

## **Joint UN DESA and Government of Colombia capacity development workshop on “Strengthening regional development cooperation to promote access to green finance in Latin America and the Caribbean”**

**Dates:** Monday, November 20 and Tuesday, November 21, 2023

**Location:** University of Magdalena, Santa Marta, Colombia

**Organizers:** United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) and the  
Presidential Agency for International Cooperation (APC Colombia)

### **Background**

[At the High-Level Meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum \(DCF\)](#), convened at the United Nations on 14-15 March 2023, countries in Latin America and the Caribbean expressed strong interest in peer-to-peer learning on how to incorporate and facilitate the mobilization of green and sustainable finance into their development cooperation strategies. The facilitative approach is based on a framework used in DCF that analyzes evidence-based policies, actions, and measurements to improve the impact and effectiveness of international development cooperation through:

- (i) international cooperation policies for development;
- (ii) country-by-country result frameworks;
- (iii) international development cooperation forums;
- (iv) data and information systems for international development cooperation; and
- (v) support for capacity building and capacity building.

The knowledge gained during the workshop will also be incorporated into the inter-governmental analytical and capacity-building workflow for the Finance for Development Forum 2024 (FfD4).

The workshop will promote the exchange of knowledge on green finance among governments in Latin America and the Caribbean in order to design more informed, coherent and effective regional cooperation policies and, ultimately, increase the quality and quantity of financing available to protect their collective natural assets.

At the March Forum, and during subsequent exchanges between UNDESA and different countries in the region, two thematic areas emerged that were prioritized for the workshop:

- (1) Structuring of green taxonomies.
- (2) Articulation of carbon markets.

Thus, the event will focus on peer-to-peer learning exercises on the progress made in these two areas of green finance, ensuring their technical and institutional interoperability.

Discussions will be informed by the results of the DCF survey on how to make development cooperation more agile and effective, as well as lessons learned from previous workshops, such as the one held for the African region in 2022

on "[integrating climate adaptation into development cooperation policies and practices](#)". - hosted by the Government of Egypt.

### Peer-to-peer learning methodology

The workshop will focus on peer-to-peer learning and knowledge sharing to highlight good development cooperation policies and practices in promoting green finance in the Latin American and Caribbean region. This will be done in the following ways:

- Countries will present and discuss national case studies or country situation (prepared in advance with the support of UN DESA). Each country representative will have 10 minutes to present their key messages.
- The discussions will conclude with policy recommendations and concrete actions to strengthen the construction of common frameworks for Latin American green finance. Participants will then discuss how to more effectively incorporate such policies and actions into their development cooperation strategies. To this end, participants will be encouraged to bring and share online documents on their core policies in advance to reflect on good practices and identify opportunities for improvement.
- From the country case studies or country's situation, participants are invited to split into smaller group discussions, facilitated by UN staff and other expert facilitators, focusing on the topic of (1) green taxonomies or (2) carbon markets. Discussions could follow the guiding questions listed below, or they could take their own course. The rapporteurs will take note and report on the discussions after the informal sessions.
- Peer-to-peer learning from the workshop will continue with access to the documents and discussion forums hosted in the UN Digital Knowledge Repository for Development Cooperation Policies and Tools.

