Published in Cupples, Julie, Marcela Palomino-Schalscha & Manuel Prieto (eds) (2019) *The Routledge Handbook of Latin American Development*, London: Routledge, pp. 121-131.

Chapter 10

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Katie Willis

0000-0001-8136-7362

Abstract

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are internationally-agreed goals and targets to be achieved by 2030. Despite their global nature, there are significant regional, national and sub-national differences in priorities, implementation and success. This chapter consider Latin America's involvement in the development of the SDGs in the run up to their launch in 2015 and the mechanisms by which the SDG Agenda has been adopted and institutionalised at regional and national scales. It concludes with an examination of progress against SDG targets relating to reducing inequality and protecting the environment.

Introduction

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), agreed by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015 are the latest manifestation of what Gillian Hart has termed 'big D development' (Hart, 2001); that is, intentional interventions to achieve progress and modernity. Since the Second World War there have been different forms of international cooperation to bring 'development' to economically-poorer parts of the world, to improve living standards and reduce marginalisation. These attempts at development have been criticised for their top-down, Northern-centric perspectives, and how they classify peoples and places of the Global South according to what they lack rather than what they have (Escobar, 1995; Sachs, 1992).

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) ran from 2000-2015 with eight goals. These focused largely on poverty alleviation and raising the living standards of the world's poorest (Willis, 2016). Latin America's overall indicators of human development and income per capita meant that it was much less of a focus during the MDG period than other regions of the Global South, most notably Sub-Saharan Africa, South and East Asia. Over the MDG period,

Latin America made significant progress against many of the MDGs and achieved many of the targets (Nicolai *et al.*, 2016; UNDP, 2015). However, the pattern of success was not uniform in terms of both the goals and the countries of the region. For example, targets for reductions in extreme poverty and hunger were met at a regional level, but Paraguay did not meet the target for the reduction in malnutrition for children under 5 (MDG Track, 2018). Across the region maternal mortality rates remained higher than target by 2015, despite having fallen by 40% over the MDG period (UNDP, 2015). At sub-national levels, there were also significant social and spatial differences, for example in Mexico between urban and isolated rural areas in access to schooling and health services, and between indigenous and non-indigenous girls in access to education (INEGI, 2013).

Continuing with a global development goal format for the post-MDG period, plans for the design and implementation of sustainable development goals were launched at the United Nations Rio+20 conference in 2012. In a major change from the MDG formulation process, the United Nations launched a global consultation process called MY World which invited participants to identify the six most important issues from a list of 16. They also had the option of adding other ideas. By 2015 over 9.7 million people had completed the survey, with approximately 80% collected offline through campaigns run by grassroots organisations (UN Millennium Campaign, 2015). Given the survey methodology it is important to stress that the survey was not representative of the global population in either demographic (it was dominated by participants aged under 30) or region. As an indication of intent and a signal of the importance of participation and inclusion, it can be seen as successful.

The SDGs encompass a much broader notion of development than the MDGs. Rather than focus on what populations lack, there is a much stronger engagement with what a sustainable future would look like. This includes a much stronger focus on the environment than the MDGs, but also significant recognition of diversity and inequalities, and how the SDG agenda should ensure that no one is left behind as development is achieved. Bringing in this broader definition of development, as well as acknowledging the findings from the SDG consultation process, has meant a final list of 17 goals and 169 targets (see Table 10.1). Because the focus is on more than poverty alleviation, the SDGs are aimed at all governments, not just as partners in international development cooperation, although this is covered in SDG 17, but as responsible for achieving the SDGs in their own countries.

<TABLE 10.1 HERE>

This chapter is divided into three main sections. The first section discusses Latin American involvement in the framing of the SDGs, particularly through the global consultation process. The second section moves on to examine the institutions and mechanisms through which the SDGs are being implemented in the region. As Satterthwaite (22018: 408) observes, the SDGs provide little information as to how they are to be implemented and by whom. He also highlights the limited discussion of whether current systems and structures are fit to deliver on the SDGs questioning whether 'the national governments and international agencies that have failed to meet so many goals and targets in the past can now transform their approaches and effectiveness' (Satterthwaite, 2018: 408). Issues of structural change have also been raised by the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), along with the role of community and grassroots participation. The roles of national and local governments, regional organisations such as ECLAC, the private sector and civil society in delivering the SDGs will be discussed in the chapter's second section. Finally, the chapter focuses on two aspects of the SDGs which have particular resonance in the region; reducing inequality and environmental protection. It considers how the SDG process can be used to achieve both these objectives and what obstacles there are to success. If the SDGs are to be more than a list of unrealistic aspirations or the latest incarnation of a blueprint for development success, then a recognition of how the goals are prioritised, interpreted and implemented in particular contexts is vital.

