



2022 ISCN CONFERENCE

**Accelerating Sustainability in
Higher Education:**
Perspectives and Experiences
from Latin American Universities

*Wednesday June 8th, 11:00 – 13:00
Central Daylight Time (UTC-5)*

international-sustainable-campus-network.org/conferences

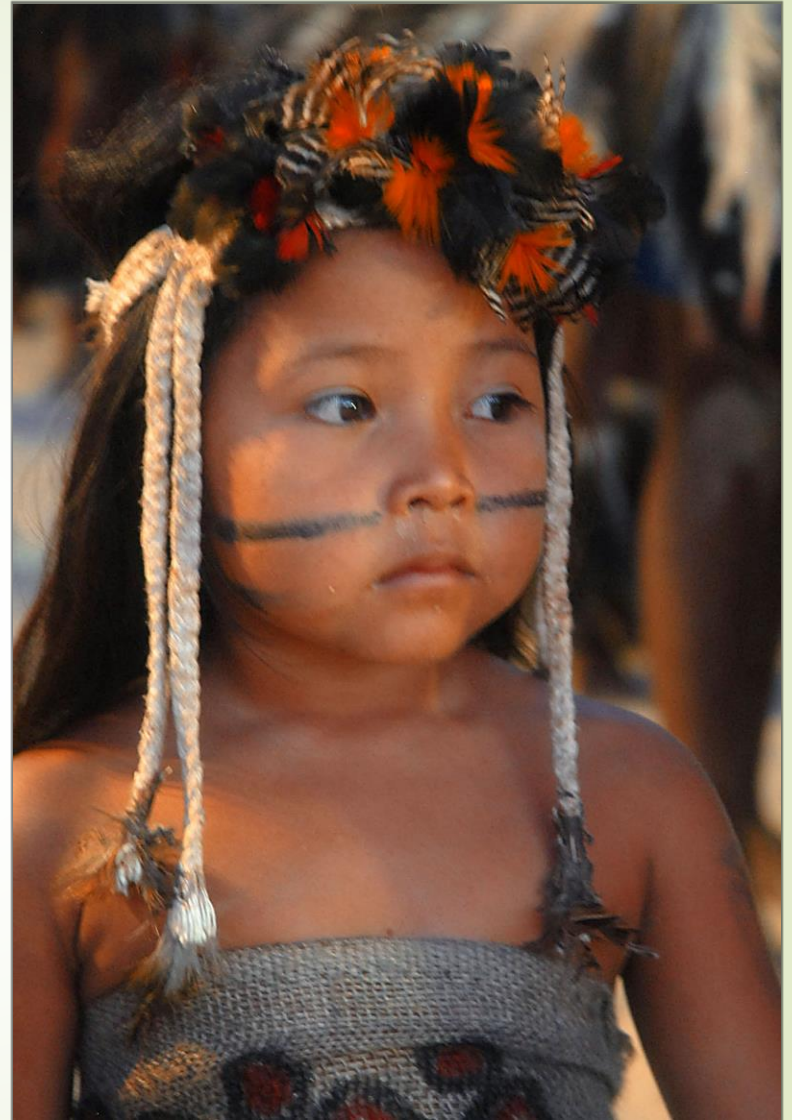


Latin America

Challenges and
opportunities

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Latin America. Resource curse or assets for the region's well-being?

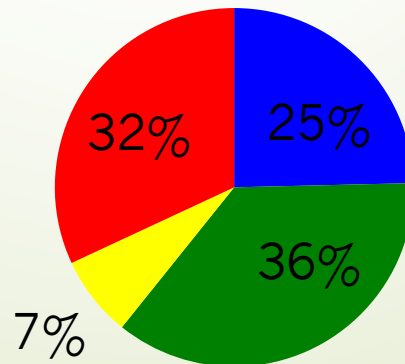
8% of the global population and 16% of the terrestrial extension of the Earth with:

- 40% of the global terrestrial biodiversity, six of the top 15 biodiverse countries.
- The largest watershed with the highest biodiversity in the world: the Amazon Forest.
- 22% of the remaining natural forests of the Earth.
- 33% of the water of the World, per capita water availability double than the World's average.
- Some of the richest mineral deposits (61% of lithium, 39% of copper, 32% of silver and nickel).

Latin America, Opportunities

- “Commons” of local, regional and global importance.
- Strong traditions of commons management among indigenous, afro-descendent and local communities.
- 50 million indigenous people, speaking 44 languages, 61% of them risks to disappear.

■ Community owned ■ Government property





Latin America. Challenges

- The largest colonial history, with massive demographic and cultural disasters.
- Long tradition of authoritarian governments, social resistance and rebellion.
- 30.2% of Latin-Americans living in poverty.
- 10.2%, 71 million people in extreme poverty.
- From 2002 to 2017 the inequality lowered; this tendency has stopped.
- 40% of the working population and 48.6% of the working women earn a minimum salary.
- 18 million suffer chronic hunger.
- 80% of the population living in cities, in precarity, economic informality and lack of access to public services.
- 9% of the population do not have access to drinking water and 49% lack access to sewage systems.



Long tradition of land concentration and extractivism

- The most unequal world's region, with the two most unequal countries of the OECD (Mexico y Chile).
- The region has the most unequal access to land. Gini coefficient of land distribution: 0.79 for Latin America, 0.85 for South America, Europe 0.57, Africa 0.56 and Asia 0.55.
- Intense global demand of mineral, energy and agricultural products (trades as commodities).
- By 2017 minerals were 17% of LA exports. From 1990 and 2011 LA mining exports grew by 210%.
- De-industrialization and loss of food sufficiency.
- 39% of the minerals are exported as raw materials (21% in Africa).
- Increasing importance of Chinese markets and investment.

The global region with the largest number of environmental conflicts





Challenges:

- ▶ The region contributes with 11% of the global emissions, but 47% of those produced by deforestation, due to agricultural expansion.
- ▶ High rates of species extinctions and threatened species, water and land pollution.
- ▶ Latin-American economies are largely dependent of the extraction of natural resources.
- ▶ Environmental deterioration with impacts on public health.
- ▶ Increasing impacts of climate change.

A word cloud featuring various terms in different colors and orientations. The most prominent words are 'Collective-action' (large, blue, horizontal), 'Institutions' (large, green, vertical), 'Conflict' (large, blue, horizontal), 'Cooperation' (large, green, horizontal), and 'Privatization' (large, blue, horizontal). Other visible words include 'Rights', 'Inequality', 'Politics', 'Community', 'Rules', 'Power', 'Commons', 'Neoliberalism', 'Environment', 'Elite', 'Public', 'Justice', 'North-South', 'capture', 'ecology', 'Resource-grabbing', 'CPRs', 'Policies', 'action', 'Conservation', 'Estate', 'Sustainability', 'Confrontation', 'Local', 'developments', 'claims', and 'goods'.

North-South
Rights
Environment
Elite
Neoliberalism
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capture
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