The Inter-American Dialogue engages our network of global leaders to foster democratic governance, prosperity, and social equity in Latin America and the Caribbean. Together, we work to shape policy debate, devise solutions, and enhance cooperation within the Western Hemisphere.
Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA) gives remarks at the opening reception for the Linowitz Forum at the Colombian Embassy Residence on June 27, 2019.
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

2019 and 2020 were among the most tumultuous two years in recent memory in the Americas. At the end of 2019, street protests roiled cities around the world. Latin America and the Caribbean experienced high levels of social upheaval. Political crises and mass street mobilizations broke out in Haiti, Honduras, Ecuador, Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, and elsewhere. The region-wide turmoil stemmed from distinct causes, reflecting an array of persistent problems, more salient in some countries than others: economic stagnation, precarious social mobility, inequality, politicized judiciaries, corruption, crime, and in a few cases, authoritarian rule. Failure to address these problems—and to fulfill promises that had been made—deepened discontent and further eroded the legitimacy of many governments in the eyes of their citizens.

In 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic upended all of our lives, affecting healthcare systems, financial markets, economies, politics, and social well-being. The nations of Latin America and the Caribbean were hit particularly hard, experiencing a disproportionate share of Covid-19 infections and deaths. The pandemic laid bare the structural challenges facing these countries: weak healthcare systems, profound social inequality, and massive job informality. Much of the progress in development goals achieved in recent years risks being reversed.

In the United States, the unconscionable murder of George Floyd in May 2020 was yet another wake-up call about the systemic problems, such as deep-seated racial injustice, that persist in the United States. The tragic incident sparked nation-wide protests, an expression of civic participation and outrage over legitimate, long-standing grievances. In some cases, mostly peaceful protests were met with repression, excessive use of force, and militarization of public security. Such responses alarmed citizens of democratic conviction, sparking unrest in the United States and worldwide.

The abdication of US leadership regarding the pandemic in Latin America revealed the fundamental indifference of the Trump administration toward the region. The damage to US-Latin American relations will not be quickly or easily repaired. Although it is not clear what the new Biden-led Democratic US administration will mean for Latin America policy, a shift toward greater cooperation and multilateralism is likely. One can also expect greater emphasis on human rights and democracy, which will be seen not only as values that need to be fostered, but also as a US national interest.

At a time when countries are turning inward, cooperation and collaboration are more crucial than ever. The recovery will be long and difficult, but it is in this challenge that the Dialogue sees a great opportunity to do things better. We can work to rebuild systems that focus on the most vulnerable, prioritize health and education, and reinvigorate multilateralism. The Dialogue is well positioned to make a significant difference and have a strong impact. For almost four decades, we have worked tirelessly to strengthen democratic practices and the rule of law and improve the plight of marginalized peoples in the region.

I am pleased and proud to present just a few of our accomplishments during 2019 and 2020. Our Venezuela Working Group identified and advanced solutions to the country’s political and humanitarian crises, the most acute in the Americas. Our Working Group on Technology and Innovation in Education developed an agenda focused on quality learning experiences, effective teaching, and efficient management. That 154 million children in Latin America and the Caribbean were suddenly unable to attend school because of the Covid-19 pandemic made the group’s efforts even more urgent. Through partnerships with financial institutions, remittance companies, and diaspora groups, the Dialogue has developed programs to build assets, promote investment in social capital, and strengthen the knowledge economy in Guatemala. With our China-Latin America Finance Database, we remain among the few institutions disseminating credible data on Chinese finance in Latin America and the Caribbean. By digging beyond the headlines and analyzing the reasons for deforestation across the Amazon region, the Dialogue has heightened public understanding and clarified policy choices about what is possibly the region’s overriding environmental challenge.

I would like to thank the Dialogue’s staff for their superb job, innovative thinking, and valuable contributions. Their resourcefulness, passion, openness, generosity of spirit, sense of common purpose, and rigor keep us moving forward. I am also very grateful to our dedicated Board of Directors, our distinguished members, and the many donors and supporters who make our work possible.

With deep gratitude and warmest regards,

Michael Shifter
MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that we present this report of the Inter-American Dialogue’s work and accomplishments in 2019 and 2020.

It has been a distinct honor to preside over such a demanding, creative, and productive period in the Dialogue’s history.

This past year posed unprecedented challenges for the world, the hemisphere, and the Dialogue. Our staff has proven to be resilient, resourceful, and imaginative as the Dialogue successfully pivoted to the new circumstances, providing relevant and informed analysis on the impact of the pandemic in the region—while continuing superb work across the many fields of our common endeavor.

We thank each of our supporters for recognizing the Dialogue’s valuable contributions to hemispheric affairs. In the years ahead, inter-American relations will face many challenges—along with opportunities for further progress. As the Dialogue looks forward, we must focus on how to make our efforts stronger and more effective within a rapidly changing global environment.

We hope we can count on your continued engagement to ensure that the Dialogue is able to fruitfully carry out its mission, which is now more crucial than ever.

