



REGIONAL PROGRAMMES LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

GENERAL OVERVIEW

JANUARY 2014

ACRONYMS AND REFERENCES

ACRONYMS:

ALBAN: Programme for Higher level scholarships for Latin America
@LIS: Alliance for Information Society
ALFA: Regional cooperation between the EU and Latin American on Higher Education.
CELAC: Comunidad de Estados Latinoamericanos y Caribeños (The Community of Latin American and Caribbean States)
CICAD: Inter-American Drugs Abuse Control Commission
EC: European Commission
ECLAC: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
EMCDDA: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction
ENRTP: Thematic programme for Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources including Energy
EU: European Union
EUWI: European Union Water Initiative
FLEGT: Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
HEI: Higher Education Institutions
IADB: Inter-American Development Bank
IDPC: International Drug Policy Consortium
JRC: Joint Research Centre of the European Commission
LA: Latin America
LAC: Latin America and Caribbean
MDG: Millennium Development Goals
OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PAHO: Pan American Health Organization
RALCEA: Latin America network of knowledge centres in the water sector
RedCLARA: Latin American Cooperation of Advanced Networks
REGULATEL: Foro Latinoamericano de Entes Reguladores de Telecomunicaciones
RIOD: Red Iberoamericana de ONG's que trabajan en Drogodependencias
SME: Small and medium sized enterprises
UNDP: United Nations Development Programme

REFERENCES:

"Agenda for change": A strategy document communicated from the EC to the European Parliament, the Council of the EU, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, on how to increase the impact of EU Development Policy. Reference: COM (2011) 637 final, 13.10.11

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EU-LAC:

Summits of the EU, Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) leaders take place biennially. The following EU-LAC summits are referred to in this document:

- 2004 III EU-LAC Summit, Guadalajara, Mexico
- 2008 IV EU-LAC Summit in Lima, Peru
- 2013 VII EU-LAC, I EU-CELAC Summit, Santiago de Chile, Chile

EU-CELAC: CELAC is a community of Latin American and Caribbean States, launched in 2010, is a regional mechanism for political dialogue and cooperation encompassing all 33 LAC countries. It merged the Rio Group (political consultation forum) and CALC ("*Cumbres América Latina y Caribe*" – internal LAC Summits). CELAC is the EU's counterpart for the bi-regional partnership process, including at summit level.

TRAFFIC: An organisation involved in wildlife and conservation issues which is implementing the FLEGT project.

REGIONAL CO-OPERATION WITH LATIN AMERICA:

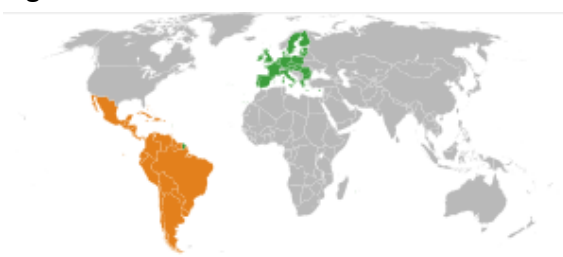
20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

MORE THAN 1 BILLION EUROS OF EU CONTRIBUTION

The first regional programmes designed for Latin America were launched by the European Union in the early 90's. At that time they mainly concerned co-operation in the field of higher education, support to SMEs and local urban development.

Since the beginning of the 2000s, new regional programmes were formulated in accordance with the priorities defined by the successive European Union (EU) and Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Summits. Endorsed by the Head of States and Governments of the EU-LAC countries, regional co-operation initiatives had a strong legitimacy and translated political priorities of the bi-regional partnership into concrete actions.

Regional co-operation represents a privileged tool to share with Latin American partners experience and know-how of Europe as a region. Particular attention is paid to the promotion of a dialogue and joint actions with international institutions that are active in LA (ECLAC, UNDP, IADB, OECD, and others). It is important to mention that the participation in regional programmes is open to all Latin American countries eligible for the Development Co-operation Instrument (DCI)¹. . The networks of partners involved in regional co-operation initiatives include national governments, judiciary, legislative bodies, local authorities, private sector (enterprises, banks and intermediary institutions) and the academic world (universities, research and training centres). Ultimately, regional programmes became the main tool to promote South-South co-operation among the countries of the Latin American continent.



