

Latin America regional cooperation overview (2007-2013)


Promotion of higher education

Why? Higher education plays a crucial role in the social economic development by delivering knowledge requirements for sustainable and inclusive development in the region.


How? Through partnerships and networking between higher education institutions and by setting up mobility programmes, ensuring the participation of vulnerable individuals and groups, less developed regions and disadvantaged institutions.

Programmes in focus


ALFA III (€75 million) – financed 51 projects fostering academic cooperation and networking involving 494 different participating institutions: 341 from Latin America and 153 from the EU. The ALFA III programme is implemented by partnerships of Higher Education Institutions of both regions.

 The ALFA III UNICA Project, coordinated by the University of Caldas (Colombia), has been designed for high school students in vulnerable communities (indigenous population, rural areas and communities manifesting a high rate of violence) in Mexico, Nicaragua, Bolivia and Colombia. The beneficiaries receive high level education on farming production, which will guarantee them a qualified job in the rural areas.

Erasmus Mundus Action 2 (€95.6 million) – supported mobility for students (undergraduate, master, doctoral and post-doctoral) and for staff (academic and administrative) in order to improve and enhance their career and employment prospects, and promote intercultural understanding.

 **6,650** students and academics benefitting from this mobility programme

 **more than 250** Latin America Higher Education Institutions participating

 **50** partnerships funded

Social and territorial cohesion

Why? Despite significant progress over the last fifteen years, Latin America remains one of the most unequal regions in the world.

The great income differences form an obstacle to development and pose a threat to social peace. The EU is widely regarded as a model for social cohesion thanks to its public policies that promote social inclusion and competitiveness.

How? EU-Latin America regional cooperation aims at developing strategies, policies and instruments to strengthen social and territorial cohesion, by, amongst others, reducing poverty, inequalities and social exclusion and promoting trade and investment which are key factors for job creation.


Programmes in focus

EUROsocial (€40.35 million) – Supports Latin American countries in designing and implementing public policies that contribute to social cohesion. EUROsocial fosters a direct exchange of experiences between public administration in the EU and Latin America. It is widely praised for its clear demand and result orientation and its innovative approach.

 **173** European Union experts and **225** Latin American experts


 **110** European Institutions and **114** Latin America institutions


AL-INVEST (€50 million) – Since 1994, AL-INVEST has been facilitating the internationalisation of thousands of Latin American small and medium enterprises (SMEs), in collaboration with their European partners to contribute to the economic development of the region.

 **60,000** companies received support

 **6,500** SMEs in the Andean region increased their exports

 **85.6 million** euros of new exports in Cuba, Central America and Mexico

 **20,000** direct employments in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru

 **60,000** indirect employments in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru


Sustainable development and climate change

Why? Environmental degradation and climate change seriously affect economic growth, particularly harming the poor and threatening the current and future livelihoods of vulnerable communities. Reconciling environmental sustainability with economic growth constitutes a major challenge in Latin America.

How? EU regional programmes for Latin America give specific and substantive attention to sustainable development through programmes and projects to mitigate and to adapt to the effects of climate change.

Programmes in focus

EUROCLIMA (€16.45 million) – aims at facilitating the integration of climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies and plans into Latin American public development policies.


 Has supported, inter alia, the preparation of guidelines, toolkits, specific software for adaptation and mitigation policies and plans of action.

 **1000** public officials and scientific experts trained

 **35** studies on Climate Change adaptation and mitigation

 **more than 20** regional Climate Change events

EURO-SOLAR (€27.8 million) – provided rural communities that had no access to the grid with a renewable energy source for electricity and Internet connection to be used for community socio-economic development, improving education, healthcare and access to information (in Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Peru).

 **600** communities benefitting from renewable energy applications and internet connections.

REGIONAL COOPERATION (2007-2013)

LATIN AMERICA

Our investment: €556 million

Focus areas: promotion of higher education, social and territorial cohesion, water management, support to private sector, sustainable development and climate change, amongst others.

