



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Sustainable
Development
Goals

REGIONAL PARTNERS **FORUM** FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

PANAMA, 3 - 4 OCTOBER 2019



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This final report provides a summary of the actions during the first UNESCO Regional Partners Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Panama in October 2019.

In line with UNESCO's Strategic Reform process, the Regional Forum focused on UNESCO's normative function and role as a laboratory of ideas to address complex development challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean, such as forced migration, inequalities, violence, a lack of opportunities for young people, freedom of expression and access to information. Panel discussions about pressing issues in the region highlighted the relevance of UNESCO's interdisciplinary approach to multidimensional challenges.

With the 2030 Agenda as its overall framework, the Forum sought to highlight the importance of strategic partnerships for the achievement of the SDGs. Through the testimonies of key partners of UNESCO, the Forum provided an opportunity to showcase UNESCO's impact in the region. The participation of young people from different countries also underscored UNESCO's commitment to youth engagement.

The meeting of UNESCO's strategic partners prioritized dialogue, the strengthening of existing partnerships, the creation of new synergies and collaboration opportunities, and the creation of networks that will contribute to the achievement of the Organization's mandate.

This first Regional Partners Forum brought together a large group of current and potential new partners who share UNESCO's ideals and commitment to meeting today's challenges and building a better future.

UNESCO would like to express its sincere thanks to the Panamanian authorities for their support to the organization of the event, their hospitality and all their attention to UNESCO and its partners.





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I. INTRODUCTION

I. INTRODUCTION

Panama City hosted UNESCO's first Regional Partners Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean from 3 to 4 October 2019. This event was a great opportunity to meet with partners who already have an important history of cooperation with UNESCO, but also to deepen relations with new partners and, above all, to invite them to commit themselves to our ambitious goals in education, culture, sciences, communication and information.

UNESCO's Program, approved by member States, offers broad and extensive possibilities for building strong partnerships in areas where the Organization has recognized expertise and leadership. As a result, we are able to develop innovative projects and ideas together with partners in the public and private sectors, with the aim of promoting our values and goals. As a follow-up to the first UNESCO Partners Forum, held in Paris in 2018, an initiative was launched to organize regional forums. Consequently, this is the second regional forum, following the organization of a similar one held in Africa in September 2019.

The Forum was attended by around 300 participants, including representatives from governments, the private sector, development agencies, philanthropic foundations, development banks, regional and international organizations, academia and civil society. It is worth mentioning the presence of Mr. Xing Qu, Deputy Director General of UNESCO; Mr. Vinicio Cerezo, Secretary General of SICA; Ms. Maruja Gorday de Villalobos, Minister of Education of Panama; Mr. Carlos Aguilar Navarro, Minister of Culture of Panama; Ms. Sylvie Durán, Minister of Culture and Youth of Costa Rica; Ms. Suecy Callejas, Minister of Culture of El Salvador; and Mr. Elder Súchite Vargas, Minister of Culture and Sports of Guatemala. The UNESCO Offices in the Latin America and

Caribbean region were represented by the Directors and program specialists.

The Forum consisted of nine panel discussions, four information sessions, a plenary conference and side events. In addition, networking sessions were organized to allow direct encounters between interested partners and UNESCO staff. A variety of cultural events showcased Panama's cultural diversity, thanks to the generous contribution of the Government of the host country.

The panel discussions at the Forum focused on strengthening cooperation in culture and creativity for sustainable development; promoting socio-environmental resilience; partnerships for more inclusive, equitable and quality education; empowerment of youth; regional challenges on migration; and opportunities to build a sustainable blue economy.

During the Forum, UNESCO signed a Letter of Intent for cooperation with Huawei in Central America, in the areas of nature conservation and sustainability science at UNESCO sites, culture for sustainable development, the role of ICTs in education and awareness campaigns on SDGs and UNESCO's priorities in the region. In addition, Huawei affirmed its interest in signing a global agreement with UNESCO, for which they planned to visit UNESCO Headquarters in November 2019.

The European Union and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) reaffirmed their interest in strengthening cooperation with UNESCO in the region and continuing to work as strategic partners of UNESCO. At the same time, leading private sector companies, such as L'Oréal, expressed their interest in exploring more cooperation opportunities. Agribusiness company ECOM and Cornell University expressed an interest in cooperating with UNESCO on sustainable development in the Biosphere Reserves of Costa Rica and Nicaragua. The National

Tourism Authority of Panama also announced its willingness to become a strategic partner of UNESCO in the promotion of cultural heritage and cultural diversity.

In addition to the opportunity to strengthen dialogue, networking and partnerships, the Forum provided UNESCO with a very useful database, which includes the contact details and interests of each of the partners who registered for the event.

The Forum received extensive media coverage in the region, including international news agencies such as Agencia EFE and Latin American news agencies such as Prensa Latina. These communications gave an account of UNESCO's various partners in attendance, as well as the variety of topics covered. In addition, there was wide dissemination of the agreement signed between UNESCO and Huawei to promote sustainable development in the region.



II. OPENING CEREMONY / OPENING KEYNOTE SPEECH

Mr Xing Qu, Deputy Director General of UNESCO, welcomed existing and potential partners to the first edition of the Regional Partners Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean. In his speech, he highlighted UNESCO's impact on the lives of people around the world and its fundamental role in achieving sustainable development goals. In the spirit of SDG 17, Partnerships for Sustainable Development, he emphasized the potential to create and sustain multi-stakeholder partnerships. In light of pressing global challenges, the Deputy Director-General underscored UNESCO's unique role as the lead United Nations agency for quality education (SDG 4) and the specialized agency in charge of organizing the United Nations Decade of Ocean Sciences for Sustainable Development (UNESCO/IOC). He further noted that, through its World Network of Biosphere Reserves, UNESCO plays a key role as an observer of climate change and that the Man and the Biosphere Program, as well as local and indigenous knowledge systems, can provide solutions to global problems. "It is in exchanges that humanity progresses," he said, and UNESCO encourages exchanges in all social and human sciences for dialogue and peace. The inscription of natural and cultural World Heritage sites has once again demonstrated the relevance of UNESCO's mandate in the cultural sector. In addition, in times of digital revolution, the Deputy Director-General stressed that UNESCO offers important expertise to provide a critical view of media and information.

The Minister of Education of Panama, Ms Maruja Gorday de Villalobos, welcomed the participants on behalf of the host country in her capacity as President of the Panamanian National Commission for UNESCO. In view of the ambitious Development Goals, the

Minister stated that UNESCO's Regional Partners Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean sought to strengthen existing relations between partners and generate crucial partnerships of multiple actors such as governmental and non-governmental organizations, academia, etc., to address current challenges in the field of education, sport, science, the environment, communication and information, so no one is left behind.

The Deputy Minister of Tourism of Panama stressed the importance of sustainable tourism development as a source of employment and inclusion of local enterprises linked to the cultural heritage and natural wealth of Panama. In this regard, she highlighted the desire of the National Tourism Authority to work closely with UNESCO.



III. OPENING PANEL: STRATEGIC PARTERSHIPS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE AGENDA 2030 FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

MODERATOR: **Ms. Esther Kuisch Laroche**
Director of the UNESCO Office in San José.

PANELISTS: **Mr. Carlos Cano**
General Coordinator of the Spanish Agency for International
Development Cooperation (AECID in Panama)

Mr. Vinicio Cerezo
Secretary General of the Central American Integration System
(SICA)

Ms. Seynabou Sakho
Director of the World Bank for Central America

Mr. Miguel J. León
Representative of the Indigenous Community of Totonaca,
Mexico

Ms. Judy Meana
Deputy Mayor of Panama City, Panama

Mr. Elder Súcchite Vargas
Minister of Culture and Sports of Guatemala.



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Mr Carlos Cano noted that Spain has many objectives in common with UNESCO, which was the first UN organization of which Spain became a member. He highlighted that for Spain, UNESCO is a strategic partner for its work in the Latin America and the Caribbean región and reiterated Spain's strong commitment to UNESCO.

Mr Vinicio Cerezo stressed that UNESCO can help make culture the "foundation of integration" and fight challenges such as the elimination of hunger, the eradication of poverty, and marginalization.

Ms. Seynabou Sakho stated that the role of a development bank is not only to provide the financial resources, but also knowledge and assistance during these processes. She added that Sustainable Development issues need intersectoral interventions and collaborations. In projects related to climate change, the World Bank works with institutions such as SICA. She noted that in order to achieve the other SDGs, the achievement of SDG 4 is crucial, which is why the World Bank is working on educational programs together with UNESCO and UNICEF.

Mr. Miguel J. León then spoke of the link between sustainable development and well-being and said that education also

needs to take into account the learning of indigenous languages and ancestral knowledge. He stressed that indigenous peoples care for the environment as a fundamental part of their worldview.

Mr. Elder Súcchite Vargas acknowledged UNESCO's important work in Guatemala in safeguarding cultural and intangible heritage and combating illicit trafficking in cultural property.

Ms. Judy Meana highlighted the special bond between UNESCO and Panama City – a UNESCO Creative City for Gastronomy and World Heritage Site. She said that citizens must feel part of their heritage, and cultural heritage should be used to foster social cohesion.

The panel concluded that partnerships between various actors are necessary to achieve the SDGs by 2030. It is not only a matter of financing, but also of providing technical assistance and policy advice for development processes. The panelists concluded that in this regard, UNESCO plays an important role.





IV. PLENARY CONFERENCE: CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND PHILANTHROPY IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Mr. Víctor Guédez

President of the Consultancy in Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility (CERSE), Venezuela

Mr. Marcos Kisil

President of the Institute for the Development of Social Investment (IDIS), Brazil

Ms. Lucía García de Polavieja

Manager of Social and Cultural Projects, Fundación Telefónica in Peru

Mr. Alan Aicken

Vice President of Acquisitions, Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd

Ms. Andrea Somma Genta

Director of Fundación OMINA, Costa Rica

Mr. Juan Pablo Morataya

Executive Director, CentraRSE

IV. PLENARY CONFERENCE: CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND PHILANTHROPY IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

This conference addressed the relationship between companies and public and private organizations with civil society, as well as the role of corporate philanthropy in the fulfillment of corporate social responsibility.

