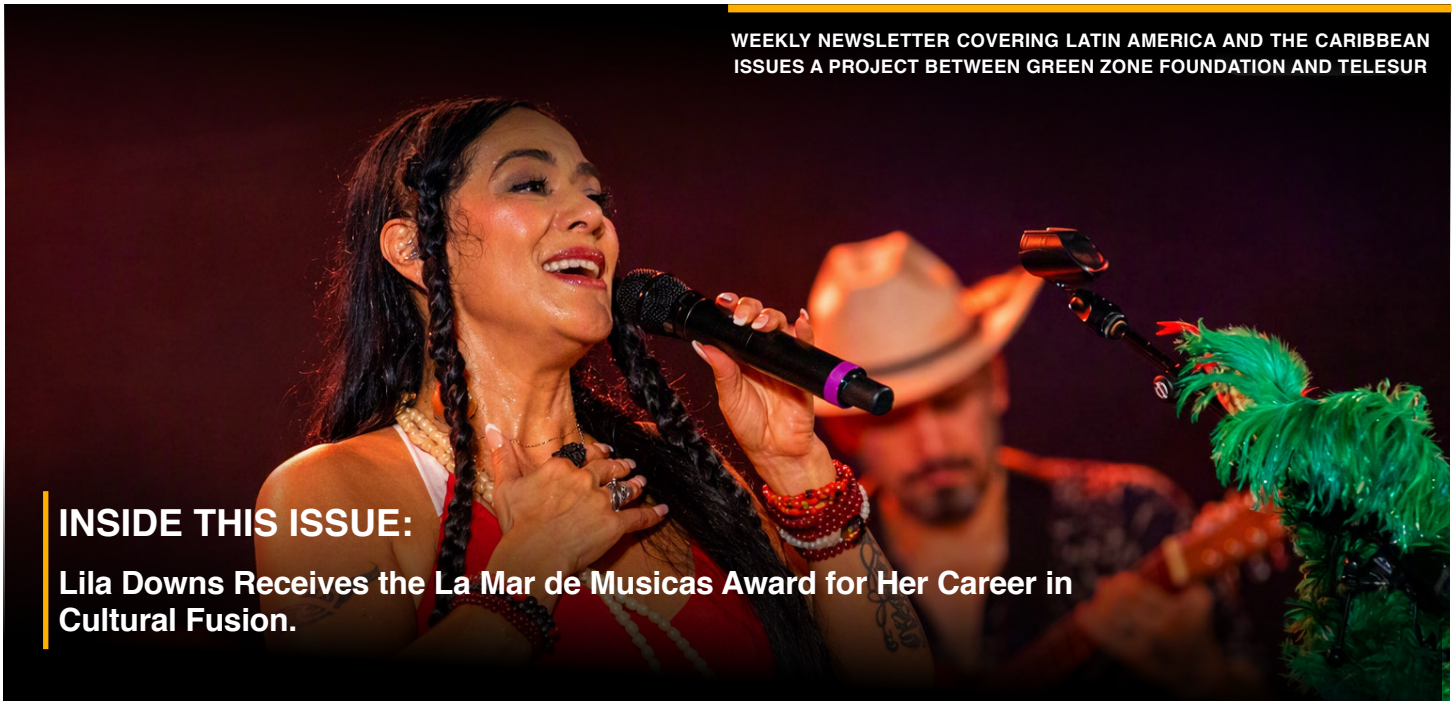
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# NEWSLETTER

A VISION OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER COVERING LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN ISSUES A PROJECT BETWEEN GREEN ZONE FOUNDATION AND TELESUR

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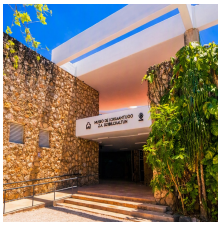
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GREEN ZONE FOUNDATION

# Chile to Study Effects of Light Pollution and Global Warming in Antarctica.



**Antarctica is one of the regions where temperatures have risen most rapidly in recent decades.**

On Tuesday, the Chilean Ministry of Science, Knowledge, Technology, and Innovation announced a pioneering program studying the combined effects of light pollution and global warming in Antarctica.

The project, called “Disrupting Polar Ecosystems: Light Pollution May Alter the Ecological Effects of Global Warming” (Dipole), aims to generate scientific evidence to inform the design of environmental conservation strategies.

Light pollution, defined as the alteration of natural light levels by artificial lighting, has been studied in other environments, but in Antarctica it remains largely unexplored.

