



# Americas Competitiveness Exchange

# ACE SEATTLE IMPACT REPORT



INTERNATIONAL  
**TRADE**  
ADMINISTRATION



**OAS** | More rights  
for more people







*Information provided in this document has been updated as of August 2023.*



# Table of Contents

## Introduction

ACE Seattle Impact

## The ACE Program

What is the #ACXchange

The ACE Seattle Agenda

## ACE Seattle Impact at a Glance

By the Numbers

Seattle's Panorama: Key Clusters and Economic Landscape

## Top Results and Partnership Opportunities Examples

The #ACXchange Delivered

Examples

## The ACE Seattle Delegation

VIP Guests

Organization of American States Member States Participants

OAS Permanent Observers - Participants

Multilateral Organizations, Companies and NGOs - Participants

ACE Seattle Hosts

ACE Committee Members

Staff

## ACE in Action Photo Collage

## Media

# Introduction







# Americas Competitiveness Exchange

May 14 - 19, 2023

ACE Seattle successfully delivered a productive full week-long program that brought together 80+ global and regional leaders from the Americas and beyond, including participants, special guests, local authorities and experts, and federal, regional, and multinational organizations. The week-long program took place in the Greater Seattle Region of Washington State, United States from May 14th to May 19th, 2023.

Over 710+ opportunities for collaboration have been registered in the final ACE Seattle survey with respect to possible trade and investment partnerships, new R&D projects, start-up soft-landing arrangements, sister city relationships, and business expansion, among others. The final survey demonstrated that the participants identified clear avenues of cooperation with Seattle's vibrant ecosystem and learned from best practices and models on economic development. Participants also enhanced their capacities and increased their awareness about the importance of pursuing inclusive economic growth.

During the exchange, delegates explored mutually beneficial partnerships to strengthen economic development in the Americas and beyond. ACE Seattle Participants also had the opportunity to pursue numerous collaborations with Seattle's globally renowned industries, including information and communication technologies, aerospace, life sciences, maritime, and global health.

ACE has consistently proven that it is a powerful driving mechanism for fostering cooperation and forming new partnerships. According to data drawn from the ACE Seattle final survey, 100% of the VIP global and regional leaders who responded to the survey expressed that ACE Seattle exceeded or greatly exceeded their expectations (49 participants out of 56 surveyed).<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup>. Data reflects information extracted from responses to the Final Survey as of August 11th, 2023. Out of the 56 total participants surveyed, 49 responded to the Final Survey.

Delegates left the ACE Seattle event having discovered new ways to leverage the benefits and opportunities that the ACE network offers. High-level decision-makers identified ways to establish and strengthen global commercial relations and FDI partnerships, possible alliances to develop tools to achieve environmentally sound inclusive economic development, and up-to-date models to provide appropriate support for innovative businesses to startup and expand globally. Participants also learned strategies to better connect universities-industry-government to solve complex challenges that no one sector or player could address on their own.

ACE is the premier economic development, innovation, and entrepreneurial network of the Americas and is one of the leading high-level events of the Organization of American States (OAS). ACE is coordinated by the Executive Secretariat of Integral Development (SEDI) in partnership with the Government of the United States through the Department of State - Permanent Mission to the OAS - and the Department of Commerce (the Economic Development Administration -EDA- in coordination with the International Trade Administration-ITA-).

ACE Seattle was organized by the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) and the Washington Department of Commerce.





# The ACE Program

# A little bit of history...

Created in 2014, the Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) program is jointly implemented and supported by the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the Government of the United States, through the Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) in coordination with the International Trade Administration (ITA), and the Department of State (Permanent Mission to the OAS).

The commitment of the OAS and the United States Government to ACE extends from the design and implementation phases to evaluation, monitoring, and reporting in collaboration with host countries and regions. The ACE initiative fosters an environment for establishing long-term partnerships, cooperation opportunities, and new projects, making it a network of networks and a community of impact.

With the implementation of 16th ACE Editions, the #ACXchange has evolved into a flagship hemispheric program, providing tangible long-term benefits to countries and communities involved.



Georgia, North and South Carolina, United States



Mexico DF, Aguascalientes and Guadalajara, Mexico



Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Illinois, United States



Province of Córdoba, Argentina



Arizona and California, United States



Province of Ontario, Canada



Texas, United States



Florida, United States



Germany and Israel



Northern California, United States



Puerto Rico, United States



Santiago de Chile and Valparaíso, Chile



Colorado, United States



Louisiana, United States



Quito, Ecuador



Seattle, United States

Coming up



ACE Panama  
December 3 to 7, 2023



# What is the #ACXchange

The Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) is the premier economic development, innovation, and entrepreneurial network in the Americas, earning recognition as one of the Organization of American States' (OAS) main high-level events. ACE operates as a core initiative of the Inter-American Competitiveness Network (RIAC), with the OAS acting as the RIAC Technical Secretariat.

RIAC is a regional platform that gathers high-level authorities and key stakeholders responsible for competitiveness, innovation, and economic development in the 34 OAS Member States and 71 Permanent Observers. By fostering policy dialogue, promoting the exchange of experiences, and facilitating collaborative initiatives among decision-makers in the public, private, and academic sectors, RIAC aims to encourage inclusive and sustainable economic development across the Americas.



**The Premier**

**Economic Development,  
Innovation and Entrepreneurial  
Network of the Americas**

## What are the ACE objectives?



✓ Promoting long-term multilateral commercial, trade and investment partnerships among decision-makers of the Americas and beyond;



✓ Identifying and sharing best practices in economic development, including public-private partnerships, building local assets that grow businesses, cluster development, promoting entrepreneurship and coordinating regional economic development strategies;



✓ Stimulating capital investment and job creation in the region;

✓ Fostering an environment for innovative companies to start and expand;

✓ Bringing together universities, industries and governments to solve complex challenges no one sector or business could address on its own;



✓ Facilitating commerce and trade;

✓ Promoting economic resiliency; and,

✓ Enhancing opportunities for underserved populations.

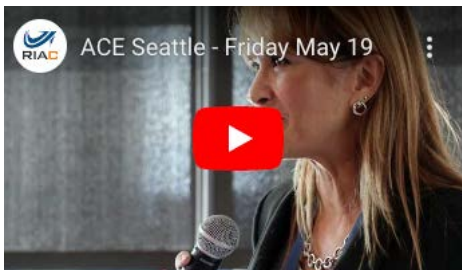
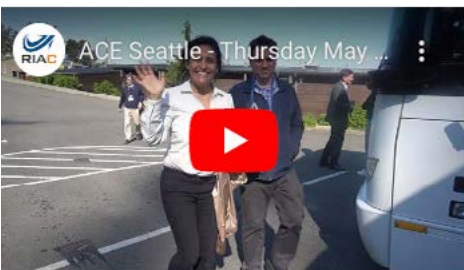
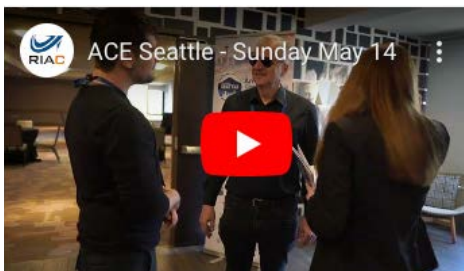
# The ACE Seattle Agenda

The ACE Seattle program took place in the Greater Seattle region in Washington State, United States. The high-level delegation was able to connect with over **27 sites** during the one-week program while sharing best practices and enhancing collaboration opportunities on economic development, innovation, and entrepreneurship.



The detailed agenda is available at the end of this document and by scanning the following QR Code

The daily videos are available by clicking over the images



Access the video playlist by scanning the QR Code



# Exploring Seattle with the ACE Delegation

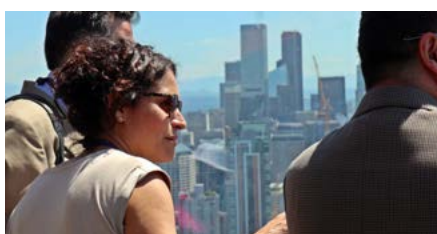
Full video playlist:

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCFmKggkdz0GU3w\\_3FSV3HS3tPRj8Y\\_Y4](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCFmKggkdz0GU3w_3FSV3HS3tPRj8Y_Y4)

**Sunday, May 14th** - [Link to Video](#)



ACE Seattle began in the beautiful City of Seattle, Washington, often called the “Emerald City.” The ACE participants were welcomed at the registration table, where they made first contact with other group members.



The participants visited the **Space Needle**, one of Seattle’s most renowned landmarks built for the 1964 World’s Fair. There, they had the opportunity to engage with conference organizers and network amongst themselves, all while taking in the sweeping city, Puget Sound, and mountain views from the observation deck.



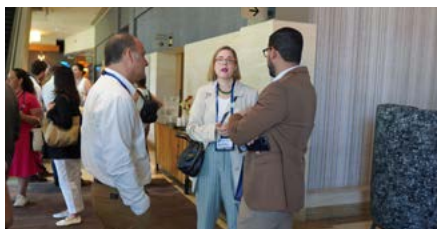
Afterward, the ACE delegation traveled downtown via Monorail and walked to **Pike Place Market**.



Pike Place Market is one of the oldest and largest operating public markets in the United States, and home to hundreds of artisans, crafters, farmers, florists, and small business owners. ACE participants had the opportunity to tour the iconic market and to learn about how the city is committed to preserving it in ways that are not only sustainable, but that protect the legacy and the enduring functionality of the space.



Moving on to Seattle’s Chinatown-International District, ACE delegates visited the **Wing Luke Museum**, an art and history museum focused on the culture, art, and history of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders.



An ACE Welcome Reception was held at the museum, where opening remarks and welcoming messages were provided.

## Monday, May 15th - [Link to Video](#)



The ACE Delegation gathered for a welcome breakfast at the **Columbia Tower Club**, situated atop the city's tallest skyscraper. Surrounded by stunning views, ACE Delegates forged invaluable connections, exchanged insights, and explored future projects with prominent leaders, representatives from the United States Department of State, the Economic Development Administration (EDA), and the Organization of American States (OAS).



The journey continued at the **University of Washington's Seattle campus**, where delegates delved into R&D opportunities and research collaborations through groundbreaking initiatives. First, they engaged with CoMotion, a vibrant innovation hub that cultivates creativity, provides advice on IP protection, sources of funding, mentorship, and fosters start-up innovation. Next, the Clean Energy Institute showcased collaborative possibilities with the Washington Clean Energy Testbeds, an innovative project accelerating the adoption of new technologies in solar harvesting, energy storage, and system integration.



Delegates then visited **Microsoft's** expansive campus, where they explored the tech company's crucial role in driving digital transformation. Lively discussions touched on workforce development, responsible AI, emerging technologies, and cloud computing, offering valuable insights into the ever-evolving global tech landscape.



Transitioning to the **Spring District**, a revitalized industrial area blossoming into a mixed-use residential neighborhood, delegates experienced the **Global Innovation Exchange (GIX)**. Here, they witnessed the transformative power of university-industry collaboration and technology innovation through cutting-edge graduate and professional development programs.



The day ended with a visit to the beautiful **Chateau Ste. Michelle**, where Washington State Governor Jay Inslee warmly welcomed the delegation. A presentation of Washington's thriving wine industry presented a vast number of partnership opportunities. The delegation learned more about the wine sector's ties to economic development, academia, small businesses, and its embrace of innovation and technology.



Tuesday, May 16th - [Link to Video](#)



ACE Delegates began their third day in Seattle with a trip to the northern part of the region to Snohomish County. They visited the family-operated **Swan Trail Farms** at the center of agricultural innovation that includes a working dairy farm, tourism, and events and is home to the **5G Agricultural Field Lab**. The public-private partnerships active at the site are focused on developing new capabilities to improve the resiliency of the agricultural sector.



After the visit, the ACE Delegation moved to the **Port of Everett**, where they learned about how the port creates economic opportunities and jobs, while also providing maritime and marine-related services and appropriate public access to the waterfront.



Following the Port visit, ACE Delegates traveled to Paine Field where they toured the aerospace giant **Boeing Everett Factory**, home to the largest manufacturing building in the world, where 767 and 777 airplanes are built. Delegates also visited neighboring **Aviation Technical Services**, a company providing support for maintenance and repair to military, commercial, and regional aircraft operators.



ACE Delegates rounded out the day at the **Boeing Future of Flight Building**, where they learned about the unique public-private partnership that brought commercial passenger service to **Paine Field** terminal. There they were welcomed by Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers and Mayor of Arlington Babara Tolbert.

Wednesday, May 17th - [Link to Video](#)



On the fourth day of their enriching journey through the Greater Seattle Region, ACE Delegates ventured south to Pierce County where they delved deeper into local innovation and strengthened global connections. They began their day with a visit to **Joint Base Lewis-McChord** where Delegates were introduced to cutting-edge technologies and strategies that are essential for providing operational support during disasters and driving economic recovery across countries



Next, the group visited the **Port of Tacoma**, which covers 2,400 acres and is North America's sixth-largest container gateway. Delegates embarked on a boat tour operated by the **Tacoma Youth Marine Center**, gaining insights into the port's pivotal role in fostering prosperity, and trade, supporting living wage jobs, and preserving the environment.



As the day progressed, delegates were dropped off at the **Center for Urban Waters**, a state-of-the-art facility that fosters collaboration between organizations with complementary missions. The center's primary objective is to develop innovative solutions for environmental restoration, protection, and sustainable urban development.



