## **Preface**

This October 2011 issue of the *Regional Economic Outlook: Western Hemisphere* (REO) was prepared by a team led by Charles Kramer and Luis Cubeddu under the overall direction of Nicolás Eyzaguirre and the guidance of Rodrigo Valdés. The team included Gustavo Adler, Alejandro Carrión-Menéndez, Andresa Lagerborg, Andrea Medina, Sebastián Sosa, Bennett Sutton, Camilo E. Tovar and Evridiki Tsounta. In addition, Eugenio Cerutti, Sally Chen, Francesco Columba, Teresa Dabán-Sanchez, Mariusz Jarmuzek, and Cesar Serra contributed to boxes, while Charles Amo-Yartey and Therese Turner-Jones authored an analytical section on the Caribbean region. Production assistance was provided by Patricia Delgado Pino and Luke Lee. Michael Harrup of the External Relations Department edited the manuscript and coordinated the production. This report reflects developments through September 23, 2011.