Putting well-being at the heart of policymaking in LAC

7 JULY 2021

16h | 8h | 9h | 10h | 11h

While GDP is the most well-known economic indicator, it can’t tell us everything we need to know about people’s lives and societies. Governments around the world have a strong need for better data on multi-dimensional well-being. In fact, the growing citizen discontent and social outbursts make a clear call to world leaders to rethink their priorities. Policymakers are urged to change their approach in decision making to consider not only income but all the dimensions that affect people’s life. The COVID-19 crisis brings a unique juncture to rethink what we pursue in our societies and to build back better. International cooperation and peer-learning scenarios among countries are crucial to this end.

The European Commission, UN ECLAC and the OECD – including the Centre on Well-being, Inclusion, Sustainability and Equal Opportunity and the Development Centre – have joined forces with countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) to contribute to this change process. These efforts have been brought together in the “Metrics for Policies for Well-being and Sustainable Development in LAC” project. This cooperation aims at fostering the use of multi-dimensional metrics for decision-making and a policymaking approach that looks beyond GDP in the LAC region, as well as more effective development cooperation strategies. Over three years, this project has provided a platform for political and technical dialogue with statisticians, planning ministries, development cooperation agencies and other policy actors from across the region and the world. This project makes a step forward in analysing feasibility and applying the use of indicators in policymaking.

This webinar will be a space to present and discuss country experiences in the policy uses of multi-dimensional tools and well-being frameworks in LAC countries. Its objective is to share the main lessons and current challenges in policymaking to achieve an impact on the well-being of citizens in the context of the Covid-19. The project’s key outputs also include a final publication presenting headline indicators on well-being for the LAC region, a review on policy uses, and key policy messages to improve well-being frameworks in the region. This project is part of the Regional Facility for Development in Transition in LAC of the European Union.
16:00 Opening remarks:
- Romina Boarini, Director of the OECD Centre on Well-being, Inclusion, Sustainability and Equal Opportunity
- Jorge de la Caballería, Head of Unit, South America and Regional Operations, Directorate-General for International Partnerships, European Commission
- Mario Pezzini, Director of the OECD Development Centre
- Mario Cimoli, Deputy Executive Secretary of ECLAC

16:30 Uses of multi-dimensional policy tools and well-being frameworks for decision-making: Challenges and lessons
- Costa Rica’s Multidimensional Poverty Index as a social policy tool, Pilar Garrido Gonzálo, Minister of Planning and Economic Policy - MIDEPLAN
- Chile’s Well-being framework, Alejandra Candia, Undersecretary for Social Evaluation, Ministry of Social Development
- Colombia’s Quality of Life Survey during the COVID-19 crisis, Juan Daniel Oviedo, Director of the National Statistics Office (DANE) and Chair of the SCA-ECLAC
- Mexico’s Well-being Policy Approach, Jaime Miguel Castañeda Salas, Director General for Planning and Analysis, Secretariat for Well-being

Moderated by: Sebastián Nieto Parra, Head of Latin America and the Caribbean, OECD Development Centre

17:20 Wrap-up and next steps:
- Mario Pezzini, Director of the OECD Development Centre