

FROM JANUARY 7 TO 11, 2026 TABIO, CUNDINAMARCA, COLOMBIA



# BOLETÍN



## LATAM 2026



### Official opening of LATAM 2026

The official opening of LATAM 2026 took place at the Tabio Cultural Center, marking the start of this important international gathering that brought together 53 participants from 12 Latin American countries, along with invited nations. The opening ceremony included welcoming remarks from the mayor of Tabio, Carlos Javier Julio Torres, who highlighted the cultural significance of the event and its positive impact on the municipality.

As part of the cultural opening, a demonstration of the traditional Torbellino dance was presented, an emblematic expression of local identity. Afterward, the participants toured Tabio Plaza, a historic space surrounded by the Town Hall, the Church of the Immaculate Conception, and the Municipal Forum, providing an introduction to the history, architecture, and cultural life of the municipality.



### LATAM 2026 program launch

The activities continued at the Tabio Ecopark Convention Center, where the program officially began with a birdwatching excursion, highlighting the region's biodiversity. This was followed by a cultural dance class that promoted cultural exchange and appreciation of local traditions.

The event included welcoming remarks from the National Secretary of Servas Panama, Eufracio Centella, and the National Secretary of Servas Colombia, Mónica García. Additionally, the International Secretary of Servas and member of the Executive Committee, Radah Radhakrishna, shared relevant statistics on the organization's regional growth.

Presentations were also given by ProColombia and the Colombian Tourism Bureau, partner organizations in organizing the event. For his part, the Secretary of Peace, Francisco Salomón, spoke about peace programs and Servas's fundamental role in promoting these values. Neuma Dantas, a member of the International Development Committee, presented an analysis of Servas's areas of opportunity, based on data collected over the past three years.

The day concluded with the presentation of project proposals by country, followed by a mandala and dreamcatcher craft workshop, as well as a group walk for orchid observation, activities that strengthened integration, creativity and well-being among the participants.



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### Cultural tourism and coexistence

As part of the cultural tourism activities, a breakfast meeting was held at El Rancho de Pipe, a space that fostered close dialogue and strengthened relationships among the participants. Later, a cultural lunch took place where gastronomy, music, and local traditions became the focus of the cultural exchange.

The agenda included a visit to the Salt Cathedral, an emblematic site that integrates history, spirituality and architecture, offering participants a space for reflection and cultural connection.



### Countries Fair and cultural activities

The Countries Fair has established itself as a space for cultural exchange and encounter. On its first day, Panama, Colombia, Costa Rica, Brazil, Portugal, Mexico, and Uruguay participated, sharing a representative sample of their cultural, geographical, and artistic richness. As part of this event, 60 tree saplings were planted, symbolizing a commitment to environmental stewardship, and a collaborative mural was created, strengthening ties between the countries.



In the second edition of the Countries Fair, Canada, Guatemala, Spain, Chile, and Argentina took center stage, showcasing representative elements of their cultural identity, including gastronomy, music, dance, and artistic expressions, promoting respect and appreciation for cultural diversity. The event also included a presentation on the School of Peace program by Ezra, a representative from Turkey, who shared the history, evolution, and impact of this initiative, as well as ways in which participants can actively engage in promoting peace and intercultural dialogue.

During the LATAM Assembly session, a vote was held to select the previously submitted projects. Four core projects were chosen that meet Servas International's regulatory criteria. Their leaders will be required to present their development plans, timelines, and concrete actions, with projected results for the next three years.

To conclude the day and the program, a city tour of the town of Tabio was held, followed by a lively bonfire, a space for coexistence where participants shared stories, sang and enjoyed an atmosphere of integration, closing LATAM 2026 with a spirit of community, friendship and international cooperation.

