XV Red GEALC Annual Assembly
November 18, 2021
2021 WORK PLAN REPORT

1) Background

In keeping with the bylaws approved during the III Ministerial Meeting on Electronic Government and the VIII Red GEALC Annual Meeting, held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on the 3rd and 4th of December, 2014, the Executive Committee, in cooperation with the Technical Secretariat, shall prepare the execution report of the current annual work plan and submit it for approval during the Annual Meeting.

The 2020 Executive Committee composed of Argentina, Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Panama, Dominican Republic and Uruguay (under the presidency of Costa Rica), with the support of the OAS in its role of Technical Secretariat, the IDB as sponsoring organization and the Network's manager, prepared the 2021 Work Plan, which was approved during the V Ministerial Meeting on Digital Government of the Americas and the XIV Red GEALC Annual Meeting.

Now, the 2021 Executive Committee composed of Argentina, Belize, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Panama, Paraguay, and Trinidad and Tobago (under the presidency of Colombia), with the support of the OAS in its role of Technical Secretariat, the IDB as sponsoring organization, and the Network's manager, has prepared this execution report of the 2021 Work Plan.

The Annual Work Plan is the tool that organizes actions in the pursuit of the objective of Red GEALC, to "promote and maintain spaces for discussion, mutual understanding, horizontal technical cooperation, training and exchange of experiences, among electronic government agencies or bodies of the region, with the intention to strengthen e-government practices, as well as to build bonds between governments, society organizations and international organizations."

2) <u>Summary</u>

The 2021 Work Plan comprised 9 axis with 22 activities, out of which 21 were achieved (7 overachieved); 1 was rescheduled at the request of the relevant working group to respect the execution rationale of its corresponding regional public good project.

In 2021, the working groups were strengthened with 68 meeting and 8 workshops or

webinars. The working groups were formed by 216 members from 19 countries (two thirds of the Network's member countries). It should be noted that 5 countries participated in all working groups (Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Uruguay) and 8 countries, in more than half of the groups.

Among the many strengths that led to the achievement of this plan, we should note the commitment of member countries, the leadership of the president country (Colombia) supported by the rest of the Executive Committee, the technical and financial support of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the framework provided by the Organization of American States (OAS) and the specific work of the Department for Effective Public Management as Technical Secretariat, and the coordination activities by the Management of Red GEALC.

3) Areas of Work

3.1) Cross-border Services
Objective: To generate capacity and support the implementation of cross-border electronic signature and cross-border digital services in order to accelerate adoption in the region, strengthening reliable and safe electronic transactions in an effort to promote digital economies and governments in the context of integration, based on the collaborative model defined by Red GEALC countries as a regional public good.

3.1.1) Subregional workshop on interoperability in Mercosur countries
Venue: Virtual.
Status: It was held in two stages in combination with the Andean countries on May 19[1] and 26[2], to avoid working in silos leveraging on the lessons learned in 2020.

3.1.2) Subregional workshop on interoperability in Andean countries
Venue: Virtual.
Status: It was held in two stages in combination with Mercosur countries. Please, see 3.1.1.

3.1.3) Subregional workshop on interoperability in Caribbean countries
Venue: Virtual.
Status: It was held in two stages on May 4th[3] and June 16th[4] in combination with

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[1] https://www.redgealc.org/contenido-general/noticias/bolivia-ecuador-paraguay-y-uruguay-presentaron-situacion-de-interoperabilidad/

[2] https://www.redgealc.org/contenido-general/noticias/argentina-brasil-costa-rica-y-el-salvador-presentaron-situacion-de-interoperabilidad/

[3] https://www.redgealc.org/contenido-general/noticias/colombia-y-republica-dominicana-presentan-situacion-de-interoperabilidad/

[4] https://www.redgealc.org/contenido-general/noticias/guatemala-y-trinidad-tobago-presentan-situacion-de-interoperabilidad/

Central American countries.

3.1.4) Cross-border interoperability pilot project in 3 countries.
Venue: Virtual.
Status: Progress was made on the Digital Vaccination Passport[5,6] and its conclusion was rescheduled for 2022 in order to bring it in sync with the execution of the regional public good project.

3.1.5) Two horizontal cooperation meetings
Venue: Virtual.
Status: Held between El Salvador and Colombia, and between Colombia and Costa Rica[7].

3.1.6) Conclude and validate the study on security policies and technical requirements, gap analysis and recommendations for cross-border interoperability (secure exchange of information).
Venue: Virtual meetings.
Status: Done.

3.1.7) Second regional workshop on cross-border interoperability (secure information exchange).
Venue: Virtual.
Status: Held on March 1st[8].

3.1.8) Enhance the space in Red GEALC's website on this axis.
Venue: Virtual.
Status: Done.[9]

3.2) Open Data
Objective: To redouble efforts to develop and strengthen open data, as well as regional initiatives and policies to open data.

3.2.1) To implement an Open Data GovCamp during the Regional Conferences ABRELATAM and CONDATOS.
Venue: Virtual.

