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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

INTER-AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT (CIDI)

(2020-2021)

(Approved during the regular meeting held October 26, 2021)

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

INTER-AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT (CIDI)

This report contains a synthesis of the activities carried out by the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) and its subsidiary bodies during the period between the fifty-first and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), held on October 20 and 21, 2020, and November 11 and 12, 2021, respectively. It also includes a summary of the activities carried out by the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development during the months of January to December 2020.

1. CONSTITUTION AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CIDI

 With the entry into force of the reforms to the Charter of the Organization of American States through the Protocol of Managua in 1996, the Inter-American Council for Integral Development was created as the main policy-making organ responsible for formulating, promoting, and implementing guidelines for technical cooperation at the ministerial level in the Hemisphere. CIDI reports directly to the General Assembly and has decision-making power in matters of partnership for integral development.

In accordance with article 3 of the CIDI Statute (CIDI/doc. 38/13: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=38&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=38&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=38&lang=f) |[Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=38&lang=p)), the functions and attributions of CIDI are as follows:

1. To formulate and recommend the Strategic Plan to the General Assembly;
2. To formulate proposals for strengthening inter-American dialogue on integral development;
3. To promote, coordinate and oversee execution of the Strategic Plan;
4. To convene regular meetings of the Council at the ministerial or equivalent level; regular monthly meetings; special meetings; and sectoral or specialized meetings;
5. To propose to the General Assembly the holding of specialized conferences in their respective areas of competence to deal with special technical matters or to develop specific aspects of inter-American cooperation; to convene them in urgent cases, in accordance with the provisions of resolution AG/RES. 85 (O/72); and to coordinate, when appropriate, the holding of these specialized conferences in the framework of specialized or sectoral meetings of CIDI;
6. To promote cooperative relations with the corresponding United Nations agencies and with other national and international bodies, particularly as regards coordination of inter-American technical cooperation programs;
7. To adopt the policies and general guidelines which the Management Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) and the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) should follow in carrying out the cooperation activities of the IACD.
8. To convene high-level meetings and seminars to study problems related to development and identify efforts that could be undertaken in the CIDI framework, including those resulting from the application of Article 37 of the Charter of the Organization of American States;
9. To periodically evaluate the execution of cooperation activities with a view to adopting decisions it finds appropriate for their improvement and for the most efficient use of funds, and report to the General Assembly;
10. To coordinate and organize the activities of the subsidiary bodies of CIDI;
11. To establish mechanisms for consultation and dialogue between CIDI’s regular and special meetings and the inter-American committees;
12. To receive, analyze, and take action on the reports and recommendations of its subsidiary bodies, as well as on the reports of other organs entrusted with the execution of CIDI projects;
13. To elect the members of the Management Board of the IACD;
14. To adopt criteria for the allocation of additional resources mobilized by the IACD for which the donor has not specified purposes and limitations;
15. To approve the Rules of Procedure of the Management Board of the IACD and amendments thereto;
16. To approve guidelines, policies, and priorities, on its own initiative or as recommended by the IACD, for the preparation, adoption, and execution of the program budget of the IACD;
17. To consider and, as appropriate, approve the annual budget of the IACD proposed by the Management Board;
18. To participate in the preparation of the program-budget of the Organization in the area of cooperation;
19. To instruct the General Secretariat and SEDI regarding the execution of tasks and support activities for the fulfillment of the mandates and functions assigned to CIDI;
20. To approve or refer to other organs, as appropriate, proposals from the IACD for amending the rules and regulations relating to the personnel, budget, operations, and administration of the IACD;
21. To authorize special budgetary appropriations from the Special Multilateral Fund of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (FEMCIDI) to address unforeseen situations or activities, and identify the source of the necessary resources, in accordance with Article 96 of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat; and
22. To fulfill, in addition to the functions established by these Statutes, such other functions as may be entrusted to it by the Charter of the Organization of American States and other inter-American instruments, the General Assembly, and the Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, as envisaged at in its Article 70, and to make recommendations in its area of authority.

CIDI is composed of all OAS member states, whose delegates shall represent them at the meetings referred to in Article 96 of the Charter of the Organization of American States and Articles 19 to 21 of its own Statute.

Article 5 of the CIDI Statute also establishes that CIDI shall have the following dependent bodies:

1. Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD)
2. Non-Permanent Specialized Commissions (CENPES)
3. Inter-American Commissions
4. CIDI Standing Committees
5. Other subsidiary bodies and agencies to be set up by the Council

CIDI Authorities

* July to December 2020

Chairman: Ambassador Leon Charles, Permanent Representative of Haiti

Vice-Chair: Ambassador Luis Fernando Cordero Montoya, Permanent Representative of Honduras

* January to June 2021

Chairman: Ambassador Luis Fernando Cordero Montoya, Permanent Representative of Honduras

Vice-Chair: Haiti

* July to December 2021

Chairperson: Ambassador Audrey P. Marks, Permanent Representative of Jamaica

Vice-Chair: Ambassador Samuel Hinds, Permanent Representative of Guyana

1. ACTIVITIES OF CIDI AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES
	* 1. REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS

The monthly regular and special meetings, as well as those of the permanent committees, have been held in accordance with the rules established in the Rules of Procedure for the Regular and Special Meetings of CIDI, document CIDI/doc.257/18 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=257&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=257&lang=s) |[Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=257&lang=f) |[Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=257&lang=p)).

 During the reporting period, CIDI, as the main forum for OAS policy dialogue on integral development, in accordance with its Rules of Procedure, held regular monthly meetings that facilitated interaction between ember states and experts from civil society, the private sector, and academia on issues related to the strategic lines of the Organization's Strategic Plan to define policies and priorities. For the alleviation of poverty and the elimination of inequality in the Hemisphere, in addition to addressing the procedural matters of its responsibility.

November 2020

On November 17, 2020 (CIDI/OD-107/20: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=107&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=107&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=107&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=107&lang=p)) CIDI dedicated a meeting to innovation and technology for economic diversification and resilience (Concept Note CIDI/INF.393/20: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/inf.&classNum=393&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/inf.&classNum=393&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/inf.&classNum=393&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/inf.&classNum=393&lang=p)). During the meeting, the role that the OAS can play in the efforts of member states to diversify their economies and address their vulnerabilities, which have deepened as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, was explored. In particular, the presentations highlighted the importance of connecting communities and entrepreneurs with innovative sustainable economic opportunities; building capacity in innovation and technology; support the exchange of knowledge and good practices and link education with the economy. The meeting was attended by Mr. Kenneth Green of advance Global Partners of Dominica, and Pablo Zamora, entrepreneur and co-founder of NotCo., Chile.

During the same meeting, CIDI elected Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to complete the membership of the Management Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development for the period 2020-2022, which was integrated withArgentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, the United States, Honduras, Mexico, Panama and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

December 2020

On December 8, 2020 (CIDI/OD-108/20: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=108&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=108&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=107&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=108&lang=p)) CIDI closed its activities for the year with a regular meeting dedicated to multi stakeholder partnerships for building resilience to external shocks (Concept Note CIDI/INF.395/20: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=395&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=395&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=395&lang=f) | Português). In this regard, having recognized that the resilience of the region to vulnerabilities such as natural disasters and other external shocks could be strengthened through the establishment of public-private partnerships, member states considered the need to urgently design and implement policies, strategies and programmes aimed at reducing vulnerability and building resilience to external shocks, including the adverse effects of climate change.

The purpose of the meeting was to facilitate dialogue among member states and to present the associative parnertships that the Secretariat has to support post-COVID-19 recovery efforts and build resilience to face future external shocks. Presentations were made by Ms. Abby Daniell, Senior Manager for the Public Sector of Latin America, Canada and the Caribbean of Amazon Web Services; Mr.Carlos Suárez, Senior Deputy Administrator of the Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID); Mr. Juan Antonio G. Cuartero, Managing Partner of Structuralia (document CIDI/INF.396/20: [TEXTUAL),](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=396&lang=t)and Ms. Kim Osborne, Executive Secretary for Integral Development (document CIDI/INF.397/20: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=397&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=397&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=397&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=397&lang=p)).

Dr. John Fleming, Undersecretary of Commerce for Economic Development of the United States and Mr. Alberto Sierra, Director of the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance of the Ministry of Government and Justice of Panama, participated in the dialogue with the member states.

 During this meeting, CIDI elected, by acclamation, Mr. Jovan Reid, Alternate Representative of Barbados to the OAS, as Chair of the Committee on Partnership for Development Policies; and Mr. Felipe Aravena, Alternate Representative of Chile, as Chairman of the Committee on Migration Issues.

CIDI also agreed that, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 2940 (XLIX-O/19), section IV, paragraph 5 (f), the Secretariat should request authorization from the Permanent Council, through the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs, to deposit in the Capital Fund for OAS Scholarship and Training Programs the scholarship unused or disobligated resources under heading 3 corresponding to the program-budget 2020, to be executed at the beginning of the year 2021. (CIDI/doc.303/20: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=303&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=303&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=303&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=303&lang=p)).

 In compliance with the programming procedures of the Development Cooperation Fund (CDF), CIDI approved the area of action entitled: “Inclusive resilience for an effective recovery focused on science and technology” for the 2021-2024 CDF programming cycle with the following programs items: i) Strengthening MSMEs through innovation and technology; (ii) Workforce conversion with an innovative approach to the recovery of the tourism sector and regional economies: (iii) Scientific and technological innovation to strengthen resilience; and (iv) The science of decision-making in disaster risk planning. Also, based on the information provided by the IACD Management Board (document CIDI/doc.304/20: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=304&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=304&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=304&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=304&lang=p)), CIDI took note of the 17 member states eligible to participate in the 2021-2024 programming cycle and that a total of $1.7 million will be allocated as seed funds to finance the approved programming, which will be distributed among the 17 eligible member states.

January 2021

On the occasion of the first meeting of CIDI in 20212021 (CIDI/OD-109/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=109&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=109&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=109&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=109&lang=p)) held on January 26, the Chair of CIDI, Ambassador Luis Cordero, Permanent Representative of Honduras, presented the draft work plan for the semestre January-June 2021 and proposed to concentrate the deliberations of the first six months of the year on the following priority themes: (i) Green Climate Fund, natural disasters and building resilience; (ii) food and nutrition insecurity; (iii) follow-up to the Guatemala 2019 Plan of Action; (iv) MSMEs and tourism; (v) education and (vi) science and technology and innovation.

For her part, the Executive Secretary for Integral Development, Ms. Kim Osborne, presented the draft annual report of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) to CIDI (document CIDI/doc. 305/21), which received suggestions from some delegations.

During the meeting, CIDI also considered the mandate of the General Assembly contained in resolution AG/RES. 2954 (L-O/20), which mandates the preparation of a draft resolution called the “Inter-American Business Charter,” for which the preliminary text submitted by the Government of Colombia for the aforementioned Charter should be used.

To meet the mandate, CIDI, based on Article 51 of its Rules of Procedure, established the “CIDI Working Group to Prepare the Draft Inter-American Business Charter” and entrusted it with the responsibility of carrying out preliminary deliberations and supporting CIDI in the consideration of different proposals for each section of the draft Inter-American Business Charter submitted. It also agreed that the term of the Working Group will be until CIDI reaches agreement on the draft Inter-American Business Charter; elected Ms. Carolina Schlesinger Faccini, Alternate Representative of Colombia, to chair it and approved the format and schedule of meetings for the deliberations of the Working Group, contained in document CIDI/doc.306/21 rev.2 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=306&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=306&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=306&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=306&lang=p)).

