

PARTNERING TO STRENGTHEN HEMISPHERIC MULTILATERALISM

REPORT TO PERMANENT OBSERVERS 2018-2019



OAS | More rights
for more people



OAS

More rights for more people

Organization of American States

Secretary General
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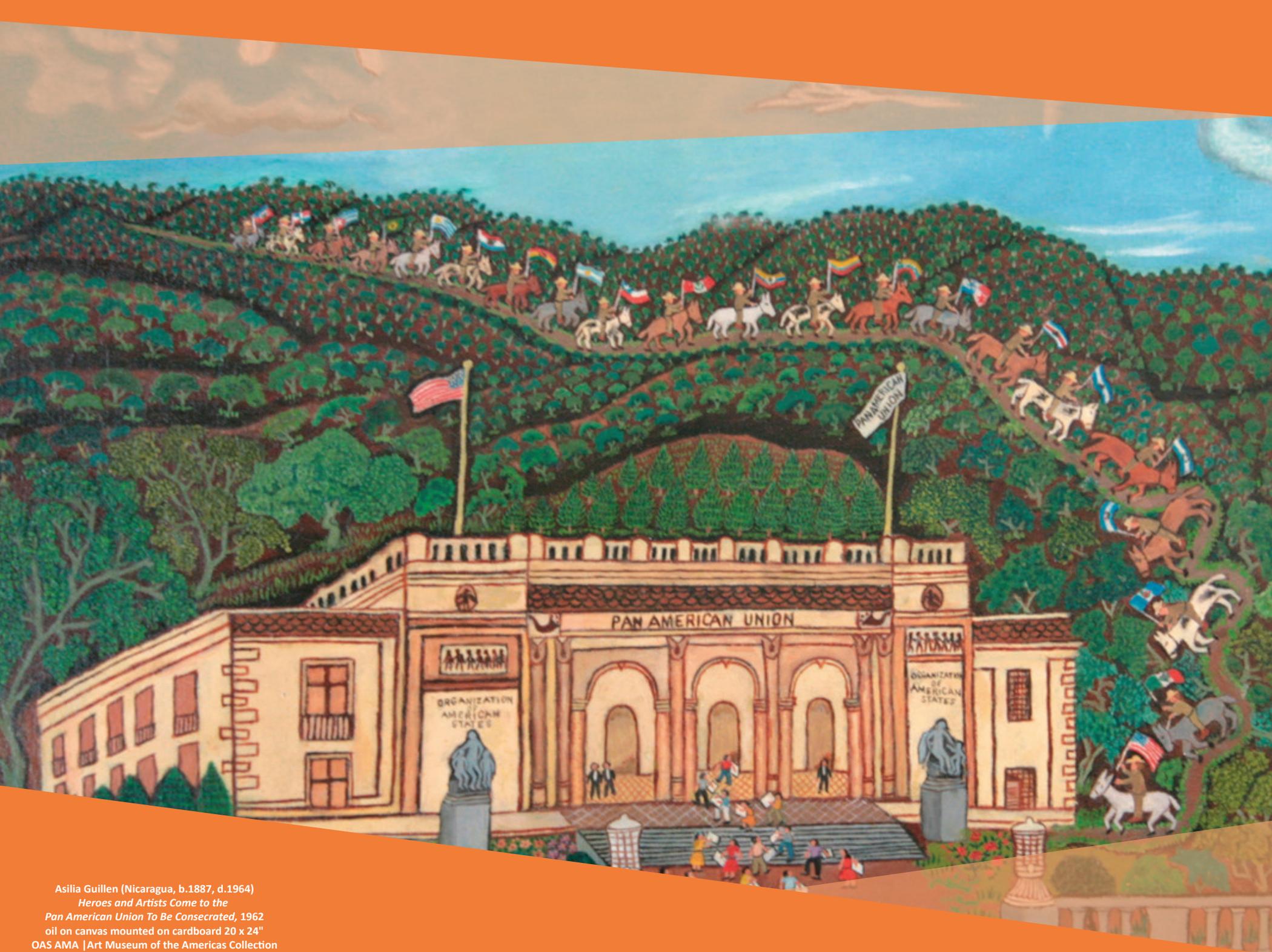
We also thank Andrea Escobedo and David Moreno for their contributions to the Report

Alejandro Obregon (Colombia, b.1920, d.1992)
The Dead Student (The Vigil), 1956
oil on canvas 55 x 69"

OAS AMA | Art Museum of the Americas Collection

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Asilia Guillen (Nicaragua, b.1887, d.1964)
*Heroes and Artists Come to the
Pan American Union To Be Consecrated, 1962*
oil on canvas mounted on cardboard 20 x 24"
OAS AMA | Art Museum of the Americas Collection

1. Secretary General's Statement



The Inter-American System has evolved for over a century. In its current iteration, the Organization of American States (OAS) continues to be the foremost political forum of the Western Hemisphere. As the main platform of hemispheric multilateralism, the OAS has united our region in a commitment to human rights, social justice and representative democracy. The Permanent Observers who share these same values, have helped to strengthen and preserve this commitment.

