



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate General EuropeAid Development and Co-operation

Latin America

**Regional Programmes Latin America and Caribbean**

# **COUNTRY BRIEFING ON REGIONAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMMES**

**PROGRAMME REVIEW  
2013**

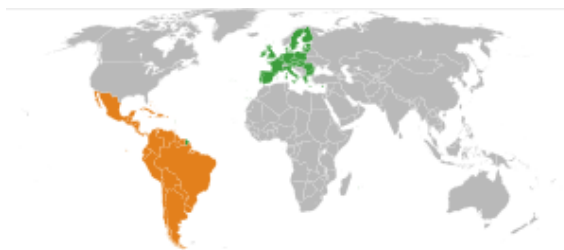


## **I. REGIONAL CO-OPERATION WITH LATIN AMERICA: 18 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AND MORE THAN 1 BILLION EUROS OF INVESTMENT**

The first regional programmes with 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 including Cuba. 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 and FLEGT South America) and promotion of higher education and research (ALFA and Erasmus Mundus). In 2010, the European Commission launched the Latin American Investment Facility (LAIF), a blending instrument to support public investment in strategic sectors.

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

## II. EU-LATIN AMERICA REGIONAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMMES

The EC has 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**, which aims at improving social cohesion and the **URB-AL III** programme to pursue territorial cooperation; **AL-INVEST IV** to support the internationalisation of Latin American SMEs; **LAIF**, 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** programme focuses on co-operation with higher education systems in LA, as well as the reinforcement of established partnerships between Higher Education Institutions from both regions; **Erasmus Mundus with 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** to support the establishment of a network of knowledge centres in the water sector and the **FLEGT South America** project on Forest Governance that was launched in 2012; the **@LIS 2** programme continues to facilitate the integration of Latin American countries into the global information society; both **COPOLAD**, a cooperation programme aiming at improving the coherence, balance and impact of drugs policies, and the **EU-CELAC project on Migration** were launched in early 2011.

Each of these programmes is presented more in detail below.

### **ALFA III - Latin America Academic Training**

The ALFA III Programme (2007-2013; total European Commission contribution **EUR 75 million**) is in line with 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 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 its challenges, focusing on development cooperation rather than on academic co-operation.

The fields of action of the ALFA III projects are: 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.

51 projects have been implemented involving 494 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](mailto:Jose-Maria.Gonzalez-Y-Gonzalez@ec.europa.eu), Directorate-General for Development and Co-operation EuropeAid, Unit G 2 or visit: [www.alfa3programme.eu](http://www.alfa3programme.eu)

## **ERASMUS MUNDUS for Latin America (Action2-Strand1)**

The Erasmus Mundus - External Co-operation Window (EM-ECW) programme capitalizes on the experience and best practices already acquired by the Alban programme (EU Programme of high level scholarships for Latin America). Alban promoted mobility of Latin American graduates into the European Area of Higher Education, covering the period 2002-2010 with a total budget of **EUR 109.98 million**, with an EU contribution of **EUR 84.650 million** (out of which EUR 75 million were devoted to scholarships). **3.319** entities from the 18 participating Latin American countries benefited from the programme.

Erasmus Mundus aims at contributing to the improvement of education and training of human resources, as well as at promoting partnerships and institutional co-operation exchanges between Higher Education Institutions. The first EM-ECW Call for Proposals dedicated to the Latin American region was launched in December 2008 with a total budget of **EUR 41.6 million** (2.166 LA mobilities implemented with a 50/50 participation of women and men).



In December 2011, a Call for Proposals for the Erasmus Mundus II Action 2 — Strand 1 — Partnerships with Latin America was published with a budget of **EUR 19.92 million**, which led to 6 projects and 864 LA mobilities of 18 LA countries to 14 EU countries.

**In December 2012** a new Call for Proposals for the Erasmus Mundus II Action 2 — Strand 1 — Partnerships with Latin America was published with a budget



of **EUR 25.98 million** (EUR 19.98 million for LA mobility and EUR 6 million for EU mobility).