Regarding the ministerial and inter-American committee meetings of CIDI considered, CIDI received a proposal from the Minister of Labor and Social Security of the Argentine Republic, Dr. Claudio Omar Moroni, for the theme and thopics of the Twenty-First Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (document CIDI/INF.399/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=399&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=399&lang=s) | |[Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=399&lang=f) |[Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=399&lang=p) ) and adopted resolution CIDI/RES.345 (CIX-O/21) ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=345&lang=e) |[Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=345&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=345&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=345&lang=p)) “Virtual Holing of the of the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) so that the Meeting that was to be held from May 19 to 21, 2021, in the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina, will be held, virtually on May 19, 2021.

February 2021

At the meeting held on February 23 (CIDI/OD-110/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=110&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=110&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=110&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=110&lang=p)), considering that compound risks have the potential to undermine the benefits of development, CIDI addressed the issue of climate refinancing: Green Climate Fund, Natural Disasters and Resilience (Concept note: document CIDI/INF.404/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=404&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=404&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=404&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=404&lang=p)).

In that regard, as compound risks, climate change and pandemics and extreme weather events highlight the fragility and vulnerability of infrastructure, services and the sectors that depend on it, as well as the functioning of the Government, commercial operations and socio-economic development processes. All of this may reduce the ability of member states to respond to broader threats. In addition, the occurrence of additional shocks during the pandemic could hamper the recovery process and further entrench existing vulnerabilities. Therefore, effectively addressing the complex effects of compound risks requires multidisciplinary approaches to understanding their drivers, potential impacts and interactions.

With the aforementioned background, CIDI reviewed the financial mechanisms and facilities available to OAS member states to address the challenges posed by climate change and other risks and concluded by instructing SEDI to continue promoting the mobilization of climate finance resources in the countries of the Americas in an efficient manner, for the benefit of States, with its transversal vision of institutional strengthening, generating capacities in member states and their institutions to access and implement green financing projects; and ratified the process led by SEDI for the accreditation of the OAS General Secretariat as an agency of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Adaptation Fund, and its continuous improvement in the role of decades as an implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

 The meeting was attended by Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodríguez, Executive Director of the Global Environment Facility (GEF); Mr. Pa Ousman Jarju, Director of Country Programming of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) (document CIDI//INF.411/21: [TEXTUAL);](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=411&lang=t) Mr. Leo Martinez Diaz, Senior Advisor to the United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate. (Speakers’ biography: CIDI/INF. 354/20 [Textual](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=354&lang=t)).

 During the meeting, CIDI approved the Work Plan for the January-June 2021 semester document CIDI/doc.308/21 rev.1 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=308&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=308&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=308&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=308&lang=p)); SEDI's Annual Report to CIDI - 2020, document CIDI/doc.305/21 rev.3 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=305&lang=e)| [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=305&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=305&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=305&lang=p)); and the SEDI Work Plan-January-December 2021, document CIDI/doc.309/21 rev.1 ([Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=309&lang=s) |[English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=309&lang=e) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=309&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=309&lang=p)).

 CIDI also received a progress report on the activities of the Working Group to Prepare the Draft Inter-American Business Charter; took note of the information presented by the Delegation of Mexico indicating that the Third Special Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Tourism, convened by its Chair in accordance with Article 11 of the Rules of Procedure of the Inter-American Commissions of CIDI, will be held virtually on March 26, 2021, and will focus on the issue of travel health protocols in the region; approved resolution CIDI/RES.346 (CX-O/21) ([Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=346&lang=s) | [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=346&lang=e) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=346&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=346&lang=p)) “Convocation of the Sixth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Culture (CIC)” to be held virtually, on April 27, 2021; and thanked the Government of Panama for the decision to support the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA) by hosting its next meeting, announcement that was made by Mr. Jorge Rivera Staff, National Secretary of Energy of Panama.

March 2021

 During the last decades, the Americas had been characterized as a region with significant progress in the global goal of poverty reduction, after years of increased social spending, strengthening of social protection systems and innovative policies for the generation of employment and development of human capital. However, the historic fall in the regional Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as a result of the pandemic generated by COVID-19, has meant a historic increase in the number of people living in poverty and extreme poverty. Therefore, on March 30 (CIDI/OD-111/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=111&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=111&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=111&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=111&lang=p)), CIDI considered the issue of food and nutrition security (Concept Note CIDI/INF.412/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=412&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=412&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=412&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=412&lang=p)).

 In addition to this scenario of increasing levels of poverty and inequality, there is a disturbing increase in the number of people experiencing food insecurity. Closing the economic and social gaps that have been pronounced by the pandemic will require, perhaps as never before in recent history, focused efforts, aimed at giving new tools to populations that are " lagging behind" in access to fundamental human rights such as adequate food. In this scenario, it is important to pay particular attention to the territories that are falling behind, since the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development related to food security and nutrition cannot be achieved as long as populations with levels of malnutrition continue to live in some territories of Latin America and the Caribbean that are at least double the national averages.

 In following-up to the “Plan of Action of Guatemala” adopted during the Fourth Meeting of Ministers and High Level Authorities of Social Development held in 2019 and the resolution of the General Assembly on “The Challenges to Food and Nutritional Security in the Americas in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic under the Framework of the Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019”, approved in October 2020, CIDI agreed to strengthen technical cooperation among member states, using the mechanisms already available to the OAS, such as the Inter-American Social Protection Network (RIPSO) to promote the exchange of information, knowledge, and lessons learned in the design and implementation of public policies that have been effective in addressing poverty, food insecurity and economic and social inequality gaps. CIDI also reiterated the invitation to OAS member states to join and actively participate in the Working Groups created for the implementation of the Plan of Action og Guatemala. CIDI also called on member states, permanent observers, and other donors to contribute the necessary resources to the implementation of the activities contemplated in the Plan of Action of Guatemala and other cooperation and technical assistance activities to address the serious consequences of hunger and malnutrition in the Americas caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Finally, CIDI encouraged the General Secretariat, through the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity (SARE), in collaboration with SEDI and other relevant secretariats, to continue strengthening collaboration and coordination with actors such as the World Food Programme (WFP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), among others, to launch hemispheric cooperation projects aimed at addressing the serious effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on food security in the region.

 During the meeting, Mr. Miguel Barreto, Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean of the World Food Program; Mr. Lloyd Day,Deputy Director of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA); Ms. Silvana Vargas Winstanley, Minister of Development and Social Inclusion of Peru, and Ms. Betilde Muñoz-Pogossian, Director of the Department of Social Inclusion of the Secretariat for Access to Derec OAS Equity (document CIDI//INF.415/21: [TEXTUAL).](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=415&lang=t) The presentations of the invited speakers are contained in document CIDI/INF.414/21 ([TEXTUAL](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=414&lang=t)) and that of the member states in document CIDI/INF.416/21 ([TEXTUAL](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=416&lang=t)) (Speakers’ biography: CIDI/INF. 413/21 [Textual](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=413&lang=t)).

CIDI also received a progress report on the activities the Working Group to Prepare the Draft Inter-American Business Charter; and approved the preliminary draft agenda prepared for theTwenty-First Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (document CIDI/doc.311/21 rev.1: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=311&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=311&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=311&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=311&lang=p)) on the understanding that, in accordance with the regulations in force, final approval must be given by the Conference itself at its first plenary meeting.

April 2021

 On April 27, CIDI (CIDI/OD-112/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=112&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=112&lang=s) [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=112&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=112&lang=p)) considered the issue of business continuity, MSMEs, and the tourism sector in the Americas (Concept Note CIDI/INF.418/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=418&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=418&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=418&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=418&lang=p)) recognizing that micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs)comprise 99% of all enterprises and employ on average two-thirds of all workers in OAS member states. Its economic and social contribution to the countries of the region is therefore fundamental to their stability and the livelihoods of their inhabitants. However, their problems of productivity and participation in export markets are linked to competitiveness challenges, such as access to finance, proper management and adoption of appropriate technology.

Tourism is now recognized as one of the world's leading industries. The labour-intensive nature of the tourism sector and its ability to create new jobs and other opportunities for companies in the tourism value chain highlights the dependence of economies around the world on this sector. In addition, tourism offers opportunities to diversify local economies and allows the formation of micro and small enterprises, many of them owned by women.

In the Americas, recent natural disasters and their impact on tourism enterprises, in particular, have highlighted the need for more concerted action among regional and international agencies and policymakers to build resilience and support business continuity.

In this regard, projects such as “Building Resilience to Disasters in Small Tourism Enterprises in the Caribbean”, which is currently being implemented by SEDI, aims to provide technical assistance to small tourism companies in participating Caribbean states so that they can overcome the national and corporate challenges that affect the continuity of their operations during and after catastrophic events.

Therefore, during the meeting experiences were shared with representatives of organizations that work for the MSME and tourism sectors in the region, trying to identify policies and measures that have improved competitiveness, strengthened business continuity and improved the resilience of MSMEs, in general, and tourism MSMEs and identify synergies and opportunities for collaboration to support resilience. a and business continuity of MSMEs.

 The participants were Ms. Ilka Aguilar, Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of Central American Tourism Integration (SITCA); Mr. Frank Comito, Special Advisor of the Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association (CHTA); Mr. Aldo Elías, President of the South American Federation of Chambers of Tourism (FEDESUD) and Mr. David Cabrera, Interim Executive Director of the Regional Center for the Promotion of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in Central America (CENPROMYPE). The presentations of the invited speakers are contained in document CIDI/INF.424/21 ([TEXTUAL](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=424&lang=t)). (Speakers’ biography: CIDI/INF. 420/21 [Textual](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=420&lang=t)). During the dialogue with member states, statements were made by the Permanent Representative of Grenada to the OAS, Ambassador Yolande Smith, on behalf of CARICOM (document CIDI/INF.423/21: [TEXTUAL)](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=423&lang=t) and the Delegation of Guatemala (document CIDI/INF.425/21: [TEXTUAL)](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=425&lang=t).

 CIDI also received a progress report on the activities of the Working Group to Prepare the Draft Inter-American Business Charter (document CIDI/doc.315/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=315&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=315&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=315&lang=f)| [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=315&lang=p)); and adopted resolution CIDI/RES. 347 (CXII-O/21) ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=347&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=347&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=347&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=347&lang=p)) “Convocation of the Twenty-Fifth Inter-American Congress of Ministers and High Authorities of Tourism” to be held, virtually, on October 6, 2021; and resolution CIDI/RES.348 (CXII-O/21) ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=348&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=348&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=348&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=348&lang=p)) “Convocation of the Sixth Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Science and Technology” to be held, virtually, on December 7, 2021.

May 2021

 CIDI held a regular meeting on May 25 (CIDI/OD-113/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=113&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=113&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=113&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=113&lang=p)) on the topic “Depening synergies among global, hemispheric, and subregional educational initiatives: promoting the Hemispheric Action Plan for the Continuity of Education (PHACE) considering the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic” (Concept Note CIDI/INF.426/21: ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=426&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=426&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=426&lang=f)| [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=426&lang=p)).

Having declared the COVID-19 a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO), the widespread application of rigorous measures to contain its spread have had a significant impact on all facets of society, causing the greatest shock that education systems have experienced in history. Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries, while dealing with the dual pressures exerted on their health and economic systems, had to implement various remote learning strategies to provide educational support to their student population. Despite their enormous efforts, learning in LAC countries is deteriorating.

In this regard, the Hemispheric Action Plan for the Continuity of Education (PHACE) developed by the authorities of the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE) has facilitated the adoption of activities and projects in different phases to guarantee the continuity of education at the different levels of the educational system and promote attention to the most disadvantaged.