The current regional co-operation is designed around three key priorities which are social cohesion (EUROsociAL, Urb-AL, Al-Invest); sustainable development and climate change (EURO-SOLAR, EUROCLIMA, RALCEA, WATERCLIMA LAC and FLEGT South America) and promotion of higher education and research (ALFA and Erasmus Mundus - Action 2). In 2010, the European Commission launched the Latin American

¹ The following 18 countries are eligible for the DCI: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Investment Facility (LAIF), a blending instrument to support public investment in a number of strategic sectors.

The total of the European contribution to regional co-operation with Latin America since its beginning amounts to more than EUR 1 billion.

II. EU-LATIN AMERICA REGIONAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMMES

The EC earmarked an indicative amount of **EUR 556 million** for Latin America, for the period 2007-2013, to support the following regional programmes: the second phase of **EUROsociAL (2010 – 2014)**, which aims at improving social cohesion and the **URB-AL III (2008 -2013)** programme to pursue territorial cooperation; **AL-INVEST IV (2009 – 2013)** to support the internationalisation of Latin American SMEs; **LAIF (2009 – 2013)**, which enables the financing of important projects in different areas such as infrastructures, energy, transports, health and education; in the area of Higher Education, the **ALFA III (2007 – 2013)** programme focuses on co-operation in the field of higher education in LA, as well as the reinforcement of partnerships between Higher Education Institutions from both regions; **Erasmus Mundus Action 2 for Latin America** provides scholarships and promotes academic exchanges; in the sustainable development and climate change sector there is **EURO-SOLAR** which aims at promoting the use of renewable energy sources, **EUROCLIMA** to improve the knowledge of LA decision-makers on the problems and consequences related to climate change, **RALCEA (2010 - 2014)** to support the establishment of a network of knowledge centres in the water sector, **WATERCLIMA LAC** to contribute to improving watersheds and coastal regions by boosting resilience to the consequences of climate change and the **FLEGT South America** project on Forest Governance; the **@LIS 2** programme facilitates the integration of Latin American countries into the global information society; **COPOLAD**, a cooperation programme aiming at improving the coherence, balance and impact of drugs policies, and the **EU-CELAC project on Migration**. Each of these programmes is presented in more detail below.

ALFA III ***(Latin America Academic Training)***

The ALFA III Programme (2007-2013; total European Commission contribution EUR 75 million) contributes to building the EU-LA's Common Higher Education Area objective (set out for the first time by the Heads of State and Government of EU-LAC through the Declaration of Guadalajara in 2004, and reinforced during the successive EU-LAC

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Summits) recognised as a strategic element for strengthening bilateral and multilateral relations between the two regions. Higher education institutions (HEIs) play a leading role as a driver of socio-economic development to overcome social inequality in Latin America by improving the quality of national education systems.



ALFA III represents the only existing programme aiming at the modernisation of higher education in LA as a platform to promote sustainable and equitable development in the region. It follows the evolution of the LA societies and their challenges, focusing on development cooperation rather than on academic co-operation.

ALFA III projects address: new technologies and innovation; public health; teaching methods / e-learning; modernization / harmonization of higher education systems; labour market; climate change and environmental protection; vulnerable groups; university administration; urban development/planning; SMEs; and human rights.

Altogether 51 projects have been implemented involving 494 distinct participating institutions: 153 come from the EU and 341 from LA.

For further information, please contact the Programme Coordinator, Mr José María González y González: Jose-Maria.Gonzalez-Y-Gonzalez@ec.europa.eu, Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid, Unit G2 or visit: www.alfa3programme.eu

ERASMUS MUNDUS (Action 2)

The Erasmus Mundus II (2008-2013) responds to the EU education, cooperation and external policies to further deepen and enhance the higher education cooperation links between the EU and the rest of the world. Through this worldwide programme, the EU supports:

- Partnerships between higher education institutions and research centers from different EU and non-EU countries to develop teaching and learning capacities,
- Mobility of students and academics.

For Latin America, the Directorate General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid is responsible for:

- setting priorities, targets and criteria,

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- managing the budget,
- guiding and monitoring the general implementation, follow-up and evaluation of the programme.

Erasmus Mundus builds on the positive results of other programmes in higher education in Latin America like ALFA and ALBAN and also the former Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Windows first launched in 2006.