Afterward, the group took a short ride across the water to the **University of Washington-Tacoma Campus**. With more than 5,000 students enrolled, the university plays a significant role in regional economic development and the overall ecosystem.



Concluding the day, delegates crossed the iconic Bridge of Glass and arrived at the **Museum of Glass**, a world-renowned art museum dedicated to the craft and creativity of glassmaking. An evening reception offered a platform to forge new connections and solidify existing relationships built during the ACE program.



Thursday, May 18th - [Link to Video](#)



ACE Delegates began their day by learning about aviation and sustainability best practices from industry leaders like **Alaska Airlines, Washington State University, and the Port of Seattle**. The picturesque Seattle waterfront at the historic Edgewater Hotel provided a perfect backdrop for engaging discussions.



Next, the group journeyed across the breathtaking Puget Sound to Kitsap County aboard a public ferry. They were hosted for lunch at the **Kitsap Conference Center at Bremerton Harborside**, a state-of-the-art facility boasting stunning waterfront views. A dynamic discussion facilitated by the Washington State Department of Commerce explored thriving industry clusters, including WAV-C, an autonomous vehicle cluster, and Maritime Blue, which is dedicated to sustainable maritime business development.



In the afternoon, ACE Delegates visited **SAFE Boats**, a reputable builder of reliable and durable safety and rescue vessels crucial for military, law enforcement, and fire professionals. The group also explored collaboration opportunities at the **Port of Bremerton**, which covers over 2,100 acres and has over 50 years of history, delving into industrial, maritime, and aviation business and investment prospects.



The next destination was the **Suquamish Port Madison Indian Reservation**, where Tribal Chairman Leonard Forsman and members of the Suquamish Tribe warmly welcomed ACE Delegates to the House of Awakened Culture, a community landmark and cultural center. The group gained valuable insights into tribal economic development efforts aimed at growing community resources while promoting the economic and social welfare of the Suquamish Tribe.



Upon returning to their hotel, Delegates joined ACE Meetups with like-minded participants to continue exploring cooperation opportunities on trade and investment, research and development, entrepreneurship and innovation, academic exchanges, and much more.

Friday, May 19th - [Link to Video](#)



The sixth and final day of the ACE Exchange in Seattle commenced at the **Starbucks Center Complex**, the global headquarters of the renowned coffee company, which sources coffee from over 500,000 farmers worldwide.



Next, the group met at the **Museum of Flight**, the world's largest independent, non-profit air and space museum celebrating Seattle's rich aviation history. Finally Mayor Dana Ralph of Kent, home to over half of Washington State's aerospace jobs, warmly welcomed the Delegates.



The ACE Delegates then visited the **Chihuly Glass Museum**, where they delved into the inspirations and influences of renowned glass artist Dale Chihuly. Over lunch, the **Washington State Department of Commerce** hosted presentations and a panel discussion on the importance of tourism, arts, and culture, emphasizing their significance and contribution to the economic development of the Greater Seattle Region.



The group proceeded to the **Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Institute**, where they toured the facility.



Delegates then connected with **Amazon Web Services** and **Amazon.com** to learn about the potentialities of Amazon Cloud and Amazon retail and Amazon Web Services in the Americas.



As part of the closing ceremony, participants watched a video from Ambassador Frank Mora who expressed gratitude to Seattle's local organizers on behalf of the United States Department of State - Permanent Mission to the OAS.



A short walk away, participants walked to the ACE Closing Ceremony gathered at **Amazon Spheres**, a collaborative indoor garden housing over 40,000 plants from cloud forest regions across 30 countries.





Americas  
Competitiveness  
Exchange

# ACE Seattle Impact at a Glance

# By the Numbers

**710+** Possible connections/opportunities for cooperation have been registered so far through the final survey

Over **80** Leaders were part of the ACE Seattle Delegation including participants, special guests, local organizers, and ACE Committee Members

**21** Countries were in attendance, 18 from the Americas and 3 from other regions, plus 4 International Organizations

**59** Participants attended ACE Seattle (27 women, 32 men)

Over **100** Speakers shared their knowledge and offered opportunities of cooperation

**27** Sites and 40+ Projects were featured in ACE Seattle

**100%** of survey respondents (equivalent to 49 participants) would recommend the ACE program<sup>2</sup>

**100%** of survey respondents (equivalent to 49 participants) said that ACE exceeded or greatly exceeded their expectations as of 8/11/2023

<sup>2</sup>. Data reflects information extracted from responses to the Final Survey received as of August 11th, 2023. Out of the 56 total participants surveyed, 49 responded to the Final Survey, which accounts for 88% of participants. Therefore, when referring to a percentage of respondents, it represents the answers provided by the 49 participants who answered the survey.



# Seattle's Panorama: key clusters and economic landscape



# Seattle's Panorama:

## Economic development landscape

Seattle, sometimes known as the Emerald City, is home to innovators, decision-makers, and business leaders from across the globe. Situated at the heart of the central Puget Sound region and positioned between the Olympic and Cascade Mountains, Puget Sound is the largest marine estuary by volume in the United States. It connects the region to the Pacific Ocean and joins the state of Washington and the province of British Columbia, Canada as part of the greater Salish Sea. The Snohomish, Puyallup, Green, Duwamish, Cedar and many other rivers and streams flow through the central Puget Sound region and define distinct river basins that encompass cities, farms, forests and mountains. It is this unique and remarkable natural environment that has drawn people to Puget Sound and sustained them for thousands of years. Puget Sound is part of a larger area that has been the traditional aboriginal territory of the Coast Salish peoples, who live around the Salish. The Coast Salish Tribes have lived here since time immemorial and, while each Tribe is unique, all share in having a deep historical connection and legacy of respect for the land and natural resources. These sovereign Tribal nations enrich the region through environmental stewardship, cultural heritage and economic development, and collaborate with local governments to shape the region's future.

The success of the region has been built upon sharing knowledge with the world. ACE 16 participants discovered opportunities for partnership during their visit to Seattle. The host program connected the delegation to some of the most innovative companies and institutions in the world.

Despite several setbacks in the region, Seattle's remarkable and innovative economic ecosystem continues to innovate and create novel solutions for its own people, the region, and the world at large.





# Seattle's key clusters



The Aerospace industry in the central Puget Sound region is one of the most competitive in the world. The Boeing Company was founded in Seattle. Since then, the region's Aerospace industry has grown into a large and diverse supply chain that is driving innovation across clusters, including space, advanced composite materials and aerospace biofuels. The region is increasingly recognized as a hub of private sector space companies and employment. This growth is exemplified by expanding companies including Blue Origin, Vulcan Aerospace and SpaceX.



Information and Communication Technology. The region is home to a highly diverse Information and Communication Technology industry. This includes businesses in traditional software publishing, computer services, interactive media and others. Regional software companies like Microsoft, the world's largest software company, and Amazon, the world's largest retailer, form this industry cluster's backbone. Regional businesses and institutions are advancing the future of work through innovations in artificial intelligence and cloud computing.



Maritime. The region has leveraged its proximity to Asia, Alaska and Canada into a thriving Maritime industry, across boat building and repair, fishing and fishing products, and water passenger and cargo transportation. Communities, ports and other partners are planning for the future of the region's maritime industry. In 2019, Washington Maritime Blue published a strategy for the Blue Economy in Washington state, finding that the global ocean economy is expected to double by 2030 to \$3 trillion.



Life Sciences and Global Health. The region plays host to a thriving Life Sciences and Global Health industry that is advancing health in communities across the globe. Regional businesses and organizations are pushing advancements in biotechnology, diagnostics, bioagriculture, veterinary medicine, biofuels, medical devices, research and digital health/health IT. Several major universities and research organizations anchor this industry sector and have created an ecosystem for cross-sector collaboration and start-ups. These include Washington State University, the University of Washington, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, the Allen Institute for Brain Science and the Infectious Disease Research Institute.



**Clean Technology.** The region is home to thriving businesses on the leading edge of clean technology developments. Washington state has set a goal of having a 100% non-carbon emitting energy portfolio by 2045. As of 2018, 69% of Washington's energy came from hydroelectric sources, with natural gas, wind, biomass and nuclear rounding out the state's clean energy portfolio. Clean Technology is making inroads across several significant industry sectors in the region. Transportation and Logistics industries are reducing carbon emissions by transitioning to all-electric or hybrid fleets. The Aerospace industry is on the leading edge of researching sustainable aviation technologies such as electric aircrafts and hydrogen fuels. Information and Communication Technology businesses are developing energy efficient data processing models. The manufacturing sector produces solar panels, batteries and other clean materials. Innovative wood product companies are developing woody biomass as a sustainable energy source and new building technologies such as cross-laminated timber.



**Military and Defense.** Military installations in the region provide significant economic benefits to the region. The central Puget Sound region hosts several major military facilities, including Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Naval Base Kitsap and Naval Station Everett. In addition, the industry supports myriad private defense contractors and subcontractors, bolstering the regional Maritime and Aerospace industries.



A background image of a business meeting with a blue overlay. In the foreground, two men in suits are shaking hands. In the background, a group of people are gathered around a table, with one person holding a small object. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

# **Top Results and Partnership Opportunities**

# The #ACXchange Delivered

ACE Seattle connected the delegation to some of the most innovative companies and institutions in the world.

Global and regional leaders who attended the program:

- ✔ Expanded their knowledge of Seattle's economic development ecosystem
- ✔ Identified trade and investment opportunities
- ✔ Explored academic and research opportunities
- ✔ Enhanced their skills in business development





# Some projects, agreements, and partnerships are moving forward



## MOU signed between Orbital Engenharia (Brazilian company) and Aerialoop (Ecuadorian company)

- Tech-transfer cooperation
- Aerialoop drones will be produced at a larger scale in Orbital



## IEDC Expansion

As a result of ACE Seattle and ACE Ecuador, IEDC and Brazil (Minas Gerais Government) are working to put together a contingent from Brazil to attend the upcoming IEDC Annual Conference



## Expansion of the ACE LAC Investment Network initiative

- Over 15 investment agencies participate
- Agencies exchange investment opportunities and provide training on investment and economic development

¿Qué hacemos y cómo lo hacemos?



## Strengthening of the re-forest LATAM entrepreneurial initiative

- A biotechnology company that aims to restore ecosystems and mitigate climate change with the use of drones
- In March 2023 the company was registered in Argentina and already has an office space and a team



## Expansion of the Innovation Agency called "Aracnia"

- Created in December 2022 as a result from ACE in Hidalgo, Mexico
- The agency aims to accelerate public-private actions by offering knowledge, technology and innovation models

- ✔ **Potential project between NADO, Puget Sound Regional Council, Starbucks Foundation, and PADF on the resilient economy**
- ✔ **A proposal will be developed to enhance Guatemala's Moving Forward project**
- ✔ **The Government of Armenia invited Starbucks and AWS to increase their presence in the country**
- ✔ **Alan Senra from Brazil will follow up with an investment fund and a blockchain company to enhance his startup which manages recycling credits in Brazil**
- ✔ **Partnership will be pursued between the Washington State University and the Universidad del Desarrollo of Chile (UDD)**
- ✔ **The Government of Saint Lucia will look to establish innovation hubs around the island and seek Microsoft support to improve IT in the country's schools**
- ✔ **Partnership will be pursued by Dr. Cynthia Warrick with the UW Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center**
- ✔ **Armenia invited Starbucks and AWS to increase their presence in the country**

## Participants expressed other potential cooperation opportunities in the final survey



*"With Barbados explore the possibility of MOU, also explore with Stillman College and follow up with Starbucks for tree recovery Programme."*

**Laura del Castillo**

Technical Director  
National Competitiveness Council  
Dominican Republic



*"I would like to establish cooperation agreements or MOU's with Starbucks and Amazon. With Starbucks. I would also like to sign a cooperation agreement so we can bring their Farmer's Support system to more coffee farms of Guatemala and with that improve our production and possible sourcing opportunities. With Amazon, I would like to explore the possibility of signing an MOU to help MSMS's of our country with their online program that helps MSM's prepare to enter the U.S. market."*

**Diego Meneses**

Commercial Counselor of Guatemala in Los Angeles  
Government of Guatemala  
Guatemala



*"We are already coordinating with Alan from Brazil. He is visiting us in Cordoba in October 2023 and he will be helping us on developing better innovation program."*

**Victor Di Rienzo**

Deputy Secretary of Foreign Affairs  
Government of Tucuman  
Argentina



*"NADO would love to pursue a more formal partnership with ACE, similar to IEDC. We have a number of promising practices in rural economic development across the US that can be shared with other countries with challenges in the rural community and vice versa."*

**Joe McKinney**

Executive Director  
National Association of Development Organizations  
United States



*"Partnership to improve Drones Performance and Certification in Brazil Possible cooperation in Nanosatellite technologies applied to the agricultural sector."*

**Celio Costa Vaz**

CEO  
Orbital Engenharia S.A.  
Brazil



*"MOUs, student exchange programs with universities can be done directly or with the organizers, as interveners or facilitators."*

**Leroy George Almendarez**

Executive Director  
Belize Trade and Investment Development (Beltrade)  
Belize



*"I will connect Leandra with HELP - Haitian Education and Leadership Program. They promote higher education in Haiti and Leandra supports black higher education. So a collaboration is possible."*

**Lescarmel Durand**

Program Lead Manager  
Centre d'Entrepreneurship et Leadership  
Haiti



*"Expanding MOU with Norway; hosting NADO in Michigan; sharing best practices in Market Development with Barbados."*

**Bob Metzger**

Strategic Engagement Director  
Michigan Economic Development Corporation  
United States



