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Gender Equality in Colombia: Access to Justice and Politics at the Local Level

OECD Report Launch
15 July 2020





Gender Equality in Colombia: Access to Justice and Politics at the Local Level Report Launch

Online Meeting

15 July 2020 | 16:00-18:30 hrs Paris time | 9:00-11:30 hrs Bogotá time | Virtual Meeting

BACKGROUND

The Report “**Gender Equality in Colombia: Access to Justice and Politics at the Local Level**” has been prepared by the OECD in close cooperation with the Government of Colombia, under the framework of a four-year project generously funded by the Swedish International Development Agency.

It aims to foster institutional efficiency and sound public governance in Colombia as strategic enablers to sustain inclusive growth for women and bring Colombia closer to the OECD gender equality standards. The aim of the Report is to evaluate current policies and practices in the areas of justice and local politics in Colombia and to determine possible future strategy and policy directions for promoting women’s political participation and women’s access to justice, particularly at subnational levels, with a focus on women who are victims of violence. Its best practices and recommendations offer user-centric approaches to the analysis of access to justice and political participation at subnational levels, including a multidimensional empowerment continuum that combines legal and political empowerment.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

The purpose of this event is to present the Report and encourage discussions both on good practices and lessons learned on these issues in the LAC region, and to discuss strategies to empower women in the new context in relation to access to justice and local politics.

Participants will have an opportunity to:

- Learn about the Report’s recommendations and best practices, which may be of interest for national policy;
- Discuss ongoing and emerging challenges on the area of justice and local politics for women and highlight the needed support for countries to help overcome them;
- Exchange concrete experiences in addressing the implications of the COVID-19 crisis and reflect on the implications for enabling people-centred approaches and maintaining access to justice for all;
- Be informed and provide feedback on the future work of the OECD’s Working Party on Gender Mainstreaming and Governance.

FORMAT OF THE MEETING

The meeting will be held virtually using the Zoom remote conferencing tool available at the OECD, which allows participants to intervene to speak by videoconference (including a chat function or a virtual hand-raising option) and share PPT presentations where appropriate. Simultaneous interpretation from and to Spanish will be available.



AGENDA

16:00 –
16:15

Welcome Remarks

- **Mrs. Margarita Cabello Blanco**, Minister of Justice and Law, Colombia
- **Mr. Adam Ostry**, Head of Public Governance Reviews Unit, and project manager Colombia-OECD-SIDA project on good governance, OECD
- **Mrs. Tatiana Zuñiga**, SIDA project manager

16:15 –
17:00

Session 1. Report Launch

This session will include a presentation of the Report's objectives, findings and recommendations, as well as a consultation for the rest of attending countries in relation to the Toolkit that is being prepared to make the findings easy and accessible to Colombian stakeholders.

- **Mrs. Gheidy Gallo Santos**, Presidential Counsel for Equality for Women in Colombia
- **Mrs. Juanita María López Patrón**, Deputy Minister of Justice of Colombia
- **Mr. Daniel Gómez**, Deputy Director of the Dept. of National Planning and in charge of OECD issues in the Government of Colombia
- **Mrs. Tatyana Teplova**, Head of Division and Senior Counsellor, Justice, Gender & Inclusiveness, OECD
- **Ms. Pinar Guven**, Gender Policy Analyst, OECD

Peer Q&A

17:00 –
18:00

Session 2. Promoting women's access to politics and justice in the context of COVID-19 in the LAC region

Moderated by **Mrs. Alejandra Saffon**.

Kick-off speakers:

- **Mr. Esteban Jaramillo**, Director of the Formal Justice Division of Colombia
- **Mrs. Aura Duarte**, Director of the Women Free of Violence Strategy, Colombia

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- **Mrs. Stefania Doebbel**, Director of Foreign Affairs, Ministry for Women and Equality, & **Mr. Cristián Jara**, Directorate of International Cooperation, Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, Chile
 - **Mrs. Lara Ferguson**, Advisor in the State Secretariat for Gender Equality, Spain
 - **Mrs. Ana Guezmes**, UN Women Representative to Colombia

Tour de table, the floor will be open for interventions.

Session focus:

How to ensure prioritization of women's empowerment agenda from a multi-dimensional perspective during the emergency and recovery periods? What are the tools in that regard to **embed gender equality lens in the urgent decision-making processes**?

What are the current and middle term implications of the crisis for **women's legal and protection needs**? Did the crisis aggravate existing challenges for **women's access to justice at the local level**, and how can such barriers be addressed? How can we ensure that a **survivor-centred justice pathway** for women victims of violence is implemented?

What are the recent examples of policies to promote **political participation of women** and **ending violence against female candidates**? What are the risks and opportunities in the post-crisis recovery?

18:00 –
18:10

Closing remarks and next steps

- **Mr. Adam Ostry**, Head of Public Governance Reviews Unit, and project manager Colombia-OECD-SIDA project on good governance, OECD

