

REPORT OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF REDCUIDAR+

May 25, 2023

Community and Inclusive Care: Needs, Practices and Lessons Learned

The eighth meeting of RedCUIDAR+ focused on an exchange of regional experiences and best practices on policies, programs, projects or actions that have promoted community-based care for older persons, including the dynamics related to different ethnic groups. The main objective was to identify support mechanisms that governments can design to strengthen care communities.

For the second time, RedCUIDAR+ adopted a format in which a member country serves as host and actively participates in the preparation of the meeting's contents. The **Republic of Colombia** hosted the eighth meeting of RedCUIDAR+, which addressed the theme *Community and Inclusive Care:*

Needs, Practices and Lessons Learned. The institutions leading RedCUIDAR+, the French Development Agency (AFD), the EUROsociAL program and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), thank the Republic of Colombia for its leadership and invite other countries to take on the role of host at future meetings.

Marco Stampini, Lead Social Protection Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank, opened and moderated the session, which was organized in two parts: first, an exchange of regional experiences in Colombia, Chile and Brazil, and second, a brief plenary session. Welcoming remarks were made by **Ginna Marcela Rivera Rodríguez**, Head of the Office of the Vice President of the Republic of Colombia, followed by opening remarks by **Pablo Ibarrarán**, Head of the Social Protection and Health Division at the Inter-American Development Bank and **Alberto Menghini**, European Union Head of Cooperation in Colombia.

RedCUIDAR+

The Long-Term Care Policy Network in Latin America and the Caribbean (RedCUIDAR+) is an initiative promoted by the Inter-American Development Bank, the European Union's EUROsociAL+ Program, and the French Development Agency.

The network's main objective is to advance and facilitate exchanges of knowledge and experience, as well as to strengthen opportunities for collaboration between those responsible for shaping long-term care policies in Latin America and the Caribbean. The network will thus help develop the institutional and technical capacity of member countries and promote best practices for implementing long-term care services.

Natalia Moreno Salamanca, Care Policy Manager of the Vice-Presidency of the Republic of Colombia, presented the country's progress in building its own National Care System.

The first milestone achieved this year was the creation of the National Care System (Law 2281 of 2023, Article 6), addressed in the framework of the National Development Plan, which includes community care, articulation of the supply of services and recognition of unpaid care work. In addition, in collaboration with the National Planning Department, the development of the CONPES document has been initiated, a public policy document that, based on a diagnosis of the needs of the receiving populations, guides the implementation of the National Care System.

In practice, two community and rural care pilots are about to be implemented: the first focuses on strengthening the ancestral practices of community-based care organizations in the Caribbean and the Colombian Pacific, financed by the International Labor Organization; the second aims to implement a bus offering care services in the rural area of Carmen de Bolívar, based on the experience of Bogotá.

Diana Rodríguez Franco, District Secretary for Women in Bogotá, then presented the city's District Care System.

This system outlines new and existing services to meet care needs in a co-responsible manner among the different actors involved. The target population includes three groups: 1) caregivers; 2) children under 13 years of age, people with disabilities and older people requiring support; 3) men and families.

This District System seeks to recognize, redistribute and reduce the burden of unpaid care through "Manzanas del Cuidado", Care Buses and Home Assistance. In particular, the "Manzanas del Cuidado" are physical spaces in the city that concentrate care services with a proximity criterion that allows people to access them without having to walk more than 20 minutes, according to a principle of simultaneity, proximity, and flexibility.

The provision of services is divided among 13 sectors of the district administration that are coordinated by the Women's Secretariat to serve the population. The city of Bogotá currently has 19 "Manzanas del Cuidado" that promote initiatives to care for people, animals and common goods. There are 115 initiatives underway, 68% of which are led by women.

Rosario Olivares, Deputy Director of Gender Equality, Sexual Diversity and Inclusion of the Municipality of Santiago de Chile, presented the Care Brigade in the Municipality of Santiago.