*"It is our interest to advance in the signing of cooperation agreements with other government entities, as well as with companies that can contribute to the productive economic transformation of the Department and the institutional management of the Montevideo government."*

**Federico Penino**

Director of Budget Planning  
Government of Montevideo  
Uruguay





*“We do hope that we can engage in substantive communication with Starbucks. We will establish a connection between Safe Boats and the Ministry of Interior Affairs, we hope to foster the collaboration between the High Tech Ministry in Armenia and Amazon, we hope that Yerevan State University and Polytechnic Institute of Armenia will sign MOUs with the University of Washington and will start collaborating.”*

**Ambassador Lilit Makunts**

*Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Embassy of Armenia to the United States  
Armenia*



*“We aim to establish agreements for knowledge exchange and collaboration with the University of Washington and the University of Chicago. Specifically, we are interested in fostering exchange programs for professors and students, as well as reciprocal support for entrepreneurs. These agreements would facilitate the sharing of expertise, resources, and opportunities, promoting a fruitful collaboration between our institutions and enhancing the development of innovation and entrepreneurship initiatives.”*

**Enrique Topolansky**

*Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Embassy of Armenia to the United States  
Uruguay*



*“Armenia will be interested in establishing cooperation between the University of Washington, Global Innovation Exchange and Armenian educational institutions, such as Yerevan State University, Engineering University, etc. Small boats produced by ‘Safe Boats’ might be of potential interest for the country.”*

**Artur Grigoryan**

*Deputy Chief of Mission  
Embassy of Armenia to the United States  
Armenia*



*“Projects for SMEs and Entrepreneurs in alliance with organizations such as Pan American Development Foundation.”*

**Juan Ostolaza**

*CEO  
Center of Competitiveness in Mexico  
Mexico*



*“We are very interested in establishing MOUs with the different instances that we have visited from the University of Washington in terms of innovation, acceleration and incubation of companies. Also with some organizations the possibility of jointly formulating cooperation projects.”*

**David Abreu Turbides**

*Director of Industrial Development  
Ministry of Industry, Trade, and SMEs  
Dominican Republic*



*“We would like to pursue partnership with the University of Washington with our Sir Arthur Lewis Community College.”*

**Emma Hippolyte**

*Minister  
Ministry of Commerce, Manufacturing, Business Development, Cooperatives and Consumer Affairs,  
Government of Saint Lucia  
Saint Lucia*



*“We are strengthening the relationship between the Mexican Business Council and Microsoft and Amazon. We are also interested in talking to Washington State University to explore the possibility of having a group of Mexican students of a leadership program visiting Seattle next year.”*

**Regina Gándara Mendoza**

*Executive Director  
Mexican Business Council  
Mexico*



*“We are looking at a cooperation agreements with Sarah Tennant, United States with respect a MOUs for student exchange and student recruitment opportunities. Starbucks is missing from the list above.”*

**Dr. Cynthia Warrick**

*President  
Stillman College  
United States*



*“A specific example of this would be we are already in talks with Amazon and Microsoft for a cloud project in Mexico where the connections I made in Seattle have been important in order to take the best decision business wise.”*

**Alejandro Juraidini**

*Institutional Relations Director  
Bitso  
Mexico*



**“MOUs with 2 institutions and partnership with 2 more (Membership).”**

**Pelayo Covarrubias**

President, País Digital Foundation  
Director, University del Desarrollo  
Chile



**“MOUs with COMOTION, Global Exchange.”**

**Sandra Husbands**

Minister  
Ministry of Energy and Business  
Government of Barbados  
Barbados



**“I would like to establish collaboration with the universities, as well as Amazon and Microsoft for their participation in our programs and events, such as the North Capital Forum.”**

**Sofia Potes**

Research and Public Policy Manager,  
U.S.-Mexico Foundation,  
Mexico



**“We are working on increasing collaborations with Mexico and have started conversations with the Mexico-American foundation. We also are scheduled to speak with representatives from the US State Department. IEDC has also been in meeting with various people from the program including the Mexico American Foundation, the State Department and the Ambassador of Armenia.”**

**Joe Kapp**

Special Advisor to the President,  
International Economic Development Council



**“MOUs and foreign direct investment.”**

**Natalia Samayoa**

Trade Commissioner  
Consulate General of Guatemala in Miami  
Guatemala



**“MOUs between main stakeholders from Guatemala Moving Forward Plan and Seattle’s economic and academic key stakeholders.”**

**Francisca Cárdenas**

Vice Minister of Investment and Economic Competences  
Government of Guatemala  
Guatemala



**“Benedict College is interested in pursuing partnerships and MOUs that focus on entrepreneurship, small business development, workforce development, faculty research programs, study abroad opportunities, student recruitment and career placement.”**

**Leandra Hayes-Burgess**

Vice President for Institutional Advancement  
Benedict College  
United States



## Participants are inspired and would like to deepen the collaboration with Seattle and their fellow participants



*“We are now part of the LAC investment Initiative, also has made contact to reach the Water Program at Stillman College, made connections to follow up on Starbucks Coffee Program in the LAC regions, and to engage the Innovation Cabinet in DR with the innovation cluster.”*

**Laura del Castillo**

Technical Director  
National Competitiveness Council  
Dominican Republic



*“This experience will open opportunities for the State of Mexico economic ecosystem to explore new alliances and promote the economic development. For example, Starbucks is going to visit the coffee producción siles in our State, will seek MOUs with Comotion and GIX, explore an english course for mexican engineers and highschool alumni with the Stillman College, and continue programs with the CCMX and CMN. Also take advantage of the great ACE network.”*

**Enrique González Hernández**

Director General of Industry, Foreign Investment and Commerce  
Government of the State of Mexico  
Mexico



*“Potential project with Panama on sustainable agriculture practices. Potential project with IEDC, Puget Sound Regional Council, Starbucks Foundation, and the Pan American Development Foundation on resilient economy - transition to coffee from coca.”*

**Joe McKinney**

Executive Director  
National Association of Development Organizations  
United States



*“Many key people I've met, who are able to help us bring startups to our ecosystem in Bogota directly themselves or can connect us with the right person.”*

**Tatiana Leon Gomez**

Entrepreneurship and Open Innovation Director  
Connect Bogotá  
Colombia



*“With the knowledge acquired, I will be working on a proposal to better improve the Guatemala Moving Forward strategy that aims to create a better business ecosystem in the country through the attraction of foreign investment and generation of formal jobs. Specifically, I will be looking to improve the economic and innovation cluster ideas through what was learned through the ACE Program.”*

**Diego Meneses**

Commercial Counselor of Guatemala in Los Angeles  
Government of Guatemala  
Guatemala



*“The government of Montevideo aims to provide its economic development area with greater power and impact in generating investment opportunities, favorable environments for the development of innovative industries, and the promotion of a green economy focused on quality of life and development opportunities for all individuals residing in and visiting our Department. ACE is an excellent platform for the development of these initiatives.”*

**Federico Penino**

Director of Budget Planning  
Government of Montevideo  
Uruguay



*“I hope that the engagement of Amazon AWS will expand in Armenia and I will do my best to promote that, I expect that the potential cooperation of the University of Washington and Universities in Armenia will help work out projects, policies, strategies in the AI as High tech fields, I truly hope that we can convince Starbucks to have a representation in Armenia.”*

**Ambassador Lilit Makunts**

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Embassy of Armenia to the United States  
Armenia





*"I connected Pedro Meneses from Ecuador, whom I met at ACE, with entrepreneur Diego Silva from Uruguay, who is incubated in our entrepreneurship center at the ORT University, to work together since their drone projects are complementary. I also met Professor Jay Walsh from the University of Illinois, with whom we are analyzing potential agreements between our universities. The same goes for Victor from the Innovation Agency of Cordoba, Argentina, and David Cabrera from Cenpromype."*

**Enrique Topolansky**

*Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Embassy of Armenia to the United States  
Uruguay*



*"Important links to collaborate in the strengthening of innovation centers in universities for companies"*

**David Abreu Turbides**

*Director of Industrial Development  
Ministry of Industry, Trade, and SMEs  
Dominican Republic*



*"There are great opportunities for exchanging good practices, technical assistance and being able to jointly formulate projects for the competitive and productive improvement of MSMEs in the SICA region."*

**David Cabrera Reloba**

*Center for SMEs Regional Promotion (Cenpromype),  
Central American Integration System (SICA)*



*"I would like to further explore possibilities with some of the delegates I met during the trip to see what opportunities for collaboration really exist, especially with carbon offsets. For the Seattle region, there could be possibilities with other major organizations, but workforce development of coffee growers linked with Starbucks could have a real potential."*

**Bernie Fructuoso**

*Senior Director of Finance and Risk  
Pan American Development Foundation  
Multilateral Organization*



*"I would like to establish technology and innovation hubs around the Island Commotion's IP advising and protection as well as startup handbook Microsoft- support to improve IT in our schools Collaborate with Norway on blue economy, with the Pike Place Market Foundation- review and compare structure to that of Soufriere Regional Development Foundation."*

**Emma Hippolyte**

*Minister  
Ministry of Commerce, Manufacturing, Business Development, Cooperatives and Consumer Affairs,  
Government of Saint Lucia  
Saint Lucia*



*"As far as my structuring decarbonization project is concerned, I have made important contacts and identified important characteristics about the actors that I must engage. One point that caught my attention was the important investments that the state makes with the private sector. Regarding the work that I develop with the LAC\_IN network, I had the opportunity to invite new members and also identify important stakeholders that can conduct lectures and workshops with the network's working group. Moreover, on a personal level, I identified an investment fund and a blockchain company that can contribute to the challenge of my startup for managing recycling credits in Brazil."*

**Alan Senra Cheib**

*Strategic Advisor for Green Investments  
Government of the State of Minas Gerais  
Brazil*



*"We are currently developing and implementing policies for the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME). Recommendations will be made to expand the IT support to transform the way MSMEs conduct business to make them more efficient and competitive, hence the keen interest in the presentations made by Microsoft. Of equal importance is the presentation made by Amazon. The MSMEs need an opportunity to expand their reach beyond our borders and one on one contractual arrangements. Amazon's Global Selling Programs will be explored to expose them to buyers in multiple countries"*

**Sophia Alfay-Henry**

*Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Commerce, Manufacturing, Business Development, Cooperatives and Consumer Affairs,  
Government of Saint Lucia  
Saint Lucia*



*“New concepts for the innovation ecosystem, lessons from others in the event about how their countries are approaching climate change and strategy, novel understanding of business needs.”*

**Michele Evans**

Assistant Deputy Minister  
Prairies Economic Development Canada (PrairiesCan)  
Government of Canada  
Canada



*“Favorable assessment of the program for a future hosting possibility.”*

**Diane Gray**

President  
Prairies Economic Development Canada (PrairiesCan),  
Government of Canada  
Canada



*“It was amazing to learn how public policies at national and local level can help innovation, entrepreneurship and academia, work together to improve several aspects of life.”*

**Regina Gándara Mendoza**

Executive Director  
Mexican Business Council  
Mexico



*“We are looking to partner with UW Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, and the Arts organizations that presented at the Glass Museum.”*

**Dr. Cynthia Warrick**

President  
Stillman College  
United States



*“I have a partnership with a local technology local company.”*

**Ernesto Kruger**

CEO (Serial entrepreneur)  
Kruger Corp  
Ecuador



*“Working with amazon in incentivizing SMEs and some projects with AWS. Network with the rest of colleagues and with some of the economic development agencies from the program.”*

**Natalia Samayoa**

Trade Commissioner  
Consulate General of Guatemala in Miami  
Guatemala



*“I am trying to make an alliance with Washington St University.”*

**Pelayo Covarrubias**

President, País Digital Foundation  
Director, University del Desarrollo  
Chile



*“I run various regional development programs in the GER Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action and I am responsible for the overall strategy in that field as well as to coordinate the programs and initiatives within the whole GER government. The ACE Seattle program broadened my view on specific regional development issues (as I discussed the 'how-to's of regional development with so many participants from different countries) that this experience will contribute significantly to my work.”*

**Bastian Almm**

Head of Division, Regional Economic and Structural Policy  
Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action  
Germany



*“Thanks to ACE Seattle last May, I had the pleasure to meet Isabella Smith from Amazon. Accomplishing the ACE's goal of fostering cooperation and forming new partnerships, let me share with all of you that CCMX and Amazon are working together. We also started an alliance with Alejandro Juraidini from Bitso, and I can make a Alliance with Alan Senra of Brazil who will be lecturing on the CREO MX Conference for entrepreneurs of the center of Competitiveness on the 14th of November at México City! Thanks Alan for your interest on sharing sustainability initiatives with us. Hope this partnership, which is starting now, generates great results for a long time. #AceCommunity!”*

**Juan Ostolaza**

CEO  
Center of Competitiveness in Mexico  
Mexico



*“Collaboration in terms of open innovation with Cordoba and e-gov with Panama.”*

**Betsabe Rocha**

Secretary of Economic Development  
Municipality of Monterrey  
Mexico



*“I will be pursuing partnerships with most of the participants from Mexico. We already have meetings scheduled and have been in touch to solve problems thanks to the Networking in Seattle. I got a great idea of what countries could be next in the expansion plan of my company thanks to the connections we made in the event.”*

**Alejandro Juraidini**

*Institutional Relations Director  
Bitso  
Mexico*



*“Benedict College is a Historically Black College located in Columbia, South Carolina. The 2023 Spring ACE program presented several opportunities to explore partnerships with Seattle area higher education institutions, corporate entities such as Microsoft, Starbucks, Boeing, and Amazon, and to develop student recruitment, faculty research, and study abroad programs.”*