With our thanks and best regards,

Laura Chinchilla
Thomas A. Shannon, Jr.
PROGRAMS

PETER D. BELL RULE OF LAW
Sustaining Democracy in Challenging Times

EDUCATION
Building an Ecosystem for Education Innovation

MIGRATION, REMITTANCES & DEVELOPMENT
Sustained Commitment to Inclusive Development

ASIA & LATIN AMERICA
Informing Trans-Pacific Policy

ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE & EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES
Confronting Climate Change & Covid-19

CORPORATE PROGRAM
Advancing the Mission

PROJECTS

GLOBAL TRENDS & FUTURE SCENARIOS
Exploring Future Trends

GENDER RIGHTS
Championing Human Rights

COMMITMENT TO EQUITY
Reducing Inequality Worldwide

DIALOGUES ON THE HILL
Highlighting Regional Issues

WORKING GROUP ON latin america
Guiding Policy Cooperation

OUTREACH

LEADERSHIP FOR THE AMERICAS AWARDS GALA
CAF CONFERENCE
PRESIDENTIAL SUMMIT
SOL M. LINOWITZ FORUM
PRESIDENT’S LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
SUSTAINING DEMOCRACY IN CHALLENGING TIMES
Access to information, public participation, and an inclusive response are essential to the overall efforts to combat Covid-19. This is a time when, more than ever, governments need to be open and transparent, responsive, and accountable to the people they are seeking to protect.

—MICHELLE BACHELET
UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, speaking at an Inter-American Dialogue webinar on April 29, 2020.
Photo: Suzanne Plunkett

DEMOCRACY REMAINS THE RULE rather than the exception in the Americas, but authoritarian strongmen, illiberal populists, and the corruption and unmet expectations that erode citizens’ faith in their governments are increasingly threatening democratic governance. Against this complex backdrop, the Peter D. Bell Rule of Law Program identifies challenges, seizes opportunities, and develops solutions to strengthen democracy, human rights, transparency, and citizen security in the Americas.

The program’s research, analysis, and policy recommendations address ongoing challenges such as endemic corruption, police reform, and the crisis in Venezuela, as well as emerging challenges such as disinformation and democratic backsliding in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic. In media appearances, congressional testimony, and public fora, program experts analyze critical developments in hemispheric relations, and the program’s wide-ranging events, expert discussions, and collaborations with policymakers, civil society groups, international organizations, and the private sector underscore its value as a respected convening ground and an indispensable resource.
Venezuela is confronting the Americas’ most acute crisis in at least a generation. Its economic freefall is a humanitarian catastrophe for millions of Venezuelans, with increasingly tangible consequences for the broader region, and its growing consolidation as an autocratic state is a serious challenge to hemispheric guarantees of democracy and human rights, with tragic consequences for Venezuelans victimized by a regime responsible for crimes against humanity. The scale and consequences of the Venezuelan crisis demand a sharp, sustained focus, but the path forward—for Venezuela and for other governments in the region—is as uncertain as ever.

In this challenging context, the Dialogue’s Peter D. Bell Rule of Law Program convened a standing Venezuela Working Group to identify and advance solutions to the Venezuela crisis. Comprising top-tier hemispheric policymakers and analysts and co-chaired by former Costa Rican President Laura Chinchilla and former US Ambassador Donna Hrinak, the working group met with senior government and multilateral officials, employed its good offices to advance concrete outcomes, and produced three influential reports on Venezuela’s institutional, humanitarian, and refugee crises and the role of the international community in addressing these crises.

The working group’s powerful advocacy for effective regional burden sharing in response to Venezuelan migration, its rejection of a military solution to the country’s challenges, its nuanced analysis of sanctions policy and incentives for negotiation, and its insistence on the search for a political solution in Venezuela remain touchstones of the Dialogue’s work on Venezuela. The Peter D. Bell Program uses this framework as part of its ongoing efforts to shape and inform policy, from the pages of the New York Times to the halls of the US Congress, and it continues to inspire the program’s work on innovative responses to stubborn problems, including a groundbreaking proposal for repatriating the proceeds of Venezuelan corruption to address the country’s humanitarian emergency.
We could be going into an era that is particularly dangerous for democratic societies that rely on their publics to have an informed view, to cast votes, and to help make decisions where we don’t know what truth is.

—MICHELE FLOURNOY

Satisfaction with Democracy over Time in Latin America and the Caribbean

BUILDING AN ECOSYSTEM FOR EDUCATION INNOVATION
The Covid-19 pandemic has shown us the need to incorporate technology into our country’s education strategy.

—GISELLE CRUZ MADURO

FROM A CHILD’S FIRST INTERACTION with the education system upon entering preschool to the time that they begin university or technical school in preparation for joining the workforce, the Dialogue’s work on education examines almost every step in a student’s education journey.

By taking a thematic approach, the Education Program is able to think expansively about the challenges confronting the region’s education systems without being constrained by traditional paradigms. The Dialogue has been at the forefront of creating a regional agenda on early childhood development, publishing reports to monitor and identify progress and gaps at the national level. It also works to improve the quality of teaching through the Latin American Coalition for Teaching Excellence, which has produced a series of recommendations centered on initial teacher education, school leadership, professional development, and career ladders. We continue to pursue an ambitious agenda focused on English language learning, including the publication of a report focused on teachers, a second regional policy forum, and a forthcoming report on English for employment. The Education Program has also analyzed skills development from various angles, including apprenticeships and short-term educational exchange programs.
Percentage of Students with Access to Internet

AVERAGE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN:
66%

Source: CIMA, BID, 2013
COVID-19, EDUCATION, AND TECHNOLOGY

The Covid-19 pandemic has presented unprecedented challenges for teachers, students, and parents in Latin America and the Caribbean. With 154 million children suddenly unable to attend school, education systems have been forced to adjust rapidly to a demanding, unpredictable new reality. Since early 2019, when the Education Program first convened the Working Group on Technology and Innovation in Education, the questions and challenges set forth in the group’s mandate have only become more urgent.