The first to speak was Mr. Víctor Guédez, who provided an overview of the situation of CSR and philanthropy in the region. In his words, businesses cannot be good to themselves if they are not good to society, so they must go beyond philanthropy and make social investments. In addition, he introduced the concept of “trisectionality” to refer to the joint action of multinationals, international organizations, and universities.

He was followed by Mr. Marcos Kisil, who mentioned how philanthropy is perceived by his organization. He emphasized the difference between corporate and individual philanthropy. Corporate philanthropy reflects maximum business performance, and its objective is the development of a social sector.

Ms. Lucía García highlighted the role of technology in her company’s social responsibility strategy. For her, technology was the key to achieving SDG 4, related to education and to employability.

Mr. Alan Aicken presented his company’s perspective. For Huawei, development is focused on connecting people, not on technology itself, but digital technology has the capacity to contribute to the fulfillment of SDG 17. Huawei’s mission is to deliver digital technologies to all areas and bring people, including those in rural areas, into the digital world to help them interconnect.

Finally, Ms. Andrea Somma Genta talked about how her foundation seeks local solutions to global problems, to address the eco-anxiety that many young people suffer from to and train 21st century citizens.

Mr. Juan Pablo Morataya highlighted the disruptive nature of SDGs and highlighted the importance of partnerships between the private sector and UN agencies.

The main conclusions of this conference were that the private sector and corporate social responsibility are fundamental to the achievement of SDGs.

UNESCO can provide the business sector with a large network of expertise and best practices from around the world for the successful implementation of programmes and projects.





V. PARALLEL SESSIONS: CULTURE AND CREATIVITY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

MODERATOR: **Ms. Katherine Müller Marín**
Director of the UNESCO Office in Havana

PANELISTS: **Mr. Carlos Aguilar**
Minister of Culture, Panama

Mr. Elías Mujica
Director of Qhapaq Ñan, Ministry of Culture, Peru

Mr. Juan Garay
Head of Cooperation, European Union Delegation to Cuba

Mr. Lázaro Rodríguez
Creative City of Gastronomy, Municipality of Panama City, Panama

Mr. Carlos Argüello
Founder of CA Foundation, Colombia

Mr. Elder Súcite Vargas
Minister of Culture and Sports, Guatemala

V. PARALLEL SESSIONS: CULTURE AND CREATIVITY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In this panel, the discussion revolved around the role of the creative and cultural industries in the integral development of communities, in terms of economic growth, but especially in terms of the benefits attracted by the feeling of belonging

Mr. Carlos Aguilar mentioned the importance of putting people at the core of cultural policies, especially through the promotion of cultural rights. His ministry is aware that culture is a cross-cutting issue and therefore it works closely with the tourism, social, science, technology and information sectors. He highlighted that partnerships are fundamental to cultural governance.

Mr. Elías Mujica presented Qhapaq Ñan regional project. This project fosters exchange and participation between countries about their shared heritage. It also allows to strengthen synergies and cooperation between municipalities and communities, in order to foster sustainable tourism.

Mr. Juan Garay, for his part, highlighted the role of culture in coping with the challenge of the damage caused to the planet. The European Union understands that culture, education, and science are means for achieving sustainable development. To face today's challenges we have to transform the way we think; and therefore, the way we act.

The importance of partnerships to achieve common objectives was also stated by Mr. Lázaro Rodríguez, who described the process of declaring Panama City as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy, which was quite fast thanks to the

productive associations. Panama City is now promoting the concept of gastronomic diplomacy.

Mr. Carlos Argüello, an entrepreneur in the field of digital creative industries, expressed the same opinion. He develops programs with different partners to train young people in several countries of the region and strengthen the audiovisual production industry.

Mr. Elder Súcite added that culture and tourism develop many synergies that can be managed for the benefit of sustainable development.

When asked by the public, he stated that the most important thing is to reinforce the identity of communities and there was a call to promote the sustainable management of cultural tourism in order to achieve an appropriate balance between the development of the tourism industry and the safeguarding of heritage.

The panel concluded by affirming UNESCO's key role in safeguarding and promoting culture and the importance of generating partnerships among different sectors. Panelists stated that creative industries can contribute to the development of communities, both economically and in terms of identity.





V. PARALLEL SESSIONS: CLIMATE ACTION AND SOCIO- ENVIRONMENTAL PROMOTION

MODERATOR: **Ms. Lidia Arthur Brito**
Director of the UNESCO Office in Montevideo

PANELISTS: **Ms. Haydée Rodríguez Romero**
Vice-Minister of Waters and Seas, Ministry of Environment and
Energy, Costa Rica

Mr. Arturo Dominici Arosemena
Center for the Integration of Cities and Nature, Panama

Ms. Sonia Yanira Martínez Gómez
Coordinator of the Youth Network 'Mundo Vida', UNESCO
Biosphere Reserve, Apaneca Ilamatepec, El Salvador

Mr. David Wilgenbus
Executive Director, Office of Climate Education, Pierre Simon
Laplace Institute, France

Mr. Jorge Luis Acosta
Vice-Minister of Environment, Panama



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The panel on climate action and socio-environmental promotion mainly expressed the urgency to act now, as demanded by young people, and the importance of knowledge for appropriate decision-making.

Ms. Lidia Arthur Brito highlighted local and traditional knowledge as a source of sustainable and inclusive solutions.

Ms. Haydée Rodríguez Romero spoke of Costa Rica's commitment to climate action, including the decarbonization of the country by 2050; participation in the "Tsunami Ready" Project; and hosting the PreCOP25 to move decisively towards the COP and ensure compliance with the Paris Agreements.

Mr. Jorge Luis Acosta underscored the importance of public water for water supply and sanitation in Panama, especially because of the canal, and spoke about the collaboration with UNESCO in the framework of the International Hydrological Program (IHP) and the different IHP trainings on SDG 6, Clean Water and Sanitation.

Mr. Arturo Dominici Arosemena spoke about the challenge of city management in the region in relation to the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda. He noted the importance of decentralized policies to ensure the participation of local communities where the impact of climate change is most felt and training on 2030 Agenda is most needed.

Ms. Sonia Yanira Martínez Gomez talked about working with young people who highlighted the climate emergency and to increase their awareness through Environmental Education in schools. She requested that youth be considered in the different governance structures at local, national, and international levels.

Finally, Mr. David Wilgenbus commented on the problem that many people do not understand the phenomenon of climate change, and stressed that many school curricula do not consider climate change and many teachers lack the skills to talk about it and interact with the community.

There were several questions from the public, including how to improve dropout rates and involve young people in decision-making processes. The panelists proposed the creation of youth assemblies and demanded a strengthening of environmental education in formal and informal education. They also highlighted the need to make it easier for low-income youth to pursue a scientific career.

The panel concluded that quality environmental education and climate change education are extremely important. The need for urgent climate action called for by young people was reiterated. Governments can provide spaces for communities and youth to participate in decision-making processes. UNESCO can help by providing information and creating open spaces for interdisciplinary work. UNESCO sites, such as biosphere reserves also have great potential for education for sustainable development.





V. PARALLEL SESSIONS: PARTNERSHIPS FOR GREATER INCLUSION, EQUITY AND QUALITY: EDUCATION FOR TRANSFORMING THE REGION

MODERATOR: **Ms. Claudia Uribe Salazar**
Director of the UNESCO Office in Santiago

PANELISTS: **Mr. Carlos Staff**
Executive Secretary of the Central American Educational and Cultural Coordination, Central American Integration System (CECC/SICA)

Ms. Krushenka Reyes
General Manager for Education, Microsoft, Costa Rica

Mr. Alan Aicken
Vice President of Procurement, Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd

Ms. Rita Almeida
Leader of the Human Development Program in Central America, World Bank

Mr. Matías Martín
Responsible for the Education Program and Relations with NGOs, AECID

Mr. José Moreno Cámbara
Vice-Minister of Education of Guatemala



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Ms. Claudia Uribe Salazar stressed that education in the context of the 2030 Agenda is a transformative education that must have a vision towards sustainable development and the common good. However, education faces a number of challenges, such as high dropout rates. UNESCO's Regional Office for Education in Santiago works to support Member States' efforts to guarantee the right to education for all people throughout their lives.

Mr. Carlos Staff spoke about the close relationship between UNESCO and the Central American Educational and Cultural Coordination of the System of Integration of Central America (SICA). He highlighted the importance of adapting the 2030 Agenda to the Central American educational agenda, and of further strengthening partnerships with UNESCO and other agencies, such as UNICEF and FAO. He also mentioned the importance of identifying priorities for action related to education budgets, guaranteeing preschool education, alternatives for secondary education in light of the high dropout rates, teacher training based on the needs of the 21st century, use of information and data, and creating a culture of accountability and evaluation.

Ms. Krushenka Reyes emphasized Microsoft's commitment to education, building partnerships with governments around the world that, unlike before, are now focused on improving the learning experience for students. Together with UNESCO, Microsoft wants to work on making classrooms more inclusive.

Mr. Alan Aicken of Huawei highlighted the importance of ICTs to achieve inclusive, equitable and quality education and lifelong learning. In order to achieve this, the barriers to learning must be removed and the classroom must be rethought. He also stressed the importance of partnerships, which should be linked to concrete actions.

Ms. Rita Almeida of the World Bank underscored the importance of SDG 4 and investment in education for poverty reduction. She added that UNESCO has made it possible to quantify the current learning crisis.

Mr. Matías Martín stated that for the Spanish Cooperation education has always been a priority, working jointly with UNESCO.

Finally, Mr. José Moreno Cámbara said that the lack of a focus on diversity as a strength has negatively affected the development of education. He added that greater access to information does not mean an increase in knowledge in general. Guatemala also works with UNESCO in the field of education. He concluded that there is a need to align the concepts of quality education between all sectors (public and private).

The panel ended with a series of questions about how technology will transform classrooms, how to maintain international collaborations, and about the most important challenges.

