

Towards Guatemala +5: A Call to Action and Participation

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On the eve of Guatemala +5, a significant event organized by the ACT Alliance, we find ourselves with the opportunity to collectively address the challenges we face in Latin America and the Caribbean, especially those related to the protection of human rights and the promotion of social welfare. Guatemala +5 will be held in Bogotá, Colombia, from May 19-23, 2024.

The original Guatemala conference, hosted by ACT in March 2019, underscored the necessity for a refreshed analysis of how specific ideologies and policies may impact human rights and effective diaconal work. This gathering emphasized the significance of formulating collaborative strategies that advance inclusive and cooperative agendas.

Guatemala +5 provides an opportunity for ACT members in Latin America and the Caribbean to come together and develop a Theory of Change for collective agreements and actions.

Diaconal Work: A Fundamental Pillar

Diaconal work focuses on serving and responding to human needs, promoting social justice, and defending the dignity and rights of all people regardless of their gender identity, ethnicity, age, or social class. This commitment translates into concrete actions that not only seek to alleviate immediate suffering but also promote sustainable changes to improve living conditions and ensure respect for human rights. On the path to Guatemala +5, diaconal work stands as a fundamental pillar for addressing current challenges, promoting effective and coherent joint action that respects the diversity of perspectives.

The National Dialogues: A Space for Co-Creation

A key part of the Guatemala +5 process is national dialogues. All countries in Latin America and the Caribbean region are encouraged to bring together all those committed to promoting human rights and fighting exclusion, discrimination, and marginalization. The National Dialogues are a unique opportunity to influence the themes and approaches of the Guatemala +5 event.

The National Dialogues offer a forum for building shared understandings and developing strategies to face current challenges. These digital meetings are essential for laying the groundwork for Guatemala +5, allowing participants to contribute their perspectives and experiences. ACT members in LAC should contact their national forum coordinators for details on their National Dialogue.

The process of the National Dialogues is structured in phases ranging from defining objectives to synthesizing actions. The Co-Creation phase is particularly crucial, where collaboration is encouraged to generate innovative solutions and strategies.

A Commitment to Change

The preparation for Guatemala +5 through the National Dialogues represents a commitment to change. It is an opportunity to define concrete and pragmatic actions that address current challenges. We invite everyone at ACT Alliance in LAC to actively participate in this process, contributing their voice and experience to co-create a future where human rights and justice prevail over any ideology or policy that seeks to divide us.

On this path towards Guatemala +5, each one of us plays a crucial role. Please contact your Forum Coordinator or Regional Representative for more information on how to engage.