

OECD Regional Centre for Competition in **Latin America**

2023

ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

Regional Centre for Competition in Latin America





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1. Introduction

Launched in November 2019, the Regional Centre for Competition (RCC) in Latin America is a partnership between the Peruvian Competition Authority (INDECOPI – *Instituto Nacional de Defensa de la Competencia y de la Protección de la Propiedad Intelectual*) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The objective of the RCC is to provide capacity building activities and policy advice, according to OECD recommendations and international best practices, through workshops, seminars, and training courses on competition law and policy for officials from competition enforcement agencies, government, regulators, and judges. The Regional Centre also works to connect different competition agencies and jurisdictions, promoting regional co-operation and enhancing their understanding of the importance of developing a sound competition policy.

The framework for co-operation between INDECOPI and the OECD, including the structure, funding and administrative issues of the RCC, is established through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in October 2019 and renewed in September 2023 (until 2029). The beneficiary countries include: Argentina, Aruba, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Curaçao, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela, as well as the Andean Community and the Caribbean Community. They represent around 25 jurisdictions from Latin America and the Caribbean.

As a result, Peru through INDECOPI joins two other countries in hosting regional centres for competition: Korea and Hungary, which focus on Asia and Eastern Europe, respectively.



2. Overview of activities

In 2023, the RCC delivered four workshops and published two newsletters, in addition to a heads of agency meeting during the Latin American and Caribbean Competition Forum (LACCF). While the workshops provide capacity building to the beneficiary countries of the RCC, the newsletters offer updates on the developments of competition law and policy in Latin America and the Caribbean, including recent activities of the OECD in the region. A detailed report of the RCC activities follows below, while the final agendas of the workshops and the newsletters are available here.

2.1. Workshops

The table below provides a summary of the workshops held this year including dates, topics, jurisdictions represented, number of attendees, and evaluation results.¹

	Date	Торіс	Jurisdictions	Attendees	Evaluation
1.	7-10 March 2023	Workshop on "Introduction to Competition Enforcement for New Staff"	21	153	4.6/5.0
2.	10-11 May 2023	Workshop on "Competition in the Aviation Sector"	18	180	4.5/5.0
3.	13-14 September 2023	Workshop on "Market Studies"	16	37	4.9/5.0
4.	26-27 September 2023	Heads of Agency Meeting during the Latin American and Caribbean Competition Forum (LACCF)	21	N/A	N/A
5.	15-17 November 2023	Workshop on "Key Challenges for New Merger Control Regimes"	17	36	4.9/5.0
	Total of attendees and average of evaluation ratings:				4.7/5.0

The Workshop on "Introduction to Competition Enforcement for New Staff" during 7-10 March 2023 gathered **153 participants** (on-line) from **21 jurisdictions** in Latin America and the Caribbean (Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and OECS Commission) including competition officials and judges.

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¹ The numbers of this report may differ from the number of participants who received an official certificate from the School of INDECOPI due to specific academic requirements such as a minimum attendance rate.



The Workshop presented an overview about the competition application, including competition law basics, common enforcement challenges, and practical tips. This workshop was aimed at new staff of competition authorities in Latin America and the Caribbean, particularly those with less than two years working in competition authorities.

The Workshop on "Competition in the Civil Aviation" (10-11 May 2023) gathered **180** participants (in-person and online) from **19** jurisdictions in Latin America and the Caribbean (Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Jamaica, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, in addition to the Andean Community and OECS Commission), mainly competition officials and civil servants from the sector regulators.



The workshop provided participants with an opportunity to discuss key competition issues in the aviation sector including the particularities of the sector, the merger review mechanisms, collaboration through airline alliances, advocacy initiatives, regulatory issues such as pro-competitive reforms and slots regulation, in addition to cooperation with regulators.

The Workshop on "Market Studies" (13-14 September 2023) gathered **37 participants** from **16 jurisdictions** in Latin America and the Caribbean (Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Trinidad and Tobago, Andean Community and OECS), mainly competition officials.



Throughout the workshop, competition experts from several jurisdictions shared their experiences on market studies, also in light of the OECD Market Studies Guide for Competition Authorities, concluding that market studies are a versatile tool for competition authorities to analyse whether there are competition problems in a sector, outside the context of a merger review or antitrust investigation. It targeted senior competition officials particularly those leading or involved with market studies (e.g. heads of economics department).

The Workshop "Key Challenges for Merger Control Regime" (15-17 November 2023) gathered **36** participants from **17** jurisdictions in Latin America and the Caribbean (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Curacao, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Andean Community and CARICOM), mainly competition officials.



The workshop explored the key challenges of new merger control regimes including aspects related to notification thresholds, filtering complex and non-complex cases, market definition tools, competition analysis, defence arguments, and remedies. Practical tips and exercises remained at the core of discussions. Participants also had the opportunity to share their experiences and contribute to building knowledge and trust relationship in the region. It targeted senior officials from competition authorities that have recently implemented (or plan to implement) new merger control regimes.

