Mission
To support the reform and modernization of the justice systems of the Americas:
• People-centered
• Results-oriented, with changes that can be verified and evaluated
• Through collaborative work and the participation of various institutions

Vision
To be recognized as the specialized agency on the functioning of justice systems in the Americas, which contributes to sustainable improvements in access to justice for all people.

Values
• Democracy and respect for human rights
• Independence and autonomy
• Ethical behavior
• Transparency and accountability
• Environmental sustainability

About JSCA
The Justice Studies Center of the Americas (JSCA) is an intergovernmental agency created by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) in 1999, with technical and operational autonomy. Its mission is to support the reform and modernization of the justice systems of the Americas. JSCA’s members are all active member states of the OAS and its headquarters are located in Santiago de Chile.

Participatory Development
The JSCA Strategic Plan is based on a broad and inclusive participatory process. Contributions from 760 people from different countries throughout the Americas were received.
Strategic Plan  2022-2026

Priority Topics

- Women and groups in situations of vulnerability
  To shed light on their specific situation and needs for access to justice from a gender and intersectional perspective, contributing to the generation of adequate and measurable responses from justice systems.

- Complex criminal activity
  Increase the capacity to investigate, prosecute and effectively punish complex, serious, or transnational crimes, with emphasis on transnational organized crime and environmental crimes. In addition, to facilitate the exchange of good practices for the re-socialization of persons deprived of liberty, enforcement of sentences and social reintegration.

- Justice institution management and open and digital justice
  Promote justice institutions to develop a culture centered on the people they serve, encourage the adoption of open justice principles in these institutions, and support them in incorporating ICTs to deliver quality services.

- Ethics and integrity in the administration of justice
  Strengthen integrity and ethics in justice institutions to achieve greater transparency and accountability, with citizen participation and oversight, and contribute to processes of selection, appointment, evaluation, ratification, and accountability of justice operators, in accordance with international standards.

- Emerging issues
  Identify specific topics that may be important on the current and future agenda of justice in the Americas.

Cross-Cutting Approaches

- Technical excellence
- Public policy and empirical evidence
- Results-based management
- Gender equality and non-discrimination
- Collaborative work
- Innovation and continuous improvement

Strategic Goals

Goal #1
Strengthen democracy and the rule of law in the Americas, participating in efforts to enhance independent, people-centered justice systems with greater capacities for managing and measuring their results.

Goal #2
To contribute to effective access to justice for the people of the Americas, especially vulnerable groups.

Goal #3
Increase JSCA’s impact based on coordinated work, results-based management, and the strengthening of communication as well as diversified financial management.