



16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

ECLAC CARIBBEAN AND PARTNERS
HIGHLIGHT 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM
AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

ELAC2022 DIGITAL AGENDA

APPROVED BY CARIBBEAN AND LATIN
AMERICAN COUNTRIES

CENSUS DATA

CENSUS DATA MANAGEMENT
DISCUSSED DURING ECLAC MEETING

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About us

Issued on a monthly basis, The Hummingbird offers strategic insights into the latest projects, publications, technical assistance missions and research carried out by ECLAC Caribbean. In addition to these, sneak previews are provided of the most salient upcoming events, alongside enriching follow-ups to previously covered issues. With a view to featuring a variety of facets of Caribbean life and lifestyle, The Hummingbird also zooms in on cultural activities and landmark occurrences through an eye-opening regional round-up.

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International Days

1 December

World AIDS Day

2 December

International Day for the Abolition of Slavery

3 December

International Day of Persons with Disabilities

10 December

Human Rights Day

18 December

International Migrants Day


Upcoming Meetings

8 December

Dialogue on population impacts and policy responses to the COVID-19 pandemic in the Caribbean - Virtual

10 December

Training in Evidence-based Policy Planning for Sustainable Development in the Caribbean - Virtual


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 **ECLAC Caribbean**
Posted Aug 13


ECLAC collaborated with the High Commission of Canada and NGO, Feminitt, to commemorate the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence with a campaign to end child abuse in Trinidad and Tobago. See the campaign here: <https://www.facebook.com/eclaccaribbean>



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 **ECLAC Caribbean**
Posted Nov 23

#ECLAC recently hosted a panel on digital technologies for reactivation, with authorities from #Brazil, #Paraguay, #Ecuador, #CostaRica and #TrinidadandTobago, at the 7th Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in #LAC. Find out more here: <https://bit.ly/3pZLdq8>



Panel de alto nivel: Tecnologías digitales para la reactivación: hacia una estrategia para América Latina y el Caribe

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 **ECLAC Caribbean**
Posted Nov 16

United Nations and Decolonization: Past to Present
Check out the video to learn more about the United Nations' work on Decolonization: <http://bit.ly/3rd65ee>



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Preparation for census data management discussed during ECLAC meeting

Statistical disclosure control is an important consideration within the census process. There are also benefits to post-tabular perturbation, which include unbiasedness and the low level of perturbation that is necessary to protect the data. However, there are concerns about the loss of additivity of census tables and the possible public reaction to the publication of non-additive tables.

These were some of the areas discussed during an expert group meeting (EGM) convened by the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean to discuss a study entitled “Statistical disclosure control for Caribbean census tables”. This meeting took place online on 10 November 2020.

Statistical disclosure is a technique used in data-driven research to ensure that no person or organization is identifiable from the results of an analysis of survey or administrative data, or in the release of microdata.

In presenting an overview of the study, ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean’s Population Affairs Officer, Francis Jones, explained that the research

was inspired by work that had been carried out over the past five years, to support Caribbean statistical offices in making their census data, available online through REDATAM. He explained that Caribbean statisticians face a challenge in the dissemination of disaggregated data due to the small size of national populations. He also explained that the study was primarily concerned with statistical disclosure control methods for tabular census data which would facilitate dissemination of more granular and disaggregated information.

Jones described current methods utilized by statistical offices in different countries. He described two types of methods: the perturbative and non-perturbative. Non-perturbative methods, also referred to as data reduction methods, are what statistical offices do almost by default, essentially choosing whether or not to publish data. Alternately, perturbative methods introduce a small amount of random variation, and therefore uncertainty about the true original data values, thereby enabling the publication of data which would otherwise remain unpublished.

The Deputy Director of the ECLAC

subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, Dillon Alleyne, who chaired the EGM, said that the COVID-19 pandemic was likely to delay the 2020 round of censuses in some countries, but provides an opportunity to reconsider the approach to statistical disclosure control. He highlighted that Caribbean statistical offices were very aware of disclosure risks, and the need to protect the confidentiality of individual and household level microdata.

Alleyne indicated that over recent years, ECLAC worked with statistical offices in the Caribbean to make census data more available through the REDATAM (Retrieval of Data for Small Areas by Microcomputer) software. Through these collaborations, he noted that it became increasingly evident that better methods of statistical disclosure control, were needed to safely release detailed and disaggregated census tables. He suggested that Caribbean statistical offices not using specific methods of disclosure control had led to relatively strong restrictions on the availability of census data in many Caribbean countries. The study and EGM

from the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean sought to address this issue.