The last Call for Proposal for Erasmus Mundus will be issued in 2013 with a budget of **EUR 19 million** (EUR 14 million for LA mobility and EUR 5 million for EU mobility).

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## **EUROsocial II - Regional Programme for Social Cohesion**



The second phase of the EUROsocial Programme is currently being implemented. As in its first phase, EUROsocial II aims at contributing to increase social cohesion in Latin

America through the promotion of reforms and the improvement of public policies management. This phase will put 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 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 will focus 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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<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 after successfully completing three previous phases. The operational implementation period of this last phase is coming to an end in 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, 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.



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 **50 million Euro (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 ([www.al-invest4.eu](http://www.al-invest4.eu)) are facilitators of information exchange and networking.

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## **URB-AL - Urban Policy Coordination**

URB-AL is a regional co-operation programme between 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 & II, 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.

The third phase of the Programme URB-AL, aims to increase the degree of social cohesion of Latin America's local and regional communities. More specifically, its objective is promoting social cohesion processes in a limited number of Latin American cities and territories which may be considered as reference models for further social cohesion policies implemented by LA local governments.



This phase 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 amount allocated by the European Commission is **EUR 50 million** for 21 projects.

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For more information on URB-AL visit:

[http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/projects/urbal/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/projects/urbal/index_en.htm)

## **EUROCLIMA**

The EUROCLIMA programme was conceived during the 5th EU-LAC Summit (Lima – May 2008) where the key themes were “Sustainable Development: Environment, Climate Change and Energy”. The Summit established climate change as a new area for bi-regional co-operation.

In preparation and in parallel to the EUROCLIMA programme, the European Commission decided to co-finance a "Review of the Economics of Climate Change in South America" (RECCs) with a total budget of €630.000 (EC contribution: € 500.000). The studies were carried out by UN-ECLAC (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean) and finished on 31 December 2010.

The EUROCLIMA programme (€5 million for three-year duration) aims at improving the knowledge of Latin American decision-makers and that of the

scientific community on the problems and consequences related to climate change, particularly with a view to integrating these issues into sustainable development strategies. The programme is structured according to three components:

1. The socio-economic component (implemented by ECLAC) aims at improving knowledge and at facilitating information sharing on socio-economic aspects of climate change in Latin America. This component contributes to further the analysis of the impacts of climate change on social equity, poverty and employment; to provide tools to analyse the costs and benefits of mitigation alternatives; and to enhance the integration of climate in economic decision-making and strategic planning, facilitating an efficient transition towards a low-carbon economy while fostering social inclusion.

2. The scientific component (implemented by the European Joint Research Centre based in Ispra) aims at identifying, collecting and integrating biophysical data that are susceptible to being affected by climate change in Latin America, in the following areas: soil, agriculture, water resources, desertification, drought, bioenergy and biofuels. The biophysical component generates and makes available studies and tools that serve to establish the foundations for an analysis of the impact of climate change on natural resources.



3. The communication, coordination and dialogue component ensures coherence between the components and the involvement of all countries in Latin America and fosters the application of scientific and socio-economic climate change knowledge in public bodies in the region. This component aims to support structured dialogue and to ensure coordination, visibility and communication of the programme. This also entails organizing seminars, workshops and training courses, as well as carrying out thematic studies.

The current phase of the programme is finishing end of March 2013. The European Commission has taken the decision to extend the programme for three more years with a foreseen budget of **EUR 10 million**. The specific objective is to facilitate the integration of climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies and measures into Latin American public development policies and plans at national and (sub) regional levels.

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## **EURO-SOLAR**

The EURO-SOLAR programme aimed at promoting the use of renewable energy sources in the eight least developed countries of Latin America 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 resources. 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 countries participating in the EURO-SOLAR programme are **Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Peru.**

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 current closing phase will continue to focus on the provision of the necessary conditions to consolidate the results and to ensure the institutional, financial, technical and social sustainability.