Today, we face complex challenges in the form of authoritarian regimes whose effects are felt throughout the region, rampant corruption, criminal organizations with transnational reach, poverty, social and economic inequality, and natural disasters. These growing threats can only be addressed through action that is based not only on principles, but also on strong collaboration with our partners.

Since 1972, Permanent Observers have accompanied the OAS's role as a guarantor of democracy, champion of human rights, and staunch defender of human dignity. Thus, the OAS has worked continuously to develop new ways to strengthen our partnerships with Permanent Observers and increase the impact of our joint efforts in benefit of the people of the Americas.

This third Report to Permanent Observers seeks to promote a greater understanding of our common goals and initiatives. It presents the OAS's core competencies to address the challenges to democracy, human rights, multidimensional security and integral development. The report also includes a compendium of the General Secretariat's projects in the coming years.

As we confront the unprecedented combination of political, governance, and natural disaster challenges, it is crucial to intensify cooperation and communication not just within our own region but across regions of the world.

Luis Almagro
Secretary General



Mario Picayo (Cuba, b.1957)
Tiznao, 1990

color cibachrome print 16 x 20"

OAS AMA | Art Museum of the Americas Collection

2. OAS Strategic Path

The Organization of American States is building a strong foundation for the future, combining a **Strategic Vision** that refocuses its work with a **Strategic Plan** to achieve that vision.

Strategic Vision

In June 2014, the General Assembly approved the Vision of the Organization, establishing that: “The OAS is the hemispheric political forum inclusive of all the countries of the Americas that, in an equal and interdependent way, strengthens democracy, promotes and protects human rights, advances integral development, and fosters multidimensional security with justice and social security inclusion for the benefit of the peoples of the Americas.

This Vision is the guiding principle that directs all the efforts of the Organization, moving toward the equality and interdependence of its pillars.

Strategic Plan

Member States approved the basis of a Strategic Plan in October 2016, which contained multiple interdependent strategic lines and objectives for the four pillars of work (democracy, human rights, security and development) and the areas of institutional strengthening and administrative management.

This Strategy seeks to achieve 4 key transitions:

- First, from working in a compartmentalized way to a **vision-driven, trust-based collaboration**.
- Second, from programs and projects formulated and delivered in isolation to **integrated-programs built from the four pillars perspective, resulting in their equality as well as interdependence**.
- Third, from inertial budgets to **policy-driven budgets that respond to Member States’ directives**.
- Fourth, all this will be complemented by **goals, indicators, deadlines and responsible parties**, as required by results-based management.



Maria Luisa Pacheco (Bolivia, b.1919, d.1982)
Composition, 1960
oil on canvas 48 x 61"
OAS AMA | Art Museum of the Americas Collection

3. OAS Strengths and Capabilities

▶ Human Rights

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) has played a vital role in promoting the adoption of constitutional reforms, laws and public policies with a human rights focus, as well as judgments in accordance with Inter-American norms and standards. Its recommendations have led States to eliminate discriminatory laws, policies, and practices; provide comprehensive reparations to victims; prevent the recurrence of human rights violations; and strengthen the protection of human rights. The Commission's reports have also served as a catalyst for the OAS to adopt collective and structural actions to protect rights and democratic freedoms in Member States.



To fulfill its mandate, the Commission employs a series of unique mechanisms, including:

- Conducting on-site visits and observations;
- Receiving and processing individual cases and petitions, friendly settlements, and precautionary measures;
- Appearing before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in cases and other matters;
- Holding thematic public hearings on the situation of human rights in the region;
- Establishing country and thematic Rapporteurships;
- Producing recommendations for States and following-up on their implementation;
- Providing technical assistance to States;
- Preparing studies and reports;
- Conducting promotional activities; and
- Issuing press releases and resolutions on pressing human rights topics.