In four meetings held over the course of nearly two years, the working group has developed and deepened an agenda focusing on quality learning experiences, effective teaching, and efficient management. In each of these areas, technology has an important role to play in creating an ecosystem for educational innovation in which actors from the public and private sectors collaborate effectively to generate and implement new solutions. Recognizing the pressing reality of the global pandemic, the working group was able to adjust its agenda to address in real time the effect of the coronavirus on learning and the role that technology can play in connecting students and teachers, supporting families and communities, and building sustainable systems and infrastructure for distance learning. In particular, the working group has produced a series of reports on lessons learned from the immediate response to the pandemic, the potential effect of blended learning—especially using first-generation technologies such as radio and television—and how technology can support innovation in teacher practices. By engaging ministry officials, academic experts, private companies, and non-profit leaders, the working group’s recommendations are shared directly with key actors and focus on practical, real-world solutions.
SUSTAINED COMMITMENT TO INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT
MIGRATION FROM LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN is increasingly connected with state fragility, instability, and economic decline, with Central America, Haiti, and Venezuela having the largest outflows in the region. The economic fallout from Covid-19 is expected to aggravate this situation, along with the rise of restrictive approaches to managing immigration. Remittances are an important source of income for these countries, and the continued flow of remittances to the region since the onset of Covid-19 has helped mitigate some of the worst effects of the economic crisis.

The Dialogue’s Migration, Remittances & Development Program focuses on policy options, research, and analysis of migration and remittance trends. In 2019, surveys with Venezuelan immigrants in six host countries shed light on the mechanisms used to send money to Venezuela despite restrictive currency regulations. The program also expanded its work on digital payment platforms, which show great promise as a tool for financial inclusion. In partnership with AirPak in Nicaragua, the program advanced the use of mobile wallets among remittance recipients while focusing its financial education approach on building economic resilience in the context of Covid-19.
ENGAGING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN LEADING MIGRATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Since 2006, the Migration, Remittances & Development Program has worked to foster inclusive development in Guatemala by channeling the opportunities that emigration and remittances have generated. Through partnerships with financial institutions, remittance companies, diaspora groups, and others, the Dialogue has expanded its approach to include strategies that increase assets, promote investment in social capital, and support the knowledge economy.

The Dialogue’s “Thriving in San Marcos” initiative, conducted with support from Cities Alliance and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, takes this approach a step further by engaging local authorities and increasing their capacity to integrate remittances and other diaspora resources into local development strategies. The project works with stakeholders in Guatemala’s Mancuerna region to provide information and skills for understanding migration trends, recognize pathways through which migration can be channeled into municipal planning, and build public-private partnerships for implementation. The Dialogue has also guided and supported Mancuerna officials’ leadership in national and local dialogues focused on a key urban development challenge: access to decent housing in high-migration areas.

This collaboration has occurred alongside the Dialogue’s work in the Mancuerna region to provide financial education, offer business coaching for small entrepreneurs, and support secondary education through extracurricular programs. The result has been continued progress in financial inclusion, stronger business administration, a move to digital marketing, and school retention and digital literacy for students at critical ages. Together, these have created conditions in Mancuerna that reduce the need to emigrate and support economic and academic resilience at a time when that need is increasing.
An array of complex factors leads to the need to emigrate. In Latin America and the Caribbean, economics is the primary factor, along with gaps in development, labor market imbalances, and the aspiration to overcome poverty and inequality. We must close these gaps, create opportunity, and a sense of belonging.

—CARLOS ENRIQUE ARMENDARIZ NEGREROS
Guatemala’s Vice-Minister of Urban Development and Housing, speaking at an Inter-American Dialogue webinar on August 26, 2020.

Remittances as a Financial Inclusion Strategy in 2020

**Remittances as a % of GDP, 2019**
- Guatemala 13.9%
- Nicaragua 13.5%

Source: World Bank

**Guatemala**
- 30,000 Financial education sessions conducted
- 1 out of 4 Immediately completed a financial transaction

**Nicaragua**
- 10,500 Financial education sessions conducted
- 1 out of 10 Immediately opened a mobile wallet
- 30,000 Financial education sessions conducted

Source: Inter-American Dialogue programs implemented with support from Cities Alliance and AirPak.
INFORMING
TRANS-PACIFIC POLICY
The Latin American region’s recovery prospects are uniquely tied to China’s. A one percentage point decline in China’s own growth results in a one percentage point decline for the Latin American region.