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## **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 the 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 EURO-CLIMA 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 matters. 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**. European Commission's Directorate General Joint Research Centre (Institute of Environment and Sustainability) is responsible for the implementation of the project. Each LA country has designated focal points within public institutions related to the water sector.

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](mailto:Jose-Maria.Gonzalez-Y-Gonzalez@ec.europa.eu), Directorate-General for Development and Co-operation EuropeAid, Unit G 2 or visit: <http://www.aquaknow.net/>

## **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 new 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

promoting production of timber from legal and sustainable sources, with a particular focus on Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.

The objectives of the project are the following:

1. To ensure that key stakeholder groups within Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru 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 International in four Latin American countries: Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. 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](mailto:Jose-Maria.Gonzalez-Y-Gonzalez@ec.europa.eu), Directorate-General for Development and Co-operation EuropeAid, Unit G 2. The Project website is under preparation or visit: <http://www.euflegt.efi.int/portal/>

## **LAIF - Latin America Investment Facility**

LAIF's main purpose 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).

LAIF's grant award procedure is based on the approval, by the Operational Board (comprising the European Commission and the Member States), of the projects selected by the Finance Institutions Group (FIG), composed of all eligible Finance 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 includes EUR 17.3 million from the thematic programme for Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources

comprising Energy -ENRTP-, a specific "Climate Change Window" that was foreseen and announced by Commissioner Piebalgs in 2010).

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 2010-2012, 20 projects have been approved, representing a total investment cost of approximately EUR 4.2 billion, a total lending of EUR 3.7 billion and a grant contribution of about EUR 163.3 million.

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## **@LIS Alliance for Information Society**

@ Alliance for the Information Society 2 — @LIS 2 — aims at continuing the promotion of the information society and fighting the digital divide throughout Latin America. @LIS 2 has a budget of EUR 31.25 million, of



which **EUR 22 million** (70.4%) are financed by the European Commission. The programme will end during the first semester 2013.

The general objective of the second phase of the programme is, 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. This shall be achieved through a regional dialogue on Information Society, homogenization and harmonization of regulatory processes in the ICT sector and through an increased interconnection between European and Latin American Research & Development communities.

The @LIS2 programme has 3 respective 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*).

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[http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/latin-america/regional-cooperation/alis/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/latin-america/regional-cooperation/alis/index_en.htm) or [www.alis2.eu](http://www.alis2.eu)


## **COPOLAD – Co-operation Programme on Anti-drugs Policies**

The **objective** of the programme is to contribute to 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 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 **EUR 6 million**.


The consortium comprises **partners** from Europe (France, Germany, Portugal, 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.

For further information, please consult <http://www.copolad.eu> (with possibility to subscribe to the electronic newsletter), or contact the Programme Coordinator, Mr Patrick Doelle: [Patrick.Doelle@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Patrick.Doelle@ec.europa.eu), EuropeAid Development and Co-operation Directorate-General, Unit G2.

### **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 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 in 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 36 months.

For further information, please consult <http://www.migracion-ue-alc.eu> (with possibility to subscribe to the electronic newsletter), or contact the Programme Coordinator, Mr Patrick Doelle: [Patrick.Doelle@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Patrick.Doelle@ec.europa.eu), EuropeAid Development and Co-operation Directorate-General, Unit G2.


### **Promoting Mutual Understanding in the framework of the Association European Union - Latin America and the Caribbean**

The aim of this project is to enhance mutual understanding between the EU and LA, and to strengthen the strategic bi-regional association process and Latin American regional integration. The project delivers regular informative initiatives, such as the EUROLAT magazine, launches discussion forums, produces studies and provides training on European and EU-LAC matters. The European Commission's contribution to this project is about **EUR 800.000**.

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### **European Union - Latin America and Caribbean (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. 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 consult the Foundation' website [www.eulacfoundation.org](http://www.eulacfoundation.org) or alternatively contact Mr Vittorio Tonutti: [Vittorio.Tonutti@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Vittorio.Tonutti@ec.europa.eu), EuropeAid Development and Co-operation Directorate-General, Unit G2.