### Programme

#### Day 1

<b>8:30 AM – 9:00 AM</b>	Reception, registering and delivering materials
<b>9:00 AM – 9:10 AM</b>	<i>Welcoming remarks</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University of Magdalena – <b>Mr. Pablo Vera Salazar</b></li> <li>• UN DESA – <b>Mr. Daniel Platz</b></li> <li>• APC Colombia – <b>Mr. Andrés Ceballos</b></li> </ul>
<b>9:10 AM – 9:30 AM</b>	Presentation of the participants
<b>9:30 AM – 10:30 AM</b>	Rethinking Green Finance Theory: Taxonomies, Markets and Debts in Latin America and the Caribbean.  Mr. Daniel Ortega-Pacheco - Biochar (Ecuador) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Luisa Olivera</b>, General Directorate of the Secretariat, Macroeconomic and Financial Advisory, Uruguay</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Hector Alarcón</b>, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Colombia</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Etosha Rahming</b>, Senior Research Officer, Ministry of Finance, Bahamas</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Manuel Martínez</b> - Ministry of Finance and Public Credit, Colombia</li> </ul>
<b>10:30 AM – 10:45 AM</b>	<i>Recess</i>
<b>10:45 AM – 12:30 PM</b>	Generating ownership of green finance through international cooperation: policies, instruments and good practices in the technical development of green taxonomies, carbon markets and debt-for-nature swaps in Latin America and the Caribbean. (II)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Jessica Paulina Casanova Arias</b>, Head of the Economic Instruments and Compensation Section, Ministry of Environment, Chile</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Ángela María Angulo</b>, Financial Superintendence, Colombia</li> </ul>
<b>12:30 PM – 1:45 PM</b>	<i>Lunch</i>
<b>1:45 PM – 3:00 PM</b>	<p>Promoting Development Cooperation with a Green Finance Approach in Latin America and the Caribbean: Challenges and Advances in Policy Development and Interoperability in Latin America and the Caribbean (I)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Dione Casandra Bernal Gavilanes</b>, Public Planning and Investment Specialist, Ministry of Finance, Ecuador</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Marlene Rivas Lazarte</b>, Head of Sustainable Public Debt Unit, Bolivia</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Vanessa Young</b>, Environmental Management Authority, Trinidad y Tobago.</li> </ul>
<b>3:00 PM - 3:15 PM</b>	<i>Break</i>
<b>3:15 PM - 4:30 PM</b>	<p>Promoting Development Cooperation with a Green Finance Approach in Latin America and the Caribbean: Challenges and Advances in Policy Development and Interoperability in Latin America and the Caribbean (II)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Evelyn Lisseth Cojón</b>, Ministry of Public Finance, Guatemala</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Laura Martinez</b>, Ministry of Finance, Paraguay</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Miguel Serrano</b>, Ministry of Ecosocialism, Venezuela</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Karen Douglas</b>, Ministry of Sustainable Development, St.Kitts.</li> </ul>
<b>4:30 PM - 5:00 PM</b>	Executive Report & Closing

## Day 2

<b>8:30 AM - 8:45 AM</b>	Reception with Cauca coffee
<b>8:45 AM - 9:00 AM</b>	<i>Summary of the first day.</i>
<b>9:15 AM – 11:30 AM</b>	<p>Subgroup 1 - Connecting regulated, voluntary carbon markets and trading systems in Latin America and the Caribbean with the Bridgetown Initiative proposed by the Government of Barbados.</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Daniel Ortega-Pacheco (Ecuador)</i></p> <p>Subgroup 2 - Articulating public and private green taxonomies in Latin America and the Caribbean with the Bridgetown Initiative proposed by the Government of Barbados.</p> <p><i>Facilitators: Ms. Vishwas Vidyaranya (Ambire)</i></p>
<b>11:30 AM – 11:45 AM</b>	Break
<b>11:45 AM – 1:00 PM</b>	<p>Subgroup 1 - Connecting regulated, voluntary carbon markets and trading systems in Latin America and the Caribbean with the Bridgetown Initiative proposed by the Government of Barbados.</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Mr. Daniel Ortega-Pacheco (Ecuador)</i></p> <p>Subgroup 2 - Articulating public and private green taxonomies in Latin America and the Caribbean with the Bridgetown Initiative proposed by the Government of Barbados.</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Mr. Vishwas Vidyaranya (Ambire)</i></p>
<b>1:00 PM – 2:30 PM</b>	<i>Lunch</i>
<b>2:30 PM – 3:00 PM</b>	Executive Report of the Facilitation Team

<b>3:00 PM – 3:45 PM</b>	<p>Plenary Discussion: Next Steps to Advance the Consolidation of an Interoperable International Cooperation Path for Green Finance in Latin America and the Caribbean</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Manuel Martínez, Mr. Hector Alarcón, Mr. Andrés Ceballos and Mr. Daniel Ortega-Pacheco</p>
<b>3:45 PM – 4:00 PM</b>	<p>Introducing the UN Digital Knowledge Repository for development cooperation policies and tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Zihan JIA, UNDESA</li> </ul>
<b>4:00 PM - 4:30 PM</b>	<p>Farewell with dessert and group photos</p>

### **Guiding Questions**

1. How can regional cooperation support national policy development on green taxonomies and carbon markets?
1. What would be effective methods to share and learn experiences from countries from Latin America and the Caribbean?
2. How do national public policies integrate development cooperation with initiatives in the green economy and finance?
3. What challenges exist in the region for establishing an interoperable international cooperation path for green finance in Latin America and the Caribbean?
4. How can the Bridgetown Initiative proposed by the Government of Barbados align with the country's situation in green finance and the carbon market?
5. What general lessons can be gleaned from this workshop regarding strengthening regional development cooperation to promote access to green finance in Latin America and the Caribbean?