

Briefing Notes 2020

SECTOR NETWORK REDLAC

State and Democracy
in Latin America and the Caribbean

Red Sectorial Estado y Democracia / Sector Network State and Democracy

Table of contents

1. Priority areas and objectives 2020	3
2. Activities and outcomes	3
2.1. Activities and results	3
2.2. Regional conference.....	4
2.3. Evaluation of outcomes	5
3. Cross-sectoral topic	5
3.1. Agenda 2030 (SDGs)	5
3.2. Digitalization	5
3.3. Gender	6
4. Structure and functioning of the Sector Network	6
4.1. Covid-19.....	6
5. Outlook for 2021	6
5.1. Priority areas and objectives 2021	6
5.2. Possible changes and developments 2021	7

1. Priority areas and objectives 2020

The Governance sector network “Estado y Democracia” – “State and Democracy” was coordinated by spokesperson Helge Arends during the year 2020 and is now coordinated by the former responsible of the working group Human Rights and Inclusive State, Jaime Andres Gomez from GIZ Colombia. Priority areas, focus topics and objectives of REDLAC are:

- Sustainable territories and cities
- Digitalization and Governance
- Human Rights and Building an Inclusive State
- Integrity and Transparency

As a result of the REDLAC innovation lab in November 2019 there were 3 main products co-created during 2020 because of the prototypes developed during a 3-day workshop in Mexico City. A digital platform to share best practice about: Security, migration, citizen coexistence, and socio-economic integration in Latin America. A podcast series about “ Human Rights of Cities”. A set of products with the titel “The digital transformation and me” that consists of 3 sub products: Publication with key messages on "Digitalization and Governance", a communication campaign "Let's talk digital" and a checklist on "Digital Ethics" to foster a critical debate within GIZ and its counterparts about digital transformation in the region.

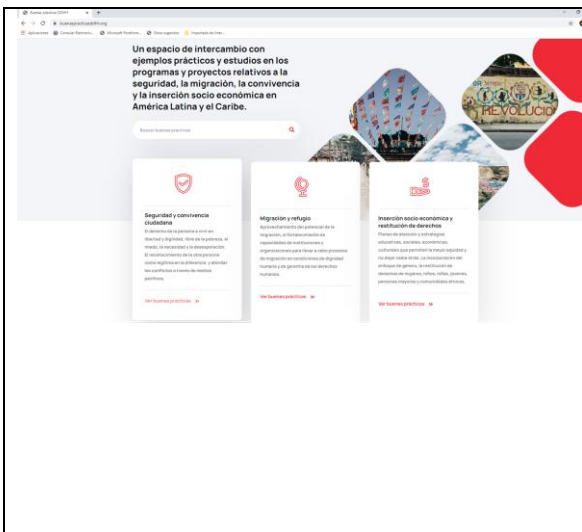
Furthermore the working group Integrity and Transparency organized webinars about the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), the [Integrity App](#), and the School Audit Programme: Model of Social Control, Citizen of Social Control, Citizen Participation and School Coexistence in El Salvador.

The work of REDLAC in 2020 contributed to:

- Collaborating between GIZ programmes within the 4 working groups promoted a joint institutional learning by exchanging knowledge in the region and with GIZ Headquarters
- The exchange within the region and with HQ is creating additional value for projects, clients, and partners through the exchange of knowledge about state of the art, innovations, and sector specific trends.
- Feeding the knowledge build up in SN into relevant GIZ knowledge systems through the continuous exchange with GIZ headquarters promotes innovations and assures the quality due to the systematically recording and analyzing of project outcomes.
- The organization of virtual events for the whole sector networks contributes to the sectoral onboarding for GIZ’s co-workers in 35 GIZ programmes. The result is a community of 30 active members of the SN.

2. Activities and outcomes



2.1. Activities and results



A digital platform to share best practice about: Security, migration, citizen coexistence, and socio-economic integration in Latin America.

- The specific impact is to make best practices in the region more visible and find quickly relevant information in the working field of Human Rights in LATAM
- Concrete benefits for the participating member projects and partner organization is the possibility to make their work visible for the public and to share their experience and receive feedback from other practitioners
- The results of this activity contribute
 - Mutual learning and knowledge transfer
 - Workshops, Webinars & Trainings
 - Promote innovation

[Quiénes somos – Buenas prácticas DDHH \(buenaspracticas-ddhh.org\)](https://www.buenaspracticas-ddhh.org/)

