LACLEARN LAC DRG Learning Agenda

The Latin America and Caribbean Learning and Rapid Response (LACLEARN) task order contributes to improving USAID's work in democracy, human rights, and governance (DRG) in Latin American and the Caribbean (LAC). LACLEARN produced this LAC DRG learning agenda in consultation with the USAID LAC Bureau and relevant Functional Bureaus to identify and address the knowledge gaps which are critical to guide these improvements. The agenda's priority themes and questions were finalized in August 2021, with corresponding learning activities and products to come through September 2024.

Citizen Security and Crime and Violence Prevention

Taking stock of existing programming and identifying approaches for increased effectiveness in improving citizen security.

Learning Themes

Innovations in Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning

Resolving pressing challenges in the measurement and evaluation of DRG programming and identifying successful approaches to promote learning and adaptation.

Democratic Backsliding and Authoritarian Resurgence

Developing a more thorough understanding of the factors that contribute to democratic backsliding and the options for safeguarding democracy.

Accountable, Transparent, and Effective Governance

Assessing tactics to reduce corruption, promote transparency, and improve local governance and service provision.

LACLEARN LAC DRG Learning Agenda: Abridged Questions

Citizen Security and Crime and Violence Prevention

- What survivor-centered approaches are available to prevent or promote accountability for gender-based violence (GBV)?
- How has USAID adapted citizen security interventions developed in other contexts for use in LAC and how effective have these interventions been?
- What programming would be best placed to address known clusters of crime and violence?
- How can improved citizen security impact economic, environmental, and social outcomes?
- Which institutional reforms foster an enabling environment for community violence prevention?

Democratic Backsliding and Authoritarian Resurgence

- What approaches are best suited to strengthen citizen commitment to democracy?
- What tactics should USAID use to help prevent or reverse democratic backsliding?
- How can USAID best prevent, counter, or mitigate the effects of disinformation and misinformation?

Accountable, Transparent, and Effective Governance

- What are the most effective approaches to reduce corruption and promote transparency, and what can be learned from previous approaches to tackle high-profile corruption?
- How effective, sustainable, and scalable are "bottom-up" interventions to promote accountability and transparency?
- How successful has USAID been in improving access to and quality of government services through local governance programming?
- What approaches exist to reduce corruption while also improving citizen security, or vice versa?

Innovations in Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning

- What innovative approaches and technologies can USAID programs leverage to track program performance and gauge hard-to-measure DRG activities and concepts?
- How can DRG programs better define their long-term objectives and theories of change?
- What are the most promising approaches and incentives to promote learning and adaptation by USAID missions and implementing partners?
- What are local institutions' strengths and shortcomings with respect to collecting and analyzing data relevant to DRG?