**Leandra Hayes-Burgess**

*Vice President for Institutional Advancement  
Benedict College  
United States*



*“We want to strengthen engagement with our University of the West Indies (UWI) campuses.”*

**Sandra Husbands**

*Minister  
Ministry of Energy and Business  
Government of Barbados  
Barbados*



*“IEDC has been meeting with various people from the program including the US Mexico Foundation, the State Department and the Ambassador of Armenia.”*

**Joe Kapp**

*Special Advisor to the President,  
International Economic Development Council*



# Americas Competitiveness Exchange

May 14 - 19, 2023



## ACE Seattle enhanced the participant's knowledge and capacities in economic development, innovation, and entrepreneurship



*"We learnt best practices at the University of Washington Tacoma. How to bring together the academic sector, public or private sector. How they make them know them self in order to produce under de the demand of the private sector."*

**Virginia Avila**

Deputy Secretary of Foreign Affairs  
Government of Tucuman  
Argentina



*"Participation has been very useful as Belize launched its digital agenda and the institution I lead, is the innovation champion with responsibility for entrepreneurship development within the economic space, as engines of growth.."*

**Leroy George Almendarez**

Executive Director  
Belize Trade and Investment Development (Beltrade)  
Belize



*"I have engaged in few possible initiative than might be replicated in DR."*

**Laura del Castillo**

Technical Director  
National Competitiveness Council  
Dominican Republic



*"I have found that I can do more with the new connections I have made at ACE. I may not have all the technology required, but my future partners do."*

**Lescarmel Durand**

Program Lead Manager  
Centre d'Entrepreneurship et Leadership  
Haiti



*"With this the new knowledge we will be using to make contact between out entrepreneurs companies and your institutions Also we can learn about how thing that we dont know how to solve and here they hay allready figured it out."*

**Victor di Rienzo**

Deputy Secretary of Foreign Affairs  
Government of Tucuman  
Argentina



*"Knowing how the extraordinary Seattle ecosystem works, with government, academy and enterprises work to truly favor the economic development, will help me better organize and take advantage of our competitive and strategic capacities"*

**Enrique González Hernández**

Director General of Industry, Foreign Investment and Commerce  
Government of the State of Mexico  
Mexico



*"ACE Seattle improved my knowledge of international economic development successes and challenges."*

**Joe McKinney**

Executive Director  
National Association of Development Organizations  
United States



*"Through the development of innovative projects that we learned of other countries, theres the opportunity to replicate e projects with the collaboration and best practices and experiences learned."*

**David Abreu Turbides**

Director of Industrial Development  
Ministry of Industry, Trade, and SMEs  
Dominican Republic



*"Through the connections we were able to have. In the short term, to identify startups but I am sure that in the mid term, more opportunities we will find."*

**Tatiana Leon Gomez**

Entrepreneurship and Open Innovation Director  
Connect Bogotá  
Colombia



*"The knowledge gained in the program will be essential in order to continue to take high level decisions in the company I work within the countries we operate."*

**Alejandro Juraidini**

Institutional Relations Director  
Bitso  
Mexico



*“Public-Private Partnership models were comprehensively presented during the visit. In my opinion, this model can work in many areas in Armenia as well. Was inspired by how educational institutions in Seattle were synergized with the economic development environment of Seattle and of Washington State in general. This is what we lack, in my opinion, in Armenia. There should be more and more innovative and scientific work involved in public and private economic enterprises. Also, smart buildings which we visited was an inspiration on what might have been done better in my country about the environment and preservation of resources. Armenian can benefit also by implying the practice of apprenticeship in different enterprises, bringing young talents to the industries and inspiring them to remain in the sphere and work (Boeing mechanics example).”*

**Artur Grigoryan**

Deputy Chief of Mission  
Embassy of Armenia to the United States  
Armenia



*“The ACE program provided insights into upcoming innovations to enhance existing institutional programs in cyber security, public health, International relations, and economic development. We look to expand on the relationships with institutions in South America, Central America, Canada, and the Caribbean.”*

**Dr. Cynthia Warrick,**

President  
Stillman College  
United States



*“ACE Seattle helped me to generate new allies, learn about the great work that is being done in Seattle for economic development, ecosystems to promote entrepreneurs, and the vision between universities and companies.”*

**Juan Ostolaza**

CEO  
Center of Competitiveness in Mexico  
Mexico



*“The knowledge gained in the program will be essential in order to continue to take high level decisions in the company I work within the countries we operate.”*  
Alejandro Juraidini, Mexico

*“I am pushing models implemented by Seattle within the Chilean ecosystem.”*

**Pelayo Covarrubias**

President, País Digital Foundation  
Director, University del Desarrollo  
Chile



*“This programming is extremely important to increasing the exposure and economic opportunity for a region, having participated in this programming will enhance the way that Michigan presents itself and our capabilities moving forward irrespective of a future bid opportunity.”*

**Sarah Tennant**

Senior Sector Development Director and Cyber Advisor  
Michigan Economic Development Corporation  
United States



*“ACE Program provided tools, helped to expand the possibilities and to define a work plan for Guatemala Moving Forward's Plan.”*

**Francisca Cárdenas**

Vice Minister of Investment and Economic Competences  
Government of Guatemala  
Guatemala



*“The ACE program has enhanced St. Lucia's capacities in economics development and entrepreneurship. We have now launched our micro small and medium entrepreneurs loan/grant facility and are receiving support for technical support to participants of the MSMEs. We will now improve the Economic development ecosystem with the technology and innovation hubs.”*

**Emma Hippolyte**

Minister  
Ministry of Commerce, Manufacturing, Business Development, Cooperatives and Consumer Affairs,  
Government of Saint Lucia  
Saint Lucia



*“Greater awareness of EDA and OAS priority partners and goals. Understand better now the advantages and strength of Canadas ecosystem.”*

**Michele Evans**

Assistant Deputy Minister  
Prairies Economic Development Canada (PrairiesCan)  
Government of Canada  
Canada



*“ACE gave ideas of things to do to support firms that give the types of jobs needed these days.”*

**Lauro Arias**

Assistant Director  
Office of Trade and Investment  
Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity  
United State



*“Women in business empowerment, transfer of knowledge and better practices, Mou between participants and institutions with our chamber and gov agencies New market opportunities.”*

**María José Nichols**

Director  
Business Chamber of Trade and Services (Cecoms/Cafif)  
Guatemala



*“We are developing a program to consolidate regional innovation ecosystems in Mexico and we are including some of the strategies that we learned in the ACE program and proposing some collaborations with the Seattle region.”*

**Jose Alonso Huerta Cruz,**

CEO,  
Aracnia,  
Mexico



*“We learned about the importance of investing in innovation and technology.”*

**Regina Gándara Mendoza**

Executive Director  
Mexican Business Council  
Mexico



*“Getting to know the strategies, specifically from public institutions from Seattle, on how to generate innovation ecosystems for specific economic clusters is interesting for Latin American countries that can use these models and tropicalize these concepts and strategies for the generation of regional value chains in the midst of the nearshoring boom.”*

**Natalia Samayoa**

Trade Commissioner  
Consulate General of Guatemala in Miami  
Guatemala



*“The ACE program will help Benedict College enhance its capacity in entrepreneurship and innovation by expanding the College’s national and global footprint. We envision establishing MOUs and partnerships that will create new student recruitment pipelines in the Caribbean, research programs (ex. environmental science), study abroad programs for our faculty and students, and workforce development programs that will create new revenue streams.”*

**Leandra Hayes-Burgess**

Vice President for Institutional Advancement  
Benedict College  
United States



*“ACE Seattle will significantly contribute to the enhancement of our projects, strategies, and policies, offering a multitude of benefits for our overall competitiveness in Louisiana. This includes creating cooperative policies for biotechnology institutions and businesses, understanding soft-landing opportunities, and adapting successful strategies, all contributing to my ability to innovate and execute effective projects.”*

**Kristopher Khalil**

Executive Director  
New Orleans BioInnovation Center  
ACE Ambassador  
United States



*“It was wonderful to hear some of the processes and best practices for growing your entrepreneurial environment. We made contacts that we wish to pursue that will provide further collaboration on the specific needs of our country. e.g. economic social development system, Microsoft services, agricultural technology.”*

**Sandra Husbands**

Minister  
Ministry of Energy and Business  
Government of Barbados  
Barbados



*“We are sending information on best practices to Saint Lucia.”*

**Diane Gray**

President  
Prairies Economic Development Canada (PrairiesCan),  
Government of Canada  
Canada



## Did the program address inclusive economic development? The participants answered



*“Yes, especially learning about the Indian Native American situation and the struggle to be recognized.”*

**Laura del Castillo**

Technical Director  
National Competitiveness Council  
Dominican Republic



*“The program presentations and interactions improved my perspective on the inclusion of underrepresented populations in economic development. Diverse panelists offered varied insights, while in-depth discussions addressed barriers to inclusion. Practical examples showcased the benefits of integration.”*

**Enrique Topolansky**

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Embassy of Armenia to the United States  
Uruguay



*“Was very excited to have preliminary discussions with others interested in equitable and inclusive development. Would love to continue to work with the group.”*

**Joe McKinney**

Executive Director  
National Association of Development Organizations  
United States



*“Throughout the program, Seattle highlighted the importance of inclusion of the underrepresented population in the economic development strategies and delivered many valuable insights.”*

**Bastian Almm**

Head of Division, Regional Economic and Structural Policy  
Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action  
Germany



*“The presentations had a socio economic development perspective or goal and therefore, in each situation that was addressed, with capacity development, technical assistance, incubation services which will contribute greatly to no one being left behind.”*

**Leroy George Almendarez**

Executive Director  
Belize Trade and Investment Development (Beltraide)  
Belize



*“Something very nice was that the delegation from ACE Seattle was very diverse, which allowed us to exchange knowledge and also to hear about other realities. The experience of getting to know the theater and the problems that downtown Seattle is experiencing since the pandemic also caught my attention, because there is always a creative way to involve all strata of the population in the economy. Another highlight in this theme was seeing the openness of the universities in terms of involving immigrants and also people from other countries in their projects and leadership and incubation programs. Diversity and multidisciplinary are already prerequisites for innovation.”*

**Alan Senra Cheib**

Strategic Advisor for Green Investments  
Government of the State of Minas Gerais  
Brazil



*“The program had the right balance to acknowledge the importance of diversity and inclusion in every way. Great job.”*

**Enrique González Hernández**

Director General of Industry, Foreign Investment and Commerce  
Government of the State of Mexico  
Mexico



*“Yes. Importance of inclusion of Tribal Nations in ED”*

**Bob Metzger**

Strategic Engagement Director  
Michigan Economic Development Corporation  
United States



*“There were some interesting components that promoted inclusion, since the beginning at the museum.”*

**David Fortoul**

Mr., Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
Mexico



*“The program reinforced my prior beliefs regarding the need for the participation of historically underrepresented social groups in the strategy for economic development with social inclusion.”*

**Federico Penino**

Director of Budget Planning  
Government of Montevideo  
Uruguay



*“Almost every presentation that I recall, included a referral to the engagement of youth, women, or other underrepresented groups in entrepreneurship and innovation.”*

**Artur Grigoryan**

*Deputy Chief of Mission  
Embassy of Armenia to the United States  
Armenia*



*“Certainly of particular interest was the inclusion of youth, through research, by established companies to innovate and transform the business offerings. This has certainly broadened my perspective and will guide my contribution as we develop our youth economy.”*

**Sophia Alfay-Henry**

*Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Commerce, Manufacturing, Business  
Development, Cooperatives and Consumer Affairs,  
Government of Saint Lucia  
Saint Lucia*



*“I found the presentations on the Museum of Flight and the visit to the Suquamish Trive House very enriching for this end.”*

**Regina Gándara Mendoza**

*Executive Director  
Mexican Business Council  
Mexico*



*“There were many more women in the delegation from Latin America and the Caribbean which was greatly appreciated.”*

**Dr. Cynthia Warrick,**

*President  
Stillman College  
United States*



*“The experience with the native community of Seattle and the State of Washington was particularly revealing.”*

**Mauricio Montalvo**

*Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the  
OAS,  
Ecuador*



*“There was a good mix in both the presenters and the participants.”*

**Joe Kapp**

*Special Advisor to the President,  
International Economic Development Council*



*“I believe the program presentations, panelists, and interactions included a gender perspective and the participation of women and youth. The interaction with youth in the universities and research centers was excellent.”*

**Sofia Potes**

*Research and Public Policy Manager, U.S.-Mexico  
Foundation,  
Mexico*



*“Most of the panelists and speakers not only represented these groups but also explained how they work towards inclusion of women and youth.”*

**Francisca Cárdenas**

*Vice Minister of Investment and Economic  
Competences  
Government of Guatemala  
Guatemala*



*“Yes, a very equitable representation left and the representation of the young people and the support given to them was very well represented.”*

**Ethazel Beryoska Gomez Hawkins,**

*Head of Planning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
Panamá*



*“The program presentations, panelists, and interactions indeed helped improve my perspective on the importance of including underrepresented populations in economic development strategies, such as women and youth. What was done right: The inclusion of diverse speakers and panelists who represented various demographics gave firsthand insights into the unique challenges and opportunities faced by underrepresented groups.”*

**Kristopher Khalil**

*Executive Director  
New Orleans BioInnovation Center  
ACE Ambassador  
United States*



