



INFORMATION WEBINAR OF THE 14TH. CALL FOR BILATERAL COOPERATION SUMMARY AND RESULTS

February 17th, 2021

1. Introduction

The information Webinar on the 14th Call for Bilateral Cooperation of the Inter-American Network for Labor Administration (RIAL) was held on Wednesday, February 17, 2021. Its main objectives were to share detailed information on the call and guidance on the preparation of proposals; as well as to provide the Ministries of Labor with a space to identify potential allies and relevant topics for cooperation.

The Webinar was attended by 18 Ministries of Labor of the region, who joined from more than 80 connection points throughout the hemisphere. First, the Technical Secretariat made a presentation on the fundamentals of the Call for Proposals, background, requirements and important aspects to consider for the submission of proposals. There were two question and answer sessions during which surveys on RIAL and its products were shared. Subsequently, a match-making session was held where the Ministries had the opportunity to express their areas of interest for their bilateral cooperation proposals and find potential partners. As an immediate result, 10 pairs of ministries were put in contact with each other to explore possible cooperation.

The purpose of this document is to present the results of the informative Webinar of the 14th. Call for Bilateral Cooperation of the Inter-American Network for Labor Administration (RIAL): elaboration of proposals and frequently asked questions, the topics in which cooperation was requested and contacts made, and a summary of the surveys conducted. The list of participants is included as an annex.

All the information on the 14th. Call for Bilateral Cooperation of the RIAL, including the presentation made by the Technical Secretariat on the preparation of proposals is available [at this link](#).

2. Preparation of proposals and frequently asked questions

In the first part of the meeting, the Technical Secretariat presented the steps to follow in the preparation of proposals, based on the Guidelines of the Call for Proposals, as well as elements to present a successful proposal. At this point, she stressed that the first step to be able to prepare the proposal is to identify the specific needs of the Ministries and -hand in hand- the expected results. He explained that the justification must reflect why cooperation is necessary at this time and what it seeks to achieve in order to present the proposal. The objectives must be clear, precise and, in this case, achievable through virtual cooperation. A recommendation was made to participants interested in



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presenting proposals to fill out the form and then send it to potential partners (providing) for them to better understand the request and define if it is possible to address it. If an agreement is reached on the presentation of the proposal, the providing Ministry can share their input on the form and, thus, have a more solid proposal.

Finally, the requirements for submitting a proposal were detailed: Letter from the applicant institution, letter from the provider institution, and the application form.

During the Q&A sessions, the participants expressed their doubts and concerns about the topics of the cooperation, as well as procedural issues for submitting proposals.

Among the points explained by the Technical Secretariat in response to the concerns were:

1. That the deadline for submitting proposals is March 5.
2. There is no limit on the number of proposals that may be submitted per country.
3. On this occasion, only proposals for virtual activities may be submitted.
4. On this occasion, proposals may only be submitted for virtual activities.
5. Communication will be done virtually at all times.
6. The importance of the RIAL Focal Points as permanent points of contact in the negotiation process was emphasized.
7. Tools were shared for the requesting Ministries to identify potential allies. The role that the RIAL Program Portfolio can play in this regard was highlighted.
8. It was recommended that the requesting ministries first define the topic to be strengthened (based on the current needs of their ministries) and then share the first part of the application form with the provider institution so that it can contribute to the formulation of the proposal.
9. Generally, there is one provider country and one requesting country per cooperation.

3. Identification of allies and contact between Ministries of Labor

One of the main results of the Webinar was the identification of allies among Ministries of Labor. This was an exercise with high participation; in this space, the representatives shared the area in which they would be interested in presenting a cooperation proposal, and then tried to identify possible allies. Among the topics requested were information systems, child labor, skills certification, union training, among others.

Following the meeting, the RIAL Technical Secretariat put in contact the officials from each Ministry who expressed an interest in carrying out cooperation activities with the ministries that agreed to explore cooperation.

Details of the contacts made and topics requested are shown in Table 1.



