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**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO THE
INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL
CHANGE RESEARCH
Fifty-fourth meeting
Montevideo, Uruguay and Videoconference
15 November 2022
Agenda item 4**

Summary report of activities from 1 July 2022 to date by the IAI Directorate

1. This document has been prepared by the IAI Directorate.

Introduction

2. The summary below describes the primary achievements of the IAI Directorate from 1 July to 2022 to date, as framed by the improvement of constraints created by COVID-19. Opportunities for travel and face-to-face meetings have provided the IAI Directorate the means to more effectively begin implementation of Decisions adopted at the 30th meeting of the Conference of the Parties and continue implementation of ongoing projects and activities.
3. Members of the Executive Council may recall that at its 29th meeting (CoP-29, 2021, Videoconference), the Conference of the Parties agreed to schedule the first intersessional meeting of the Executive Council during the month of November, as opposed to immediately following the conclusion of the CoP.
4. During discussion on this topic, Parties agreed that scheduling the meeting near the mid-point of the intersessional period would afford the Executive Council with greater

opportunities to exercise its role as the executive organ of the Institute, per Article VI of the *Agreement establishing the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research*.

5. In light of the information provided in this document, the Executive Council is invited to review the core budget and country contributions, assess and offer feedback on the work of the IAI Directorate, become aware of outstanding issues and offer feedback on science and capacity building proposals.
6. Accordingly, this document provides a summary on the financial status to the IAI Directorate and describes current activities and projects.

Report on science

Decision	Strategic Plan	Actions by the IAI Directorate	Results
<p>Decision XXIX/15. Instructs the IAI Directorate, in collaboration with the Parties, the SAC and the SPAC, to increase the inclusion of underrepresented groups in the IAI's science and capacity building activities, as appropriate and subject to the availability of external financial resources</p> <p>Decision XXVI/27. The IAI Directorate is instructed to continue the development of capacity building programs and activities for professionals from</p>	<p>SP: Theme II, Goal 6: Human health and wellbeing: Through interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research, the IAI informed policy and decision making resulting in fewer health crises and chronic diseases.</p>	<p>The Directorate partnered with PAHO and the Global Consortium on Climate & Health Education to plan and implement the virtual training program: "Climate and Health Responder Course for Latin America." The first phase of this program involves seven weeks of virtual live training on transdisciplinary (TD) research and science communication.</p>	<p>Twenty-six TD teams from 14 countries were selected via a competitive peer review process with specific considerations of equity, diversity and inclusion, along with more than 50 individuals from governments in the region. Teams will later apply to attend an in-person regional training workshop and seed grant funding:</p> <p>https://www.publichealth.columbia.edu/research/global-consortium-climate-and-health-education/climate-and-health-</p>

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<p>the Americas; to engage with strategic partners, and support Parties by providing training in areas of national and regional interest, subject to the availability of external financial resources.</p>			<p>responder-course-latin-america</p>
<p>Decision XXVI/27. The IAI Directorate is instructed to continue the development of capacity building programs and activities for professionals from the Americas; to engage with strategic partners, and support Parties by providing training in areas of national and regional interest, subject to the availability of external financial resources.</p>	<p>Theme I, Goal 1, Objective vi: Improve public awareness and provide scientific information to governments of the development of public policy relevant to global change.</p> <p>Theme I, Goal I, Objective IV, Action d: develop opportunities to increase knowledge transfer in the Americas, notably through mentoring programs for early-career scientists</p> <p>Theme I, Goal 3, Objective ii: The IAI promotes regional cooperation for interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary</p>	<p>The IAI has hosted a two sessions workshop for the students (graduate and undergraduate) sponsored by the small grants program. The goals of the workshops were: 1) to provide students with the opportunity to network amongst themselves, thereby fostering a regional transdisciplinary science network. 2) Identify lessons learned and best practices in TD science.</p>	<p>The workshops counted on the engagement of 25 students from the small grants program that had a space to present their work to a broader community. They have also exchanged ideas on methods and best practices for applying a TD approach enhancing their skills in engaging with diverse stakeholders in future projects.</p>

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	research on global change		
Decision XXV/28. Augmenting science communication capacities of IAI research projects. The CoP directed the Directorate to find ways to enhance the capacity of IAI research projects to communicate their results to stakeholders.		Coordinated the publication of the IAI's first compendium on the Impacts of Climate Change in Latin America and the Caribbean, including training of scientists and early career researchers in writing Op Eds.	This book is a compilation of 12 Op-Eds written by IAI STeP fellows and investigators, and published in major regional newspapers (available in English, Spanish, Portuguese), developed in partnership with LatinoAmerica21. This publication aims to bring critical information on climate impacts and solutions to decision makers and the public.
		The Directorate coordinated the participation of IAI researchers, SAC/SPAC members, and other partners the Science Summit at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA77): https://www.iai.int/en/post/detail/Science-Summit-at-the-United-Nations-General-Assembly	More than 17 virtual sessions (open access, Eng-Spanish interpretation) were presented on topics related to global environmental change in the Americas, reaching a diverse global audience.
		The Directorate coordinated the participation of IAI partners in the	7 virtual sessions were presented on topics of global environmental

