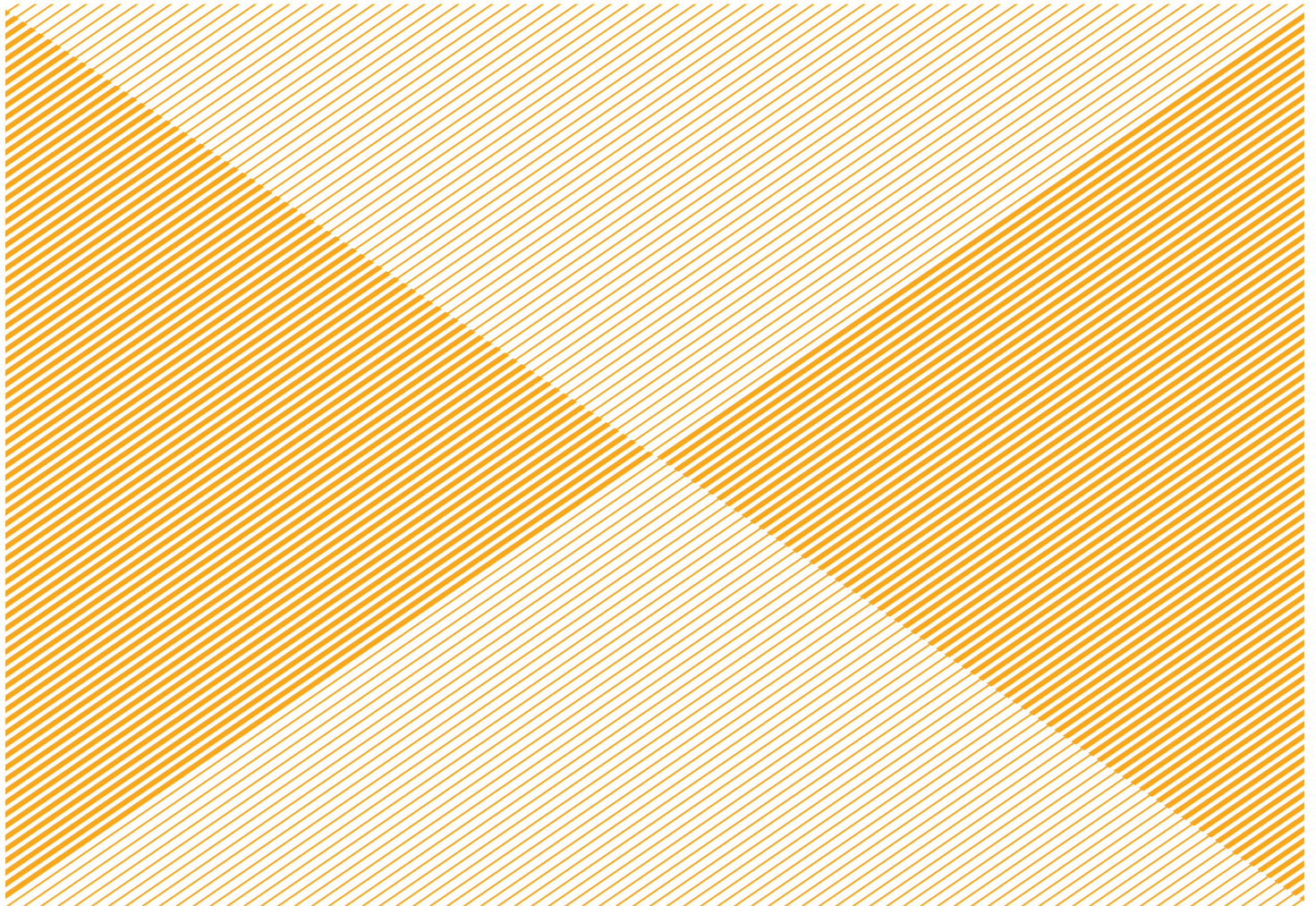


Regional Agenda

World Economic Forum on Latin America Overview

Buenos Aires, Argentina 5-7 April 2017



Fostering Development and Entrepreneurship in the Fourth Industrial Revolution

Latin American economies are adapting their monetary and fiscal strategies in the face of slower growth and budget cuts. The region is also experiencing historic political milestones, advancing structural reforms and opening for further integration. At the same time, inclusiveness and poverty reduction remain high on the agenda.