Table 1 - Contacts achieved between countries to explore the possibility of bilateral cooperation		
Requesting country	Possible supplier(s)	Subject
Argentina	Canada	Dependent leaves of absence
Barbados	Argentina	Conflict resolution and complaints (virtual)
Ecuador	Mexico	Professional Qualifications System - mutation to virtuality
Ecuador	Argentina	Business Network Against Child Labor
El Salvador	Colombia, Canada	Labor Market Information Systems - Survey Design and Implementation - Phase II
El Salvador	Argentina	Business Network Against Child Labor
Panama	Argentina	Business Network Against Child Labor
Panama	Guatemala	Child domestic labor in the indigenous population
Panama	Canada	Job Bank
Peru	Colombia	Job training with indigenous, native, and rural communities in the context of COVID-19
Peru	Chile*	Union training schools

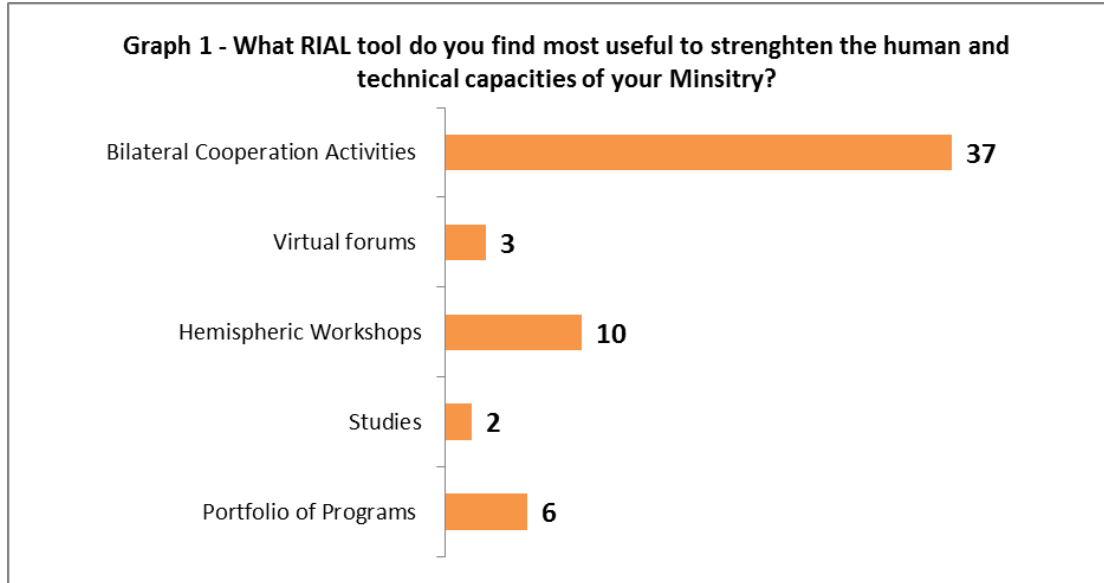
Similarly, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago requested cooperation in areas in which the supplier was yet to be defined. The areas in which they requested cooperation are summarized in the table below.

Requesting country	Subject
Peru	Administrative records on labor relations
Trinidad y Tobago	Recording the recruitment of workers in relation to the administration of the registration and licensing process.

