

**Concept note on CSO-LA Consultation on the  
EU Regional Multi-annual Indicative Programme for the Americas and the Caribbean (2021-2027)**

**28 May 2021  
15:00h - 18:00h CET**

## **Overview**

As a part of its consultations around the 2021-2027 programming of the EU, the Policy Forum on Development (PFD) has hosted a series of virtual discussions to capture the views of the multiple PFD stakeholders and other CSOs and LAs. In this continuing series, the European External Action Service (EEAS) and the Directorate-General for International Partnerships of the European Commission (DG INTPA), in collaboration with the PFD, will hold a consultation on the **EU Regional Multi-annual Indicative Programme for the Americas and the Caribbean** (hereinafter, "*the Regional MIP*"), which follows the consultations on the sub-Saharan Africa regional MIP and the Asia and the Pacific regional MIP.

In the same vein as past meetings over the last twelve months, the regional consultations will gather participants representing CSO and LA global networks, youth organisations networks, regional networks and platforms present in Europe, the Americas and the Caribbean. This meeting is part of a broader process that includes written contributions through virtual tools to capture the technical insight coming from the PFD networks and invited non-PFD members.

Consistent with the global aims identified in the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Agreement, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the new European Consensus on Development and the Global Strategy for the EU's Foreign and Security Policy, the regional MIP will focus on moving forward the EU's specific policy objectives and strategic interests vis-à-vis the Americas and the Caribbean, building partnerships on areas of shared interest with regional groups and countries throughout the hemisphere.

More notably, building on country partnerships, the regional programme will be a central vehicle for a stronger and more strategic engagement with Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), as called for in the 2019 Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council "*European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean: joining forces for a common future*" and the accompanying Council Conclusions (May, 2019).

To this end, the Regional MIP will focus on the need (i) to ensure a green transition; (ii) to pursue a vision of an inclusive digital economy and society; (iii) to support a sustainable and inclusive economic recovery; (iv) to focus on area on democratic governance, security and migration; (v) as well as, social cohesion and human development also with a view to fight inequalities and (vi) conscious of its specificities, it will specifically address key thematic areas in the Caribbean region.

## **Participants will be able to:**

- Better understand the main axes of the future regional programme for the Americas and the Caribbean as well as how EU priorities capitalise on different strategies within these regions;

- Deepen the discussion on the EU multiannual programming exercise and share insights with EU representatives as country, regional and thematic multi-annual indicative programmes are being developed for the period 2021-2027;
- Contribute to the constructive, forward looking and ongoing dialogue with the EU with a view to integrate different stakeholder perspectives and recommendations.

## Methodology

The meeting will bring together EU officials and representatives from CSOs and LAs networks from Europe, the Americas and the Caribbean. The aim will be to go beyond a purely descriptive presentation of strategies, contribute to a collective reflection and gather input from participants.

The 3 hours event will: introduce the main rationale and objectives of the future regional programme for the Americas and the Caribbean; allow for discussion in breakout rooms and feedback in plenary from each group.

The opening plenary session will be followed by breakout rooms focusing on key thematic areas:

- 1) Pan-American window: Green transition
- 2) Pan-American window: Digital transformation
- 3) Pan-American window: Sustainable and inclusive economic recovery
- 4) Pan-American window: Democratic governance, security and migration
- 5) Pan-American window: Social cohesion Human Development and fighting inequalities
- 6) Caribbean window: key thematic areas

The participants will be pre-assigned to one of the break-out sessions based on their choices. Guiding questions will be shared with the participants with the aim to frame the discussions in breakout sessions.

The event will be concluded by a wrap-up session in the closing plenary. A rapporteur from each sub-group will briefly present feedback from the exchanges held.

The consultation (on line) on the regional MIP will remain open until 4 June, after the meeting. This will allow participants to consult their members in a more comprehensive and participatory manner and present written contributions after the meeting.

## Agenda

15h00 – 15h30: Welcome and Introduction - Presentation of the programming process, Regional Multi-annual indicative Programme for the Americas and the Caribbean 2021-2027

15h30 - 16h00: Q&A to exchange on the strategy and regional programming.