Jose Pulgar, director of Dipole and professor at Andres Bello University (UNAB), explained that multiple ecological disturbances are simultaneously impacting Antarctic biodiversity, making it essential to understand their biological effects.

The research combines fieldwork and laboratory experiments, focusing on coastal areas to assess the impacts on macroalgae, invertebrates, and marine vertebrates, key species for the functioning of southern ecosystems.

Cristian Duarte, deputy director of Dipole and researcher at UNAB, pointed out that the challenge is not to eliminate lighting, but to use it responsibly and intelligently, balancing human needs with environmental protection.

Antarctica is one of the regions where temperatures have risen most rapidly in recent decades, so the study integrates global warming to obtain more comprehensive answers.

## Colombian Minister of Culture Demands Continuity in Cultural Policies.

Minister Yannai Kadamani warned about the need to maintain the continuity strategies cultural beyond democratic changes.



The Colombian Minister of Culture, Arts, and Knowledge, Yannai Kadamani, defended the need to guarantee the continuity of cultural policies beyond changes in government.

With two weeks remaining in President Gustavo Petro's term, the official warned that the country requires continuity in its development strategies to prevent the progress achieved from being modified every four years.

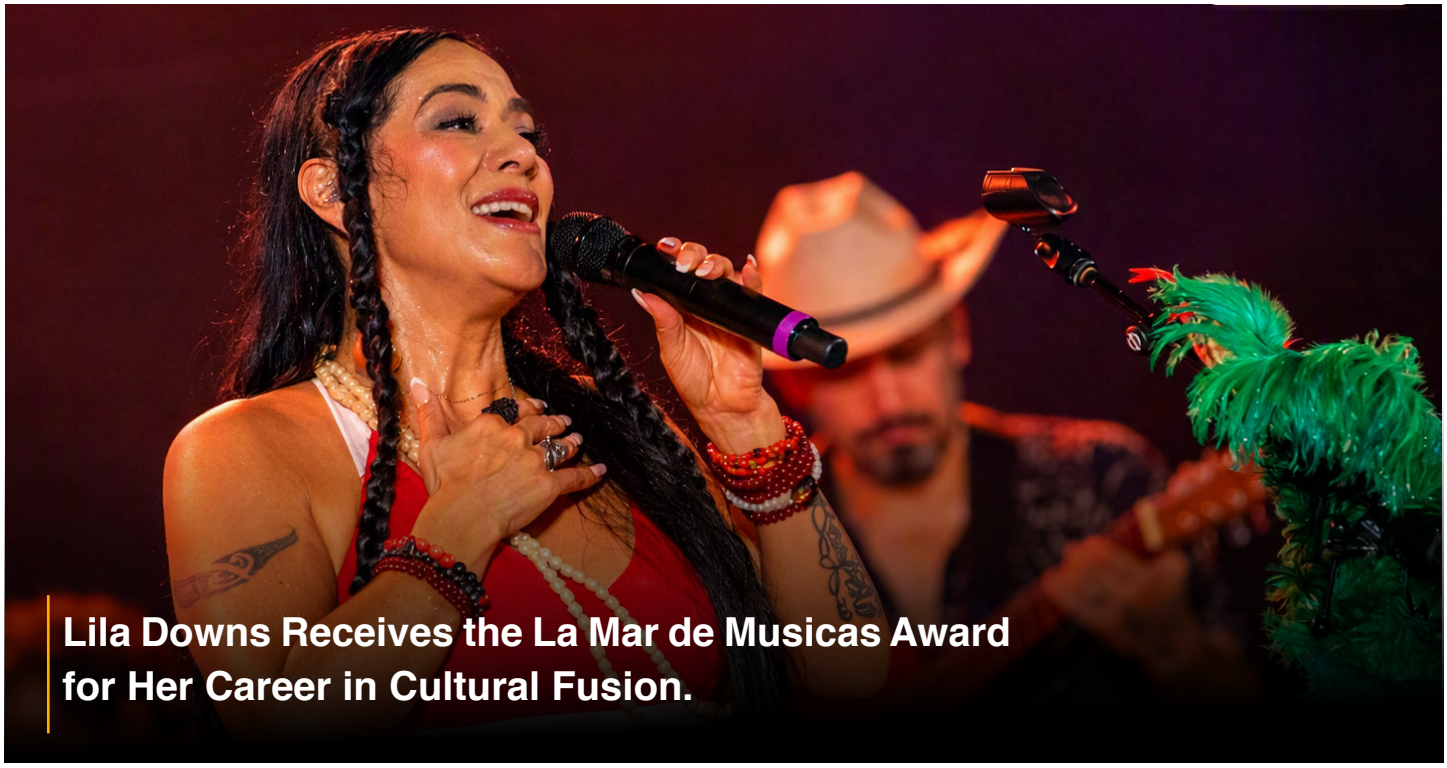
In an interview with news agencies, Kadamani clarified that her concern lies in the lack of continuity in public policies and the breakdown of consensus reached with the artistic sectors.