The unprecedented education crisis has shown the importance of developing adaptable and flexible education systems that can respond effectively and equitably to health, climate or pedagogical challenges. For this reason, during this meeting, CIDI discussed the measures adopted at the regional and national levels to guarantee continuity and promote progress in the field of education and human development, considering the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic to identify the opportunities for collaboration and cooperation among member states, as well as with regional institutions for the implementation of initiatives in education and human development.

The meeting was organized into two consecutive panels. The first dealt with the theme “Promoting Education and Human Development in the Americas” and was presented by Mr. Claudia Uribe, Director of the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education in Latin America and the Caribbean; Ms. Laurette S.M Bristol, Director of Human Resources Development Programs of the CARICOM Secretariat; and Mr. Carlos Staff, Secretary of the Council of Ministers of Education and Ministers of Culture of SICA-SE-CECC.

During the second panel, information was received on the national experiences within the framework of the PHACE and presentations were made by Ms. Alessandra Molina Alfaro, Director of the Unit for Permanence, Reincorporation and Educational Success of the Vice Ministry of Institutional Planning and Regional Coordination of the Ministry of Public Education of Costa Rica on the “Actions carried out and challenges in terms of Educational Permanence and Exclusion in Costa Rica”; and Mrs. Danit María Torres Fuentes, Director of Quality for Preschool, Basic and Middle Education of the Ministry of Education of Colombia, on “Pedagogical management in the framework of alternation”. (Speakers’ biography: document CIDI/INF.427/21: [Textual](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=428&lang=t)). For her part, Ambassador Yolande Smith, Permanent Representative of Grenada to the OAS, spoke on behalf of CARICOM. All presentations can be consulted in documents CIDI/INF.430/21 ([TEXTUAL](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=430&lang=t))and CIDI/INF.431/21 ([TEXTUAL](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=431&lang=t)).

CIDI also received a progress report on the activities of the Working Group to Prepare the Draft Inter-American Business Charter; and approved resolution CIDI/RES. 349 (CXIII-O/21) ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=349&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=349&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=349&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=349&lang=p)) “Convocation of the Ninth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Education” to be held, virtually, on October 14 and 15, 2021.

CIDI paid an emotive tribute to the memory of Ambassador Elisa Ruiz Diaz, Permanent Representative of Paraguay to the OAS, who died while serving as Chair of the Permanent Council of the Organization on May 19, 2021.

June 2021

The corresponding regular meeting was held on June 29 (CIDI/OD-114/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=114&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=114&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=114&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=114&lang=p)) and considered the topic of digital transformation in the Americas (Concept Note CIDI/INF.432/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=432&lang=e) |[Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=432&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=432&lang=f)| [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=432&lang=p)) and the main challenges and opportunities arising from the rapid advance of digitalization throughout society in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Options were considered to bridge digital and opportunity gaps and how to leverage digital technology in economic recovery and resilience building in OAS member states.

Special attention was paid to the challenges that lie ahead for member states in view of the prospects of an uneven recovery from one country to another and among the different sectors of societies in each of them, where lower-income households and disadvantaged communities faced greater financial and health difficulties and uncertainties, social and emotional and learning. Consideration was also given to the significant updates required by new ecosystems, skills, training and adaptation by necessity in which not all sectors or people reached the same level of access, support or capacities.

The main challenges and opportunities offered by the digital transformation in the Americas were analyzed and recommendations were shared in order to promote collaboration among member states on digital transformation, closing digital gaps and opportunities; all this to prepare the way for the Sixth Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Science and Technology scheduled for December 2021.

 The meeting was attended by Mr. José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, international expert in competitiveness (Costa Rica) who spoke about the “Digital Transformation and Economic Recovery in Latin America and the Caribbean”; Mr. Jaime Díaz, Executive Vice President of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) with a presentation on the “Priorities of digital transformation in Central America”; and Ms. Kim Mallalieu, Senior Lecturer at the University of the West Indies and Deputy Chair of the Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago, who spoke on the “Future of Digital Transformation in the Caribbean”. The presentations can be consulted in document CIDI/INF.437/21 ([TEXTUAL](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=437&lang=t)). (Speakers’ biography: CIDI/INF.434/21: [Textual](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=434&lang=t)).

CIDI also received a progress report on the activities of the Working Group to Prepare the Draft Inter-American Business Charter; received the proposal for a preliminary agenda for the Twenty-Fifth Inter-American Congress of Ministers and High Authorities of Tourism presented by the Delegation of Paraguay (document CIDI/INF.435/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/INF.&classNum=435&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/INF.&classNum=435&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/INF.&classNum=435&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/INF.&classNum=435&lang=p)) ;and adopted resolution CIDI/RES. 350 (CXIV-O/21) ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=350&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=350&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=350&lang=f)| [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=350&lang=p)) “Convening of the Third Specialized CIDI Meeting of High-Level Authorities of Cooperation” to be held virtually on December 2 and 3, 2021.

July 2021

Under the chairmanship of the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the OAS, Ambassador Audrey P. Marks, CIDI held a regular meeting on July 27 (CIDI/OD-115/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=115&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=115&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=115&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=115&lang=p)) and approved the work plan for the semester July to December 2021 (document CIDI/doc. 319/21: [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=319&lang=s) | [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=319&lang=e) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=319&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=319&lang=p)) in which, considering that science, innovation and technology can provide much-needed opportunities and solutions to address the diverse needs of member states as part of the COVID recovery, it is proposed to engage member states in a series of discussions with actionable proposals focused on concrete hemispheric priorities that are impactful and can be realized through regional partnerships and cooperation, covering all areas of integral development grouped under CIDI. Meetings held during the semester will focus on how science and technology can be used to improve decision-making and accelerate post-COVID recovery. Emphasis will be placed on the priorities, good practices and viable solutions that member states can adopt in their recovery process, in preparation for the Sixth Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Science and Technology (VI REMCYT) to be held, virtually, on December 7, 2021.

The main theme of the meeting was on the technology and technology to build resilience in the context of sustainable development and national energy transitions as engines of recovery of the broader economies (Concept Note CIDI/INF.439/21**:** [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=439&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=439&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=439&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=439lang=p)).

Energy transitions in Latin America and the Caribbean have made great strides in the last decade, exceeding expectations. However, there is still a long way to go to transform the regional energy sector from fossil-based to net zero. The Americas will require new technologies and staggering amounts of capital over the next twenty years to meet demand growth, strengthen energy security, and meet climate commitments under the Paris Agreement, and national budgets lack scope to provide the level of financial support needed to finance the full scale of energy sector modernization and decarbonization.

In addition, the sharp economic decline experienced in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic raises the need to implement a full government approach to ensure that all sectors of the economy can contribute significantly to the recovery. In this regard, national efforts to mitigate the economic damage of COVID-19 must become a green catalyst and private sector capital and technological solutions are critical to achieving success in this regard.

Therefore, the solution to climate change will require the ultimate public-private partnership and policies, laws and regulations are fundamental to harnessing capital and technology. Business leaders must be part of the ongoing conversation to align finance and innovation with the transition to a sustainable, net-zero emissions energy sector.

Presentations were made by Mr. Jorge Rivera Staff, National Secretary of Energy of Panama; Ms. Racquel Moses, CEO of The Caribbean Climate-Smart Acceletor;and Mr. Juan Ignacio Rubiolo, President of the Energy Working Group of the Business Dialogue of the Americas (ABD) and President of AES for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean. The presentations are contained in document CIDI/INF.441/21 ([TEXTUAL](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=441&lang=t)). ( Speakers’ biography: CIDI/INF. 440/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=440&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=440&lang=s)).

 Following a dialogue with the speakers initiated with questions from the Chair to each of them, CIDI decided to encourage continued member states’ engagement to grow partnerships between governments and multi-sectoral stakeholders on critical issues related to energy and climate change; to urge member states to identify their needs and gaps on energy, and share their science, innovation and technology solutions and offers of cooperation, leading to concrete actionable commitments at the VI REMCYT, to be held in December 2021.

CIDI also received a progress report on the activities Working Group to Prepare the Draft Inter-American Business Charter; approved the preliminary draft agenda for the Twenty-Fifth Inter-American Congress of Ministers and High Authorities of CIDI, document CIDI/doc.318/21 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=318&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=318&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=318&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=318&lang=p)) under the understanding that, in accordance with current regulations, the final approval must be given by the Congress itself during its first plenary session.

August 2021

On August 31, at its regular meeting, CIDI considered the issue related to the need to improve critical skills and the preparation of youth for Industry 4.0 in the Americas. (Concept note CIDI/INF.445/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=445&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=445&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=445&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=445lang=p)) (CIDI/OD-116/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=116&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=116&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=116&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=116&lang=p)).

Considering that the COVID-19 pandemic, the consequent acceleration of the digital economy, and the reshaping of global value chains have highlighted the need for OAS member states to address the skills gap and prepare their workforce to reap the benefits of the innovation-driven economy, CIDI estimates that in the post-pandemic recovery phase, the participation of young people in the formal labor market will depend, in part, on their having critical skills and abilities to seek employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in science and transformative technologies (often called Industry 4.0 technologies) such as: new materials, artificial intelligence, Big Data*,*quantum computing, gene editing, robotics and blockchain. Therefore, closing the skills gap will enable OAS member states to reap the benefits of emerging technologies, improve productivity, contribute to higher growth rates, and reduce poverty.

In this context, the Inter-American Committee on Science and Technology (COMCYT), CIDI's technical body, has identified the importance of providing young people with the necessary skills in science and transformative technologies as one of the priorities of regional cooperation.

During the meeting, the dialogue focused on providing information on the main trends, challenges, and opportunities in transformative sciences and technologies for OAS member states with a particular focus on youth; identifying priorities and areas of regional cooperation and partnerships to promote youth skills for Industry 4.0; and advancing a proposal to develop the “Americas Youth Academy on Transformative Technologies,” leading to the Sixth Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Science and Technology.

 Presentations were made by Mr. Tito José Crissien Borrero, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation (MINCIENCIAS) of Colombia (documentCIDI/INF.448/21 add.1 : [TEXTUAL);](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=448&addendum=1&lang=t) Ms. Andrea Escobedo, Director of Government Relations and Regulatory Affairs of IBM of Mexico and National Vice President of Inclusion and Diversity of the National Chamber of Technological Industries; and Mr. Jorge Vanegas, Dean of the College of Architecture and Director of the Institute for Sustainable Communities atTexas A&M University and President of the Pan American Academy of Engineering (PAAE). The presentations can be consulted in document CIDI/INF. 448/21: [TEXTUAL](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=448&lang=t)). (Speakers’ biography: document CIDI/INF. 447/21: [Textual](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=447&lang=t)). During the dialogue with member states, Mr. Neydo Hidalgo participated on behalf of the National Council of Science, Technology and Technological Innovation (CONCYTEC) of Peru (document CIDI/INF.449/21 : [TEXTUAL](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=449&lang=t)).

 CIDI instructed SEDI to document and follow up on opportunities for collaboration with partner institutions identified during the dialogue and in delegations' interventions, and urged member states to submit their offers of cooperation and partnerships to complement the regional catalogue of opportunities for skills development in science and transformative technologies of governments, private sector and academia to support the development of a “Americas Youth Academy on Transformative Technologies” in preparation for the VI REMCYT scheduled for December 2021.