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		Sustainability, Research, and Innovation Congress (SRI2022), hosted by the Belmont Forum, Future Earth, and Future Earth Africa.	change science and policy in the Americas, reaching a diverse global audience.
		The IAI will be co-hosting with SENACYT Panama the SRI2023 congress in Panama City in June 2023, in partnership with Belmont Forum and Future Earth.	Planning is ongoing, and the event will be held back-to-back with IAI's CoP-31.
Decision XXVI/38. The IAI Directorate is directed to organize with the UNFCCC and other conventions, organizations and strategic partners, regional science communication initiatives such as a workshop and other outreach activities subject to the availability of financial resources, to improve the provision of data and information to policy makers, and dissemination of scientific knowledge needed for the		The IAI's Virtual Side Event for UNFCCC Cop-27, October 11-13, 2022: The IAI will hold four preparatory webinars for the Americas.	The goal of the webinars is to discuss among scientists, government representatives, journalists, and civil society the challenges and opportunities offered by COP-27 to the Americas.

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implementation of national, regional, and international policies in light of the Paris Agreement and other under multilateral environmental agreements.			
		At the time of writing, the IAI Directorate was invited by the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN ECLAC) to participate in 2 side events at the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Conference of the Parties (7 to 19 December, Montreal)	Greater links between the the IAI and UNECLAC, links between the IAI Scientific agenda and the CBD program of work.
		The IAI Directorate participated in AmeriGEO Week 2022 (15-19 August 2022, Asunción) in sessions related to climate change and health, and migration.	Greater outreach and collaboration with an important initiative in the Americas
		The IAI Directorate co-organized the side event on the initiative <i>Co-design</i>	Greater capacity for IAI Parties in the development of climate

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		<p><i>of the LACI Pilot Initiative for Enhancing Capacity for Climate Risk Assessment and Catalyzing Partnerships to Inform Decisions in Latin America and the Caribbean (LACI) during AmeriGeo week. Information on LACI is available in document no. IAI/COP/30/6c¹. An additional virtual workshop was held on September 28 to plan the national pilot projects.</i></p>	<p>assessment and meeting obligations under UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.</p>
		<p>As part of its emerging issues program, the IAI Directorate organized with the Degrees Initiative, the Carnegie Climate Governance Initiative (C2G) and the University of the West Indies with the participation of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, a</p>	<p>Greater awareness by Parties on the impact of Solar Radiation Modification (SRM). Opportunities for national representatives to discuss SRM with researchers.</p>

¹ See: <https://www.iai.int/administrador/assets/images/ckfinder/files/IAI-CoP-30-6c-en.pdf>

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		meeting was organized on <i>Americas Conference on Solar Radiation Modification: Science, Governance</i> (24 to 25 August 2022).	
		The IAI Directorate is a member of the expert group advising the Centre for the Study of Existential Risk, Cambridge University, and participated in the GCR-SPI Expert Group – Workshop 10-11 October 2022 in Cambridge, UK.	Greater awareness of emerging issues related to global change, sharing expertise available at the IAI to expert committees.
XXVII/16. The IAI Directorate is instructed to continue exploring alignment of CRN4 with the Belmont Forum Collaborative Research Action (CRA), especially in light of efforts to develop a flexible funding mechanism for the Americas.	SP: Theme III, Goal 4, Objective ii, Action c.: Increase collaboration with the Belmont Forum, including through setting up a similar co-funding mechanism for the Americas, for the design and development of Collaborative Research Action	Belmont Forum Collaborative Research Actions (CRAs): The Directorate has contributed to the drafting of the Climate, Environment and Health (CEH2) CRA call text, to be presented at the Belmont Forum plenary in October 2022. In support of this CRA, Directorate authored a report entitled, "Report on	The CEH2 call text is being drafted and will be presented at the Belmont plenary in October 2022. The CRA is anticipated to launch in 2023.

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		the Scoping Workshop for the Belmont Forum Collaborative Research Action (CRA) call on <i>Climate, Environment and Health II (CEH2): Latin America and the Caribbean.</i>	
		At the Belmont Forum meeting in June 2022, the IAI and FAPESP jointly presented the Amazonia Regional CRA, which was approved for scoping. A scoping workshop with funders and partners was held on October 7, 2022.	The Amazonia scoping is ongoing and it is anticipated that the call text will be presented at the Belmont Forum plenary in October 2023 to launch the call in early 2024.