The region needs to consolidate its social accomplishments, further its economic resilience, sustainability and competitiveness, and improve its credibility as a leading business environment. In this context, the Fourth Industrial Revolution can be a critical driver for achieving the vision of an entrepreneurial, innovative and inclusive Latin America.

The region's ongoing transformation is exemplified in this year's host country. Argentina – a G20 economy with vast resources – is adopting a new economic framework, re-entering international credit markets and driving technological and digital transformation across sectors.

Participants at the World Economic Forum on Latin America will explore the challenges, risks and opportunities for Latin America in this transitional period. They will discuss the region's political, economic and societal issues, including the transparency, agility and long-term stability needed to enhance credibility and improve the business environment. Conducted in a spirit of openness, this meeting will bring together global and regional leaders from business, government and civil society to share strategic insights on how to navigate the present and contribute to shaping Latin America's inclusive future.

Mastering Regional Challenges and Opportunities

With slowly recovering commodity prices and only slightly improved growth rates in the region, Latin America's leaders are being challenged to increase productivity and prioritize policies to continue delivering on the social front. The region's competitiveness can be improved through public-private frameworks that ensure certainty for long-term investments in infrastructure. By strengthening small and medium-sized enterprises, family businesses and entrepreneurship, the region could create jobs and help reduce poverty and the informal sector. Technology can play an important role – using the mobile economy, for example, to reach the marginalized, giving them access to key services.

In some countries, polarization is an additional hurdle to progress and advancing regional integration, but citizens are demanding more transparency and curbing inequality in decision-making. The combination of these interventions can further drive inclusive development in the region, ensuring that young people are involved and gender parity is achieved.

Leveraging Global Drivers of Change

Global shifts resulting from drastic US policy changes, challenges to the EU and China's move to a consumer-based growth model will have a political and economic impact on the region. The question is how Latin America can best respond to these external factors and leverage its participation in global platforms to advance its priorities.

In this context, Argentina is preparing to chair the G20 and host the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference. These meetings take place as countries seek to further strengthen trade and cooperation. The region is taking up its COP21 commitments and building a new urban agenda post-UN Habitat III. Home to some of the world's largest cities and urban populations, Latin America could greatly benefit from policies that ensure cities are drivers of productivity and growth. The Fourth Industrial Revolution – the convergence of technologies such as artificial intelligence, robotics and biotech – needs to be fully understood in the regional context in order to adequately prepare, since it will impact all areas of business and society in Latin America.

Creating an Actionable Agenda for the Future

A key goal of the World Economic Forum on Latin America is to address the above issues with a view to developing an actionable agenda for the region's future. Stakeholders should not only leverage the Fourth Industrial Revolution, but also actively shape it to deliver inclusive growth and reduce poverty, building on trusted and agile public institutions. Transitioning to a sustainable energy blueprint and transforming key sectors – such as agro-industry, energy and mining, finance, infrastructure, ICT, tourism and mobility – will require responsive and responsible leadership as the region rethinks its economic models, fuelled by social innovation and entrepreneurship.

The programme will feature the following System Initiatives, engaging the most relevant leaders and experts on Latin America:

- Shaping the Future of Digital Economy and Society
- Shaping the Future of Economic Growth and Social Inclusion
- Shaping the Future of Education, Gender and Work
- Shaping the Future of Energy
- Shaping the Future of Environment and Natural Resource Security
- Shaping the Future of Food Security and Agriculture
- Shaping the Future of International Trade and Investment
- Shaping the Future of Long-Term Investing, Infrastructure and Development
- Shaping the Future of Production

Explore

Transformation Hub allows participants to develop a deeper contextual understanding of key transformations in the region. Participants explore and connect interrelated issues, brainstorm ideas and debate the most important drivers of change.

Learning Journeys offer participants a unique opportunity to meet the entrepreneurs and innovators behind social, ecological or tech-driven projects that deliver immediate impact on the ground. During these journeys, which conclude on the last day of the meeting, participants get a close-up experience of the local community.

Debate

Plenary Sessions feature senior government officials and business leaders, and cover broad issues on the meeting's theme. These sessions provide the conceptual framework for further discussions. In virtually all cases, ample time for questions, answers and discussion allows government officials to give first-hand information on critical economic and business issues. The Closing Plenary highlights the outcomes of the meeting and maps out the future engagement of the main stakeholders.