 CIDI also advanced preparations for ministerial and inter-American committees meetings. In this regard, it received the proposal from the Government of the Republic of Argentina that the face-to-face modality planned for the celebration of the Twenty-First Conference of Ministers of Labor (XXI IACML) be modified due to the sanitary conditions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and approved resolution CIDI/RES. 351 (CXVI-O/21) ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=351&lang=e) |[Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=351&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=351&lang=f)| [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=351&lang=p)) “Virtual Holding of the Twenty-first Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor” to be held, virtually, from September 22 to 24, 2021.

 CIDI, in compliance with the provisions of Article 14 of the Rules of Procedure for Sectoral and Specialized Meetings of Ministers and/or High Authorities in the Framework of CIDI, proceeded to establish the order of precedence of the delegations of the member states and delegations of permanent observer states during the XXI IACML. Thus, the first place among the member states corresponded to the Delegation of Dominica and the first place among the permanent observers corresponded to the Delegation of the Holy See.

 Finally, CIDI approved the list of observers and special guests at the XXI IACML, document CIDI/doc. 321/21 rev.1 ([Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=321&lang=s) | [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=321&lang=e)).

September 2021

On September 28, CIDI, aware that the COVID-19 pandemic has deepened existing inequalities and widened technological and social gaps due to the limited access of segments of society to the skills and tools necessary for the digital economy, decided that at its monthly meeting the topic of science, technology, innovation and entrepreneurship to promote the inclusion of women, girls and populations in vulnerable situations will be considered (Concept noteCIDI/INF.454/2: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=454&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=454&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=454&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=454&lang=p)) (CIDI/OD-117/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=117&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=117&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=117&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=117&lang=p)).

Based on the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Gender Gap Index, which indicates that the COVID-19 pandemic has increased the estimated time to close the global gender gap by 36 years and that the pandemic and the resulting restrictions and losses of economic activity have affected women more severely than men; and that low-income households and disadvantaged communities faced with more financial, health, learning, social and emotional difficulties and uncertainties, CIDI considered that access to capacities related to transformative technologies can become an important means to ensure that women, women-led businesses and populations in vulnerable situations are not excluded from the expanding opportunities of the post-COVID digital economy and to improve access for women and communities with limited opportunities for STEM education, science, and innovation careers to address some of the existing inequalities in the workforce that affect economic mobility and gender equality in the fields of science and technology in the Americas.

 During the meeting, invited experts and representatives of member states discussed actionable priorities to promote regional collaboration to address gender and inclusion gaps in innovation, science, technology, and entrepreneurship in the Americas and explored results-driven interventions to improve access to science, innovation, and technology to improve the economic and social situation of women and populations in vulnerable situations.

 The meeting was attended by Ms. Shelli Brunswick, Director of Operations, Space Foundation of the United States; Ms. Saiph Savage, Assistant Professor and Director of the Civic A.I. Lab*,* Northeastern University-Khoury College of Computer Sciences and Deputy Director of the Civic Innovation Laboratory of the National Autonomous University of Mexico; and Ms. Vanise Zimmer, Founder and President of ElasBank of Brazil. The presentations of the invited experts are contained in document CIDI/INF. 458/21 ([Textual](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=458&lang=t)). (Speakers’ biography: CIDI/INF. 457/21: [Textual](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=457&lang=t)).

 Following the dialogue initiated with question from the Chair to each of the guests, member states shared their specific needs, solutions or offers for cooperation or innovative approaches in addressing gender gaps and inclusion in innovation, science, technology and entrepreneurship.

 After the dialogue, CIDI instructed the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development to document and follow up on the collaboration opportunities with the partner institutions identified during the dialogue and in the interventions made by delegations; and called on member states to put forward their offers of cooperation and partnerships to complement the regional catalogue of skills building opportunities to address existing gaps and inequalities on innovation, science, technology and entrepreneurship in the Americas and academia to support the development of an “Americas Youth Academy on Transformative Technologies” to be considered at the VI REMCYT.

 Among the procedural matters considered during the meeting, the first was related to the programmatic framework for the program cycle 2021-2024 of the Development Cooperation Fund for the 2021-2024 programme cycle contained in document CIDI/INF.459/2 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=459&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=459&lang=s)) which was presented by the Executive Secretary for Integral Development, Mrs. Kim Osborne, and of which CIDI took note.

 Next, the Interim Chair of the Committee on Partnership for Developmet Policies (CPD), Mrs. Laura Pizarro Viales, Alternate Representative of Costa Rica to the OAS, presented a report on the deliberations that took place within the Committee on the new model proposed by SEDI for ministerial and high-level authorities' meetings on development. The report submitted is contained in document CIDI/INF. 462/21 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=462&lang=e) | [Spanish](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=462&lang=s)).

 CIDI, based on the information presented by the CPD, approved the new model for CIDI's sectoral meetings at the ministerial level, document CIDI/doc. 328/21 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=328&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=328&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=328&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=328&lang=p)) and instructed SEDI to review and update the process and the corresponding procedures to commensurate with the new approved model and to present a proposal for consideration by the CPD before submitting it to CIDI for approval. CIDI also decided that the mandated review, changes and/or updates required should be completed by the first quarter of 2022.

Among the procedural matters considered during the meeting, CIDI received a progress report on the activities Working Group to Prepare the Draft Inter-American Business Charter ; established the order of precedence of delegations of the member states and permanent observer states for the Twenty-Fifth, according to the provisions of Article 14 of the Rules of Procedure for Sectoral and Specialized Meetings of Ministers and/or High Authorities in the Framework of CIDI. Thus, the first place among member states corresponded to the Delegation of Trinidad and Tobago and the first place among the permanent observers states corresponded to the Delegation of France.

CIDI also approved the lists of observers and special guests to the Twenty-Fifth Inter-American Congress of Ministers and High Authorities of Tourism, document CIDI/doc.322/21 rev.2 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/DOC.&classNum=322&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/DOC.&classNum=322&lang=s)), and to the Third Specialized CIDI Meeting og High-Level Cooperation Authorities, document CIDI/doc. 325/21 rev.1 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=325&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=325&lang=s)).

Finally, CIDI addressed matters relating to the Ninth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Education and, based on a proposal submitted by the Delegation of Antigua and Barbuda, approved resolution CIDI/RES. 352/21 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=352&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=352&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=352&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=352&lang=p)) “Change of date of the Ninth Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE)” so that it is held vitually, November 18 and 19, 2021. CIDI also took note of the distribution of the preliminary draft agenda annotated for the CIE meeting, document CIDI/doc. 326/21 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=326&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=326&lang=s)) and agreed that delegations can submit their comments and observations to said document until October 28, 2021.

October 2021

On October 26, CIDI (CIDI/OD-118/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=118&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=118&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=118&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.&classNum=118&lang=p)) received a report from SEDI (Concept Note CIDI/INF.473/21: [TEXTUAL](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=473&lang=t)) on the Competitiveness Exchange of the Americas (ACE). The meeting was attended by the Undersecretary of Commerce for Economic Development of the United States, Mrs. Alejandra Y. Castillo. The Chair of the Inter-American Competitiveness Network (RIAC), Ambassador Carlos Játiva, Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the OAS, also addressed the Council.

 CIDI also discussed the issue of science for decision-making (CIDI/INF.464/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=464&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=464&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=464&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=464&lang=p)) considering that the global scope of the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the need for international, multistakeholder and interdisciplinary cooperation to identify and implement effective solutions to address its effects, such as disruption of global value chains and shortages of essential goods and services needed to mitigate the health, economic and social crisis. The pandemic has also highlighted the importance of accelerating the deployment of available resources through science, technology and innovation.

Considering that in its efforts to prepare for future global emergencies and address the main imperatives of integral development in the Americas, such as food security, disaster mitigation and preparedness, climate change, education, social and technological gaps, the region could benefit from the use of collaborative research in science and technology, and from data in their planning and decision-making, the exchange of data for decision-making between member states can become an important component of the region's resilience-building agenda.

 Given that at the subregional level there is a great opportunity to involve universities, experts, the private sector, expert groups, research centers and other institutions to produce the data necessary to promote decision-making, the CIDI meeting provided an opportunity to share some existing models and results of national initiatives to advance science for decision-making, identify gaps, challenges and prospects for collaboration that would help Member States improve their capacity for evidence-based decision-making.

 The meeting was attended by Ms. Marleen Lord-Lewis, President, National Institute of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (NIHERST), Trinidad and Tobago; Mr. Javier Medina Vásquez, Coordinator of the Foresight Network of the Ibero-American Program for Scientific and Technological Development (CYTED) and former director of the Institute of Foresight, Innovation and Knowledge Management of the Universidad del Valle, Cali, Colombia; and Mr. Shomit Ghose, General Partner of ONSET Ventures, Senior Advisor to the Technology Partnership Council at the University of California-Riverside. The presentations of the invited experts are contained in document CIDI/INF. 474/21 ([Textual](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=475&lang=t)). (Biography of the speakers: CIDI/INF. 465/21 rev.1: [Textual](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=465&lang=t)).

Following the dialogue initiated with a question from the Chair to the invited experts, member states shared their national experiences. After the dialogue, CIDI instructed SEDI to document and follow up on opportunities for collaboration with partner institutions identified during the dialogue and interventions by delegations.

 Among the procedural matters considered, CIDI received: 1) the report of the Chair of the Management Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (CIDI/INF.469/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/inf.&classNum=469&lang=e)| [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/inf.&classNum=469&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/inf.&classNum=469&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/inf.&classNum=469&lang=p)); elected Colombia, El Salvador, Peru as new members of the same, and re-elected the United States for the period 2021-2023; 2) took note of the Draft Annotated Agenda (document CIDI/doc.329/21 rev.1**:** [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=329&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=329&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=329&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=329&lang=p)) and approved the Draft Agenda for the Third Specialized CIDI Meeting of High-Level Authorities of Cooperation, document CIDI/doc.323/21 rev.1 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/DOC.&classNum=323&lang=e) | Español [| Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/DOC.&classNum=323&lang=s) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=323&lang=p)); 3) based on information provided by the Delegation of Jamaica, approved that the Preparatory Meeting for the Sixth Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Science and Technology (VI REMCYT) be held virtually on November 22 and 23, 2021 and changed the date of the VI REMCYT through resolution CIDI/RES. 353 (CXVIII-O/21) ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/RES.&classNum=353&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/RES.&classNum=353&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/RES.&classNum=353&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/RES.&classNum=353&lang=p)) to be held virtually on December 7 and 8, 2021; took note of the Draft Annotated Agenda, document CIDI/doc. 331/21 rev.1 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=331&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=331&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=331&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=331&lang=p)) and adopted the Draft Agenda, document CIDI/doc. 332/21 rev.2 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=332&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=332&lang=s)| [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=332&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=332&lang=p)) for the VI REMCYT; approved the list of observers and guests, document CIDI/doc. 336/21 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=336&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=336&lang=s)) to the above-mentioned Meeting and took note of the draft Declaration of Jamaica (document CIDI/doc. 333/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=333&lang=e) | [Español)](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=333&lang=s) to be considered by member states in preparation for the ministerial-level meeting; 4) approved the Draft Annotated Agenda for the Ninth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Education, document CIDI/doc.326/21 rev.1 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=326&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=326&lang=s)[)](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=326&lang=s) and, on that basis, the Draft Agenda for the Meeting was prepared, document CIDI/doc.339/21 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=339&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=339&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=339&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=339&lang=p)); and approved the list of observers and guests at the Ninth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Education, document CIDI/doc. 324/21 rev.2 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=324&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=324&lang=s)).

