

ESIC is committed to shifting power to the Global South and locating equity at the heart of each step in its development.

According to UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Global South broadly comprises Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia (excluding Israel, Japan, and South Korea), and Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand). The concept intersects with but is different from low- and middle-income countries. Chile and Trinidad & Tobago, for example, are considered part of the Global South but are high-income countries. The concept of Global South is not connected to being in the southern hemisphere.

During the planning process, the secretariat worked to ensure that:

- 1) at least one co-chair of each of the five working groups and the Governance planning group are from the Global South
- 2) at least half of the members of the six groups are from the Global South.

During its implementation phase, ESIC is identifying ways to ensure that leadership and execution come largely from the Global South.

We consider the following countries to be part of the Global South.

- Afghanistan
- Albania
- Algeria
- American Samoa
- Angola
- Antigua and Barbuda
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Bahamas, The
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- Barbados
- Belarus
- Belize
- Benin
- Bhutan
- Bolivia
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Brazil
- Brunei
- Bulgaria
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cabo Verde
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Chile
- China (People's Republic of)

- Colombia
- Comoros Islands
- Congo, Democratic Republic of
- Congo, Republic of
- Costa Rica
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Cuba
- Cyprus
- Djibouti
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eritrea
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Fiji
- Gabon
- Gambia
- Georgia
- Ghana
- Grenada
- Guatemala
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Honduras
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Iraq
- Jamaica
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kiribati
- Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- Kosovo
- Kuwait
- Kyrgyzstan
- Lao People's Democratic Republic
- Lebanon
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Libya
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Malaysia
- Maldives

- Mali
- Marshall Islands
- Mauritania
- Mauritius
- Mexico
- Micronesia
- Moldova
- Mongolia
- Montenegro
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Myanmar
- Namibia
- Nauru
- Nepal
- Nicaragua
- Niger
- Nigeria
- North Macedonia
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Palestinian Territories
- Palau
- Panama
- Papua New Guinea
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Qatar
- Romania
- Russia
- Rwanda
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Samoa
- São Tomé and Príncipe
- Saudi Arabia
- Senegal
- Serbia
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leone
- Singapore
- Solomon Islands
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- Sri Lanka
- St Vincent and the Grenadines
- Sudan
- Suriname
- Syrian Arab Republic
- Tajikistan

- Taiwan
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Timor-Leste
- Togo
- Tonga
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Tuvalu
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- Uruguay
- Uzbekistan
- Vanuatu
- Venezuela
- Vietnam
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

Global South countries that are not low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) include:

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Bahamas (The)
- Bahrain
- Barbados
- Brunei
- Chile
- Cyprus
- Kuwait
- Nauru
- Oman
- Palau
- Qatar
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saudi Arabia
- Seychelles
- Singapore
- Taiwan
- Trinidad and Tobago
- United Arab Emirates
- Uruguay

LMICs that are not considered to be Global South, which is typically because they are European and not part of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, or Oceania, and these countries include:

- Albania
- Belarus
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Georgia

- Kosovo
- Moldova
- Montenegro
- North Macedonia
- Romania
- Russia
- Serbia
- Ukraine