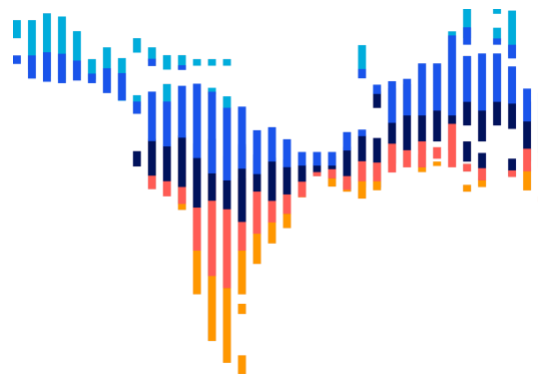


## EU-LAC DIGITAL ALLIANCE HIGH-LEVEL POLICY DIALOGUE ON E-GOVERNANCE

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# Operational takeaways

*The EU-LAC High Level Dialogue on e-governance, held in San José, Costa Rica in May 2024 is a policy dialogue advancing from the conclusions of the 2023 EU-LAC Digital Alliance Days in Cartagena, Colombia. This document outlines actions identified by dialogue participants as valuable opportunities for bi-regional cooperation on e-governance, specifically on cross-border interoperability and electronic identification and digital signatures.*

*As per the [2023 Joint Declaration](#), the EU-LAC Digital Alliance is a voluntary partnership based on shared values and a mutual vision for a human-centered digital transformation and efforts towards bridging digital divides. These operational takeaways, action areas, and joint interventions reflect this vision for the partnership in the e-governance stream.*

*As part of the Global Gateway strategy, the EU-LAC Digital Alliance will work to implement the proposed actions, which constitute the roadmap for the EU-CELAC Summit 2025.*

*These operational takeaways invite the governments and multistakeholder community to cooperate by building on the existing initiatives and identifying new opportunities for joint actions<sup>1</sup>.*



<sup>1</sup> These activities will be carried out within the framework of the EU-LAC Digital Alliance, reflecting the mutual interest to promote collaboration between both regions. It is important to emphasize that these activities are of a non-binding nature, and therefore do not generate any obligations for the LAC countries, nor for the European Union. The only prerequisite to participate in these activities is to be a member of the Digital Alliance. This can be done by adhering to the Joint Declaration on a Digital Alliance.

Cross-border data interoperability		
The overall objective is to increase cross-border data interoperability between the countries and define a joint roadmap for enabling cross-border services.		
Specific objective moving towards the EU-CELAC Summit 2025		Expected results
<b>1. Development of the LAC regional data interoperability framework: technical, legal and engagement elements enabling cross-border services.</b>  <i>The framework shall consist of but not be limited to legal and ethical principles, international standards, common practices, data protection and common technical requirements. This framework should be able to be validated by proof of concepts.</i>		A consensus-based cross-border data interoperability framework is published
Activities	Clarification	Timeline
1a. Map data interoperability related national laws.	Identify and map national and regional laws and public policies that promote or inhibit cross-border data interoperability in the region (incl. data protection and privacy).	July-October
1b. Gather regional good practices for the design and implementation of interoperability strategies. Promote the experiences of LAC countries in the use of cross-border data interoperability platforms and identify minimal requirements for solutions to be implemented or adopted.	Gather and share information on regional good practices and technical tools (such as APIs, software, etc.) to exchange experiences within the region. Identify a portfolio of protocols, standards, tools and good practices in the design and implementation of interoperability strategies in the region. Some LAC countries have already implemented, adapted, or reused some platforms for national data interoperability. It could be the case that some of these implementations do not meet the minimum security and quality requirements to interoperate internationally,	July-October

	therefore, a recommendation from the Digital Alliance would be welcome, also for countries that have not yet implemented any platform.	
1c. Define data interoperability semantics for the LAC region.	Map key terms to clarify their semantics for the LAC region. Establish technical working groups to discuss different interoperability domains (semantics, standards, etc.), and create a glossary of terms that is appropriate for the LAC countries.	October - January
1d. Propose data interoperability standards that ensure the quality, accessibility and security of the managed data and protocols.	Strengthen the activities of the established technical working groups to define technical data interoperability standards and protocols.	October - January
<b>Specific objective moving towards the EU-CELAC Summit 2025</b>		<b>Expected results</b>
<b>2. Strengthen the community that facilitates the cooperation between stakeholders to provide support to the validation of data cross-border interoperability projects; carry out a proof-of-concept project.</b> <i>Reuse and empower existing communities for frequent engagements between LAC countries' representatives to monitor the activities related to data cross-border interoperability. This format will strengthen the partnership between stakeholders - country representatives, regional/subregional organizations and the EU.</i>		Agreement for community facilitation between relevant LAC and EU stakeholders; proof-of-concept project carried out.
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Clarification</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
2a. Identify cross-border pilot use cases from LAC and EU good practices.	Identify cross-border pilot use cases by using good practices from LAC and EU. Awareness-raising events about the EU interoperability experience and large-scale pilots. Identify cross-border use cases by using good practices from the LAC and EU regions.	July - October
2b. Demonstrative interoperability proof of concept/demonstrative projects in the field	Develop a cross-border data interoperability proof-of-concept/demonstrative project in the field of migration (e.g. between countries that use biometric passports). Elements of	September - December