4. Surveys results

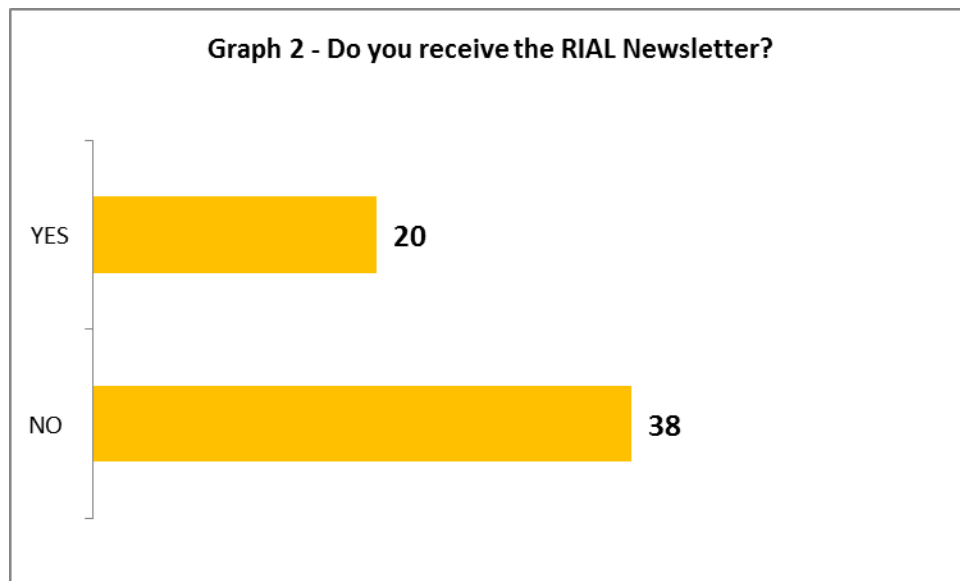
During the meeting, the RIAL-OAS shared two surveys on the RIAL and its tools, the results of which are summarized below.

The first survey was on the tools available to RIAL. The participants were asked which one they thought would contribute most to strengthening the technical and institutional capacities of the ministries, which is the Network's fundamental objective. The vast majority of the 58 participants who responded to the survey considered that the Bilateral Cooperations are the ones that contribute the most to achieving this objective. The responses are shown in Graph 1.



Source: Survey report - Zoom Platform.

The second question sought to identify how many of those present received the RIAL Newsletter. Of the more than 80 participants, 58 responded to the survey, of which 20 indicated that they do receive it, and 38 that they do not. These results are shown in Figure 2.

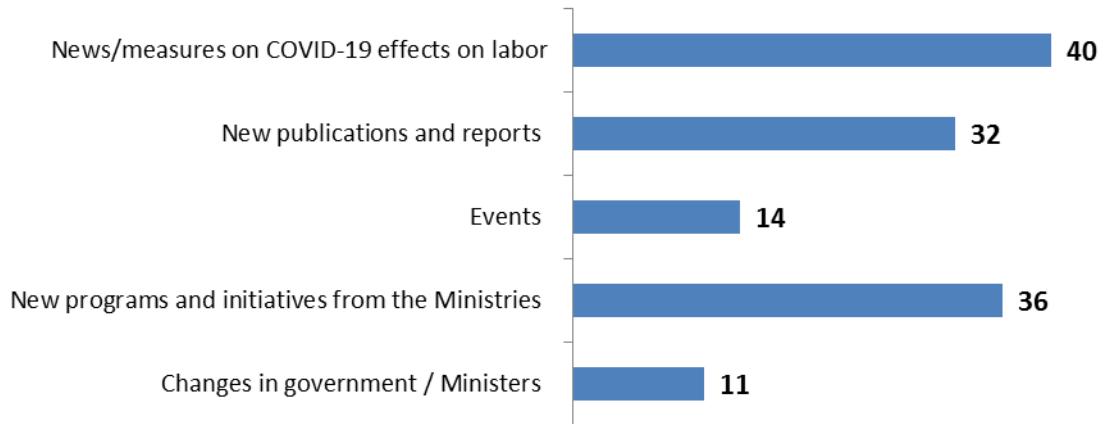


Source: Survey report - Zoom Platform.

Finally, also regarding the RIAL newsletter, participants were asked about the content they would prefer to see in the newsletter. The results (shown in full in Graph 3), make it evident that the content that is of most interest to participants is: news on the occupational effects of COVID-19 and measures to combat them, followed by new country programs and initiatives, and new publications and reports.



Graph 3 - What type of content would you be more interested to see in the RIAL Newsletter



Source: Survey report - Zoom Platform.



Annex - List of participants of the Webinar on the 14th. RIAL Call for Bilateral Cooperation

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