

WIPO

Division for Latin America and the Caribbean

Internal Oversight Division
Pre-Evaluation Review

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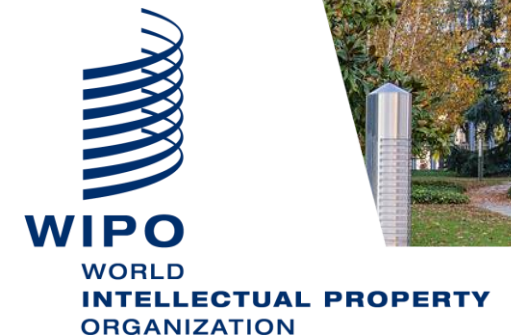


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Executive Summary

Evaluation Criteria Definitions

Relevance

- The extent to which the intervention objectives and design respond to beneficiaries' global, country, and partner/institution needs, policies, and priorities, and continue to do so if circumstances change.

Sustainability

- The extent to which the net benefits of the intervention continue, or are likely to continue.

Impact

- The extent to which the intervention has generated or is expected to generate significant positive or negative, intended or unintended, higher-level effects.

Effectiveness

- The extent to which the intervention achieved, or is expected to achieve, its objectives, and its results, including any differential results across groups.

Efficiency

- The extent to which the intervention delivers, or is likely to deliver, results in an economic and timely way.

Source: [UNEG Norms and Standards for Evaluation in the UN System](#) | UNEG

The Internal Oversight Division (IOD) conducted the Pre-Evaluation Review of the operations of the Division for Latin America and the Caribbean (DLAC) to determine the immediacy for a full-fledged evaluation exercise.

IOD reviewed the economic, demographic, and IP context of the LAC Region and utilized statistics from WIPO and data published by other United Nations agencies and academic institutions. Additionally, IOD examined the budget implementation and activities delivered by DLAC. The engagement analyzed key challenges and opportunities within LAC member states and evaluated the alignment of DLAC's activities with the needs of these states. Furthermore, IOD assessed the applicability to DLAC of recommendations on technical assistance, which were developed by external independent evaluators at the request of the WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP).

Pre-Evaluation Review Results

While the review was based only on DLAC's 2024 work plan activities, DLAC is undertaking various activities across the evaluation criteria: relevance, sustainability, impact, effectiveness, and efficiency. A full-fledged evaluation exercise will not be undertaken in 2025.

Relevance	DLAC supports Member States in IP development, aligning well with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and fostering collaboration among Member States.	Go to slide Go to slide
Sustainability	DLAC involves national stakeholders in the design and implementation of joint capacity-building activities, enhancing national ownership.	Go to slide Go to slide
Impact	DLAC is collaborating with other UN agencies and international organizations to expand the reach of WIPO's cooperation.	Go to slide
Effectiveness	DLAC is delivering technical assistance in the areas of capacity building, policy advising, and supporting underserved IP groups.	Go to slide Go to slide
Efficiency	While DLAC has designed and implemented technical assistance activities efficiently, there is a need to further improve its monitoring and evaluation mechanism.	Go to slide

While a full-fledged evaluation will not be undertaken in 2025, IOD encourages DLAC to **strengthen monitoring and evaluation practices further** to ensure the successful implementation and sustainability of its projects. Structured **communication and dissemination strategies** to share successful experiences of technical assistance and other DLAC activities would be important. In addition, in liaison with WIPO business areas, DLAC should **proactively engage businesses and entrepreneurs to further accelerate IP filing** levels for the region.

2 Background – LAC Region at a Glance

Free stock Photos
<https://www.pexels.com/>
<https://unsplash.com/>

LAC in the World



Source:

[1] [World Bank - Latin America & Caribbean | Data](#)

[2] [World Bank - Latin America & Caribbean | Data](#)

[3] [Race - Latin America, Ethnicity, Culture | Britannica](#)

[4] [Religion-in-Latin-America-11-12-PM-full-PDF.pdf](#)

[5] [Revitalizing Growth: An Urgent Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

Key Facts

- **Countries:** WIPO has 33 member countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) – 19 in Latin America and 14 in the Caribbean (the details are in [Annex 1](#))
- **Area:** Approximately 20 million km² [1]
- **Population:** Over 657 million (2023) [2]
- **Languages:** Predominantly Spanish and Portuguese (Brazil), with English, French, and Dutch spoken in specific countries
- **Ethnic Groups:** Diverse mix, including Indigenous peoples, Europeans, Africans, and people of mixed heritage [3]
- **Religion:** Predominantly Christianity (Catholicism and Protestantism), with growing secular and Indigenous spiritual practices [4]
- **Economic Systems:** A mix of market economies, with some socialist and mixed models [5]

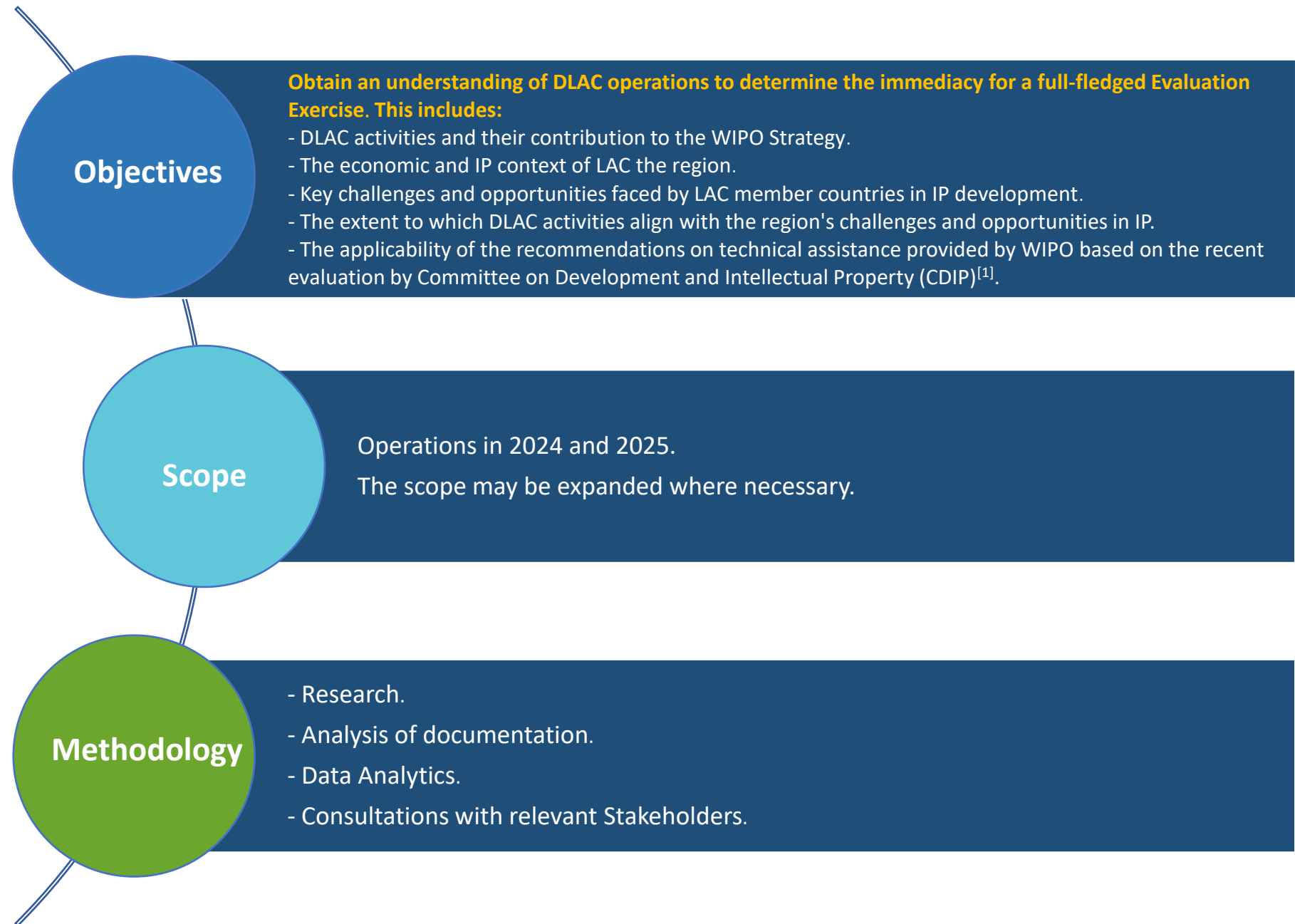
Culture

- **Music:** Reggae, Reggaeton, Salsa, Samba, Tango, and Calypso are globally renowned genres
- **Notable artists include** Shakira (Colombia), Bad Bunny (Puerto Rico), and Caetano Veloso (Brazil)
- **Film Industry:** Known for vibrant film festivals such as the Havana Film Festival and Mexico's Guadalajara Film Festival
- **Cuisine:** Iconic dishes include tacos, empanadas, feijoada, ceviche, and jerk chicken



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Objectives, Scope, Methodology



4.1 Governance – WIPO Division for Latin America and the Caribbean



Regional Meeting of IP Office Officials for the Madrid System in LAC
June 10 to 13, 2024

The WIPO Division for Latin America and the Caribbean (DLAC) is the focal point for technical assistance and capacity-building programs for the 33 WIPO member states in Latin America and the Caribbean region (LAC).

DLAC provides activities in close cooperation with relevant sectors within WIPO and aims to facilitate businesses' and innovators' use of IP for social, cultural, and economic development.

Key DLAC Activities:

- Assistance in the development of national IP strategies, policies, and country plans, taking into account the priorities and specific needs of the countries;
- Supporting member states in strengthening their IP systems by providing development-oriented technical assistance and capacity-building programs, as required;
- Management of member states' Funds-in-Trust (FIT), which contribute to the use of IP for development in the region; and
- Supporting horizontal cooperation initiatives among IP offices in the LAC region. By making the most of existing local capacities and resources, larger audiences can thus be reached.