The study and the panelists' presentations during the EGM provided valuable information, which would be of great help to statistical offices in evaluating how they should approach the issue in the current census round. Meeting participants agreed that there is a need to educate users of census data in several areas, including those mentioned earlier, as part of the wider issue of statistical literacy, which statistical offices and international development partners are also seeking to address.

The study also reviews disclosure control methods that have been implemented in North America, Europe, Australia and New Zealand and argues that, if implemented in the subregion, these methods could facilitate the publication of more detailed and disaggregated census data, through published reports and online applications built using the REDATAM software. These methods are applicable not only to statistical offices in the Caribbean, but also to those in Latin America as well as to REDATAM users in other parts of the world.

The meeting was attended by representatives of statistical offices from Caribbean member States and associate members as well as Canada and Germany. Also, in attendance were representatives from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS 21) and the University of the West Indies (UWI). ■



The Bahamas announces new facial biometric comparison technology

US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announced the introduction of Simplified Arrival at the Lynden Pindling International Airport (LPIA) in Nassau, The Bahamas.

Simplified Arrival is an enhanced international arrival process that uses facial biometrics to automate the manual document checks that are already required for admission into the United States. This process provides travelers with a touchless experience that further secures and streamlines international arrivals, while fulfilling a longstanding Congressional mandate to biometrically record the entry and exit of non-US citizens.

"CBP is excited to build on our partnership with the Government of the Bahamas while advancing the future of secure, touchless travel," said Clint Lamm, director of field operations, CBP Preclearance.

"Given today's health concerns, biometric facial comparison technology can play a key role in helping the travel industry address COVID-19 health and safety risks by implementing seamless processes. Combining Simplified Arrival with our Preclearance procedures will not only help us process passengers more efficiently, but it will allow us to better protect traveler and officer safety."

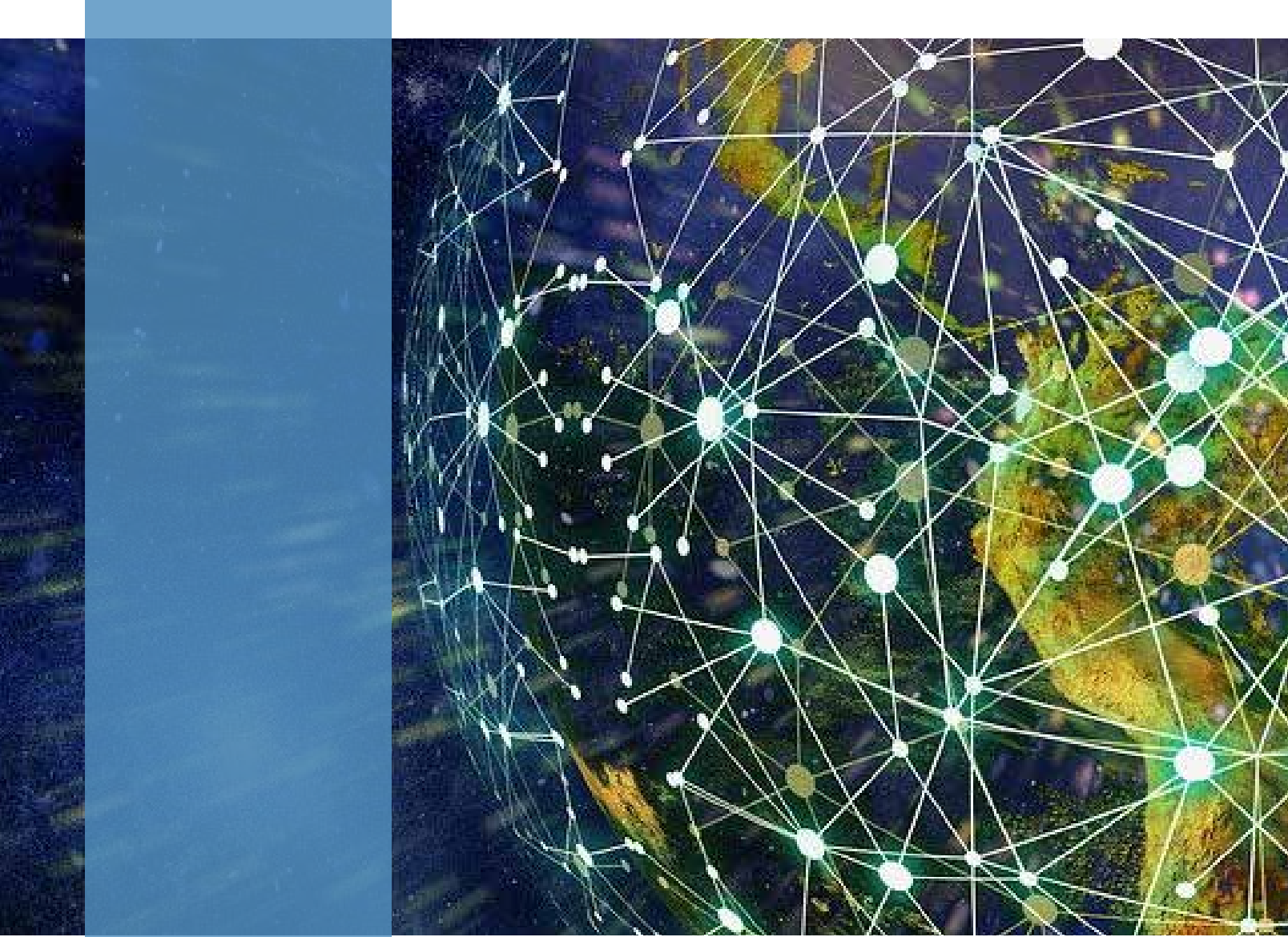
Simplified Arrival uses the biometric facial comparison process at a time and place where travelers are already required by law to verify their identity by presenting a travel document.