OAS Strengths and Capabilities

► Democracy

The Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy (SSD) is contributing to the strengthening of political processes in OAS Member States, and in particular, to support democracy as the best option to ensure peace, security and development.

The Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO) has a unique position in strengthening electoral processes in the region along the entire electoral cycle. It both deploys Electoral Observation Missions and supports countries to follow-up on and implement these missions' recommendations:

- Pre-electoral phase and Election Day: experts and observers gather data and present their findings to electoral authorities. Their presence also helps to ensure that the opposition is heard, that irregularities are reported, and that elections are not unjustifiably questioned.
- Post-electoral phase: through technical recommendations, EOMS provide vital information that increases the awareness of electoral authorities regarding the strengths and weaknesses of their electoral processes.
- In between elections, OAS/DECO works with electoral management bodies (upon their request) to improve their electoral systems by implementing EOM recommendations.

Through the Department of Sustainable Democracy and Special Missions (DSDSM), the SSD provides support to the General Secretariat in handling political and institutional conflicts in the region.

The Mission to Support the Fight against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras (MACCIH) offers a unique structure to support the fight against corruption in Honduras, working in integrated teams to investigate instances of corruption. The team brings international experience and knowledge to the work of preventing and combating corruption and impunity, reforming the criminal justice sector, and increasing public security.

The Belize-Guatemala Mission increases trust in the Adjacency Zone, by facilitating meetings between both countries' militaries and other governmental officials, investigating incidents in the zone from a neutral perspective and offering programming to the local communities - including art classes and English lessons.

The Mission to Support the Peace Process in Colombia (MAPP) works on peacebuilding with a territorial approach. The Mission's presence in the field will be expanded through the opening of two new offices, one in Cauca (Antioquia) and another in Ocaña (Norte de Santander). These two regional offices will be added to the existing sixteen and will focus their work on the territories that have been most affected by the internal armed conflict, generating information and relevant and timely recommendations on the main challenges and threats to peace.



OAS Strengths and Capabilities

► Multidimensional Security

The Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (**SMS**) promotes and coordinates cooperation and capacity-building among OAS Member States in order to assess, prevent, confront, and respond effectively to threats to security in the Hemisphere. The SMS's sphere of activities is defined primarily by the aforementioned Declaration and it is organized into 4 dependencies:

The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (**CICAD**) is the Western Hemisphere's policy forum for dealing with the drug problem. CICAD's Executive Secretariat (ES/CICAD) assists Member States in strengthening drug policies. ES/CICAD also provides technical assistance and training to reduce the production, trafficking and abuse of licit and illicit drugs in the Hemisphere.

The Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (**CICTE**) promotes and develops cooperation between Member States to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism. The CICTE Secretariat provides technical and legislative assistance to Member States to prevent, counter and eliminate terrorism in all its manifestations.

The Department against Transnational Organized Crime (**DTOC**) promotes technical assistance to Member States to combat transnational organized crime (TOC) in its diverse manifestations. It also develops training programs and facilitates cooperation among Member States to strengthen regional efforts against TOC.

The Department of Public Security (**DPS**) designs and implements initiatives aimed at supporting the efforts of Member States to assess, prevent, confront and respond to threats posed by the different manifestations of violence and crime.



OAS Strengths and Capabilities

▶ Integral Development

The Organization's Secretariat for Integral Development (**OAS/SEDI**) works with all Member States to identify common challenges and define solutions through policy dialogue, which is then transformed into actions through technical cooperation initiatives. Policy dialogue is central to SEDI's work. The OAS convenes development leaders in 11 ministerial meetings and high level processes on priority areas such as competitiveness, labor, and education, among others. Technical cooperation initiatives emerge from ongoing dialogue and are therefore established with built-in political support.



SEDI's ability to deliver results relies on broad collaboration. Partnership for development —*cooperación solidaria*—is a **unique OAS concept** which recognizes that each Member State —regardless of its size, wealth, or level of development—has value to share and can learn from others. This concept also includes close collaboration with other partners, amplifying the OAS's reach and impact.

The OAS also plays a catalyst role in promoting alliances with strategic partners and in convening stakeholders in the field of development to respond to the needs of Member States. It generates synergies and coordinates efforts with regional and multilateral development partners in line with the nature of development cooperation today where experiences, collective learning, horizontal and complementary efforts are strategic assets for OAS Member States. Having all the relevant actors at the table, working with the key regional and multilateral development partners on a series of projects, initiatives and activities, all sharing a sense of ownership, creates a very positive environment for deepening cooperation and shaping our regional future.