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[5] https://www.redgealc.org/contenido-general/noticias/trabajo-conjunto-de-los-grupos-de-red-gealc-en-coronavirus-interoperabilidad-y-software-publico/

[6] https://www.redgealc.org/contenido-general/noticias/hacia-documento-de-viaje-digital-de-vacunacion-encuentro-de-redes-de-gobierno-digital-y-salud/

[7] https://www.redgealc.org/contenido-general/noticias/interoperabilidad-cooperacion-horizontal-colombia-costa-rica/

[8] https://www.redgealc.org/contenido-general/noticias/segundo-taller-regional-de-interoperabilidad-transfronteriza/

[9] https://www.redgealc.org/lineas-de-trabajo/interoperabilidad-transfronteriza/

Status: Done in stages.

3.2.2) Working group meetings
Venue: Virtual meetings.
Status: 8 held during the year.

3.3) Cybersecurity
Objective: To contribute with the development of useful inputs to create and implement cybersecurity policies in the countries of the region.

3.3.1) To constitute a working group
Venue: Virtual.
Status: Done[10].

3.3.2) A regional webinar on this subject matter was held.
Venue: Virtual.
Status: Held during the thematic track of the Annual Meeting.

3.3.3) Working group meetings
Venue: Virtual meetings.
Status: 8 held during the year.

3.4) Digital Government Measurement
Objective: To become the support of investigations held within the framework of Red GEALC in keeping with its sponsoring organizations.

3.4.1) Support regional studies on digital government public policies.
Venue: Virtual.
Status: Done and, at the same time, Red GEALC created its own monitor under the leadership of Colombia with the contribution of the thematic working group, which holds 8 virtual meetings a year.

3.5) Public Sector Innovation
Objective: To encourage the exchange of best practices in order to improve public sector innovation policies of the region.

3.5.1) Regional webinar on public innovation.
Venue: Virtual
Status: Held on April 22nd[11].

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[10] https://www.redgealc.org/lineas-de-trabajo/ciberseguridad/

[11] https://www.redgealc.org/contenido-general/noticias/webinar-internacional-conociendo-algunas-experiencias-latinoamericanas-de-innovacion-en-gobierno/

3.5.2) Second regional webinar on public innovation.
Venue: Virtual
Status: Held during the thematic track of the Annual Meeting.

3.5.3) Working group meetings
Venue: Virtual meetings.
Status: 8 held during the year. In addition, a virtual space on the matter is kept in Red GEALC's website[12].

3.6) Emerging Technologies
Objective: To identify emerging technologies and develop knowledge on them in order to support digital transformation in the region.

3.6.1) Regional workshop on public innovation and emerging technologies for cross-border digital services.
Venue: Virtual
Date: 1st semester 2021
Resources: Working group time.

3.6.2) Working group meetings
Venue: Virtual meetings.
Status: 8 held during the year. In addition, a virtual space on the matter is kept in Red GEALC's website[13].

3.7) Public Software
Objective: To encourage co-creation and adaptation of public software based on the collaborative model defined by the countries of Red GEALC as regional public good.

3.7.1) Migrate the regional platform to the general Red GEALC website.
Venue: Virtual
Date: 1st semester 2021
Resources: Working group time. Virtual space created for the subject matter in Red GEALC's website[14].

3.7.2) Regional public software webinar.
Venue: Virtual
Status: Held on August 5th[15].

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[12] https://www.redgealc.org/lineas-de-trabajo/innovacion/

[13] https://www.redgealc.org/lineas-de-trabajo/tecnologias-emergentes/

[14] https://www.redgealc.org/lineas-de-trabajo/software-publico/

[15] https://www.redgealc.org/contenido-general/noticias/webinar-regional-de-software-publico-para-tomadores-de-

3.7.3) Working group meetings
Venue: Virtual meetings.
Status: 6 held during the year.

3.8) Communication
Objective: To disseminate regional progress on the subject matter of digital government through Red GEALC.

3.8.1) Content update at Red GEALC´s website and social media.
Venue: Virtual.
Status: Done on a permanent bases.

3.8.2) Strengthen Red GEALC´s position and articulation with other mechanism.
Venue: Virtual.
Status: Done on a permanent bases. As always, it is necessary to maintain and strengthen it.

3.8.3) Working group meetings
Venue: Virtual meetings.
Status: 10 meetings are held during the year.

3.9) Red GEALC Annual Meeting
Objective: Annual meeting of the authorities of the region.

3.9.1) Meeting Action Plan.
Venue: Virtual
Status: Done.

3.9.2) Meeting Documents.
Venue: Virtual
Status: Prepared in time and manner.

3.9.3) Realization of the meeting and approval of the documents.
Venue: Hybrid, due to mobility restrictions associated to the corona virus pandemic. In person for the Executive Committee in Panama City; virtual for the rest of the countries.
Status: Done[16].

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decisiones-en-transformacion-digital/

[16] Redgealc