—JOYCE CHANG
Dialogue member and Managing Director and Chair of Global Research at JP Morgan, speaking at an Inter-American Dialogue webinar on April 13, 2020.
INTERPRETING
CHINESE FINANCE

Since 2005, nearly US$140 billion in Chinese sovereign loans have transformed the economic and political landscape in Latin America and the Caribbean. The effect has been especially profound in Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, and Venezuela, which together account for more than 92 percent of Chinese state lending to the region.

The Inter-American Dialogue, in partnership with the Boston University Global Development Policy Center, was the first institution to track China’s extensive loans to the region. Through our partnership with Boston University, we remain among the few institutions disseminating crucial data on Chinese finance in Latin America and the Caribbean and the only one that publishes an annual overview of China Development Bank and China Export-Import Bank activity in the region, including analysis of the implications of Chinese and other sources of finance for regional prosperity and stability. Policymakers and researchers around the globe, including in China, frequently refer to our online China–Latin America Finance Database.

We remain committed to ensuring a degree of transparency in Chinese lending practices by closely tracking China’s sovereign loans to the region and, as of 2020, through a new initiative to identify trends in Chinese commercial bank lending for infrastructure development to Latin American and Caribbean actors. We are also committed to providing stakeholders in the region with much-needed information on China’s financial outreach by producing multilingual materials on the fundamentals of Chinese overseas finance and holding workshops to share and discuss our findings. Our forums also provide an opportunity for discussion among participants of their experiences with a range of financial actors and institutions.
While many in the region will look to China to play a role in post-pandemic recovery, China will emerge from this crisis far less capable of helping than it was in the past.

—OLIVER STUENKEL
Associate professor at the Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV) in São Paulo, speaking at an Inter-American Dialogue event on April 13, 2020.

Photo Credit: Roque de Sá/Agência Senado

Chinese Finance to Latin America, 2005–2020

Source: Inter-American Dialogue research
CONFRONTING
CLIMATE CHANGE & COVID-19
I have every confidence that over the next few years the climate movement will be galvanized. The problem is, will it be in sufficient time for those of us who live on islands and those of us who have already seen the ravages of Irma and Maria and Dorian?

—MIA AMOR MOTTLEY
Prime Minister of Barbados and Dialogue member on-leave, speaking at the V Leadership for the Americas Awards Gala on November 12, 2019.

THE JARRING REALIZATION that the effects of climate change are already upon us as a planet has increasingly dominated international news in the last two years. Some of the most vivid and alarming images of this reality have come from Latin America and the Caribbean. Smoke from fires raging in the Amazon engulfed the region’s largest city, São Paulo, in darkness, and Hurricane Dorian brought unprecedented devastation to the Bahamas.

Accordingly, the Energy, Climate Change & Extractive Industries Program has enhanced its focus on the energy transition in the region. Program reports have advocated for exploitation of Latin America’s abundant solar and wind energy resources through long-term power supply auctions and energy storage technology, and for pairing electric vehicle deployment with renewable energy adoption in the Caribbean. An innovative analysis focused on the emissions of Latin America’s national oil companies. Overall, the program’s work emphasizes the need to mitigate climate change and ensure a more resilient, secure, and affordable energy supply, which is needed to increase the region’s economic prosperity.

In 2020, countries across the hemisphere also faced an unprecedented economic crisis inflicted by Covid-19 that was exacerbated in oil-dependent regions by the drastic decrease in global oil prices. The program responded by assessing the implications for the economies of major oil-producing countries, political and regulatory risk, and investment in hydrocarbons and renewable energy.
UNDERSTANDING THE DRIVERS OF DEFORESTATION

Global attention to climate change in Latin America has never been greater than in August 2019, when the Internet was flooded with stories and pictures of conflagrations ravaging the Brazilian Amazon. President Jair Bolsonaro’s permissiveness of illicit deforestation in the name of development contributed to the blazes and drew widespread denunciation from the international community.

Although the reaction was warranted, Bolsonaro’s neglect of the Amazon is only part of a much greater problem regarding the conservation of one of the world’s most valuable means of keeping climate change in check. Earlier in 2019, the Energy, Climate Change & Extractive Industries Program published a report calling attention to the concept of the “tipping point”—a level of deforestation at which the Amazon will begin a downward spiral of reduced rainfall and increased infernos. The report examined the root causes of rising deforestation not just in Brazil, but also in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. It has been accessed online more than 3,000 times and was distributed at a public launch event featuring conservation experts. The findings were also summarized in an op-ed in the New York Times.

By digging beyond the headlines and analyzing the drivers of deforestation across the Amazon region, the Dialogue has increased public understanding of what is possibly the region’s paramount environmental challenge and provided an important voice in the debate over what to do about it.
Annual Loss of Primary Forest in the Amazon

* Preliminary
Source: Amazon Conservation/MAAP using data from Hansen/UMD/Google/USGS/NASA
ADVANCING THE MISSION

MANY OF THE WORLD’S MOST INNOVATIVE and socially responsible companies have supported the Dialogue by joining the Corporate Program. Each shares a commitment to improving the wellbeing of the hemisphere’s citizens. Private sector leaders who are part of the Corporate Program help advance the Dialogue’s mission to foster economic opportunity, social equity, and democratic governance in the Americas. By participating in our public events and private meetings and commenting in the Latin America Advisor publications, they generously share their analysis, research, viewpoints, ideas, and vision.