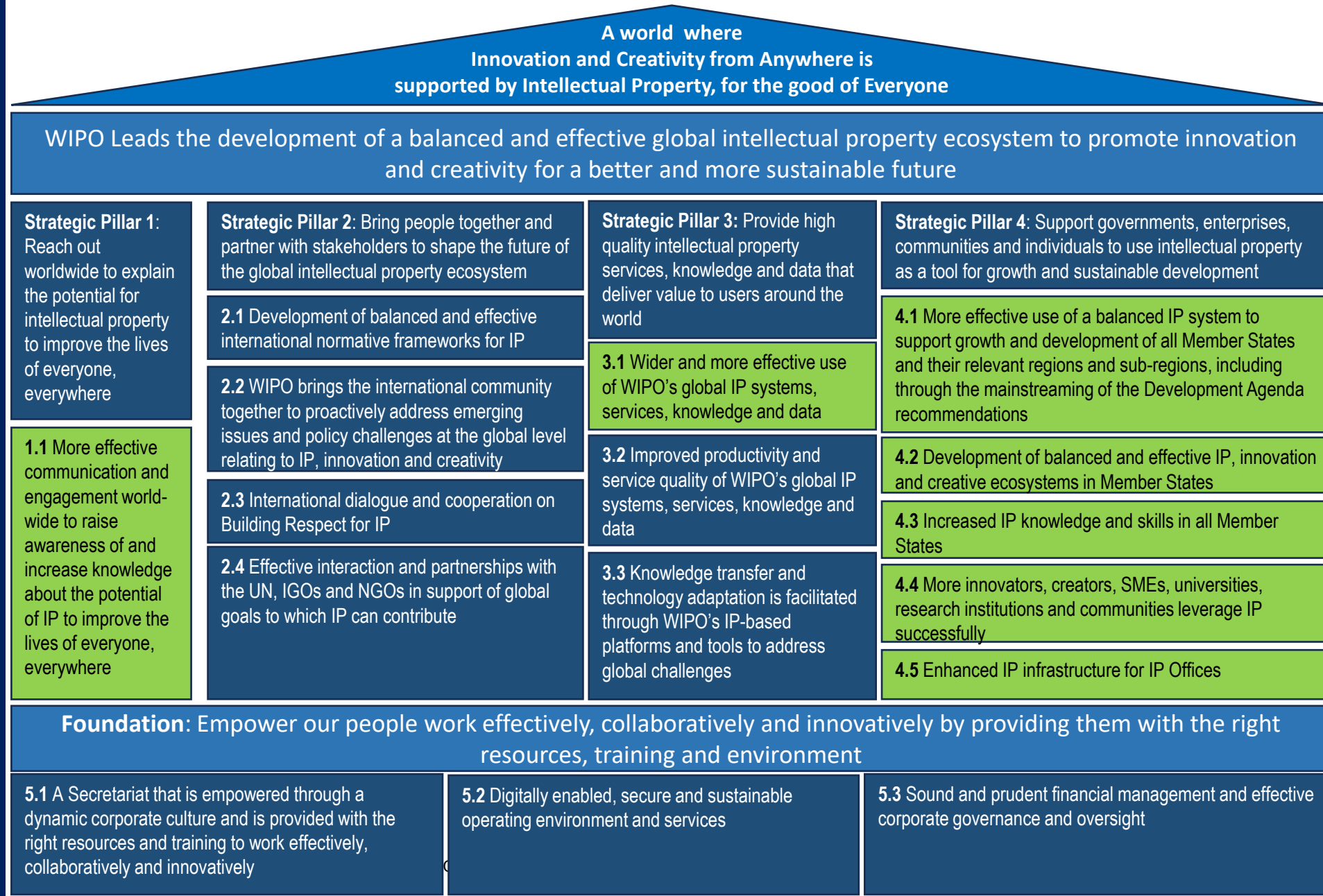
IP Offices from LAC Partner with WIPO GREEN to Drive Green Innovation Ecosystem, 16 Jul 2024

4.2

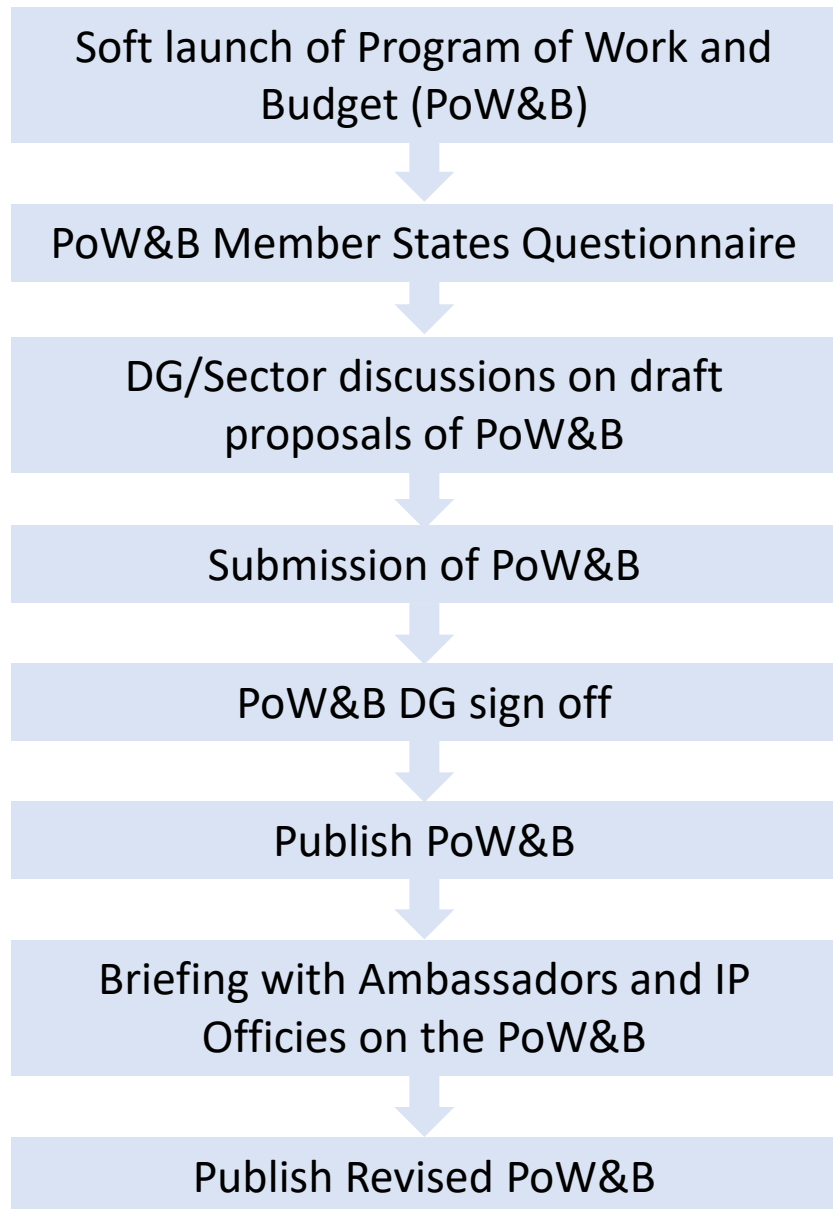
Governance - WIPO Strategy House

- **WIPO Strategy House** – A conceptual framework developed by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) to outline its strategic vision and operational approach. This model is detailed in WIPO's Medium-Term Strategic Plan (MTSP) for 2022–2026 [Link](#).

Where DLAC contributes to within the WIPO Strategy House



4.3 DLAC's Work Planning Process



DLAC collaborates with Member States to ensure their needs are integrated into project planning

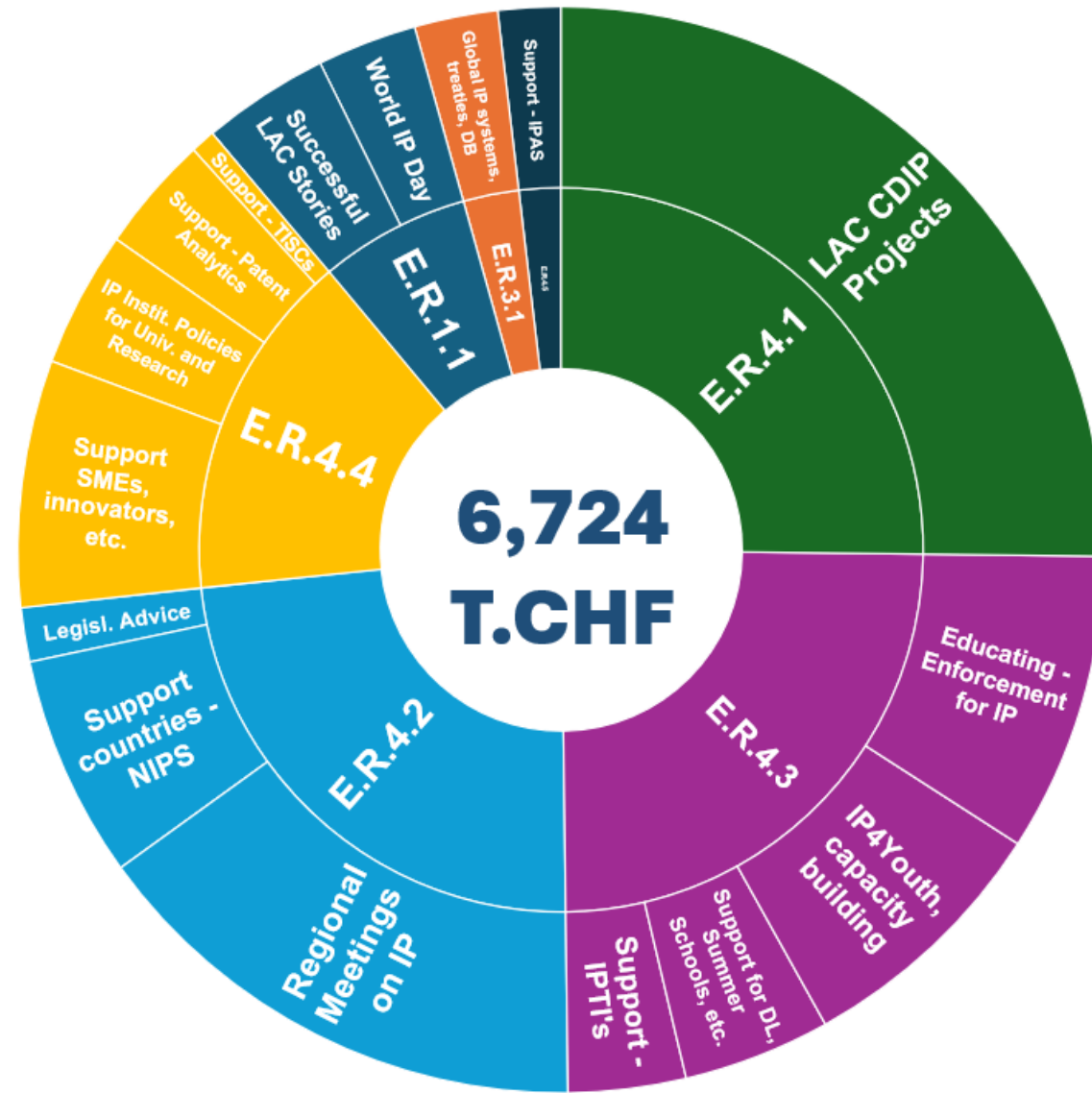
- The collaboration process between DLAC and Member States starts after the WIPO General Assemblies.
- DLAC engages with Permanent Missions and IP Offices to address national priorities.
- Member States' requests are collected and organized by topic, aligning with WIPO internal areas of work.
- Over 20 meetings are held to discuss inputs from Member States during the planning cycle.
- Initiatives to be implemented are agreed at national, sub-regional, and regional levels.
- These initiatives encompass pilot projects, tailor-made activities, and high-level events and programs.

Source:
[WIPO PPBD Biennial Planning High Level Overview](#)
[DLAC](#)

4.4 Allocation of Budget to Activities in 2024/25

DLAC Budget for 2024/25

ER	Workplan Activity	Budget, T.CHF
E.R.1.1	Successful LAC Stories	255
	World IP Day	200
E.R.3.1	Global IP systems, treaties, DB	167
E.R.4.1	LAC CDIP Projects	1,694
	Legisl. Advice	109
E.R.4.2	Support countries - NIPS	446
	Regional Meetings on IP	1,025
E.R.4.3	IP4Youth, capacity building	525
	Educating - Enforcement for IP	599
E.R.4.4	Support for DL, Summer Schools, etc.	295
	Support - IPTI's	235
E.R.4.5	Support - TISCs	51
	Support - Patent Analytics	231
E.R.4.4	IP Instit. Policies for Univ. and Research	274
	Support SMEs, innovators, etc.	492
E.R.4.5	Support - IPAS	126
		6,724



Analysis of major budget allocations:

74% or CHF 5.32 million is allocated to support IP activities in the LAC region, including:

- E.R.4.1 -- IP promotion and awareness projects (25% or CHF 1.69 million).
- E.R.4.2 -- Support national IP strategies and regional meetings (24% or CHF 1.58 million).
- E.R.4.3 -- IP knowledge and skills training (25% or CHF 1.65 million).

16% of the budget (CHF 1.05 million) is allocated to E.R.4.4 to support innovators, creators, SMEs, universities, research institutions, and communities to leverage IP successfully.

7% of the budget (CHF 454 thousand) is allocated to E.R.1.1, specifically for effective communication and engagement worldwide to raise IP awareness and increase knowledge.

Given the context of LAC countries, the DLAC budget allocation, which is focused on Pillar 4 of the WIPO Strategy House, is **aligned with the region's needs**.

4.5

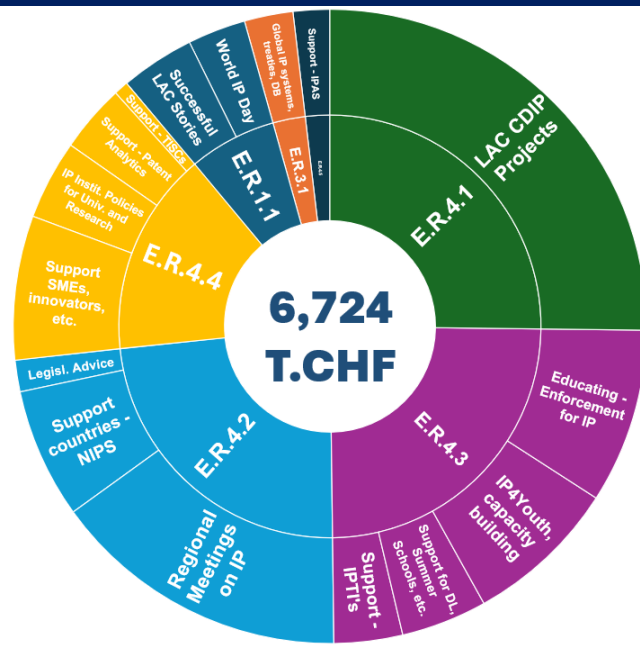
Budget Execution

WePerform – WIPO budgeting and performance management software.

Biannual Budget 2024/25 Execution as of 31 December 2024 in Swiss Francs

E.R.	Workplan Activities	Budget 2024/25			Actuals 2024/25			Execution YTD
		Payroll	Non-Payroll	Total	Payroll	Non-Payroll	Total	
E.R.1.1	Develop and Promote Successful LAC Stories	223,323	31,200	254,523	95,767	0	95,767	38%
E.R.1.1	Promote the World IP Day	182,009	17,500	199,509	73,891	7,696	81,587	41%
E.R.3.1	Promote WIPO's global IP systems, treaties, and DB	88,477	78,500	166,977	37,490	34,624	72,114	43%
E.R.4.1	Support to LAC CDIP Projects, organize IP promotion projects	1,115,620	578,116	1,693,736	383,534	386,088	769,622	45%
E.R.4.2	Legislative Advice in the Field of IP	88,477	20,500	108,977	37,490	0	37,490	34%
E.R.4.2	Support countries on development and implementation of NIPS	366,387	80,000	446,387	149,239	21,867	171,106	38%
E.R.4.2	Regional Meeting on IP policies, IP system, and IP innovation	447,646	577,742	1,025,388	241,474	311,645	553,119	54%
E.R.4.3	Support IP4Youth, tailed capacity building, foster IP best practices et	328,944	196,200	525,144	229,361	45,628	274,989	52%
E.R.4.3	Regional Seminar, workshop, training on Enforcement for IP	469,652	129,500	599,152	197,599	25,442	223,041	37%
E.R.4.3	Support for Distance Learning, Workshops, Summer Schools etc.	232,622	62,500	295,122	103,952	32,240	136,191	46%
E.R.4.3	Support the Establishment and Operation of IPTI's	223,323	12,000	235,323	95,767	0	95,767	41%
E.R.4.4	Support initiatives of TISCs in LAC region	34,123	16,500	50,623	10,027	0	10,027	20%
E.R.4.4	Support initiatives on Patent Analytics	223,323	8,000	231,323	95,767	0	95,767	41%
E.R.4.4	IP Institutional Policies for Universities and research Institutions	223,323	51,000	274,323	95,767	25,048	120,815	44%
E.R.4.4	Support for innovators, creators, SMEs, universities, etc.	425,827	66,000	491,827	187,288	14,777	202,065	41%
E.R.4.5	Support digitalization and implementation of IPAS	125,548	0	125,548	50,092	5,726	55,818	44%
		4,798,625	1,925,258	6,723,883	2,084,506	910,780	2,995,286	45%

Source: [Extract from WePerform](#)



Budget Execution - status

The total execution rate of DLAC work plan activities as of December 31, 2024, was 45%, slightly lower than the theoretical 50% expected in the middle of the biennium (12 months / 24 months = 50%).

Some activities with low actual execution rates had low non-payroll actual expenditures. Examples of such activities are the Development of Successful LAC Stories, Legislative Advice in the field of IP, Support the establishment of and operation of IPTI's and Support Initiatives on Patent Analytics.

Activities related to E.R.4.1 cumulatively showed 31 % execution of payroll expenditure, while non-payroll expenditure was 60% in the mid-biennium. According to **WePerform** data, DLAC had 4 vacant positions (29%) out of 14 in 2024.

4.6

Status of the 2024 work plan

Summary of the status of DLAC 2024 Workplan

E.R.	Status of Activities as of December 31 2024						Total	
	Completed	In Progress	Planned	Postponed	Canceled	Total		
E.R.1.1	2						2	2%
E.R.3.1	11					2	13	13%
E.R.4.1	18	14		1	2		35	34%
E.R.4.2	10	1		5			16	15%
E.R.4.3	12	11		3			26	25%
E.R.4.4	7	2		1	1		11	11%
E.R.4.5		1					1	1%
Total	60	29	0	10	5		104	100%
	57%	28%	2%	10%	4%		100%	

Analysis of the status of the workplan activities

•Most 2024 workplan activities (74%) were built around Expected Results 4.1 (IP promotion and awareness projects, 34%), 4.2 (Support national IP strategies and regional meetings, 15%), and 4.3 (Increased IP knowledge and skills in all Member States, 25%).

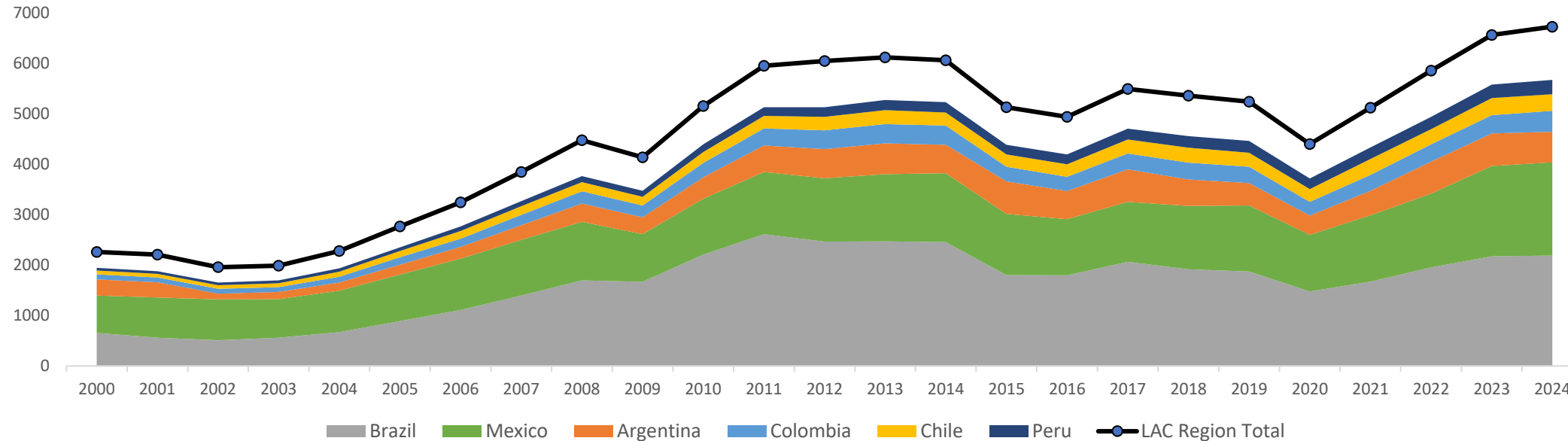
•This aligns with the budget allocation (74%) to these 3 Expected Results.

- 60 out of 104 planned Work Plan Activities for 2024 were completed, representing 57%.

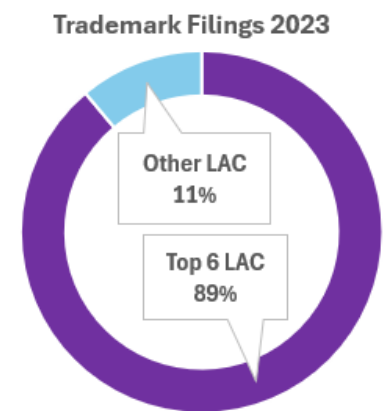
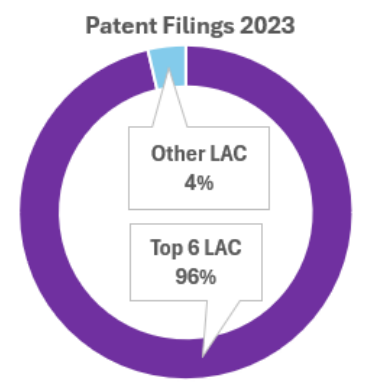
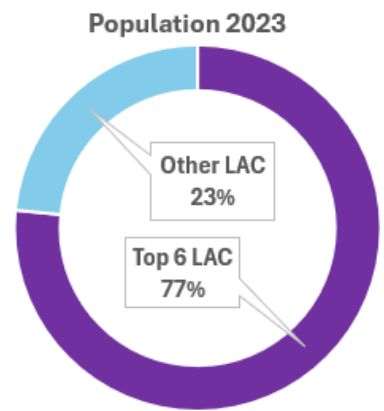
- 15 activities, constituting 14% of the total planned for 2024, were not started; among these, 10 were postponed, and 5 were canceled. (See [Annex 3](#))


5.1 LAC Context – Economic and IP activity

GDP (in bn. of USD) of the top 6 LAC countries and the whole LAC region between 2000 and 2024



Source: [World Economic Outlook \(October 2024\) - GDP, current prices | IMF](#) (*Without data for Cuba)



The concentration of economic and IP activity among the Top 6 LAC countries and Disparities in IP maturity 

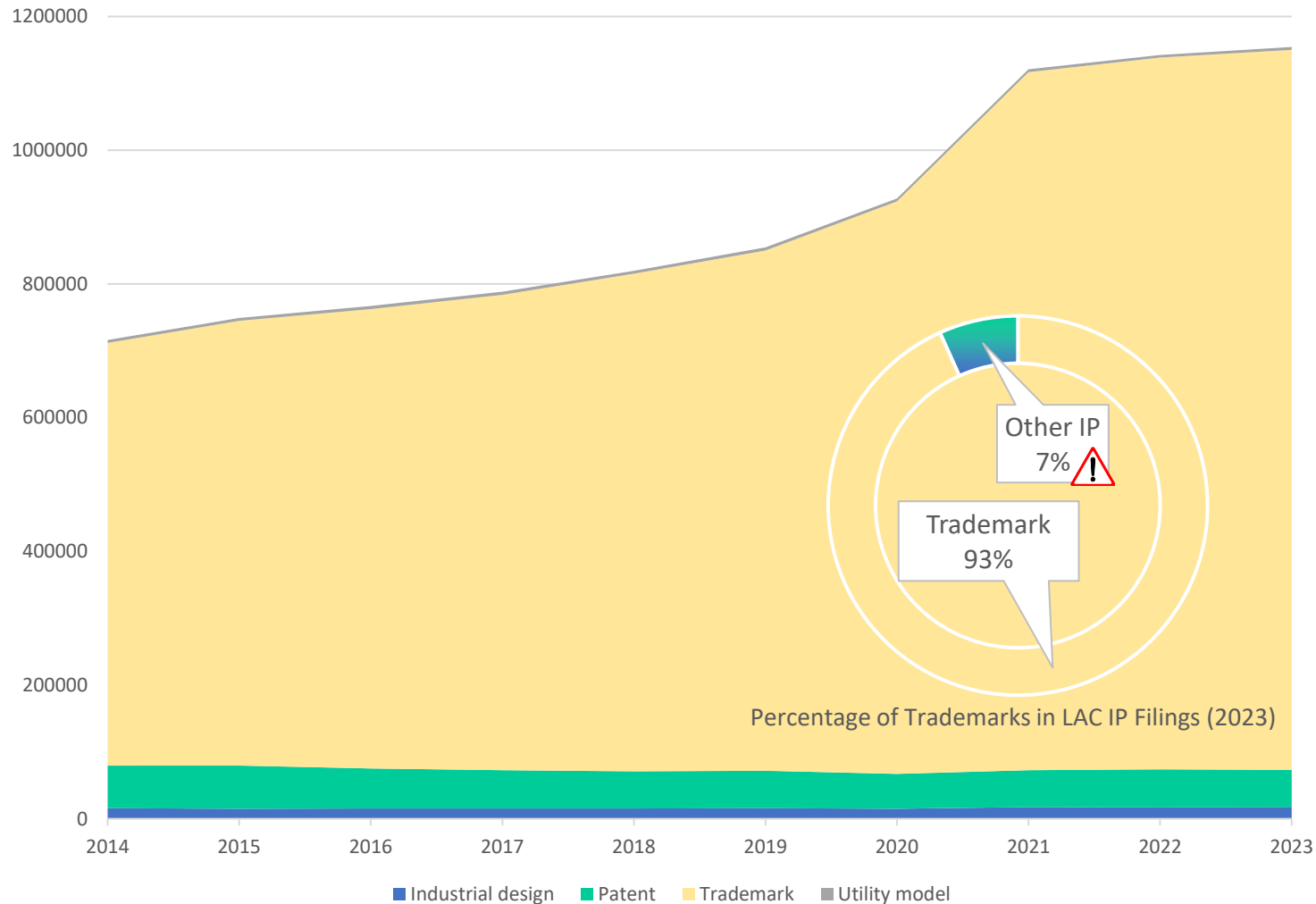
In 2023, the top six LAC countries accounted for 84.92% of LAC’s GDP, with Brazil alone contributing 33.14%. This underscores how a few key economies drive the region’s economic output and hold the potential for fostering innovation and technological advancement in this region. While the size of a country’s population can influence its GDP and, consequently, IP filings, this relationship is not straightforward. Other factors, such as economic policies, technological infrastructure, and innovation ecosystems, also play significant roles. [Annex 2](#) demonstrates the number of IP Filings per capita, for example:

- Antigua and Barbuda has a higher patents per capita rate of 0.66 per thousand, compared to the top six LAC countries: Brazil (0.03), Mexico (0.01), Argentina (0.01), Colombia (0.01), Chile (0.04) and Peru (0.01).
- Saint Kitts and Nevis has a higher trademarks per capita rate of 12.75 per thousand, which is much higher than the top six LAC countries: Chile (2.57), Brazil (1.87), Argentina (1.64), Mexico (1.27), Peru (0.93), and Colombia (0.69). Some other smaller countries also have higher trademarks per capita rates than the top six LAC countries, for example, Barbados (3.87), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (3.07), and Costa Rica (2.87).
- IOD finds significant disparities in the IP maturity of LAC countries, evidencing good POTENTIAL for further IP development.

The dynamics of LAC IP Filing activity are analyzed in the [next slide](#).

5.2 LAC – Dynamics of Filings

Total IP filings in LAC region by year



Source: [WIPO IP Statistics Data Center](#)

The overall increase in IP filings over time

- Total IP filings rose from 854,690 in 2019 to 1,142,520 in 2023 (33.7% increase).
- Trademarks constituted over 90% of total IP filings in 2023.
- Trademark filings increased from 778,400 in 2019 to 1,064,600 in 2023.

While LAC countries have shown strong growth in trademark filings, there is an opportunity for the development of other types of IPs to foster a more balanced and comprehensive IP ecosystem in the region.

The [next slide](#) provides a detailed analysis of patent filings.

Source: [WIPO IP Statistics Data Center](#)

Why are Trademarks more popular than Patents in LAC?

According to publicly available sources, trademarks tend to be more popular than patents in LAC, due to:

- **Cost and Complexity:** Filing for patents can be more expensive and complex than filing for trademarks. Patents require detailed technical descriptions and often involve lengthy examination processes, whereas trademarks are generally simpler and quicker to obtain.
- **Market Dynamics:** Many businesses in LAC focus on marketing and selling existing products rather than developing new technologies. Trademarks are more relevant for these businesses as they help protect brand names, logos, and slogans.
- **Innovation Types:** Innovation in LAC often involves new business models, marketing strategies, and product designs rather than technological inventions.

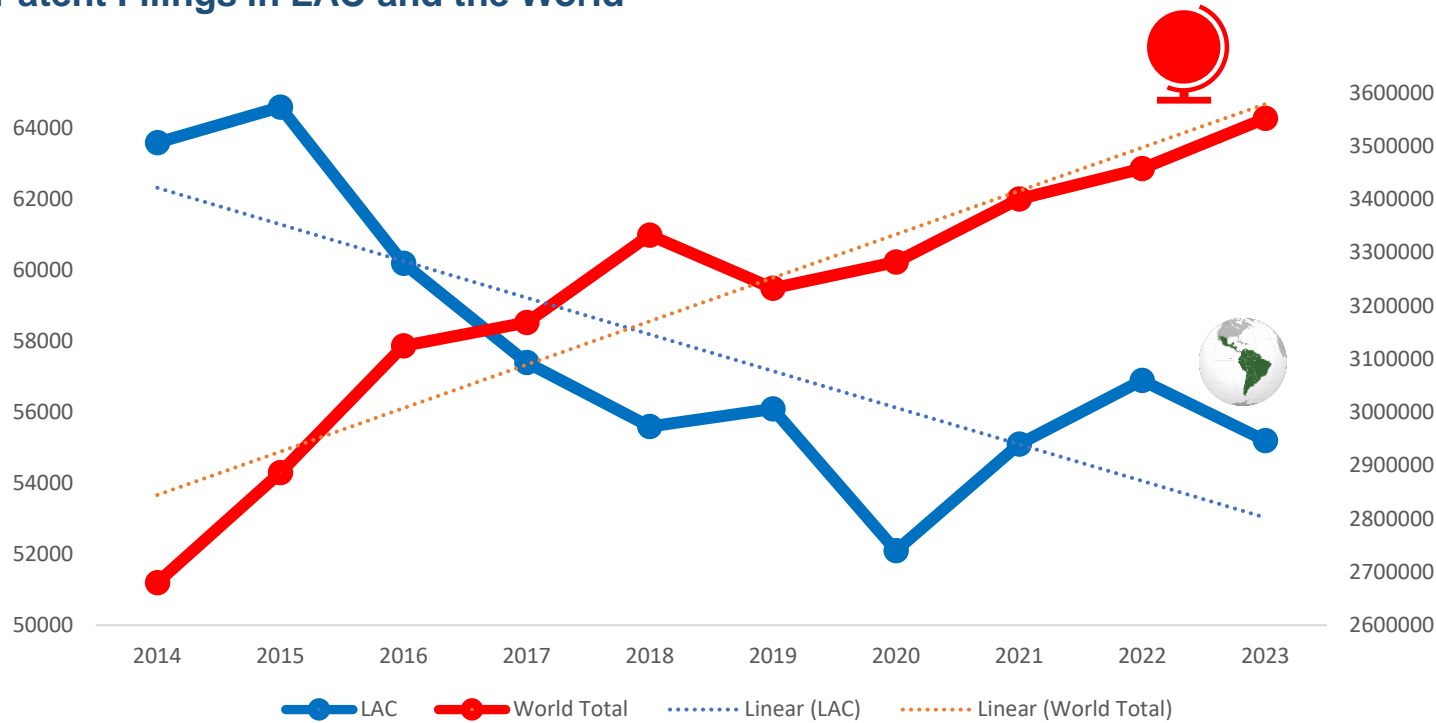
Source: *multiple Internet resources, for example:*

[Preparing Your Business for 2025: Why Trademarks Matter More Than Ever - Ana Law | Intellectual Property Law Firm](#)

[How trademarks reveal the hidden innovation of companies | W. P. Carey News](#)

5.3 LAC – Dynamics of Filings

Patent Filings in LAC and the World



Patent Filing Decrease

According to publicly available sources, the decrease in patent filings in LAC since 2015 can be attributed to several factors:

- **Economic Challenges:** Many LAC countries have faced economic instability, which can impact investment in research and development (R&D) and, consequently, patent filings^[1].
- **Innovation Ecosystem:** The innovation ecosystem in some LAC countries may not be as robust as in other regions, leading to fewer patent applications^[2].
- **Policy and Regulatory Environment:** The policy and regulatory environment in some LAC countries might not be as conducive to encouraging patent filings compared to other regions^[3].
- **Global Competition:** Increased competition from other regions, particularly Asia, which had 1.61 million patent filings in 2014 (25 times that of LAC) and continued significant growth to 2.44 million in 2023 (44 times that of LAC), can also contribute to the relative decline in LAC^[4].

Patent Filing Decrease



Patent filings in the LAC region declined from 64,600 in 2015 to 55,200 in 2023. This contrasts with the global trend, which has generally maintained steady growth. For example, despite a lower GDP per capita than LAC (10.25 thousand USD), Africa region (1.92 thousand) saw a rise in patent activities (from 14,500 in 2015 to 21,500 in 2023).

Source:

[1] [Latin America Faces Slowing Growth and High Inflation Amid Social Tension | IMF Blogs](#)

[2] [Global Innovation Index 2024](#)

[3] [Regulatory policy in Latin America | OECD](#)

[4] [WIPO IP Statistics Data Center](#)

Source: [WIPO IP Statistics Data Center](#) | [IMF - GDP per capita, current prices](#)

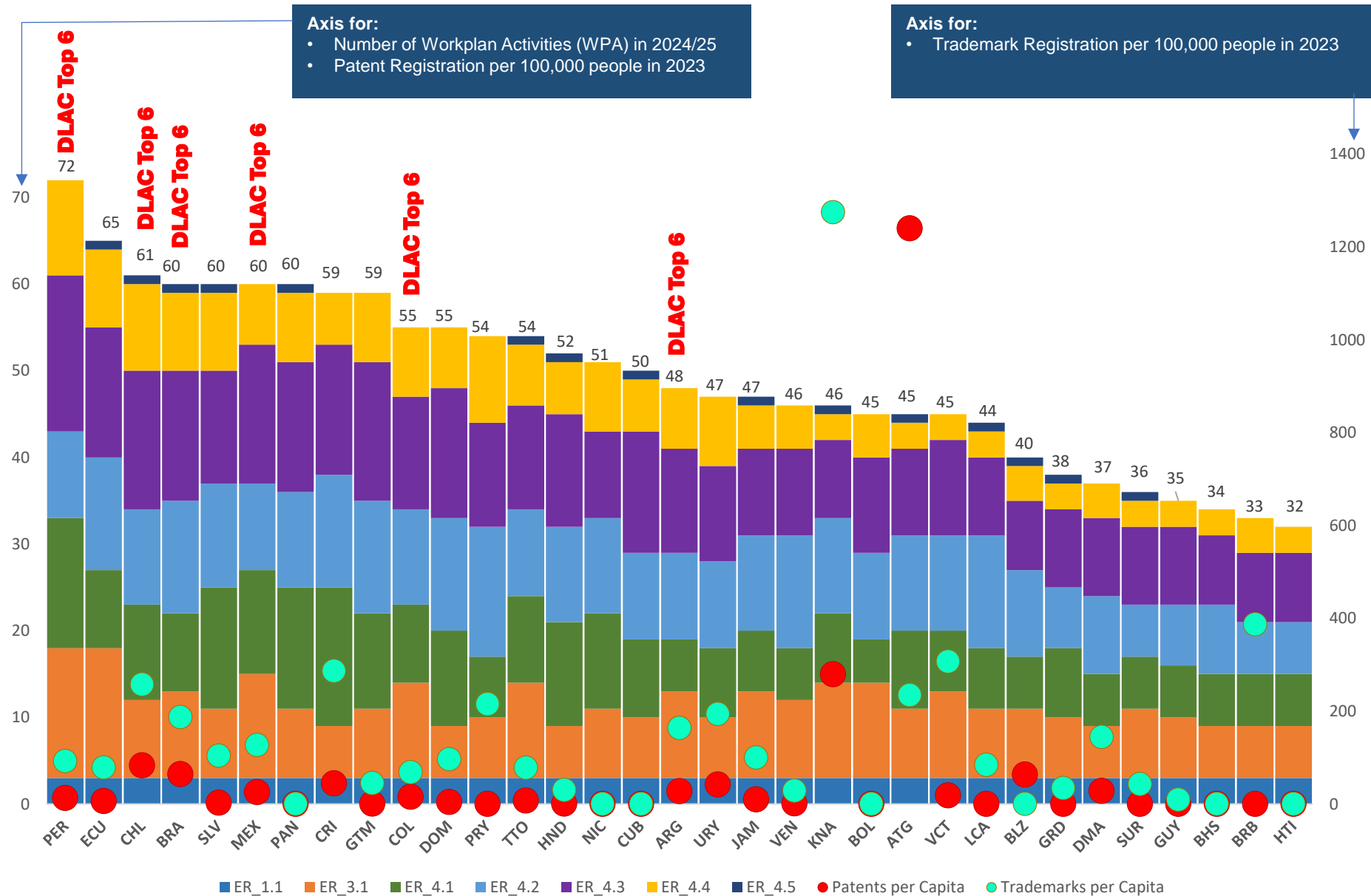
5.4

LAC IP Filing Performance

- DLAC activities cover all 33 LAC countries.
- Generally, bigger and wealthier countries in terms of GDP are linked to slightly more DLAC activities, which is understandable from the point of IP Filing potential.
- Argentina, a LAC Top 6 country, was linked to comparably fewer activities allocated to E.R.4.1 (Balanced IP System) than other DLAC Top 6 countries. Nevertheless, it has a relatively high Trademark Filing activity compared to other DLAC countries.
- Some countries like: Peru, Ecuador, Panama, Guatemala, and Columbia, showing relatively low Trademark Filing activity per capita compared to other DLAC countries, had a relatively high number of DLAC work plan activities to gain IP development support.

For more details, refer to [Annex 2](#).

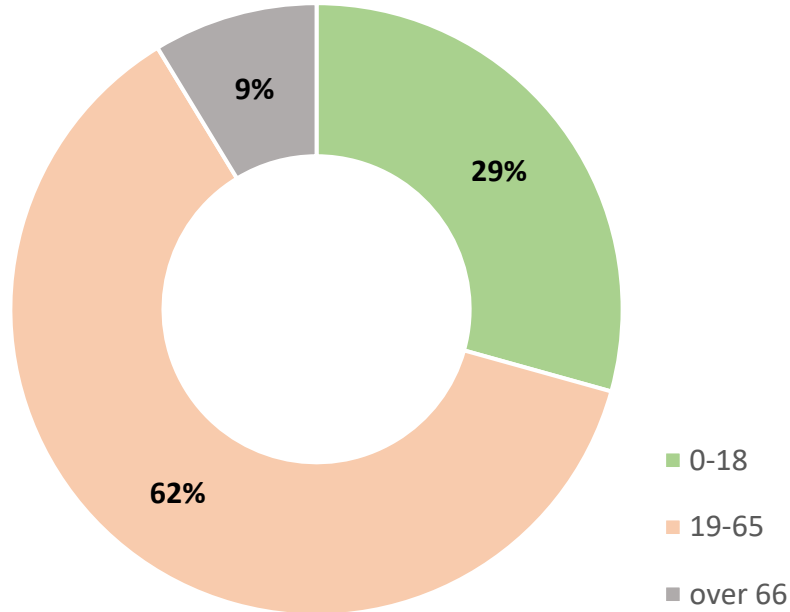
Cross analysis of DLAC activities and country filing performance



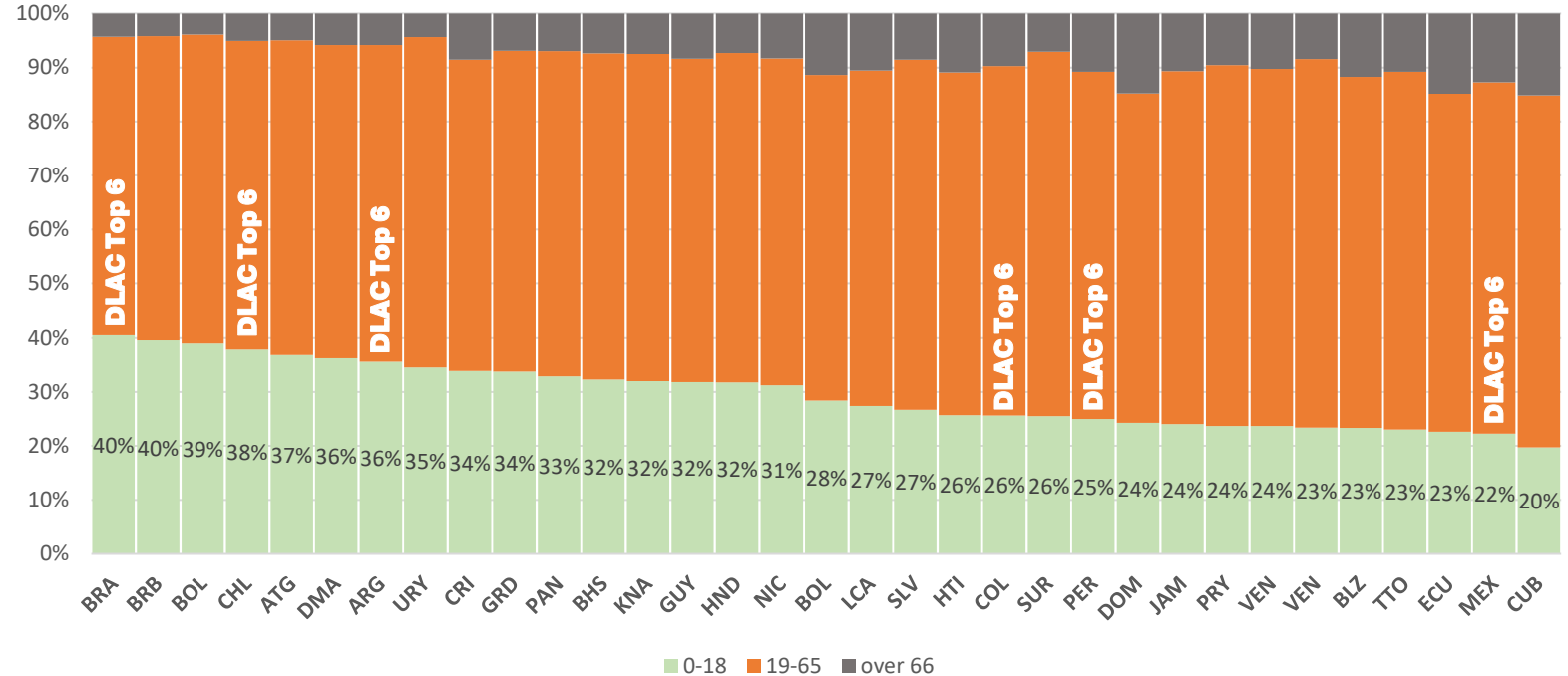
Source: WIPO IP Statistics Data Center, Extract from WePerform, World Population Prospects

5.5 LAC Context – Demographics

LAC Population, by age group, per cent (2023)



LAC Population, by age group, per cent (2023)



Source: [World Population Prospects](#)

Focus on Youth

With 29% of the population under 18, the LAC region has a potential for Youth Engagement in IP. IOD identified 7 DLAC workplan activities for 2024/25 dedicated to young people.

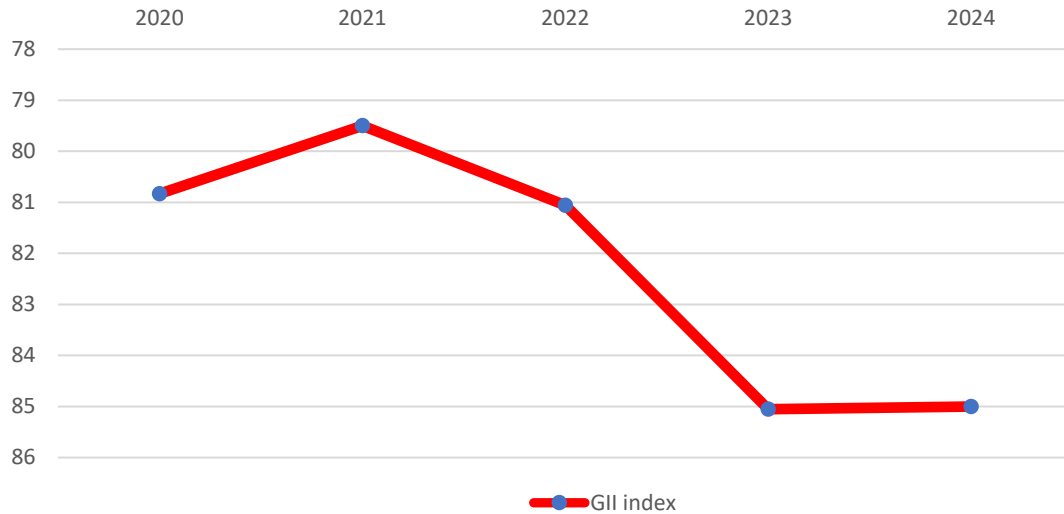
One activity was completed in Antigua and Barbuda (ATG), Saint Kitts and Nevis (KNA) as of December 31, 2024.

There were 3 Youth related projects in progress (covering 9 Member States) and 3 more planned (covering 7 Member States) as of December 31, 2024.

Workplan Activity Code	Year	Expected Result	Project Name	Cross-Collaboration with Other Areas	Beneficiary Countries	Implementation Status
WPA01816	Y2024	ER_4.1	Project on IP for Young Migrant Entrepreneurs	WBO	PER, PAN, ECU, CRI	In Progress
WPA01821	Y2024	ER_4.1	(NEW PROJECT) Support Young Designers in Leveraging IP		COL, BRA	In Progress
WPA01900	Y2024	ER_4.1	(NEW PROJECT) Pilot Project: IP catalyst: empowering Caribbean youth through training in comic development	-	KNA, ATG	Completed
WPA01841	Y2024	ER_4.3	Support Initiatives on IP4Youth	ACADEMY	VCT, DMA, ATG	In Progress
WPA01816	Y2025	ER_4.1	Project on IP for Young Migrant Entrepreneurs	OADG_GCPS	PER, ECU, CRI	Planned
WPA00672	Y2025	ER_4.1	BBF Project for the Digitalization of Educational materials on Copyrights for Children and Youth		COL	Planned
WPA00977	Y2025	ER_4.2	Regional Forum on IP for Young Designers	WBO	PRY, CHL, BRA	Planned

5.6 LAC - Global Innovation Index (GII)

LAC average GII ranking in past 4 years



GII Ranking Downward Trend



The Global Innovation Index of LAC countries has experienced a downward trend since 2021.

The top-ranked LAC countries in 2024 were Brazil (50th), Chile (51st), and Mexico (56th). The decline in the trend was observed in both innovation input and output indicators.

Structural and economic challenges in the LAC region that impact its innovation performance

Limited Access to Venture Capital and Financing

- This lack of funding limits the capacity of startups and SMEs to scale their innovations.

Low Innovation Output Efficiency

- LAC countries invest in innovation inputs such as education and research, but the translation into tangible outputs remains limited.

Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity Constraint

- Many countries lack robust digital networks, limiting access to critical resources needed for innovation.

Geopolitical and Economic Instability

- Economic fluctuations, inflation, and policy uncertainty impact long-term investment in R&D and innovation.

6.1 Technical Support Addressing Challenges - Limited Access to Venture Capital and Financing

Challenge 1: Limited Access to Venture Capital and Financing^[1]

DLAC Initiatives to Support Member States in 2024

Summary:

- DLAC's 2024 Work Plan had 3 activities, in collaboration with other divisions, aimed at enhancing member states knowledge management in IP financing. These included one training (completed), one series studies (in progress) and one pilot project (cancelled).

Completed

- **WPA01877** - IP Management and Financing for E-commerce SMEs in Central America and the Dominican Republic. ([E.R.4.1](#))
- Specialized IP support training. Collaboration with IP for Business Division (IPBD) and WIPO Academy. Implemented by IPBD, with DLAC coordination support.
- **Beneficiary countries:** PAN, NIC, HND, GTM, SLV, DOM, CRI.

In Progress

- **WPA01869** - Support IP backed Financing Landscape Studies ([E.R.4.4](#))
- Series studies, implemented by IP Commercialization Section.
- **Beneficiary countries:** Mexico, Chile, Brazil.

Canceled

- **WPA01824** - Pilot Project on IP Backed Financing. ([E.R.4.1](#))
- Implemented by **DLAC** and IP Commercialization Section.
- **Beneficiary country:** Jamaica.

10 Beneficiary Countries were covered by related DLAC Initiatives in this area in 2024



Technical Support



- In the 2024 workplan, three activities were directly linked to enhancing member states knowledge around IP financing.

Potential Scale UP

- Leveraging on the lessons learnt from completed pilot projects can contribute to enhance Member States' understanding and ability to access IP financing.

6.2 Technical Support Addressing Challenges - Low Innovation Output Efficiency

Challenge 2: Low Innovation Output Efficiency^[1]

DLAC Initiatives to Support Member States in 2024

Summary:

While building IP innovation output capacity is primarily the responsibility of Member States, DLAC's 2024 workplan revealed several and a diverse range of activities aimed at enhancing innovation output efficiency among LAC Member States. These included:

- 21 training/workshop/skills building events. (E.R.3.1, E.R.4.1- E.R.4.4)
- 5 legislative advice activities in IP field. (E.R.4.2)
- 11 promotion activities for WIPO IP tools and systems. (E.R.3.1, E.R.4.3, E.R.4.4)

(Details of the Work Plan Activities related to the above are included in [Annex 4](#))

Capacity Building and Training

DLAC has conducted capacity-building activities, including workshops and training sessions, to enhance the skills and knowledge of individuals and institutions in the LAC region in managing and leveraging IP.

Specific Project Implementation and Support

DLAC has executed and supported projects aimed at addressing specific challenges in IP output, such as the projects to Strengthen the Surf Tourism sector in the Pacific Coast of El Salvador, IP Tools to Support SMEs in Peru, Mexico, Colombia and Chile.

Promotion and Awareness

DLAC has actively promoted the use of WIPO IP tools and resources through different levels' regional and cross-regional meetings, and awareness-raising initiatives.

All LAC Member States were Covered by DLAC Activities in this Field in 2024



Enhancing Legislative Assistance^[2]

To enhance the effectiveness of policy and legislative assistance, DLAC and Member States should establish **long-term, milestones-based collaborative agreements** focused on creating **output-oriented policies**, including support for technology transfer offices, patent facilitation centers, and programs linking academic research with commercial ventures.



WIPO Director General attended the VIII Meeting of Ministers from Central America and the Dominican Republic, hosted by Guatemala, October 18, 2024



WIPO Regional Forum on IP for Women in STEM and Entrepreneurs, December 11 to 13, 2023

Source: [\[1\]GII LAC Regional Brief – Challenges and Constraints](#)

[\[2\]CDIP Independent External Review of WIPO's Technical Assistance in the Area of Cooperation for Development](#)

6.3 Technical Support Addressing Challenges - Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity Constraint

Challenge 3: Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity Constraint ^[1]

DLAC Initiatives to Support Member States in 2024

Summary:

- DLAC implemented 6 related initiatives in 2024 to improve IP infrastructure and digital connectivity in the LAC region, including infrastructure enhancement through Intellectual Property Administration System (IPAS), Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) and National IP Strategies.

Infrastructure Enhancement Through WIPO Tools

- WPA01799 - Promote WIPO Services, Global Databases and Tools in all LAC member states. ([E.R.3.1](#))
- WPA01866 - Promote the Use of WIPO IP Diagnostic Tool for SMEs in Panama. ([E.R.4.4](#))
- WPA01875 - Support digitalization and implementation of WIPO IPAS in TTO, SUR, LCA, KNA, PAN, JAM, HND, GRD, SLV, ECU, CUB, CHL, BRA, BLZ, ATG. ([E.R.4.5](#))

Technical Support in IP Infrastructure

- WPA01822 - Empowering Artificial Intelligence (AI) Innovation in all LAC member states. ([E.R.4.1](#))
- WPA01813 - IP and Technology Parks in Cuba. ([E.R.4.1](#))
- WPA01863 - Support skills building and operational initiatives of TISCs in all LAC member states. ([E.R.4.4](#))

All LAC Member States were Covered by DLAC Activities in this Field in 2024



Member State responded in a survey^[2]:

- “IPAS has been one of the most impactful initiatives and trainings provided to our examiners. I have been since 2022, and I have attended numerous WIPO trainings. They have provided us with competence and skills. I consider those as the most impactful.”
- “Thanks to the **implementation of the main tools offered by WIPO**, the IP Office has developed the capacity to grow exponentially.”



Training Program on Patent Analytics for Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) in Latin America in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, February 27-29, 2024

Source: [\[1\]GII LAC Regional Brief – Challenges and Constraints](#)

[\[2\]CDIP Independent External Review of WIPO’s Technical Assistance in the Area of Cooperation for Development](#)

6.4 Technical Support Addressing Challenges - Geopolitical and Economic Instability

Challenge 4: Geopolitical and Economic Instability^[1]

DLAC Initiatives to Support Member States in 2024

Summary:

- Based on DLAC's Work Plan Activities in 2024, DLAC demonstrated commitment to supporting LAC member states in **addressing regional and local innovation needs**, such as **green technology** and **agricultural innovation**.^[1]

Support WIPO Green Projects

- WPA01801, completed. - Acceleration on Climate Smart Projects, in PER, ECU, COL, CHL, BRA, ARG (E.R.3.1)
- Implemented by Global Challenges Division (GCD) with DLAC coordination support.

Agricultural Innovation

5 projects under E.R.4.1.

- WPA01880, completed - Strengthening GI of Oregano from Putre foothills Projects in Chile.
- WPA01883, completed - Acquisition of IP Rights, utilizing GIs for selected crops in Antigua and Barbuda.
- WPA01881, in progress - Support the commercialization of Magallanic Wool (Chile).
- WPA01884, in progress- Uchi CreActivo (Awajun Community) (Peru).
- WPA01885, in progress- Commercialization of origin linked products such as nutmeg, cocoa and rum(Grenada).

DLAC Completed Green and Agricultural Innovation Projects in 7 Member States in 2024



- As an international organization, the challenge of Geopolitical and Economic Instability and its effect on IP capacity is **not** a subject that can be directly solved by WIPO's technical support.
- **Peer-to-peer learning** could be a useful tool to share best practices, foster collaboration, and build resilience among member states.

Under E.R.4.2 DLAC included initiatives at different levels of authority meetings for experience sharing^[3], including:

- WA01833, completed, Ministerial-Level Meeting of Central America and the Dominican Republic (October 2024, Guatemala)
- WA01835, completed, Regional Meeting on IP, Innovation and Gender Equality (August 2024, Brazil)
- WPA01834, postponed, Regional Meeting of Heads of IP Offices of Latin American Countries
- WPA01836, postponed, Sub-regional Meeting on the OECS Patent System
- WPA01904, postponed, Regional Meeting of Heads of Copyright Offices of Latin American Countries

Source: ^[1][GII LAC Regional Brief - Challenges and Constraints](#)

^[2] [CDIP Independent External Review of WIPO's Technical Assistance in the Area of Cooperation for Development](#)

^[3] [DLAC](#)

6.5 Technical Support for IP Underserved Groups

DLAC's Initiatives that Directly Target Youth Based on LAC's Demographics Context

Pilot Project to Support Young Designers (Brazil, Chile), **In Progress**, from August 2023 (E.R.4.1)

- Collaboration with the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, National Industrial Property Institute, and Small and Micro Enterprises.
- Training for 24 students on IP and product design, resulting in 20 industrial design registration requests.
- Partnership with the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile.
- Training for 100 students, incorporating IP fundamentals and practical workshops.

Empowering Designers through IP (Guatemala), **Completed**, October to December 2024 (E.R.4.3)

- Training for 26 design students at the University del Itsmo.
- Development of an IP Toolkit in coordination with the National IP office, for national designers and other users.

Videogame Capacity Building (Dominican Republic), **Completed**, December 2023 to March 2024 (E.R.4.1)

- Training and mentoring for 32 video game developers.
- Establishment of the Dominican Association of Video Game Developers.
- Development of 11 video game prototypes.
- 42 recommended public policy measures to foster the Dominican market, which can be shared with other countries in the region.

IP Catalyst: Training in Comic Development, **Completed**, November 2024 (E.R.4.1)

- Workshops in Antigua and Barbuda, St. Kitts and Nevis.
- Educating 153 students on IP and manga creation.

DLAC Also Made Efforts to Support Other Underserved Groups

Women

Workplan Activity Code	Expected Result	Project Name	Cross-Collaboration with Other Areas	Beneficiary Countries	Implementation Status
WPA01817	E.R.4.1	(CONTINUING PROJECT) IP for Quilombola Women: Advancing Cultural Heritage and Economic Empowerment	RNDS_PROJECTS, WBO	BRA	Completed
WPA01818	E.R.4.1	Project on IP for Women in STEM Careers	WBO	URY, CUB, CRI, BRA, ARG	Completed
WPA01819	E.R.4.1	Project on IP for Women Entrepreneurs: Creating Value through IP	RNDS_PROJECTS	VCT, LCA, PAN, NIC, HND, BLZ	In Progress
WPA01901	E.R.4.1	(NEW PROJECT) Empowering voices: promoting women and indigenous creators in the audiovisual industry	CDD	MEX	Canceled
WPA01837	E.R.4.2	II WIPO Regional Forum on IP and Women in STEM and Women Entrepreneurs: Building a Women's Community on IP in the Caribbean region		VCT, LCA, KNA, JAM, BLZ	Completed

Success Story

Project on IP for Women in STEM careers, **Completed**, January to December 2024 (E.R.4.1)

- In Uruguay, Cuba, Costa Rica, Argentina, and Brazil.
- 118 Women trained, 12 agreements (incubation, licensing, collaboration and confidentiality)
- Submission of 3 Patent applications, 1 trademark registration and 1 software registration.

Indigenous Communities

Workplan Activity Code	Expected Result	Project Name	Cross-Collaboration with Other Areas	Beneficiary Countries	Implementation Status
WPA01901	E.R.4.1	(NEW PROJECT) Empowering voices: promoting women and indigenous creators in the audiovisual industry	CDD	MEX	Canceled

Immigrants

Future Plan

IP for Young Migrant Entrepreneurs

- 2025 work plan, cooperation with International Organization of Migration.
- Aims to benefit between 40 to 60 participants in Costa Rica, Ecuador and Peru.

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ANNEX 1: List of LAC Member Countries

No.	Sub-region	Country	Acronym
1	Latin America	Argentina	ARG
2	Latin America	Bolivia	BOL
3	Latin America	Brazil	BRA
4	Latin America	Chile	CHL
5	Latin America	Colombia	COL
6	Latin America	Costa Rica	CRI
7	Latin America	Cuba	CUB
8	Latin America	Dominican Republic	DOM
9	Latin America	Ecuador	ECU
10	Latin America	El Salvador	SLV
11	Latin America	Guatemala	GTM
12	Latin America	Honduras	HND
13	Latin America	Mexico	MEX
14	Latin America	Nicaragua	NIC
15	Latin America	Panama	PAN
16	Latin America	Paraguay	PRY
17	Latin America	Peru	PER
18	Latin America	Uruguay	URY
19	Latin America	Venezuela	VEN

No.	Sub-region	Country	Acronym
20	Caribbean	Antigua and Barbuda	ATG
21	Caribbean	Bahamas	BHS
22	Caribbean	Barbados	BRB
23	Caribbean	Belize	BLZ
24	Caribbean	Dominica	DMA
25	Caribbean	Grenada	GRD
26	Caribbean	Guyana	GUY
27	Caribbean	Haiti	HTI
28	Caribbean	Jamaica	JAM
29	Caribbean	Saint Kitts and Nevis	KNA
30	Caribbean	Saint Lucia	LCA
31	Caribbean	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	VCT
32	Caribbean	Suriname	SUR
33	Caribbean	Trinidad and Tobago	TTO

Source: [Provided by DLAC](#)

ANNEX 2: LAC Member Countries – Statistics: Gross Domestic Product (GDP), population, IP Filings, Global Innovation Index (GII) per country, DLAC activities linked to the country

Country	GDP-2023 (Billions of U.S. dollars)	Population -2023 (Thousand)	Patents, 2023	Patents per Capita	Trademarks, 2023	Trademarks per Capita	Industrial Designs, 2023	Utility Models 2023	GII Overall Rank 2024	Number of DLAC activities in 2024/25
Brazil	2.174	211.141	7.302	0,035	395.165	1,87	5.768	2.397	50	60
Mexico	1.789	129.740	1.774	0,014	164.776	1,27	1.162	519	56	60
Argentina	646	45.538	679	0,015	74.487	1,64	1.385	171	76	48
Colombia	364	52.321	432	0,008	35.888	0,69	542	102	61	55
Chile	336	19.659	878	0,045	50.612	2,57	87	122	51	61
Peru	267	33.846	234	0,007	31.355	0,93	128	638	75	72
Cuba	141	11.020	247	0,022	3.536	0,32	5	1	no data	50
Dominican Republic	122	11.331	27	0,002	10.939	0,97	9	11	97	55
Ecuador	119	17.980	60	0,003	14.115	0,79	52	27	105	65
Guatemala	104	18.125	9	0,000	8.121	0,45	8	7	122	59
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	99	28.301	16	0,001	8.173	0,29	19	-	no data	46
Costa Rica	87	5.106	122	0,024	14.630	2,87	-	7	70	59
Panama	83	4.459	-	-	-	-	-	-	82	60
Uruguay	77	3.388	76	0,022	6.571	1,94	-	34	62	47
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	45	12.244	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	45
Paraguay	43	6.844	-	-	14.726	2,15	12	-	93	54
Honduras	34	10.645	3	0,000	3.227	0,30	-	-	114	52
El Salvador	34	6.310	9	0,001	6.573	1,04	92	5	98	60
Trinidad and Tobago	28	1.503	6	0,004	1.178	0,78	-	-	108	54
Haiti	20	11.637	-	-	-	-	-	-	no data	32
Jamaica	19	2.840	15	0,005	2.843	1,00	-	-	79	47
Nicaragua	18	6.824	-	-	-	-	-	-	124	51
Guyana	17	826	-	-	77	0,09	-	-	no data	35
Bahamas	14	399	-	-	-	-	-	-	no data	34
Barbados	7	282	-	-	1.092	3,87	97	-	77	33
Suriname	4	629	-	-	271	0,43	-	-	no data	36
Belize	3	411	14	0,034	-	-	1	-	no data	40
Saint Lucia	2	179	-	-	151	0,84	-	-	no data	44
Antigua and Barbuda	2	93	62	0,664	219	2,35	-	-	no data	45
Grenada	1	117	-	-	40	0,34	-	-	no data	38
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1	101	1	0,010	311	3,07	-	-	no data	45
Saint Kitts and Nevis	1	47	7	0,150	596	12,75	-	-	no data	46
Dominica	1	67	1	0,015	96	1,44	-	-	no data	37