Framing the post-2015 development agenda

While the SDGs are now global goals, as part of the MY World consultation process which informed the final list, regional differences were apparent. This is unsurprising given the diversity of economic situations, political systems, cultural and social norms, and environmental conditions across the world, but it is vital to acknowledge such differences in development priorities.

Of the over 9.7 million people who responded to the MY World survey, approximately 2.2 million were based in Latin America. However, this number was significantly skewed by the over 1.9 million who responded in Mexico. Of the other Latin American countries, all had

some respondents to the survey, although in some cases the numbers were in the hundreds, with Brazil, Colombia and Peru all having over 35,000 respondents (MyWorld 2015, 2018).

The top three priorities from Latin America were a good education, better job opportunities and protection against crime and violence (see Figure 10.1). The first two were also top priorities in the global survey, but in the survey as a whole better healthcare came third and concerns about crime and violence were seventh (Nicolai *et al.*, 2016: 10). This ranking reflects both the better overall health indicators in Latin America than in many other global regions, but also the levels of crime and violence which greatly affect the daily life and life chances of millions of people across the region. This is unsurprising given the estimated homicide rate in Latin America and the Caribbean is significantly higher than in any other global region; 21.3-27.3 intentional homicides per 100,000 people in 2015 compared to a global figure of 5.2-6.7 per 100,000 (United Nations, 2017: 50).

<FIGURE 10.1 HERE>

Nicolai *et al.* (2016) identify that the other main difference between the global priorities and those found in Latin America, are those relating to the environment; protecting forests, rivers and oceans, and action taken on climate change. The latter was the ranked the least important globally. The greater focus on environmental protection is a major difference between the MDGs and the SDGS, with a clear recognition of different ecosystems, and environmental processes, and the threats posed by human activity.

Overall the patterns are similar between South America and Central America (which includes Mexico in the survey classification), but there are some noteworthy distinctions. Both priorities relating to employment, better job opportunities and support for people who cannot work, were identified as important by a greater percentage of respondents in Central America than South America. South American respondents tended to rate freedom from discrimination and persecution, and political freedoms as more important than their Central American counterparts.

Implementation

The ambition and scope of the SDG agenda has been a cause of both celebration and criticism (Scott and Lucci, 2015). One key note of caution has been about the mechanisms through which the targets can be achieved. As Alicia Bárcena, ECLAC Executive Director stated in the foreword to *Horizon 2030: Equality at the Centre of Sustainable Development*, there is a need to move beyond the goals and targets to consider what tools are needed to achieve them; 'Without these tools, there is a risk that the Agenda will remain wishful thinking, at best implemented in an ad hoc and piecemeal fashion, contradicting the stated intention that it should be a universal, comprehensive and indivisible agenda' (ECLAC, 2016a: 9-10). This section investigates the institutional infrastructure that has been implemented in the region since the launch of the SDGs, focusing on regional cooperation, national government action, the role of city authorities and civil society organisations. These different scales of implementation, alongside the governance structures of the United Nations and other multilateral institutions, need to be considered, even though the national scale remains key in the SDG process. In the proposal document for the SDGs, the UN Open Working Group for Sustainable Development Goals stated, "Each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and the role of national policies, domestic resources and development strategies cannot be overemphasized" (United Nations, 2014: 5). Reporting against SDG targets will also be done at the national level, although data may be later aggregated to identify regional and global patterns.

To facilitate regional cooperation around the SDGs in 2016 ECLAC established the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development. In doing this, ECLAC is not seeking to impose a singular set of policies and processes on its member states; something which would go against the principles of national sovereignty, and would also fail to recognise the diversity of development challenges across the region and governmental capacity to address these. In its *Horizon 2030: Equality at the Centre of Sustainable Development* document (ECLAC, 2016a), there is acknowledgement of the 'special needs and particular challenges' of different groups of countries, including small island developing states (SIDS), landlocked developing countries, middle-income countries, least developed countries and conflict/post-conflict states (p.18). These categorisations match those used at the global level in the United Nations documentation, such as the targets for SDG 17.