Photo Credit: Government of Mexico
PROMOTING AN INCLUSIVE RECOVERY

Not since the Spanish flu a century ago has the world faced a health crisis like the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition to grieving for so many lives lost, the citizens of Latin America and the Caribbean have suffered tremendous setbacks in terms of economic stability and growth. Often, the populations that were the most vulnerable before the pandemic have been hit the hardest. Most agree that these historic challenges are too great for governments to overcome alone and that the private sector will be critical to rebuilding economic vitality. The Corporate Program has a proven capacity to bring together leaders and stakeholders from across sectors to find innovative ways to address urgent problems.

Our recent activities have focused on the private sector’s role in creating an inclusive recovery for the region, such as health system reforms aimed at efficiency and value, innovation and technology as tools for economic recovery, efforts to create better jobs and investment conditions for manufacturing and production in the Americas, expanding the region’s middle class by addressing inequalities, the debate over 5G and the role of new technologies in public safety, changing demographics and the importance of well-planned pension systems, and ways to tax the global digital economy more fairly and efficiently, among others. Featured speakers at Corporate Program events during this period included Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of UN ECLAC; Martha Bárcena, Ambassador of Mexico to the United States; Alejandro Werner, Director of the Western Hemisphere Department, International Monetary Fund; and José Manuel Restrepo, Colombian Minister of Trade, Industry, and Tourism.
LATIN AMERICA ADVISOR LAUNCHES NEW VIDEO SERIES

In 2019, the editorial team at the Dialogue’s daily Latin America Advisor launched the Advisor Video series, which has featured interviews with former presidents such as Ricardo Lagos of Chile, ambassadors such as Vanessa Neumann of Venezuela, as well as economists Shelly Shetty at Fitch, Jorge Leon at BP, and Monica de Bolle at the Peterson Institute for International Economics. Initially produced in the Dialogue’s Washington offices, the videos switched to an online interview format with the advent of the coronavirus pandemic and subsequent lockdowns. More than 17 videos have been produced, garnering more than 7,000 unique viewers.

The Advisor publishes more than 300 editions annually featuring more than 1,000 unique commentaries not available elsewhere. Amazon, Apple, AT&T, BlackRock, Citigroup, Facebook, Millicom, Mitsubishi, Oracle, Walmart, and other innovative companies around the world subscribe to the Advisor. Circulation has expanded to universities, including the libraries of Berkeley, Dartmouth, Duke, Harvard, and Notre Dame, as well as government ministries on four continents.

326 editions of the Advisor published each year
2,804 unique commentaries appeared in the Advisor in 2019 and 2020
7,052 views of the Advisor videos to date
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29
PROJECTS
EXPLORING FUTURE TRENDS

GROWING GLOBAL UNCERTAINTY and complexity require that policymakers envision and plan for the future. Profound transformations in the world economy, climate change, and new technologies indicate that the region’s future is inextricably connected to developments taking place beyond the borders of individual nations. To address these compelling challenges, the Inter-American Dialogue, in cooperation with the Inter-American Development Bank, is working to stimulate the development of strategic thinking in Latin America using future and foresight studies.

The cornerstone of our initiative is an online resource with more than 1,000 reports that investigate plausible scenarios, recognize global trends, and identify drivers that may generate future transformations. We also published a newsletter on how foresight can strengthen governance and achieve better outcomes for Latin Americans and released a report on the future of work and how it will affect the region’s digital transformation. The report examines current research on this crucial topic and draws conclusions for policy design and political decision making.

Societies that explore future scenarios and produce a shared development strategy will be better prepared to face uncertainty, strengthen democracy, and make progress toward a sustainable planet.

—SERGIO BITAR
Chile’s Former Minister of Mining, Education and Public Works and Dialogue member, from the Dialogue’s report “How Foresight Could Strengthen Governance in Latin America.”
A HEALTHY DEMOCRACY must sustain its commitment to women’s rights and equality. Although significant progress has been made in the Americas, challenges regarding women’s leadership, sexual and reproductive rights, and gender-based violence remain; this incomplete agenda weakens democracy. The Dialogue’s work aims to promote deeper understanding of issues of concern to women as well as the discrimination and violence that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) people face.

In partnership with the Seattle International Foundation, the Dialogue hosted a panel in 2019 entitled, “Nowhere to Turn: Gender-Based Violence and its Impact on Migration.” Panelists highlighted the triple threat that women face: a culture of gendered victimization, an ecosystem of organized crime, and a US administration that closed its doors to immigrants and asylum seekers.

In 2020, the Dialogue published an analysis of violence against women in the context of Covid-19. The article promoted an intersectional approach to gender-based violence, given that migrants, children, indigenous people, elders, and transgender women are vulnerable groups that such policies often overlook. In April, we held a webinar on the implications of Covid-19 on the state of human rights in Latin America featuring former Dialogue co-chair and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, who highlighted the disproportionate effect on women and girls because of preexisting discrimination and inequality. We also partnered with the Victory Institute in December to host a virtual event on LGBTQ rights and US foreign policy in the Americas.

When we think about domestic violence skyrocketing during this period of Covid, that’s an epidemic within the pandemic, and what a shame for our region that femicide is one of the things we lead on.