Since 2008, EUR 95.6 million of the Regional contribution to Latin America has funded 43 partnerships, with 456 participations from 195 different Latin America Higher Education Institutions. Over 5.700 students and academics have taken part in academic mobility.



The participation in the programme is enabled by annual Call for Proposals. The last call in the period 2007-2013 was launched in November 2013 with a view to the academic year 2014-2015.

Future developments: **Erasmus+**, is a new EU programme for education, training, youth and sport proposed by the European Commission to cover the period 2014–2020.

For further information, please contact the Programme Coordinator, Mr José María González y González: Jose-Maria.Gonzalez-Y-Gonzalez@ec.europa.eu, Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid, Unit G2, or visit http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus_mundus/programme/about_erasmus_mundus_en.php

EUROSociAL II **(Social Cohesion)**

The second phase of the EUROSociAL Programme (2010 – 2014) is currently being implemented. As in its first phase (2004 – 2008), EUROSociAL II aims at contributing to increased social cohesion in Latin America through the promotion of reforms and the improvement of public policies management. This phase puts a stronger emphasis on the demand-driven orientation of the programme. The grant contract for the implementation of EUROSociAL II has been awarded to a consortium



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led by FIIAPP (*Fundación Internacional y para Iberoamerica de Administración y Políticas Públicas*), for the amount of EUR 40 million.

The second phase of the EUROsocial Programme focuses on the following thematic lines:

- 1) Universal access to social services of quality (ex. education, health) and promotion of children, teenagers and youth rights (coordinated by GIZ, Germany);
- 2) Social protection and promotion of active employment policies (coordinated by Italian – Latin American Institute, Italy);
- 3) Fiscal systems and public finances which facilitate the redistribution and efficiency of expenditure (coordinated by FIIAPP, Spain);
- 4) Democratic institutionalism and social dialogue (coordinated by FIIAPP, Spain) and decentralisation (coordinated by GIZ, Germany);
- 5) Public safety, right and access to justice (coordinated by FCI, France).

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Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation - Unit G2 or visit:
<http://www.eurosocial-ii.eu/>

AL-INVEST

(Internationalisation of Latin American SMEs)

AL-INVEST aims to promote social cohesion by contributing to the strengthening and internationalisation of Latin American small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), exchange of ideas and knowledge, as well as to foster the economic relations with their European counterparts. The programme, launched by the European Commission in 1993, started in 2009 its Phase IV (2009 – 2013) after successfully completing three previous phases (1994 – 2008, phases I;II;III). The operational period of this last phase concluded at the end of 2013.

AL-INVEST IV is designed to contribute to the sustainable internationalisation process of SMEs in Latin America through organisations that represent the private sector and promote its development, such as Chambers of Commerce, Trade Associations and Export Promotion Agencies etc. Within the framework of the programme, Latin American SMEs benefit from training and technical assistance to improve their competitiveness, participate in business meetings in relevant trade fairs, and have access to quality information as well as to advice on market opportunities, potential clients or business partners and EU legislation and policies.

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The programme is implemented through 3 groups of business organisations (consortia) belonging to three distinct geographical areas of Latin America:

- Central America-Mexico-Cuba
- Mercosur-Chile-Venezuela
- Andean Region

The overall contribution of the European Commission to the programme amounts to EUR 50 million (80 % of the total cost).



Market studies are elaborated, information on European procedures is provided and a network of contacts with European bodies is established. Common databases and a common website (see below) are facilitators of information exchange and networking.

For further information, please contact Mr Marc Litvine: marc.litvine@ec.europa.eu : Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid, Unit G2, or visit (www.al-invest4.eu)

URB-AL ***(Urban Policy Coordination)***

URB-AL is a regional co-operation programme involving sub-national governments of the EU and Latin America. The programme was initially created to develop networks between local authorities and, on the basis of exchange of experiences on different urban policies, to contribute to the wider goal of promoting social cohesion in LA.

In Phases I and II (1994 – 2007), URB-AL played a leading role in strengthening the relations between the EU and Latin America by encouraging direct exchange of experiences between local development representatives and experts of both regions.

URB-AL III (2008 – 2013) aimed to increase the degree of social cohesion of Latin America's local and regional communities. More specifically, its objective was to promote social cohesion processes in a limited number of Latin American cities and territories which might be considered as reference models for further social cohesion policies implemented by LA local governments.

