

Japan's Initiative to Enhance Connectivity between Japan-LAC

Current situation of the relationship between Japan and LAC countries

◆ Enhancement of the bilateral relations based on "Juntos!! (Together!!)*"

*PM Abe announced 3 guiding principles: "Progress together", "Lead together" and "Inspire together" in 2014

- Expansion of Japanese companies' overseas operations (**2,836 bases**, doubled in the last 5 years)
- Close political dialogues through visits of governmental high-levels (approx. **70 visits** in 2018)
- Reinforcement of the relation with Nikkei community, Open of **Japan House Sao Paulo**

New guidelines for Japan's diplomacy vis-à-vis LAC region
based on the fruits of "Juntos!!" in each bilateral relation

 **"Enhance Connectivity"** by 3 pillars as follows
(PM Abe in December 2019 at Buenos Aires)

1. *Progress together* → **Connectivity of Economies: free and open economic system**

- A market twice as large as ASEAN's
- Tradition of promotion of free trade, Participation of Mexico, Peru and Chile in TPP11
- ➔ **Enhance "connectivity of economies" through global value chains and quality infrastructure**

2. *Lead together* → **Connectivity of Values: rule-based multilateralism**

- Sharing fundamental values such as democracy, rule of law, human rights
- Enjoying a free and open maritime order
- ➔ **Enhance "connectivity of values" through common foundations and political dialogues**

3. *Inspire together* → **Connectivity of Wisdom: realization of SDGs**

- Vulnerability to climate change and natural hazard etc
- Challenges to realization of "Human Security" (environment, urban problems, disparity etc)
- ➔ **Enhance "connectivity of wisdom" for addressing challenges through innovation**