—NATALIA KANEM
MORE THAN 700 MILLION PEOPLE live on less than US$1.90 per day, and the current pandemic is expected to push an additional 70 million to 100 million into those ranks. In this context, the Commitment to Equity (CEQ) project measures the effect of fiscal policy on poverty and inequality around the world using a comprehensive framework and a standardized methodology. The CEQ project is a joint initiative of the Center for Inter-American Policy and Research and the Department of Economics at Tulane University, the Inter-American Dialogue, and the Center for Global Development.

Most recently, attention has shifted to Covid-19; the pandemic’s distributional consequences in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico show that the effect of fiscal policy on income inequality and poverty can be significant. Worldwide audiences have received CEQ’s Covid-19 research well and incorporated it into local policy debates.
HIGHLIGHTING REGIONAL ISSUES

THE US CONGRESS plays a critical role in building hemispheric relations and addressing the economic, political, security, and humanitarian challenges facing the region. The Dialogue works to engage members of Congress and congressional staff on policy matters concerning the Western Hemisphere and to increase the presence of regional voices in US foreign policy debates.

Dialogue directors and experts are frequently called upon to analyze hemispheric developments at congressional hearings. In 2019, Margaret Myers testified before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on the role of China in the Americas. That same year, Michael Camilleri testified before the committee on the Odebrecht case, and, in 2020, testified on the political challenges facing the region. Dialogue program directors briefed House and Senate staffers in a virtual meeting on Covid-19 and its effect on Latin America and the Caribbean.

Congressional members and staff also speak at Dialogue events, conferences, and public policy roundtables. Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA) spoke at the 12th Sol M. Linowitz Forum in 2019 and briefed the President’s Leadership Council on inter-American relations during the coronavirus pandemic. The Dialogue hosted a public conference call with Representative Donna Shalala (D-FL) on the spread of Covid-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean, and Representative Joaquin Castro (D-TX) offered opening remarks at a Rule of Law Program event on race and policing in the United States and Brazil. Members of Congress also provided commentary in the daily Q&A section of the Dialogue’s Latin America Advisor newsletter, featuring contributions from Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Representative Donna Shalala (D-FL).

We must strive to eradicate systemic racism and perfect our democracies.

—JOAQUIN CASTRO
US Representative for Texas’ 20th congressional district, speaking at the Inter-American Dialogue’s online event “Race and Policing in the US and Brazil” on July 17, 2020.

Photo Credit: Gage Skidmore
GUIDING POLICY COOPERATION

STARTED IN 2001, the Working Group on Latin America is one of the longest-running and most successful initiatives of the Inter-American Dialogue. Once a year, it brings together a select group of political, academic, and civil society leaders from across the Americas to discuss the most pressing challenges facing the region.

The annual meeting of the working group alternates between Washington, DC, and cities in Latin America. In 2019, the working group met in Washington, DC, and focused on six major challenges facing the region: unrest in Chile, the fragmented Southern Cone, the crisis in Venezuela, turmoil in Bolivia, challenges in the Andean region, and the problems that Mexico and Central America face. The meeting ended with a discussion of the common factors driving the unrest in Latin American countries and how governments can regain legitimacy and citizen trust.

In 2020, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the group convened online for the first time for its 33rd meeting, discussing the incoming Biden administration and its approach to Latin America; the political, economic, and health crises in Peru; the constitutional process in Chile; and the main challenges facing Bolivian President Luis Arce.

We are living through times where people work more on the divide than on coming together. The fact that the Dialogue tries to build bridges and construct solutions that are shared by all, or at least tried to be shared by all, is the way to go.

—SUSANA MALCORRA
Dialogue member & Former Minister of Foreign Affairs & Worship of Argentina, speaking during the 12th meeting of the Linowitz Forum on June 29, 2019.
OUTREACH

HONORING EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP IN THE AMERICAS

THE LEADERSHIP FOR THE AMERICAS Awards Gala honors organizations and individuals that have a positive impact and inspire change in the Western Hemisphere and help advance the three pillars of the Dialogue’s mission: democratic governance, social equity, and prosperity.

On the day of the gala, leaders from the private and public sectors gather for a high-level roundtable discussion. In 2019, the roundtable explored political risk in Latin America, regional trends, risk factors, and the economic outlook with the challenging backdrop of corrosive political conditions that could greatly diminish the region’s capacity to forge a path toward sustainable growth. In 2020, the virtual roundtable explored the role of the private sector in an equitable economic recovery in the region.

The gala also provides an opportunity to renew friendships and energize collaboration between our distinguished members, government officials, diplomats, business leaders, scholars, and representatives of the non-governmental community.

2019 HONOREES
National Federation of Coffee Growers of Colombia
Distinguished Leadership Award for Social Equity

Cirque Du Soleil
Distinguished Leadership Award for Corporate Citizenship

Alejandro Ramirez
Distinguished Leadership Award for Civic Engagement

KEYNOTE REMARKS
Mia Amor Mottley
Prime Minister of Barbados
Member on-leave, Inter-American Dialogue

Alejandro Ramirez, CEO of Cinépolis, delivering his acceptance speech at the 2019 Leadership for the Americas Awards Gala on November 12, 2019.
STRENGTHENING
THE REGIONAL AGENDA

SINCE ITS LAUNCH IN 1996, the annual CAF Conference—presented in collaboration with CAF–Development Bank of Latin America and the Organization of American States—has evolved to become the primary forum for policymakers and leaders to discuss the most pressing challenges facing the Western Hemisphere.