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URB-AL III was therefore designed in complete coherence with the new EU policy trends towards Latin America that, since the Guadalajara Summit (2004), contemplates social cohesion as the core of the "strategic alliance" between both regions.



The total EU contribution for phase III was EUR 50 million for 21 projects.

For further information, please contact the Programme Coordinator, Mr Marc Litvine: Marc.litvine@ec.europa.eu, Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid Unit G2. For additional information on URB-AL visit: http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/projects/urbal/index_en.htm

EUROCLIMA

The 5th EU-LAC Summit (Lima – May 2008) called for the establishment of the EUROCLIMA programme. At the summit, the key themes discussed were “Sustainable Development: Environment, Climate Change and Energy”. The Summit established climate change as a new area for bi-regional co-operation. The European Commission responded with the approval of the EUROCLIMA programme, on the 18th of December 2009, with an EU contribution of EUR 5 million for 3-year duration.

Considering the importance of the EUROCLIMA programme and the confirmed interest of the beneficiary countries, the European Commission decided in October 2012 to extend the programme into a second phase (with a total EU contribution of EUR 10 million for an additional 3-year duration) to continue and build on the achieved results, strengthening the process of reinforcing the resilience of the Latin American region to climate change and developing low-emission strategies.



In January 2013, the 1st EU-CELAC Summit confirmed (in the Santiago Declaration), that climate change is a key priority for the EU-LAC relations and welcomed the extension of the EUROCLIMA programme.

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The first phase of EUROCLIMA (2010 – 2012) aimed to provide Latin American decision-makers and the scientific community with better knowledge of climate change and its consequences, particularly in view of integrating these issues into sustainable development strategies.

The Programme's objective was to improve the knowledge of decision-makers and scientists in Latin America regarding the impact of climate change in the region in order to strengthen sustainable development strategies.

Through its actions, the programme aimed to:

- Reduce people's vulnerability to climate change.
- Reduce social inequalities caused by global warming.
- Reduce the socio-economic impacts of climate change.
- Reinforce regional integration dialogue.

EUROCLIMA was implemented by the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and by EuropeAid (DG Development and Cooperation) supported by a technical assistance team.

Both JRC and ECLAC carried out research on environmental and socio-economic issues on climate change and its impacts. The Technical Assistance aimed to support structured dialogue, and to ensure coordination, visibility and communication of the Programme.

The total cost of the first phase of the programme was EUR 5.175 million of which EUR 5 million was contributed from the EU.

The implementation period of the first phase of EUROCLIMA ended in 2013 and the second (extension) phase is currently under preparation and negotiation with the potential implementing organisations.

The second phase of EUROCLIMA facilitates the integration of climate change mitigation, adaptation strategies and measures into Latin American public development policies and plans at national and (sub) regional levels.

The second phase's general objective is to contribute to poverty reduction of the Latin American population by reducing their environmental and social vulnerability to climate change and to reinforce resilience of the Latin American region to climate change and promote opportunities for green growth.

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The programme aims to work in 3 areas:

- EU- Latin American policy dialogue on climate change
- Adaptation and mitigation “no-regrets” measures
- Sustainable agriculture, food security and climate change

For further information, please contact the Programme Coordinator, Mr José María González y González: Jose-Maria.Gonzalez-Y-Gonzalez@ec.europa.eu, Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation-EuropeAid, Unit G2 or visit: <http://www.euroclima.org>

EURO-SOLAR

The EURO-SOLAR programme (2006 – 2012) aimed at promoting the use of renewable energy sources in the eight least developed countries of Latin America (Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Peru) and at improving living conditions by fighting poverty in isolated rural communities. It allows those living in the poorest rural areas, without access to the national grid, to benefit from a source of electricity generated from renewable sources. EURO-SOLAR provides the 600 beneficiary communities with a system of photovoltaic panels, in some cases combined with small wind panels, in order to generate electricity, as well as other applications for community use in the field of education, health and communication (such as laptops, Internet connection, printer/scanners, medical refrigeration equipment, water purifiers, etc.).



The European Commission contribution for the programme is EUR 28.7 million.

