

EUROsociAL+ PROGRAMME

Presentation Dossier



















What is EUROsociAL+?

EUROsociAL+ is a cooperation programme between Latin America and the European Union which seeks to contribute to improving social cohesion in Latin American countries, as well as to institutional strengthening through support to their processes for the design, reform and implementation of public policies. It focusses its action on the areas of gender, governance and social policy.

This is a programme, funded by the European Commission, which for the past 10 years has been providing a space for peer-to-peer learning and experience exchange between counterpart institutions of the two regions, favouring the use of a broad catalogue of tools relevant to each process.

Through an inclusive and multidimensional understanding of social cohesion, centred around the concept of welfare based on equal opportunity, a sense of belonging and solidarity, EUROsociAL, in its two first phases¹, has contributed to the formulation and enhancement of public policies, institutional capacity building, and the establishment of important international commitments.

In this third phase (2016-2021), EUROsociAL+ intends to provide continuity to its policy mandate through follow-up of the processes started and the results obtained in previous years; furthermore, it intends to support new priorities of the Governments agenda, promoting the integration of the gender perspective in all its actions.

EUROsociAL+ focusses on the implications and effects that the design, formulation and implementation of public policies have on women and men, emphasizing the need for policies and programmes in all areas to address this focus in order to gradually contribute to reducing inequality and generate a positive impact on social cohesion.

In this phase, 18 countries of Latin America participate: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay y Venezuela.

How is EUROsociAL+ oriented?

EUROsociAL+ orients its action through three **working approaches**: demand, results and intersectorality. The first of these approaches, **demand**, seeks to respect the existing reform agenda in each country, collaborating preferentially with the more strategic priorities on mid/long-term priorities. Through this, the programme joins processes already set in

¹ EUROsociAL I (2005-2010) and EUROsociAL II (2011-2015).



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motion for formulation and/or reform of the countries' public policies. In these processes, prioritization and technical-budgetary planning converge, and they often have, in addition to national impact, an influence on the regional or international agenda.

The **results-oriented approach** supplies a management strategy centred around obtaining substantial and sustainable results in the policy reform processes being supported, providing expertise and the necessary support to ensure the quality of the public policies and their impact on social cohesion.

Lastly, through **intersectorality**, EUROsociAL+ aims to create a comprehensive, interagency and multidisciplinary approach that favours a holistic understanding of complex realities and problems.

What is the action strategy of EUROsociAL+?

Given its nature as a regional programme, EUROsociAL+ supports the construction of a **country vision**, begun in earlier phases, taking a comprehensive approach that allows for dialogue and ensures the coherence of the national and regional dimensions, valuing and respecting the realities, needs and priorities represented in the reform agendas of each state.

Despite the **regional dimension**, multi-country actions and **work with networks** continue to be the essential tools of the programme for cooperative work on the construction and strengthening of visions and strategic frameworks shared in the region, and whenever it was possible, with Europe as well. With this perspective, EUROsociAL+ also promotes work in conjunction with consolidated² and emerging³ networks that become involved in regional reform processes to strengthen the cohesion processes in the Americas in a multidimensional way.

Likewise, EUROsociAL+ works on **coordination and complementarity** with other cooperation initiatives (bilateral, regional, bi-regional) addressing needs that arise within its scope of action that cannot be covered by other instruments, and/or generating effective synergies for addressing complex and multi-actor problems. Under this umbrella, the programme depends on the participation of major regional and international⁴ bodies as partner entities.

In addition to the above, for EUROsociAL the dialogue between Europe and Latin America on public policy challenges common to the two regions is especially relevant. Along these same lines, special attention is being paid to those priorities of government agendas for

⁴ For example, ECLAC, IDB, CAF, ILO, OIM, SEGIB, COMJIB, OEI, among others.



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² For example, AIAMP, CIJ, CIAT, COMJIB, RTA, OLACEFS, among others.

³ For example, Tax Education Network or Latin American Regional Development Network.



which the input of European public expertise can represent an added value.

To achieve its objectives, EUROsociAL+ has the capacity to identify and rapidly **mobilise experts** from Latin American and European institutions to transmit knowledge, experiences and lessons learnt in each of the supported sectors, guaranteeing a technical dialogue at regional and bi-regional levels.

Lastly, the knowledge generated and shared within the framework of the experience exchanges represents an essential asset of the programme, which is committed to the creation and maintenance of a comprehensive **knowledge management** system that enables planning, documentation and follow-up of its activities and results.

How does EUROsociAL+ address demand?

EUROsociAL+ did not envision one-off and isolated interventions but rather structured itineraries to support processes of design, reform and implementation of public policies (plans, programmes, legislation). In general, a support itinerary (also called an action) is governed by clear and tangible results (defined by the government authorities) and consists in a set of structured activities. The activities the programme may carry out correspond to its catalogue of tools:

| Advising and technical assistance | Study visits and exchanges in the European Union and Latin America, internships and training initiatives | Meetings, workshops and conferences | Studies |
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In what areas does EUROsociaL+ work?

EUROsociAL+ is structured through three policy areas that comprise all the lines of action the programme has been addressing during its more than 10 years of existence.

| Governance policies | Gender policies | Social Policies |
|--|---|---|
| - Prevention of violence and social reintegration - Access to justice - Good governance: transparency, access to information and the fight against corruption - Public finances - Regional development | - Strengthening the national mechanisms for the promotion of women Promoting the application of a legal framework favourable to gender equality Increasing the capacity and knowledge of the institutions regarding the crosscutting nature of the gender perspective in diverse sectoral policies Improving the use of data and gender indicators and monitoring public spending related to gender equality. | - Structural reforms related to social protection, immigration and active employment policies Strengthening of social sector institutions - Anti-poverty strategies |













How EUROsociAL+ structured?

EUROsociAL+ is structured on the basis of a consortium of four institutions:



The International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies (FIIAPP), headquartered in Madrid (Spain).



Expertise France (EF), a French institution headquartered in Paris.



The Instituto Italo-Latino Americano (IILA), headquartered in Rome (Italy),





The Central American Social Integration System (SISCA), Social System of the Central American Integration System (SICA), based in Central America.

The first three institutions form the central core of the programming and implementation exercises at sectoral and intersectoral level. The four make up the committee in charge of review and pre-approval of the annual action plans that are submitted to the European Commission.

FIIAPP is also the lead institution of the consortium and has the Management and the Programme Office, with responsibility for monitoring the activities and conducting crosscutting activities such as communication, visibility and knowledge management; it also provides services to the programme areas and supports their strategic positioning.

FIIAPP, **Expertise France** and **IILA** each have their own responsibilities with respect to the three public policy areas of the Programme: Governance Policies, Gender Policies and Social Policies, respectively. The action of **SISCA** will focus on the establishment of synergies and areas of complementarity with its own mandate, finding areas of overlap with EUROsociAL that can promote harmonisation of the social agenda in Central America.













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