She emphasized the Arts for Peace program, which received an investment of 4.7 trillion pesos, equivalent to 1.455 billion dollars, over the four-year period. This arts education initiative reached 825 municipalities, representing 83% of the national territory, and increased enrollment from 95,000 to nearly 1.4 million places through ongoing programs taught by local instructors.

Kadamani also championed the decentralization of cultural investment as a key focus of her administration, confirming that 82% of the Ministry's resources were allocated to regions outside the country's five largest cities.

According to the Minister, strengthening the cultural sector requires combining public and private investment, but above all, ensuring institutional stability and permanent funding mechanisms. Regarding the protection of historical heritage, he highlighted the legacy of the first Special Management and Protection Plan (PEMP) for underwater archaeological heritage, focused on the San José galleon, sunk off the coast of Cartagena de Indias in 1708.

"We are pioneering a heritage documentation management system that can protect underwater archaeological heritage and that has parameters and regulations to follow in order to address these types of situations," Kadamani stated, emphasizing that this regulatory framework will strengthen the conservation of the nation's submerged cultural heritage.



# Lila Downs Receives the La Mar de Musicas Award for Her Career in Cultural Fusion.

Mexican singer Lila Downs received the La Mar de Músicas Award in Cartagena, Spain, in recognition of her three decades of career promoting cultural fusion, identity and the rights of indigenous peoples.

On Monday, Lila Downs was awarded the La Mar de Músicas Prize in Cartagena, southeastern Spain, in recognition of her three decades of uniting the music and cultures of the United States and Mexico, as well as folklore and jazz.

The award, a work by Cartagena sculptor Fernando Sáenz de Elorrieta, was presented by the city's mayor, Noelia Arroyo, at the 31st edition of the world music festival. Upon receiving the award, the artist expressed: *"La Mar de Músicas, a great concept, because we come from the sea and to the sea we will always return."* After the award ceremony, the winner of a Grammy and six Latin Grammys performed at the Parque Torres Auditorium, a venue overlooking the bay of Cartagena and its Roman theater.

During the concert, Downs delivered her message of advocating for the rights of indigenous peoples and showcased her artistic talent. The singer kicked off her set with the Colombian cumbia "La Campanera" and combined traditional Latin American songs, such as "La Tortolita," "Urge," and "El Último Trago," with her own compositions like "Conjuro," "Dos Corazones," "Cambias Mi Mundo," and "Tumba 7."

One of the most vibrant moments of the performance came with her rendition of the iconic "La Llorona," accompanied by Portuguese singer Carminho and Andalusian artist El Nieto Manuel. Towards the end of the night, her compatriot Silvana Estrada joined her to sing "Zapata Se Queda."

The artist, who performed for the first time in Spain in 2002 at this same festival, paid tribute to its founder, Paco Martín: *"I had the pleasure of meeting him; he was a very brave person, a lover of music, and we will continue singing, defending his legacy, with all the pride and respect we carry within us."*

Interacting with the audience, the singer championed the greatness of the American continent, criticizing *"those who dare to call only their own country 'America."* Downs, who will receive the 2026 Latin Recording Academy Lifetime Achievement Award this November, closed the celebration with songs such as "La cumbia del mole," "Cariñito," "El beso," and "Mezcalito."

The 31st edition of La Mar de Músicas, which began on July 17, will feature a total of 45 concerts until the 25th, 21 of them free, and a dozen of them featuring artists from Ecuador.

# Lima Book Fair Opens with Ecuador as Guest of Honor.




The Lima International Book Fair opens its doors with Ecuador as the guest of honor, while promoting cultural integration and access to reading in the region.

The Lima International Book Fair (FIL Lima), one of the largest publishing events in Latin America, opened its 30th edition this Wednesday with Ecuador as the guest of honor. The event, which will run until August 6, is being held for the first time at the Jockey Exhibition Center, with the aim of continuing to grow after three decades. During the opening ceremony, enlivened by the Loja Symphony Orchestra, Peruvian Book Chamber (CPL) president, Ricardo Muguerza, highlighted the change of venue. “The setting changes, but the vocation with which this project was born remains intact: to make books and reading a shared experience,” he stated.