2.2. Newsletters

Published twice a year, the RCC Newsletters intend to update the beneficiary countries with developments on competition law and policy in Latin America and the Caribbean, including recent activities of the OECD in the region. It also shares regional experiences through expert contributions and puts faces into names. A section of an interview with the head of competition authority offers an opportunity for countries to present achievements and further exchange on policy and enforcement issues.

Released in June 2023 and December 2023, the RCC Newsletters shared updates on the workshops delivered during the prior months and provided exclusive interviews with Ms. Andrea Marvan (head of COFECE in Mexico) and Mr. Eduardo Peri Gonzalez (head of CONACOM Paraguay). The Newsletters also presented contributions from competition experts from Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama and Paraguay, in addition to the OECD. Last, these publications also highlighted the main activities of the RCC, in addition to updates related to the OECD activities and projects in the region including the Latin American and Caribbean Competition Forum (LACCF) and ongoing in-country projects with OECD.

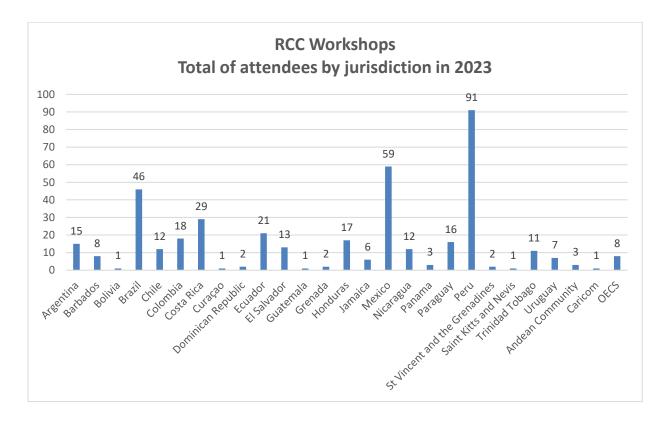
The RCC Newsletters are available here: https://www.oecd.org/daf/competition/rcc-lima-newsletter.htm.

3. Key indicators

This section provides a summary of key indicators of the RCC's activities during the year of this report. This includes the number of beneficiary countries and attendees, the profile of speakers in the workshops and authors in the newsletters, and the evaluation ratings given by participants in the RCC workshops.

3.1. Beneficiary countries and number of attendees

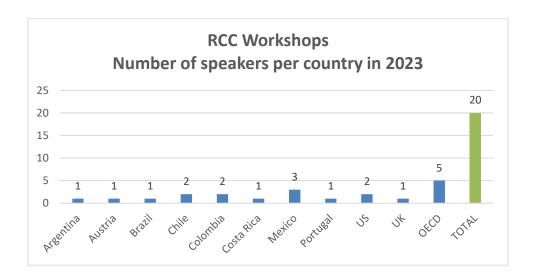
In 2023, the RCC workshops benefited **406 participants** from **24 countries** and **3 regional organizations** of Latin America and the Caribbean. The table below provides the summary of these indicators.



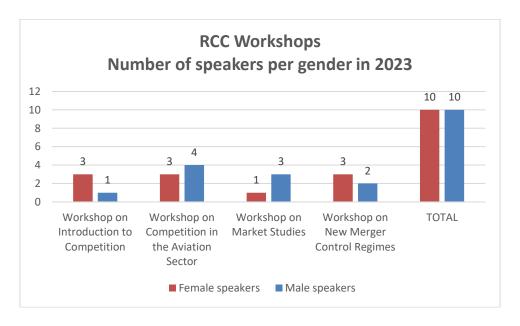
3.2. Number of speakers

The OECD promotes diversity in both geographic and gender dimensions, and the RCC makes an effort to implement this diversity in its activities including in the speaking slots of the RCC Workshops.

The table below indicates the number and the origin of main speakers per country in the RCC workshops:

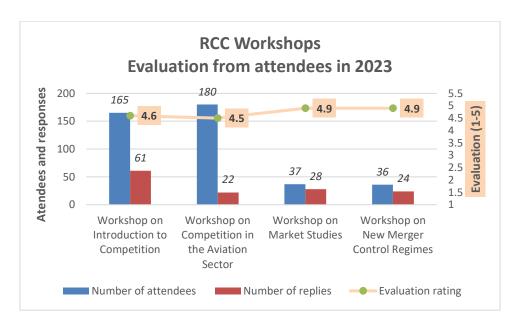


The table below indicates the number of main speakers by gender in the RCC workshops:



3.3. Evaluation of training activities

The evaluation of the RCC training activities is measured by an evaluation survey sent to attendees after the workshops. The evaluation ratings follow the OECD standard, namely a satisfaction score from 1 to 5 (being 1. very unsatisfied, 2. unsatisfied, 3. indifferent, 4. satisfied, and 5. very satisfied). The table below shows the results, which also considers the representation of the replies based on the number of attendees who effectively replied to the evaluation request.



4. RCC Staff

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Katherine de la Cruz
Executive 1 at National School for Competition
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Vivian Ianelli Intern at OECD (March-October 2023)