

Eval4Action Regional Consultation in Latin America and the Caribbean

Systematization of planning and results



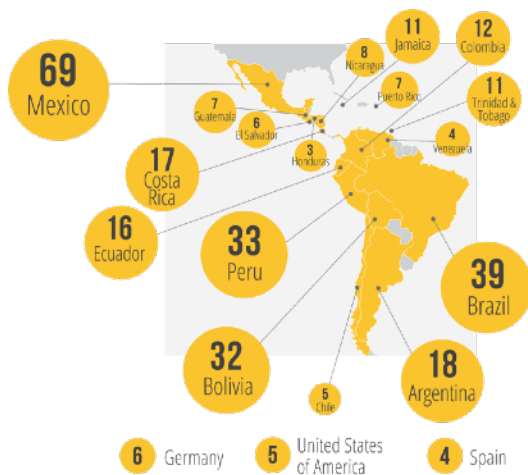
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Latin American and the Caribbean countries are sailing towards 2030 with a heavy burden of inequality, poverty, corruption, violence, migration, climate change, destruction of biodiversity, and the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. This situation calls on the evaluation community to **innovate and articulate efforts and alliances to make monitoring and evaluation catalysts** for the transformations required to **advance towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and leave no one behind**.

People from 41 nationalities registered to the Consultation



In this context, as part of the actions carried under the **Eval4Action** campaign, the Regional Evaluation Consultation of Latin America and the Caribbean, was implemented virtually on October 1st, 2020, organized jointly by **EvalYouth LAC**, the Latin American and Caribbean Monitoring, Evaluation and Systematization Network (**ReLAC**), the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Population Fund (**UNFPA-LACRO**), the Evaluation Capacity Development Project in Latin America (**Focelac**), implemented by the German Institute for Development Evaluation (DEval) and the Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy of Costa Rica (MIDEPLAN).

The main goal of the Consultation was accelerating progress towards the SDGs through a platform that allows evaluators -national and regional- and other actors to:

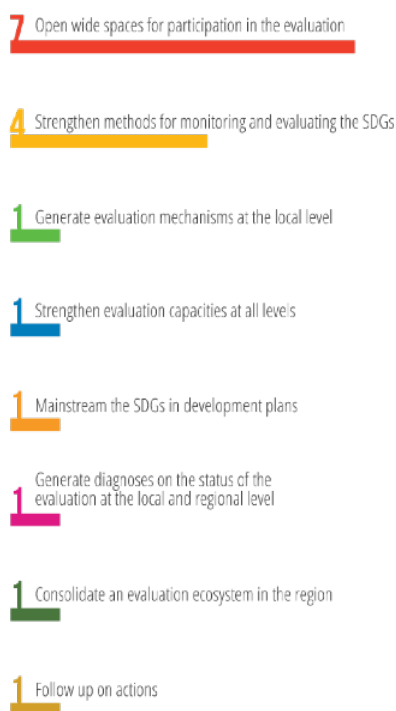
- Strengthen dialogue and partnerships towards influential evaluation in the context of COVID-19 and SDGs.
- Identify concrete regional and national commitments and actions, to strengthen national evaluation systems and capacities, to accelerate progress toward the SDGs.

The consultation was **diverse and inclusive**. A total of 347 people from 41 nationalities registered. Most were female and under 35 years old, from the third sector, academia, government, multilateral organizations and VOPEs. Some

Evaluation challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean



Actions to strengthen evaluation in Latin America and the Caribbean



participants identified themselves as belonging to a minority group; notably only women were found in this category.

During the Consultation, two topics were discussed: 1) the main **challenges** to be faced in the region to ensure that the evaluation contributes significantly to achieving the SDGs and 2) the **strategies and actions** necessary to address the challenges identified.

Results of the Consultation

The most frequently discussed challenge was the **harmonization and strengthening of evaluation methodologies and processes to measure the SDGs**. This was followed by other issues such as the strengthening of the institutionalization of evaluation; the dissemination and communication of the evaluation; the strengthening of capacities in evaluation; the inclusion and empowerment of all stakeholders in the evaluation; the evidence-based decision making; the promotion of the participation of civil society in evaluations; the generation of evaluations with a gender mainstreaming perspective, and strengthening of networking.

On the other hand, the most frequently discussed action was the **opening of wide spaces for participation in the evaluation**, followed by the strengthening of methods for monitoring and evaluating the SDGs; the generation of evaluation mechanisms at the local level; strengthening evaluation capacities at all levels; mainstream the SDGs in development plans; the generation of diagnoses on the status of the evaluation at the local and regional level; the consolidation of an evaluation ecosystem in the region, and follow up on actions.

The Regional Consultation made it possible to identify important challenges faced by evaluators in the region, and provided the necessary elements to **outline a roadmap to generate an influential Evaluation** to carry out actions towards evaluation as an accelerator of the achievement of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda.