Launch of the policy document “Transformational change in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Mission-Oriented Approach”

Date: Tuesday 25 October 2022  
Time: 18.30hs (Arg)  
Organizers: Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Argentina and ECLAC  
Venue: Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Argentina  
Modality: In-person (with live streaming)  
https://cepal-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_COy_wS61TEOTAC8A3UiSoA

Background

After the unprecedented impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on economic activity, investment, and employment in countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), recovery in 2021 was incomplete. Recovery was driven mostly by consumption and lacked a redirection of investment towards a structural change with more dynamic and technology-intensive activities. Therefore, when the rebound in the economy abated, the region returned to the slow growth pattern that characterizes it since at least the mid-2010s.

In this context, a different economic development model is required – one that provides new directed growth engines and structural changes that allow to create a more inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in the long term.

Against the background of decades of experience in industrial policy in the region advocating or adopting a variety of approaches, the mission-oriented policy approach has attracted increased interest. Its potential to focus and mobilize innovation and investment efforts from different actors, public and private, in the achievement of well-defined objectives appears as a useful tool to confront social and technological problems and help the LAC region to accelerate progress on the path of sustainable development.

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) is pleased to host this event and launch of a policy document written by Prof. Mariana Mazzucato UCL Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose (IIPP) entitled “Transformational change in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Mission-Oriented Approach”. This activity takes place within the framework of the project “Recover better - Overcoming the COVID-19 Pandemic Consequences in LAC”, which is part of the ECLAC-BMZ/giz cooperation program. The publication by Professor Mazzucato is a key contribution to support and inform the debate about the directions of growth and investment and the use of mission-oriented policies to confront social and technological problems in LAC, with a focus on the key role played by industrial strategies and innovation policies.
Preliminary Agenda

10 minutes  Welcoming remarks

- José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, Executive Secretary, ECLAC
- Daniel Filmus, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Argentina
- Peter Neven, Chargé d’Affaires a.i., Embassy of Germany in Argentina

30 minutes  Launch of the policy document: “Transformational change in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Mission-Oriented Approach”

Professor Mariana Mazzucato, Founding Director of the UCL Institute for Innovation & Public Purpose (IIPP)

40 minutes  Discussion Panel

- Santiago Cafiero, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship, Argentina (TBC)
- José Antonio Ocampo, Minister of Finance and Public Credit, Colombia
- Luis Felipe López-Calva, Global Director, Poverty and Equity, World Bank (TBC)

10 minutes  Closing Remarks

- Daniel Filmus, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Argentina
- José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, Executive Secretary, ECLAC