4. Main Projects

- ▶ Human Rights
- ▶ Democracy
- ▶ Multidimensional Security
- ▶ Integral Development

Human Rights

► Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

Name of the Project	Beneficiary countries	Amount	Years of execution
Increasing the effectiveness of the work of the IACHR during 2018-2020	Americas	\$ 4,388,888	2018-2020
Contribution to support the IACHR with the implementation of its Strategic Plan 2017-2021	Americas	\$ 1,120,000	2017-2021
Protection and promotion of the Rights of LGBTI Persons	Latin America	\$ 100,000	2017-2019
Regional Human Rights and Democracy - Promoting and protecting human rights in Central America's Northern Triangle	Northern Triangle	\$ 1,025,076	2017-2021
Promoting the compliance with recommendations and decisions regarding the rights of women and girls issued by the IACHR in Latin America and Caribbean Member States	Latin America	\$1,500,000	2017-2020
Strengthening the legal standards and recommendations to combat structural racial discrimination in the Americas.	Latin America	\$ 282,371	2018-2019
Implementing the MESENI in Nicaragua	Nicaragua	\$ 1,256,000	2018-2019
Strengthening governance and human rights in Central America, with emphasis in the Northern Triangle and Nicaragua	Northern Triangle and Nicaragua	\$ 1,208,000	2018-2019

Human Rights

► Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

Name of the Project	Beneficiary countries	Amount	Years of execution
Access to international justice through attention to petitions presented before the IACHR pending at the admissibility stage	Americas	\$1,120,000	2019-2020
Promotion and Protection of the economic, social, cultural and environmental rights (phase II)	Latin America	\$ 131,675	2019-2020
Increasing protection mechanisms for the protection of human rights defenders in Latin America	Latin America	\$ 131,675	2019-2020
Training and Promotion of human rights defenders	Latin America	\$56,000	2019
Guaranteeing the right to Freedom of Expression for the strengthening and preservation of democratic institutions and the rule of law in Latin America (2018)	Latin America	\$ 726,781	2018-2021
Promotion and protection of the right to freedom of expression in the Americas	Americas	\$ 116,200	2018-2019
Improving access to information of vulnerable groups regarding environmental and social impacts of business activities (2017)	Americas (specifically in Brazil, Colombia, Honduras and Mexico)	\$ 90,960	2017-2019

Human Rights

► Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

Name of the Project	Beneficiary countries	Amount	Years of execution
Pilot Project to Boost Negotiation Processes and Follow-Up of Friendly Solutions before the IACHR	Argentina, Colombia, Mexico and Chile	\$ 881,287	2019-2022
Program of Technological Innovation applied to Human Rights	Americas	\$ 1,318,080	2019-2021
Protection and promotion of the Rights of the groups of most vulnerable persons (elderly people, children, indigenous people, persons with disabilities, person deprived of liberty)	Americas	\$ 3,550,000	2019-2021
Program to improve the scope and impact of the Monitoring of Human Rights Situations by Theme and Country	Americas	\$ 1,800,000	2019-2021
Program for Attention to and collaboration with the Caribbean	The Caribbean Countries	\$ 685,000	2019-2021
Program on Social Participation and Contribution to Capacity Building for Actions by Social and Academic Organizations and Networks in Defense of Human Rights	Americas	\$ 284,000	2019-2021

Human Rights

► Inter-American Commission on Women

Name of the Project	Beneficiary countries	Amount	Years of execution
Strengthening the Capacity of National Machineries for the Advancement of Women to Advance Gender Mainstreaming	Americas	\$ 112,094	2016- present (ongoing)
Strengthening the Institutional Capacities of Political and Electoral Authorities to Mitigate Political Violence and Harassment of Women	Americas	\$ 625,593	2017-2020
Strengthening the capacities of key actors for the protection of women's political rights	Americas	\$ 510,247	2020-2022
Strengthening the capacities of OAS Member States to advance the implementation of the Belem do Pará Convention	Latin America and the Caribbean	\$ 1,234,240	2020-2023
Awareness-Raising and Sensitization on the Right of Women to Live Free from Violence in the Americas	Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Venezuela (17)	\$ 364,990	2020-2021
Strengthening the use of Information on the Right of Women to Live Free from Violence in the Americas	Latin America and the Caribbean	\$893,000	2020-2022