*“The focus on promoting women and youth was excellent. We are already there as a country and in our initiatives”*

**Sandra Husbands**

*Minister  
Ministry of Energy and Business  
Government of Barbados  
Barbados*



# The ACE Seattle Delegation





# ACE Seattle Delegation

## VIP Guests



**Ambassador H.E.  
Francisco O. Mora**  
**Ambassador, Permanent  
Representative**  
U.S. Department of State  
(Permanent Mission to the  
OAS)



**The Honorable  
Alejandra Castillo**  
**Assistant Secretary for  
Economic Development**  
Economic Development  
Administration (EDA)  
U.S. Department of  
Commerce



**The Honorable  
Nestor Mendez**  
**Assistant Secretary  
General**  
Organization of American  
States



**The Honorable  
Dilawar Syed**  
**Special Representative  
for Commercial and  
Business Affairs**  
U.S. Department of State



**The Honorable  
Kim Osborne**  
**Executive Secretary for  
Integral Development**  
Organization of American  
States



**Dennis Alvord**  
**Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Economic Development  
and Chief Operating Officer**  
Economic Development  
Administration (EDA)  
U.S. Department of  
Commerce



**Craig Buerstatte**  
**Deputy Assistant  
Secretary and  
Chief Operating Officer  
for Regional Affairs**  
Economic Development  
Administration (EDA)  
U.S. Department of  
Commerce



**Sheba Person  
Whitley**  
**Seattle Regional Director  
- Seattle Office**  
Economic Development  
Administration (EDA)  
U.S. Department of  
Commerce

# Participants

## OAS MEMBER STATES - PARTICIPANTS



Argentina

### **Virginia Avila** **Deputy Secretary of Foreign Affairs**

Government of Tucuman  
ACE Ambassador



Argentina

### **Victor Di Rienzo** **Undersecretary of Systems and Connectivity**

Municipalidad de Córdoba



Barbados

### **The Honorable Sandra V. Cheryl Husbands**

**Minister of State in Foreign Trade and Business Development**  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade  
Government of Barbados



Barbados

### **Misha Lobban Clarke**

**Executive Director**  
Barbados Chamber of Commerce and Industry



Belize

### **Dr. Leroy George Almendarez**

**Executive Director**  
Belize Trade and Investment Development Service (BELTRAIDE)



Brazil

### **Dr. Celio Costa Vaz** **CEO**

Orbital Engenharia S.A.  
ACE Ambassador



Brazil

### **Alan Senra** **Strategic Advisor for Green Investments**

Government of the State of Minas Gerais



Canada

### **Diane Gray** **President**

Prairies Economic Development Canada (PrairiesCan), Government of Canada



Canada

### **Michele Evans** **Assistant Deputy Minister**

Prairies Economic Development Canada (PrairiesCan), Government of Canada



Chile

### **Pelayo Covarrubias**

**President, País Digital Foundation**  
**Director, Universidad del Desarrollo**



Colombia

**Juan Carlos González**  
**Vice President for Competitiveness**

Chamber of Commerce of Bogota



Colombia

**Tatiana León**  
**Entrepreneurship and Open Innovation Director**  
Connect Bogotá



Costa Rica

**Jorge Ocampo**  
**Executive President**  
Institute for the Promotion and Municipality Advisory (IFAM)



Dominican Republic

**Laura Del Castillo**  
**Technical Director**  
National Competitiveness Council



Dominican Republic

**David Abreu**  
**Director of Industrial Development**  
Ministry of Industry, Trade, and SMEs



Ecuador

**Ambassador H.E. Mauricio Montalvo**  
**Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the OAS**  
Government of Ecuador



Ecuador

**Ernesto Kruger**  
**CEO (Serial entrepreneur)**  
Kruger Corp



Ecuador

**Pedro Meneses**  
**CEO**  
Aerialoop



Guatemala

**The Honorable Francisca Cárdenas**  
**Vice Minister of Investment and Economic Competences**  
Government of Guatemala



Guatemala

**Diego Meneses**  
**Commercial Counselor of Guatemala in Los Angeles**  
Government of Guatemala



Guatemala

**Natalia Samayoa**  
**Trade Commissioner**  
Consulate General of Guatemala in Miami



Guatemala

**María Nichols**  
**Director**  
Business Chamber of Trade and Services (Cecoms/Cafif)





Haiti

**Lescarmel Durand**  
**Program Lead Manager**  
Centre d'Entrepreneurship et  
Leadership



Jamaica

**Ambassador H.E.  
Audrey Marks**  
**Ambassador of Jamaica to  
the United States**  
Permanent Representative of  
Jamaica to the OAS



Mexico

**Betsabé Rocha**  
**Secretary of Economic  
Development**  
Municipality of Monterrey



Mexico

**Enrique González**  
**Director General of  
Industry, Foreign  
Investment and Commerce**  
Government of the State of Mexico



Mexico

**Carla Bustillos**  
**Under Secretary of Trade  
and Investment**  
State of Tabasco



Mexico

**Regina Gándara**  
**Executive Director**  
Mexican Business Council



Mexico

**Juan Ostolaza**  
**CEO**  
Center of Competitiveness in  
Mexico



Mexico

**Ana Laura López**  
**General Coordinator**  
General Coordination of Ports and  
Merchant Marine. Secretary of the  
Navy, Mexico



Mexico

**José Alonso  
Huerta**  
**CEO**  
Aracnia



Mexico

**David Fortoul**  
**Director of Economic  
Affairs and Innovation for  
North America Secretariat  
of Foreign Affairs**  
Government of Mexico



Mexico

**Alejandro  
Juraidini**  
**Institutional Relations  
Director**  
Bitso



Panama

**The Honorable  
Yill Otero**  
**Vice Minister for  
Multilateral Affairs and  
Cooperation**  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Government of Panama



Panama

## Ethazel Gómez

### Head of Planning

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
Government of Panama



Saint  
Lucia

## The Honorable Emma Hippolyte Minister

Ministry of Commerce,  
Manufacturing, Business  
Development, Cooperatives and  
Consumer Affairs,  
Government of Saint Lucia



Saint  
Lucia

## Sophia Michelle Alfay-Henry

### Permanent Secretary

Ministry of Commerce,  
Manufacturing, Business  
Development, Cooperatives and  
Consumer Affairs Government of  
Saint Lucia



United  
States

## Joe McKinney Executive Director

National Association of  
Development Organizations



United  
States

## Kris Khalil

### Executive Director

New Orleans BioInnovation Center  
*ACE Ambassador*



United  
States

## Dr. Cynthia Warrick President

Stillman College



United  
States

## Dr. Jay Walsh

### Vice President for Economic Development and Innovation

University of Illinois



United  
States

## Bob Metzger Strategic Engagement Director

Michigan Economic Development  
Corporation



United  
States

## Sarah Tennant Senior Sector Development Director and Cyber Advisor

Michigan Economic Development  
Corporation



United  
States

## Leandra Hayes-Burgess Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Benedict College



United  
States

## Lauro Arias Assistant Director Office of Trade and Investment

Illinois Department of Commerce  
and Economic Opportunity



**Enrique Topolansky**  
Director of Innovation  
and Entrepreneurship  
ORT University



**Federico Penino**  
Director of Budget  
Planning  
Government of Montevideo

## OAS PERMANENT OBSERVERS - PARTICIPANTS



Germany

**Dr. Ole Janssen**  
Deputy Director General  
Innovation and Technology  
Policy, Federal Ministry  
for Economic Affairs and  
Climate Action  
*ACE Ambassador*



Germany

**Dr. Bastian Alm**  
Head of Division, Regional  
Economic and Structural  
Policy  
Federal Ministry for  
Economic Affairs and  
Climate Action



Armenia

**Ambassador H.E. Lilit Makunts**  
Ambassador Extraordinary  
and Plenipotentiary  
Embassy of Armenia to  
the United States



Armenia

**Artur Grigoryan**  
Deputy Chief of Mission  
Embassy of Armenia to the  
United States



Norway

**Ken Huste**  
Senior Advisor/Maritime  
Sector Lead  
Innovation Norway



## MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS, COMPANIES AND NGOs - PARTICIPANTS



**Nathan Ohle**  
President and CEO  
International Economic  
Development Council  
(IEDC)



**Joe Kapp**  
Special Advisor to the  
President  
International Economic  
Development Council  
(IEDC)



**Bernie Fructuoso**  
Senior Director of  
Finance and Risk  
Pan American  
Development Foundation



**Sowmya  
Krishnamoorthy**  
Director, Partnerships and  
Sustainable Finance  
Pan American  
Development Foundation



**David Cabrera**  
Executive Director  
Center for SMEs Regional  
Promotion (Cenpromype),  
Central American  
Integration System (SICA)



**Sofia Potes**  
Research and Public Policy  
Manager  
United States Mexico  
Foundation

## Seattle Local Organizers

### PUGET SOUND REGIONAL COUNCIL



**Josh Brown**  
Executive Director



**Ben Bakkenta**  
Director of Regional  
Planning



**Robin Koskey**  
Director, Government  
Relations and  
Communications



**Jason Thibedeau**  
Economic Development  
Program Manager

# ACE Committee

## GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES



**Dr. Barrett Haga**  
**Senior Engagement Administrator**  
Economic Development Administration (EDA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce



**Julianna Aynes-Neville**  
**Development Counselor**  
Alternate Representative  
Permanent Mission of the  
United States to the OAS /  
U.S. Department of State

## ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES



**Maryse Robert**  
**Director**  
Department of Economic  
Development  
Executive Secretariat for  
Integral Development



**César Parga**  
**Chief, Section of Competitiveness,  
Innovation and Technology**  
Department of Economic  
Development  
Executive Secretariat for  
Integral Development



**Adriana Bonilla**  
**Americas Competitiveness  
Exchange Coordinator**  
Department of Economic  
Development  
Executive Secretariat for  
Integral Development  
(remote support)

# Staff

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION



**Bayo Adetunji**  
Grants Management  
Specialist



**Brian Alvis**  
Civil Engineer



**Bryan Borlik**  
Director, PRNTA, TAAF  
U.S. Department of  
Commerce, EDA



**Chris Cox**  
Administrative Director



**Derek Ulehla**  
Civil Engineer



**Diana Oran**  
Grants Management  
Specialist



**Ethan Fogg**  
Economic Development  
Specialist



**Erik Streed**  
Environmental Specialist



**Frances Sakaguchi**  
Economic Development  
Integrator



**Frank Wessbecher**  
Program Analyst



**Helen Baykan**  
Economic Development  
Specialist



**James Jacobson**  
Environmental Officer



**Jennifer Cao**  
Grants Management  
Specialist



**Kerstin Millius**  
Area Director



**La Tarche Collins**  
Economic Development  
Specialist



**Laura Ives**  
Economic Development  
Representative  
U.S. Department of  
Commerce



**Luis Aguilar**  
Civil Engineer



**Maiea Sellers**  
Area Director



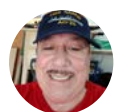
**Maxwell Marsico**  
Grants Management  
Specialist



**Michael Jones**  
Economic Development  
Specialist



**Mary Owen-Thomas**  
Regional Public Affairs  
Specialist



**Raul Ramos**  
Economic Development  
Specialist



**Richard Berndt**  
Supervisory Program  
Manager



**Richard Moore**  
Engineer



**Rowena DeFato**  
Environmental Officer



**Shalini Bansal**  
Supervisory Program  
Manager



**Sharon Metiva**  
Environmental Specialist



**Toby Nelson**  
Public Affairs Specialist



**Tobey Clarkin**  
Civil Engineer



**Winnie Wakaba**  
Economic Development  
Specialist



## INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (IEDC)



**Zytha Kock**  
Senior Economic  
Development Associate  
International Economic  
Development Council

## ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES



**Carla M. Sorani  
Hluchan**  
Chief  
Support, Evaluation and  
Management Oversight



**Aryanne Quintal**  
Specialist  
Section of Competitiveness,  
Innovation and Technology  
Executive Secretariat for  
Integral Development



**Juan Sebastián  
Fonseca**  
ACE Web and Multimedia  
Designer  
Americas Competitiveness  
Exchange



**Kristen Kuhn**  
ACE Consultant  
(Remote Support to ACE Seattle)  
Section of  
Competitiveness,  
Innovation and Technology



**Rebecca Zlatkin**  
ACE Consultant  
(Remote Support to ACE Seattle)  
Section of Competitiveness,  
Innovation and Technology

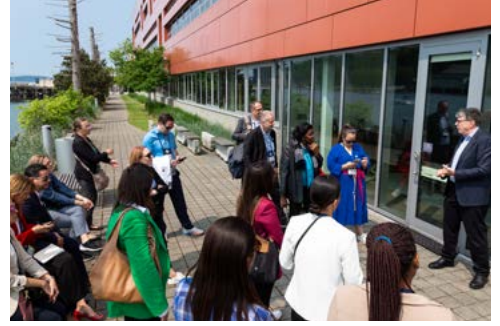


# ACE in Action Photo Collage

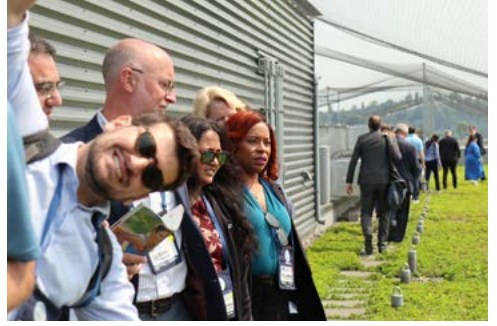


















A person is shown from the side, reading a newspaper. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The word "Media" is written in large, white, bold letters across the lower-left portion of the image. The newspaper's masthead "The Daily News" is visible at the top of the page being read. Below it, the headline "Actionable Data Layers" is prominent, followed by a sub-headline "How to Use Data to Drive Business Growth". A small graphic of a bar chart is visible below the text.

