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# THE WORKING GROUPS OF THE INTERAMERICAN COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS (CIDES)

The OAS Social Development process is spearheaded by the Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Social Development (REMDES) of the OAS Member States following a three-year cycle. The fifth REMDES took place in the Dominican Republic on November 17-18, 2022. Two main results came out of this meeting: the approval of the **Inter-American Declaration on Social Development Priorities**: “Strengthening Hemispheric Cooperation towards Resilient Reconstruction and Sustainable Social Development in the Americas”, and the **Plan of Action of the Dominican Republic 2022** that defines the activities which the OAS Member States wish to carry out, within the next three years, until the Sixth Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Social Development in 2025.



These activities are implemented by the Inter-American Committee on Social Development (CIDES) and its Working Groups:

### Working Group 1 (WG1)

**“Measurements of multidimensional poverty and the design of public policies intended to guarantee the well-being and the enjoyment of a good quality of life”.**

The objective of this group is to strengthen the institutional capacity of Member States in the implementation of multidimensional poverty measurements and their application in the design of national public policies.

### Working Group 2 (WG2)

**“Social protection systems that lead to social development, through the reduction of poverty and inequality, and expand social protection with a comprehensive approach”.**

The objective of this group is to strengthen the capacity of the Member States in the implementation of their social protection systems with a human rights approach, taking into consideration the principles of universality, solidarity, equality, nondiscrimination, participation and inclusion, accountability, and transparency, ensuring access to rights and services, particularly for groups in situations of vulnerability.

### Working Group 3 (WG3)

**“Partnerships, funding, and strengthening hemispheric cooperation and technical assistance to promote social development through the Inter-American Social Protection Network (IASPN)”.**

The objective of this group is to promote dialogue, synergies and cooperation with other international, regional, and subregional organizations and mechanisms to strengthen technical cooperation on social development issues.

The Working Groups are made up of representatives of the Ministries of Social Development and equivalent institutions of the OAS Member States who are mainly responsible for a) advising the Inter-American Committee on Social Development (CIDES) in compliance with the priorities established in the Declaration; b) examine in greater depth the issues identified in the Plan of Action and c) facilitating the exchange of experiences and follow up on related hemispheric initiatives.

**Member States that participate in the Working Groups can benefit in many ways, including the opportunity to strengthen their technical and institutional capacities in the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of:**

- a.** Multidimensional poverty measurements and their application in the design of national public policies, as well as their possible use in tracking their progress in the 2030 Agenda.
- b.** Nationally determined social protection systems with an approach based on the respect of human rights, on the principles of universality, solidarity, equality, nondiscrimination, participation and inclusion, accountability and transparency, and equity, in pursuit of broad coverage, particularly for groups in situations of vulnerability, and promotion of impact evaluations as a tool for decision-making.
- c.** Dialogue, synergies and cooperation with other peers from alike institutions in OAS Member States and international, regional, and subregional organizations and mechanisms to strengthen technical cooperation on social development issues.

### Among other benefits are:



System for the **exchange of experience and knowledge** on the methodologies to measure multidimensional poverty, the adaptations that have been implemented due to the COVID-19 pandemic and, in particular, how to use these data to improve the effectiveness of public policies.



**Training opportunities** and exchange of promising practices and lessons learned in the implementation of multidimensional poverty measurements as well as topics related to comprehensive social protection systems.



**Peer-to-peer learning** through technical cooperation projects and horizontal cooperation exchanges between the teams that lead the design and implementation of public policies to reduce social inequalities, address the multiple dimensions of poverty and improve people's well-being through social protection.



**Systematization of regional information** on the topics in which the above-mentioned Working Groups are involved, through the preparation of compendiums, reports, publications, observatories, and indicator systems.



**Application of an intersectional lens** to ensure that at the national level data collection, analysis, and policy recommendations reveal inequalities within vulnerable groups.



**Promotion of technical cooperation exchanges** for the adoption of care systems that recognize, and support paid and unpaid care work.



**Workshops, discussion forums**, space for networking, including the reactivation of the Inter-American Network on Social Protection (IASPN) with a website with up-to-date information on supply and demand of technical cooperation opportunities for the institutions of social development.



To support this agenda, in addition to their participation in the activities of the Working Groups, the Ministries of Social Development and equivalent institutions may make contributions to the Social Development Voluntary Fund, in accordance with their national capacities.

OAS Member States have showed interest in and support for this agenda, as evidenced by their enthusiastic participation in the V REMDES in the Dominican Republic. As they are expected to play an active role in the activities of the Working Groups, they are encouraged to apply for leadership positions or to join as members of these Working Groups.



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