Human Rights

▶ Access to Rights and Equity



Name of the Project	Beneficiary countries	Amount	Years of execution
Inter-American Judicial Facilitators Program	Argentina, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay	Program is currently in a redesign phase.	2018-2021
Strengthening the capacities of the Costa Rican government and the host communities for the reception and integration of Nicaraguan migrants and refugees	Costa Rica	\$ 253,865	2019-2020
ILO/IOM/FAO/OAS Project Venezuelan immigration in South America: support to the socio-economic insertion in receiving countries	Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador and Peru	\$ 10,257,120	2019-2021
Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms and Human Capacities to Measure Progress in the Fulfillment of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights in the Americas	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay	\$ 945,314	2020-2023

Human Rights

► Legal Affairs

Name of the Project	Beneficiary countries	Amount	Years of execution
Department of International Law			
Implementation of domestic legislation under the New Inter-American Model Law on Access to Public Information	9 Member States in the region requesting support for that implementation	\$ 450,000	2020-2023
Dissemination and implementation of the Guide on the Law applicable to international contracts recently adopted by the Inter-American Juridical Committee	9 Member States in the region (3 from South America, 3 from the Caribbean and 3 from Central and North America) requesting support for that dissemination and implementation	\$ 450,000	2019-2022
Implementation of domestic legislation according to the Principles on Data Protection	9 Member States in the region requesting support for that implementation	\$ 450,000	2020-2023
Department of Legal Cooperation			
MESICIC	The 33 States Parties to the Convention that have subscribed to the MESICIC	\$ 1,100,000 per year	2019-2023

Democracy

Name of the Project	Beneficiary countries	Amount	Years of execution
Program of Education for Peace	All Member States	\$ 731,969	2020-2025
Virtual Library of Inter-American Peace Initiatives	All Member States	\$ 62,500 per year	2019-2020
Gathering of Young Peacebuilders	All Member States	\$ 120,000	2019
Workshop Series on Enhancing the Role of Women in Peace and Conflict Resolution	All Member States	\$ 168,000	2019
OAS Electoral Observation Missions (OAS/EOMs)	28 Member States have invited and received OAS/EOMs to observe electoral processes in their national territories	DECO mobilizes and executes approximately \$3M annually to prepare and deploy OAS/EOMs	The OAS has deployed over 260 EOMs to Member States since 1962; the majority of these in the last 15 years.

Democracy

Name of the Project	Beneficiary countries	Amount	Years of execution
Strengthening electoral processes in Honduras through electoral reforms that take into consideration the recommendations of the 2017 Honduras OAS/EOM	Honduras	\$ 250,000 in 2018 \$ 150,000 expected in 2019	2018-2019
Implementation of Confidence Building Measures between Belize and Guatemala	Belize and Guatemala	\$3,907,750	2019-2021
Mission to Support the Fight against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras	Honduras	Approximately \$ 26,000,000	2019
MAPP/OAS	Colombia and its neighbors	Budgeted 2019: \$11,697,386 Budgeted 2020: \$ 12,165,281 Budgeted 2021: \$ 12,651,892	Mandate until 2021

Democracy

► Hemispheric Affairs

Name of the Project	Beneficiary countries	Amount	Years of execution
Strengthening the capacity of civil registry agencies to enable legal recognition of self-defined gender identity in identity and identification documents in OAS Member States	Regional project	\$ 137,000	2019 – 2020 (18 months)
Institutional strengthening of the civil registry of Ecuador for its certification under the ISO norm 37001: 2016 Anti Bribery System	Ecuador	\$ 106,700	2019 – 2020 (9 months)
Improving the Level and Quality of Death and Registration in Guatemalan Municipalities	Guatemala	\$ 345,000	2019 – 2020 (18 months)
Improving access to national identity and identification documents for migrant families returning to El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and their children born abroad	El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala	\$ 936,000	2019 -2022 (36 months)
Promoting an open government ecosystem	Belize	\$ 84,667	2018-2019
Empowering Innovation and Citizen Collaboration through public data	Panama	\$ 36,000	2019

Democracy

► Hemispheric Affairs

Name of the Project	Beneficiary countries	Amount	Years of execution
Red de Gobierno Electrónico de América Latina y el Caribe, Red Gealc (Technical Secretariat)	Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, México, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Paraguay, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela.	\$ 300,000	2004-2019
Red Interamericana de Catastro y Registro de la Propiedad, RICRP, (Technical Secretariat)	Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, México, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Paraguay, St. Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela.	\$ 152,000	2015-2019

