

The action will also lead in an integrated manner towards inclusive circular economy ecosystem, with no areas and no one left behind, which are directly in line with the Bolivian Government development objectives as well as the EU Green Deal. The protection of human rights will be a cross-cutting theme embedded in all of the action's waste management and circular economy activities.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0. This implies that the rights of people living with disability will be addressed only when relevant in the implementation of the program. The action will look into construction of inclusive (gender, disability) facilities in schools, clinics and other public spaces (e.g.: adding a ramp, handrails, a wider entrance, or making a path wide enough for a wheelchair to pass). These facilities will have an integrated handwashing facility. Moreover, providing access to water for more households will imply less time and constraints for a person with disability to fetch water.

Reduction of inequalities

According to data from the 2012 Census, Bolivia has a population of 3.2 million in rural areas. Bolivia has a 41% indigenous population, of which more than 40% lives in rural areas, which suffers the largest inequality gap. The rural areas of the country are characterized by their high rates of poverty and lag in development.

Since the Action will include indigenous communities, mainly in rural areas, it is important to have an intercultural approach. In Latin America there is a gap in the level of development between the indigenous and non-indigenous population that has been widely documented and Bolivia is no exception. Several studies document the barriers that indigenous peoples encounter in accessing basic services. These barriers are due to the dispersion of the population in rural areas, the deficiency of the road network, and the lack of cultural relevance in the delivery of social services. Specifically regarding the indicators of coverage and quality of drinking water and sanitation, these are lower for the indigenous population in Bolivia. According to data from the 2012 Household Survey, 85.95% of the non-indigenous population has adequate access to drinking water, while only 57.81% of the indigenous population has this access. Likewise, in relation to the challenges mentioned in this Action document, related to the sustainability of the services, mention is made of a lack of maintenance and the capacity in EPSA to adequately address problems in relation, for example, to the proper use of ecological toilets. In the case of indigenous communities, the involvement of the community and indigenous authorities as oversight and social audit actors throughout the intervention process is central to the sustainability of the services. Likewise, having adequate methodologies for training and education processes, not only in the native language but with adequate materials, will ensure an appropriate use of ecological latrines. To ensure the cultural relevance of the program in the indigenous communities i) the worldview of the communities on the concepts of water and sanitation will be investigated; ii) the involvement and participation of indigenous authorities in all processes will be ensured; iii) appropriate methodology and language will be used for training and education processes for the construction and maintenance of water and sanitation infrastructures; iv) technicians will be trained in intercultural issues; and v) community participation will be sought in the construction of water and sanitation infrastructure.

Meanwhile an intercultural approach is integral part of the water and sanitation part of the Action, gender equality is a key principle in activities related to urban planning and waste management of the Action. Especially in the waste sector women and vulnerable groups suffer from inequalities as the profession of waste collectors and recyclers is not formalised and is highly stigmatised, forcing these groups to perform their services often hidden during nights under dangerous and inhumane conditions. In order to reduce this inequalities and to improve the fair employability of women and vulnerable groups, the employment potentials for these groups will be considered within the development of business models and the formation of associations and networks for these interest groups will be supported in order to better integrate their needs, hence to ensure equal access and just transition.

Democracy

Participation development and good governance, which contribute to an enhanced democracy, are principal objectives of the action. The action will contribute to improving governance in Bolivians green growth, circular economy sectors, e.g. through cross-sector institutional capacities and coordination at policy and implementation levels, sustainable urban planning, enhanced results-oriented budgeting, monitoring and evaluation, as well as the increased involvement of national and local government, NGOs, CSOs and the private sector. Public services managed in a just and sustainable manner are an important way to contribute and strengthen democracy at all government levels.