 In preparation for the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly, CIDI:1) received the report of the Chair of the Working Group to Prepare the Draft Inter-American Business Charter -which was presented by Ambassador Alejandro Ordóñez, Permanent Representative of Colombia to the OAS- document CIDI/GT/CEI-31/21 rev.1 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/GT/CEI&classNum=31&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/GT/CEI&classNum=31&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/GT/CEI&classNum=31&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/GT/CEI&classNum=31&lang=p)) and based on the report, agreed to send for the consideration of the General Assembly the draft resolution “Draft Inter-American Business Charter”, document CIDI/doc. 338/21 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=338&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=338&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=338&lang=f)| [Português)](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=338&lang=p), and having completed the tasks entrusted to the Working Group, its mandate was ended; 2) received the report of the Chairman of the Committee on Migration Issues (CAM), Mr. Felipe Aravena, Alternate Representative of Chile to the OAS (CIDI/INF.470/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/inf.&classNum=470&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/inf.&classNum=470&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/inf.&classNum=470&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/inf.&classNum=470&lang=p)), took note of the report and the paragraphs prepared by the CAM to be included in the strategic line “Fostering the promotion and protection of the human rights of migrants, including migrant Workers and their families, in accordance with the Inter-American Program on this subject to enhance their contribution to development” of the draft resolution “Advancing hemispheric initiatives on Integral Development: Promoting Resilience” (document CIDI/CAM/doc.98/21 rev.4: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=98&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=98&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=98&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=98&lang=p)); 3) received the report of the Interim Chair of the Committee on Partnership for Development Policies, Mrs. Laura Pizarro Viales, Alternate Representative of Costa Rica to the OAS (CIDI/CPD/doc.209/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=209&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=209&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=209&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=209&lang=p) and CIDI/INF. 472/21: [Textual)](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=472&lang=t), took note of the report and with the Delegation of the United States joinig consensus on operative paragraphs 49, 51 and 53, agreed to transmit to the General Assembly the draft resolution “Advancing hemispheric initiatives on Integral Development: Promoting Resilience”, CIDI/doc. 334/21 rev.1 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=334&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=334&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=334&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=334&lang=p)). CIDI also agreed to send for consideration by the General Assembly the draft resolution “Coordination of Volunteers in the Hemisphere in Response to Disasters and the Fight Against Hunger and Poverty-White Helmets Initiative”, document CIDI/doc.337/21 rev.1 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=337&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=337&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=337&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=337&lang=p)), which was presented by the Republic of Argentina with the co-sponsorship of Antigua and Barbuda, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Dominican Republic, the United Sates and Uruguay.

 Finally, CIDI approved its report to the General Assembly on the work carried out during the period October 2020 – October 2021.

* + 1. SPECIAL MEETING OF CIDI

On October 4, CIDI held a special meeting convened by the Chair under Article 25(a) of its Rules of Procedure, to consider the draft agenda agreed for the Twenty-Fifth Inter-American Congress of Ministers and High Authorities of Tourism, scheduled to be held on October 6, 2021. (CIDI/OD-E-5/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.%20(E/12)&classNum=5&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.%20(E/12)&classNum=5&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.%20(E/12)&classNum=5&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/OD.%20(E/12)&classNum=5&lang=p)).

 The Chair indicated that the aforementioned draft agenda had been considered and approved during the regular meeting of CIDI held on July 27, 2021. Since the approval of CIDI, two candidacies have been presented -those of Minister Sofia Montiel de Afara, Secretary of Tourism of Paraguay, and that of the Honorable Edmund Bartlett, Minister of Tourism of Jamaica- for the position of Chairt of the Inter-American Committee on Tourism (CITUR), an election that is included as item 4 of the aforementioned draft agenda.

 In this regard, the Chair recalled that the election of the authorities of the sectoral processes of CIDI has always been by acclamation, based on the agreement among the member states to achieve common goals and objectives, and as a reaffirmation of the commitment to the principles of partnership for development that underpin the work of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development. To that end, the Chair noted, the two candidates and their teams were in consultations to reach an agreement, however, she said, they required additional time for it.

 To grant the additional time required and taking into account that the logistics involved in a virtual scenario for a secret ballot process that is required for the elections were not feasible at the time, the Chair proposed that the issue related to the election of the CITUR authorities be eliminated from the draft agenda of the XXV Inter-American Congress of Ministers and High Authorities of Tourism and that, in accordance with Article 4 of the Rules of Procedure of CIDI's Inter-American Committees, the election be held at a later date during one of CIDI's regular monthly meetings or at the next meeting of CITUR itself. The Chair indicated that, if the agreement were reached before the beginning of the Congress, the issue of the election of the CITUR authorities could be included again in the draft agenda when the Congress itself decides on its final approval.

 Without any comment or observation, the Chair's proposal was approved and item 4: “Election of the authorities of the Inter-American Committee on Tourism (CITUR)” was removed from the draft agenda of the Twenty-Fifth Inter-American Congress of Ministers and High Authorities of Tourism, document CIDI/TUR-XXV/doc. 1/21 rev.1 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=III.26.1%20CIDI/TUR-XXV/doc&classNum=1&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=III.26.1%20CIDI/TUR-XXV/doc&classNum=1&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=III.26.1%20CIDI/TUR-XXV/doc&classNum=1&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=III.26.1%20CIDI/TUR-XXV/doc&classNum=1&lang=p)).

* + 1. SECTORAL AND SPECIALIZED MEETINGS OF CIDI

Labor

The Twenty-First Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor was held from September 22 to 24, 2021 virtually with the participation of delegations from 30 Member states, 20 of them led by Ministers, representatives of workers, employers and international organizations. With the adoption of the Declaration of Buenos Aires 2021 (CIDI**/**TRABAJO/DEC.1/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XII.21.1.CIDI/TRABAJO.Dec&classNum=1&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XII.21.1.CIDI/TRABAJO.Dec&classNum=1&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XII.21.1.CIDI/TRABAJO.Dec&classNum=1&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XII.21.1.CIDI/TRABAJO.Dec&classNum=1&lang=p)) and the Plan of Action of Buenos Aires 2021 (CIDI**/**TRABAJO/doc.5/21 rev.1: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XII.21.1.CIDI/TRABAJO.Doc&classNum=5&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XII.21.1.CIDI/TRABAJO.Doc&classNum=5&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XII.21.1.CIDI/TRABAJO.Doc&classNum=5&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XII.21.1.CIDI/TRABAJO.Doc&classNum=5&lang=p)) “Building a more resilient world with sustainable development decent work, productive employment, and social inclusion”, the region now has a new roadmap with broad consensus and concrete actions it needs to take to build a more resilient world of work and achieve a sustainable, inclusive and human-centered recovery. The main topics within the documents adopted include the preventive approach to occupational safety and health; work on digital platforms and telework; institutionalized social dialogue; job training and reskilling; skills for the future; better coordination between education and labor; and equal access of women and vulnerable populations to the labor market, considering that they have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic, among other topics.

Tourism

The Twenty-Fifth Inter-American Congress of Ministers and High-Level Authorities of Tourism, held virtually October 6, 2021, adopted the Declaration of Paraguay (document CIDI TUR-XXV/DEC.1/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=III.26.1%20CIDI/TUR-XXV/DEC&classNum=1&lang=e)| [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=III.26.1%20CIDI/TUR-XXV/DEC&classNum=1&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=III.26.1%20CIDI/TUR-XXV/DEC&classNum=1&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=III.26.1%20CIDI/TUR-XXV/DEC&classNum=1&lang=p)). The meeting’s theme was “Toward the Reconstruction and Rebuilding of Tourism Post COVID-19.” Ministers and high-level authorities from 30 member states shared strategies to mitigate the adverse effects of COVID-19 on tourism and their initiatives related to post COVID-19 tourism. During the Congress, the offer made by the Government of Ecuador to host the Twenty-sixth Inter-American Congress of Ministers and High-Level Authorities of Tourism in 2024 was accepted.

 3.1. Other sectors that support the priority areas of CIDI's work agenda

Competitiveness

The XI Americas Competitiveness Forum (ACF) and Meeting of Competitiveness Ministers and High-Level Authorities, held virtually February 25-26, 2021, focused on priorities for a post-COVID recovery. The ACF convened 600 participants, including ministers and high-level authorities of 32 OAS member states, senior executives from the private sector, and regional experts from the public, private, and academic sectors. Member states shared 15 good practices and identified priorities for post-COVID recovery in the Americas to reduce vulnerability and build short and long-term resiliency, with actions on: i) digital transformation, MSMEs and citizenship readiness, ii) innovation-driven business development and empowering entrepreneurs; iii) Improving the regulatory environment, trade facilitation, and regional value chains; and, iv) climate adaptation and post-COVID.

Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs)

The VII Inter-American Dialogue of High-Level MSME Authorities Dialogue, held virtually September 9-10, 2021, focused on public policies, programs, and solutions for MSME post-COVID economic recovery, and concluded with a document on priority areas of action by member states to support MSME recovery through the exchange of good practices and experiences on: 1) financial solutions including a gender perspective; 2) digitization, e-commerce and other technological solutions; 3) courier services and international shipping; and 4) women’s economic empowerment.

SEDI and Facebook launched the #SheMeansBusiness Program to unlock the potential of women entrepreneurs. The platform offers a learning space of growth and encouragement allowing women access to free learning resources, specifically designed for female-led MSMEs. It includes business resiliency and financial management tools, digital skills and WhatsApp for Business best practices. SEDI also launched the “Economically Empowered Women for Equitable and Resilient Societies” project with funding from the U.S. Permanent Mission to the OAS. It aims at increasing knowledge and enhancing the capacity of women to effectively function in the economy, build sustainable livelihoods, and increase their participation in policymaking and leadership within their societies.

As a follow-up of the Dialogue, Chile and SEDI organized a webinar on “Internationalization of MSMEs: How to open spaces in new markets” on October 7, 2021.

Energy

The Government of Panama announced that it will convene the Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA). In 2021, Panama's National Energy Secretariat organized several public events to develop the Alliance's 2022-2024 Action Plan to be approved at the hemispheric meeting of ministers. The next ECPA Ministerial Meeting will meet from 10 to 11 February 2022 in Panama City and will focus on "Just and Inclusive Energy Transitions". Energy companies, entrepreneurs and development partners will participate in the event, showcasing technologies and sharing knowledge, tools and mechanisms to advance energy transitions in the Americas.

* + 1. ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF CIDI

CIDI's day-to-day tasks were carried out through its three standing committees: the Committee on Policies for Solidarity Cooperation for Development, the Committee on Program, Budget and Evaluation, the Committee on Migration Issues (CAM), and the Management Board of the Inter-American Gagency for Cooperation and Development (MB/IACD).

The following is a summary of the work of the IACD, the inter-American committees, as well as the permanent committees and working groups of CIDI.

1. Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development

 The Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD), as established by its Statute (document CIDI/doc.201/16: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=201&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=201&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=201&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=201&lang=p)) is the subsidiary body of CIDI created to promote, coordinate, administer and facilitate the planning and execution of programs, projects and activities within the scope of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in particular, within the framework of the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development of CIDI.

The IACD has the following functions:

1. The administration, evaluation, and supervision of the partnership for development activities established within the framework of the CIDI Strategic Plan and its Inter-American Programs approved by CIDI.
2. The administration and supervision of the fellowship, scholarship and training programs of the OAS.
3. The development and establishment of cooperative relations with Permanent Observers, other states, and national and international organizations, regarding partnership for development activities.
4. Manage and account for the resources of the Development Cooperation Fund (DCF/OAS) and other funds raised by and entrusted to the IACD.
5. The mobilization of financial, technical, and other resources in order to strengthen partnership for development activities. The approval, in accordance with Article 9 of these Statutes and of the program and policy guidelines approved by CIDI, of the method of implementation of partnership for development activities and the determination of their level of financing, endeavoring to target the most pressing needs of the member states, especially the relatively less-developed countries and those with smaller economies.