The panel concluded that intersectoral and inter-agency collaborations are fundamental to achieving SDG 4, as are data for measuring progress in achieving the objectives; not only collecting them, but also knowing how to use and apply them for planning and decision-making. Latin America faces key challenges such as improving the quality of learning - including the quality of teacher training -, reducing high dropout rates and the lack of preschool programs.



V. PARALLEL SESSIONS: SIDE EVENT ON EDUCATION: FOCUS ON PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF TEACHERS

MODERATOR: **Ms. Gabriela Martini**
Director of the Center for Continuing Professional Development
of the University of Chile

PANELISTS: **Mr. Carlos Vargas Támez**
Head of the Teaching Development Unit, UNESCO Office in
Santiago

Ms. Magaly Robalino
Director of the UNESCO Office in Limat

Ms. Cecilia Martins
Senior Education Specialist, Department of Human
Development and Education, Organization of American States
(OAS)

Ms. Cecilia Martins presented the Antigua and Barbuda Plan, a process of dialogue that has been under way since 2015 to build inter-American partnerships in education and teaching. The three pillars of the plan are: (1) quality education that is inclusive; (2) strengthening the teaching profession; and (3) working with comprehensive early childhood education. This experience allows us to learn about numerous challenges: combining diverse realities, data management, lack of tangible results that allow us to evaluate the use of funds, among others.

Mrs. Gabriela Martini reflected on the way in which we understand the teacher and the teaching profession in general. According to her, in recent decades a model that gives teachers more autonomy has been adopted. This affects the way in which teachers should be trained; mass training does not work. Public policies must be created around professional development systems and teachers' working conditions, which are key factors that condition the quality of public education.

Finally, Mrs. Magaly Robalino stated that teachers should be at the heart of education policies in the region, since they are not simple transfer instruments, but social actors who execute public policy and who, in addition, face public challenges every day. Teachers must be seen as actors in constant evolution and the profession must be given prestige and identity. This requires important resources and investments.

The main conclusions of this panel were that currently governments need teachers with very different profiles, different from those who were being trained years ago. Latin America is the most unequal region in the world; teachers face very high levels of poverty; high violence rates; patterns of structural discrimination, and other challenges. Therefore, we need inclusive, equitable and quality education for all, as well as models of initial and continuing teacher training.





V. PARALLEL SESSIONS: YOUTH ON THE MOVE: EMPOWERING YOUTH AND CREATING OPPORTUNITIES TO DRIVE CHANGE TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

MODERATOR: **Ms. Lidia Arthur Brito**
Director of the UNESCO Office in Montevideo

PANELISTS: **Mr. Abel Aronátegui**
Youth Representative and Director of Culture of the Municipality
of Colón, Panama

Mr. Aubrey Stewart
Ambassador of Youth, Jamaica

Ms. Sophia Morris
Actress and activist, United States of America

Mr. David Granada
Youth Representative of Comprometidos 2019, Ecuador

Ms. YiYi Sosa
Instagram Influencer, Guatemala

Ms. Suecy Callejas
Minister of Culture of El Salvador

Mr. Alejandro Blancas Alvarado
Director for Latin America of the International Youth
Organization



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Ms. Suecy Callejas opened the panel by sharing the experience of her country, where much of the territory is controlled by rival gangs and where young people between the ages of 15 and 35 are most affected by violence. This leads to communities to disconnecting from each other. In this regard, giving young people a voice and integrating their diverse perspectives into decision-making and planning is critical. Opportunities must be created to turn young people's energy into creative energy.

Mr. Abel Aronátegui insisted on the need to change the idea that young people are merely passive spectators: they have to be considered as powerful agents of change. Innovation plays a crucial role in this mindset shift. The countries of the region have an opportunity in the process of demographic transition: the majority of the population is young; thus, there is an urgent need to invest in the capacity of this sector of the population.

Ms. Sophia Morris, daughter of Stevie Wonder, emphasized the universal language of music and shared her experience in developing a platform dedicated to helping young people

with disabilities. For her, music and art are vehicles for young people to amplify their voices.

Aubrey Stewart and David Granada underscored the urgency of including young people's perspectives in the formulation of public policies, especially with regard to development. Young people will be responsible for fulfilling the 2030 Agenda. Likewise, Ms. YiYi Sosa pointed out that, in 10 years, young people will be performing jobs that do not yet exist, and that now is the time to positively impact the lives of children.

The panel demonstrated that young people value UNESCO as a reliable partner in its role as a intermediary and advocate for their causes, including education for sustainable development; ICTs for development; disaster risk reduction, and climate change. It has been concluded that youth concerns must be mainstreamed into all policy areas, while the establishment of participatory processes for policy-making is essential. UNESCO can help to implement a human rights-based approach that ensures inclusion and is well placed to harness the power of innovation and empower young people.





V. PARALLEL SESSIONS: ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

MODERATOR: **Mr. Julio Carranza**
Director of the UNESCO Office in Guatemala

PANELISTS: **Ms. Melissa Cabrera**
Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the
Organization of American States (OAS), United States

Mr. Íñigo Fernández
Director of Facebook Public Policies for Mexico, Central America
and the Caribbean, Mexico

Ms. Olga Cavalli
Member of the Board of Trustees of International Rights of the
Internet Society, Argentina

Ms. Anabella Rivera
Executive Director of the DEMOS Institute, Guatemala

Dr. Aimeé Vega Montiel
National Autonomous University of Mexico

Ms. Ana Isabel Prera
President of the Esquipulas Foundation

V. PARALLEL SESSIONS: ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Mr. Julio Carranza opened the discussion by pointing out that the current scenario is marked by an advance in ICTs and by the persistence of economic, political and social gaps that hamper the harmonious development of knowledge societies. UNESCO promotes the ethical development of ICTs and the strengthening of freedom of expression.

Ms. Melissa Cabrera added that the Internet enhances freedom of expression and democratic debate by allowing everyone to have a voice in public debate. For the Internet to continue to develop its potential in this sense, it needs to preserve its original architecture: it must be free or neutral, it must be open and it must retain a decentralized structure, with multi-sectoral governance. It is also necessary to move forward on the issues of disinformation, hate speech, and protection of personal data on the Internet.

Ms. Ana Isabel Prera recalled that access to information and freedom of the press are pillars of democracy that are currently being stalked. Although the Internet and communications have strengthened organized civil society, the manipulation of data through algorithms also deserves urgent action if key democratic values are to be re-established. In this regard, it calls on UNESCO to continue to work in defence of education with a critical sense.

Ms. Olga Cavalli also pointed out the benefits of the internet and emphasized some challenges, such as the digital divide, the need for multilingualism, the impact of artificial intelligence in content selection, the protection of privacy, among others.

Mr. Íñigo Fernández was optimistic and insisted that there is a need for public and consensual norms to regulate relations in social networks. This is partly the responsibility of governments and other social actors.

Ms. Anabella Rivera defended the use of the Internet as a tool for the exercise of human rights, but it should promote the full inclusion of all social groups. She also recalled UNESCO's role in promoting spaces for dialogue between academia, civil society, governments, and communicators, among others.

However, as Dr. Aimée Montiel pointed out, a large gender gap persists in terms of access to the Internet, freedom of expression and access to information.

In conclusion, the region still faces important challenges in terms of the use of digital tools. There are significant gaps in access to the Internet, and the use of social networks reflects society's challenges in terms of hate speech, freedom of expression, misinformation and gender inequality, among other issues.





V. PARALLEL SESSIONS: ADDRESSING REGIONAL CHALLENGES ABOUT MIGRATION, VIOLENCE PREVENTION, SOCIAL EXCLUSION, XENOPHOBIA, AND CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR MIGRANTS, REFUGEES, AND RETURNEES

MODERATOR: **Mr. Frédéric Vacheron**
Director of the UNESCO Office in Mexico

PANELISTS: **Ms. Patricia Tappatá Valdez**
Director of the International Center for the Promotion of Human
Rights - UNESCO, Argentina

Ms. Luz Tantaruna
Regional Emergency and Post-crisis Adviser for the Americas,
International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Ms. Ceshia Ubau
Singer and migrant

Mr. Jesús Salas Zuñiga
President of the Organization "Centro Vida Migrante", United
States

Ms. Claudia Uribe
Director of UNESCO's Regional Bureau for Education in Latin
America and the Caribbean

Ms. Bertha Navarro
Film producer, Mexico

V. PARALLEL SESSIONS ADDRESSING REGIONAL CHALLENGES ABOUT MIGRATION, VIOLENCE PREVENTION, SOCIAL EXCLUSION, XENOPHOBIA, AND CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR MIGRANTS, REFUGEES, AND RETURNEES

Before opening the discussion, the audience watched the video of the song Mayahuabá, by young migrant artists from Central America, which was financed by UNESCO San José. In this song they seek to reflect on migration in terms of mourning, separation, abandonment of life projects, resilience and hope. The video led to a discussion on the importance of education to combat xenophobia and social exclusion.

Ms. Claudia Uribe introduced UNESCO's Regional Strategy for Responding to the Situation of People in the Context of Mobility in Latin America and the Caribbean 2019-2021. It includes more than 30 regional strategies to support States in ensuring the right to education of people in the context of mobility and the recognition of studies and skills that allow them to continue their studies and/or work in their occupational areas.

Ms. Claudia Uribe stressed that UNESCO's focus is not on emergency situations, but that it must generate strategies within its mandate to address the phenomenon, and strengthen the link between humanitarian action and long-term development assistance.

Ms. Luz Tantaruna underlined that a current problem is the intensification of violence as a trigger for migration, as well as a problem faced by people on the move.

Mr. Daniel MacGuire recalled that UNHCR leads the Global Compact on Refugees, which educational goals are very similar to those of the UNESCO Strategy, adding that there is a particular need to promote laws that allow refugees access to local schools.

In conclusion, the panelists formulated a series of recommendations for UNESCO's strategic collaboration on the care of migrants, including an emphasis on cities, which is where the problems associated with migration are most experienced; continuing to promote cultural diversity as wealth; and strengthening partnerships with the migrant community through the cultural sector to generate dialogue with otherness.





