



OUTCOME DOCUMENT

Latin America Regional Resilience Dialogue:

Building Urban and Rural Resilience to Mobilize Efforts in Latin America to Recover from the Pandemic

Date: 4 November, 18:00 – 20:00 GMT

Acknowledgements

This dialogue is part of a series of regional dialogues convened with non-party stakeholders, organized by the [Global Resilience Partnership](#) together with [Climate Resilience Network of the UNFCCC Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action \(MPGCA\)](#) with the support of the Chile and UK High Level Champions (HLCs), Gonzalo Muñoz and Nigel Topping.

The Latin America Regional Resilience Dialogue is co-led by: [Alianza para la Resiliencia Climática Rural en América Latina \(ARC LATAM\)](#), [Alliance of Bioversity International and International Center for Tropical Agriculture \(CIAT\)](#), [Atlantic Council Adrienne Arsht – Rockefeller Foundation Resilience Center](#), [CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security \(CCAFS\)](#), [Climate Heritage Network](#), [Food and Agriculture Organization](#), [Fundación Avina](#), [Resilient Cities Network](#), [Stockholm Environment Institute](#), and [World Food Programme](#)

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Top key messages for the High Level Champions from the dialogue to take forward to help advance ambitions in the run up to COP 26

1. Focus on actions that feed into **regenerative economy** as the new normal. Advocate for the **urgency to scale up sustainable financing (public and private)** that is **flexible** and that for reaches **both urban and rural sectors**
2. **Implement Nature Based Solutions**. There is no vaccine for social collapse. If nature doesn't work, without ecosystems and biodiversity there is no chance for life.
3. Consistently direct attention and **efforts at the most vulnerable**, but without creating duplicative streams of work. Allow for space for inclusion of their priorities.
4. Consider **inclusion and diversity in all of its dimensions**: cultural, ethical, gender, biodiversity.

1. What concrete actions and solutions are being taken in the region to build resilience?

- Coordination and interconnection between **a diversity of rural and urban stakeholders** to prepare for action to face threats regarding climate and challenges due to COVID-19.
- It is key to build **both rural and urban** resilience through addressing risks (climatic and biological) in a holistic way.
- The Quito Agrifood Pact is one example that showcases the efforts of different actors while **strengthening social capital by enhancing local initiatives**. This program has increased the access to fresh sustainable food and this has been providing food to those that most needed during the pandemic.
- Fundación Avina is promoting urban resilience challenges to find **innovations that can boost the local economy**. So far, they have identified 400 innovative practice that promote gender equality, circular economy, and recently innovations that respond to COVID crisis. These innovations are potential business opportunities highlighting the importance of the private sector to build urban resilience, which are made possible by **close collaboration between private sector and local governments**.

2. What were some of the boundaries/challenges related to building resilience in Latin America identified (including any knowledge gaps)?

- **Greater engagement of private sector** in resilience building in urban areas. Private sector needs to collaborate with local governments and good practices need also to be promoted by public policies.
- Challenges remain regarding **access to and use of information** for farmers' and value chains' decision making processes.
- Emphasis is needed on complementarity of **different sources of information** such as remote sensing needs to be explored further.
- **Resilience is still a rather broad nebulous concept** – the concept of resilience needs to be operationalized in practical terms by all actors. Consideration **to soft resilience** (social cohesion) and **hard resilience** (infrastructure) are equally important.
- **Proactive as opposed to reactive governance**. Caribbean and Latin American nations are consistently affected by climate change-related disasters (floods, droughts, hurricanes). 53% of the economic losses in the last two decades due to climate change were absorbed by Latin American countries – and close to 15 million of people displaced due to drought. This requires holistic approach to governance to build resilience of both urban and rural areas. **Building collaborations across sectors, ministries and agendas (national or international)** is essential to manage risks across multiple fronts and especially when resources are scarce.

