

**2030 Education Agenda in  
Latin America and the Caribbean**

**ROADMAP OF THE  
REGIONAL COORDINATION  
MECHANISM  
2022-2025  
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT GOAL 4  
(SDG 4)**

**Santiago de Chile, May 26 and 27, 2022**

## PRESENTATION

There is no time to lose in the huge challenge of rebuilding the education systems in Latin America and the Caribbean COVID-19 context. Our region is facing the greatest educational emergency as we know since the founding of its national education systems.

The region's advances in education that were observed during the last decades were halted and/or reversed due to the catastrophic effects of COVID-19 and the prolonged school closures. This situation has deepened the existing structural gaps in education in our countries, compromising the right to quality education for an entire generation of children and young people.

To address the common challenges faced by the region and building on the vision and commitments agreed upon at the previous ministerial meetings held in Buenos Aires (2017) and Cochabamba (2018), the *III Regional Meeting of Ministers of Education of Latin America and the Caribbean* approved this new Regional Roadmap 2022-2025 which will guide the work of the SDG 4 Regional Coordination Mechanism.

The purpose of this coordination mechanism is to strengthen, deepen and make more efficient the regional cooperation agenda to support the implementation of SDG4. The roadmap puts a particular emphasis on the educational recovery and transformation following the impacts of COVID-19 (Declaration of Buenos Aires 2022). It further updates procedural aspects to strengthen the operability of the mechanism, made up of representatives of the countries, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations agencies and civil society organizations.

Under the coordination of OREALC/UNESCO Santiago, the roadmap was built in a collaborative way between July 2021 and May 2022, as part of the process of updating, reforming, and strengthening the Regional Coordination Mechanism. In a complementary way, the "Base Document" supporting this instrument stresses the background, justifications, and context of educational cooperation, and contributes to the current educational debate.

The Regional Roadmap 2022 - 2025 is based on the deep conviction that coordination and cooperation between countries and other educational actors should and can contribute to respond to the urgent challenges and needs faced by the region in education, marked by strong inequalities and injustice.

## A NEW COORDINATION MECHANISM FOR THE 2030 EDUCATION AGENDA IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The new coordination mechanism for the 2030 Education Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean is part of the Global Education Cooperation Mechanism (GCM). The GCM aims to follow up on the 2015 Incheon Declaration and the Education 2030 Framework for Action, which already offered a cooperation and follow-up strategy.

The Regional Coordination Mechanism is best understood as an ecosystem of support for the implementation of SDG 4. It has a particular emphasis on educational recovery and transformation, which will have with the approval of the Buenos Aires ministerial meeting of May 28-29, 2022, the following institutional architecture: 1) Regional Steering Committee, 2) Executive Secretariat, 3) Working Tables or Teams (ad hoc), and 4) Advisory Council.

- **Regional Steering Committee**

The Regional Steering Committee will be composed of delegates from the Ministries of Education representing the sub-regions of Latin America and the Caribbean and other key allies in the construction of the paths to be followed to achieve the educational goals of SDG 4.

The Regional Steering Committee is made up of 20 members:

- The two member States that are representatives of the region in the *SDG 4-Education 2030 High-Level Steering Committee* (HLSC), who will co-chair it.
- Seven member States, with two representatives for each of the following sub-regions: South America and Central America; and three representatives from the Caribbean. The member States of each sub region will elect their representatives.
- Brazil and Mexico as representatives of the E-9/UN, the group of the world's most populous countries.
- Four intergovernmental organizations that work in education: The Central American Educational and Cultural Coordination of the Central American Integration System (CECC/SICA), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI).
- Three organizations representing civil society in the field of education at the regional level: The Latin American Campaign for the Right to Education

(CLADE), Education International through its office in Latin America (IEAL), and an organization representing students.

- The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO Santiago) as executive secretariat.

The Regional Steering Committee will lead this Regional Roadmap 2022 - 2025 and will ensure representativeness, articulation and communication amongst the Ministries of Education and other relevant actors in the region. The implementation of this instrument will be evaluated, reviewed, and redesigned for the following three-year period.

In addition to its annual meetings, the Regional Steering Committee will promote two annual meetings per sub-region (South America; Central America and Mexico; Caribbean). These meetings, to which all member States of each sub region will be invited to participate, will allow to strengthen the mechanisms for communication, dialogue, and exchange amongst the member States for the achievement of the 2030 Education Agenda.

In these meetings, other institutions participating in the Regional Steering Committee and national, sub-regional or regional civil society organizations invited by a member State may also participate in these meetings (each member State may invite a maximum of two civil society organizations).

All member States from each sub-region shall be elected for a period of three years, which corresponds to the ministerial meetings. The representatives of the member States to the Regional Steering Committee will be high-level authorities (at the level of vice-minister, equivalent or immediately below), who will participate with the support of their designated technical teams and their National Commissions for Cooperation with UNESCO.

The representatives of the region to the HLSC, who are elected through the Permanent Delegations of the member States of UNESCO, will validate their positions previously with the Regional Steering Committee and will communicate the outcome of the deliberations at the global level, with the support of the Executive Secretariat.

- **Executive Secretariat**

It will be exercised by OREALC/UNESCO and will develop technical and operational support tasks. It will put an emphasis on promoting better communication, consultation, and collaborative work culture within the Regional

Steering Committee, for the development of all actions contributing to the achievement of the Regional Roadmap 2022 - 2025.

The Executive Secretariat will support coordination amongst intergovernmental, academic, and civil society institutions to promote follow-up and monitoring actions, trend studies and production of evidence contributing to the achievement of SDG 4.

The Executive Secretariat of the Regional Coordination Mechanism led by OREALC/UNESCO Santiago will have the operational support of UNESCO offices in the region, and the intergovernmental organizations and United Nations agencies that make up the Regional Steering Committee.

- **Working Groups or Teams**

The Regional Steering Committee will establish ad hoc working groups supporting the implementation of the Buenos Aires 2022 Declaration and the development of specific actions agreed upon in the framework of its work plan, such as consultations, calls to action, coordination channels and drafting of declarations, among other tasks, projects, or programs. These working groups will gather members of the Committee and different members States in the region. The Executive Secretariat shall convene and coordinate the working groups to define their objectives, strategies and action plans.

- **Consultative Council**

The Consultative Council will provide consultations and support the Committee and its working groups on topics and tasks assumed at both regional and sub-regional levels. Its composition may vary according to the agenda defined by the Committee. It will be composed:

- The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).
- A representative of the rotating multilateral banking system, to be defined among the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), the World Bank, the Caribbean Development Bank or other development financing entities.
- United Nations agencies that, due to their mandate and experience, will be invited to collaborate with the Committee or its working groups.
- Other civil society organizations with regional and/or sub-regional representation that can contribute to the work agenda defined by the Regional Steering Committee.

## LINES OF ACTION AND FUNCTIONS

1. The Regional Coordination Mechanism, through the Regional Steering Committee, will define the main lines of action and cooperation for the achievement of its functions, within the framework of the agreements of the Declaration of Buenos Aires 2022. It will further design actions, promote alliances and promote cooperation strategies placing educational recovery and transformation at the center of public priorities to achieve the SDG 4 goals.
2. The Regional Steering Committee will be the active voice of Latin America and the Caribbean in the international institutional ecosystem where the Education 2030 Agenda is debated. Thus, the Committee will be a space for consultation, listening, dialogue and consensus, where collective positions will be validated and agreed upon to express the converging interests of the region in these areas.
3. The Regional Steering Committee will be the priority space for the exchange of relevant information, and for the political and technical dialogue to be shared by the key actors responsible for ensuring compliance with the SDG 4 - Education 2030 targets in Latin America and the Caribbean.
4. The Regional Steering Committee and its Executive Secretariat will advocate on the need for educational recovery and transformation in our region on the national, sub-regional and regional public agendas. Particular emphasis will be put on the principle of solidarity to guarantee the human right to education and the achievement of the Education 2030 Agenda is highlighted.
5. The Regional Steering Committee will allow to share experiences of countries in educational recovery and transformation. It will thus contribute to the dissemination of good practices, and support countries facing difficulties in the fulfillment of SDG4. It will furthermore allow the production of information and generate knowledge from the region. The Executive Secretariat will support the Committee in its efforts to socialize and exchange local, sub-regional and regional experiences stressing the diverse, plural, and convergent paths in Latin America and the Caribbean.
6. The Regional Steering Committee will contribute to articulate in a synergic and supportive manner the plurality of sub-regional, regional, and global agendas established to advance educational recovery and transformation. In this way, it will avoid the overlapping of agreements or commitments, and the dispersion and repetition of actions, deliberations, programs, or strategies, taking advantage of the experience of each regional actor to enhance the effectiveness of the proposed actions.
7. The Regional Steering Committee with its working groups, will promote the creation of regional and sub-regional strategic projects and the updating of regional initiatives mobilizing resources, consolidating educational cooperation amongst

member States, and leading the fulfillment of SDG 4, with an emphasis on educational recovery and transformation.

8. The Regional Steering Committee will promote the development of projects to strengthen the national, sub-regional and regional production of data and information that will allow for comprehensive monitoring of the set of SDG 4 targets, with the necessary disaggregation to make visible the general educational situation, with an emphasis on the most vulnerable groups. In each three-year period, the Committee will hold regional ministerial meetings for the coordination, follow-up, and evaluation of progress on the 2030 Agenda targets.
9. The Executive Secretariat, with the support of the Regional Steering Committee, will carry out the functions of monitoring, accompanying, and analyzing the status of compliance with the SDG 4 targets in the region. To this end, the ministries of education and the member organizations of the Committee will provide the data, information and inputs needed to the fulfillment of this function.
10. The Regional Steering Committee will ensure close coordination with UNESCO's Group of Latin American and Caribbean countries (GRULAC) and with the High-Level Steering Committee of SDG 4-Education 2030 (HLSC), in order to present a clear position of the region in events such as the education summits, the High-Level Political Forum of the 2030 Agenda, amongst others.
11. The Executive Secretariat will present to the Regional Steering Committee a proposed work schedule for the period 2022-2025, to be adjusted yearly.