ANNEX 3: STATUS OF THE 2024/25 WORK PLAN – POSTPONED OR CANCELED ACTIVITIES

No.	ER	Workplan Activity	Cross-Collaboration with Other WIPO Divisions	Beneficiary Countries	Implementation Status
1	E.R.3.1	Regional workshop to support IP Offices on National Collection Management (LATIPAT), Brands and Designs	GDD	LAC – ALL	Canceled
2	E.R.3.1	Support Accession to WIPO Treaties	PTL, PCT	TTO, GUY	Canceled
3	E.R.4.1	Pilot Project on IP Backed Financing	IPID	JAM	Canceled
4	E.R.4.1	Empowering voices: promoting women and indigenous creators in the audiovisual Industry	CDD	MEX	Canceled
5	E.R.4.1	Project to support grassroots innovators and creators: Tourism in harmony with life		COL	Postponed
6	E.R.4.2	Legislative Advice in the Field of Designs	TMIDGI	TTO, ATG	Postponed
7	E.R.4.2	Legislative Advice in the Field of the Copyright	CLD, ODDG_CCIS	CRI	Postponed
8	E.R.4.3	Regional Meeting of Heads of IP Offices of Latin American Countries		Latin America (LATAM)	Postponed
9	E.R.4.2	Sub-regional Meeting on the OECS Patent System	PTL	VCT, LCA, KNA, JAM, ATG	Postponed
10	E.R.4.2	Regional Meeting of Heads of Copyright Offices of Latin American Countries		Latin America (LATAM)	Postponed
11	E.R.4.3	2nd Edition Online Colloquium for Lusophone Countries	WBO, WJI	BRA	Postponed
12	E.R.4.3	Online training on gender perspectives in the management and functions of IP and Copyright Offices in Latin America	HRMD	Latin America (LATAM)	Postponed
13	E.R.4.3	CARIBBEAN Regional Seminar on Enforcement for IP Prosecutors, Customs and Police Investigators	BRIP	TTO, JAM, ATG	Postponed
14	E.R.4.4	Build skills on IP Valuation	IPID	LAC – ALL	Postponed
15	E.R.4.4	Support Training on IP for SMEs	IPBD	Latin America (LATAM)	Canceled

LATIPAT – A framework to promote the exchange of patent information for IPOs of Latin American countries.
GDD – Global Databases Division
PTL – Patent and Technology Law Division
PCT – PCT Services Department
IPID – IP for Innovators Department

CDD – Copyright Development Division
TMIDGI – Department for Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications
CLD – Copyright Law Division
ODDG – Office of the Deputy Director General
CCIS – Copyright and Creative Industries Sector

WBO – WIPO Brazil Office
WJI – WIPO Judicial Institute
HRMD – Human Resources Management Department
BRIP – Building Respect for IP Division
IPBD – IP for Business Division

ANNEX 4: WORK PLAN Activities – Addressing Challenge Low Innovation Output Efficiency (1 of 2)

Type 1: Training/Workshop/Skills Building Events

No.	WPA	E.R.	Workplan Activity Summary	Cross-Collaboration with Other WIPO Divisions	Beneficiary Countries	Implementation Status
1	WPA01800	E.R.3.1	Regional workshop to support IP Offices on National Collection Management (LATIPAT), Brands and Designs	GDD	LAC - ALL	Canceled
2	WPA01823	E.R.4.1	(NEW PROJECT) Building Skills on Examination and Classification of Traditional and Non-Traditional Trademarks	ACADEMY	VEN, URY, PER, PRY, PAN, MEX, ECU, CUB, COL, CHL, BRA, BOL, ARG	Completed
3	WPA01887	E.R.4.1	(NEW PROJECT) Skills Building on IP for the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI)	IPBD, ACADEMY	LAC - ALL	In Progress
4	WPA01900	E.R.4.1	(NEW PROJECT) Pilot Project: IP catalyst: empowering Caribbean youth through training in comic development	-	KNA, ATG	Completed
5	WPA01842	E.R.4.3	Tailor-made Capacity building on TK, GRs and TCEs	TK	CRI	In Progress
6	WPA01844	E.R.4.3	National IP trainings for judges	WJI	CUB	Completed
7	WPA01846	E.R.4.3	Online training on gender perspectives in the management and functions of IP and Copyright Offices in Latin America	HRMD	LATAM	Postponed
8	WPA01907	E.R.4.3	Specialized training in the context of the Book Fair	CDD	PAN	Completed
9	WPA01850	E.R.4.3	Impact-driven capacity-building program on BRIP	BRIP	DOM	In Progress
10	WPA01851	E.R.4.3	Regional workshop for MERCOSUR countries on combating IP infringement: establishment of national groups/councils and regional coordination mechanisms	BRIP	URY, PRY, BRA, ARG	Completed
11	WPA01854	E.R.4.3	Build skills in Patent Drafting	IPID	MEX, HND, GTM, ECU, CHL	Completed
12	WPA01855	E.R.4.3	Build skills in Patent Examination	PCT	LAC - ALL	Completed
13	WPA01856	E.R.4.3	Skills Building and Technical Assistance in GIs and Collective Marks	TMIDGI	MEX	In Progress
14	WPA01857	E.R.4.3	Master's Degree Program on IP and Innovation: Sixth Edition	ACADEMY	PRY, CHL	Completed
15	WPA01858	E.R.4.3	WIPO Academy Summer Schools	ACADEMY	MEX, CHL, BRA	Completed
16	WPA01859	E.R.4.3	DL Training on IP and Exports	ACADEMY	CRI, BRA	In Progress
17	WPA01860	E.R.4.3	Training Program on IP for Diplomats and Trade Negotiators	ACADEMY	PER, MEX, DOM, CHL, ARG	In Progress
18	WPA01861	E.R.4.3	Customization and Launching of DL Courses	ACADEMY	PER, ECU, CUB, COL, BOL	Completed
19	WPA01863	E.R.4.4	Support skills building and operational initiatives of TISCs in the LAC region	IPID	LAC - ALL	Completed
20	WPA01870	E.R.4.4	Build skills on IP Valuation	IPID	LAC - ALL	Postponed
21	WPA01873	E.R.4.4	Support Training IP for SMEs	IPBD	LATAM	Planned

ANNEX 4: WORK PLAN Activities – Addressing Challenge Low Innovation Output Efficiency (2 of 2)

Type 2: Legislative Advice Activities

No.	WPA	E.R.	Workplan Activity Summary	Cross-Collaboration with Other WIPO Divisions	Beneficiary Countries	Implementation Status
1	WPA01827	E.R.4.2	Legislative Advice in the Field of Patents	PTL	TTO, VCT, LCA, KNA, GUY, GRD, DOM, DMA, BHS, ATG	In Progress
2	WPA01828	E.R.4.2	Legislative Advice in the Field of Trademarks and GIs	TMIDGI	LCA, PRY, ECU, BLZ, BHS	Completed
3	WPA01829	E.R.4.2	Legislative Advice in the Field of Designs	TMIDGI	TTO, ATG	Postponed
4	WPA01830	E.R.4.2	Legislative Advice in the Field of TK and TCE	TK	LCA, PRY, ECU, COL	Completed
5	WPA01911	E.R.4.2	Legislative Advice in the Field of the Copyright	CLD, ODDG_CCIS	CRI	Postponed

Type 3: Promotion of WIPO IP Tools and Systems

No.	WPA	E.R.	Workplan Activity Summary	Cross-Collaboration with Other WIPO Divisions	Beneficiary Countries	Implementation Status
1	WPA01799	E.R.3.1	Promote WIPO Services, Global Databases and Tools	GDD	LAC - ALL	Completed
2	WPA01804	E.R.3.1	Promote PCT for Users and IPOs	PCT	VCT, LCA, KNA, PER, PAN, NIC, MEX, JAM, HND, GTM, GRD, SLV, ECU, DOM, DMA, CUB, CRI, COL, CHL, BRA, BLZ, BRB, ATG	Completed
3	WPA01806	E.R.3.1	Promote Madrid for Users and IPOs	MADRID	TTO, MEX, JAM, CUB, COL, CHL, BRA	Completed
4	WPA01808	E.R.3.1	Promote The Hague for Users and IPOs	HAGUE	SUR, PER, MEX, ECU, COL, BOL, BLZ	Completed
5	WPA01809	E.R.3.1	Lisbon/Geneva Act: Promote Accession, use and technical support for IPOs	LISBON	GRD	Completed
6	WPA01853	E.R.4.3	Promote WIPO Lex	WJI	TTO, SUR, VCT, LCA, KNA, PAN, GUY, GRD, DOM, DMA, CUB, BLZ, BRB, BHS, ATG	Completed
7	WPA01866	E.R.4.4	Promote the Use of WIPO IP Diagnostic Tool for SMEs	IPBD	PAN	Completed

LATIPAT – A framework to promote the exchange of patent information for IPOs of Latin American countries.

GDD – Global Databases Division

ACADEMY – WIPO Academy

IPBD – IP for Business Division

TK – Traditional Knowledge

GRs – Genetic Resources

TCEs – Traditional Cultural Expressions

WJI – WIPO Judicial Institute

HRMD – Human Resources Management Department

CDD – Copyright Development Division

BRIP – Building Respect for IP Division

MERCOSUR – The Southern Common Market

IPID – IP for Innovators Department

PCT – PCT Services Department

TMIDGI – Department for Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications

IPBD – IP for Business Division

PTL – Patent and Technology Law Division

CLD – Copyright Law Division

ODDG – Office of the Deputy Director General

CCIS – Copyright and Creative Industries Sector

MADRID – The Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks

HAGUE – The Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs

LISBON – The Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and Their International Registration