# Media

# Media summary

## Photo Gallery

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/89835551@N02/albums/72177720308009581#>



## Renovated ACE Seattle Website

<http://riacevents.org/ACE/seattle/>



## Seattle in the spotlight

<https://www.eda.gov/news/press-release/2023/05/12/global-delegation-visit-greater-seattle-region-americas>

<https://www.psrc.org/about-us/media-hub/americas-competitiveness-exchange-coming-greater-seattle-region-2023>

<https://www.eda.gov/strategic-initiatives/ace>

<https://greater-seattle.com/en/2023/05/04/international-economic-development-leaders-explore-investment-and-partnership-opportunities-in-greater-seattle/>

<https://www.benedict.edu/leandra-hayes-burgess-selected-to-be-a-part-of-the-us-delegation-for-the-americas-competitiveness-exchange-ace/>

[https://issuu.com/lucilo/docs/bt\\_may\\_28\\_2023/s/25210871](https://issuu.com/lucilo/docs/bt_may_28_2023/s/25210871)

<https://www.breakingbelizenews.com/2023/05/16/beltrade-executive-dr-leroy-almendarez-represents-belize-at-americas-competitiveness-exchange-ace-in-seattle-washington/>



# ACE Seattle widely mentioned through Social Media

## LinkedIn:

The ACE LinkedIn page was created as an additional channel of communication with the ACE Network. 28,846 impressions were registered on posts published during ACE Seattle. During the same time, the page was viewed 1,444 times.

**Micha Lobban Clarke** • 2nd  
Executive Director & PR/Communications Specialist  
1w • Edited

I was honoured to represent Barbados alongside Hon. **Sandra Husbands** Minister of State for Foreign Trade and Business Development at the **Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE** hosted by the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Government of the United States recently in Seattle, Washington. During the six-day exchange, participants from across the Caribbean and the Americas had the opportunity to engage with innovation hubs, explore strategic investments, and public-private partnerships from the Greater Seattle Region.

The ACE programme provides a cooperation mechanism to help strengthen economic development, innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems for participating countries through the knowledge sharing, networking and facilitating meaningful connections, partnerships and technical exchanges in areas such as life sciences, technology, agribusiness, fintech, digital transformation, logistics and infrastructure, circular economy, business development and entrepreneurship.

Really thankful to the remarkable team at the #OAS and the **Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE** (Kim Osborne, **Adriana Donilla Barrett** Iaga, Ph.D., Cesar Parga, and others) for facilitating us and making this experience a memorable and rewarding one. We return to our respective countries with innovative ideas and approaches to support the continued economic development and sustainability of the countries of the Caribbean region and the Americas.

#innovation #sustainability #networking #OAS #caribbean #Americas #economicdevelopment #partnership #collaboration #connections #barbados #hrci



Adriana Donilla Barrett and 42 others  
2 comments • 1 repost

Like Comment Repost


Organic Impressions: 162 Impressions Show stats

**Ernesto Kruger** • 2nd  
CEO founder KrugerCorp  
3w • Edited

Kruger Corp presente en la delegación de **Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE** de la #OEA, en Seattle, Washington. Seguiremos conectando y expandiendo la transformación para impulsar vidas alrededor del mundo. #Transformamos #ImpulsandoVidas

See translation

Delegación Kruger en ACE, OEA - 4 pages



Alan Gerra Chella and 70 others  
1 comment • 2 reposts

**Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE**  
1,692 followers  
2d • Edited

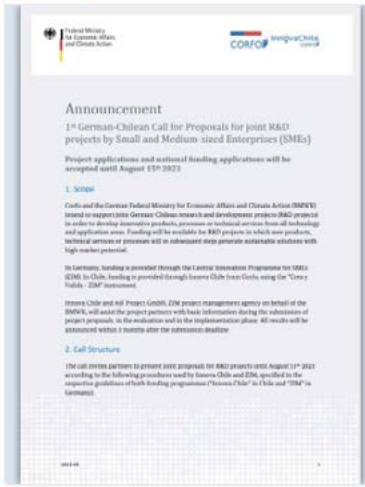
Wonderful news! Congratulations to the Governments of Germany and Chile for the launching of the First Call for Proposals for Joint R&D Projects! We are also very pleased to see this new initiative as a result of ACE Chile.

#ACEworks #ACEdelivers

**Cla Janssen** • 2nd  
Deputy Director General Innovation and Technology Policy, Federal Minist...

Buenos días!  
1st joint call for proposals between Chile and Germany

See translation



Victor Di Rienzo and 9 others

**Linda Hoffner, RPA** (She/Her) • 2nd  
General Manager at Wright Runstad & Company | P&GJ AG under 40  
3w

Thank you **Jason Thibodeau** for inviting me to welcome the **Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE** delegation to The Spring Clinics earlier this week. This group of 70 delegates got to tour the **Global Innovation Exchange (GIX)** and learn about our growing tech-centered, mixed-use community. Our region, and Bellevue in particular, is unique in many ways and it's always a pleasure to share that with international visitors.



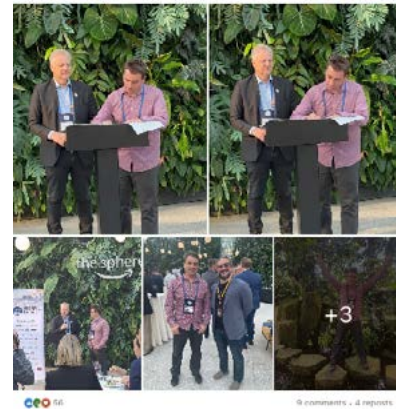
**Pedro Meneses** • 2nd  
CEO Aerolloop Making drone delivery Ubiquitous  
2w • Edited

#opportunities #execution #mou #vtul  
#signed #amazon HQ #seattle

A contract was signed at the end of #ACE 2023 between Aerolloop and https://lnkd.in/gAT\_H705

The Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE is brought together senior level governmental and business leaders from 22 countries to discover opportunities for collaboration and partnership. Learn more about the Americas Competitiveness Exchange:

http://bit.ly/42BLJ4  
#business #opportunities #leaders #collaboration




9 comments • 4 reposts

**Nathan Ohia** • 2nd  
President & CEO at International Economic Development Council (IEDC)  
2w

I had an incredible week in Seattle for the **ACE Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE)**. It was inspiring to see what makes the Pacific Northwest so special, and even more amazing to meet so many great leaders from around the world. It makes me excited to continue to drive collaboration that will lead to more equitable economic outcomes for communities of all sizes across the world. Special thanks to U.S. U.S. Economic Development Administration Organización de los Estados Americanos for putting ACE together and for the great partnership with International Economic Development Council

**Barrett Iaga, Ph.D. Alejandra Y. Castillo Dennis Alvord Adriana Donilla**

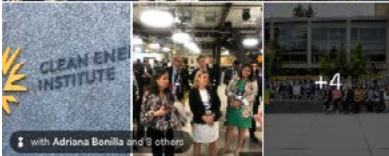


Alan Gerra Chella and 54 others  
9 comments • 5 reposts



**Juan Carlos Gonzalez** · 2nd  
Competitiveness | International Trade & Business | Foreign Direct Investment...  
3w · Edited · 0

Very honored to participate this week in the Americas Competitiveness Exchange -ACE- in the Greater Seattle Area | Washington State - a premier program led by the [Organización de los Estados Americanos \(OEA\)](#) and the U.S. [Economic Development Administration](#) to foster the exchange of best practices, promote investment, trade, technical cooperation, and to act as a lively network of development practitioners, high level public officials, entrepreneurs, investors, researchers etc. Also, a great opportunity to learn about the highly competitive environment and dynamic ecosystems that make of the Greater Seattle Region and engine of innovative growth. [#opportunity](#) [#growth](#) [#development](#) [#investment](#)



Adriana Bonilla and 40 others · 1 repost

**Anson Fatland** (He/Him) · 2nd  
Innovation | Strategy | Partnership | Creativity | Amplifying economic and so...  
3w · 0

Excited to kick the week off hosting the Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE at CoMotion at University of Washington in partnership with the U.S. [Economic Development Administration](#) and the [Puget Sound Regional Council](#). We are proud to support economic development through innovation and translation to make positive difference here and around the world.



Alan Senra Chelb and 32 others · 2 comments · 1 repost

**Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE**  
1,092 followers  
3w · 0

**Joe Kapu** (He/Him) · 2nd  
Successful Serial Entrepreneur, Investor, Author, & Educator empowering  
2w · 0

Thrilled to be in [#Seattle](#) this week welcoming economic developers, entrepreneurs and Ambassadors from all across the Americas. [#economicdevelopment](#) [#entrepreneurship](#) [#entrepreneurs](#) [#localstatedevelopment](#) [#Amazon](#) [#Starbucks](#) [#Microsoft](#) [#AI](#) [#aceexchange](#)



Juan Sebastian Porras De La Espinella and 15 others

**Aerialoop**  
1,317 followers  
3w · Edited · 0

Aerialoop at the Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE

We are proud to inform you that our CEO [Pedro Maneses](#) is participating at the [Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE](#) that is taking place in the Seattle Region in Washington State, United States, May 14th to 19th, 2023.

National and subnational leaders across sectors will convene in Seattle for this high-level and results driven networking event where participants will have the opportunity to learn more about industry partnerships.

Selected participants who attend the ACE Seattle week-long program will find ample cooperation, trade and investment opportunities together and will depart to their home countries/communities and regions with newfound partnerships. Through knowledge-sharing, accelerating partnerships, and strengthening projects, the ACE program is committed to improving economic development, innovation, entrepreneurship ecosystems, and the competitiveness performance in the Americas and beyond.

Aerialoop is a leading urban drone delivery network, with operations in multiple international locations. We currently operate an average of 300 flights per week per route and over 1000 routes mapped in the region.

Our technology enables us to quickly transport goods from cities to suburbs, and we plan to expand to inner city routes in the near future. As a drone delivery network, we are gaining valuable experience every day, which we hope will allow us to improve people's lives by reducing costs, increasing access, and improving the speed of delivery. All of this is part of our vision to reduce CO2 emissions, alleviate traffic congestion, and make people's lives better.

We look forward to the opportunity to share our insights and experience at the [Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE](#)

[#innovation](#) [#opportunity](#) [#technology](#) [#people](#) [#networking](#) [#future](#) [#development](#) [#opportunities](#) [#event](#)



Alan Senra Chelb and 25 others · 1 repost

**Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE**  
1,092 followers  
3w · 0

**Joe McKinney** · 2nd  
Executive Director at National Association of Development Organizations  
3w · 0

On a different type of carous today learning about AI and other emerging technologies and the impacts on community and economic development. [National Association of Development Organizations \(NADO\)](#) [Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE](#)



Alan Senra Chelb and 5 others

**Matt Mauer** (He/Him) · 3rd  
Gov. Affairs for Port of Tacoma | Candidate for Metro Parks Tacoma  
2w · Edited · 0

Last Wednesday, I got to practice my best cruise director voice as one of the hosts for the [Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE](#) boat tour of the [#PortofTacoma](#). Many thanks to the Tacoma Youth Marine Foundation for providing transportation aboard the MV Doolin-Rogers and to the [Puget Sound Regional Council](#) for coordinating the event. I'm available for hire, you just have to provide the boat! :) [#ACEExchange](#)



6 comments · 1 repost

**Alonso Huerta** · 2nd  
Ciencia, tecnología e innovación para el desarrollo  
2w · 0

An amazing week in the Greater Seattle region in [Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE](#) learning about their economic development strategies and opportunities for collaboration in innovation and entrepreneurship. A big honor to share this experience with authorities, academics, companies, and entrepreneurs all across the Americas.

Thanks to U.S. Economic Development Administration, [Organización de los Estados Americanos \(OEA\)](#), and [Puget Sound Regional Council](#) for inviting [Arancia Innovación](#) to this excellent initiative.

[#ACEExchange](#) [#innovateforGrowth](#)



Alan Senra Chelb and 34 others · 2 reposts

**Lauro Arias** · 2nd  
I help Illinois companies increase exports  
2w · Edited · 0

I had the pleasure of representing Illinois at the [Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE](#) last week in Seattle. Thanks to Colonel [Dave Fazenbaker](#) Commander of the 62nd Airlift Wing where representatives from North, Central and South America were able to learn about their great work. Also my 30 year old father who was a pilot was impressed with the photo. Thanks to the United States Air Force for the photo. It was a fantastic week of learning from companies that include Amazon, Boeing, Microsoft, Starbucks, University of Washington as well as Suquamish Tribe. [Barrett Haga, Ph.D.](#)



You and 48 others · 6 comments

**Virginia Avila** · 2nd  
International Affairs  
3w · Edited · 0

I want to thank [Barrett Haga, Ph.D.](#) for the dedication with which he worked on ACE program, taking care of every detail and showing genuine interest in supporting us as a Latin American community.

Along the years, Barret thought me that you can be both: a great professional and a person with a great sense of humor, in order to do your best to reach the goals. Working with you is a privilege Barret. The passion and leadership with which he drives the project, setting an example in himself.

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the incredible opportunity that [Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE](#), [Organización de los Estados Americanos \(OEA\)](#), U.S. [Economic Development Administration - EDA](#), have given us.

