EU-LAC DIGITAL ALLIANCE HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL DIALOGUE ON AI

Santiago de Chile, November 5-6, 2024



Operational takeaways on AI

Introduction and context

The second EU-LAC High-Level Political Dialogue on AI, held in Santiago de Chile, on November 5-6, 2024, brought together government officials, representatives of the private sector, civil society and academia from Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe.

The dialogue focused on: Al governance, strategies, and practical uses, HPC and Al infrastructure, the development of LLMs in languages other than English and regulatory sandboxes. Countries in LAC and the EU shared their experiences, highlighting challenges and expectations, collaborated to reach common takeaways, and formulated specific and feasible EU-LAC cooperation activities and initiatives in the field of Al and HPC.

Aligned with the objectives of the EU-LAC Digital Alliance and the Global Gateway strategy, this document reflects the perspectives and priorities of all the representatives involved. It contains the proposals and recommendations collected during the EU-LAC High-Level Political Dialogue on AI held in Cartagena de Indias in November 2023, the first EU-LAC policy dialogue on AI held in Montevideo in March 2024, and the EU-LAC policy dialogue on AI held in Santiago de Chile in November 2024.

The implementation of these activities will be coordinated with ECLAC and their work on AI and the D4DHub.

Countries and stakeholders contributed to these takeaways by providing comments and suggestions on the initiatives identified, exchanging views on the expected scope and results, as well as the challenges in carrying them forward¹. This process of dialogue and feedback ensures that the operational takeaways reflect the perspectives and priorities of all parties involved.

¹ These operational takeaways include inputs from the following civil society organisations: *Cooperativa Sula Batsú*, *Electronic Frontier Foundation*, *TEDIC*, *Wikimedia Foundation*, *YouthLACIGF*, *Derechos Digitales and Access Now*. CSOs are welcomed to participate in the activities identified in this document.







These findings constitute an invitation to governments and the multi-stakeholder community to cooperate by building on existing initiatives, avoiding duplication of existing efforts and identifying new opportunities for joint action in the field of AI and HPC².

About the EU-LAC Digital Alliance

The 2023 <u>Joint Declaration on a Digital Alliance</u> was adopted by 20 Heads of Government and State from Latin America and the Caribbean³, the European Union and its 27 Member States. The EU-LAC Digital Alliance is a voluntary partnership based on shared values and a mutual vision for a human-centred digital transformation and efforts to reduce digital divides. As part of the Global Gateway Investment Agenda, the EU-LAC Digital Alliance mobilises resources to ensure that the proposed actions constitute the roadmap towards the 2025 CELAC-EU Summit.

² 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.

³ The 2023 Joint Declaration on a Digital Alliance was adopted by 20 LAC countries in the margins of the EU-CELAC Summit in 2023: Argentina, The Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay. In 2024, Belize, Guyana and Grenada joined the Digital Alliance as additional members.

Component	Possible activities Activities will be detailed, numbered and linked to the corresponding objectives in the final post-dialogue operational conclusions document.	Explanation of the activity	Countries interested in the activity	International Organisat ons interested in the activity
1.1 Support Al governance efforts in the region	Continue the ongoing dialogue with experts from both regions to share experiences and lessons learned on AI governance.	 Organise regular policy dialogues on AI under the EU-LAC Digital Alliance to build a technical community of AI policy makers. Ensure coordination and synergies of these dialogues with other AI governance efforts in both regions (including ECLAC, D4D Hub, UNESCO, CAF, OECD, G7 among others), including a particular focus on the Caribbean. 	Belize Brazil (MGI and MCTI) Dominican Republic (OGTIC/INDOTEL) Guatemala Jamaica Paraguay Peru Slovenia Spain (AECID, FIIAPP) Suriname Trinidad and Tobago Uruguay	ASIET

Facilitation of technical assistance in Al regulatory matters	•	Set-up of a technical assistance to support LAC countries in the drafting of their AI national regulations.	Brazil (MGI) Dominican Republic (OGTIC) Grenada Jamaica Paraguay Slovenia Spain (SEDIA) Trinidad and Tobago Uruguay	
Triangular cooperation	•	Explore opportunities for triangular cooperation on AI policies, fostering collaboration among different countries in the region.	Belize Brazil (MGI and MCTI) Dominican Republic (OGTIC, INDOTEL, Vice- Ministry of Innovation of the MAP) Guatemala Jamaica Paraguay Spain Trinidad and Tobago Uruguay	ECLAC SCALAC members ⁴
Capacity building and workshops with civil servants	•	Practical workshops to ensure indepth understanding of the EU AI Act, in addition to national	Belize Brazil (MGI) Dominican Republic	SCALAC members

⁴ SCALAC Members are: Argentina (UBA and UNC-CECAD), Brazil (LNCC, SINAPAD and UFRGS), Chile (NLHPC), Colombia (UniAndes, SC3UIS, LaRedCCA (RENATA)), Costa Rica (CENAT-CNCA), Ecuador (UFSQ-Quito, CEDIA), Mexico (UNAM, CINVESTAV, RedMexSu (CUDI), CADS-UDG, Mexico Connect), Uruguay (UNR) and SCALAC/RedCLARA Alliance

	to promote regulatory standards and convergence.	•	regulations approved or at an advanced stage of approval in Latin America and the Caribbean countries. Capacity building and workshop on several topics related to AI. Exchange of experiences and best practices on setting-up Market Surveillance Authorities.	El Salvador (Secretariat of Innovation) Guatemala Jamaica Slovenia Spain (SEDIA) Suriname Trinidad and Tobago Uruguay	
	Capacity Building for Citizens	•	Establish and support Initiatives to promote Al/digital, media and information literacy for building the capacity of individuals (as consumer/user/innovator) to maximise benefits of Al for socioeconomic transformation at grassroots level.	Belize Dominican Republic (INDOTEL, OCTIC) Paraguay Jamaica	
1.2 Al Observatories and indexes	Support the enlargement of the scope of the OECD Observatory of AI	•	Improve the documentation and monitoring of AI incidents to cover a wider geographic scope in the region. Incorporate CSO inputs to these indexes.	Belize Brazil (MGI, MCTI and CETIC/CGI) Chile (NLHPC) Slovenia Spain (SEDIA/FIIAPP) Uruguay	SCALAC members
	Support the set-up of ECLAC's Observatory of Digital Development, including with parameters on AI.	•	Enhance the development of the ODD to expand the range of available AI indicators. Incorporate CSO inputs to the ODD.	Belize Brazil (MGI, MCTI and CETIC/CGI) Uruguay	ECLAC SCALAC members RedClara