Democracy

► Hemispheric Affairs

Name of the Project	Beneficiary countries	Amount	Years of execution
Strengthening Collaboration among Participating States of the VIII Summit and the JSWG institutions to Advance National Capacities in the Fight against Corruption in the Americas.	Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay	\$1,108,087.44	2019-2021
Increasing Civil Society and Social Actors' Engagement and Awareness in the Follow-up and Implementation Phase of the VIII Summit of the Americas.	All Member States	\$ 923,453.01	2019-2021

Multidimensional Security

Name of the Project	Beneficiary countries	Amount	Years of execution
Mapping, situational diagnostic and user profile of the drug treatment services in Central America, Dominican Republic and the Caribbean	Central America and the Caribbean Member States	\$ 400,000	2020
Hemispheric Drug Strategy and Plan of Action	All Member States	\$ 1 million	2020
Data System on illicit Drug Supply, Drug Markets and Supply Control in the Americas	All Member States	\$ 200,000	2020-2021
Establishment and Strengthening of National Drug Policies, Strategies and Plans of Action	All Member States	\$ 400,000	2019-2021
Counterdrug Capacity Building Program to disrupt the illicit use of new methods/technologies to distribute and sell illicit synthetic drugs and their precursor chemicals, including the Darknet and postal services	All Member States	\$ 250,000	2020-2022
Strengthening Capacities to Secure Cargo through Enhanced Border Security	12 Member States	\$ 2.9 million	2020-2022
Increasing Hemispheric Maritime Security	12 Member States	\$ 2.8 million	2019-2021
Enhance security planning and preparedness of Member States to protect crowded spaces and soft targets	All Member States	\$ 5.8 million	2020-2023

Multidimensional Security

Name of the Project	Beneficiary countries	Amount	Years of execution
Support implementation of UNSCR 2396 to mitigate threat of FTFs	6 Member States	\$ 1 million	2020-2021
Program of Technical Assistance against Transnational Organized Crime to Investigate, Prosecute and Adjudicate Crimes in Northern Central America	El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras	\$ 850,000	2019-2020
Strengthening the Anti Money Laundering & Combating the Financing of Terrorism System in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru	Colombia, Ecuador, Peru	\$ 1.5 million	2019-2022
Following illicit gold money: raising awareness and strengthening the capacity to impact all stages of the fight against illegal mining	Brazil, Colombia Ecuador, Guyana Peru, Suriname	\$ 2.4 million	2020-2023
Strengthening of knowledge and capacities to prevent human trafficking and to provide adequate protection and assistance services to victims of this crime	Peru	\$ 3.4 million	2020-2023
Improving resilience among Venezuelan migrants and refugees in Colombia	Colombia	\$ 1.9 million	2019-2021

Multidimensional Security

Name of the Project	Beneficiary countries	Amount	Years of execution
<p>Inter-American Network for Police Development and Professionalization (REDPPOL)</p> <p>Pillar 1: Development of materials and 2 online editions);</p> <p>Pillar 2: Sub-regional seminars (including horizontal cooperation missions);</p> <p>Pillar 3: Development of the platform</p> <p>Pillar 4: Development of the draft and its approval as ISO standard</p>	All Member States	<p>P1: \$ 850,000</p> <p>P2: \$ 250,000</p> <p>P3: \$ 135,000</p> <p>P4: \$ 215,000</p>	2019-2021
A New Path: Promoting a healthy environment and productive alternatives for juvenile remandees and offenders in the Caribbean	Jamaica Trinidad & Tobago Barbados, Saint Lucia & Granada	<p>\$ 3,939,880 (Jamaica Phase III)</p> <p>\$ 3,447,305 (Trinidad & Tobago)</p> <p>\$ 4,553,585 (Barbados, Saint Lucia & Granada)</p>	2019-2021
Program for the Prevention of Crimes linked to Irregular Migration in Mesoamerica - Phase II	Guatemala Honduras, Mexico, El Salvador, Nicaragua Costa Rica and Panama	\$3.5 million	2019-2021

Integral Development

Name of the Project	Beneficiary countries	Amount	Years of execution
A Data-Driven Approach for Advancing Competitiveness in the Americas	3-4 Latin American and Caribbean countries	\$ 1,000,000.00	2019-2022
Building Community Resilience through the implementation of Community Emergency Response Teams in the Eastern Caribbean	Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.	\$ 150,000.00	June 2019 to June 2020
Building the Resilience of Caribbean Renewable Energy Systems to Disasters	Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.	\$ 500,000.00	June 2019 to June 2021
Support for the effective organization of the Fourth Ministerial on Sustainable Development	All OAS Member States	\$ 250,000.00	June 2019 to January 2020
Improved Disaster Risk Management for Ports in the Caribbean	Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago	\$ 610,000.00 (est)	2019-2021

