters. In the first decade of the century, as many as a half-million fighters occupied these areas. With the conflict now over, UNDP is supporting survivors of sexual violence to rebuild their lives with dignity, by providing them with access to health, protection, psychosocial and legal care, and other forms of reparation. The project has trained officials in how to investigate sexual violence, has documented over 1,600 cases, and promoted reparations or indemnification for nearly 1,000 survivors.

AChismo Mata Os porque Os

Machismo kills" reads a bandner during the March of Vormen of African Descent is pazil drawing attention to wafro-Brazilian women are disproportionately affected violence, femicide, and also die more while giving birth than women of other racial backgrounds

GENDER EQUITY AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL

America Latina Genera, www. americalatinagenera.org, is a knowledge and virtual dialogue platform with more than 500,000 visits a year. It provides analysis, tools, best practices in gender mainstreaming, and route maps to members of the development community interested in gender issues. Over 500 people have participated in knowledge exchanges in 2015 alone through this online platform on more than 10 different topics, ranging from multidimensional poverty, to violence, state institutions and gender.

In collaboration with the governments of the Dominican Republic and Panama, UNDP launched the Gender Equality Seal for Government Institutions. The initiative that has involved more than 14 countries in the region includes the identification of best practices on gender mainstreaming into institutional policies. The programme has started in Panama, El Salvador and the Dominican Republic. Each year since 2010, UNDP has tutored over 500 officials in the region using 12 different training programmes that include gender equality in the private sector, gender and citizen security, women's political participation, disaster risk reduction from a gender perspective, and gender in communication.

Atenea is an initiative to accelerate women's progress in political participation. In collaboration with UN Women and International IDEA, Atenea was designed to generate dialogue among national actors to achieve political parity through the creation of a national and regional political parity index and national action routes to accelerate progress.

The **Spotlight Initiative** is a joint European Union-United Nations programme (which includes UNDP, UN Women and UNFPA), that focuses on eliminating femicide through the development and implementation of policies, the strengthening of national and sub-national institutions, the prevention of violence through evidence-based programmes and campaigns, the collection and use of prevalence and incidence data, and the establishment of essential services for victims and survivors.

Public capacities developed for the prevention and action against violence on women and girls is a strategic partnership with the Development Bank for Latin America to improve state capacity to address violence against women and girls. This initiative will design an integral model for policy design and implementation for prevention, attention, and reparation of victims.

Ending Gender-Based Violence and Achieving the Sustainable Development

Goals is an initiative developed in partnership with the Government of the Republic of Korea, for planning and implementing localized gender-based violence action plans.



GENDER SEAL

The UNDP supported Gender Equality Seal Certification Programme certifies companies in standards of excellence that promote gender equality and women's empowerment in the workplace. UNDP supports partners in 17 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, Asia and Eurasia to certify public and private companies for meeting gender equality targets, including committing to eliminating gender pay gaps, boosting the number of women in decision-making positions, improving work-life balance, eradicating sexual harassment in the workplace, using inclusive and non-sexist language and advancing the participation of women in non-traditional industries. In Latin America and the Caribbean alone, the Gender Equality Seal Community has worked with more than 600 companies, with more than 1,700 branches and business units certified. Since 2016, this

initiative has expanded to countries in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

In Chile, Gender Seal certified stateowned copper mining company Codelco boosted mixed gender groups in this traditionally male-dominated industry, resulting in increased productivity. Similarly, **Costa Rica's** National Bank increased women's representation in decision-making positions through a leadership programme, enabling 70 women to assume managerial posts. In **Colombia**, Unilever established telecommuting policies, which requires both women and men e to work outside the office several days a week. This promotes work-life balance, and reduces the company's carbon footprint through the adoption of smaller premises.

SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

Bringing countries together in the region and beyond

Sharing of knowledge and experiences between developing countries, or South-South cooperation, is a crucial pillar of UNDP activities in Latin America, the Caribbean and beyond. Recent initiatives include taking Latin American initiatives to reduce poverty and inequality to Africa, sharing the region's democratic transition experience with Arab States, and sharing knowledge about climate resilience within the Caribbean. This includes transfers of best practices through diverse instruments and methodologies aimed at capturing, systematizing and adapting successful experiences, while mapping and researching multilateral support for such exchanges in the region.

In **Sri Lanka**, UNDP with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights helped establish the **National Victim and Witness Protection Authority**, including a South-South exchange between government and civil society representatives from **Colombia**.