When travelers arrive at LPIA on an international flight, they will pause for a photo at the primary inspection point.

CBP's biometric facial comparison process will compare the new photo of the traveler to a small gallery of high-quality images that the traveler has already provided to the government, such as passport and visa photos. In addition, foreign travelers who have traveled to the US previously will no longer need to provide fingerprints, since their identity will be confirmed through the touchless facial comparison process.

Simplified Arrival pairs one of the industry's highest-ranked facial comparison algorithms (as assessed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology) with trained CBP officers who are skilled at verifying the authenticity of travel documents. If a traveler cannot be matched to a photo on record using the Simplified Arrival process, the traveler will proceed through the traditional inspection process consistent with existing requirements for entry into the United States.

US travelers and those foreign nationals who are not required to provide biometrics who wish to opt out of the new biometric process may notify a CBP officer as they approach the primary inspection point. These travelers will be required to present a valid travel document for inspection by a CBP officer and they will be processed consistent with existing requirements for admission into the United States. ■



ELAC2022 DIGITAL AGENDA

approved by Caribbean and Latin
American countries



The Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2022), has been approved by the countries that participated in the Seventh Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, which was held virtually from 23 to 26 November 2020.

[READ MORE](#)



eLAC2022 Digital Agenda

approved by Caribbean and Latin American countries

The Digital Agenda includes eight areas of action – along with a specific section on the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic and economic recovery, and also identifies 39 specific goals for implementation over the next two years. It is intended as a catalyst for regional cooperation on digital matters and a mechanism to promote policy design, capacity-building and political dialogue on the challenges and opportunities that the digital transformation creates for society and the economy.

The eight areas of action are: digital infrastructure; digital transformation and the digital economy; digital government;

inclusion and digital skills and other competencies; emerging technologies for sustainable development; trust and digital security; the regional digital market; and digital regional cooperation.

Sharing a Caribbean perspective at the Conference was the British Virgin Islands' (BVI) Junior Minister for Tourism, Sharie deCastro, who led a delegation on behalf of BVI Premier and Minister of Finance, Andrew Fahie. "For the Virgin Islands, we recognize that digital transformation must go farther than e-services; it must enable the collection of relevant and timely data that can be used

for management and policy decisions. It must be people-centered in order to genuinely impact the lives of the people of the Virgin Islands for the better," she said.

DeCastro explained that in March 2020, when BVI confirmed its first cases of COVID-19, the Government had to develop an immediate response plan to prevent community spread. She said further consideration was given to the economic impact of the measures taken to prevent the disease from spreading. At that time, it became evident that a post-COVID-19 environment would necessitate the digital transformation of Government

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