5. Why partner with the OAS?

▶ OAS competitive advantages

The OAS is uniquely placed to help deliver on the ambitious agenda of promoting more rights for more people:

- 1) National offices throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.
- 2) Main political forum for the convening of government authorities and stakeholders at the Inter-American level responsible for democracy, human rights, security, and development.
- 3) Unique Inter-American legal framework in the fields of democracy and human rights.
- 4) Multi-sectorial alignment (democracy, human rights, security, and development).
- 5) In depth-knowledge of country needs, in particular of smaller countries and regions at the subnational level.
- 6) Work on the field (Electoral Missions, Special Missions, Rapporteurships, Hearings) as an input for cooperation.



The OAS has something that no other international organization has: a legal framework to advance democracy and human rights agreed to by its Member States. Those regional principles - when placed in the hands of legislators, judges, attorneys, and other actors in the legal system - become tools that are useful for strengthening the rights of people in the Americas.

Through the Electoral Observation Missions (EOMs), the OAS contributes to the strengthening of democratic processes. In addition, reports on the peace process in Colombia (MAPP) or the fight against corruption in Honduras (MACCIH) can also be used as input to strengthening political and democratic institutions in OAS Member States. The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights' Rapporteurships and hearings provide enough information to develop projects and programs with the Governments regarding access to human rights.

In the area of multidimensional security, the OAS has developed an expertise, capacity and reputation in a wide range of topics from cybersecurity and public security to mechanisms to cooperate in the fight against organized crime and drugs.

Why partner with the OAS?

▶ OAS competitive advantages

The OAS has an interdisciplinary approach to development. Ministerial meetings bring a diversity of ministers to the OAS, including authorities in charge of Competitiveness, the Ministries of Labor, Education, Tourism, Sustainable Development, and Energy, among others. Negotiations among 34 Member States shape the declarations and objectives for a common hemispheric development agenda.

Through the OAS Strategic Plan, Member States defined the organization’s strategic vision with objectives and programs that respond to their national and regional needs. The General Secretariat identified areas of unique institutional expertise, prioritizing a series of programs, products and services where the organization has a comparative advantage and the capacity to deliver high impact results. This renewed approach will ensure better program execution and strengthen our response to key issues in the region.

In addition, the OAS has prioritized results-based management to design sound development projects, monitor their progress, and measure their results and impact.

ADVANTAGES OF WORKING WITH THE OAS	
PILLAR	OUR CORE COMPETENCIES
DEMOCRACY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-American legal framework. • EOMs as inputs for cooperation. • Expertise and Reputation in Special Missions.
HUMAN RIGHTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-American legal framework. • Rapporteurships and Hearings as inputs for cooperation. • Existence of action protocols.
MULTIDIMENSIONAL SECURITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expertise and reputation in specific areas (Public Security, Drugs...)
INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple inter-ministerials that offer an interdisciplinary perspective. • Capacity to assist small economies.
INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-American legal framework to develop cooperation. • Strategic Plan.
ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparency and accountability.

Why partner with the OAS?

▶ New approaches: Permanent Council Meeting with Observers

Last May 7th, 2019, the Hall of the Americas of the Organization of American States hosted the Second Permanent Council dedicated to Permanent Observers, an initiative that provided a forum for discussion with Member States, and to build closer ties of collaboration between the bodies of the Organization and these main strategic partners.

The meeting, in which the contributions of the Permanent Observers were recognized, served to exchange information on common objectives and projects, identify goals and strengthen political dialogue and alliances.



Since 2005, Permanent Observers have financed projects worth more than 200 million dollars, sharing their professional skills and expertise through the exchange of information and best practices on the most significant issues of the Inter-American agenda.

Permanent Observers to the OAS are vital partners. Although many of them already cooperate bilaterally with Member States, when a forum of discussion gathering all 34 Member States is required, it is clear that the OAS is the space for multilateral cooperation with the Hemisphere.

It is important to note that it is not only financial support, but also in-kind contributions that help strengthen the Organization's programs. Through this collaboration, the OAS has managed to recover leadership spaces in the promotion of democracy, human rights, security and integral development in the Americas.

In a world where countries cannot always understand each other to work towards common goals, the OAS and its Member States work together to promote shared values.

Why partner with the OAS?