He also announced that FIL Lima will pay tribute to the writer Alfredo Bryce Echenique, following his recent passing, and will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of the poet Blanca Varela.
The central pavilion will be dedicated to Ecuador, which is assuming the role of guest of honor at an international book fair for the first time.
The Andean nation is participating with a delegation of 40 authors from various disciplines, including former president Rosalía Arteaga, Leonardo Valencia, María Fernanda Heredia, Álvaro Samaniego, Andrea Crespo, and Merino Santi. The president of the Ecuadorian Book Chamber, Fabián Luzuriaga, confirmed that they will share more than 700 titles and over 2,000 copies with the Peruvian public.

Luzuriaga explained that the Ecuadorian pavilion will offer an immersive experience through its equator, volcanic geography, and biodiversity. “We hope that those who visit this pavilion will not only read our books, but also symbolically travel through Ecuador. A country can be read, and when a country ceases to be read, it ceases to be known,” he noted, emphasizing his desire to strengthen the historical cultural ties between the two nations.

For her part, Ecuador’s Vice Minister of Culture, Pamela Cortés, highlighted the bilateral literary exchange. *“How many times have we crossed a border without leaving our armchairs, simply by opening a book? That’s the idea behind these days: an embrace between our countries, and for the map we build between Ecuadorians and Peruvians to be a little broader,”* Cortés stated.

In the realm of public policy, Peru’s Minister of Culture, Fátima Altabás, emphasized that access to books and reading depends not only on readers’ enthusiasm but also requires public policies that strengthen publishing and expand the circulation of texts.
Finally, the fair will present the FIL Lima award to writer Oswaldo Chanove for his career achievements. In addition, local authors will present new works, such as Santiago Roncagliolo, who will launch *The Shepherd and the Wolves*, a book about Pope Leo XIV and how he handled the abuses committed by the Church in Peru.

# Mexico Opens New Museums to Exhibit Pre-Columbian Artifacts.




**The federal and state governments of Mexico inaugurated the new Ichkaantihó and Puuc museums in the archaeological zones of Dzibilchaltún and Kabah, exhibiting hundreds of pre-Columbian pieces.**

This weekend, the Mayan cities of Dzibilchaltún and Kabah, located in the Yucatán state, in southeastern Mexico, inaugurated museums exhibiting pre-Columbian treasures recovered during years of archaeological research.

On Sunday, the federal Secretary of Culture, Claudia Curiel de Icaza, announced that 10.2 million dollars were allocated for the new Dzibilchaltún museum, called the Ichkaantihó Museum. In the presence of the Yucatán Governor, Joaquín Díaz Mena, and the Mérida Mayor, the official explained that the Ichkaantihó Museum, located in the Dzibilchaltún archaeological zone, displays 352 objects that enrich the history of our civilizations.While the old site offered a general overview, this one focuses on Ichkaansihó, the city that ruled the northern part of Yucatán and had political ties with central Mexico and Central America.

The collection is the result of decades of work by the National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH) and includes Stela 19, the burial of a dignitary, the Offering of the Seven Dolls, and vessels from the X'lakah Cenote. Curiel de Icaza pointed out that these findings allow us to understand the political organization, power, and relevance that this Mayan city achieved.

Meanwhile, the Puuc Archaeological Museum opened its doors on Saturday in the pre-Hispanic city of Kabah, with an investment of 227 million pesos, approximately 13 million dollars at the current exchange rate. The museum exhibits 250 pieces that highlight 20 years of research, including Chaac masks, stelae from Uxmal, the regalia of an Itzá warrior, and an offering of Jade.

Kabah, whose name means 'Lord of the strong or powerful hand,' is located 100 kilometers from Mérida and is part of the Puuc Route, along with Uxmal, Sayil, Labná, Xlapak, Chalmultún, and the Loltún Caves. A few meters from the museum is the Codz Poop, or 'rolled-up carpet.' The inauguration was attended by Maya people from surrounding communities.

Governor Joaquín Díaz Mena highlighted the work of the INAH (National Institute of Anthropology and History) restorers, assuring that *"we will continue working hand in hand with the Institute so that archaeological sites, museums, and traditions receive the support they deserve,"* and emphasized that *"The history of the Maya people is the heart of Yucatecan identity, and we will defend and promote it so that the world may know its greatness."*


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