 <p>SERIE CIUDADES Y DERECHOS</p> <p>Primer episodio: Derecho a la ciudad</p> <p>Podcasts Varios </p>	<p>Podcast Series about “Human Rights of Cities”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 3 podcasts were recorded in cooperation with GIZ projects and its counterparts in the region. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ciudades y migración (2020) - Ciudades resilientes (2020) - Habitat de Calidad (2020) The specific impact is that the podcasts are available on the YouTube channel of GIZ Ecuador for internal and external users to get informed. Concrete benefits for the participating member projects and partner organization was the sharing of their knowledge and the reflection process in an innovative way and to make the topic more visible within the region and GIZ. The results of this activity contribute to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mutual learning and knowledge transfer
	<p>Publications on “The digital transformation and me” that consists of 3 sub-products:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication with key messages on "Digitalization and Governance" A communication campaign "Let's talk digital" A checklist on "Digital Ethics" The specific impact of that activity is to foster a critical debate within GIZ and with the counterparts about digital transformation in the region. The concrete benefit for the participating member projects is that they receive orientation and support which is easy to use in their specific context. The results of this activity contribute <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mutual learning and knowledge transfer ○ Workshops, Webinars & Trainings ○ Promote innovation

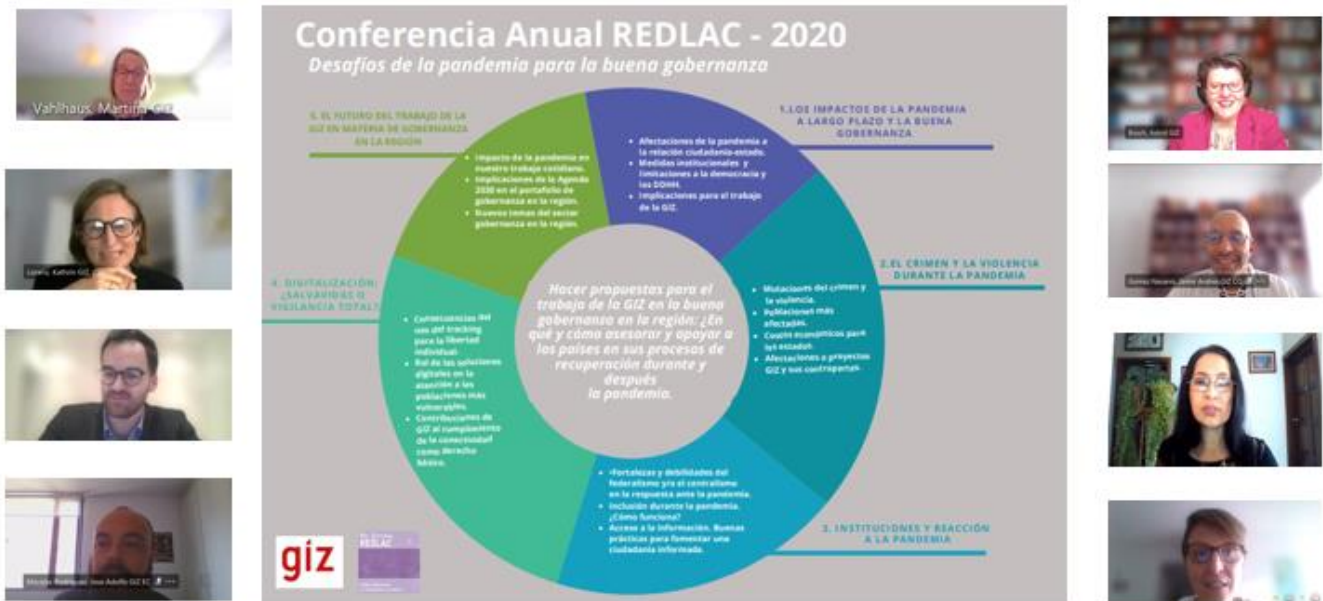
2.2. Regional conference

As a sector network for Good Governance programs we choose to analyze the challenges caused by the Covid-19 pandemic in the field of Good Governance in the region. The conference took place in 5 virtual sessions from September to November with up to 40 participants and it was realized in co-creation with the REDLAC Steering Committee, the spokespersons of our working groups and the member projects.

Thanks to this conference we had very valuable inputs from internal and external experts and it provided us a lot of insights from the perspective of our member projects which is now a good starting point to go on with a demand driven Knowledge and Community Management in REDLAC 2021.

The main topics of the 5 virtual sessions were:

- The long-term impacts of the pandemic
- Crime and Violence during the pandemic
- Institutions and their reaction to the pandemic
- Digitisation – Lifesaver or total surveillance
- The Future of GIZ Governance Programs in the region



2.3. Evaluation of outcomes

The overall impact of the SN activities is the successful Community Building between member programs in the region and the experts at GIZ headquarters which allows a continuous and innovative knowledge exchange and with that the improvement of quality with the member programs.

The main benefit for the member projects and our clients was the knowledge transfer and the creation of new products in co-creation between member programs and with new methodologies.