More than 700 participants gathered for the 23rd CAF Conference at the Willard Intercontinental Hotel in Washington, DC, on September 4 and 5, 2019. The conference featured a conversation on global challenges with Tom Shannon, former US under secretary of state for political affairs, and Michèle Flournoy, former US under secretary of defense for policy. Officials and analysts on other panels shared their thoughts on the growing influence of China, presidential elections in Latin America, the continued crisis in Venezuela, and the role of social media and disinformation in politics and their effect on democracy.

The 2020 conference, convened in September in the midst of the global pandemic, used a fully virtual format for the first time in its 24-year history. With more than 40,000 streaming views worldwide, the conference brought together 36 high-level speakers to examine complex hemispheric challenges and consider potential solutions. Luis Lacalle Pou, president of Uruguay, opened the conference with keynote remarks highlighting the extent to which the world had become globalized during the pandemic and noting that any action can unleash negative consequences for humanity and that generosity, cooperation, and solidarity are essential traits for society to function. Most importantly, he urged governments to be open, transparent, and effective to build trust with the citizens they serve. Subsequent panels discussed a range of topics through the lens of the Covid-19 pandemic, including the region’s economic recovery, failures and successes of its healthcare systems, the digital transformation and deepening divide, and the looming threat of climate change. The conference closed with an exchange between a Republican and Democratic analyst opining on the 2020 US presidential election.
At the end of the day, the world is a single place. Integration, generosity, and solidarity are no longer voluntary—they are necessary.

—LUI S LAC ALLE POU
President of Uruguay, delivering keynote remarks at the 24th Annual CAF Conference on September 9, 2020.

AFFIRMING THE IMPORTANCE
OF US–LATIN AMERICAN RELATIONS

AT A TIME OF GREAT DIVIDE and uncertainty, the Dialogue brought together former heads of state from across the Americas for a virtual event to engage in a conversation about the future of US–Latin American relations and affirm the importance of increasing regional collaboration.

Forward Together: A Conversation with Former Presidents of the Americas came at a crucial time—shortly after the US presidential election. This gathering of former presidents provided an opportunity for leaders from the region to address the importance of strong, stable partnerships between the United States and Latin America and the Caribbean.

As the profound social, economic, and political effects of the coronavirus pandemic are felt across the hemisphere, it was vital to bring together influential voices with distinct viewpoints to devise cooperative solutions to the crises. Laura Chinchilla, former president of Costa Rica; Ricardo Lagos, former president of Chile; Juan Manuel Santos, former president of Colombia; and Ernesto Zedillo, former president of Mexico, participated in the conversation, which Karen DeYoung, of the Washington Post, moderated.
THE SOL M. LINOWITZ FORUM convened Dialogue members for the twenty-first time from June 27–29, 2019 in Washington, DC. Hemispheric leaders discussed a range of topics including opportunities for sustainable growth, challenges to democracy and rule of law, US politics and foreign policy, and US–Latin American relations in the age of Trump.

Dating back to the Dialogue’s founding in 1982, the forum is dedicated to improving the quality of debate and communication on Western Hemispheric topics. Dialogue members meet once every two years in plenary session, probe their differences, identify cooperative solutions to regional problems, and develop consensus proposals for action.

The 2019 forum featured high-level briefings on US policy toward Latin America from several representatives of the executive branch, including Elliott Abrams, special representative for Venezuela for the US Department of State; Landon Loomis, special advisor for the Western Hemisphere in the Office of the Vice President; Chad Wolf, acting US secretary of Homeland Security; and Eric Jacobstein, senior policy advisor for the Western Hemisphere to the US House Foreign Affairs Committee. Other outside experts also participated: Carlos Ayala from the International Commission of Jurists commented on the Venezuelan crisis; Andrew Selee from the Migration Policy Institute discussed migration patterns and challenges; and Amy Myers Jaffe from the Council on Foreign Relations analyzed the effects of climate change and the future of clean energy. The forum concluded with a dinner conversation on US politics and the 2020 election, featuring Karen DeYoung of the Washington Post, Ron Elving of NPR News, and Susan Glasser of the New Yorker.

The Dialogue has been outstanding for the balance of its reports and the convening power that it has, but I think the unique thing, beyond excellence, is the way in which the Dialogue brings together leaders from the entire hemisphere.

—ROBERTA JACOBSON
Former US Ambassador to Mexico and Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs, speaking at the 12th Meeting of the Linowitz Forum on June 29, 2019.
HARNESSING LEADERS TO INFORM OUR WORK

THE REGION’S MOST FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEMS demand comprehensive, creative solutions that engage stakeholders beyond the political sphere. Recognizing this, the Dialogue established the President’s Leadership Council, an advisory board comprising leaders from the private sector from 10 countries in Latin America and the United States.

