

sustainable sanitation alliance

The SuSanA Latin American Chapter

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What is SuSanA?

SuSanA is an open network (a global community), comprised of more than 10,000 individual members and 330 partner organizations including NGO's, private companies, multilateral organizations, government agencies and research institutes among others. SuSanA was created in 2007 with the aim of promoting and advocating sustainability in sanitation in the context of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Compared to the MDGs, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are more comprehensive and complex, but the sustainability criteria defined and promoted by SuSanA since 2007 and the orientation of SuSanA's work have been very much in line with the underlying philosophy of the new 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. This makes SuSanA's work ever more relevant to the sector.

What is the purpose of the Latin American Chapter?

The Latin American Regional Chapter is promoted, thanks to the funding of the Swedish Embassy in Bolivia, through a coordination headed by AGUATUYA.

The purpose of the Latin American Chapter is *to promote regional knowledge production and exchange on sanitation issues so that best practices are adopted and everyone has access to sustainable services*. More specifically:

1. To foster knowledge-based alliances and networks in the region
2. To promote best practices, focusing on slums, isolated communities, ethnic groups, etc. and

the sanitation chain as a whole (from user interface to treatment, safe disposal and/or re-use)

3. To develop consensus and standardization of sanitation-related processes at the regional level.



What can partner organizations and members expect from the Latin American Chapter?

The Latin American Chapter will be hosted on the SuSanA digital platform, www.susana.org in order to offer the following tools and services to its partners and members:

Publications and library of SuSanA:

A "regional version" of the SuSanA library will be provided that allows easy access to resources and





publications that focus on and come from Latin America. The regional chapter library is a customized version of the SuSanA library that only shows publications related to the countries of the region.

Discussion Forum:

The discussion forum is a widely used tool with contributions from sanitation experts from around the world. A general description of the discussion topics for a given region will be provided on the regional chapter website. For the Discussion Forum, it is recommended to use the existing structure of the Forum to initiate discussions with a regional focus.

Partner organization profiles:

SuSanA offers an on-line space for partner organizations to host organizational profiles. SuSanA partners can use these profiles to present their organization and initiatives in a widely recognized context and discover who else is working on the same issue or in the same region. The profiles of the partners working in Latin America will be displayed on the website of the regional chapter.

Project database:

SuSanA's project database shows a wide range of sanitation projects around the world. A regionally filtered version of the global project database will be provided on the website. Partners can make use of the project database to share their activities and use the regional chapter to disseminate the activities and results of their projects as well as knowledge sharing and knowledge management. Partners can upload their projects

Event Calendar:

A filtered regional version of the SuSanA's global sanitation calendar will be displayed on the Regional Chapter website to improve the exchange amongst regional networks.

Main actions planned for 2018 - 2020

The Latin American Chapter will be executed as a project between September 2018 and September 2020.

The following activities are being planned for the above mentioned timeframe:



- Call for regional *focal points* (to identify people or organizations in each Latin American country that would be willing and able to promote the network within the country)
- Call for regional sustainable sanitation case studies and projects to be compiled and published open access in the SuSanA library.
- Translation of key sanitation documents to Spanish and/or Portuguese
- Production of a position paper on fecal sludge management (FSM) in the LAC region
- Expand the database of publications in spanish and portuguese, through partnerships with regional organizations such as FUNASA (National Health Foundation, Brazil) and other universities.
- Organization of:
 - Two webinars in spanish per year.
 - Two thematic discussions (TDS) per year. TDS: time bound, expert led and moderated discussion that focusses on a burning or controversial issue in sanitation.
 - Two face-to-face meetings at regional conferences.
- Participation in regional events:
 - LATINOSAN will be celebrated in 2019 by Costa Rica.

