OPEN DATA INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT FOR AGRICULTURE AND CLIMATE

The 41 Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL, COM/CITEL,

RECOGNIZING

1. The vision of CITEL is the full integration of the American States into the World Information Society and the digital economy, with a view to enabling and accelerating social, economic, cultural, and environmentally sustainable development for all the region's inhabitants through the development of telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICTs);

2. That CITEL's strategic goal of promoting digital inclusion includes promotion of initiatives to expand the use, adoption, and penetration of telecommunications/ ICTs in the Americas;

3. The importance of fulfillment of the Sustainable Development Goals, including those related to agriculture and climate change.

DECIDES:

1. To invite the Permanent Consultative Committee I: Telecommunications/ICTs to consider ways in which to promote digital transformation and digital skills development in collaboration with diverse sectors such as agriculture and environment.

2. To consider ways in which PCC.I within its mandate can support activities and projects related to digital transformation in support of the achievement of the SDGs, including in partnership with other relevant organizations in the region and in the OAS.

3. To consider studying the elements associated with the "Open Data Infrastructure Project for Agriculture and Climate" described in the Annex to this Decision, with a focus on the elements that are within the CITEL mandate.

4. Invite Member States to contribute to the review of the project, including seeking perspectives of relevant experts in the agriculture and climate change sectors.

ANNEX I TO DECISION COM/CITEL DEC. 120 (XLI-23)
OPEN DATA INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT FOR AGRICULTURE AND CLIMATE

The main objective of the proposed project is the creation of a open data infrastructure for the agricultural sector and climate change in the Americas.

This infrastructure will enable countries, organizations, and private sectors to exchange open data in a secure, efficient, timely, and transparent manner, in order to improve decision-making, resilience, and sustainability in these fields.

Specific objectives:

•   Establish and implement a cross-border governance model of open agricultural and climate data.
•   Facilitate access to and exchange of open agro and climate data, promoting collaboration between countries, organizations and the private sector.

- Promote innovation and the development of new technological and practical tools in the agricultural and climate change sectors.
- Contribute to the fulfillment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the field of agriculture and climate change.

Strategies

To achieve these objectives, a series of actions are proposed:
- Establish a cross-border data governance model.
- Develop the architecture for the development of a digital platform for cross-border open data on agriculture and climate
- To finance and establish the financial sustainability model of the platform, which will be free of charge for CITEL.
- Develop a digital platform for the management and exchange of open data, through innovative exchange models such as datacommons, in the agricultural and climate change sector.
- Promote the use of a national and cross-border data interoperability platform with other interested countries for the exchange of data for agriculture and climate. Colombia has available to public and private entities the free software of X-ROAD that carries out the exchange of data in a secure, efficient, timely manner, as well as participates in the GEALC NETWORK, where one of its thematic groups focuses on cross-border interoperability.
- Adopt international standards (e.g., Gaia – X) to create an ecosystem of data and services based on common standards and principles of confidentiality, integrity, and availability that interconnect existing data infrastructure.
- Build a design of services that guarantee identity and trust for sovereign data exchange, generating a data-driven economy.
- Carry out training and education of users in the use of the platform and in the analysis of data, allowing users to make the most of the available information and contribute to sustainable development for agriculture and the climate.
- Establish alliances and collaborations with international organizations, governments and private sectors to foster data sharing and collaboration in the project, based on the platforms adopted.
- Promote innovation and the development of new technologies and practices in the agricultural and climate change sectors, encouraging investment in research and development, and the promotion of initiatives that foster innovation.
- Define the scope of the countries that will make up this project and a roadmap of standardized data to be opened in compliance with the purpose or purposes with which this project is defined.
- Analyze what the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) is doing in terms of collecting, analyzing and disseminating a wide range of statistical data on food, agriculture and the sustainable management of natural resources, in order to articulate, aggregate, harmonize the availability of these data with the open data infrastructure project for agriculture and climate.

Benefits of the project

The project has the following benefits:
- Facilitate informed decision-making in the agricultural and climate change sector, based on data available from different available sources.
- Promote collaboration and cooperation between countries, their public and private entities to share information and knowledge, achieving mutually beneficial objectives that favor agriculture and the fight against climate change.
- Encourage innovation and the development of new technologies and practices in the agricultural and climate change sectors.

- Contribute to the fulfillment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the field of agriculture and climate change.
- Improve the resilience and sustainability of agricultural and climate systems by providing access to accurate and reliable data.