In laying out a vision for achieving the SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean, ECLAC has called for significant changes in global economic and political structures. Explicitly referencing the structuralist tradition in the region's (and particularly ECLAC's) development thought, there is a call for 'a new political economy and new international and national coalitions to sustain it' (ECLAC, 2016a: 24). ECLAC explicitly acknowledges the tensions that exist between the United Nations policy-setting agenda, of which the SDGs are a very significant example, and a deregulated economic system with high levels of concentration of technology and income. For ECLAC, strong public policies, rather than a reliance on market forces, are required to deliver on the SDG Agenda (see also, Ghosh, 2015), and the 'elite multilateralism' (p.29) which characterises the international development system, needs to be dismantled.

ECLAC's vision for a future of sustainable development includes a significant expansion of the green economy, creating jobs and improved standards of living without destroying the environment. This is what ECLAC has called its 'environmental push' to 2030 (ECLAC, 2016a). ECLAC sees this approach as a way of achieving sustainable development, but also addressing current limits to Latin American economic progress, including specialisation on low-technology production and limited capacity to diversify production for export. As part of its demands for structural change in the international arena, ECLAC is calling for a 'global environmental Keynesianism' based on 'expansionary fiscal policies, with investments focused on technologies, goods and services linked to low-carbon production and consumption paths' (ECLAC, 2016a: 10). However, such a vision would require significant shifts in national development strategies across the globe, as well as vast additional resource at a regional level. It also remains wedded to a vision of development as growth (Moore, 2015).

ECLAC has also developed a system of annual reporting for national governments and has encouraged the region's governments to volunteer for the reviews of national policy which are conducted annually by the United Nations. In 2016, Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela presented their voluntary national reviews, and a further 11 Latin American countries were involved in the 2017 process (Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, 2018: 19). Finally, ECLAC's vision favours 'people-centred policies and actions, transparency and accountability' (ECLAC, 2016b: 19).

Regional co-operation through trading blocs is also identified as a route through which Latin America could make progress towards the SDGs by increasing trade and attracting foreign direct investment. Official development assistance (ODA) represents a very small percentage of finance coming into the region. This is unsurprising given the countries' status as middle-income countries in World Bank classifications. While additional ODA may be available as part of the 2015 Addis Ababa Agenda for development finance, private sector finance is going to be vital (Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, 2018). Regional economic cooperation faces challenges, not least because of different national development strategies that may clash, a lack of economic diversity in production, and weaknesses in infrastructure provision (Álvarez, 2016).

At a national level, Latin American governments have engaged with the SDG process in a range of ways since approving the SDG Agenda at the United Nations in September 2015. The large number of goals and targets means that there has to be a prioritisation of activities, but national governments are expected to have a holistic approach to sustainable development and to incorporate the SDGs across their activities. Monitoring progress against the SDG targets also falls to national governments, raising significant questions about the data collection capacity of state institutions (Georgeson and Maslin, 2018). Of the 14 Latin American countries that have presented voluntary national reviews, 11 have set up institutional structures to implement and monitor progress (Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, 2018). For example, Mexico has established the Consejo Nacional de la Agenda 2030 para el Desarollo Sostenible (National Council for Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development) and there is a Senate working group on Agenda 2030. In 2017, the Treasury published arrangements to link the National Development Plan 2013-18 to the SDG targets (Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público, 2017). This included identifying how forms of public expenditure, such as the Seguro Popular health insurance scheme and Prospera, a conditional cash transfer scheme, feed into specific targets. While such institutional structures are a welcome contribution to operationalising the SDG Agenda, the six-year presidential cycle in Mexico, means that embedding these processes into the operation of federal, state and local government faces significant challenges.

SDG 11 focuses on sustainable cities and communities. Given their contribution to economic growth, but also to environmental destruction including the emission of greenhouse gases, as

well as the fact that urban areas are now home to over half the world's population, it is important that towns and cities have been highlighted in the SDG agenda (Simon *et al.*, 2015; Rudd *et al.*, 2018). Compared to other regions of the Global South, Latin America's city governments have tended to be better at implementing overarching policies for sustainable development (ECLAC and UN-Habitat, 2018; Satterthwaite, 2018), but this varies greatly across the region and the SDG Agenda places greater demands on municipal authorities, not least through the importance of inclusive urbanisation, rather than just a focus on economic growth (McGranahan, Schensul and Singh, 2016).

Grassroots organisations were significant in administering the MY World consultation survey, but within the SDGs themselves, civil society organisations are rarely mentioned, appearing only in Target 17.17 about partnerships for sustainable development (Willis, 2016). For Satterthwaite (2018), with his focus on the SDGs relating to sustainable urban living, community-driven processes are a key way in which progress could be made. He highlights the role of networks such as Slum/Shack Dwellers International and their constituent organisations in achieving significant improvements in urban living standards for the poorest groups through their work with city authorities.

For a region with strong networks of civil society organisations, the SDGs provide a framework around which grassroots mobilisation and action can be structured. While there may be some organisations which would see this as being co-opted into an externally-driven and imposed agenda around the dubious concept of 'development' (see Arturo Escobar's comments in Esteva and Escobar, 2017), the SDG agenda also provides opportunities to shape agendas to achieve greater equity and social justice.

Since the SDGs were launched, civil society organisations have mobilised around the Goals in two main ways. Firstly, they have sought to raise awareness among the general population around the SDGs and secondly, they have pressed politicians to deliver on their commitments to achieve the targets. For example, in Peru, young people under the umbrella heading of the Millennials Movement, have worked as SDG 'ambassadors' through both the MY World vote (UN SDG Action Campaign, 2015, 2017), and the promotion of the SDGs in conjunction with youth movements such as the Scouts, university student networks, and Interquorum (a non-party political, non-religious youth organisation) (Red Interquorum, 2018). Similarly, in Chile, the European Union funded Asocia 2030, brings together about

350 civil society organisations to campaign, educate and mobilise around the SDGs, with a focus on poverty reduction, gender equality, reducing inequalities, taking action on climate, and the development of peace, justice and strong institutions (Asocia 2030, 2018). While these engagement activities are important, and feed into Target 4.7 about learning and awareness of sustainable development, achievement of the SDGs requires the significant participation of grassroots organisations in the actual delivery of the Goals, as suggested by Satterthwaite.

Achievements and challenges

While it is still very early in the SDG period, examining the institutional commitment and mechanisms, alongside external conditions, means that there have already been attempts to predict outcomes. Nicolai *et al.* (2016) produced a regional scorecard for Latin America and the Caribbean based on one target for each goal, apart from SDGs 8 and 9 which are targeted at the least-developed countries, of which there is only one, Haiti, in the LAC region. This scorecard process highlights not only the limits in data availability and accuracy, but also the diversity within the region.

For the fifteen targets examined, Nicolai *et al.* conclude that Latin America as a whole is performing well in relation to reducing inequality (see below), ending extreme poverty, providing universal access to energy, and providing universal access to sanitation. However, there is a need to reform existing processes to achieve this. More radical changes are needed to reach the targets by 2030 for halting deforestation, ending hunger, reducing maternal mortality, providing universal secondary education, ending child marriage (particularly challenging in South America), and mobilising domestic resources for development partnerships. Based on Nicolai *et al.*'s analysis, to achieve most of the environmental targets as well as reducing violent deaths, requires a reversal on current actions as the targets 'are heading in the wrong direction' (2016: 16).

A focus on inequality has been one of the significant shifts in emphasis from the MDGs to the SDGs. The MDGs' prioritisation of extreme poverty reduction, meant that targets were to increase the share of the global population above a poverty line. This continues to be significant in the SDGs with SDG Target 1.1 being to end extreme poverty (people living on

less than US$1.90 a day), but under the SDGs other forms of poverty are identified and there is a specific goal, SDG 10, on reducing inequality. The engagement with inequality reflects a commitment to equality as intrinsically important as part of a more just world where human rights are upheld. A key message of the SDG Agenda is that "no one will be left behind". However, reducing inequality is also targeted because of evidence that inequality hampers economic growth, social harmony and political stability (World Bank, 2006; Wilkinson and Pickett, 2010).

According to the analysis by Nicolai *et al.* (2016) progress towards Target 10.1 'By 2030 progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40% of the population at a rate higher than the national average' is going well in Latin America, although some policy reforms will be required. The region's countries have experienced reduced income inequality, as measured by the Gini Index, in recent decades (see Table 10.2). This has been a result of social protection schemes, significant flows of remittances and increased employment. It must be stressed that despite declines in income inequality, the figures remain very high. Globally, countries with much more equal societies, such as the Scandinavian states, have Gini Index figures of 20-30. Latin America had six countries with figures of over 50 in 2010-15. The only other region with such a concentration of inequality in its nations is Southern Africa (UNDP, 2016: 180-96). According to the World Bank's *Atlas of Sustainable Development Goals 2018*, Costa Rica, Mexico and Nicaragua income growth of the poorest 40% was slower than the average in the period 2009-14 (World Bank, 2018: 39).

