

**HLPF 2024****FROM THE SDG SUMMIT TO THE EFFECTIVE DELIVERY OF SUSTAINABLE,  
RESILIENT AND INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS****TOWNHALL MEETING**

Monday, 8 July, 11 AM – 1 PM

Speaking time 3 minutes – ES ECLAC

**Questions**

***1) As the Coordinator of the UN Regional Commissions, can you please share with us key messages from the five regions for accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda following the SDG Summit?***

**I have three messages:**

**First**, the five UN Regional Commissions have a unique position in relation to the SDGs for at least three reasons:

- our data and monitoring function of SDGs, working closely with National Statistical Offices (NSO) and other players in countries;
- our role as intermediaries between the global agenda and the country level work of the UN; and
- our role as co-vicechairs of the Regional Cooperation Platforms (RCPs) in each region together with UNDP.

We take care of the data bases and indicators and monitor progress of the SDG indicators for each region and we discuss this progress every year with key stakeholders in the respective Regional Sustainable Development Forum. So we are at the center of the follow-up and policy discussion about progress and acceleration in each region.

As part of this function and motivated by the conversation around acceleration triggered by the SDG Summit, we have recently engaged in analysis of the six transitions identified by the UN system.

For instance, at ECLAC we included a chapter about the six transitions in our annual progress report. For each transition we did an analysis of means of implementation divided in three categories:

- a review of the strategies, policies, plans and programs observed in the countries to promote each transition;
- a review of the institutional arrangements; and
- the investment and financing needs.

And this takes me to our **second message** and this is that the three means of implementation are important: financing is key but it is not the only one that matters; what kind of policies and programs countries have is also key, as is also the question of what institutional arrangements and capabilities countries have to manage the transition and push it forward.

None of these three should be underestimated. Thinking the implementation agenda in terms of these three elements is crucial to better understand the capacities for acceleration of each transition in each country context.

That is why we think that for countries to incorporate the six transitions in their development plans is important, and it would also be helpful to align the UNCT country cooperation frameworks with the transitions, particular in countries that adopt this framework.

**And our third message** is that many countries in our regions present situations of high debt and limited fiscal space. Therefore, improving access to financing is key, both in terms of more helpful and conducive international initiatives on debt, multilateral banking, recycling of SDRs, innovative financing instruments such as thematic bonds, etc. and in terms of domestic resource mobilization.

**2) *What successful regional policies or initiatives can serve as examples for other regions aiming to advance the SDGs?***

I would like to mention three examples.

**First**, the Regional Water Dialogues that have provided a high-level ministerial space with a multi-actor approach to drive the achievement of SDG 6.

In preparation for the midterm comprehensive review of the Water Action Decade (2018-2028), Regional Commissions engaged member States and stakeholders in regional consultations that identified regional priorities for mobilizing water action. This resulted in the Regional Water Action Agendas, the establishment of regional expert groups and a joint publication to inform the Global Water Conference in 2023.

**Second**, the digital Transition. Almost half of the world's population, currently do not have access to the Internet. The least developed countries are the least connected.

Through intergovernmental and multistakeholder platforms, the Regional Commissions promote inclusive digital transformation to address digital divides, close skills gaps, incorporate new technologies in productive processes and enhance regional cooperation for digital and data governance. This is the case with the Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC).

And **third**, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, is an objective that stand high on the agenda of the Regional Commissions.

In our region, the Buenos Aires Commitment stands out as a pioneering agreement that recognizes the care economy as a productive sector with the potential to revitalize economies and fulfil the right to care and fosters women's participation in political, economic, and social spheres.

The five regions recommend calculating costs and increasing investments in care systems. In Latin America, there are already ten countries that have calculated the monetary contribution of unpaid work in households.

But there is still a long way to go to use gender-sensitive budgets and expanding fiscal allocations for the care society.