



Improving Transparency and Access Rights in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)

The LAC Declaration on P10

The
Access
Initiative

Principle 10: Rio Declaration 1992

- Participation
- Access to information
- Access to judicial and administrative proceedings



Source: Flickr, Arne Bevaart

The Access Initiative

A global civil society network dedicated to improving citizens' access to environmental decision-making, strengthening the enforcement of environmental law and policy.



Source: <http://www.accessinitiative.org>

The Vision

Legally Binding Convention for LAC.

Key contribution for democracy, governance and sustainable development.

Set standards and procedures for access rights.

Prevent and reduce environmental conflicts .

Reduce poverty.

Protection of natural resources.

Governments will benefit from training and technical assistance.

Strengthen regional integration through a transparency agenda.

Conflicts and Bad practices

Some examples:

National Park Tipnis . Bolivia

Thermoelectric Project Barrancones. Chile



PROPUESTA DE LA ABC

PROPUESTA DEL SUBALCALDE DE TIPNIS PARA LA CARRETERA VILLA TUNARI - SAN IGNACIO DE MOXOS

LLANURA INUNDABLE
ZONA DE INFLUENCIA
RÍO MAMORÉ

T.I.P.N.I.S.

BOSQUE NUBLADO - YUNGAS DE LA
CORDILLERA DE MOSETENES

Tramo III - 82 km

Tramo II - 177 km

Tramo I - 87 km

Yacumo

Monte Grande del Apere

Isinuta

Eterazama

Villa Tunari

Chimoré

Pto. Villarroel

Loreto

Camiaco

de Moxos

Río Mamoré 147 km





2195

MERCURY

2010/01/10

A close-up photograph of a young girl with long, light brown hair. She is wearing a white, rectangular paper mask that covers her nose and mouth. The mask has several horizontal lines drawn across it, and handwritten text in black ink is written on these lines. The text reads "¿Cuándo volveremos a Ponta Delgada Choras?". The girl is looking upwards and to the right with a thoughtful expression. The background is dark and out of focus, showing some blurred lights, suggesting an outdoor night setting.

¿Cuándo volveremos
a Ponta Delgada
Choras?



NO +
TERMOELECTRICAS

SALVEMOS

EN PELIGRO

CONCIENCIA

OS DEL FIN

Why it can prevent or reduce conflicts?

Information and participation gives transparency to whom is getting the costs and benefits of an investment among local communities, government and investors.

Timely and understandable information strengthen local authorities and leaders capacities.

Rio +20 Outcome: A Political Opportunity for LAC to expand and improve access rights for citizens



LAC Declaration on P10

“We declare our willingness to launch a process of [...] adopting a regional instrument, [...] with significant participation by all concerned citizens.”

Source: Report of the first meeting of the focal points appointed by the governments of the signatory countries of the declaration

Process after Rio +20



November 2012, Santiago-Chile: First Meeting of Signatory Countries. Experts from civil society organizations also participated.

Process after Rio +20

Outcomes

- Brazil joined the process. 
- Trinidad & Tobago became the 12th country to sign onto a declaration. 
- A **Steering Committee** was created: Chile, Mexico and the Dominican Republic. 
- A **Road Map** was developed: commitment to prepare a Work Plan for 2014.

Key Consensus

- Access rights key for sustainable development.
- Need to renew efforts for better implementation of P10
- Process will strengthen dialogue and regional integration.
- ECLAC as Technical Secretariat
- Open to every LAC country
- Public participation is key.



Source: Flickr, thejourney 1972 (South America addicted)

Conference on Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean



Regional Conference on Freedom of Information in the Commonwealth Caribbean



Second Meeting of Signatory Countries: April 16-17, 2013 in Guadalajara, Mexico.



Objectives:

- Discuss and agree on the Work Plan.
- ECLAC will present its report on the level of implementation of P10 in LAC.

