

A New Infrastructure Agenda for South America

NOVEMBER 6 AND 7, 2023

**Brasilia Consensus
Infrastructure and Transport
Workshop
Instituto Rio Branco
Conceptual Note and Agenda**



Conceptual Note

Following the meeting of South American Presidents held in Brasília on May 30, 2023, where the commitment of the region's countries to work on improving the infrastructure and logistics of South America was reaffirmed, the event "A New Infrastructure Agenda for South America" will be held on November 6 and 7 in Brasília, at the Rio Branco Institute. The event will facilitate an exchange of ideas among government representatives from the 12 countries, experts, and representatives of international organizations working on infrastructure and transportation issues in the region.

This initiative, organized in collaboration with the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), the Alexandre de Gusmão Foundation (FUNAG), and the Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA), aims to foster a comprehensive reflection on the key elements that should guide the resumption of regional dialogue and cooperation in the field of infrastructure, considering its centrality for strengthening regional integration.

Taking into account the experience of the Initiative for the Integration of South American Regional Infrastructure (IIRSA) and the South American Council of Infrastructure and Planning (COSIPLAN), which have represented a historical milestone in efforts to enhance the physical integration of the region, the seminar will discuss priorities and challenges for the construction of a new infrastructure agenda. In addition to providing an updated overview of infrastructure in South America, the meeting will focus on identifying concrete actions that can reinforce the positive impact of a future agenda for physical and digital integration, taking into account the demands of all countries in the region to improve the living conditions of our populations and contribute to the common goal of promoting economic development.

With this objective, the seminar will discuss topics such as criteria for identifying priority infrastructure projects for South America, challenges in financing and capacity building for project development, regulatory challenges, and support for projects with positive social and environmental impacts.

In order to facilitate a broad exchange on the main aspects of the regional infrastructure agenda, discussions will be organized into four panels with presentations by experts, followed by debates among delegates from the signatory countries of the Brasília Consensus. On the second day of the event, a session will be held for authorities to promote discussion on possible lines of action and follow-up.

November 6- Agenda

1:30pm-2pm Arrival at the Instituto Rio Branco and registration

2pm-2:30pm Opening

Ambassador Gisela Padovan, Vice minister for Latin America and the Caribbean of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Brazil

João Villaverde, Secretary of Institutional Articulation of the Ministry of Planning and Budget of Brazil

Renata Amaral, Secretary of Institutional Affairs and Development of the Ministry of Planning and Budget of Brazil

2:30pm-4.30pm Panel 1: Identifying priority projects of infrastructure to the region

Building on the experience of COSIPLAN, efforts will be made to identify criteria for prioritizing regional projects with the goal of benefiting the entire region, strengthening multimodality, enhancing social impact, especially in border regions, and promoting digital and technological connectivity.

Carlos Mussi, Head of ECLAC's office in Brasilia

Miryam Saade Hazin, Head of the Infrastructure Services Unity of ECLAC

José Barbero, Professor at Universidad Nacional de San Martín of Argentina

Carlos R. Simões, Secretary of External Control of Infrastructure of the Tribunal de Contas da União (Brazil)

Pedro Silva Barros, Researcher at IPEA (Brazil)

4:30pm–6pm Panel 2: Challenges for financing infrastructure in the region

The aim is to review the challenges and prospects of financing priority projects, as well as the facilitation measures that can be adopted to strengthen capacity for accessing investment funds and designing viable projects. The role of regional development banks will be addressed.

Luis Andrés, World Bank Specialist in Infraestructure

Raphael Lenzi, Representative of FONPLATA

Pablo Garcia, Representative of the Inter American Development Bank

Carolina Rueda, Representative of CAF

November 7- Agenda

8:45am- 9am Arrival at the Instituto Rio Branco

9am-10:30am Panel 3: Operational and regulatory aspects

The panel will identify some of the main challenges in the realization of infrastructure projects involving more than one country, including potential divergences in project design and implementation, joint project management, inspection, logistics, among others.

Ambassador Clarems Endara Vera, Permanent Secretary of SELA

Igor Mota, Coordinator of Logistics and Transport Studies of INFRA S.A.

Alexandre Messa, Director of Infrastructure and Business Environment Improvement of Ministry of Development, Industry, Commerce and Services (Brazil)

10:30am-12pm Panel 4: Promoting social inclusion and the sustainability of regional infrastructure.

The panel will seek to address how to incorporate the environmental and social dimension into the definition of infrastructure projects and their implementation.

Annalisa Primi, Head of the Division of Economic Transformation of the OECD

Helena Lastres, Economist at Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Joana Chiavari, Research Director of the Programme of Law and Climate Governance of the “Climate Policy Initiative” of the Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Camila Gramkow, Economic Affairs Representative in the ECLAC’s office in Brasilia

12pm – 12:30pm Coffee Break

12:30pm-14:30pm Regional Infrastructure and Transportation Roundtable of the Brasília Consensus

Session closed to representatives of the 12 South American States