<TABLE 10.2 ABOUT HERE>

For Latin America different axes of exclusion and disadvantage have resulted in income inequality, and the concomitant challenges of access to health, education and good standards of living. In many parts of the region, indigenous populations and peoples of African descent experience extreme forms of discrimination (Escobar, 2008). While Target 10.2 calls for the promotion of 'social, political and economic inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status', ECLAC (2016a: 23) makes a particular point of highlighting the 'lack of reference to indigenous peoples or Afro-descent groups' in the SDGs. Within Latin America and the Caribbean there are an estimated 46 million indigenous people and 130 million Afrodescendant people (Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, 2018: 15).

The concept of *Buen Vivir*, roughly translated as 'living well' has been adopted as a focus of national development in Ecuador and Bolivia, drawing on indigenous concepts of living in harmony with the natural environment with a focus on a collective, rather than an individual approach to life (Acosta, 2017). While incorporating indigenous concepts into national strategies could be seen as an important process of inclusion, it is in the operation of policies that the real measure of inclusion can be seen. For indigenous populations in urban areas in both Bolivia and Ecuador, experiences of discrimination and exclusion are commonplace (Horn, 2018).

A recognition of different cosmovisions is present in both ECLAC (2016a) and United Nations (2014) documentation on SDGs and the environment where there are clear statements about how some groups refer to the natural environment as 'Mother Earth' and see nature as having rights just as humans do. While this recognition is important, there is little in the SDG environmental goals and targets that demonstrates an ability to engage with the implications of such conceptions of the world. The role of 'traditional knowledge' in addressing environmental challenges is sometimes mentioned in passing (e.g. Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, 2016: 56), but there is a failure to consider in depth how traditional or indigenous knowledge might inform or be incorporated into sustainable development or environmental policy (Mistry and Berardi, 2016).

It is in the achievement of the environmental goals that Latin America is currently forecast to face most challenges (Nicolai *et al.*, 2016). Having been successful under the MDG system, the expansion to include greater environmental aspects threatens to undermine the region's record of success against international development targets. There are some signs of improvement in the protection of biodiversity and attempts to control deforestation. For example, the average proportion of each terrestrial, inland freshwater and mountain key biodiversity area that is covered by protected areas increased in Latin America and the Caribbean from 34% in 2000 to 40% in 2010 and 42% in 2017 (United Nations, 2017: 48). The rate of deforestation is also slowing down; 51.3% of the land area of Latin America and the Caribbean was forest in 1990, 47% in 2010 and 46.4% in 2015 (United Nations, 2017: 49). This is partly a reflection of the adoption of sustainable management strategies, particularly involving local communities. Deforestation rates in protected areas of the

Brazilian Amazon were a quarter of those in non-protected areas (UNEP/IUCN, 2016 in Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, 2018: 29). However, this does indicate that even in protected areas deforestation is occurring. Forest conservation policies can face obstacles due to lack of staff and enforcement mechanisms, trade-offs against other policy priorities such as export earnings, and poor policy development (Rosa da Conceição, Borner and Wunder, 2015).

ECLAC's environmental push to 2030 stresses the importance of developments in carbon-neutral technology. This includes encouraging shifts to renewable energy. For most of the region, renewables contribute a relatively small share of annual energy generation, but in some countries renewable sources dominate. For example, in 2015 99% of Costa Rica's energy came from renewables and the figure was 92.8% for Uruguay (Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, 2018: 54). Moving away from fossil fuels requires significant investment, most likely from private sector interests, but there could also be subsidies or taxation to encourage companies and consumers to make the switch. A shift to renewables would help meet the SDGs around energy and climate action, as well as contributing to employment goals. More than two million people were employed in the renewable energy sector in 2010, but there is significant scope for expansion in the number of jobs should the move away from fossil fuels take place (albeit with a knock-on effect on jobs in the oil and gas sectors). However, making this move requires government action and finance, as well as changes in consumer behaviour. There are also challenges in the development of renewable energy generation because of its potential impact on the livelihoods and communities of rural populations as hydroelectric, wind or solar power plants are established.

Conclusions

In this chapter I have outlined how national governments, regional organisations and civil society in Latin America have engaged with the SDG process. The expansive nature of the SDGs and their targets means that priorities, forms of implementation and possibilities of success will vary by region and at different scales. Flexibility to operate not just within the bounds of national sovereignty, but also as part of processes of transparency and public engagement are part of the SDG remit. As a region, Latin America has made significant strides in developing and embedding Agenda 2030 into national policies, but the

effectiveness of these processes remains to be seen. The region's governments have also sought to challenge the global development institutions, seeking to query the concentration of power among a few states, large corporations and financial institutions, and the continued reliance on market forces to drive the development process. The America First agenda of the Trump administration, and the threats of trade wars and greater protectionism across the globe, does not bode well for a form of global cooperation that could underpin SDG success. For some, the SDGs are 'an attempt at measuring the world' (Sachs, 2017: 2578) and seeking to constrain what development is and should be. If the SDG agenda is to really deliver on its aim of leaving no one behind, and to address the diversity of the region's populations, then good data and measurement are required, but there also needs to be an openness to a range of voices and perspectives.