 The Management Board of the IACD is composed of nine member states of the Organization of American States elected by CIDI, observing, in accordance with the provisions of Article 77 of the Charter, the principles of rotation and equitable geographical representation, and ensuring that no member state is excluded from the opportunity to be elected to the Board and that all regions have the opportunity to be always represented (Rules of Procedure of the Management Board of the IACD (document CIDI/Doc.202/16 corr.1: CIDI/doc.202/16 corr.1: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=202&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=202&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=202&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=202&lang=p)).

Chair: Ambassador Luz Elena Baños Rivas, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the OAS

Vice-Chair: The Vice Chair for the term 2020-2021 concluded its functions in 2021 at the end of the delegation of El Salvador term as a member of the Management Board. No applications were received to assume the position of Vice Chair for the 2021-2022 term.

Members: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, United States, Honduras, Mexico, Panama and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

The IACD Management Board held three (3) formal meetings and one (1) informal meeting during the course of the year. The main subjects addressed and decisions made include the following:

Development Cooperation:

a) Third CIDI Specialized Meeting of High-Level Cooperation Authorities, to be held virtually on December 2 and 3, 2021: Topic: "Cooperation and partnerships as engines for post-COVID-19 socioeconomic recovery in the region" .

The objectives of the Third Specialized Meeting of CIDI of High Cooperation Authorities and the structure of the meeting were presented by the Secretariat for Integral Development to the IACD Board of Directors at its meeting held on June 8, 2021, where the members agreed to hold the meeting virtually. Subsequently, CIDI approved its convocation at the meeting held on June 29, 2021 [CIDI/RES. 350 (CXIV-O/21): [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/RES.&classNum=350&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/RES.&classNum=350&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/RES.&classNum=350&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/RES.&classNum=350&lang=p)].

As part of the Triennial process, the Meeting of Cooperation Authorities scheduled for 2021 offers a unique opportunity to come together as a region in this challenging time to share solutions and find cooperation and partnership opportunities that can strengthen post COVID-19 recovery. Beyond policy dialogue, the meeting is expected to yield concrete opportunities to support recovery efforts in member states. It provides a unique opportunity for member states to come together with donors, the private sector, and other development actors and join forces to define hemispheric actions to overcome the crisis and build a more resilient, sustainable, and inclusive region for all. Its purpose is to harness the power of cooperation in all its modalities and multi-stakeholder partnerships to assist member states in the post-COVID-19 recovery.

The one-day and a half virtual meeting proposes a series of exchanges of solutions to the most pressing challenges that member states face for post-COVID-19 recovery. Participating Authorities from member and observer states and representatives of the private sector, foundations, academia, and other relevant non-governmental and multilateral actors will be invited to share offers of cooperation and solutions for practical exchanges over the next three years. The offers will focus on the pre-identified needs of member states, based on a survey undertaken in preparation for the meeting, and the opportunities provided by the Secretariat’s portfolio of programs.

1. Development Cooperation Fund

 Through the electronic consultation carried out on August 9, 2021, the Board of Directors approved the document “Programmatic Approach of the Development Cooperation Fund for the 2021-2024 program cycle” (document AICD/JD/doc.189 /21 rev.2: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=189&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=189&lang=s)).

Capital Fund for OAS Scholarship and Training Programs:

a) Investment Strategy for the Capital Fund for the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs:

The Management Board held discussions on the options to comply with resolution AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20) of the General Assembly and achieve the sustainability of the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs. Guided by the Secretary of Administration and Finance of the OAS, at the meeting held on June 8, 2021, the Management Board made the decision to instruct the Department of Financial Services to invest the money from the Capital Fund of the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs according to the investment strategy #1 of the options presented by the Secretariat of Administration and Finance in document AICD/JD/INF.74/21 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=74&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=74&lang=s)) with a combination of investments of 70% in stocks and 30% in bonds, which would seek in addition to security in the investment, a higher return on capital in the long term, with low commission costs, investing the entire capital.

OAS Scholarship and Training Programs

Pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), the Management Board decided to approve the disbursement of funds assigned to the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs in the 2021 Program Budget, document AICD/JD/INF.72/21 rev. 2 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=72&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=72&lang=s)).

Reports presented by the Secretariat

The IACD Management Board received the following reports from the Secretariat:

• IACD Work Plan 2020-2021: Status of implementation: document: AICD/JD/INF.71/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=71&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=71&lang=s)

• Development Cooperation Fund (CDF): Programming Cycles: document AICD/JD/INF.70/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=70&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=70&lang=s). Briefing on the Development Cooperation Fund (DCF) process, followed by a report on the status of implementation of the programs of the Programming Cycle 2017-2021.

OAS Scholarship and Training Program:

Approval of the budget allocated for the year 2021

The Management Board approved the disbursement of funds allocated to the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs in the 2021 Budget Program, document AICD/JD/INF.72/21 rev. 2, in accordance with resolution AG/RES. 2957(L-O/20).

1. Nonpermanent Specialized Committees

The Nonpermanent Specialized Committees (CENPES) are technical bodies supporting the CIDI in addressing specialized matters or developing specific aspects of inter-American cooperation in the priority cooperation areas approved by the General Assembly. The functions and composition of the CENPES are defined in Articles 13 to 16 of the CIDI Statutes.

As the principal task of the CENPES to date has been evaluating FEMCIDI projects, during the period covered by this report no new CENPES have been created nor have the existing ones met.

1. Inter-American Commissions

The inter-American commissions are organs of CIDI established pursuant to Article 17 of the CIDI Statute and Article 77 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), with the purpose of giving continuity to the sectoral dialogue of cooperation in solidarity and following up on the mandates of the Summits of the Americas in a certain sector. as well as to identify and promote multilateral cooperation initiatives. Its members are the political-technical sectoral authorities accredited by each Member State.

Social development

 The authorities of the Inter-American Committee on Social Development (CIDES) -Mexico, President and Paraguay and Guatemala in the Vice Presidency and of the Troika (Guatemala, Paraguay and the Dominican Republic)- held a virtual meeting on July 23, 2020 to elaborate the Work Plan 2021-2022 of cides.

 On February 23, 2021, the CIDES Authorities and the Coordinators of the Working Groups met to review and prioritize the activities and meetings contemplated in the proposed Work Plan 2021-2022. This Plan was presented at that meeting and subsequently approved by the Committee on Partnership for Development during the meeting held on April 13, 2021, CIDI/CIDES/RPA/doc.3/21 rev.1 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XIII.7%20CIDI/CIDES/RPAdoc.&classNum=3&lang=e) | [Españo](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XIII.7%20CIDI/CIDES/RPAdoc.&classNum=3&lang=s)l)

 A meeting of Working Group 1 on “Measurements of multidimensional poverty and the design of public policies focused on guaranteeing well-being and the enjoyment of good quality of life”, made up of Mexico and Canada, was held on on May 25, 2021, and a meeting of Working Group 2 on “Social protection systems that lead to social development through the reduction of poverty and inequality and expand social protection with a comprehensive approach”, made up of the Dominican Republic; Costa Rica; Guatemala, Paraguay and Peru, was held on June 24, 2021, to agree on the work methodology and advance in the implementation of the activities contemplated in the Work Plan.

Tourism

The Second Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Tourism (CITUR) was held virtually on November 19-20, 2020 to review the progress and implementation of ministerial mandates and execution of the activities of the CITUR Work Plan. Member states also received an update on the Twenty-Fifth Inter-American Congress of Ministers and High-Level Authorities of Tourism, hosted by Paraguay and held virtually October 6, 2021, and on the work of the CITUR Working Groups established at the Second Special Meeting of the Committee on August 14, 2020. Thirty-two (32) countries were represented at the meeting.

The Third and Fourth Special Meetings of the CITUR took place on March 26, 2021 and June 28, 2021, with 30 and 22 members states in attendance, respectively. These meetings offered member states a forum to review the progress made by the CITUR Working Groups, discuss measures to address the impact of the pandemic and revive the travel and tourism sector, as well as to prepare it for the post-pandemic period.

Culture

The Sixth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Culture (CIC) was held virtually April 27, 2021. The meeting was organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture of Colombia, in its capacity as Chair of the CIC. The objective of the meeting was two-fold: to assess progress and implementation of ministerial mandates and execution of the activities of the CIC Work Plan, and to receive an update on the next Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities, to be held in 2022 under the leadership of Guatemala as host. Thirty-one (31) member states were represented at the meeting.

Within the framework of the Work Plan of the Inter-American Committee on Culture (CIC), five webinars were held and 30 good practices were shared on the following topics: strengthening the creative and cultural industries from institutional coordination and complementarity; guidelines for the creation of culture satellite accounts; promotion and protection of cultural expressions at the local level; positioning of the culture sector in public agendas to promote sustainable development, and “Commemoration of Freedom: Abolition of Slavery in the Americas.”

 Ports

The Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) and the Twenty-first Meeting of its Executive Committee (CECIP) were held virtually on May 19, 2021 with the participation of Ministers, Vice Ministers and High Authorities of 27 Member states, who approved the Resolution of Buenos Aires ([CIDI/CIP/RES.1/2](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XIII.4.12/CIDI/CIP/res&classNum=1&lang=e)1), its corresponding Plan of Action of Buenos Aires 2021-2023([CIDI/CIP/doc.5/21 rev.3](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XIII.4.12/CIDI/CIP/doc&classNum=5&lang=e)), the activity and financial reports, as well as the operational budget.

Education

The Ninth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE) to be held virtually on November 18–19, 2021 will allow member states to share their experiences and consider the progress that has been made regarding the implementation of the CIE´s Work Plan 2019-2022 (document CIDI/CIE/RPA/doc.9/20 rev.3: [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XIII.6.CIDI/CIE/RPA/Doc&classNum=9&lang=s) | [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XIII.6.CIDI/CIE/RPA/Doc&classNum=9&lang=e)) of the Inter-American Education Agenda (IEA). It will also contribute towards establishing consensus around key actions and initiatives that define the second phase of the Inter-American Educational Agenda (2022-2027), towards the construction of a new hemispheric educational pact in contexts of change. The Ninth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Education was convened by CIDI through resolution CIDI/RES. 349 (CXIII-O/21) ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=349&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=349&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=349&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/RES.&classNum=349&lang=p)).