Thank you to the great team that make it possible [Juliana Aynes-Neville](#), [Maryse Robert](#); [Cesar Parga](#); [Adriana Bonilla](#)

Personally, I have returned filled with excitement to explore future ideas to experience alongside colleagues from the Americas and Europe with you as part of a great network.

I would like to thank you [Die Janssen](#) for being not only a great representative of Germany, Ambassador of ACE but also my friend. This team thought me best practices I can apply working with others at the same level.

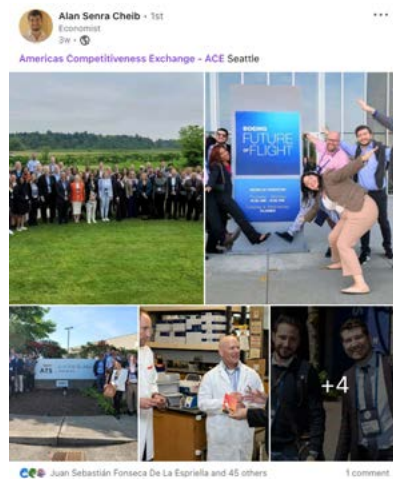
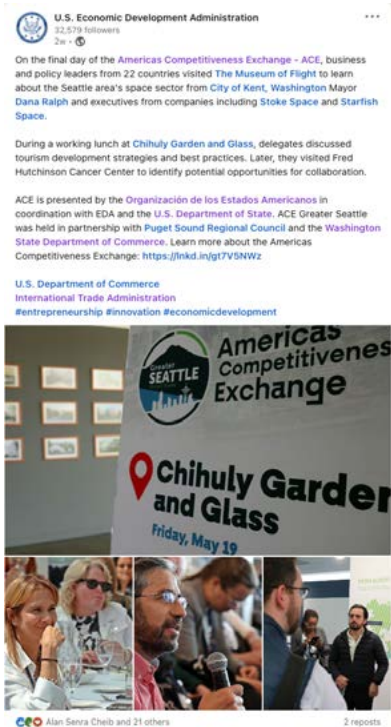
Thanks to all of you and the entire team that made this experience possible, with a special mention to the local team in Seattle.

[#leadership](#) [#team](#) [#experience](#) [#thankyou](#) [#network](#) [#gratitude](#) [#Europe](#) [#Americas](#)



Kris Khalil and 21 others · 3 comments





## Twitter:

16 posts regarding ACE Seattle listed on Twitter.









# Instagram:

## 20 posts regarding ACE Seattle listed on Instagram.



edagov • Follow  
Washington State, USA

edagov • ICYM: The 16th Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) convened last week in #Seattle.

ACE Greater Seattle brought together policy and business leaders from 22 countries to explore global partnerships and economic development opportunities.

ACE is presented by the @oea\_official in partnership with EDA and the @statedept. ACE Greater Seattle was organized by @soundregion and @wastatecommerce.

#entrepreneurship #innovation #economicdevelopment #pugetsound #southamerica #centralamerica #northamerica #internationaltrade #washingtonstate

carolpotter34 I'M GIVING \$5000 TO THE FIRST 10 PEOPLE TO DM "ALIVE" GOD BLESS "EVERYONE" 🙏❤️

31 likes  
MAY 20

Add a comment...



edagov • Follow  
Original audio

edagov • Even Assistant Secretary Alejandra Y. Castillo loves to play with the latest tech toys.

Meet the Burro agricultural robot at @SGOILab in Snohomish County, WA. They partner with the EDA-funded EDGE Cluster to innovate the future of farming.

#innovation #technology #agriculture #agtech #entrepreneurship #robots #EDA #ACXchange #snohomish #washington #seattle

64 likes  
MAY 19

Add a comment...



edagov • Follow

edagov • Washington Governor Jay Inslee welcomed delegates to Seattle for Day 2 of the Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE), the premier economic development, innovation, and entrepreneurial network of the Americas.

Earlier, Asst. Secretary Alejandra Y. Castillo kicked off the day atop Seattle's tallest building, the Columbia Center, followed by visits to the University of Washington's Colloquium at University of Washington, UW Clean Energy Institute, and Global Innovation Exchange (GIX) to explore innovation and entrepreneurship programs, and also to Microsoft for a discussion about AI and other emerging technologies.

ACE delegates in Seattle will exchange knowledge and build networks - all while promoting sustainable and inclusive economic development, strengthening supply chains, and increasing trade and investment opportunities to drive competitiveness across the Americas.

ACE is an event of the Organización de los Estados Americanos (OEI) in association with EDA and the U.S.

38 likes  
MAY 19

Add a comment...



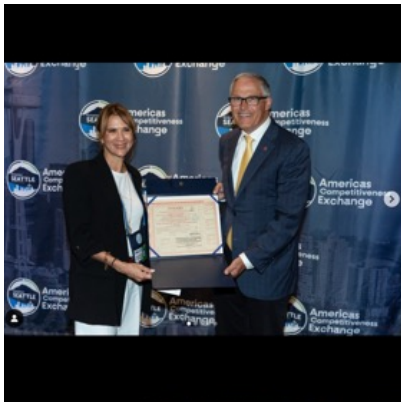
yllotero • Follow

yllotero • Participamos en la 16ª edición del Programa de Intercambio para la Competitividad de las Américas (ACE #ACXchange) en la ciudad de Seattle, y en el marco de este evento, confirmamos que Panamá será sede de la 17ª edición del Programa ACE, el cual se realizará del 3 al 7 de diciembre de 2023!

Este programa es organizado por la Organización de Estados Americanos (@oea\_oficial) en conjunto con la Administración para el Desarrollo Económico (@edagov) del Departamento de Comercio de EE.UU. y busca promover asociaciones público-privadas, oportunidades de cooperación y compartir mejores prácticas.

34 likes  
MAY 23

Add a comment...



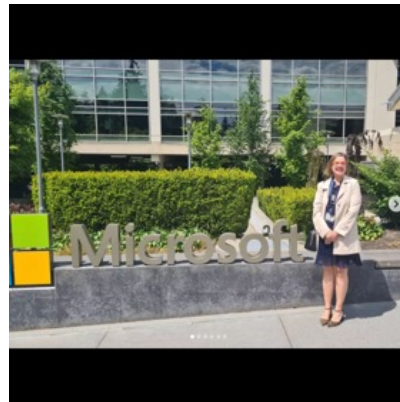
cancilleriapa • Follow

cancilleriapa • La VM @ylloteroG participó en la 16ª edición del Programa de Intercambio para la Competitividad de las Américas (ACE), que busca promover asociaciones público-privadas, oportunidades de cooperación y compartir las mejores prácticas.

Durante este evento, llevado a cabo en Seattle y organizado por la @oea\_oficial, junto a la Admin. para el Desarrollo Económico del Depto. de Comercio de los EE. UU., Panamá confirmó que será sede de la 17ª edición, a realizarse en diciembre de 2023. #ACXchange

66 likes  
MAY 23

Add a comment...



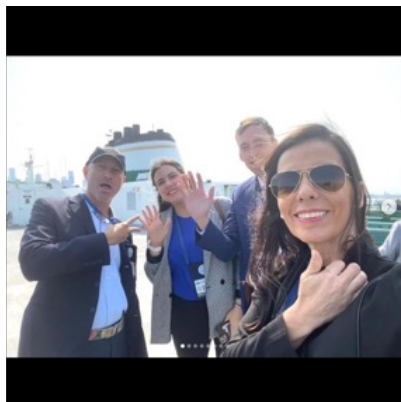
cncgobdo • Follow

cncgobdo • Laura Del Castillo, @delcastilloLaura nuestra directora técnica, representó al Consejo Nacional de Competitividad y al país, en la 16ª Intercambio para la Competitividad de las Américas (ACE) que se llevó a cabo la semana pasada en #Seattle.

ACE Greater Seattle reunió a líderes políticos y empresarios de 22 países para explorar alianzas globales y oportunidades de desarrollo económico.

51 likes  
MAY 22

Add a comment...



usmexicofound • Follow

usmexicofound • #ACXchange | Thursday was all about sustainability and innovation in the beautiful Puget Sound Region!

We started the day by exchanging valuable sustainability practices over breakfast at the Edgewater Hotel.

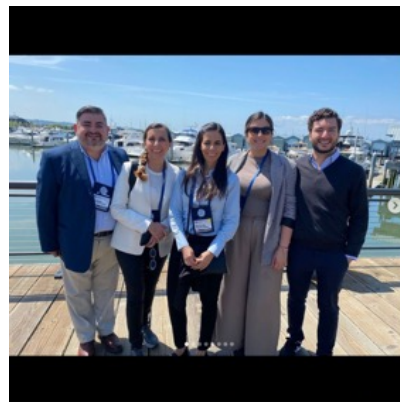
Then, we headed to the Kitsap Conference Center at Bremerton Harbor to learn about the impressive work being done to develop industry clusters in the region.

But the highlight of the day was the warm welcome we received from the Squamish Tribe at the House of Awakened Culture, where they shared their incredible contribution to the economic development of the region.

It's inspiring to see communities working together for a better future!

23 likes  
MAY 18

Add a comment...



usmexicofound • Follow

usmexicofound • #ACXchange | Exciting day of networking and discovery!

On Tuesday, we had an incredible opportunity to shine a spotlight on innovation and entrepreneurial collaboration in the SG Agricultural Field Labs. Witnessing firsthand the transformative power of technology in agriculture was truly inspiring.

Later, we delved into exploring trade and investment opportunities in the supply chain and tourism sectors at the bustling Port of Everett. The potential for growth and partnership in these industries is simply remarkable.

Our discussions then shifted gears towards the fascinating world of aerospace and aviation. We explored topics such as workforce development and sustainability practices at the esteemed Boeing Everett Factory. The future of this industry is bright, with a strong emphasis on talent and eco-conscious initiatives.

20 likes  
MAY 18

Add a comment...





portofacoma • Follow

portofacoma We were delighted to have Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) join us for a boat tour of #PortofTacoma today. Many thanks to the @tacyouthmarinecenter for providing transportation aboard the MV Doolin-Rogers and to the @soundregion for coordinating the event. #ACXchange

4 w

nablessedmom Hey! That's our boat! #seascouts #getontheater #doolinrogers

4 w Reply

fin\_marques\_ 🙌🙌

4 w 1 like Reply

56 likes MAY 17

Add a comment...



usmexicofound • Follow

usmexicofound • #ACXchange | Our first day of work in Seattle was absolutely incredible!

First, we explored the stunning University of Washington campus, soaking in the vibrant atmosphere and rich academic history.

Next stop was Microsoft, where we were blown away by the advancements and potential of Artificial Intelligence. 🤖

We also had the chance to experience the Spring District (GOX), an innovation hub that left us in awe. 🌟

We got an eye-opening overview of Washington State's wine industry 🍷 and had the pleasure of indulging in a delightful wine tasting.

We had the opportunity of hearing from @jayinslee, Governor of Washington, who warmly welcomed us Washington.

We can't wait to continue exploring this remarkable city and

18 likes MAY 18

Add a comment...



usmexicofound • Follow

usmexicofound • #ACXchange | Thrilled to announce that we've partnered with @joa\_official for the 2023 edition of the ACE program in Seattle!

As part of this exciting initiative, we've put together a group of Mexican leaders who will learn about the city and the great state of Washington. Can't wait to see what insights and ideas we'll uncover together.

5 w

19 likes MAY 18

Add a comment...



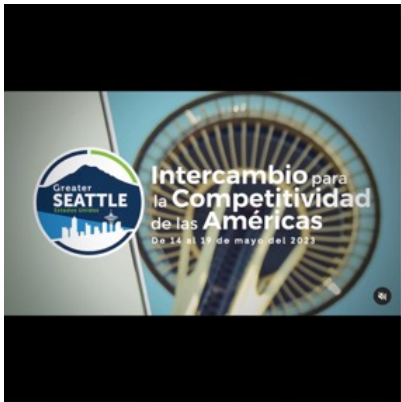
soundregion • Follow

soundregion Kept the momentum going yesterday with a visit to the 5G Agricultural Field Labs, a discussion about aerospace development and sustainability and the education exchange opportunities at Boeing! Can't wait to see what the rest of the week has in store #ACXchange

Edited 4 w

7 likes MAY 17

Add a comment...



oea\_oficial • Follow

oea\_oficial ¡- Sólo Quedan 3 Días para Postular al #ACXchange en Seattle! Del 14 al 19 de mayo, un grupo VIP de tomadores de decisiones visitarán y se conectarán con las industrias líderes y globales en Seattle que están impulsando la transformación económica, incluyendo la economía verde, aeroespacio, tecnologías de la información y comunicación, industria marítima, ciencias de la vida y salud global. No se pierdan la oportunidad de acompañarnos en #Seattle, "La Ciudad Esmeralda".

Estamos aceptando aplicaciones hasta el viernes, 3 de marzo. Postula aquí: <https://facevents.org/ACE/Seattle/>

Más: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-americas-competitiveness-exchange-ace/mycompany/?viewAsMemberof=true>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/faceventorg/>

1,400 views MARCH 1

Add a comment...



edagov • Follow  
Seattle, Washington

edagov The Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) begins this week in Seattle where delegates will exchange knowledge and build networks – all while promoting sustainable and inclusive economic development; strengthening supply chains; and increasing trade and investment opportunities to better connect and drive competitiveness across the Americas.

Today, EDA's Dennis Alvord welcomed participants during a reception at the @winglukemuseum, a Smithsonian Institution affiliate and the only pan-Asian Pacific American community-based museum in the United States.

