



Fifth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development

San José, 7–9 March 2022

Concept note

Panel 1

From development in transition to development for action: towards renewed international development cooperation

**Tuesday, 8 March, 9–11 a.m.
(Crowne Plaza San José Corobicí, Costa Rica time, GMT-6)**

The economic and social effects of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) have widened structural gaps such as inequality, informality, low productivity and fragmented access to external financing. To date, the multilateral response has not fully addressed the needs of developing countries to face the worsening of the crisis.

A renewal of international cooperation is essential if more inclusive and sustainable development is to be attained for all the inhabitants of the region. In accordance with the concept of development in transition, conceived by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean together with the European Commission and the Development Centre of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), this cooperation should be tailored to the specific needs of countries and seek to address structural development gaps, contributing to the creation of regional and global public goods. It should be multilateral and work with an extensive toolkit that includes, among other things, financing instruments, climate change funds, blended finance, debt for environment swaps and domestic resource mobilization. This would support knowledge-sharing, capacity-building and delivery of the transfers needed to break development deadlocks.

It is time for action. It is crucial to address countries' development needs beyond income-based classification and graduation criteria, to capture both their vulnerabilities and the multidimensional nature of sustainable development, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Furthermore, as will be discussed on 7 March, in the **high-level [Author: it is a high-level dialogue, not interactive. In Spanish "Diálogo de alto nivel sobre una agenda innovadora de financiamiento para la recuperación"]** dialogue on an innovative financing agenda for recovery, the ability to mobilize and access internal and external financing is crucial for Latin America and the Caribbean to successfully meet the challenge of improving its meagre economic growth and of pursuing investments and financial instruments to support a transition to environmentally sustainable economies that create quality jobs and are socially inclusive.

Guiding questions

Reflecting on a proposal to renew international cooperation, based on the development needs of countries, going beyond income-based classifications and graduation criteria, to capture both countries' vulnerabilities and the multidimensional nature of sustainable development:

1. What strengths or weaknesses do you see in the proposal to refocus international development cooperation using an analytical framework that interlinks the development in transition and structural gaps approaches?
2. Is it possible to put a brake on graduation processes and promote what we have called country "graduation"?
3. Which background variables require more attention or care to ensure that the proposal leaves no one behind?
4. What are the most important factors or elements that should form the basis of strengthened cooperation and sharing of experiences, both among countries in Latin America and the Caribbean and with other regions?
5. How can the region consolidate more suitable and effective metrics, such as a universal vulnerability index, which acknowledge that development is a multidimensional and complex process and can guide international cooperation, result in new instruments and lead to an allocation of resources that is better suited to countries' realities and specific needs?
6. What strategies are needed to boost regional cooperation by increasing the lending and response capacity of regional, subregional and national financing institutions and strengthening cooperation among them?
7. Within the framework of domestic financing mechanisms, what role should national development banks play in mobilizing resources for sustainable development?
8. In the fiscal area, what regional strategies should be pursued to strengthen public revenues by reducing tax evasion and making tax structures more progressive?

Panel

Moderator: Rodolfo Solano Quirós, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica

See the full preliminary programme at <https://foroalc2030.cepal.org/2022/en/programme> [Author: correct link for Spanish: <https://foroalc2030.cepal.org/2022/es/programa>]

Panel format

This multi-stakeholder panel will be moderated by Rodolfo Solano Quirós, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica, and will include a presentation by Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Following the presentation by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, the moderator will invite the panellists to reflect in a seven-minute statement on how to move towards renewed international development cooperation; for example, cooperation that provides better and more effective instruments to determine and guide international cooperation.

Once the panellists have finished their statements, the moderator will open the floor to remarks on the theme of the panel lasting up to three minutes by members of the delegations of the participating countries. Once the delegation members have finished making their remarks, the floor will be returned to the panellists for three-minute closing statements.