V. PARALLEL SESSIONS: OPPORTUNITIES TO BUILD A “SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY” IN THE REGION

MODERATOR: **Ms. Pilar Álvarez-Laso**
Director of the UNESCO Office in Port-au-Prince

PANELISTS: **Mr. Peter Thompson**
Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretariat for the Oceans
(by video)

Ms. Ann-Katrien Lescauwat
Director of International Affairs, Flanders Marine Institute,
Belgium

Mr. Gérard Métayer
Coordinating Centre for Maritime Data Observations and
Operations (CODOMAR), Haiti

Mr. Michael Stephen Lawrence
Resident Representative in Haiti of the Caribbean Development
Bank

Mr. Ariel Troisi
President of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
of UNESCO

Ms. Mónica Gamboa
Asociación Costa Rica por Siempre

Mr. Deslorges Dieufort
Cooperation National Commission with UNESCO, Haiti



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V. PARALLEL SESSIONS: OPPORTUNITIES TO BUILD A “SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY” IN THE REGION

In a video message recorded for the event, Mr. Peter Thompson emphasized the challenges of climate change and the need for partnerships and innovation to achieve the SDGs, specifically the Blue Economy.

Ms. Ann-Katrien presented oceanographic and scientific research in the Flemish region and the importance of an observing infrastructure and a unified information and data network. SMEs make a major contribution to this innovation.

Mr Gérard Métayer spoke about the Caribbean Tsunami Prevention Program and called for using the Decade of the Oceans to develop ocean science in the region. To develop a Blue Economy Education program, he requested UNESCO's collaboration.

Mr Michael Stephen Lawrence mentioned that in order to advance in the Blue Economy, funding is key, especially

since the region faces many challenges such as low rates of productivity and competitiveness. He then spoke about the Bank's role in this regard. The Blue Economy in the region, where the aquatic surface is larger than the terrestrial, has great opportunities: aquaculture, tourism, offshore energy, and transport.

Mr. Ariel Troisi explained that a poor management of the Blue economy leads to risks, thus, more information is needed for decision-making.

Ms. Mónica Gamboa concluded by expressing the need for protected areas and scientific research.

The conclusion was that the Blue Economy is a great development opportunity for the region and the realization of the SDGs, but that more research is required.





V. PARALLEL SESSIONS: GENDER IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN - EMPOWERING GIRLS, YOUNG WOMEN AND WOMEN THROUGH SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM DISCIPLINES)

MODERATOR: **Ms. Saadia Sánchez Vegas**
Director of the UNESCO Office in Quito

PANELISTS: **Ms. Graciela Rojas**
President of the STEM Movement and Strategic Coordinator of
"Visión STEM", Mexico

Ms. Ulrike Wahl
Regional Representative for Latin America of the Siemens
Foundation, Chile

Mr. Blas Fernández
Coordinator of the area of Gender, Society and Policies, Latin
American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO-Argentina);

Ms. María Victoria Tignino
Technical Secretary of the SAGA-UNESCO Project, National
Direction of Programs and Projects in the Secretariat of
Government of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation,
Argentina



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V. PARALLEL SESSIONS: GENDER IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN - EMPOWERING GIRLS, YOUNG WOMEN AND WOMEN THROUGH SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM DISCIPLINES)

Ms. Saadia Sánchez Vegas emphasized that the goals of 2030 Agenda demand actions focused on comprehensive training processes centered on critical thinking and innovative skills for a responsible and empowered citizenship, and for that, STEM education has an essential value. She also mentioned the SAGA-STEM initiative and UNESCO's Gender Advancement that aims to analyze and create statistics, indicators and instruments for planning, monitoring and evaluation of gender policies in STEM disciplines.

Ms. Graciela Rojas highlighted STEM's play experiences in teaching, as in the "Crazy Professor" project, and said that the development of skills is crucial to promote the inclusion of women in the labor market. She added that it is essential to generate STEM competences from an early age to ensure the generation of competences throughout life.

Ms. Ulrike Wahl presented the Siemens Foundation actions in the field of STEM with a gender perspective.

Mr. Blas Fernández spoke about the experience and actions of the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences with UNESCO on gender issues and STEM, specifically on the TeachHer Central America program. STEM education with a gender focus should be supported in order to improve the quality and

relevance of knowledge creation and to incorporate female talent.

Mrs. María Victoria Tignino presented the results of a diagnosis within the framework of the SAGA project: although more than half of the research staff are women, only a few have high positions, which is also reflected in wage inequality.

The panel ended with questions from the public on how to address gender inequality in technology and on UNESCO's SAGA project, especially on lessons learned and inputs.

It was concluded that the drive towards the effective implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs requires relevant and quality education for all throughout life. A clear gender perspective is required to generate equality in opportunities of access and retention in the educational process, placing a focus on STEM disciplines to promote increased employability of girls and women in the platforms of the digital ecosystem and in the 4th Industrial Revolution. Furthermore, the demystification of the STEM theme and its relationship to gender-related skills/competences requires the elimination of cultural bias, which places young women at a disadvantage in terms of development opportunities in a STEM career.





VI. INFORMATION SESSIONS: WHAT IS UNESCO?

MODERATOR: **Mr. Mohamed Djelid**
UNESCO Bureau of Strategic Planning

PANELISTS: **Mr. Jorge Arosemena**
President of the City of Knowledge Foundation, Panama

Mr. Anthony Ponsford
Director/Manager of L'Oréal Centro America, Panama

Ms. Sylvie Durán
Minister of Culture, Costa Rica

Ms. Otilia Lux
Former Minister of Culture and Sports, Guatemala

Mr. Xing Qu
Deputy Director-General, UNESCO

Mr. Joan Borrell Mayeur
Responsible for Cultural Affairs, Embassy of Spain, Panama



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VI. INFORMATION SESSIONS: WHAT IS UNESCO?

The panelists discussed the role UNESCO plays for their organizations and respective countries.

Mr. Anthony Ponsford spoke about the collaboration between L'Oréal and UNESCO that began 20 years ago and the global Women in Science program, which brings together scientific institutions and encourages women to conduct scientific research, while promoting gender equality.

Ms. Sylvie Duran underlined the important role of UNESCO in the field of culture, and its great potential to help implement public policies, focusing not only on the cultural economy, but also on the role of citizens.

Mr. Jorge Arosemena presented the City of Knowledge, a place where entrepreneurs, scientists, thinkers, artists, community leaders, government experts, NGOs and international organizations work together to develop initiatives for social change and sustainable development, are a model for other countries, and whose creation was accompanied from the beginning by UNESCO.

Ms. Otilia Lux then stressed the importance of working on the culture of peace and justice and making everyone's voices heard.

Mr. Joan Borrell Mayeur stressed that, for his country, UNESCO is an important partner in the mission to promote

sustainable development and culture that constitute the core of AECID's programs in the region.

Finally, Mr. Xing Qu spoke about the need to transform the Organization due to different challenges, including the financial crisis of the Organization and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. UNESCO wants to be a leader in its fields of competence: education, science, culture, communication and information, and to maintain its role as a laboratory of ideas. He added that UNESCO wishes to be more open to the private sector and to all kinds of non-governmental partners. To achieve these objectives, UNESCO will focus on three pillars: (1) management of organizational culture, to improve accountability in the decision-making process; (2) improvement of operational efficiency through the implementation of three strategies: collaboration, communication and field presence; and (3) creation of a high-level expert group to assist the Organization in exchanging ideas on its future areas of work.

The panel concluded that UNESCO has the capacity to mobilize high-level experts from the private sector, to contribute to debates and to play a key role in supporting the region by bringing together civil society, governments and the private sector





VI. INFORMATION SESSIONS: MODALITIES OF PARTNERSHIPS WITH UNESCO

MODERATOR: **Ms. Jessica Jeavons**
Chief of Section, UNESCO Bureau of Strategic Planning

PANELISTS: **Mr. Carlos Cano**
General Coordinator of the Spanish Agency for International
Development Cooperation (AECID in Panama)

Mr. Guido Rospigliosi
Vice-Minister of Institutional Management, Peru

Ms. Dithny Joan Raton
Former Minister of Culture, Haiti

Marlova Noleto
Director of UNESCO Brasilia



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In this panel, participants presented the different experiences that their institutions and agencies have had in their work with UNESCO.

Mr. Carlos Cano began by reminding the audience that Spain has been a permanent partner of UNESCO in issues such as heritage conservation and teacher training, among others, aimed at the SDG 17. UNESCO and AECID have developed an innovative modality for formulating their joint projects, through joint commissions that gather new initiatives and submit them to the evaluation of AECID's technical offices and, after an evaluation in the field, they are admitted for financing. This allowed AECID to be part of the project since the beginning, which increases the chances of being funded.

For her part, Mrs. Dithny Joan Raton stressed the importance of the work articulated with UNESCO for the attention of emergencies due to natural disasters. In the case of Haiti, following the impact of Hurricane Matthew (2010), UNESCO mobilized technical and financial resources. But she also highlighted cooperation in ecosystem rehabilitation and education for sustainable development, which strengthens Haiti's economic autonomy in building resilience.

Ms. Marlova Noleto then told about the experience of the

“Criança Esperança” program, which was carried out in partnership with the private sector. It was a social mobilization program, an initiative of Globo TV, which included more than 700 NGOs, with the purpose of raising awareness in the population and benefiting young populations from vulnerable sectors of the country (Afrodescendants, indigenous people and girls, especially). It is considered a successful experience because it not only transformed the future of these young people, but also demonstrated that the model of combining experience with the private sector allows for positive results and the promotion of common values.

Finally, Mr. Fernando Berrios shared the experience of his office with the Ministry of Education in Peru. In this country, the joint formulation of projects on the revaluation of the teaching activity was so successful that it has had an important impact, not only on the implementation of public education policies, but also on the relationship and exchange of good practices between UNESCO and State organizations in a broader sense.

In conclusion, the panel demonstrated that there are different modalities in which state entities, private sector, and cooperation agencies can work with UNESCO and obtain very satisfactory results for all parties.