Report on capacity building

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<i>XXX/9. The Directorate is instructed to establish a steering committee, with the participation of Parties, the SAC and the SPAC, Associates, and experts on science diplomacy, to assist</i>	Theme I, Goal 1, Objective vii: Promote cooperation among the different institutions of the region.	The IAI Directorate is establishing the Science Diplomacy Center Steering Committee. At the time of writing the Board has the following membership: -Three or more representatives	The participation of Parties in the Board will contribute to the goal of making the SDC to a regional reference on science diplomacy

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<i>in and advise on the design and development of the IAI Center for Science Diplomacy and its programs and activities.</i>		<p>from Parties. At the time of writing, the following Parties and others have confirmed participation: Brazil, Chile and the United States, two members from the SAC/SPAC; one representative from an Associate (AAAS); and 6 experts in science, policy, diplomacy from the Americas and abroad.</p> <p>The Directorate is planning the first in-person meeting of the SDC Advisory Board to be held from 10-13 November, 2022 in Uruguay. The meeting will be held back to back with the first in-person STeP Leadership Workshop (12-15 November, 2022).</p>	

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<i>Decision XXVI/27. The IAI Directorate is instructed to continue the development of capacity building programs and</i>	Theme I, Goal 1, Objective vii: Promote cooperation among the different	The Directorate is working with the Americas Science Diplomacy Initiative (ADSI) consultancy team (University of Sao Paulo and /Sci-	Relevant training materials on science diplomacy available to IAI Parties and the IAI community

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<i>activities for professionals from the Americas; to engage with strategic partners, and support Parties by providing training in areas of national and regional interest...</i>	institutions of the region.	Tech DiploHub) to develop initial training materials. The consultancy is expected to commence on 1 October 2022.	
<i>Decision XXVI/27. The IAI Directorate is instructed to continue the development of capacity building programs and activities for professionals from the Americas; to engage with strategic partners, and support Parties by providing training in areas of national and regional interest, subject to the availability of external financial resources.</i>	Theme III, Goal 4, Objective ii: The IAI is successful in increasing funding through writing new proposals and targeting strategic partnerships	The Directorate was successful in the submission of a proposal to the Wellcome Trust to develop a <i>Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Landscape and Opportunities Analysis for the health sector focusing on infectious diseases; climate and health; and mental health.</i> The Directorate is implementing a consultancy for the period October 2022-March 2023.	Provide expertise and knowledge to Parties on environmental and health
<i>Decision XXVI/27. The IAI Directorate is instructed to continue the development of capacity building programs and activities for professionals from</i>	Theme III, Goal 4, Objective ii: The IAI is successful in increasing funding through writing new proposals and targeting strategic partnerships	IAI- UNEP -EPIC LAC Program: IAI Directorate completed implementation of small-scale funding agreement with the United Nations Environment	Phase 1 resulted in a stakeholder map of over 300 contacts with universities and local governments, a scoping document was drafted on program

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<p><i>the Americas; to engage with strategic partners, and support Parties by providing training in areas of national and regional interest, subject to the availability of external financial resources.</i></p>		<p>Programme (UNEP) to support the IAI-UNEP/GAN-EPIC-N Project to establish the Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities (EPIC) Network in Latin America and the Caribbean: Phase I from March to September 2022.</p>	<p>content and grant applications for future funding opportunities. Over 20 focus group meetings and 2 virtual pre-training workshops were held for university/community pairs. Advisory groups from each of the 4 subregions and one country from Central America, Caribbean, Andean, Southern Cone, and Brazil have been identified.</p>
<p>Decision XXVI/27. The IAI Directorate is instructed to continue the development of capacity building programs and activities for professionals from the Americas; to engage with strategic partners, and support Parties by providing training in areas of national and regional interest, subject to the availability of</p>	<p>Theme I, Goal 1, Objective vi: Improve public awareness and provide scientific information to governments of the development of public policy relevant to global change.</p> <p>Theme I, Goal I, Objective IV, Action d: develop opportunities to increase knowledge transfer in the Americas, notably through</p>	<p>During this intersessional period the Directorate hosted 3 sessions of the science diplomacy training program, participated in the InnSciDip SP (Brazil) program and organized sessions with STeP Fellows in both the Sustainability Research and Innovation Congress and the Science Summit United Nations General Assembly.</p>	<p>These open regional meetings provide an opportunity for the Directorate to communicate science efforts to a broad audience of researchers and policy practitioners.</p> <p>Meetings with STeP Fellows will strengthen partnerships</p> <p>Financial support was provided to include representation from early career</p>