The Care Brigade, initially called "Women in the field", was born in 2020 in the context of COVID-19 with two objectives: on the one hand, to assist older people who were left without support networks and, on the other hand, to provide employment options to women who were left without a source of economic income. This initiative is part of the Neighborhood Care System "STGO te cuida" of the Municipality of Santiago, Chile that connects the different services in the region.

The Care Brigade is multicultural and is made up of 31% Chilean women, 25% Venezuelan and Peruvian women and 1% women from Colombia, Ecuador and Bolivia, with an average age of 41 years. The program's target group is older adults, people with disabilities and autonomous people in situations of fragility who require support for basic activities of daily living, accompaniment and coordination with support networks. Among other challenges, the

program seeks to strengthen the team with more health professionals, training in geriatrics, health and first aid, as well as agreements for the promotion of mental health.

In 2021, 1,137 older people were cared for, including 861 women and 276 men with different dependency conditions. The Care Brigade team is composed of 13 people, including a social worker, an occupational therapist, a nursing technician, two kinesiologists, and eight care assistants.

Rosa Marcucci, Coordinator of the Older Person Health Care Area at the Municipal Health Department in São Paulo, presented the Program for Supporting Older Persons (PAI), implemented since 2003 in the municipality of São Paulo to assist older people in situations of social and clinical vulnerability.

The PAI aims to provide home assistance in daily living activities (advanced, instrumental and basic) and build a support network that seeks to allocate the territory's resources by involving the individual, the family and the community. The beneficiaries of this initiative receive a multidimensional geriatric assessment in the city's basic health units and, if they meet the criteria for inclusion in the program, they are referred to a team responsible for drawing up a care plan to attend to them.

The plan is carried out by a social worker (or coordinator), a health team (doctor, nurse and nursing technician) and a caregiver. The profile of beneficiaries includes 53% of people over 75 years of age, 77% of women, and 69% of older people who experience difficulties in performing basic activities of daily living. It should be noted that the program operates in both urban and rural areas.

From 2008 to present, the team has experienced a significant growth, going from 4 to 50 teams throughout the municipality and serving around 6,000 older people. The average monthly cost per team amounts to 80 thousand Brazilian reais (approximately US\$15,000).

Marco Stampini, Lead Social Protection Specialist at the Inter-American Development Bank led a brief plenary discussion that revolved around three questions of interest to the host country: 1. What are the elements that define a community-based experience for older persons? - 2. What are the services for older persons provided by your experience of community-based care and who is responsible for their coordination? - 3. What have been the main challenges and lessons learned in your community-based care experience?

Closing remarks were made by **Natalia Moreno**, Care Policy Manager of the Vice-Presidency of the Republic of Colombia, who emphasized the importance of understanding the responsibilities of the different municipal, departmental and national levels in the construction of care systems. She emphasized the need to take into account collective practices and community-based care as fundamental elements of such systems.

Francesco Maria Chiodi, Social Policy Coordinator of the European Union EUROsocial Program, reiterated the need to recognize and develop existing collective practices. He stressed that one of the main challenges is to promote the professionalization of care, establish quality standards and define a basic package of services. In this regard, the European Union is firmly committed to this agenda and can draw on the experiences of the region that coordinate the efforts of local governments, the central government and the

community in the implementation of care systems. He concluded by reminding that the ninth meeting of RedCUIDAR+ will be held in person in San José, Costa Rica.

Alfonso Martinez, Deputy Coordinator in the Gender, Social Protection and Employment Division of Expertise France, closed the meeting on behalf of the French Development Agency. He emphasized the growth of the RedCUIDAR+ in recent years and stressed that the emerging experiences in the territories demonstrate the importance of services and adaptations for different populations. Expertise France's VITAL project currently operates in five countries in the region and aims to support countries in developing public policies that take into account the different dimensions of care. The next mission of the officials to France in June will be an opportunity to strengthen this dialogue and continue advancing in the construction of inclusive and efficient care systems.