▶ What our partners say about working with the OAS



Ambassador Cristóbal Valdés (SPAIN): *“Spain fully shares the vision and values set forth in the OAS Charter and in the Democratic Charter,* which encourage the construction of a Hemispheric Community that promotes Democracy, Peace and Security, the Rule of Law, Justice and Human Rights, Fundamental Freedoms and Equality.

Spain believes in democracy and, therefore, this has been and will continue to be a priority in our relationship with the OAS. Democracy is built day by day. Democracy, freedom and Human rights are inseparable commitments. Therefore, from the first moment, through the Spain-OAS Fund, we have been supporting projects aimed at strengthening democracy and human rights in the Hemisphere.”



Ambassador Anne de la Blache (FRANCE): “France has been a Permanent Observer to the OAS since 1972 and our actions with the OAS focus on two priority themes for both the OAS and France: promoting Human Rights and strengthening Democracy. The fight against enforced disappearances, with our Argentinean partner, is also one of the French priorities in the Hemisphere.

These priorities echo the tremendous work of the Inter-American Human Rights System, which promotes and protects respect for these rights in the Americas. It is in recognition of this central element of OAS action that France continues to support the work of the IACHR by extending the financial support it has given to it for several years.”

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Ambassador Marilina Armellin (ITALY): “Within the framework of its legal diplomacy action, *in 2016, Italy made the decision to open a new chapter of cooperation with the OAS* with a significant contribution to the training activities of the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SSM), and contributions to the Mission of Support against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras (MACCIH-OAS) and, more recently, the Mission to Support the Peace Process in Colombia (MAPP/OEA).



Alternate Ambassador Heleen Bakker (THE NETHERLANDS): “The dialogue between OAS-Observers and Member States used to be only a fixed part of an OAS General Assembly. The Kingdom of the Netherlands appreciates that this now is a formal part of the Permanent Council and that we have the opportunity to interact at least twice a year.

By assuring more frequent dialogue, we are hoping the focus and interest of the Observers and Members can be better aligned. My aim is that we don't only share our priorities, but also have time for discussion amongst each other. I am always open for feedback and look forward to learn more from Member States or other OAS Observers.”



Ambassador Martin Dahinden (SWITZERLAND): “On behalf of the Swiss Government, I would like to thank you for this renewed opportunity of exchange between the Permanent Observers and the OAS Permanent Council. During the last year, the OAS has continuously been dealing with key issues including good governance, promotion of democracy and the rule of law, protection of human rights as well as the fight against corruption and impunity. Switzerland firmly believes that the implementation of these principles is a precondition for ensuring sustained social and economic development, peace and security, and the prevention of conflicts. I would like to assure you of our continued interest of and commitment to being an active Observer and contributing to the efforts of the OAS by supporting specific projects.”

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Alternate Ambassador Yu Yue (People's Republic of China): (remarks delivered in Spanish) “China seguirá brindando los apoyos de nuestro alcance a la construcción institucional de esta Organización y estrechar aún más nuestras cooperaciones con la Secretaría General en los programas y proyectos que beneficien al desarrollo de la OEA y al pueblo del hemisferio, con miras a promover la profundización de conocimientos recíprocos y la amistad con los países de la región”.



Ambassador Kazutoshi Aikawa (Japan): “The OAS is Japan’s biggest partner in the development of the region for many years. Our recent contribution to the OAS regarding mining in Colombia demonstrates synergy between security and development, and there can be more synergy in this way. We are determined to build our partnership with the OAS toward our shared goal of sustainable development.”



Alternate Ambassador Caroline Vicini (EUROPEAN UNION): “The EU values highly its fruitful relationship with the OAS and the Permanent Council, which is essential to our strategy towards the region. It is through our Memorandum of Understanding with the OAS, that this year is a decade old, that we have been able to institutionalize our bilateral policy dialogues. I am glad to say that we held our most recent EU-OAS High Level Political Dialogue last December 6th in Washington, led by our Managing Director for the Americas and a team of experts. We considered the meeting a success and look forward to planning the next one.”



Amelia Pelaez (Cuba, b.1896, d.1968)

Marpacífico (Hibiscus), 1943

oil on canvas 45 1/2 x 35"

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OAS

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MEMBER STATES

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica (Commonwealth of), Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, The Bahamas (Commonwealth of), Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

PERMANENT OBSERVERS

Albania, Algeria (People's Democratic Republic of), Angola, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, China (People's Republic of), Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, European Union, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Vanuatu, Yemen.