The success factors were: Active Community Building between the region and GIZ headquarters, flexibility, and agile adaptation to new circumstances (especially with reference to Covid-19 pandemic), creating a “safe space” for applying new methods to co-create new ideas /approaches.

What we learned from the experiences of 2020 is that digitisation strengthens the sector networks activities and goals because it allows a cross sectoral and cross country collaboration as well as a cost efficient knowledge transfer between the region and GIZ headquarters (number of GIZ colleagues in virtual meeting was higher than it could be in the course of a face-to-face event). We also learned that the capacity building for new methodologies like Design Thinking helps to improve the quality of the products (REDLAC Innovation lab 2019 was a good starting point for the results in 2020).

3. Cross-sectoral topic

3.1. Agenda 2030 (SDGs)

The Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development was the main topic for the innovation lab in 2019 and was the kick-off for all activities, products or working groups co-created in 2020. The implementation and monitoring of the Agenda 2030 is one of the cross-cutting topics of the 4 Working Groups of the SN.

3.2. Digitalization

The Sector Network dealt with digital solutions, one the one hand through the virtual sessions with the member programs and on the other hand within the Working Group “Governance & Digitalization”. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the importance that the SN attributed to the use of digital tools for the general management work and knowledge sharing was even higher than in the years before. The whole knowledge transfer and product co-creation was based on digital tools what helped also to increase the acceptance of virtual collaboration within the development cooperation.

3.3. Gender

There was not specific working group dealing with gender-related topics but it is understood as an important cross-cutting topic, especially for the working groups “Inclusive State and Human Rights” and “Sustainable territories and cities” Gender is an important cross-cutting topic.

4. Structure and functioning of the Sector Network

The average number of member projects in 2020 in the SN is around 30 programs in APLAK. There were around active 35 members participating in a Working Group or in the virtual conference.

Territorios y ciudades sostenibles
 Responsable:
 José Morales Rodríguez
 jose.morales1@giz.de
 (Ecuador)

Digitalización y gobernanza
 Responsable:
 Sarah Habersack
 sarah.habersack@giz.de
 (Brasil)

DD.HH. y construcción de un Estado incluyente
 Responsable:
 Jaime Andrés Gómez N.
 jaime.gomez@giz.de
 (Colombia)

Integridad y transparencia
 Responsable:
 Sandra Gonzalez
 sandra.gonzalez@giz.de
 (Guatemala)



Vocero de la red
 Dr. Helge Arends
 helge.arends@giz.de

División regional
 Martina Valhaus
 martina.valhaus@giz.de
 Bettina von Dungen
 bettina.dungen@giz.de

División sectorial
 Dr. Kathrin Lorenz
 kathrin.lorenz@giz.de
 Petra Riedle
 petra.riedle@giz.de

Secretariado
 Lena Harm
 lena.harm@giz.de

4.1. Covid-19

The new situation had a positive impact on internal innovations in terms of management, activities and (virtual) collaboration for example: virtual onboarding and team building within the Working Groups. Covid-19 was also directly a topic for the virtual Conference analyzing the impact of the pandemic in the field of Good Governance in Latin America and the Caribbean.

5. Outlook for 2021

5.1. Priority areas and objectives 2021

The main objective of REDLAC is to offer to its members programmes a demand driven Knowledge Management that helps them to constantly improve the quality of their outputs. One overall topic will be the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the working fields of Good Governance in Latin America (as a follow-up of our regional conference in 2020) and the analysis of the impact on the work of GIZ.

The second objective is to create innovative knowledge management products, considering GIZ internal principles of Cooperacion and Leadership (KuF), digital transformation and use of innovation methods and co-creation for the 4 working fields of REDLAC:

- Sustainable territories and cities
- Digitalization and Governance
- Human Rights and Building an Inclusive State
- Integrity and Transparency

The third objective is to guarantee a constant transfer of knowledge and strategic information between member projects and GIZ Headquarters.

5.2. Possible changes and developments 2021

Since January 2021 the new speaker Jaime Andres Gomez from the program Paz Comunal (GIZ Colombia) took over this role from Helge Arends (former consultant at GIZ Mexico, now GIZ Ucraina). The current Community Manager will assume a new position since the 1st of march but will be available until 1st of August for the selection process and onboarding of the new Community Manager. The Working Group “Human Rights and Building an Inclusive State” is searching a new spokesperson. The Working group “Integrity and Transparency” will search a new responsible by October 2021



Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Registered offices
Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 36 + 40
53113 Bonn, Germany
T +49 228 44 60-0
F +49 228 44 60-17 66

Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1-5
65760 Eschborn, Germany
T +49 61 96 79-0
F +49 61 96 79-11 15

E info@giz.de
I www.giz.de