Outcomes of the Second Focal Point Meeting:

- Colombia and Honduras joined the process Argentina and El Salvador as observers
- Plan of Action agreed June 2013-December 2014



Plan of Action:

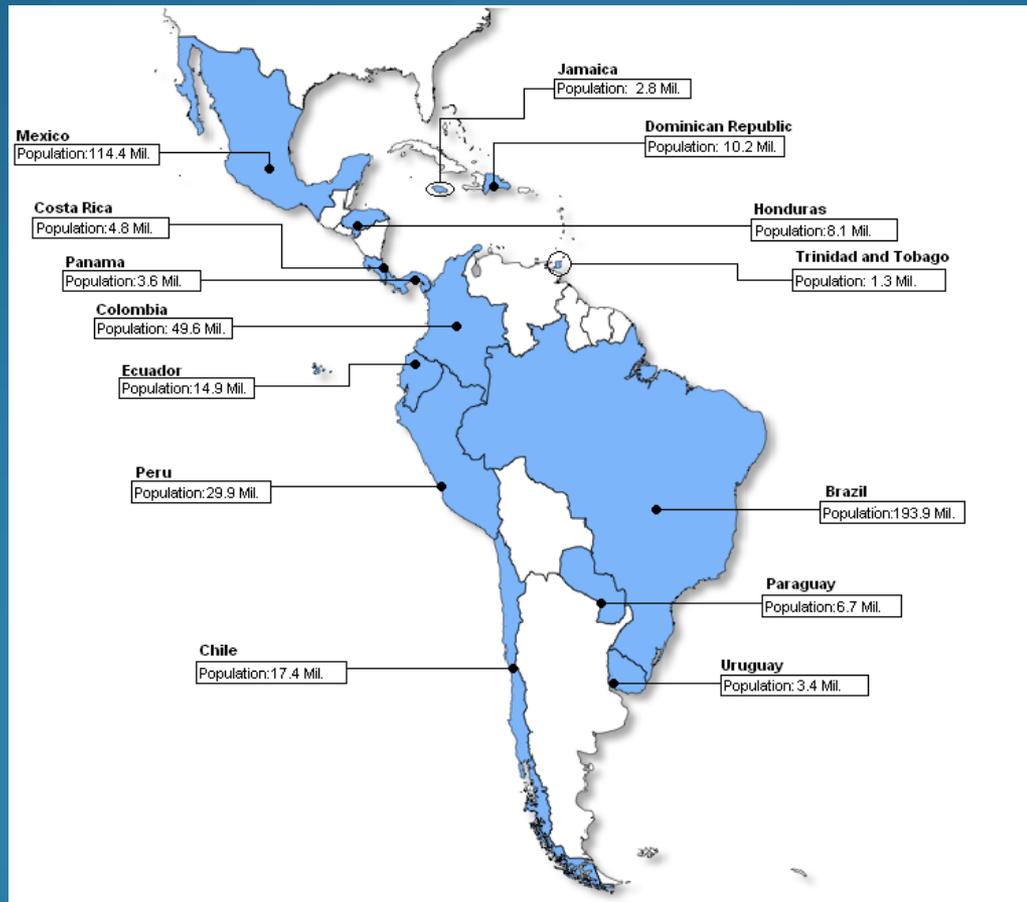
- Promote the Declaration and get more governments to join the process.
- Promote and highlight the situation of access rights in LAC.
- Actions for the participation of the public at the national level.
- Working Group A. Coordination:
 - Colombia and Jamaica: Prepare a proposal on strengthening cooperation to address training needs.
- Working Group B. Coordination:
 - Brazil and Costa Rica: Define the nature and content of the regional instrument.

Timeline



- June 2012
 - 10 countries sign Declaration at Rio.
- November 2012
 - First Signatory Countries Meeting: Brazil joins the process.
- March 2013
 - Trinidad & Tobago joins the process.
- April 2013
 - Second Signatory Countries Meeting: **Colombia** and **Honduras** join the process.

14 Signatory Countries



Active Participation of Civil Society Organizations

Focal Points in 19 LAC Countries



FARN, Argentina



IDARD, Dominican Republic



UNES, El Salvador



Prodena, Bolivia



CEDA, Ecuador



CIPA, Nicaragua



Article 19, Brazil



Acción Ciudadana, Guatemala



IDEA, Paraguay



Ambiente y Sociedad, Columbia



Jamaica Environment Trust, Jamaica



SPDA, Peru



Coopesolidar, Costa Rica



Cultura Ecológica



CAINFO, GAIA, Uruguay



FIMA, Chile



Comunicación y Educación Ambiental



IA/Mex, Mexico



CIAM, Panama

Please Join Us!

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