



EVALUATION OF THE IMPACT OF THE  
PERFORMANCE OF THE NATIONAL COMPETITION  
AUTHORITIES PARTICIPATING IN THE  
*COMPAL programme*  
WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE MARKETS





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## **NOTE**

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## I. INTRODUCTION AND JUSTIFICATION

Under the framework of the *Strengthening of Institutions and Capacities in relation to Competition and Consumer Protection Policies in Latin America (COMPAL III)* of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), this report aims to assess the performance of the national competition authorities (NCA) who currently participate in the Programme, in relation to market impact.

The COMPAL programme provides institutional strengthening and capacities in term of competition and consumer protection for a total of 17 beneficiary countries in Latin America.<sup>1</sup> The Secretary of State for Economic Affairs of Switzerland (SECO) has financed the programme since 2004. The third phase of the programme has been implemented, taking place between 2015 and 2018.

The COMPAL Programme centres its efforts on consolidating acquired capacities and deepening regional cooperation, in addition to providing the public sector with appropriate tools to ensure voluntary compliance with applicable legislation and, in turn, empower global consumers in the 21st century. The technical role of UNCTAD in aiding and strengthening capacities in such areas is focused on providing beneficiary countries with the necessary tools for implementing a competition policy within their respective markets, in addition to improving the well-being of the consumer, and contributing to the sustainable and inclusive development of its members. The final COMPAL objective is to increase the competitiveness of economies and the trust of consumers in national and regional markets.

in 2017. The courses held by the INDECOPI-COMPAL School provided high-level training with the aim of strengthening the capacities of its member countries in matters concerning the defence of competition and consumer protection, promoting the interchange of experiences, and deepening South-South cooperation in Latin America. Similarly, the INDECOPI-COMPAL School contributes to strengthening the task of creating a suitable market culture, in addition to training professionals.

The INDECOPI-COMPAL School develops its activities in accordance with the following principles:

- to work in partnership with member countries of the COMPAL Programme;
- to provide high level theoretical and practical training;
- to encourage the multiplier effect in relation to its activities;
- to focus on the attainment of concrete results.

The importance of promoting activities for the defence of competition in the Latin American economies is based on an economy in which such companies compete, to a greater extent, for the ultimate benefit of the end consumer who thus obtains more advantageous conditions, but also for the economy as a whole, in the sense that greater competition between companies results in increases in productivity and economic growth (OECD, 2014a.)

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