of migration (or alternatively health, driver's licenses, work permits or education).	interoperability on digital identification and electronic signatures may be integrated here, if relevant.	
2c. Promote a regional initiative for digital consent (data access authorization).	Carry out a mapping of initiatives and evaluate the context of what initiatives could be addressed for people to give their digital consent in a regional context.	tbd after July 2025
<b>Specific objective moving towards the EU-CELAC Summit 2025</b>		<b>Expected results</b>
<b>3. Share knowledge and experience on data interoperability between LAC and EU countries.</b> <i>Share know-how, national and regional strengths and needs related to cross-border data interoperability, learn from the experience of the EU and its Member States.</i>		Experiences from EU and LAC are shared through the Community of Practice to Digital Alliance members
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Clarification</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
3a. Design an online training course in the field of interoperability.	Design an online training course on interoperability, considering and covering the mapped and analyzed existing experiences and good practices.	July - November
3b. Conduct the online training course, share knowledge on different frameworks and standards.	Conduct the online training course, making it available via the Community of Practice to the members of the Digital Alliance. Experiences from <a href="#">GovStack</a> Global, <a href="#">EU Standards</a> , <a href="#">DPI Safeguards</a> , <a href="#">RedGEALC</a> Standards for mutual recognition of eID and digital signature, etc. will be among the topics covered by the course.	December - May
3c. Promote strategies for citizen engagement and awareness-raising on digital rights and implications of regional interoperability.	Promote engagement strategies and citizen empowerment to raise awareness of citizen rights, implications, benefits and risks involved in interoperability and interoperability cross-border through the online training courses.	December - May

## Digital identification and electronic signatures

**The overall objective is to develop and implement cross-border trust and interoperability of electronic identification and electronic signatures between the countries.**

### Specific objective moving towards the EU-CELAC Summit 2025

### Expected results

#### 4. Development of the LAC regional cross-border digital identification and electronic signature framework

*A framework that consists of but not be limited to legal and human rights principles, international standards, common practices, and common technical requirements. the framework allows countries to implement the elements to help them to be part of cross-border digital identification initiatives.*

A consensus-based cross-border digital identification and electronic signature framework are published, and conditions for mutual recognition are developed.

Activities	Clarification	Timeline
4a. Identify champions in LAC and EU having experience in cross-border electronic signature and digital identification.	Map experiences and lessons learned.	July - October
4b. Identify and contribute to the development of cross-border digital signature standards and cross-border electronic identification principles.	Identify the standards and principles developed by regional organizations and enrich – when possible – with EU experiences.	September - December
4c. Establish principles for a legal framework for the mutual recognition of digital identification and electronic signature.	Identify the existing opportunities for mutual recognition of digital signature and electronic identification among countries. Development of a draft legal framework.	December - March

4d. Recognition of standards and technologies.	Identify technologies and standards that can be used to ensure the recognition of cross-border digital signature and electronic identification.	March - May
4e. Develop country and regional assessments about capacities and resources to implement cross-border identification and electronic signature projects.	Assessments can provide information about capacities and resources to implement cross-border projects.	tbd after July 2025
<b>Specific objective moving towards the EU-CELAC Summit 2025</b>		<b>Expected results</b>
<p><b>5. Strengthen the community to plan further activities for the development and implementation of a cross-border recognition model for LAC countries.</b></p> <p><i>Countries can join to develop a cross-border recognition model that could work in different subregions. Share know-how and handle national interests in cross-border digital identification and electronic signature.</i></p>		<p>Agreements between countries to share experiences and tools for digital identification and electronic signature initiatives.</p> <p>Agreements between EU and LAC organizations to share know-how to support countries.</p>
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Clarification</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
5a. Establish or strengthen working groups on digital identification and electronic signatures to discuss legal principles, international standards, common practices, and common technical requirements.	Working groups to share and discuss legal principles, international standards, common practices, and common technical requirements. Agreements to share know-how between countries and EU-LAC regional organizations.	October - March
5b. Demonstrative proof of concept/demonstrative projects on digital identification and electronic signatures: migration/health.	Develop cross-border electronic identification and digital signature proof of concept/demonstrative projects in areas for the region: migration (for example between countries that use biometric passports), one-stop-window process in customs.	tbd after July 2025