The connection to the internet has now been established in most of the beneficiary communities. Internet connection is essential to take full advantage of the potential benefits (education, health, communication, and income-generation) of the programme. The programmes closing phase continues to focus on the provision of the necessary conditions to consolidate the results and to ensure the institutional, financial, technical and social sustainability.

For further information, please contact the Programme Coordinator, Mr José María González y González: Jose-Maria.Gonzalez-Y-Gonzalez@ec.europa.eu, Directorate-General for Development and Co-operation EuropeAid, Unit G2 or visit: <http://www.programaeuro-solar.eu>

RALCEA

(Latin American network of knowledge centres in the water sector)

The European Union Water Initiative (EUWI) is the European Union's most specific contribution to support the implementation of decisions of the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg in September 2002. It represents a common European approach to meet the challenges of the water-related Millennium Development Goals.

Within this framework and in line with the EUROCLIMA Programme (Lima Declaration, EU-LAC Summit 2008), the RALCEA Project — Latin American network of knowledge centres in the water sector — was adopted by the European Commission in December 2009, and started its activities in mid-2010.

The RALCEA Project was officially launched in October 2010 in Quito (Ecuador) and aims at supporting the establishment of a network of knowledge centres in the water sector. It also works on the improvement of the co-ordination between knowledge centres and policy makers notably by providing support to the latter regarding decisions related to water



issues. Moreover, it foresees the set-up of a common strategic plan in capacity building on governance and technical issues addressing the scientific community, the RALCEA knowledge centres and policy-makers, thereby reinforcing their mutual understanding.

The EU contribution to the project is of EUR 2.25 million. The European Commission's Directorate-General Joint Research Centre (in particular its Institute of Environment and Sustainability) is responsible for the implementation of the project.

The RALCEA network has thirteen knowledge centres representing twelve LA countries which were selected through a call for collaboration during the first half of 2011. There are three working axes: Regional Hydrologic Balance, Water Quality and Sanitation and Stakeholder Analysis Mapping on the Water Sector.

For further information, please contact the Programme Coordinator, Mr José María González y González: Jose-Maria.Gonzalez-Y-Gonzalez@ec.europa.eu, Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation-EuropeAid, Unit G 2 or visit: <http://www.aquaknow.net/>

WATERCLIMA LAC

(Watershed and Coastal Management in the context of Climate Change in Latin America and the Caribbean)

The WATERCLIMA LAC project, approved by the European Commission in 2013, is in line with the European Union Water Initiative EUWI, the Lima Declaration, EU-LAC Summit 2008, the EC Agenda for Change 2011 and the 6th summit of the Americas 2012.

The project aims to contribute to the alleviation of poverty and social inequalities, support the reduction of socio-economic impacts of Climate Change at regional and sub-regional level through fostering cost-efficient adaptation measures, and to strengthen the regional integration dialogue between LAC on water and coastal issues, as well as with the European Union. The specific objective of the project is to



contribute to improving watersheds and coastal management by boosting resilience to the consequences of climate change of LA and the Caribbean countries.

Regarding watershed management, the project aims at supporting the design and accompanying the application of sustainable technical and financial mechanisms. In the coastal domain, the project intends to provide an overall vision of potential Climate Change impacts and other pressing factors (e.g. tourism, erosion, bad watershed management, etc.) and to boost the resilience to the consequences of climate change of LA and Caribbean countries. These actions will facilitate an environmentally inclusive and sustainable economic development for both regions through harmonized methodologies and practices which will be implemented at local level for a sustainable ownership. To this end, a number of activities such as pilot projects, design of practical applications and recommendations, training, capacity building, etc. will be carried out.

A call for proposals will be issued from March - April 2014 with an EC contribution of EUR 7 million which will be implemented in the period of 2015-2017.

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For further information, please contact the Programme Coordinator, Mr José María González y González: Jose-Maria.Gonzalez-Y-Gonzalez@ec.europa.eu Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid, Unit G2.

FLEGT SOUTH AMERICA ***(Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade)***

In light of the serious environmental, economic and social consequences of illegal logging, the European Union published the EU Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan in 2003. To promote the implementation of the EU FLEGT Action Plan in South America, a regional project started in 2012 "Supporting the implementation of the EU FLEGT Action Plan in South America: Catalysing initiatives to control and verify the origin of timber in trade and support related improvements in forest governance". The FLEGT SOUTH AMERICA project focuses on preventing the entry into the supply chain of illegally harvested timber, and on promoting production of timber from legal and sustainable sources, with a particular focus on Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.