Table 10.1: Sustainable Development Goals

SDG		Number of Targets
1	End poverty in all its forms everywhere	7
2	End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	8
3	Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	13
4	Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning	10
5	Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	9
6	Ensure access to water and sanitation for all	8
7	Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	5
8	Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all	12
9	Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation	8
10	Reduce inequalities within and between countries	10
11	Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	10
12	Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns	11
13	Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	5
14	Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources	10
15	Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss	12
16	Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies	12
17	Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development	19

Source: United Nations (2018)

Table 10.2: Patterns of income inequality in Latin America 2000-2015

	Income Gini Index[a]	
	2000-2010[c]	2010-2015[d]
Colombia	58.5	53.5
Bolivia	57.2	48.4
Honduras	55.3	50.6
Brazil	55.0	51.5
Panama	54.9	50.7
Ecuador	54.4	45.4
Guatemala	53.7	48.7
Paraguay	53.2	51.7
Chile	52.0	50.5
Mexico	51.6	48.2
Peru	50.5	44.1
Costa Rica	48.9	48.5
Argentina	48.8	42.7
Dominican Republic	48.4	47.1
Uruguay	48.8	42.7
El Salvador	46.9	41.8
Venezuela	43.4	46.9[b]

Notes: [a] The income Gini index is a measure of income distribution, where 0 income is evenly distributed in the population and 100 is when one person has all the income. [b]Refers to period earlier than 2010

Sources: [c] UNDP (2010: 152-4) [d] UNDP (2016: 206-9)