	This may be partly integrated into the interoperability proof of concept (see section 2b).	
<b>Specific objective moving towards the EU-CELAC Summit 2025</b>		<b>Expected results</b>
<b>6. Share knowledge and experience on digital identification and electronic signatures between LAC and EU countries.</b> <i>Share know-how, national and regional strengths and needs related to cross-border data interoperability, learn from the experience of the EU and its Member States.</i>		Experiences from EU and LAC are shared through the Community of Practice to Digital Alliance members
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Clarification</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
6a. Share EU experiences regarding cross-border electronic identification and digital signature, and the related projects in the EU.	Share EU experiences and risk management good practices via the Community of Practice to the Digital Alliance members. This includes experiences related to cross-border electronic identification and digital signature projects in the EU, also touching upon business models of cross-border digital identification and electronic signature, human rights, digital divide, and tech issues.	January - May
6b. Build technical capacity and awareness among stakeholders in digital identification and electronic signature.	Train technical teams in technologies, regional initiatives impact and experiences from EU-LAC in digital identification and electronic signature. Promote mechanisms for knowledge sharing and experience exchange after training sessions.	tbd after July 2025



# ANNEX A

*Interest of countries in each activity, as expressed after the Costa Rica policy dialogue.*

Specific objectives moving towards the EU-CELAC Summit 2025	Activities	Countries
<b>1. Development of the LAC regional data interoperability framework: technical, legal and engagement elements enabling cross-border services.</b>	1a. Map data interoperability related national laws.	Barbados, Dominica
	1b. Gather regional good practices for the design and implementation of interoperability strategies. Promote the experiences of LAC countries in the use of cross-border data interoperability platforms and identify minimal requirements for solutions to be implemented or adopted.	The Bahamas, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Grenada, Guatemala, Peru, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago
	1c. Define data interoperability semantics for the LAC region.	Belize, Chile, Dominican Republic
	1d. Propose data interoperability standards that ensure the quality, accessibility and security of the managed data and protocols.	Chile
<b>2. Strengthen the community that facilitates the cooperation between stakeholders to provide support to the validation of data cross-border interoperability projects; carry out a proof-of-concept project.</b>	2a. Identify cross-border pilot use cases from LAC and EU good practices.	Costa Rica, Jamaica, Andean Community
	2b. Demonstrative interoperability proof of concept/demonstrative projects in the field of migration (or alternatively health, driver's licenses, work permits or education).	The Bahamas, Belize, Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominica, Grenada, Guatemala, Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Andean Community
	2c. Promote a regional initiative for digital consent (data access authorization)	Uruguay
<b>3. Share knowledge and experience on data interoperability between LAC and EU countries.</b>	3a. Design an online training course in the field of interoperability.	The Bahamas, Barbados, Costa Rica, Dominica, Guatemala, Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Andean Community





	3b. Conduct the online training course, share knowledge on different frameworks and standards.	The Bahamas, Barbados, Costa Rica, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Andean Community
	3c. Promote strategies for citizen engagement and awareness-raising on digital rights and implications of regional interoperability.	Uruguay
<b>4. Development of the LAC regional cross-border digital identification and electronic signature framework.</b>	4a. Identify champions in LAC and EU having experience in cross-border electronic signature and digital identification.	Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Peru, Uruguay, Andean Community
	4b. Identify and contribute to the development of cross-border digital signature standards and cross-border electronic identification principles.	Argentina, Costa Rica, Andean Community
	4c. Establish principles for a legal framework for the mutual recognition of digital identification and electronic signature	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Honduras, Peru
	4d. Recognition of standards and technologies.	Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Andean Community
	4e. Develop country and regional assessments about capacities and resources to implement cross-border identification and electronic signature projects.	Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Peru
<b>5. Strengthen the community to plan further activities for the development and implementation of a cross-border recognition model for LAC countries.</b>	5a. Establish or strengthen working groups in digital identification and electronic signature to discuss legal principles, international standards, common practices, and common technical requirements.	Argentina, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Jamaica, Uruguay, Andean Community
	5b. Demonstrative proof of concept/demonstrative projects in shared web services: migration/health.	Costa Rica, Chile, Andean Community
<b>6. Share knowledge and experience on digital identification and electronic signatures between LAC and EU countries.</b>	6a. Knowledge transfer from the EU regarding the cross-border projects in the EU, in topics such as cybersecurity, data protection, digital gap and tech issues.	Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Andean Community
	6b. Build technical capacity and awareness among stakeholders in digital identification and electronic signature.	Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Uruguay, Andean Community