Interactive Sessions pursue topics related to the three pillars of the programme in greater depth and are structured around a panel, bringing together expert views and contrasting perspectives. Prepared remarks by the panel are kept to a minimum in favour of intensive discussions under the guidance of a moderator. The objective of each interactive session is to formulate two or three concrete action points on the topic. Some of the interactive sessions are sector-specific and industry-focused.

Televised Sessions are co-designed with global media, feature headline topics and raise awareness of important trends by broadcasting the discussion to a global audience.

Arena Sessions promote dialogue among panellists by placing them in the centre of the room. Participants encircle the panel to create an intimate and stimulating atmosphere.

One-on-One Sessions are interview sessions which elicit insightful and challenging perspectives on Latin America's transformation from a select group of global and regional thought leaders. Each session introduces a guest who is an inspiring individual from business, government, academia or civil society.

Collaborate

Solutions Sessions highlight the creative approaches taken by the Forum's communities to solve certain intractable issues. Innovative ways of dealing with a global challenge are presented during the session, and their impact and scalability are discussed.

xChange Sessions invite participants and panellists to interact in fresh ways and to advance new ideas on critical issues. In a collaborative setting, panellists share their insights on key drivers that shape industries, business and society, before they dive into facilitated group discussions on risks, opportunities and enablers that need to be put in place with all participants.

Chatham House Rule

For sessions that are not open to the reporting press, please note that the Chatham House Rule applies:

When a meeting/session is held under the Chatham House Rule, neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s) may be revealed. The aim is to provide anonymity to speakers and encourage openness and sharing of information. This rule is now used worldwide as an aid to free discussion.

FAQs

Where will the meeting take place?

The meeting will take place in Hotel Hilton, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Where will I stay?

A block reservation has been made. PublicisLive, the Forum's operations and logistics provider, will contact you to arrange your accommodation upon confirmation of your registration.

What does registration include?

The registration fee includes access to all sessions, including plenaries, interactive sessions, workshops, lunches and dinners.

What is the working language of the meeting?

Sessions will be held in English. Simultaneous interpretation in Spanish and Portuguese will also be available for some sessions.

When do I need to register?

As space is limited, we recommend that you register as soon as possible.

Do I need a visa?

Please check with the Argentinian embassy or consulate nearest to you for visa requirements. The World Economic Forum is not responsible for providing visas.

Where do I find additional information about the programme?

When you register you will receive access to TopLink, the Forum's online collaboration and interaction platform, where you will find the latest information about the programme.

Who do I contact for more information?

Participant Services Team
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Programme at a Glance

Wednesday 5 April

08.00 – 01.00	Registration
19.00 – 21.00	Welcome Reception

Thursday 6 April

07.00 – 19.30	Registration
08.45 – 10.45	Arena Session/ Solutions Session/ Studio Session/ Transformation Hub/ xChange Session
10.00 – 11.00	Community Break
11.00 – 12.00	Opening Plenary Session
12.30 – 14.00	Community Lunch Sessions
14.45 – 15.15	Plenary Session
15.30 – 17.00	Arena Session/ Solutions Session/ Studio Session/ Transformation Hub/ xChange Session
16.30 – 17.30	Community Break
16.45 – 17.45	Plenary Session
17.45 – 19.15	Arena Session/ Solutions Session/ Studio Session/ Transformation Hub/ xChange Session
20.00 – 22.30	Cultural Soirée

Friday 7 April

07.00 – 16.00	Registration
08.30 – 10.30	Arena Session/ Solutions Session/ Studio Session/ Transformation Hub/ xChange Session
10.00 – 10.45	Community Break
10.00 – 11.00	Plenary Session
10.45 – 12.45	Arena Session/ Solutions Session/ Studio Session/ Transformation Hub/ xChange Session
12.00 – 13.30	Community Lunch
13.15 – 15.00	Arena Session/ Solutions Session/ Studio Session/ Transformation Hub/ xChange Session
15.00 – 16.00	Closing Plenary Session
16.00 – 17.00	Farewell Reception
16.30 – 19.30	Learning Journey



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IMPROVING THE STATE
OF THE WORLD

The World Economic Forum, committed to improving the state of the world, is the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation.

The Forum engages the foremost political, business and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas.

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