The objectives of the project (2012 – 2014) are the following:

1. To ensure that key stakeholder groups within the above mentioned countries have a clear understanding of the intent and content of the EU-FLEGT Action Plan, the opportunities it provides, and pathways for its implementation;
2. To inform on the efforts of the European Commission, the competent authorities of EU Member States, and timber traders regarding producer country activities and procedures linked to implementing FLEGT in South America;
3. To establish a benchmark against which to measure changes in forest governance, including levels of illegal logging and trade, catalysed by FLEGT and other initiatives, in the target countries.

The project is implemented by TRAFFIC in the above mentioned Latin American countries. The European Commission contribution is EUR 1.27 million.

For further information, please contact the Programme Coordinator, Mr José María González y González: Jose-Maria.Gonzalez-Y-Gonzalez@ec.europa.eu, Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid, Unit G 2, or visit, the general FLEGT website on <http://www.euflegt.efi.int/portal/>

LAIF ***(Latin America Investment Facility)***

The main purpose of LAIF is to promote additional investments and key infrastructures in the transport, energy and environment sectors, as well as to support the social and private sector's development in Latin American countries.

LAIF operates via financial non-refundable contributions to support loans from European, multilateral and national development financial institutions to partner countries. It encourages beneficiary governments and public institutions to carry out essential investments, thus allowing an increase in risk and credit ceilings, which cannot be financed either by the market or by the development finance institutions separately.

The types of operations financed under LAIF are the following:

- Investment co-financing in public infrastructure projects;
- Loan guarantee cost financing;
- Technical assistance (financed as part of a specific investment operation or as a global envelope made available to eligible financial institutions);
- Risk capital operations (financed as part of a specific investment operation or as an envelope made available to eligible financial institutions).



The contribution of the European Commission to LAIF is decided annually. For the period 2009-2013, the European Commission allocated an amount of EUR 192.15 million. This amount included EUR 17.3 million from a specific "Climate Change Window", the thematic programme for Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources including Energy (ENRTP).

The Facility was officially launched during the EU-LAC Summit in May 2010, in Madrid, and was presented to the Latin American countries in the LAIF Forum that took place in October 2010, in Punta del Este (Uruguay) and in San Salvador in September 2011.

LAIF has had an enthusiastic response from the Partner Countries, the Member States and the Finance Institutions. For the period 2010-2013, 25 projects were approved, representing a total investment cost of approximately EUR 5.46 billion, a total lending of EUR 4.51 billion and a grant contribution of about EUR 189.6 million.

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For further information on LAIF, please contact the Programme Coordinator, Mr Marc Litvine: Marc.Litvine@ec.europa.eu Directorate-General for Development Cooperation - EuropeAid, Unit G2, or visit: EuropeAid-LAIF@ec.europa.eu, Also visit: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/latin-america/regional-cooperation/laif/index_en.htm

@LIS ***(Alliance for Information Society)***

@ Alliance for the Information Society 2 — @LIS 2 (2008 – 2013) — aimed at continuing the promotion of the information society and fighting the digital divide throughout Latin America. @LIS 2 had a budget of EUR 31.25 million, of which EUR 22 million was financed by the European Commission. The programme ended in the first semester of 2013.

The general objective of the second phase of the programme was, in line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), to accompany the development of a sustainable, competitive, innovative and inclusive information society, as part of the effort to reduce poverty, inequalities and social exclusion. For that purpose a regional dialogue on Information Society, homogenization and harmonization of regulatory processes in the ICT sector and an increased interconnection between European and Latin American Research and Development communities took place.

The @LIS2 programme had 3 lines of action:

- Policy and Regulatory Dialogue to pursue the strengthening of political, technical and social links with Europe in the Information Society, implemented by ECLAC;
- Stimulate and support research intra LA and with Europe, sustaining the continuity of RedCLARA (Latin American Co-operation of Advanced Networks), whilst supporting relations among the researchers and promoting joint projects, implemented by CLARA;
- Homogenization and harmonization of regulatory processes, in Latin Americas' telecommunications sector, implemented by REGULATEL AD (*Foro Latinoamericano de Entes Reguladores de Telecomunicaciones*).