3. What more is needed to increase ambition, transform and take actions to scale?

- Close to 50% of food insecurity is due to climate change across Latin America. The **'Actions to transform food systems under climate change'** report sets out 4 action areas which are key to build back better. These are:
 - 1) Reroute farming and rural livelihoods to new trajectories;
 - 2) de-Risk: livelihoods, farms and value chains;
 - 3) Reduce: emissions through diets and in value chains;
 - 4) Realign: policies, finance, innovation, and support to social movements.
- **Nature-based solutions are key.** In the region, decision makers tend to focus on employment in the narrow sense. Management and restoration of landscapes could generate millions of jobs on this region, both assessing poverty and environmental issues. More is needed to showcase the **positive connection between employment and resilience** (or resilience action).
- **Regenerative agriculture is essential** to increase resilience of the food and agriculture sectors and the livelihoods of people dependent on it. This includes actions to eliminating fertilizers, limit institutional reductionism, recover local/traditional/ancestral knowledge, and recover agrobiodiversity.
- **Livestock** can yet be the greatest solution in terms of reducing carbon emissions – but is not yet acted upon at scale in Latin America.
- **Supporting social movements** is essential to promoting the changes we want to see in food systems by creating enabling environments especially in the political and financial areas.

4. What are the different financing modes and instruments appropriate for effectively achieving adaptation and climate resilience in the region?

- **Impact-oriented investment funds** are key to supporting the development of urban and rural communities. These funds address poverty issues through financial inclusion, recently also in the agricultural sector. **The challenge is for those farmers who are not linked to value chains.**
- **AddValue** is leading a fund through microfinance institutions that reaches out to those producers to support the implementation of practices and technologies that help increase resilience. The fund also seeks to facilitate farmers' access to credit to facilitate their implementation.

5. How can community or grassroots led efforts be better connected to and resourced by national and international efforts?

- **Enable farmers to become leaders in implementing key actions** to increase resilience. Take into account the ancestral and traditional knowledge that farmers have but also key to put science and research into the hands of farmers to strengthen communities' efforts (e.g., early warning systems, tailored agroclimate information, access to credits).
- External initiatives (from government or private institutions) should complement or **strengthen local initiatives** already taking place in the rural communities.
- **Access to information is key but difficult** to understand which information matters (make the correct diagnosis of what is needed to support farming practices, resilience etc). For ex. Weather forecasting information cannot be transmitted in the same way (and detail level) to a family farmer than to a large-scale farmer. This information will allow farmers to make better decisions about their crops.
- **Hybrid approaches that combine traditional knowledge with modern technology** might be effective. Technology on its own is no guarantee of success

I. Annex: Agenda

5min	<p>Welcome (logistics and objectives)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jorge Gastelumendi, Global Policy Director, Atlantic Council
10min	<p>Opening and Scene Setting on why actions on A&R is a priority for Latin America</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gonzalo Muñoz, Chile High Level Climate Champion, COP25 ● Julio Berdegué, FAO Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean ● Raul Salazar, Head of UNDRR Regional Office, Latin America
30 min	<p>Panel 1: Transformative Actions to Build Urban Climate Resilience at Scale Across Latin America</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. David Jacome Polit, Chief Resilience Officer, Quito, Ecuador 2. Marcela Mondino, Regional Initiative for Resilient Cities, Fundación Avina 3. Carolina Berrazueta, Ecoeficiencia/Simbiosis Industrial en el polígono industrial de Quito 4. Vivian Argueta, EAFIT University - Educational Resilience, former Chief Resilience Officer Cali, Colombia <p>Moderator: Mauricio Rodas, Senior Fellow Adrienne Arsht - Rockefeller Foundation Resilience Center at Atlantic Council, former Mayor of Quito</p>
10 min	<p>Comments / Q&A from HLCs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nigel Topping, UK High Level Champion, COP 26 ● Gonzalo Muñoz, Chile High Level Champion, COP 25
35min	<p>Panel 2: Transforming agriculture and food systems in Latin America to build rural resilience post COVID</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Juan Carlos Pereira, Founder, Addvalue 2. Ana María Loboguerrero, Research Director of Climate Action for the Alliance of Bioersity International and International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) and Head of Global Policy Research for the CGIAR/ CCAFS 3. Pablo R. Valdivia Zelaya, Agriculture Insurance & Risk Management, World Bank 4. Edgar Lemus, Manager, ASORECH (Rural community association of Guatemala) 5. Eduard Muller, University for International Cooperation (UCI) <p>Moderator: Veronica Arias, Executive Director, Capital Cities of the Americas facing Climate Change Secretariat</p>
10min	<p>Reflections and Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nigel Topping, UK High Level Champion, COP 26
5 min	<p>Closing remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fiona Clouder, COP26 Regional Ambassador for LatAm & Carribean (tbc) ● Julio Cordano, Negotiations Coordinator, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile & COP25 Chilean Presidency representative