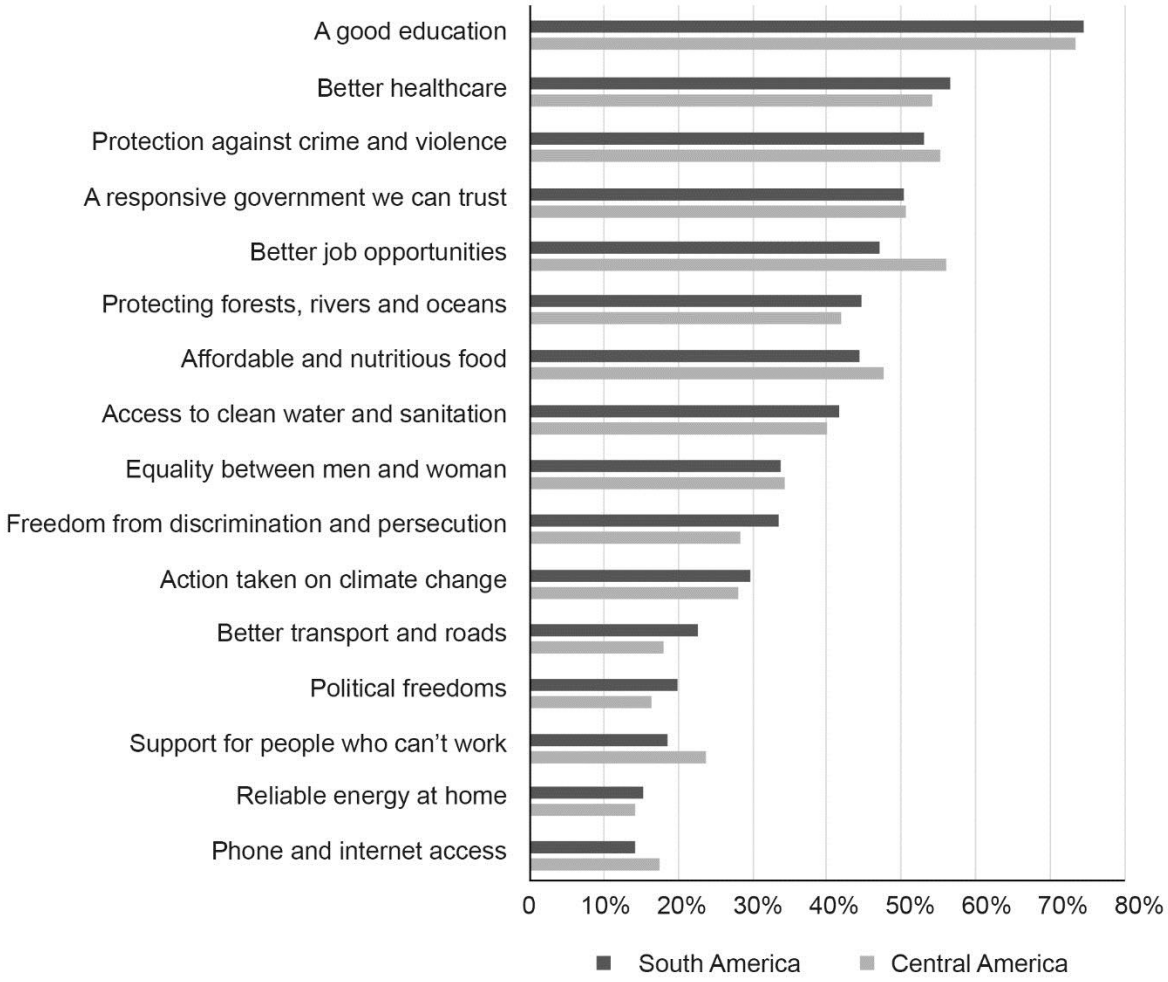

Figure 10.1: MY World Priorities (% of respondents selecting each option)

Source: Adapted from Figure 1 in Nicolai *et al.* (2016: 10)

References

Acosta, A. (2017) 'Living Well: Ideas for reinventing the future', *Third World Quarterly*, 38 (12): 2600-16.

Álvarez, A.M. (2016) 'Retos de América Latina: Agenda para el Desarrollo Sostenible y las Negociaciones del Siglo XXI', *Revista Problemas del Desarrollo*, 186 (47): 9-30.

Asocia 2030 (2018) *Asocia 2030 Homepage.* Available at: http://proyectoasocia2030.cl/proyecto-asocia-2030/

Escobar, A. (1995) *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Escobar, A. (2008) *Territories of Difference: Place, Movements, Life, Redes*, Durham NC: Duke University Press.

Esteva, G., and Escobar, A. (2017) 'Post-Development @ 25: On 'being stuck' and moving forward, sideways, backward and otherwise', *Third World Quarterly*, 38 (12): 2259-72.

Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development (2018) *Second Annual Report on Regional Progress and Challenges in Relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean*, Santiago: ECLAC.

Georgeson, L. and Maslin, M. (2018) 'Putting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals into practice: A review of implementation, monitoring, and finance', *Geo: Geography and Environment,* 2018;e00049. https://doi.org/10/101002/geo2.49

Ghosh, J. (2015) 'Beyond the Millennium Development Goals: A Southern Perspective on a Global New Deal', *Journal of International Development*, 27: 320-9.

Hart, G. (2001) 'Development critiques in the 1990s: *culs de sac* and promising paths', *Progress in Human Geography*, 25: 649-58.

Horn, P. (2018) 'Indigenous people, the city and inclusive urban development policies in Latin America: Lessons from Bolivia and Ecuador', *Development Policy Review*, 36: 483-501.

Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (INEGI) (2013) *The Millennium Development Goals in Mexico: Progress Report* 2013. Aguascalientes: INEGI.

McGranahan, D., Schenshul, D. and Singh, G. (2016) 'Inclusive urbanization: Can the 2030 Agenda be delivered without it?', *Environment & Urbanization*, 28 (1): 13-34.

MDG Track (2018) *Monitoring Progress Towards the Millennium Development Goals*. Available at: www.mdg.track.org (Accessed 7 July 2018).

Mistry, J. and Berardi, A. (2016) 'Bridging Indigenous and scientific knowledge: Local ecological knowledge must be placed at the center of environmental governance', *Science*, 352 (6291): 1274-5.

Moore, H. (2015) 'Global prosperity and Sustainable Development Goals', *Journal of Internatinal Development*, 27: 801-15.

MyWorld 2015 (2018) *MyWorld Analytics.* Available at: http://data.myworld2015.org/ (Accessed 6 July 2018).

Nicolai, S., Bhatkal, T., Hoy, C, and Aedy, T. (2016) *Projecting Progress: The SDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean*, London: ODI.

Red Interquorum (2018) *Red Interquorum homepage.* Available at: http://www.redinterquorum.org/ (Accessed 7 July 2018).