The Poverty and Environment Initiative, a joint UNDP-UNEP initiative, has promoted the collaboration between **Dominican Republic** and Uruguay, facilitating the exchange of experiences, knowledge and good practices in matters of disaster risk prevention, integration between environmental and social protection policies and tools for measuring poverty and environmental vulnerability. The initiative helped create an Index of Environmental Vulnerability to Climate Shocks in the Dominican Republic, the first global index of this kind, which focuses on households. The index allows the study of the degree of vulnerability of households to extreme climate events, helping target assistance to at-need populations, while integrating social protection and environmental policies.

Established in 2013, the Chile Fund Against Hunger and Poverty—a joint initiative of the Government and UNDP—seek to accelerate sustainable development by sharing Chile's social and economic transformation experience with other countries through South-South cooperation.









Established in 2013, the Chile Fund Against Hunger and Poverty—a joint initiative of the Government and UNDP—seeks to accelerate sustainable development by sharing Chile's social and economic transformation experience with other countries through South-South cooperation. In the past five years the fund awarded \$11.2 million to some 40 South-South cooperation projects implemented by civil society organizations, Chilean public institutions and United Nations organizations in 26 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and the Pacific. The fund has also fast-tracked an additional \$2.3 million to support humanitarian responses to social crises or natural disasters in Central America and the Caribbean, Africa and the Middle East.

In Guatemala and Honduras, the America Solidaria Foundation implemented a project between 2013 to 2017 to establish vegetable gardens for food security and education, focusing on poor income families and communities. The initiative trained women and men in communities in northern Honduras, and in eastern Guatemala, improving people's knowledge of the importance of local fruits and vegetables, and their nutrients. Nearly 2,000 people living in communities identified with high rates of malnutrition and poverty directly benefited from the initiative, which helped boost local capacity for food production, organization and nourishment.

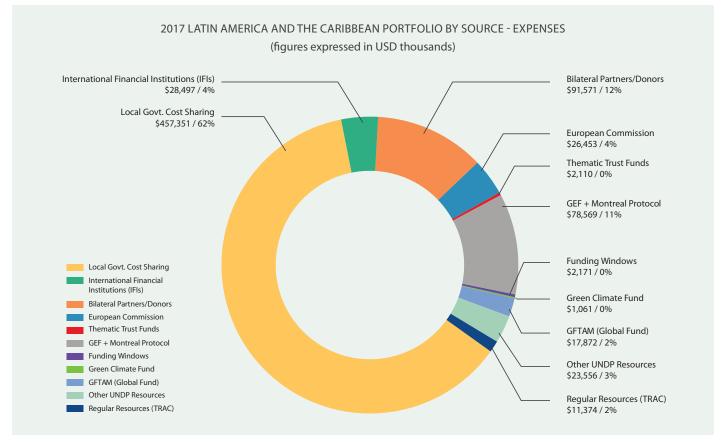
Resources

UNDP funding is provided by voluntary contributions from United Nations member states, multilateral organizations and other sources, including private sector and global funds. Globally, in 2017 contributions totalled \$4.9 billion. Such contributions are provided as either core resources, also known as regular resources, or noncore resources, with different degrees of earmarking such as geographic, thematic or project-specific.

In most countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, we essentially work with

government contributions to support programmes and projects in these same countries—a non-core modality known as **government cost-sharing**. These domestic resources are used for sustainable development projects that are in line with both national development plans and the UNDP Strategic Plan. This modality covers around 60 percent of all funding for our work in the region, demonstrating the status of UNDP as a trusted partner. In 2017, 21 governments contributed over\$500 million for our work in these same countries. Seven countries in our region also contribute to global core resources, which are non-earmarked and can be allocated to key priorities of the UNDP Strategic Plan. Core funding is essential to enable UNDP to perform at a high level, supporting the high standards of quality assurance and transparency we have attained, including our ranking among the world's top transparent aid organizations in the Aid Transparency Index.