Links to event materials:

<https://cursos.iadb.org/en/cuidados%20comunitarios>

www.eurosocial.eu

Participants

	Country	Name
1	Barbados	Rean Gibson
2	Barbados	Colleen Walcott
3	Barbados	Jacqueline Wiltshire
4	Bolivia	Lorena Godoy
5	Brazil	Eduardo George
6	Brazil	Rosa Marcucci
7	Brazil	Symone Bonfim
8	Brazil	Mariana Borges
9	Brazil	Adelita Lima
10	Brazil	Mirian Queiroz
11	Brazil	Luciana Cunha de Oliveira de Freitas
12	Brazil	Jesus Bonfim
13	Brazil	Luana Simões Pinheiro
14	Brazil	Ruth Melo
15	Brazil	Inês Rioto
16	Brazil	Daniela Mora Saavedra
17	Brazil	Braz Barros Aranha
18	Chile	Rosario Olivares
19	Chile	Ana Carrasco
20	Chile	Catalina Cordero
21	Chile	Magdalena Letelier
22	Chile	Karen Caiceo
23	Chile	Constanza Contreras
24	Chile	Gladys Gonzalez
25	Chile	Marcela Vega
26	Chile	Verónica Baeza Ulloa
27	Chile	Valeria Beiza
28	Chile	Gabriela Munita

29	Chile	Camila Martínez
30	Chile	Pablo Ignacio Pino Pino
31	Colombia	Diana Rodríguez Franco
32	Colombia	Vicepresidencia de la República
33	Colombia	Eloisa Cardona
34	Colombia	Sandra Angarita
35	Colombia	Laura Cristina López
36	Costa Rica	Adrián Moreira
37	Costa Rica	Rolando Hidalgo
38	Costa Rica	Liseth Rodríguez Garita
39	Costa Rica	Leonardo Obando Víquez
40	Costa Rica	Paola Barquero
41	Dominican Republic	Ángel Serafín Cuello P.
42	Dominican Republic	Pamela Suero
43	Ecuador	Gabriela Davila
44	Eurosocial	Francesco Maria Chiodi
45	Eurosocial	Alberto Menghini
46	Expertise France	Alfonso Martinez Saenz
47	Expertise France	Ivanna Moreira
48	Expertise France	Marina Avdibegovic
49	Expertise France	Virginia Tedeschi
50	Guatemala	Orlando Cano
51	Guatemala	Francisco Najera
52	IDB	Narumi Akita
53	IDB	Beatrice Fabiani
54	IDB	Nadin Medellín
55	IDB	Santiago León
56	IDB	Natalia Aranco
57	IDB	Fiorella Benedetti
58	IDB	Angelica Mendez
59	IDB	Rita Sorio
60	IDB	Hajime Takeuchi
61	IDB	Patricia Jara
62	IDB	Carolina Freire
63	IDB	Marcia Rocha
64	IDB	Diego Wachs
65	IDB	Laisa Rachter
66	IDB	Leonardo Goes Shibata
67	IDB	Francisco Ochoa
68	IDB	Marco Stampini
69	IDB	Carolina Gonzalez Acero
70	IDB	Jose Ortiz
71	IDB	Pablo Ibarraran
72	IDB	Ana Bernal
73	Mexico	Carlos Segura
74	Mexico	Luis Miguel Hernández Flores
75	Nicaragua	Carold Herrera
76	Nicaragua	Heidi Duarte
77	Panamá	Yayseline Moscote
78	Paraguay	Vanessa Valleau

79	Peru	Patricia Karin Sernaque Lama
80	Peru	Nancy Tolentino
81	SISCA	Gabriela Ramírez
82	Spain	María del Pilar Hilarion
83	Trinidad and Tobago	Maryam Richards
84	Uruguay	Maira Colacce
85	Uruguay	Alejandro Lopez
86	WHO	Maria Cristina Hoffmann