VI. INFORMATION SESSIONS: WHAT IS UNESCO'S IMPACT ON THE REGION?

MODERATOR: **Ms. Magaly Robalino Campos**
Director of the UNESCO Office in Lima

PANELISTS: **Mr. Harold Robinson**
Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System in Panama

Mr. Juan Garay
Head of Cooperation of the European Union Delegation in Cuba

Mr. Miguel J. León
Representative of the Indigenous Community of Totonaca,
Mexico

Ms. Ulrike Wahl
Regional Representative for Latin America of the Siemens
Foundation, Chile



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VI. INFORMATION SESSIONS: WHAT IS UNESCO'S IMPACT ON THE REGION?

Mr Miguel J. León, representative of the Mexican indigenous community Totonca, spoke of UNESCO as an important partner in the conservation and promotion of indigenous heritage and language, the complementarity of 2030 Agenda and the concept of Good Living. Culture is a way of life that requires dialogue between people and their relationship with nature and community, which he thinks is difficult in a capitalist world.

Ms Ulrike Wahl spoke about the collaboration between Siemens Stiftung and UNESCO and STEM education as part of sustainable development that should also include traditional art and knowledge. STEM education can help train critical citizenship. In addition, she mentioned UNESCO's great potential to join forces and propose concrete steps, in regard to Climate Change Education; for example, at COP25.

Mr. Harold Robinson spoke about the importance of culture and heritage for sustainable development, in which everyone

can participate. The knowledge and worldview of indigenous peoples can provide answers on how to generate more well-being. UNESCO can help Panama, for example, in the tourism sector in heritage sites and the education sector and also in the fight against pseudoscience, such as climate sceptics and vaccine resistance.

Mr. Juan Garay highlighted the importance of culture for Cuba's development, which encompasses more than economic progress. He stressed that UNESCO's mandate should be updated in the face of two major contemporary challenges: climate change and inequality.

The panel concluded that climate change requires joining efforts. UNESCO has a great impact on education and culture, but it also has the great opportunity to work on communication issues to fight the fallacies of scientific knowledge.





VI. INFORMATION SESSIONS: WHAT CAN UNESCO OFFER THE PRIVATE SECTOR?

MODERATOR: **Ms. Marlova Noieto**
Director of the UNESCO Office in Brasilia

PANELISTS: **Mr. Víctor Guédez**
President of the Consultancy in Ethics and Corporate Social
Responsibility (CERSE), Venezuela

Ms. Andreia Rabetim
Manager of Intersectoral Partnerships, Vale Foundation, Brazil

Ms. Ana Paula Brasil
Manager of Social Responsibility, Globo TV, Brazi

Mr. Niels Bosse
Vice President of Human Resources and Organization, Audi
Mexico

Mr. Luis Rossano
Vice President of the Mexico-Germany Business Council, Mexico



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VI. INFORMATION SESSIONS: WHAT CAN UNESCO OFFER THE PRIVATE SECTOR?

Mr. Victor Guédez pointed out that there are no uniform rules regulating corporate social responsibility; for example, there are differences between industrialized and developing countries. In addition, he criticized that some companies see social responsibility projects only as a way to improve their image.

Ms. Andreia Rabetim emphasized UNESCO's role in helping to understand how to use private social investment. She then introduced the concept of "public-private social partnership" and different initiatives in collaboration with UNESCO.

Mr. Luis Rossano stated that companies are increasingly concerned about social responsibility and human rights, as in the field of gender.

Ms. Ana Paula Brasil presented the Criança Esperança Campaign in collaboration with UNESCO, which helps 5 million children have a more inclusive future. The partnership

between UNESCO and Globo TV is also an opportunity to raise public awareness on issues such as human rights and gender equality.

It was concluded that UNESCO brings credibility and accountability to its partners and acts as an impartial mediator through open and qualified dialogues and as a catalyst for cooperation and change. UNESCO assists and inspires its partners to build capacities in their area of expertise.

UNESCO wishes to thank all of its partners for their support to its programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Organization also thanks all of the speakers, moderators and participants who were part of its first-ever Regional Partners Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Offices in the region will follow up on the suggestions and recommendations from the Forum and will build upon the connections made during the event to build new partnerships and strengthen existing ones.



ANNEX I AGENDA

Partnerships4Transformation



2 october 2019

- All day **Arrival of guests**
- 19:00-21:00 **Welcome Reception**
(upon invitation only)
Cancillería de Panamá, Palacio Bolívar, Radio Guardia Room

3 october 2019

- 09:00-09:30 **Inauguration ceremony**
Barcelona 2 Meeting Room
- 09:30-10:45 **Opening Panel: "Strategic Partnerships for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"**
Moderator: Esther Kuisch Laroche, Director of UNESCO Office in San José.
Panelists: Mr. Carlos Cano, General Coordinator, AECID Panama; Mr. Vinicio Cerezo, Secretary General of SICA; Ms. Seynabou Sakho, World Bank Director for Central America; Mr. Miguel J. León, Representative of the Totonaca Indigenous Community, Mexico; Ms. Judy Meana, Deputy Mayor of Panama City; Mr. Elder Súcrite Vargas, Minister of Culture and Sports of Guatemala
Barcelona 2 - Meeting Room
- 10:45-11:15 **Coffee break**
Foyer
- 11:15-12:20 **Plenary Conference "Corporate Social Responsibility and Philanthropy in Latin America and the Caribbean"**
Mr. Victor Guedez, President of CERSE (Consultoría en Ética y Responsabilidad Social Empresarial); **Mr. Marcos Kisil**, President of Institute for the Development of Social Investment (IDIS); **Ms. Lucía García de Polavieja**, Manager of Social and Cultural Projects, Fundación Telefónica, Peru; **Mr. Alan Aicken**, Vice President Procurement & Chief Sustainability Officer Supply Chain, Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd; **Ms. Andrea Somma Genta**, Director of the OMINA Foundation; **Mr. Juan Pablo Morataya**, Executive Director, CentraRSE
Barcelona 2 - Meeting Room
- 12:20-12:30 **Signing of Letter of Intent between UNESCO and Huawei Technologies**
Barcelona 2 - Meeting Room

3 october 2019

- 12:30-14:00 **Lunch Time**
- 14:00-15:45 **Parallel Sessions Culture and Creativity for Sustainable Development**
Moderator: Ms. Katherine Muller Marin, Director of UNESCO Office in Havana.
Panelists: Mr. Carlos Aguilar, Minister of Culture, Panama; Mr. Elias Mujica, Director of Qhapaq Ñan, Ministry of Culture of Peru; Mr. Juan Garay, Chief of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to Cuba; Mr. Lázaro Rodríguez, Creative City for Gastronomy, Municipality of Panama City; Mr. Carlos Arguello, Founder of CA Foundation, Colombia; Mr. Elder Súcrite Vargas, Minister of Culture and Sports of Guatemala
Barcelona 2 - Meeting Room
- 14:00-15:45 **Parallel Sessions Climate Action and Promoting Socio-Environmental Resilience in the Region**
Moderator: Ms. Lidia Artur Brito, Director of UNESCO Office in Montevideo.
Panelists: Ms. Haydee Rodriguez Romero, Vice Minister of Water and Seas, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Costa Rica; Dr. Arturo Domínguez Arosemena, Center for the Integration of Cities and Nature (CINC); Ms. Sonia Yanira Martínez Gómez, Coordinator of Youth Network 'Mundo Vida', UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Apaneca Ilamatepec, El Salvador; Mr. David Wilgenbus, Chief Executive Officer, Office for Climate Education of the Institute Pierre Simon Laplace; Mr. Jorge Luis Acosta, Vice Minister of Environment of Panama
Bellin 2 - Meeting Room
- 14:00-15:45 **Parallel Sessions Ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning to transform the region**
Moderator: Ms. Claudia Uribe Salazar, Director of UNESCO Office in Santiago.
Panelists: Mr. Carlos Staff, Executive Secretary, CECC/SICA; Ms. Krushenka Reyes, General Manager for Education, Microsoft; Mr. Alan Aicken, Vice President Procurement & Chief Sustainability Officer Supply Chain, Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd; Ms. Rita Almeida, Central American Human Development Program Leader, World Bank Group. Manager of the



3 October 2019

Education Program and NGO Relations, AECID; Mr. José Moreno Cámbara, Viceminister of Education of Guatemala.

Barcelona 4 - Meeting Room

14:00-15:45 **Information Session**
What Is UNESCO?

Moderator: Mr. Mohamed Djelid, Deputy Director of the Bureau of Strategic Planning, UNESCO.

Panelists: Mr. Jorge Arosemena, President, City of Knowledge Foundation; Mr. Anthony Ponsford, Managing Director L'Oréal Central America; Ms. Sylvie Durán, Minister of Culture of Costa Rica; Ms. Otilia Lux, Former Minister of Culture and Sports of Guatemala; Mr. Xing Qu, Deputy Director-General of UNESCO; Mr. Joan Borrell Mayeur, Chargé of Cultural Affairs, Spanish Embassy in Panama.

Berlin 1 - Meeting Room

15:45-16:15 **Coffee break**

Foyer

16:15-18:00 **Parallel networking dialogues according to pre-arranged appointments.**

Barcelona 3 - Meeting Room

16:15-18:00 **Information Session**
UNESCO Partnership Modalities

Moderator: Ms. Jessica Jeavons, Chief of Section, Bureau of Strategic Planning, UNESCO.

Panelists: Mr. Carlos Cano, General Coordinator, AECID Panama; Mr. Deslorges Dieufort, Haiti National Commission for UNESCO

Barcelona 2 - Meeting Room

16:15-18:00 **Education side meeting:**
Focus on Teacher Professional Development

Moderator: Ms. Gabriela Martini, Director of Continuous Professional Development Center of the University of Chile.

Panelists: Mr. Carlos Vargas Tamez, Chief, Unit on Teacher Development, UNESCO Santiago; Ms. Magaly Robalino, Director, UNESCO Lima; Ms. Cecilia Martins, Senior Education Specialist of the Department of Human Development and Education of the Organization of American States.