1. Permanent committees
	* 1. Committee on Partnership for Development Policies

Chair: Jovan Reid, Alternate Representative of Barbados to the OAS

Vice Chair: Laura Raquel Pizarro Viales, Alternate Representative of Costa Rica to the OAS, who assumed the interim chairmanship on September 2, 2021

The Committee held 12 formal meetings and 4 informal meetings. The main tasks carried out during this period were as follows:

1. On 16 February 2021, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Ms Laura Raquel Pizarro Viales as Vice-Chair.
2. The Committee adopted its work plan, document CIDI/CPD/doc.203/21 rev.2 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=203&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=203&lang=s) | [French](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=203&lang=f) | [Portuguese](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=203&lang=p))
3. In subsequent meetings, the Commitee followed up on the implementation of the Triennial Ministerial Cycle, with reports from the technical secretariats of the ministerial working processes (document CIDI/CP/INF.67/21: [TEXTUAL);](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/INF.&classNum=67&lang=t) science and technology (document CIDI/CPD/INF.68/21: [TEXTUAL),](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/INF.&classNum=68&lang=t) social development, tourism, culture, education (documentCIDI/CPD/INF.74/21: [TEXTUAL)](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/INF.&classNum=74&lang=t) on the progress made and difficulties encountered in the implementation of the guidelines for the preparation and follow-up of ministerial decisions.
4. Received a report on the XII Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP), held on May 19, 2021, document CIDI/CPD/INF.76/21 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/INF.&classNum=76&lang=e) | [Españo](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/INF.&classNum=76&lang=s)l)
5. Received the report of the Secretariat on the implementation of the recommendations of CIDI contained in document CIDI/CPD/doc.200/20 rev.3, on the tools and entities of the inter-American system to address the response to natural disasters (document CIDI/CPD/INF.77/21: [TEXTUAL)](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/INF.&classNum=77&lang=t)
6. Reviewed SEDI's response to climate change and sustainable development and the status of work in the sustainable development sector
7. Received a report on the status of implementation of the mandates on food and nutrition security
8. Learned about the process of preparing and holding the meetings of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA)(document CIDI/CPD/INF.74/21: [TEXTUAL](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/INF.&classNum=74&lang=t))
9. In response to a proposal by SEDI (documentCIDI/CPD/doc.205/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=205&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=205&lang=s)) the Committee reviewed CIDI's ministerial processes and in informal and formal meetings, conducted a review of possible ways to improve it as well as the execution of the triennial cycle, and requested SEDI to prepare a proposal to achieve such improvement. SEDI presented a new model for CIDI's sectoral meetings and the Committee set up an informal working group to analyze it. The Working Group held 3 informal meetings and after the deliberations, the Committee agreed to submit to CIDI its report with the recommendation to approve the new model proposed by SEDI for ministerial and high-level authorities meetings on development. The report was submitted on September 28, 2021 and is contained in document CIDI/INF. 462/21 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=462&lang=e) | [Spanish](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/INF.&classNum=462&lang=s)).
10. Considered and approved the Work Plan 2021-2022 of the Inter-American Committee on Social Development (CIDES) document [CIDI/CIDES/RPA/doc.3/21 rev.1](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XIII.7%20CIDI/CIDES/RPAdoc.&classNum=3&lang=s) ([English](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cediaz%5CDocuments%5CCONSEJO%20INTERAM%20DESARROLLO%20%20INTEGRAL%5CINFORMES%20ANUALES%5CINFORME%20ANUAL%20DEL%20CIDI%5C2020-2021%5C6.%09http%3A%5Cscm.oas.org%5CIDMS%5CRedirectpage.aspx%3Fclass%3DXIII.7%20CIDI%5CCIDES%5CRPAdoc.%26classNum%3D3%26lang%3De) | [Español](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cediaz%5CDocuments%5CCONSEJO%20INTERAM%20DESARROLLO%20%20INTEGRAL%5CINFORMES%20ANUALES%5CINFORME%20ANUAL%20DEL%20CIDI%5C2020-2021%5C6.%09http%3A%5Cscm.oas.org%5CIDMS%5CRedirectpage.aspx%3Fclass%3DXIII.7%20CIDI%5CCIDES%5CRPAdoc.%26classNum%3D3%26lang%3Ds))
11. Received a report from the Secretariat on the implementation of mandates under the strategic line “Promoting inclusive and competitive economies” of resolution AG/RES. 2955 (L-O/20), on MSMEs and on the Prospecta Americas initiative
12. In preparation for the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly, the Committee considered and approved the methodology for the preparation of draft resolution(s) and proposed format for the omnibus draft resolution of CIDI, document CIDI/CPD/doc.204/21 rev. 2 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=204&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=204&lang=s))
13. The Committee held meetings with the support of the technical areas of the Secretariat to elaborate the draft omnibus resolution “Advancing Hemispheric Initiatives on Integral Development: Promoting Resilience” which will be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-first regular session. Negotiations on the draft resolution were concluded on October 19, 2021 and the draft resolution, document CIDI/CPD/doc.206/21 rev.12 (([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=206&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=206&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=206&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=206&lang=p)) was submitted for consideration by CIDI on October 26, 2021.
14. The Committee also considered the draft resolution “Coordination of Volunteers in the Hemisphere in Response to Disasters and the Fight Against Hunger and Poverty-White Helmets Initiative,” document CIDI/CPD/doc.207/21 rev.2: ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=207&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=207&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=207&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/CPD/doc.&classNum=207&lang=p)), presented by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Argentina, with the co-sponsorship of Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Peru, the United States and Uruguay, to be transmitted for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-first regular session.
	* 1. Programme, Budget and Evaluation Committee

Chair: Michael Pointer, Alternate Representative of the United States to the OAS through December 2020.

Vice Chair: Jean Bernard Henry, Alternate Representative of Haiti to the OAS

Under Article 57 of the Rules of Procedure for Regular and Special Meetings of CIDI, the Committee on Migration Issues has the following functions:

* 1. To analyze the budget execution of partnership-for-development activities approved by the governing bodies and monitor the results, impact, and sustainability of those activities on the basis of the reports submitted by the General Secretariat and the IACD Management Board;
	2. When appropriate, to identify and propose to regular meetings of CIDI arrangements, procedures, and sources of financing for programs approved by the member states;
	3. To examine and make recommendations to regular meetings of CIDI regarding all matters in the Organization’s program-budget having to do with partnership for development;
	4. To take up other matters within its sphere of competence that regular or special meetings of CIDI assign to it;

The Committee did not hold meetings during the period covered by this report.

* + 1. Committee on Migration Issues

Chair: Felipe Aravena Galvez, Alternate Representative of Chile to the OAS

Vice Chair: Andres Fabricio Jauregui Pelaes, Alternate Representative of Ecuador

Under Article 58 of the Rules of Procedure for Regular and Special Meetings of CIDI, the Committee on Migration Issues has the following functions:

1. To serve as the principal forum in the Organization responsible for migration issues, adopting a comprehensive, balanced, and technical approach that takes into consideration the contributions and challenges represented by migration for countries of origin, transit, destination, and/or return, as well as incorporating a gender approach and perspective;
2. To promote dialogue, cooperation, and exchanges of experience, lessons learned, and best practices in migration matters at the international, regional, subregional, and bilateral level, within a framework of respect for human rights, fostering recognition of the important contribution of migrants to integral development in the Hemisphere;
3. To review, implement, and monitor such migration matters as the General Assembly or CIDI may entrust to it; and
4. To promote linkages and exchanges of information with other international agencies and subregional consultative processes that have mandates in this area.

The CAM held eleven (11) formal meetings to carry out the activities approved in its work plan during the period 2020-2021. Most of the main activities carried out during the period were those established in the 2020-2021 work plan (document CIDI/CAM/doc.85/21: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=85&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=85&lang=s) **|** [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=85&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=85&lang=p)), the objective of which is to address migration issues in the Americas on a multidimensional basis, with a focus on rights, covering the social and economic dimensions from a national and regional and gender perspective while seeking to highlight multilateral efforts for dialogue and cooperation on migration and international protection:

1. Sessions were held on access to social benefits, pensions and agreements between countries, for the transfer of pensions to social and health services for vulnerable populations in host countries, care for victims of human trafficking and migrant smuggling, contributions from migrants to host countries, public policies and best practices in the region to combat discrimination, xenophobia and racism, the impact of migration on small island developing states (SIDS) and the specific challenges regarding their physical capacity and financial, Follow-up of measures to address the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Migrants of the Americas, including Vaccination processes, data collection and statistics on migration at the regional level, Migration and Climate Change and situations special migrations that the Region lives among others.
2. The thematic sessions had high-level speakers, representatives of organizations specialized in various issues related to migration, including the Undersecretary of Social Welfare, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare of Chile, Labor and Employment Section, Human Development Department, the General Coordinator for the Fight Against Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants of the Ministry of Justice of Brazil, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the University of the West Indies on the Mona Campus, North Kingston, Jamaica, among others.
3. In preparation for the General Assembly, the CAM held 4 formal meetings in order to examine and negotiate the paragraphs to be included in the omnibus resolution “Advancing Hemispheric Initiatives on Integral Development: Promoting Resilience”, which were agreed on October 7, 2021 (document CIDI/CAM/doc.98/ 21 rev. 4: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=98&lang=e)| [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=98&lang=s) |[Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=98&lang=f" \t "_blank) |[Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=98&lang=p" \t "_blank).)
	* 1. Working Group to Prepare the Draft Inter-American Business Charter

Chair: Permanent Mission of Colombia

Vice Chair: There were no submission of candidates to the position of Vice Chair

To comply with the mandate by the General Assembly and in accordance with the provisions of Article 51 of its Rules of Procedure, the Inter-American Council for Integral Development installed the Working Group to Prepare the Draft Inter-American Business Charter at its regular session held on January 26, 2021, and entrusted it with the following functions:

a) To prepare a draft resolution entitled “Inter-American Business Charter” to buttress OAS instruments in order to promote the role of the private sector in integral development in the Hemisphere, and to use the accompanying preliminary draft proposed by the Government of Colombia to begin discussions as soon as possible, with a view to considering its adoption by the General Assembly at its fifty-first regular session”.

b) conduct preliminary discussions and support it in the consideration of different proposals for each section of the draft Inter-American Business Charter presented by the Government of Colombia and conduct inclusive internal consultations with interested parties in the context of the discussion process.

The activities of the Working Group were structured in the following three stages:

1. Joint Reading of the Draft Inter-American Business Charter and receipt of proposals.

2. Review and Negotiation of the Preambular section and the Operational section:

During this stage, a virtual colloquium was held on July 28 to learn the views of the business sector, academics, labor unions, and international organizations on the theme: "Businesses’ Contribution to Integral and Sustainable Development in the Americas", which was divided into two segments: Businesses as a Catalyst of Development in the Americas, and Business and Resilience Building.

1. Preparation and approval of the Report of the Working Group which includes the draft Resolution for submission to CIDI.

During this period, the Working Group held twenty-seven (27) virtual meetings, the progress of which was periodically reported to CIDI at its meetings on February 23, April 27, March 30, June 29, and July 27. and September 28.

Additionally, the Working Group agreed to establish an informal Sub Working Group to reviewed the preambular section in order to present a proposal of a cleaner version to the Working Group and thus facilitate its negotiation. The Subgroup was comprised by the Delegations of Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Canada, Brazil, Mexico and Paraguay held five (5) meetings.

During the session held on October 22, 2021, the Working Group agreed to submit to CIDI the “Draft Resolution on the Inter-American Business Charter,” contained in the document CIDI/GT/CEI- 29/21 rev.3 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/GT/CEI&classNum=29&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/GT/CEI&classNum=29&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/GT/CEI&classNum=29&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/GT/CEI&classNum=29&lang=p)). This draft resolution includes an annex with the draft Inter-American Business Charter prepared by the Working Group, document CIDI/GT/CEI- 19/21 rev.6 ([English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/GT/CEI&classNum=19&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/GT/CEI&classNum=19&lang=s) | [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/GT/CEI&classNum=19&lang=f) | [Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/GT/CEI&classNum=19&lang=p)). In this regard, the Working Group recommended that CIDI forward it to the General Assembly for its consideration during the fifty-first regular session.

1. ACTIVITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT (SEDI) (January to December 2020)

 In 2020, since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, in the face of the unprecedented challenges faced by OAS member states, the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) has focused on reorienting existing programs and initiatives to meet the emerging needs of Member states. Thus, SEDI programs have provided micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), as well as ports in the Americas, with opportunities for capacity building and tools to improve their response, recovery and resilience capacities. In addition, technical assistance was provided to the Inter-American Committee for Natural Disaster Reduction (CIRDN) as a measure to address the aggravating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the hurricane season, and in response to the effects of Hurricanes Eta and Iota. Support was also expressed for the development of safe return to school protocols and for the continuity of education for persons with disabilities.