	Support the development of future versions IA index for Latin America (ILIA) and the dissemination of the methodology.	 Support for the Al Index for Latin America and its promotion within EU and international forums and platforms. Promote the results between regional economies Incorporating CSO inputs to ILIA. 	Brazil (MGI, MCTI and CETIC.br/CGI.br) Chile (NLHPC) Dominican Republic (INDOTEL) Jamaica Paraguay Suriname Uruguay	ECLAC
	Exchange of experiences between AI Observatories.	 Peer-to-peer learning on how to set up national and international Al Observatories. 	Belize Brazil (MGI, MCTI and CETIC.br/CGI.br) Jamaica Suriname Uruguay	SCALAC members RedClara
2. DIGITAL AND COMPUTING INI	FRASTRUCTURE			
2.1 Establish an EU-LAC AI and Supercomputing Network	Organise regular policy dialogues at the national and regional levels to foster investments in HPC infrastructure and encourage the interconnectivity of HPC resources in LAC.	 In alignment with SCALAC, strengthen the AI and HPC ecosystem. Enhance the importance of efficient use of resources in scientific cooperation, paying particular attention to research on energy-efficient infrastructure and methods. 	Argentina Belize Dominican Republic (OGTIC) Jamaica Paraguay Slovenia Spain (SEDIA/FIIAPP) Suriname Trinidad and Tobago Uruguay	SCALAC members

Enhance HPC capacity building and skills to build a robust AI and HPC community in both regions.	 Training events, conferences, workshops that support R&I EU-LAC cooperation activities in the fields of High-Performance Computing (HPC), Artificial Intelligence (AI), and Machine Learning (ML), among others. Organise a yearly HPC and AI school for advanced students and young researchers in LAC countries. Support a mobility programme to encourage researchers' and students' mobility between the EU and LAC to collaborate on research. Find synergies with EU and LAC educational programmes.
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		 Address the gender gap in the HPC communities in the EU and LAC. Capacity-building actions should promote equality by ensuring a fair representation of underrepresented groups in the training. 		
	Develop joint EU-LAC use cases, building on previous experiences of EU projects that promoted shared infrastructures in the region on cloud computing (EELA, EELA-2, GISELA, CHAIN-REDS, EUBrasilCloudFORUM)) and HPC (RISC, HPC4E, ENERXICO, EU-LAC ResInfra and RISC2) over the last two decades.	 Use cases such as research in LLMs, climate modelling and natural hazards prediction, drug discovery, and energy transition (among others). Joint use cases should also benefit from the infrastructure supported by BELLA cable and the Regional Copernicus Centres established Panama and Chile. 	Argentina Dominican Republic (OGTIC, COE, Environment Ministry) Jamaica Spain (SEDIA) Suriname Trinidad and Tobago	SCALAC members RedClara
2.2 Advance towards HPC and Al infrastructures	Workshops and exchanges of experiences on setting up	Exchange of experience drawing on insights from European HPCs	Argentina Dominican Republic (OGTIC)	SCALAC members

	collaborative hard infrastructures.	•	such as LUMI (HPC consortium including ten European countries) and others. Increase the understanding of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking and its nine supercomputers, located across Europe.	El Salvador (Secretariat of Innovation) Guatemala Jamaica Paraguay Slovenia Spain (SEDIA/FIIAPP) Suriname Trinidad and Tobago	
	Study visits to European and LAC HPC centres	•	Facilitate the direct exchange of experiences and knowledge with European and LAC HPC centres.	Argentina Belize Brazil (MCTI) Dominican Republic (OGTIC) Jamaica Paraguay Slovenia Spain (SEDIA) Suriname Trinidad and Tobago	SCALAC members
3. LLMS AND REGULATORY SAND	DBOXES			<u> </u>	
3.1 Enhance the development of LLMs in the region	Support the development of regional LLMs in languages other than English.	•	Support the multilateral effort coordinated to develop a Latin American & Caribbean LLM trough the construction of a local and regional dataset. Setting up pilot projects for LLMs in Spanish, Portuguese,	Belize Brazil (MCTI) Dominican Republic (OGTIC) Spain (SEDIA/FIIAPP) Uruguay	SCALAC members RedClara

		 indigenous and autochthonous languages. Workshops to disseminate the public interest of LLMs in the region. 	
3.2 Enhance EU-LAC cooperation on regulatory sandboxes and testbeds for AI systems	Capacity buildings and workshops on setting up regulatory sandboxes for emerging technologies	methodology on regulatory (INDOT sandboxes in developing Vice-Mi	SCALAC members FIIAPP) ne d and
	Support the development of regulatory sandboxes in Central America	 Implement together with ITU a regulatory sandbox for Central America. Ensure these sandboxes foster innovation in a way that is consistent with existing human rights frameworks in Central America. Belize Guatem Jamaica Spain (Sometimes Spain (Sometimes Surinan Trinidae Tobago America) 	ECLAC ed and