

# ASIA & LATIN AMERICA PROGRAM

## Overview

The Asia & Latin America Program at the Inter-American Dialogue engages and informs academics, policymakers, and private sector leaders from the United States, Latin America, the Caribbean, and across the Asian region on evolving themes in Asia-Latin America relations. Program events, publications, and task forces address areas of emerging and critical policy interest.

### Featured Projects

#### Advancing a Hemispheric Vision of Economic Security

The Program is committed to devising a hemispheric approach to achieving US and broader regional economic security. This includes regular meetings of and outreach by a high-level steering committee, comprised of leading US and Latin American industry and other policy experts. Through reports and outreach, the Program advances a view of hemispheric engagement as fundamental to regional stability, economic security, and US and partner nation competitiveness. In addition, the Program conducts extensive research on Chinese and other investment trends in the region, including in frontier sectors, such as those that China calls “new infrastructure.”

#### Informing Regional Policy Toward Asia

Through in-depth research, including at the economic sectoral level, high-level convenings of public and private sector representatives and other key stakeholders, and public presentations of data, the Program is committed to informing officials and lawmakers across the region on developments in Asian affairs and Asia-Latin America relations.

#### Mapping Chinese Investments in LAC

The Regional Repository of Chinese Investments in Latin America is a Program project to map Chinese foreign direct investment (FDI) in the Latin American region since 2003, and to classify these investments by project type, economic sector, and companies involved. Created in conjunction with Chile’s Millenium Nucleus on the Impacts of China in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Repository

contains georeferenced data on Chinese FDI in Chile, Argentina, and Peru, as well as available case studies on individual projects. It is currently being expanded to include other countries, in close collaboration with regional research institutions. The Repository team is comprised of researchers from across the Americas with wide-ranging, interdisciplinary backgrounds, including political scientists, economists, and geographers.

#### China-Latin America Finance Databases

The Program was among the first to track China’s financial engagement with the Latin American and Caribbean region. Since 2005, China’s development finance institutions (China Development Bank and China-Export Import Bank) have provided more than \$130 billion in loan commitments to countries and state-owned firms. The Chinese Loans to Latin America and the Caribbean Database, co-produced by the Program and Boston University Global Development Policy Center, provides up-to-date information on Chinese loans by country, lender, sector, and year. As loans from the development finance institutions slow, China’s commercial banks are increasingly active in LAC, having provided many dozens of loans to governments and companies in the region since 2012. The Program’s China-Latin America Commercial Loans Tracker tracks key instances of Chinese commercial bank finance by country, lender, sector, and year.

#### Tracking Developments in Japan-LAC Relations

For over a decade, the Program has worked hand-in-hand with the Japan Association of Latin America and the Caribbean to document developments in Japan’s policy on and engagement with Latin America, as well as opportunities for US-Japan collaboration in the region.

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The Dialogue is a hemispheric organization that builds networks of cooperation and action to advance democratic resilience, shared prosperity, social inclusion, and sustainable development across the Americas. We impact policy debates, devise solutions, and enhance collaboration to unlock meaningful change in the Western Hemisphere.