Operational conclusions

Cybersecurity

Objective until 2025	LAC and EU cybersecurity frameworks are better aligned and more effectively enforced to provide safe digital space for all citizens, business and governments.
Main challenges highlighted	- Need for improved capacities in EU and LAC (institutional, legal, human, technical) to prevent, manage, mitigate cyber-risks. LAC cybersecurity frameworks and strategies should be human centered and guaranteeing human and digital rights, liberties, due processes. - LAC and EU cybersecurity agencies and related bodies to collaborate, articulated on prevention and mitigation, crisis management, exchange best practices and learn from each other.
EU–LAC cooperation opportunities	- Articulate collaboration and coordination EU LAC. - Collaborate to share the best practices and EU instruments (such as the 5G Cybersecurity Toolbox).
Next steps	- Cybersecurity dialogue in the Dominican Republic in February 2024. - Capacity building and vocational training.
Co-leads	Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Chile, Trinidad and Tobago via Expertise France and European Commission

Artificial Intelligence

Objective until 2025	**EU and LAC are better prepared for the AI revolution, mitigate risks and seize its potential opportunities.**
Main challenges highlighted	- Need for national AI strategies in LAC countries and shared regulatory frameworks taking into account the diversity in the region. - Need for a coordinated regional IA plan: identify resources, define a monitoring system, "tropicalize" this plan to take into account the characteristics of the region. - The plan should be supported by a regional AI observatory. - Communication/awareness raising strategy on AI for citizens. - Need for harmonization of AI risk classification.
EU–LAC cooperation opportunities	- Develop AI polices and strategies that are aligned with the UNESCO's Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, OECD Recommendation Artificial Intelligence, bearing in mind EU regulation in this matter. - Exchange on best practices. - Increase understanding of the EU AI act, - Share AI risks prevention and management experiences and lessons - Jointly develop and implement AI sandboxes. - Develop AI systems in languages other than English. - Promote uses of "AI for good".
Next steps	Follow-up dialogue and training
Co-leads	Chile, Brazil, Spain and Slovenia, European Commission

Data Governance

Objective until 2025	**Improved free and safe flow of data between EU and LAC.**
Main challenges highlighted	- Regional asymmetry in Latin America and the Caribbean regions in terms of regulation on data protection.
	- Need for better compliance and implementation of the regulation on data protection, highlighting the importance of cross-border cooperation mechanisms.
	- Need for trust on data protection and transparency.
	- Improving connections between AI and data protection.
EU-LAC cooperation opportunities	- Improve the implementation and compliance with regulation on data protection.
	- Cooperation on cross-border breaches and notably in the establishment of data protection enforcement authorities.
	- Reduce the data protection asymmetries in the region.
	- Support mechanisms to enable international data transfers.
Next steps	Follow-up dialogue and training
Co-leads	Uruguay with Spain via FIIAP and European Commission

e-Governance

Objective until 2025	Development of interoperable digital identity mechanism within LAC and between EU-LAC
Main challenges highlighted	- Data management strategy and interoperability framework with clear responsibilities needed before any kind of practical implementation. - Standards and protocols are crucial for national and cross-border interoperability. - Some countries are stuck with legacy software, which they cannot properly manage. - Capacity building and awareness-raising is needed to foster a culture of data and develop human capital. - Government-to-citizen communication needs to be improved. - A good legal framework for identity and privacy has to be in place before moving forward with engaging technical partners for implementation. - A common normative/legislative framework and minimum standards should be set to move forward with digital identity. - Public engagement framework is important to make sure that benefits but also risks of digital identity are highlighted and understood by the public.
EU-LAC cooperation opportunities	- eID interoperability framework, e-wallet, facilitation of access to open source solutions. - Governance models. -Establishing cross-border interoperability principles and developing cross-border interoperability federations in the LAC subregions (specifically in Central America and the Caribbean), facilitation of access to open-source solutions. - Models for stakeholder engagement (focusing on vulnerable groups, including differently abled persons). - Capacity building
Next steps	Follow-up dialogue and training
Co-leads	Costa Rica and Guatemala with Estonia via EGA and European Commission

Connectivity

Objective until 2025	**EU and LAC collaborate in implementing innovative policies and strategies to achieve inclusive and secure connectivity**
Main challenges highlighted	- Ensuring inclusive and meaningful connectivity for all across the EU and LAC, including closing the gender digital divide and improving last mile connectivity. - Building secure 5G networks with a list of trust vendors. - Financial sustainability and bridging of investment gap, affordability of connectivity. - Provision of public goods and digital services. - Development of cross-border connectivity use cases. - Resilient digital infrastructure that provides for disaster recovery and response. - Connectivity for small and medium-sized enterprises.
EU–LAC cooperation opportunities	- Exchange of best practices on next generation of connectivity plans, regulatory models and policies. - 5G, including a regional and/or sub-regional 5G Connectivity Toolbox. - Develop joint frameworks and plans to attract private sector investments on infrastructure. - Explore and exchange on models for digital inclusion and last mile connectivity. - Explore how to maximize the use and opportunities of the Bella Cable. - Use of BELLA cable in the portions reserved for the EU to stimulate inclusive connectivity between the EU and LAC. - Optimize the use of advanced technology such as 5G or AI, including productive issues to move towards a digitized economy.
Next steps	Follow-up dialogue and training
Co-leads	Ecuador and Mexico with Germany via GIZ, RedClara (for BELLA II) and European Commission

EU-LAC Digital Alliance in the Caribbean

Objective until 2025	The EU and the Caribbean region collaborate on regional and sub-regional initiatives and mechanisms across the five policy areas of interest
Main challenges highlighted	- Access to experiences and lessons learnt in the EU and rest of Latin American region, knowledge transfer in the Caribbean region and inclusion in bi-regional and regional working groups. - Economies of scale, harmonisation regulation and policies for strength of markets. - Need for educational programmes as well as capacity development across subject areas. - Interoperability and building blocks needed for digital government. - Data sovereignty and protection of data in case of natural disaster, data embassy model. - Empowerment of existing national digital strategies to include AI. - Data gaps, data informed decision making. - Closing of digital divides, inclusion of differently abled persons.
EU-LAC cooperation opportunities	- Development of a Toolbox by June 2024 which supports the legal & regulatory needs in the five subject areas under discussion in this dialogue. - Coordination of issues at the sub-regional level to facilitate cooperation with EU and rest of region. - Cooperation with EU, CEPAL and other LAC countries (i.e. Colombia) on knowledge transfers, peer-to-peer exercises and access to experts. - Cooperation with Estonia on e-Governance and building blocks.
Next steps	Meetings in the Caribbean in January 2024 to initiate discussions on sub-regional needs and next steps regarding concrete activities such as the toolbox Coordination channelled also through CARICOM, OECS and CTU
Co-leads	Trinidad & Tobago with European Member States and European Commission