PORTFOLIO BY SOURCE 2017 - EXPENSES



2017 COUNTRY OFFICE PROGRAMME EXPENSES AS OF MARCH 2018 - IN USD



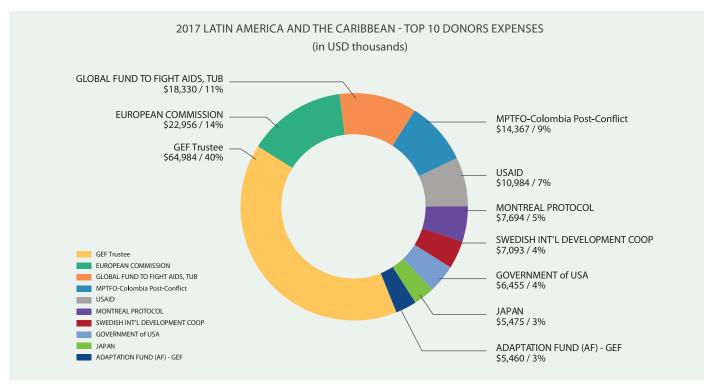
PARTNERS	REGULAR RESOURCES	GOVT. COST	OTHER UNDP	
	(TRAC)	SHARING	RESOURCES	TOTAL
Argentina	158,069	187,234,277	14,318,145	201,710,491
Barbados*	571,234	712	8,766,555	9,338,501
Belize	98,005	0	2,801,308	2,899,313
Bolivia	772,763	0	10,516,468	11,289,231
Brazil	150,000	22,782,829	30,114,991	53,047,820
Chile	198,487	18,595,135	3,857,422	22,651,044
Colombia	379,843	52,772,159	36,469,968	89,621,970
Costa Rica	410,213	901,716	6,386,955	7,698,884
Cuba	984,461	0	24,949,641	25,934,102
Dominican Republic	436,318	30,992,749	2,664,018	34,093,085
Ecuador	348,002	798,981	8,250,218	9,397,201
El Salvador	378,983	10,618,158	6,498,586	17,495,727
Guatemala	331,257	17,492,300	30,047,414	47,870,971
Guyana	450,443	205,569	3,663,865	4,319,877
Haiti	3,275,277	8,354,814	20,598,441	32,228,532
Honduras	316,558	9,287,666	8,915,009	18,519,233
Jamaica**	386,693	0	4,339,865	4,726,558
Mexico	198,832	9,836,372	9,051,467	19,086,671
Panama	109,671	26,941,368	5,539,602	32,590,641
Paraguay	347,049	30,230,348	4,314,025	34,891,422
Peru	652,263	17,130,490	14,915,967	32,698,720
Suriname	103,862	47,405	2,963,740	3,115,007
Trinidad & Tobago***	24,475	1,448,280	2,730,599	4,203,354
Uruguay	150,000	9,699,293	7,519,308	17,368,601
Venezuela	140,899	1,980,033	1,665,666	3,786,598
Total:	11,373,657	457,350,654	271,859,243	740,583,554

* Barbados covers: Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, St. Kitts & Nevis and British Virgin Island.

** Jamaica covers: Bahamas, Cayman Islands, Bermuda & Turks and Caicos Islands.

***Trinidad & Tobago covers: Aruba, Netherland Antilles, St. Maarten & Curacao.

2017 TOP 10 NON-REGIONAL CONTRIBUTORS



LIST OF ACRONYMS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome	MPTFO	Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office / Colombia Post-Conflict
CEPREDENAC	Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de los Desastres en América Central y República Dominicana (Coordination Center for the Prevention of Disasters in Central America and the Dominican Republic)	NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
		SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
		SIDS	Small Island Developing States
ECHO	European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations	SIGOB	Management System for Governance
CEE		UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
GEF	Global Environment Facility	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
HDI	Human Development Index	UN-REDD	United Nations Collaborative Programme on
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus	UN-REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and
LGBTI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and		Forest Degradation in Developing Countries
	Intersex	UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and
MAPS	Mainstreaming Acceleration and Policy		the empowerment of women
	Support	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
MDG	Millennium Development Goal	USAID	United States Agency for International
MERCOSUR	Southern Common Market		Development

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Page 28-	29: Fondo Chile

Cover photo: The Peruvian Ministry of Environment and the Municipality of Arequipa partnered with UNDP, UNEP and UNV to support recyclers' association "Recicla Vida", which brings workers—especially women—out of the shadows. These three women don't just recycle garbage, they re-imagine it. They are among the many women in their community who have abandoned the dumps in Arequipa – Peru's second biggest city - to become promoters of a recycling culture and show that there are opportunities for sustainable development in the garbage. In their free time, the women produce handicrafts from the plastic bottles, cartons and paper they've collected and sell them at markets and events around the city. Gregoria Cruz (middle) shares that her dream is to buy her own truck and dedicate herself completely to giving trash a second life.

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