ACE is an event of the Organization of American States (OAS) presented in coordination with EDA and the U.S. Department of State. ACE Greater Seattle is held in partnership with the Puget Sound Regional Council and Washington State Department of Commerce.

Learn more about the Americas Competitiveness Exchange: <https://bit.ly/42BJ4ab>

34 likes MAY 18

Add a comment...



oea\_oficial • Follow

oea\_oficial - Con más de 60 participantes provenientes de 21 países hoy concluye exitosamente el Intercambio para la Competitividad de las Américas (ACE) en la Región de Seattle, Washington, Estados Unidos.

- Un encuentro regional de alto nivel con tomadores de decisiones de los sectores público, privado y académico que busca fortalecer el ecosistema de desarrollo económico, innovación y emprendimiento de los países de las Américas ofrecido por la OEA y el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos.
- Los participantes visitaron más de 30 empresas, centros de investigación, universidades, laboratorios de innovación, puertos, lugares artísticos y culturales, incluyendo la Universidad de Washington, Microsoft, Amazon, Boeing, los Puertos de Seattle, Everett y Tacoma, entre otros.
- Más de 200 oportunidades de cooperación proyectadas por ahora en temas de comercio, inversión, investigación y desarrollo empresarial entre tomadores de decisiones de los países miembros de la OEA y de otras regiones.

269 likes MAY 19

Add a comment...



soundregion • Follow

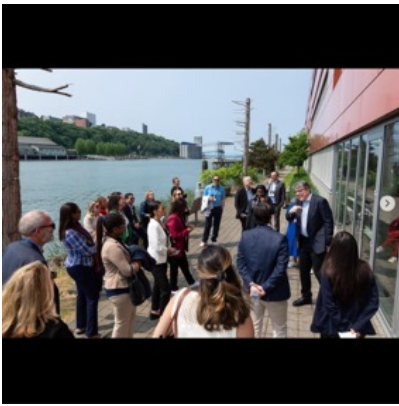
soundregion Members of the Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) wrap up their week-long tour of King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish counties today. More than 60 leaders from 21 countries around the Americas have been visiting the region in an exchange of economic development, innovation and entrepreneurship. #ACXchange

4 w

13 likes MAY 19

Add a comment...





soundregion • Follow

soundregion The Americas Competitiveness Exchange ended last Friday, but we are still loving these photos! See if you can spot some familiar faces 📸

4 likes

10 likes

MAY 23

Add a comment...

Post



soundregion • Follow

soundregion The Americas Competitiveness Exchange kicked off their week with a welcome breakfast, tour of the CoMotion lab and Clean energy institute at UW-Seattle and Microsoft.

#ACXchange

5 likes

7 likes

MAY 18

Add a comment...

Post



edagov • Follow

Everett, Washington

edagov On Day 3 of #ACXchange, delegates learned about Greater Seattle's aerospace cluster today with a visit to the Boeing Everett Factory, the company's flagship airplane assembly plant north of Seattle. Delegates also toured Aviation Technical Services whose robust aircraft mechanic training program helps strengthen the pipeline of the aerospace workforce.

Earlier, delegates visited the Port of Everett to see how the port is expanding its logistics capacity, creating economic opportunities and jobs, and strengthening global supply chains.

EDA grantee EDGE Cluster, led by 5G Open Innovation Lab, also showcased their efforts to employ emerging technology into agriculture to build food supply resiliency.

Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) brings together senior-level delegates from around the globe to find opportunities for collaboration and partnership. Learn more about the Americas Competitiveness

31 likes

MAY 18

Add a comment...

Post

## Facebook:

17 posts regarding ACE Seattle listed on Facebook.

Connect Bogotá Región • Follow

May 19

¡Hola! Esta semana, el equipo #Connect ha estado trabajando arduamente en varias iniciativas emocionantes.

En primer lugar, viajamos a #Seattle junto con nuestra directora de emprendimiento e Innovación Abierta, Tatiana León, y Juan Carlos Gonzalez Vergara de la Cámara de Comercio de Bogotá. Allí nos conectamos con representantes de todos los países de las Américas en el Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE. Este evento, organizado por organización OAS y EDA, tiene com... See more

See Translation

6

Like Comment Share

AGENT Raymond Nickerson • Follow

May 17

On Day 3 of #ACXchange, delegates learned about Greater Seattle's aerospace cluster today with a visit to the Boeing Company's Everett Factory, the company's flagship airplane assembly plant north of Seattle. Delegates also toured Aviation Technical Services whose robust aircraft mechanic training program helps strengthen the pipeline of the aerospace workforce.

Earlier, delegates visited the Port of Everett to see how the port is expanding its logistics capacity, creat... See more

29

Like Comment Share

Puget Sound Regional Council • Follow

May 17

Kept the momentum going yesterday with a visit to the 5G Agricultural Field Labs, a discussion about aerospace development and sustainability and the education exchange opportunities at Boeing! Can't wait to see what the rest of the week has in store #ACXchange

1

Like Comment Share

Write a comment...



**U.S. Economic Development Administration** · Follow  
May 19

On the final day of the Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE), business and policy leaders from 22 countries visited *The Museum of Flight* to learn about the Seattle area's space sector from *City of Kent Government* Mayor Dana Ralph and executives from companies including Stoke Space and Starfish Space.

During a working lunch at *Chihuly Garden and Glass*, delegates discussed tourism development strategies and best practices. Later, they visited Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center T... See more



6 1 comment 2 shares

**U.S. - Mexico Foundation** · Follow  
May 18

#ACXchange | Exciting day of networking and discovery! 🌟

On Tuesday, we had an incredible opportunity to shine a spotlight on innovation and entrepreneurial collaboration in the 5G Agricultural Field Labs. Witnessing firsthand the transformative power of technology in agriculture was truly inspiring. 🌱

Later, we delved into exploring trade and investment opportunities in the supply chain and tourism sectors at the bustling Port of Everett. The potential for growth and part... See more



6

**Agent**  
May 20

At this evening's Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) closing reception in Seattle, Panama City, Panama was introduced as the next ACE host city. The Hon. Ylli Otero, Vice Minister for Multilateral Affairs and Cooperation, represented the Republic of Panama in Seattle.

Presented by the Organization of American States (OAS), ACE is the premier economic development, innovation and entrepreneurial network Worldwide

Learn more... See more



21 11 comments

**Cenprompye** · Follow  
May 16

David Cabrera Director Ejecutivo de Cenprompye y Leroy Almdarez, Director Ejecutivo de BELTRAIDE y Presidente Pro Tempore del Consejo Directivo de Cenprompye participan en el programa de Intercambio para Competitividad de las Américas - ACE (AMERICAS COMPETITIVENESS EXCHANGE) que se lleva a cabo en Seattle del 14 al 19 de mayo.

En la actividad participan delegados de diferentes partes del continente americano, para intercambiar conocimientos y propuestas que perm... See more



11 1 share

**Port of Tacoma** · Follow  
May 17

We were delighted to have Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) join us for a boat tour of #PortofTacoma today. Many thanks to the Tacoma Youth Marine Center for providing transportation aboard the M/V Doolin-Rogers and to the Puget Sound Regional Council for coordinating the event. #ACXchange



75 6 comments 6 shares

**Puget Sound Regional Council** · Follow  
May 23 at 3:00 PM

The Americas Competitiveness Exchange ended last Friday, but we are still loving these photos! See if you can spot some familiar faces ✨



7

**AGENT Raymond Nickerson** · Follow  
May 16

Washington Governor Jay Inslee welcomed delegates to Seattle for Day 2 of the Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE), the premier economic development, innovation, and entrepreneurial network of the Americas.

Earlier, Asst. Secretary Alejandra Y. Castillo kicked off the day atop Seattle's tallest building, the Columbia Center, followed by visits to the University of Washington's UW CoMotion, Clean Energy Institute, and Global Innovation Exchange (GIX) to explore innovat... See more



36 1 share

**62nd Airlift Wing** · Follow  
June 1 at 1:00 PM

Last week, members of Americas Competitiveness Exchange visited Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, May 17, 2023.

ACE is the premier economic development, innovation, and entrepreneurial network of the Americas and is one of the leading high-level events of the Organization of American States (OAS)

The members toured McChord Field, received a brief at the 8th Airlift Squadron, and toured a static display of a C-17 Globemaster III... See more



9 1 comment

**U.S. Economic Development Administration** · Follow  
May 16

On Day 3 of #ACXchange, delegates learned about Greater Seattle's aerospace cluster today with a visit to the *The Boeing Company's* Everett facility, the company's flagship airplane assembly plant north of Seattle. Delegates also toured Aviation Technical Services whose robust aircraft mechanic training program helps strengthen the pipeline of the aerospace workforce.

Earlier, delegates visited the *Port of Everett* to see how the port is expanding its logistics capacity, creat... See more



12 4 comments 3 shares



**U.S. Economic Development Administration** · Follow  
May 19 · 🌐

On Day 5 of the Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) — convening this week in the Greater Seattle area — economic and policy decision-makers from 22 countries were welcomed to the Suquamish Tribe's Port Madison Reservation with a traditional clam and oyster bake and the Tribe's gathering song. Delegates had the opportunity to learn about the impact of Tribal enterprises on the economic ecosystem of Kitsap County, Washington.

While in Kitsap County, delegates heard from the... [See more](#)

7 6 shares

**The San Pedro Sun** · Follow  
May 22 at 2:38 PM · 🌐

Dr. Leroy Almendarez, Executive Director of BELTRAIDE is among 60 senior-level government, business, policy and economic decision-makers from 20 countries across the Americas who attended the Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE). The exchange was held from May 14 – May 19, 2023, grants participants a first-hand look at the greater Seattle, Washington region's economic, innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem.

SANPEDROSUN.COM  
**Belize Participates in Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) in Seattle, Washington - The San Pedro Sun**

1

**U.S. Economic Development Administration** · Follow  
May 17 · 🌐

On Day 4 of #ACEchange, taking place this week in the Greater Seattle area, delegates visited [Joint Base Lewis-McChord](#) to learn how the 62nd Airlift Wing supports disaster recovery and economic resiliency in the United States and across the globe.

Later, delegates toured the Port of Tacoma to identify potential opportunities in supply chain logistics and trade, followed by a visit to the Center for Urban Waters in Tacoma, Washington to learn how its work is propelling region... [See more](#)

**U.S. Economic Development Administration** · Follow  
May 16 · 🌐

The Americas Competitiveness Exchange (#ACEchange) begins this week in Seattle where delegates will exchange knowledge and build networks – all while promoting sustainable and inclusive economic development; strengthening supply chains; and increasing trade and investment opportunities to better connect and drive competitiveness across the Americas.

Today, EDA's Dennis Alvord welcomed participants during a reception at the [Wing Luke Museum](#), a Smithsonian Institution affilia... [See more](#)

15 1 comment 11 shares

**Barbados Chamber of Commerce & Industry (BCCI)** · Follow  
May 30 at 9:01 PM · 🌐

BCCI Executive Director, Misha Lobban Clarke recently represented Barbados alongside the Hon. Sandra Husbands, Minister of State for Foreign Trade and Business Development at the Americas Competitiveness Exchange - ACE hosted by the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Government of the United States in Seattle, Washington. During the six-day exchange, participants from across the Caribbean and the Americas had the opportunity to engage with innovation hubs, explore ... [See more](#)

3 +2



# Stay Connected



## RIAC / ACE


 [www.linkedin.com/company/the-americas-competitiveness-exchange-ace](http://www.linkedin.com/company/the-americas-competitiveness-exchange-ace)



 [www.facebook.com/riacnetorg](http://www.facebook.com/riacnetorg)

 [www.twitter.com/riacnetorg](http://www.twitter.com/riacnetorg)

 [www.flickr.com/photos/89835551@N02/sets/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/89835551@N02/sets/)

 [www.youtube.com/user/riacnetorg/videos](http://www.youtube.com/user/riacnetorg/videos)

This document was developed under the direction and guidance of Ms. Adriana Bonilla, ACE Program Coordinator at the Organization of American States - Inter-American Competitiveness Network (RIAC) Technical Secretariat. Juan Sebastián Fonseca, an ACE consultant, oversaw this product's design. Rebecca Zlatkin, another ACE consultant, contributed to the product's content and data gathering and analysis with the use of ArcGIS Insight platform. Kristen Kuhn helped enhance the ACE tracking monitoring mechanism and report outcomes from ACE Seattle, as well as prior and future ACEs.

The information displayed in this trip book is still evolving as we receive new information. If you would like to make any changes to the data or text presented within this booklet, kindly send your adjustments to [riac@oas.org](mailto:riac@oas.org); [abonilla@oas.org](mailto:abonilla@oas.org), [cc:jfonseca@oas.org](mailto:cc:jfonseca@oas.org); [egomez@oas.org](mailto:egomez@oas.org). We will take your changes into consideration as we update the online version.



# Americas Competitiveness Exchange

May 14 - 19, 2023



Washington State  
Department of  
**Commerce**



Puget Sound Regional Council



Microsoft



STATE OF  
WASHINGTON  
TOURISM



WASHINGTON STATE  
UNIVERSITY



SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY  
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON | TACOMA



WASHINGTON  
Clean Energy Testbeds  
University of Washington Clean Energy Institute

GLOBAL INNOVATION EXCHANGE  
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON



WING LUKE  
MUSEUM



MUSEUM  
OF  
GLASS



MARYSVILLE



More rights  
for more people



Thank you to the ACE partner institutions