Rosa da Conceição, H., Borner, J. and Wunder, S. (2015) 'Why were upscaled incentive programs for forest conservation adopted? Comparing policy choices in Brazil, Ecuador and Peru', *Ecosystem Services*, 16: 243-52.

Rudd, A., Simon, D., Cardama, M., Birch, E.L. and Revi, A. (2018) 'The UN, the Urban Sustainable Development Goal and the New Urban Agenda', in T. Elmqvist, X. Bai, N. Frantzeskaki, C. Griffith, D. Maddox, T. McPhearson, S. Parnell, P. Romero-Lankao, D. Simon and M. Watkins (eds) *Urban Planet: Knowledge Towards Sustainable Cities*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 180-96.

Sachs, W. (ed.) (1992) *The Development Dictionary: A Guide to Knowledge as Power*, London: Zed Books.

Sachs, W. (2017) 'The Sustainable Development Goals and *Laudato si'*: varieties of Post-Development?', *Third World Quarterly*, 38 (12): 2573-87.

Satterthwaite, D. (2018) 'Who can implement the Sustainable Development Goals in urban areas?', in T. Elmqvist, X. Bai, N. Frantzeskaki, C. Griffith, D. Maddox, T. McPhearson, S. Parnell, P. Romero-Lankao, D. Simon and M. Watkins (eds) *Urban Planet: Knowledge Towards Sustainable Cities*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 408-10.

Scott, A. and Lucci, P. (2015) 'Universality and ambition in the post-2015 development agenda: A comparison of global and national targets', *Journal of International Development*, 27: 752-75.

Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público (SHCP) (2017) *Vinculación del Presupuesto a los Objetivos del Desarrollo Sostenible,* Mexico City: SHCP. Available at: https://www.gob.mx/cms/uploads/attachment/file/231527/Lineamientos_p_y_p_2018_Anexo_2_Vinculacion_ODs.pdf

Simon, D., Arfvidsson, H., Anand, G., Bazaz, A., Fenna, G., Foster, K., Jain, G., Hansson, S., Marix Evans, L., Moodley, N., Nyambuga, C., Oloko, M., Ombara, D.C., Patel, Z., Perry, B., Primo, N., Revi, A., Van Niekerk, B., Warton, A. and Wright, C. (2015) 'Developing and

testing the Urban Sustainability Goal's targets and indicators – a five-city study', *Environment & Urbanization*, 28 (1): 49-63.

United Nations (2014) *Open Working Group Proposal for Sustainable Development Goals*, New York: United Nations.

United Nations (2017) *The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2017*, New York: United Nations.

United Nations (2018) 'Sustainable Development Goals'. Available at: https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) (2010) *Human Development Report 2010: The Real Wealth of Nations: Pathways to Human Development*, New York: UNDP.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) (2015) *Millennium Development Report 2015*, New York: United Nations.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) (2016) *Human Development Report 2016: Human Development for Everyone*, New York: UNDP.

United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) (2016a) *Horizon 2030: Equality at the Centre of Sustainable Development*. Santiago: ECLAC.

United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) (2016b) *Resolutions Adopted by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the Thirty-Sixth Session*. Santiago: ECLAC.

United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and UN-Habitat (2018) *Regional Action Plan for the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean 2016-2036*, Santiago: ECLAC.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). (2016) Protected Planet Report 2016: How protected areas contribute to achieving global targets for biodiversity. Cambridge: UNEP and IUCN.

United Nations Millennium Campaign (2015) *UN Millennium Campaign 2015 Report*, New York: United Nations.

United Nations SDG Action Campaign (2015) *The Millennials Movement: Jóvenes Peruanos por un Mundo Mejor*. 11 August 2015. https://sdgactioncampaign.org/2015/08/11/the-millenials-movement-jovenes-peruanos-por-un-mundo-mejor/

United Nations SDG Action Campaign (2017) *Programa de Embajadores Péru Agenda 2030: Por el desarrollo sostenible y el mundo que queremos.* 16 March 2017. Available at: sdgactioncampaign.org/2017/03/16/programa-de-embajadores-peru-agenda-2030-por-el-desarrollo-sostenible-y-el-mundo-que-queremos/

Wilkinson, R. and Pickett, K. (2010) *The Spirit Level: Why Equality is Better for Everyone*, London: Penguin Books.

Willis, K. (2016) 'Viewpoint: International development planning and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)', *International Development Planning Review*, 38(2): 105-11.

World Bank (2006) *World Development Report 2016: Equity and Development*, New York: World Bank.

World Bank (2018) *Atlas of Sustainable Development Goals 2018*, New York: World Bank.