The council convenes annually in Washington, DC, and virtually throughout the year for meetings with senior US and foreign government officials, heads of multilateral institutions, and top policy analysts and influencers. It advises the Dialogue’s president and senior leadership on programmatic matters, offering input to help shape the regional agenda.

In 2019 and 2020, council members met with US members of Congress and their staffs to discuss trade, migration, security, the implications of the US presidential election for US–Latin America relations and other topics. Members had private meetings with Senator Tim Kaine; Ricardo Lagos, former President of Chile; Elliott Abrams, special representative for Venezuela for the US Department of State; Ambassador Michael Kozak, acting Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs; Congressman Gregory Meeks; Mark Feierstein, Senior Advisor to the Biden campaign; and others.

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- Bronwyn Bateman
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- Claudia Blum (On leave)
  Colombia
- Miguel Bocco
  Venezuela
- Roberto Bonetti Guerra
  Dominican Republic
- Felipe Bosch
  Guatemala
- Enrique Carrizosa
  Colombia
- Juan Carlos Carvallo
  Venezuela
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  Chile
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  Nicaragua
- Ricardo Poma
  El Salvador
- Ana Salas Siegel
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  Venezuela
- Carlos Andrés Uribe Arango
  Colombia
Subway in São Paulo, Brazil.

Photo by Apolo Sales.
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AS OF DECEMBER 22, 2020

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UNOPS
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## 2019–2020
### FINANCIAL REPORT

#### Statement of Financial Position

*Preliminary and Unaudited

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>2020*</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$1,058,354</td>
<td>$1,237,407</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>7,129,816</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>119,589</td>
<td>319,056</td>
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<td>Grants receivable</td>
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<td>179,542</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>27,000</td>
<td>27,653</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total current assets</strong></td>
<td>$8,334,759</td>
<td>$8,054,184</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FIXED ASSETS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Net fixed assets</td>
<td>564,604</td>
<td>655,849</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OTHER ASSETS</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits</td>
<td>28,944</td>
<td>63,823</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants receivable, long-term portion</td>
<td>55,000</td>
<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total other assets</strong></td>
<td>$83,944</td>
<td>$63,823</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$8,983,307</td>
<td>$8,773,856</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities and Net Assets</th>
<th>2020*</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued liabilities</td>
<td>$143,412</td>
<td>$50,753</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accrued benefits</td>
<td>121,560</td>
<td>113,907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred rent abatement</td>
<td>13,613</td>
<td>1,906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred tenant improvement allowance</td>
<td>55,583</td>
<td>55,583</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred corporate program</td>
<td>259,400</td>
<td>213,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current liabilities</strong></td>
<td>$593,568</td>
<td>$436,069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LONG-TERM LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred rent abatement, net of current portion</td>
<td>691,416</td>
<td>703,958</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred tenant improvement allowance, net of current portions</td>
<td>435,404</td>
<td>490,988</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total long-term liabilities</strong></td>
<td>1,126,820</td>
<td>1,194,946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td>1,720,388</td>
<td>1,631,015</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total net assets</td>
<td>7,262,919</td>
<td>7,142,841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$8,983,307</td>
<td>$8,773,856</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Statement of Activities and Change in Net Assets

*Preliminary and Unaudited

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020*</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and contributions</td>
<td>$1,936,757</td>
<td>$2,052,817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government grants</td>
<td>8,152</td>
<td>835,305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Program</td>
<td>634,091</td>
<td>663,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special event</td>
<td>130,000</td>
<td>536,981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President’s Leadership Council</td>
<td>315,000</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other revenue</td>
<td>99,813</td>
<td>127,220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,123,813</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,616,203</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Services:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remittances and Development</td>
<td>443,332</td>
<td>843,008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Policy</td>
<td>218,902</td>
<td>486,522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linowitz Forum</td>
<td>219,965</td>
<td>500,819</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>471,798</td>
<td>427,355</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate Programs</td>
<td>375,751</td>
<td>369,672</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outreach and Publications</td>
<td>507,478</td>
<td>448,822</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy and Climate Change</td>
<td>382,202</td>
<td>321,850</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rule of Law</td>
<td>385,984</td>
<td>394,732</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asia and Latin America</td>
<td>222,997</td>
<td>255,408</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total program services</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,228,409</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,048,188</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Supporting Services:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Finance and Administration</td>
<td>535,887</td>
<td>589,314</td>
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<tr>
<td>Governance</td>
<td>22,538</td>
<td>41,588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>51,140</td>
<td>95,966</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total supporting services</strong></td>
<td><strong>609,565</strong></td>
<td><strong>726,868</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,837,974</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,775,056</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets before other item</td>
<td>(714,161)</td>
<td>(158,853)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Item</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income (loss)</td>
<td>834,239</td>
<td>892,967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets</td>
<td>120,078</td>
<td>734,114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets at beginning of year</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,142,841</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,408,727</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets at end of year</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,262,919</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,142,841</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE DIALOGUE
BY THE NUMBERS, 2020

WEBSITE

421,000 website users

884,000 website hits

viewed in 219 countries

EVENTS

20,000 participants

in 60 Dialogue events

PRESS

2,417 press hits

from 750 sources

in 70 countries

PUBLICATIONS

36 reports

25 articles & op-eds

in 20 sources