

In the framework of the high-level political forum on sustainable development of the United Nations

# Opportunities for integrating biodiversity, sustainable agriculture and transformative action by women, indigenous peoples and local communities, and subnational governments in Latin America and the Caribbean for the advancement of Goals 5, 14 and 15

**Wednesday, 13 July, 2022**

**7.30-9 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST)**

Side event organized by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Government of Argentina

Join online via the Zoom link:

<https://cepal-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlpd-qhrz4sE9dHr4YVY9xNXbt0qvnmsGdA>

Meeting ID: 864 0391 5693

Passcode: 506015

## Background

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has exacerbated social and environmental inequalities in Latin America and the Caribbean. Women, people of African descent, and indigenous peoples and local communities tend to suffer multiple inequalities and are often the most severely affected by biodiversity degradation and loss. At the same time, they are the least represented in decision-making spheres, including in those related to environmental action and climate change. However, women, indigenous peoples and local communities, and subnational and local governments are agents of change, and their full participation in such spheres is necessary to leave no one behind and move towards comprehensive and sustainable development. Latin America and the Caribbean is a region exceptionally rich in biological and cultural resources and has a vast repository of practices in integrating biodiversity in land management, with inclusive and active participation of various stakeholders. The positive experiences in the shift towards sustainable development, from local level up to the regional level, reflect the progress made in balancing the social, environmental and economic dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This multi-stakeholder event will feature various examples from the large repository of cross-dimensional best practices in the region with a view to strengthening the path towards equality, representation and active participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as subnational governments and other key actors. It will also highlight some specific interlinkages between the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly between Goals 5, 14 and 15.

