



Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean



Challenges and priorities for the full implementation of the Escazú Agreement

12 October 2019



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Survey (April 2019)

1. **Main challenges and priorities for the full implementation of the provisions on:**
 1. **access to environmental information**
 2. **public participation in environmental matters**
 3. **access to justice in environmental matters**
 4. **human rights defenders in environmental matters**

 2. **Other challenges and priorities**

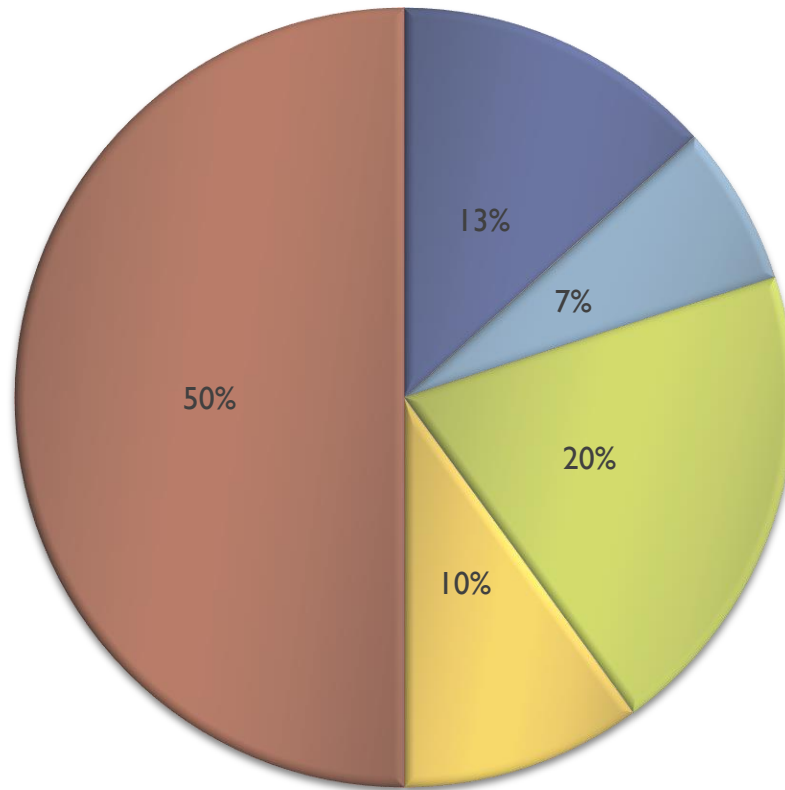
 3. **Main opportunities for **cooperation****
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Summary



■ Information ■ Participation ■ Justice ■ Defenders ■ Others (cross-cutting)



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Access to information

- ▶ Need of greater coordination within government and change of management culture
- ▶ Respond adequately to environmental information requests
- ▶ Generate environmental information and registers
- ▶ Environmental information systems
- ▶ Dissemination of and awareness-raising on rights



Public participation

- ▶ Respond to the needs of territories and communities in public hearings and consultations
 - ▶ Allocate resources to enable participation
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Access to justice

- ▶ Strengthen capacities of judicial officials
- ▶ Training and access to experts/specialization of judges
- ▶ Management of environmental complaints
- ▶ Strengthen environmental public prosecutors
- ▶ Establish financial instruments for restoration and compensation for environmental harm

Human rights defenders

- ▶ Access to information and knowledge
 - ▶ Cooperation with civil society and other stakeholders
 - ▶ Effective protection mechanisms and legal aid
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Other: cross-cutting

- ▶ Environmental education
- ▶ Make progress on signature and ratification
- ▶ Reflect the standards and practices of the agreement in the national legislative frameworks
- ▶ Design national work plans for the implementation of the agreement
- ▶ Financial resources
- ▶ Partnerships
- ▶ Dissemination in media
- ▶ Strengthening of institutions
- ▶ Transfer of technology (data and information systems and registers)
- ▶ Support groups and persons in vulnerable situations



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Opportunities for cooperation

- ▶ South-South, bilateral, triangular cooperation
 - ▶ Exchange of experiences and technical assistance
 - ▶ Cooperation with other agreements, mechanisms and organizations
 - ▶ Importance of subregional organizations (CARICOM, OECS)
 - ▶ Need to support from UN Agencies, development banks and donors
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