For further information, please contact the Programme Coordinator, Mr Marc Litvine: Marc.Litvine@ec.europa.eu Directorate-General for Development Cooperation - EuropeAid, Unit G2, or visit: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/latin-america/regional-cooperation/alis/index_en.htm or www.alis2.eu

COPOLAD – Co-operation Programme on Anti-drugs Policies

The objective of the programme is to help improve the coherence, balance and impact of anti-drugs policies in Latin America as well as the policy dialogue in the framework of the EU-CELAC (Community of Latin American and Caribbean States) mechanism on drugs. Specifically, it aims at strengthening capacities and encouraging the different stages of the anti-drugs policies development process in Latin American countries. It does this by improving the dialogue and reinforcing the co-operation of the national agencies and other actors responsible for global and sectorial anti-drugs policies in Latin American and EU countries.

The programme consists of four components:

1. Policy support and consolidation of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs;
2. Consolidation of the national Observatories;
3. Capacity-building in the reduction of demand;
4. Capacity-building in the reduction of supply.

The grant contract for the implementation of the COPOLAD programme has been awarded to a consortium led by the Spanish FIIAPP (*Fundación Internacional y para Iberoamérica de Administración y Políticas Públicas*) for the amount of almost EUR 6.6 million.



The consortium comprises partners from Europe (France, Germany, Portugal, and Spain)

and Latin America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Peru, Uruguay), and associate entities from Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Poland and Romania as well as CICAD (*Inter-American Drugs Abuse Control Commission*), IDPC (*International Drug Policy Consortium*), EMCDDA (*European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction*), PAHO (*Pan American Health Organization*) and RIOD (*Red Iberoamericana de ONG's que trabajan en Drogodependencias*).

The implementation period started in December 2010, for a duration of 42 months.

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EU-CELAC project on Migration

(Strengthening the dialogue and co-operation between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean to establish management models on migration and development policies)

The objective of the project is, on the one hand, to promote the process of co-operation between the EU and the CELAC in the framework of the EU-CELAC high level meetings on migration and, on the other hand, to contribute to the strengthening of regional and national capacities in the CELAC countries to support the permanent exchange of information and good practices between these countries, as well as between the EU and the CELAC region.

This project has an EU contribution of EUR 3 million and is implemented jointly by IOM (*International Organization for Migration*) in partnership with FIIAPP (*Fundación Internacional y para Iberoamérica de Administración y Políticas Públicas*).

It consists of three components:

1. Strengthening data collection on migration (led by IOM);
2. Building capacity for promoting sound migration management through the implementation of reintegration policies for migrants returning to their communities of origin (led by FIIAPP);
3. Promoting the productive investment of remittances (jointly led by both organisations).

The implementation period started in January 2011 for a duration of 48 months.

For further information, please contact Mr Marc Litvine: Marc.Litvine@ec.europa.eu, Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation -EuropeAid, Unit G2, or visit <http://www.migracion-ue-alc.eu>

EU- LAC Foundation

The EU-LAC Foundation was created by the EU and LAC Heads of State and Government at the VI bi-regional Summit in Madrid in May 2010. Some of the aims of this new initiative include strengthening of the bi-regional partnership, triggering of debate on common strategies and actions as well as enhancing the visibility of EU – LAC relations.

The EU-LAC Foundation was inaugurated on 7th of November 2011 in Hamburg, Germany. Ms Benita Ferrero-Waldner, former European Commissioner for External Relations, was appointed President of the Foundation and Mr Jorge Valdez, former Ambassador of the Peruvian Mission to the EU, Executive Director.

The Foundation will promote mutual understanding between the EU and LAC regions and their people, encouraging the participation and input of civil society and other social actors, such as the academic and private sectors. Through its networking and different activities, the Foundation will also be responsible for enhancing both the visibility and presence of the EU and LAC in the partner region as well as the profile of the bi-regional partnership in the wider world.

The EU financial support for the Foundation for 2011-2014 amounts to EUR 4.5 million.

For more detailed information, please contact Mr Marc Litvine: Marc.Litvine@ec.europa.eu, Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid, Unit G2, or visit www.eulacfoundation.org