Berlin 1 - 2 - Meeting Room

18:00 **End of day I**

Barcelona 2 - Meeting Room

3 October 2019

19:30 **Dinner** (Upon invitation only)

Miraflores Panama Canal

4 October 2019

08:30-08:45 **Opening session**

Barcelona 2 - Meeting Room

08:45-10:15 **Plenary panel discussion:**
"Youth in Motion- Empowering Youth and Building Opportunities to Drive Change for Sustainable Development"

Moderator: Ms. Lidia Artur Brito, Director of UNESCO Office in Montevideo.

Panelists: Mr. Abel Aronátegui, Youth Representative, Director of Culture in Municipality of Colón, Panama; Mr. Aubrey Stewart, Youth Ambassador (Jamaica); Ms. Sophia Morris, actress and musician; Mr. David Granada, Youth Representative, Comprometidos 2019 (Ecuador); Ms. Yiyi Sosa, Instagram influencer, Guatemala; Ms. Suecy Callejas, Minister of Culture of El Salvador; Ms. Alejandra Saenz, Deputy Director of Institutional Relations of the International Youth Organization for Ibero-America.

Barcelona 2 - Meeting Room

10:15-10:45 **Coffee break**

Foyer

10:45-12:15 **Plenary panel discussion:**
"Access to Information and Freedom of Expression"

Moderator: Mr. Julio Carranza, Director of UNESCO Office in Guatemala City.

Panelists: Ms. Melissa Cabrera, Office of the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the OAS; Mr. Iñigo Fernández, Public Policy Director for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, Facebook; Ms. Olga Cavalli, Member of Board of Trustees of Internet Society; Ms. Anabella Rivera, Executive Director, DEMOS Institute; Dr. Aimeé Vega Montiel, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; Ms. Ana Isabel Prera, President of the Foundation Esquipulas.

Barcelona 2 - Meeting Room

12:15-12:30 **Cultural performance**

Barcelona 2 - Meeting Room

12:30-14:00 **Lunch Time**

14:00-15:30 **Parallel Sessions:**
Addressing Regional Challenges around Migration - Prevention of Violence, Social Exclusion and Xenophobia, and Creating

4 October 2019

Opportunities for Migrants, Refugees and Returnees.

Moderator: Frédéric Vacheron, Director of UNESCO Office in Mexico City.

Panelists: Ms. Patricia Tappatá Valdez, Director International Center for the Promotion of Human Rights; Ms. Luz Tantaruna, Regional Advisor for Emergencies and Post Crisis for the Americas, IOM; Ms. Ceshia Ubau, singer and migrant; Mr. Jesus Salas Zuñiga, President of Organization "Centro Vida Migrante"; Ms. Claudia Uribe, Director of UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education in Latin America and the Caribbean; Sra. Bertha Navarro, Film Producer; Mr. Daniel Macquire, Regional Protection Officer, UNHCR.

Berlin 1 - 2 - Meeting Room

14:00-15:30 **Parallel Sessions**
Opportunities for Building a 'Sustainable Blue Economy' in the Region..

Moderator: Ms. Pilar Alvarez-Laso, Director of UNESCO Office in Port-au-Prince.

Panelists: Mr. Peter Thompson, UNSG Special Envoy for the Ocean; Senator, Ms. Ann-Katrien Lescrauwaet, Director of International Relations, Flanders Marine Institute; Mr. Gérard Métayer, Coordinator Center for Observations and Operations on Maritime Data (CODOMAR), Haiti; Mr. Michael Stephen Lawrence, Resident Representative in Haiti of the Caribbean Bank of Development (BCD); Dr. Ariel Troisi, Chair IOC-UNESCO; Ms. Mónica Gamboa, Asociación Costa Rica por Siempre; Mr. Deslorges Dieufort, Haiti National Commission for UNESCO

Barcelona 4 - Meeting Room

14:00-15:30 **Information Session:**
"How is UNESCO Making an Impact in the Region?"

Moderator: Ms. Magaly Robalino Campos, Director of UNESCO Office in Lima.

Panelists: Mr. Harold Robinson, UN Resident Coordinator in Panama; Mr. Juan Garay, Chief of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to Cuba; Mr. Miguel J. León, Representative of the Totonaca Indigenous Community, Mexico; Ms. Ulrike Wahl, Representative of the Regional Office of the Siemens Foundation in Latin America.

Barcelona 2 - Meeting Room

15:30-16:00 **Coffee Break**

Foyer

16:00-18:00 **Parallel Sessions:**
"Networking dialogues according to pre-arranged appointments"

Barcelona 3 - Meeting Room

4 October 2019

16:00-18:00 **Information session:**
"What Can UNESCO Offer the Private Sector?"

Moderator: Ms. Marlova Noletto, Director of UNESCO Office in Brasília.

Panelists: Mr. Victor Guedez, President of CERSE (Consultoría en Ética y Responsabilidad Social Empresarial); Ms. Andreia Rabetim, Intersectorial Partnerships Manager, Vale Foundation; Ms. Ana Paula Brasil, Social Responsibility Manager, Globo TV; Mr. Luis Rossano, Vice President of Mexico-Germany Business Council.

Barcelona 2 - Meeting Room

16:00-18:00 **Gender in Latin America and the Caribbean- Empowering girls and women through Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.**

Moderator: Ms. Saadia Sanchez Vegas, Director of UNESCO Office in Quito.

Panelists: Ms. Graciela Rojas, President of the STEM Movement and Strategic Coordinator of Vision STEM, Mexico; Ms. Ulrike Wahl, Representative of the Regional Office of the Siemens Foundation in Latin America; Mr. Blas Fernandez, Coordinator, Gender Society and Policies Area, FLACSO; Ms. María Victoria Tignino, Technical Secretary of the SAGA Project in Argentina.

Berlin 1 - 2 - Salon

18:00 **Closing session followed by a concert of the group Tuirá (Panama)**

Closing remarks by Mr. Mohamed Djelid, Deputy Director of Bureau of Strategic Planning, UNESCO.

Barcelona 2 - Salon

5 October 2019

18:00 **Side event: Screening of movie "Sonora" in Alianza Francesa Panamá, followed by discussion with producer Bertha Navarro and film director Alejandro Springall**

(Event open to the general public).

Callie-4 con Avnilda Justo Arosemena, Edificio Casa Blanca, Bella Vista, Panama City.



ANNEX II

GENERAL INFORMATION



WHY A PARTNERS FORUM?

This event is a major opportunity to foster partnerships in the launching of sustainable development projects and fundamental actions for peace in Latin America and the Caribbean.

At the heart of this initiative, we focus on specific themes of importance to the region: Culture & Creativity for Sustainable Development; Climate Action and Promoting Socio-Environmental Resilience; Partnering for More Inclusive, Equitable and Quality Education; Empowering Youth and Building Opportunities to Drive Change for Sustainable Development; Addressing Regional Challenges around Migration; and Opportunities for Building a Sustainable Blue Economy.

BECAUSE WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER

The Partners' Forum supports the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

The Partners' Forum aims to bring together all partners who support and defend the ideals of UNESCO: Private and public enterprises, Member States, development agencies, development banks, philanthropic foundations, regional economic communities, international organizations, academia and civil society.

The diversity of partners underlines the extent of our regional commitment to peace and sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Forum intends to demonstrate the importance of strengthening existing partnerships and creating new strategic alliances to reach the SDGs.





UNESCO has identified you as an ideal partner to jointly build sustainable action projects.

This is an invitation to existing and potential partners to engage with **UNESCO** on its ambitious programmes to promote peace and sustainable development through education, the sciences, culture, communication and information.

UNESCO's programmes offer a variety of strong partnership opportunities bringing mutual benefits in areas where the Organization is leader thanks to its expertise and comparative advantage.

Through the testimony of partners, the Partners' Forum will discuss the role and the objectives of the Organization in the fulfilment of 2030 Agenda, as well as concrete cooperation opportunities.

The Forum will also provide ample space for **networking opportunities**, and will include information sessions on how to partner with UNESCO.

The Partners' Forum is an opportunity to engage with UNESCO on flagship projects with already recognized impact.

To jointly build with UNESCO, and to benefit from its influence, expertise and its international prestige and visibility.

To highlight your commitment and your actions through widespread media coverage.

WHEN?

3 - 4, October 2019
Hotel Riu Plaza
Panama City, Panama

REGISTRATION

www.ForoUnescoLAC.com

INFO

Info@ForoUnescoLAC.com

ANNEX III LIST OF PARTICIPANTS



LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Aguilar Carlos	Minister of Cultura	Ministerio de Cultura	Panama
Aguirre Angie	Jefa de RSE, Servicio al Cliente y Comunicaciones Corporativas	La Casa de las Baterías	Panama
Aicken Alan	Vicepresident Procurement & Chief Sustainability	Huawei Technologies	Panamá
Alfaro Cantón Gerardo	Representante de la OPS en Panamá	OPS	Panama
Almeida Rita	Program Leader	World Bank	United States
Álvarez Yamileth	Coordinadora de Programas	Fundación Antonio Tagaropulos	Panama
Álvarez Laso María del Pilar	Representante	UNESCO	Haiti
Anllo Guillermo	Especialista Regional de Programa	UNESCO, Regional Bureau for Sciences in Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina
Arango Blanco Laura	Coordinator of the Colombian National Commission for UNESCO	Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores	Colombia
Arauz Blanca	Directora de Patrimonio Cultural	Instituto Nicaragüense de Cultura	Nicaragua
Arguello Carlos	Fundador de CA Foundation	Fundaca	Colombia
Aronategui Vivies Abel	Director de Cultura	Acaidía de Colón	Panama
Arosemena Jorge	President	City of Knowledge Foundation	Panama
Arrocha María	Director	AROC	Panama
Arroyo Silvia	Professor, Dept. of Art, Faculty of Architecture	Universidad de Panamá	Panama
Arthur Brito Lidia	Regional Director	UNESCO Montevideo	Uruguay
Baca Roberto	President	Soluciones Turísticas Sostenibles STS CR SA	Panama
Banos Selina	Directora de Asuntos Culturales Internacionales	Ministerio de Cultura	Panama
Barbero Fátima	Asistente	UNESCO	Peru
Basile Bruno	Executive Director	Sumarse - Global Compact	Panama
Batista Delva	Secretaria Ejecutiva	Organizacion del Convenio Andres Bello	Panama
Benally Sylvia	Directora	Alianza Francesa Panamá	Panama
Benjamín Rimaud	Sustainability	ECOM Trading	Costa Rica
Berrios Fernando	National Official	UNESCO	Peru
Best Urenna	Director	SENADAP	Panama
Blaisdell Deff	Jefe de Informática	Autoridad de Turismo de Panama	Panama
Brasil Ana Paula	Gerente de Responsabilidad Social	TV Globo	Brazil
Broce Federico	Secretaría de la Juventud	Alcaldía de Colón	Panama
Broce Itza	Deputy Director	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Panama
Caamaño Abel	Country Manager	World Bank Group	Panama
Cabrera Melissa	OAS	OAS	United States
Cai Lang		Huawei Technologies Panamá S.A.	Panamá
Calderón Ernesto	Desk Officer	UNESCO	France
Callejas Estrada Suecy Beverly	Ministra de El Salvador	Ministerio	El Salvador
Campbell Richard	Chief, Culture ad Tourism Section	OAS	United States
Cano Carlos	Coordinador General	AECID	Panama



LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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Cantillo Olga	CEO	Bolsa de Valores de Panamá	Panamá	Flores Mora Cynthia	Oficial de Comunicaciones	Grupo Banco Mundial	Costa Rica
Cardoze Berta	Catedrática	Facultad de Arquitectura y Diseño	Panamá	Ford Isabella	Encargada de RSE	Empresas Bern	Panamá
Carles Marú	Presidente	PROESA	Panamá	Freites Lucia	Gerente VAS	BANESCO	Panamá
Carranza Julio	Director	UNESCO	Guatemala	Gamboa Mónica	Marine Program Officer	Asociación Costa Rica por Siempre	Costa Rica
Cartín Zarati	Environmental and Social Manager	Banco Aliado	Panamá	Garay Amores Juan	Jefe de Cooperación	Unión Europea en Cuba	Cuba
Castillo Karina	Directora	Juventud Cultural	Panamá	García de Polavieja María Lucía	Gerente de Proyectos Culturales	Fundación Telefónica del Perú	Peru
Catuy Solmaira	Integrante	Contrapeso	Panamá	González Aimee	Asistente de Mercadeo	MQA Américas	Panamá
Cavalli Olga	Academic Director	South School on Internet Governance	Argentina	González Gloriana	COO	OMINA Foundation	Costa Rica
Celedón Mairelys	Consejera	Embajada de Venezuela en Panama	Venezuela	González Marianela	Programme officer	WFP	Panamá
Cerezo Vinicio	Secretario General	SICA	El Salvador	González de Mena Ricardo	Director Ejecutivo	Fundación VerdeAzul	Panamá
Chacón de Castro Leslie	Public Relations and Marketing Director	Bern Hotels & Resorts	Panamá	Gordón Tania	Técnico	Convenio Andrés Bello	Panamá
Chavarría Cristina	Técnica de Educación	UNESCO Guatemala	Guatemala	Gos Tatiana	International Consultant	Independent	Panamá
Chen Mirna	Teacher, Heritage Management and Conservation	Universidad de Panamá	Panamá	Granda Indira	Researcher	Red de Planificadores Educativos de Latinoamérica	Venezuela
Chen Yue		Huawei Technologies Panamá S.A.	Panamá	Granda Álvarez David Gabriel	Speaker	UNESCO	Ecuador
Chichaco Anayansi	National Museum Coordinator	Ministry of Culture	Panamá	Green Ulises	Independientemente	Los Imparables	Panamá
Chong Zoraida	Directora de Desarrollo Empresarial	Sumarse	Panamá	Grenald Demetrio	Jefe Departamento Asuntos Comunitarios	Alcaldía de Panamá	Panamá
Coelho Beatriz	Executive Officer	UNESCO Brasilia Office	Brazil	Grusis Graell María Luisa	Directora de RSE y Comunicaciones	Promed	Panamá
Criado Juan	Natural Science Naional Profgramme Officer	UNESCO	Costa Rica	Guaragna Roberta	Legal Officer	UNESCO	Brazil
Custode	Education in Emergency Specialist	UNICEF	Panamá	Guedez Víctor	Presidente	CERSE	Venezuela
Dada Sánchez Héctor Miguel Antonio	Director de la Oficina Subregional para México, el Caribe y Centroamérica	Secretaria General Iberoamericana	Mexico	Guillén Denise	Sub Administradora General	Autoridad de Turismo	Panamá
De Castillo Celmira	Oficial del Capital Humano	Productos Toledano	Panamá	Gutiérrez Cortés Carlos Alberto	Director Académico	Universidad Santander	Panamá
de Vengoechea Camila	Manager	Morgan & Morgan	Panamá	Heckler Serena	Especialista de Programa, Ciencias Ecológicas y de la Tierra	UNESCO	Uruguay
Diaz Chen Querube	Independiente	Particular	Panamá	Henriquez Carlos	Coordinador LLECE	UNESCO Santiago	Chile
Djelid Mohamed	Deputy Director of Bureau of Strategic Planning	UNESCO	France	Hernández Ayxa	HR Director Central America and Caribbean Region	3M	Panamá
Dominici-Arosemena Arturo	Directive Member-Resilience and Ecosystems	Center for the Integration of Cities and Nature (CINC)	Panamá	Hernández Lía	Directora Ejecutiva	IPANDETEC	Panamá
Duque Juan	Consultant	UN Environment	Panamá	Herrera Emanuel	Voluntario	Contrapeso	Panamá
Durán Sylvie	Ministra de Cultura	Ministerio de Cultura	Costa Rica	Herrera Jhasmeiry	Counter Analyst	Maersk Line - Sealand	Panamá
Echevers Delia	Director	Résonance Studios	Panamá	Herrera Carolina		Huawei Technologies Panamá S.A.	Panamá
Edwards Sergio	Voluntario	ContraPeso	Panamá	Hollander Astrid	Education Programme Specialist	UNESCO	Costa Rica
Escudero Gerardo		IICA	Panamá	Hoquee Tania	Recursos Humanos	Grainger Panama Services	Panamá
Espada Zariel	Coordinador	ContraPeso	Panamá	Iglesias Laura	Associate Executive Officer	UNESCO Mexico	Mexico
Espinoza Jessica	Product Policy Associate	Facebook	Mexico	Iraheta Icela	Consejera	Embajada de El Salvador en Panamá	El Salvador
Espinoza Rodrigo	Specialist Consultant	UNESCO	Guatemala	Jeavons Jessica	Unesco	UNESCO	France
Fabrega José	Director CIHH	UTP GWP	Panamá	Jiménez Rafael	Oficial de RSE	ASSA	Panamá
Feng Weixiong	LATAM VP	Huawei Technologies Panamá S.A.	Panamá	Joseph Jerome	Chargé d'Affaires a.i.	Embassy of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in Panama City, Panama	Trinidad & Tobago
Fernández Alex	Employee Engagement	Johnson & Johnson	Panamá	Jovane Lissy	Directora Ejecutiva	Fundación Antonio Tagaropulos	Panamá
Fernández Blas	Coordinator Gender Area	FLACSO Argentina	Argentina				
Fernández Iñigo	North Cone Public Policy Director	Facebook	Mexico				



LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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Kantule Braulio	Subdirector de los Pueblos Indigenas	Alcaldía de Panamá	Panama	Montenegro Delis	Communicaction Coordinator	IPANDETEC	Panama
Kasman Romina	Programme Specialist	UNESCO	Chile	Montenegro Irving	Officer of Corporate Social Responsibility	Ricardo Perez, S.A.	Panama
Kisil Marcos	Senior Advisor	Fundação José Luiz Egydio Setubal-FJLES	Brazil	Montesano Marisa	Director	Convenio Andrés Bello	Panama
Kuisch Laroche Esther	Directora y Representante	UNESCO	Costa Rica	Morales Andrés	Especialista Regional Ciencias Sociales y Humanas	UNESCO	Uruguay
Lawrence Michael Stephen	Country Representative, Haiti	Caribbean Development Bank	Haiti	Morataya Juan Pablo	Executive Director	CentraRSE	Guatemala
León Miguel Juan	Director de Gestiones CAI	Centro de las Artes Indigenas	Mexico	Moreno Cámbara José	Viceministro de Educación	Ministerio de Educación	Guatemala
Lesrauwaet Anne-Cathérine	Director International Relations	Flanders Marine Institute	Belgium	Morris Sophia	Activist and Musician	IWonder	United States
Lezcano Stephanie	Directora Ejecutiva	Fundación Calicanto	Panamá	Mujica Elías	Director General Qhapaq Ñan Project	Ministry of Culture	Peru
Liesbrock Philipp	Consul, Cultural and Press Officer	German Embassy in Panama	Germany	Muller Castro Anna Katharine	Director of the UNESCO Office in Havana	UNESCO	Costa Rica
Lima Rodrigo	Advisor to the Cabinet	UNESCO Brasilia Office	Brazil	Munier Caroline	Culture Programme Specialist	UNESCO	France
Linero Baroni Mirta	Archaeology Director	Patronato Panamá Viejo	Panama	Nápoles Rodríguez Elena	Natrional Professional Officer	UNESCO	Cuba
Llach Karen	Public Information UNESCO SJO	UNESCO	Costa Rica	Navarro Bertha	Consultora	PensarTransforma	Mexico
Lochard Jeffrey Clark	SHS Specialist	UNESCO	Haiti	Navarro Yaneth	Social Inclusion and Gender Analyst	IFAD	Panama
Londono Paula Andrea	Gerente Corporate Affairs	Nestlé Centroamérica	Panama	Nestorovic Andrijana	Consultant	UNESCO	Jamaica
Luna Luis	Aftersales Commercial Mgr	Tambor, S.A.	Panama	Neumann Giuliana	Ambassador	Embassy of Canada	Canada
Luna Jaime	Cultura	Ministerio de Cultura	Panama	Nicholls Lilly	Director and Representative	UNESCO Brasilia Office	Brazil
Lux García de Coti Otilia Inés	Ex Ministra de Cultura y Deportes	UNESCO	Guatemala	Noieto Marlova	Community Development & CSR Manager	Manzanillo International Terminal	Panama
Macguire Daniel	Oficina Principal Regional de Protección	Representación Regional ACNUR	Panamá	Norsh Acosta Mario Julio	Secretario Judicial y Notificador	Ministerio de Trabajo	Panama
Maestre Edgar	Program Director for Latin America	OAS / Young Americas Business Trust	Panama	Olave Maricarmen	Jefa del Departamento de Voluntariado	Banco Nacional de Panamá	Panama
Maldonado Lis	Cofundadora	TONIC Latam	Panama	Olmos Mancilla Darcy	Head of Latin America	AIRBUS Urban Air Mobility	France
Marín Elena	Directora Ejecutiva- RSE	4Ever Magic Corporation	Panama	Ordóñez Valenzuela Gloria Lucía	Consultant-Environmental Education, Youth and Climate Neutrality	UN Environment ROLAC	Bolivia
Marquéz Francisco	Jefe Diplomacia Cultural	Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de Panamá	Panama	Orillac Gabriela	Corporate Affairs	Cervecería Barú Panamá	Panama
Martin Milenne	Country Manager	Microsoft	Panama	Orozco Isis	Coordinadora Nacional del Programa Regional sobre Migración	Organizacion Internacional para las Migraciones	Costa Rica
Martin Sánchez Matías		AECID	Dominican Republic	Otero Yill	General Director of International Cooperation	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Panama
Martínez Gómez Sonia Yanira	Coordinadora	Red Juvenil Mundo Vida Reserva de Biosfera Apaneca Ilamatepec	El Salvador	Palicio Paula	Directora	Centro Cultural de España en Panamá	Panama
Martini Gabriela	Directora Centro de Estudios Saberes Docentes	Universidad de Chile	Chile	Perryman Sugery	Vice Presidenta	Los Imparables	Panama
Martins Cecilia	Human Development, Education and Employment	Organization of American States	United States	Piedra Diandra	Analista de Diplomacia Cultural	Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de Panamá	Panama
Meana Judy			Panama	Plazaola Zuleika	Executive Director	COSPAE	Panama
Méndez Markel	Director	Key Consulting	Panama	Ponsford Anthony	General Manager	L'Oréal Central America	Panama
Mendoza María	Consultant	Komunika	Panama	Prera Ana Isabel	Presidenta	Fundación Esquipulas	Guatemala
Mendoza Salazar Justo Pastor	Director	Futbol Sin Fronteras	Nicaragua	Proença Ana Thereza		UNESCO	Brazil
Métayer Gérard	Responsable Tsunami Pour Haiti	SEMANAH	Haiti	Puerta Guerra Vivian	Executive Director	Fundación Colombianitos	Colombia
Micheo César	Asesor Especifico	Ministerio de Cultura y Deportes	Guatemala	Quesada Geasmine	Asesora de Ministro	Ministerio de Cultura	Panama
Middelhoff Jurriaan	Deputy Head of Mission	Netherlands Embassy to Panama	Netherlands	Quijada Fransheska	Program Director	Glasswing International	Panama
Miranda Ricardo	Presidente	Consejo Nacional de la Juventud Ngäbe-Buglé	Panama				
Mondragón Daryelis	Gerente de RRHH	La Casa de las Baterias	Panama				
Montenegro Jorge	Gestor de Proyectos	Contrapeso	Panama				

Quiñonez Irene	Public Policy Manager	Facebook	Mexico	Sosa YiYi	Influencer	Instagram	Guatemala
Rabetim Andreia	Manager	Vale Foundation	Brazil	Soto Eda Ruth	CSR Programs Analyst	Panama Canal	Panama
Rebollon Gabriel	President	Fundación Sangre Panama	Panama	Sousa Mariela	Vice President	Soluciones Turisticas Sostenibles STS CR SA	Panama
Reyes Krushenka	Regional Education Lead	Microsoft	Costa Rica	Staff Carlos	Secretario	CECC-SICA	Costa Rica
Reyes Yuraima	Consejera	Embajada de Venezuela en Panama	Venezuela	Stewart Aubrey	Youth Ambassador/ Queens Young Leaders	UNESCO Jamaica	Jamaica
Rivera Anabella	DEMOS Institute		Panamá	Stewart Felicia	Youth Ambassador	Youth Organization for Upliftment	Jamaica
Rivera Godoy Marta Anabella	Directora Ejecutiva	Instituto Demos	Guatemala	Su Junmin	Director of Enterprise Sales	Huawei Technologies Panamá S.A.	Panama
Robalino Magaly	Representative	UNESCO Lima	Peru	Súchite Elder	Ministro	Ministerio de Cultura y Deportes	Guatemala
Robinson Harold	Residente Coordinator	United Nations	Panama	Sucre Juan Antonio	Senior Consultant	The Image Box	Panama
Rodríguez Carlos	Communications Officer	UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	Panama	Tantaruna Luz	Regional Emergency and Post Crisis Adviser for Americas	International Organization for Migration	Panama
Rodríguez Julio	Gerente Técnico	Conservación Internacional	Panama	Tappatá Valdéz Patricia	Directora	Centro Internacional para la Promoción de los Derechos Humanos	Argentina
Rodríguez Paulina	Partner	Komunika	Panama	Tejeira Giselle	Executive Vicepresident	Banco La Hipotecaria	Panama
Rodríguez Rixel	Analista	Analista de Diplomacia Cultural	Panama	Tejeira Marcela	Directora	Morgan & Morgan	Panama
Rodríguez Oliva Lázaro Israel	Panama Unesco Creative City Coordinator	Municipality of Panama	Panama	Thyme Antonio Ireul Santiago	Gestor Cultural	Fundación ContraPeso	Panama
Rodríguez Romero Haydée	Viceministra de Agua y Mares	MINAE	Costa Rica	Tignino María Victoria	Asesora Experta	Secretaría de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Productiva	Argentina
Rojas Graciela	Presidencia	Movimiento STEM	Mexico	Toro Vladimir	Gestor de Proyectos de Juventud	Secretaría de la Adolescencia y juventud de Colón	Panama
Rossano Luis	Chairman	RPC	Mexico	Troisi Ariel Hernán	Jefe Departamento Oceanografía	Servicio de Hidrografía Naval	Argentina
Sachs-Israel Margarete	Regional Education Advisor	UNICEF	Panama	Ubau Ceshia	Singersongwriter	Independent	Nicaragua
Sáenz Alejandra	Deputy on International Alliance	International Yout Organization for Ibero america OIJ	Colombia	Ubeda Castillo María Elena	Early Childhood Development Specialist	UNICEF	Panama
Sakho Yaye Seynabou	Director for Central America	World Bank Group	Panama	Uribe Claudia	Director	UNESCO Santiago	Chile
Salas Jesús	Orador	Centro Vida Migrante	United States	Vacheron Frédéric	Representative in Mexico	UNESCO	Mexico
Salazar Eyknar	Secretario	CECOMCRO	Panama	Valle Buitrago Aileen	Volunteer	Contra Peso	Panama
Salazar Javier	Director Secretaría de la Juventud	Alcaldía de Colon	Panama	Vargas Carlos	Chief of Unit on Teacher Development	UNESCO Santiago	Chile
Salazar Martinez Indira	Oficial de Programa de Comunicación e Información	UNESCO Quito	Ecuador	Vega Montiel Medley Aimée	Researcher	National Autonomous University of Mexico	Mexico
Salazar Medina Dayanara	Programme Coordinator for Panama	UN Women	Panama	Velásquez Marlon	National Director	Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos	Nicaragua
Salguero Olinda	Jefe de Gabinete	SICA	El Salvador	Velásquez Yamilet	RSE Coordinator	ASSA	Panama
Samayoa Martínez Mariana	Technical Assistant for Education	UNESCO	Guatemala	Venado Emilio	Representante Indígena	Ngobe Buglé	Panama
Samuels Samuel	Director de las Étnias	Alcaldía de Panamá	Panama	Vidal Montserrat	Consultora a cargo del Sector CI en Guatemala	Unesco Guatemala	Guatemala
Sánchez Saadia	Director and Representative	UNESCO	Ecuador	Vidal Karla	Administration and Human Resources Manager	Bolsa de Valores de Panamá	Panama
Sánchez H. Marco E.	Gestor Cultural	Municipio del Distrito de Colón	Panama	Vieira Inés	Community Relations	P&G	Panama
Schjelderup Alexandra	Asesora	Ministerio de Cultura	Panama	Villacis Sonnia	Administradora	Cable & Wireless Panamá	Panama
Scott Hilda	Voluntariado	Fundación Tagaropulos	Panama	Wahl Ulrike	Representante Oficina Regional Latinoamérica	Fundación Internacional Siemens Stiftung	Chile
Segura Jheyson	Gestor Cultural	Fundación Contra-Peso	Panama	Walter Manuel	Cordinador	Asociación Biológica de Panamá	Panama
Segura Kehiry	Embajadora de Juventud ODS	Ministerio de Desarrollo Social	Panama	Wilgenbus David	CEO	Office for Climate Education	France
Sempf Karin	Founder and President	InnovaNation	Panama	Yáñez Yuviany	Ejecutiva de RSE	TVN Media	Panama
Serrano Maira	Senior Legal Counsel	3M	Panama	Zhang Mingqiang		Huawei Technologies Panamá S.A.	Panamá
Shirley Darío	Subdirector de Grupos Afrodescendientes	Alcaldía de Panamá	Panama	Zhao Bo		Huawei Technologies Panamá S.A.	Panamá
Simons Odriel	Gestor	Conciencia Ciudadana	Panama	Zhou Hongyu	LATAM VP	Huawei Technologies Panamá S.A.	Panamá
Somma Andrea	CEO	Omina Foundation	Costa Rica				
Somoza de Burgos Rebeca	Vocal	Iconos Panamá	Panama				



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