

Proposed regional agenda on population and development for Latin America and the Caribbean beyond 2014

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ECLAC



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Document structure

- I. BACKGROUND, MANDATE AND OBJECTIVES
- II. ELEMENTS OF THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC CONTEXT WITH BEARINGS ON THE FUTURE POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT AGENDA
 - The economic and social context
 - The demographic context
- III. PROPOSED REGIONAL AGENDA ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT BEYOND 2014
 - Human rights approach to the regional population and development agenda beyond 2014
 - Priority areas in the framework of the regional agenda on population and development beyond 2014
 - Frameworks for the implementation of the future regional agenda on population and development

Mandate and objectives of the document

- **Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development of ECLAC (Quito, July 2012)**
Mandate to propose a regional agenda on population and development beyond 2014
- **Purpose of the document:** To identify and propose a suitable approach and priority issues for a regional agenda on population and development in Latin America and the Caribbean beyond 2014

Economic and social context

- **Factors associated with global processes**
 - Globalization
 - The economic crisis
 - Climate change
- **Hallmarks of Latin America and the Caribbean**
 - Inequality:
 - Income
 - Territorial
 - Ethnic/racial
 - Gender

Demographic context

- Shifting age structure
- **Duration** of the demographic dividend
- Population ageing and the related challenges
- High adolescent and youth mortality from violence-related causes
- High maternal mortality figures
- Persistently high adolescent fertility rates
- Huge demographic differences between countries and population groups (reflecting unequal access to services, including sexual and reproductive health)

Priority issues

- Rights, needs and requirements of children, adolescents and young people
- Ageing, social protection and socioeconomic challenges
- Gender equality (physical, economic and social autonomy)
- Gaps in universal access to sexual and reproductive health services
- International migration and protection of the rights of all migrants
- Territorial inequality, spatial mobility and environmental vulnerability
- Indigenous peoples, pluriculturalism and rights
- Afro-descendants, rights and combating racial discrimination

Rights, needs and requirements of children, adolescents and young people

- Crucial importance of social investment during people's formative years
- Exclusion at these stages fuels mechanisms that perpetuate poverty and inequality
- The region's historical debts: deficits of quality and coverage and neglect of preschool education
- Limited progress regarding reproductive behaviour: high adolescent fertility rates
- Constraints on access to decent work, low value attributed to education, limited participation, high levels of violence

Ageing, social protection and socioeconomic challenges

- The demographic dividend is not automatic. It needs:
 - Investment in human resources and job creation
- More rapid population ageing poses challenges for society and the economy
 - Need to adjust social security and health systems
 - The demand for care will increase and change

Gender equality

- Women's exercise of physical, economic and political autonomy still faces limitations
 - High maternal mortality rates
 - Unmet contraceptives demand
 - Adolescent pregnancy
 - High levels of violence against women
 - Feminization of poverty
- Need to change the social, political, economic and cultural bases which support the sexual division of reproductive work

Gaps in universal access to sexual and reproductive health care

- Sexual and reproductive rights are essential for the enjoyment of other fundamental rights
- Uneven progress and pending challenges for meeting the Cairo targets and goals
- High maternal mortality associated with limitations on universal, quality access to skilled attendance at birth, emergency obstetric care and contraceptives
- Challenges in addressing gender inequity, the practice of unsafe abortions and violence against women
- Challenges in preventing and responding to HIV/AIDS
- Need for comprehensive education policies on SRH

International migration and protection of the rights of all migrants

- Benefits for origin and destination countries
- Breaches of migrants' rights, associated with restrictive measures
- Similar tendency in intraregional migration
- Emerging situations:
 - Return migration
 - Impact of the crisis on remittances
 - Increased migration within the region
 - Displacements driven by violence, natural disasters and climate change

Territorial distribution of the population, mobility, urbanization and sustainability

- Rapid urbanization
- Tendency towards formation of large cities and mega-cities
- Persistent rural-urban flows
- Unequal locations within the territory: the poor are settled in much more risky locations
- Reduced protection and response capabilities vis-à-vis natural disasters in the region

Indigenous peoples, pluriculturalism and rights

- Structural discrimination
- Gaps persist in the exercise of individual and collective rights and the adaptation of services
- Separate population dynamics, with a younger age structure, migration and ancestral mobility in border areas
- Respect for territorial rights: essential for identity and autonomy

Afro-descendants, rights and combating racial discrimination

- Historical debts: racism not absent from the region
- Deep inequalities in education, employment, health and housing as a result of racial discrimination
- Institutional weaknesses and invisibility in the data leads to limited inclusion in policies and programmes
- Limited respect for this group's human rights

Frameworks for implementation of the future regional agenda

- Definition of an institutional structure to support and coordinate population and development matters
- Availability of financial resources, commitments by the countries and support from international agencies
- Improvements in data collection and analysis and implementation of training strategies

Principles for future action on population and development

Equality

Human rights

Sustainability
and integrated
approach

Medium- and
long-term
view

People at the
centre

THANK YOU

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ICPD = **people
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