

# GLOBAL REVIEW

ECONOMIC  
COMMISSION FOR  
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- Three dots (...) indicate that data are not available or are not separately reported.
- A dash (-) indicates that the amount is nil or negligible.
- A full stop (.) is used to indicate decimals.
- The word “dollars” refers to United States dollars, unless otherwise specified.
- A slash (/) between years (e.g. 2013/2014) indicates a 12-month period falling between the two years.
- Individual figures and percentages in tables may not always add up to the corresponding total because of rounding.

# The geography of development in Latin America and the Caribbean: towards a new multidimensional taxonomy of the Sustainable Development Goals

Sergio Tezanos<sup>1</sup>

## Abstract

The Latin America and the Caribbean region has an ambiguous place in the new geography of development: while it is a predominantly middle-income region, it is home to no more than 3% of the world's poor population. Consequently, there is a risk that the international community will (mis)interpret this situation as meaning that the region need not be prioritized in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Nonetheless, the Sustainable Development Goals are not merely a strategy to combat economic poverty, but also a multidimensional strategy that defines a complex world map of priorities. This article develops a multidimensional taxonomy that addresses the fundamental dimensions of sustainable human development, beyond classifications based exclusively on per capita income. Cluster analysis is used to identify the different challenges faced by Latin American and Caribbean countries and to provide guidance for international cooperation policies.

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