16h00- 17h15: Breakout rooms to go deeper into topics:

- 1) Pan-American window: Green transition



- 2) Pan-American window: Digital transformation
  - 3) Pan-American window: Sustainable and inclusive economic recovery
  - 4) Pan-American window: Democratic governance, security and migration
  - 5) Pan-American window: Social cohesion, Human Development and fighting inequalities
  - 6) Caribbean window
- 17h15- 18h00: Wrap up and conclusions

## **Annex**

### **Guiding questions by sub-group**

#### **CSO/LAs consultation on programming in the Americas and Caribbean for the Regional MIP**

**28 May 2021**

- 1) Pan-American window: Green transition (Horst PILGER, Ulrich WEINS)
  - Given the financial resources constraints the EU cooperation with the LAC region has to cope with, which issues/topics would you suggest as priorities - and which are non-priorities - for the EU cooperation in the area of Green Deal/Green Transition?
  - EU regional programming in this area builds on the involvement of civil society organisations, including youth organisations, and local authorities, particularly in facilitating their participation in country and regional dialogues, and/or facilitating the implementation of actions at sub-national level. What existing modalities for inclusion of civil society organisations, including youth organisations, and local authorities are working best in your region around the Green Transition? What would you suggest in addition to complement these?
- 2) Pan-American window: Digital transformation (Teodora DEACONU, Ajda Gracia GOLOB, Marc LITVINE)
  - What are the most pertinent challenges to be addressed within a human centric digital partnership (i.e. a bottom-up approach where the needs of end users/people are considered together with the potential of technology and the elements of business success), between the EU and LAC? What do you see as priorities in this regard?
  - How can we ensure that the efforts of the civil society, private sector and institutional actors are well coordinated to achieve the shared goals? What ongoing or planned actions by civil society organisations, including youth organisations, and local authorities will support digital transformation in LAC?
- 3) Pan-American window: Sustainable and inclusive economic recovery (Karina DZIALOWKA, Maria Mercedes RODRIGUEZ SARRO)
  - How can the EU best contribute to sustainable economic recovery in the region and what would be the main challenge(s)? Could you identify concrete and tangible objectives and actions that would make EU cooperation more successful in this area? (please identify the main three).
  - EU regional programming in this area builds on the involvement of civil society organisations, including youth organisations, and local authorities, particularly in facilitating their participation in country and regional dialogues, and/or facilitating the implementation of actions at sub-national level. What existing modalities for their inclusion in the sustainable and inclusive economic recovery area are working in your region? What would you suggest in addition or to complement these?
- 4) Pan-American window: Democratic governance, security and migration (Karina DZIALOWKA, Vania BONALBERTI, Iris LJUBICIC)

- What do you see as the biggest challenges in the LAC region in the areas of Democratic Governance, Security and Migration?
  - What could be the major added value in tackling those issues at regional/continental level?
  - Which contributions of civil society organisations, including youth organisations and local authorities, best provide support to EU cooperation on Justice and Security in the LAC region?
- 5) Pan-American window: Social cohesion, human development and fighting inequalities (Galina KARAMALAKOVA, Marc LITVINE)
- What do you see as the biggest challenge(s) in tackling inequalities and advancing social cohesion and human development at regional level? what do you see as major added value(s) in doing so at regional level?
  - What contribution could civil society organisations, youth organisations and local authorities provide in the framework of this regional initiative? How could EU regional programmes benefit from a partnership with civil society organisations, including youth organisations and local authorities to work on those topics at regional level?
  - What type of EU initiatives at regional level in Latin America and the Caribbean would have the biggest impact on areas related to human development and fighting inequalities? How could they benefit the most vulnerable?
- 6) Caribbean window (Olga BAUS, Piotr BYCZKOWSKI)
- Considering that the overall aim for the EU cooperation in the Caribbean is to facilitate transformative changes for sustainable and resilient recovery of the region, what are in your view the top three priorities for action at Caribbean subregional level? How can the mobilization of civil society organisations, including youth organisations and local authorities help to achieve them?
  - Considering the three mutually reinforcing Caribbean-EU Partnerships (Green Deal, economic resilience and trade, and Governance, Security and Human Development) and the limited financial amounts for regional cooperation, where should the EU concentrate in each partnership? In which sectors do you see the EU as bringing added value?
  - Specific civil society organisations contributions, including youth organisations, and local authorities, are expected in each EU-Caribbean partnership. What is their role in each partnership? What kind of organisations should be taken into consideration at subregional level to better articulate actions? What are the best avenues/modalities to ensure that civil society organisations, including youth organisations, and local authorities can actively participate in the three partnerships for the Caribbean?