Aims: EU regional programmes privilege knowledge-transfer and peer learning between the EU and Latin American partner countries, with the overarching objective of poverty reduction. This approach helps to improve cooperation amongst Latin American countries, allowing ample scope for South-South cooperation, and for fostering regionally-owned solutions to regional challenges.

Impact: EU regional programmes in Latin America have consistently proven to be of value. How? By improving capacities of local counterparts, access to services, evidence-based changes in policies and regulations, amongst others.

For more information on the EU regional cooperation with Latin America, please visit: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/latin-america/latin-america-regional-programmes-eu-funding_en

CARIBBEAN

Our investment: €165 million

Focal areas: regional integration and cooperation, crime and security including the fight against illegal drugs, capacity development and empowering Non-state actors.

Aims: support to develop the single market and economy with the Caribbean Community, deepen integration with the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, enhance competitiveness and economic growth and implement the Economic Partnership Agreement.

For more information on the EU regional cooperation with the Caribbean region, please visit: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/regional-cooperation-between-caribbean-and-eu_en and http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/octs_en

BILATERAL COOPERATION

The EU cooperates on a bilateral level with the Latin American and Caribbean countries.

For more information on the bilateral cooperation, please visit: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/countries-territories-and-regions-where-we-are-active_en

Regional cooperation: a privileged tool to share experiences and best practices between the European Union (EU) and Latin American and Caribbean partners.

The EU has over 20 years of experience of regional cooperation with **Latin America**. Regional programmes have been the main tool to strengthen links between countries within the region, promote sub-regional integration, and foster bi-regional cooperation.

18 countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela) can take part in the regional programmes, under the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI).

Europe has strong historic and cultural ties with the **Caribbean region**, and a long tradition of close cooperation. The EU's relations with Caribbean countries are based on political relations, trade and development funding at both national and regional levels.

The Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) - EU Cotonou Agreement signed in 2000 by 15 Caribbean nations, is the framework for cooperation. It is complemented by the 2008 Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with CARIFORUM (the Forum of the Caribbean Group of ACP) and the 2012 Joint Caribbean EU Partnership Strategy.

The Caribbean region represents the following countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago. The region also includes 17 territories with direct links to EU Member States (four French 'outermost regions'; and thirteen 'overseas territories' – six British, six Dutch and one French territory).

Biennial Summits of the EU and CELAC (Community of Latin-American and Caribbean States) take place since 1999, alternatively in the EU and Latin America. In 2015, the EU-CELAC Summit takes place in Brussels (Belgium).

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our world
our dignity
our future



European Union
Regional
Cooperation
with

Latin America
and the
Caribbean

Reducing inequalities
Promoting sustainable
development
Tackling climate change
Fostering higher education

Regional cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean (2014-2020)

Regional Continental Programme Latin America



€300 million

Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change

Reduce poverty of most vulnerable populations by fostering environmentally sustainable development and improving the capacity to cope with climate change and disasters.



€215 million

Inclusive and sustainable growth for human development

Poverty reduction through more inclusive and sustainable economic growth in Latin America.



€163 million

Higher education

Promote higher education exchanges and academic cooperation between the EU and Latin America (Erasmus+).

The overall allocation of the 2014-2020 Regional Continental Programme for Latin America amounts to **€805 million**, funded under the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI).



€70 million

Security-development nexus

Reinforce the capacity of states to effectively ensure security conditions conducive for inclusive development.



€42 million

Good governance, accountability and social equity

Reinforce the accountability and capacity of institutions and public administrations to provide high quality public services.



€15 million

Support measures

Provide capacity building and technical assistance.

Regional Programme Caribbean

The 11th European Development Fund (EDF) Indicative Programme for the Caribbean foresees a total of **€346 million** for the Caribbean Regional Programme.



Environment, Climate Change and Energy

Implement policies consistent with the green and blue economy and enhancing the development of renewable energy power generation.



Promote Regional economic integration

Joint actions to foster the effective implementation of the EU-CARIFORUM Economic Partnership Agreement and to reinforce competitiveness and promotion of innovation.



Crime and Security

Support the establishment of the region-wide CARICOM Crime and Security Strategy (CCSS), addressing root causes of crime and delinquency, providing some capacity in border control management and justice administration.