 Other initiatives, such as the RIAC's Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator and the Technology Commercialization and Transfer HUB for the Americas, have helped identify tools and new policies to strengthen the MSME ecosystem in Member states. The Exchange for the Competitiveness of the Americas (ACE) program has continued collaboration between countries and key social actors to foster inclusive economic development, innovation, and entrepreneurship in the region.

 The programs, projects, and initiatives highlighted in this report briefly describe SEDI's contribution to achieving economic, social, human, inclusive, and sustainable development in the Americas. The extensive annual report can be found in ANNEX I.

 The following section highlights some major achievements of SEDI:

**Strategic Line 1: Promoting Inclusive and Competitive Economies**

* **The Caribbean Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Program**
	+ 5717 small businesses assisted; support for 12,391 jobs; $67.2M of revenue generated from sales, $7.1M in profits; and $1.12M in capital contributions through loans in 6 Caribbean Member states.
* **The OAS MSMEs** Digitization Program
	+ 6 roundtables with Facebook to share 25 best practices with more than 85,000 viewers to help MSMEs recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.
* **The Inter-American Competitiveness Network (RIAC)**
* Regional Dialogue on Economic Recovery and the Restoration of the Competitiveness Agenda of the Americas.
* **Science, Technology and Innovation**
	+ 15 good practices shared in response to the pandemic in 3 dialogues of the Inter-American Committee on Science and Technology.
* **Culture and Tourism**
	+ First Indigenous Tourism Forum of the Americas, held with the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs and George Washington University.
* **Ports**
	+ Compilation of practices, guidelines and protocols related to COVID-19 security measures and continuity of logistics operations in ports during the pandemic.
	+ Publication of the Green Ports Guide for environmentally sustainable operations.

**Strategic Line 2: Strengthen the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in accordance with the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development 2016-2021**

* **The Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA)**
* Technical assistance to 30 governments in clean energy policy and regulation and to 7 Central American countries to develop harmonized energy efficiency regulations in lighting; 28 virtual dialogues and workshops on sustainable energy during the pandemic
* **Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation**
* Support for the implementation of the White Helmets-OAS Program in Argentina and Central America in response to COVID-19.
* Project "Disaster risk management for port and maritime authorities of the Caribbean" initiated to improve response and resilience capacities. <http://portalcip.org/tags/port-protection-and-security-tag/activities/improved-disaster-risk-management-for-ports-in-the-caribbean/>
* **Integrated Water Resources Management**
* Development of a proposal for the COVID-19 prevention and containment program for the rural area of the Trifinio Region in Honduras.
* Development of the Portfolio of Projects of the Plata Basin, Sub-basins and National Interventions valued at $98 Million.
* Approval of the GEF-UNEP-OAS project "Promoting water security in the Trifinio Region: Promoting the formulation of an ADR/SAP for its transboundary basin of the Lempa River" of $ 4.8 million.

**Strategic Line 3: Promoting Education and Human Development in the Americas**

* [**Inter-American Network of Teacher Education (ITEN)**](https://www.oas.org/es/ried/)
	+ 117,000 teachers trained in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.
* [**Educational Portal of the Americas**](https://portal.educoas.org/)
	+ 11,700 teachers trained under the ProFuturo Educational Program, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.
* [**OAS Scholarship and Training Programs.**](http://www.oas.org/es/becas/default.asp)
	+ 4,009 scholarships in partnership with international institutions.
* [**Leo S. Rowe Pan American Fund**](http://www.oas.org/es/fondorowe/default.asp)
	+ 101 interest-free loans and 63 $2,000 scholarships to support international students due to the COVID-19 pandemic
* [**The Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP)**](http://www.portalcip.org)
	+ 403 scholarships to port officials from 29 Member states for master's degrees; 11 certified professional development courses; 3,245 port officers exposed to best practices.

**Strategic Line 4: Promote decent, dignified and productive work for all**

* 400 measures of Ministries of Labor collected, in response to the pandemic.

**Strategic Line 5: Fostering development cooperation and building partnerships**

* **Development Cooperation Fund (CDF)**
* Action area "Inclusive resilience for an effective recovery, with an emphasis on science and technology" approved for the 2021-2024 CDF programming cycle, for US$1.7 million.
* **Inter-American Cooperation Network (CooperaNet)**
	+ 228 cooperation offers published in the areas of development and 8 cooperation needs in the "Cooperation Exchange".
* **Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports**
	+ Strategic alliances established for the "COVID-19 Port Barometer" on the impact of the pandemic on port operations. <http://portalcip.org/home/covid-19-announcement>

 Additionally, SEDI provided support to several meetings of ministers and high authorities and inter-American commissions of CIDI:

* II Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Tourism (CITUR), held virtually, on November 19 and 20, 2020 and the III and IV Extraordinary Meetings of CITUR held, virtually, on March 26 and June 28, 2021;
* VI Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Culture (CIC), held virtually on April 27, 2021;
* XII Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) held virtually on May 19, 2021;
* XXI Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML), held virtually, from September 22 to 24, 2021;
* XXV Inter-American Congress of Ministers and High Authorities of Tourism, which was held virtually on October 6, 2021;

SEDI has also been providing support for the preparation of the next meetings of ministers and high authorities to be held within the framework of CIDI:

* IX Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE), to be held virtually on November 18 and 19, 2021;
* III CIDI Specialized Meeting of High Cooperation Authorities, to be held virtually, on December 2 and 3, 2021
* VI Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Science and Technology, to be held virtually on December 7, 2021;
* XXII Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CECIP) in Colonia del Sacramento, Uruguay, in March 2022;
* XI Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education, scheduled to be held in April 2022;
* V Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Social Development, scheduled for November 17 and 18, 2022
* IX Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Culture, scheduled for 2022;
* XIII Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) and the XXIII of the EXECUTIVE Committee of the IPC in Roatan, Honduras, in June 2023;
* XXII Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML), scheduled to be held from September 22 to 24, 2024

SEDI has collaborated and will continue to advise and collaborate to organize other events that support the priority areas of CIDI's work agenda:

* XI Americas Competitiveness Forum (FCA), which was held virtually on February 25 and 26, 2021;
* XIII Exchange for the Competitiveness of the Americas held in the State of Colorado, from August 1 to 6, 2021;
* VII Inter-American Dialogue of High Authorities of MSMEs, held virtually on September 9 and 10, 2021;
* Strategic sessions on *Blockchain* and Artificial Intelligence, by Prospecta Americas, held virtually, on October 27 and 28, 2021;
* V Ministerial Meeting of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA), in February 2022;
* Second edition of the Prospecta Americas Seminar, in February 2022;
* RIAC Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Competitiveness of the Americas in 2022;
* XIV Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE), in 2022;
* Prospecta Americas, in 2022

 The website of the implementing departments reports on ongoing initiatives and additional results of completed programmes.

1. ANNEXES

ANNEX I SEDI’s Annual Report to CIDI – January-December 2020

CIDI/doc.305/21 rev. 2: [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=305&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=305&lang=s)| [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=305&lang=f) |[Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=CIDI/doc.&classNum=305&lang=p)

ANNEX II Contributions to the Development Cooperation Fund (CDF) 2017-2018

ANNEX II

PAYMENTS OF THE DCF CONTRIBUTIONS

(Updated as of October 21, 2021)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Country | Contribution Amount |
| 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| Antigua and Barbuda | $ 6,988.00 | $ 1,000.00 | $ 1,000.00 | $ 1,000.00 | $ 2,500.00 |  |  |  |
| Argentina | $ 58,784.16 | $ 10,078.41 | $ 9,870.13 | $ 20,000.00 | $ 2,565.91 | $ 2,565.91 | $ 3,996.26 |  |
| Bahamas |  | $ 20,000.00 | $ 15,000.00 |  | $ 20,000.00 | $ 20,000.00 |  |  |
| Barbados | $ 16,400.00 | $ 16,400.00 | $ 16,400.00 | $ 16,400.00 |  | $ 16,400.00 |  |  |
| Belize | $ 8,000.00 | $ 8,000.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bolivia |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Brazil |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Canada |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chile | $ 113,000.00 | $ 30,000.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Colombia | $ 50,000.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Costa Rica | $ 29,462.04 | $ 30,000.00 | $ 30,000.00 | $ 30,000.00 | $ 30,000.00 | $ 30,000.00 | $ 30,000.00 |  |
| Dominica | $ 5,100.00 | $ 5,100.00 | $ 5,100.00 | $ 5,100.00 | $ 5,100.00 | $ 5,100.00 | $ 5,100.00 |  |
| Dominican Republic | $ 10,000.00 |  |  | $ 9,919.04 |  | $ 10,008.38 |  | $ 14,975.00 |
| Ecuador | $ 8,340.00 | $ 6,000.00 | $ 16,680.00 |  | $ 6,500.00 | $ 6,500.00 | $ 7,000.00 | $ 5,000.00 |
| El Salvador | $ 32,100.00 | $ 32,100.00 | $ 32,100.00 | $ 32,100.00 | $ 32,100.00 | $ 32,100.00 |  |  |
| Grenada |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Guatemala | $ 10,693.92 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Guyana | $ 5,100.00 | $ 5,100.00 | $ 5,100.00 | $ 6,745.76 | $ 6,745.76 | $ 6,681.06 | $ 6,681.06 | $ 6,681.06 |
| Haiti |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Honduras | $ 7,000.00 | $ 7,000.00 | $ 7,000.00 | $ 7,000.00 | $ 7,000.00 | $ 6,999.00 |  |  |
| Jamaica | $ 10,000.00 | $ 10,000.00 | $ 10,000.00 | $ 10,000.00 | $ 10,000.00 | $ 10,000.00 | $ 10,000.00 | $ 10,000.00 |
| Mexico | $ 100,000.00 | $ 100,000.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nicaragua | $ 6,000.00 | $ 6,000.00 | $ 6,000.00 | $ 6,000.00 | $ 7,000.00 | $ 7,000.00 | $ 5,000.00 | $ 9,000.00 |
| Panama | $ 39,600.00 | $ 39,600.00 | $ 39,600.00 | $ 39,600.00 | $ 39,600.00 | $ 39,600.00 | $ 6,000.00 | $ 6,000.00 |
| Paraguay |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Peru | $ 70,113.31 | $ 62,500.00 | $ 59,593.68 | $ 60,091.05 | $ 14,771.05 | $ 44,139.60 | $ 44,035.41 |  |
| St. Kitts and Nevis | $ 5,100.00 | $ 5,100.00 | $ 5,100.00 | $ 5,100.00 | $ 5,100.00 | $ 5,100.00 |  |  |
| St Lucia | $ 7,570.00 | $ 7,570.00 | $ 7,600.00 | $ 7,600.00 | $ 7,600.00 | $ 7,583.50 | $ 7,550.00 |  |
| St. Vincent |  | $ 5,100.00 | $ 5,100.00 |  | $ 5,100.00 | $ 1,000.00 | $ 1,000.00 | $ 3,812.87 |
| Suriname |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Trinidad and Tobago |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| United States |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Uruguay | $ 15,000.00 | $ 15,000.00 | $ 15,000.00 | $ 15,000.00 | $ 15,000.00 | $ 15,000.00 |  |  |
| Venezuela | $ 25,980.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL | $ 640,331.43 | $ 421,648.41 | $ 286,243.81 | $ 271,655.85 | $ 216,682.72 | $ 265,777.45 | $ 126,362.73 | $ 55,468.93 |

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