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external financial resources.	<p>mentoring programs for early-career scientists</p> <p>Theme I, Goal 3, Objective ii: The IAI promotes regional cooperation for interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research on global change</p>	<p>The IAI Directorate is hosting the first in-person meeting of the STeP Fellowship Program: Leadership for Science Diplomacy Workshop (12-15 November 2022) in Uruguay.</p> <p>8 science diplomacy groups are working on topics addressing transboundary and regional science diplomacy themes. Each group will submit an article to the <i>Journal for Science Policy and Governance</i> special issue. More information is available here: https://www.iai.int/en/post/detail/Leadership-for-Science-Diplomacy</p>	researchers in LAC.
Decision XXVII/18. The IAI Directorate is instructed to implement the IAI Science and Technology Policy (STeP) Fellowships Program, subject to the availability of external financial resources.	Theme I, Objective 3, Action iii: The IAI supports capacity building efforts in interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research, collaboration and innovation.	<p>Directorate works with its Parties, Associates and partners in the implementation and expansion of the STeP program throughout LAC.</p> <p>During this intersessional period the</p>	STeP has expanded with 45 Fellows in 8 host countries (11 nationalities). Current Fellows (12 males, 34 females) with 41 different advanced degrees/disciplines working in 30 public (executive

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		Directorate held program update meetings with partners	<p>and legislative branches) and private institutions including IAI focal points: Canada, Panama, USA</p> <p>Capacity building programs like STeP are becoming well known among IAI Parties and non-Party states as a program that adds value by supporting more effective provision of scientific information for the development of public policy. STeP also increases engagement of current IAI Parties and serves as a strategy to encourage non Party states to join the IAI.</p>
Decision XXVI/31. The IAI Directorate is directed to continue to work with strategic partners, identify opportunities to facilitate the science to policy interface, including through science communication initiatives, and to	<p>Theme III, Goal 2, Objective I, Action d: The Directorate increases media presence, including through social media and strategic partnerships</p> <p>Theme I, Goal I, Objective IV, Action d: develop</p>	The IAI has partnered with the <i>Journal for Science Policy and Governance</i> (JSPG) with the Belmont Forum and Sustainability Research and Innovation Congress 2023.	<p>Parties and the IAI community will have access to the IAI training workshops and webinars on science communication.</p> <p>The special issue will inform and support governments and</p>

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facilitate dissemination of the scientific knowledge needed for the implementation of national and international policies.	opportunities to increase knowledge transfer in the Americas, notably through mentoring programs for early-career scientists	The special issue is titled, <i>Development Policy and Global Change Science to Achieve the Vision of Sustainable Americas</i> . More information can be found at https://www.iai.int/en/post/detail/Call-for-applicants	decision-makers on issues related to global change A social media campaign was developed to promote submissions and podcast episodes on final papers produced as part of this special issue.

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<i>Decision XXVI/27. The IAI Directorate is instructed to continue the development of capacity building programs and activities for professionals from the Americas; to engage with strategic partners, and support Parties by providing training in areas of national and regional interest, subject to the availability of external financial resources.</i>	Theme III, Goal 4, Objective ii: The IAI is successful in increasing funding through writing new proposals and targeting strategic partnerships	In August 2022, the IAI Directorate was invited to participate in a capacity building proposal submitted to NIH and led by Duke University entitled ACERCAR (<i>Consortium to Effectively Respond to Climate-Attributable Risks</i>). The proposal aims to establish a community of practice in climate change & health, offer researchers training in science communication and science diplomacy, and work with and	Support the development of communities of practice in climate and health, Strengthen science, policy, communication and diplomacy training on the nexus of climate, environment and health. Secure additional funding for STeP fellows from LAC. Strengthen a cohort of STeP fellows in the health sector.

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		support the research team to identify novel areas of engagement with scientists and policy makers globally. If approved, the project will support 3 post-docs as STeP fellows who will be placed in climate or health agencies in LAC or the IAI Directorate.	Develop synergies with other IAI efforts on climate and health, such as the IAI training on CEH, Belmont Forum CRA on CEH, etc.
<i>Decision XXVI/27. The IAI Directorate is instructed to continue the development of capacity building programs and activities for professionals from the Americas; to engage with strategic partners, and support Parties by providing training in areas of national and regional interest, subject to the availability of external financial resources.</i>	Theme I, Goal 1, Objective vii: Promote cooperation among the different institutions of the region.	The 2022-2023 call on the IAI-PAGES mobility program was made public in April 2022. Applications were received in August from early career scientists from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela. The IAI Directorate and the PAGES Secretariat are selecting the fellows to be awarded the PAGES-IAI mobility fellowship.	Since July 2022 the IAI Directorate has received the initial reports of the first 5 fellows from Argentina, Guatemala, Bolivia and Argentina who have participated in the first year of the IAI-PAGES Mobility For the 2022-2023 program, IAI and PAGES plan to support a minimum of 4-6 fellows.

Decision	Strategic Plan	Actions by the IAI Directorate	Results
Decision XXVI/27 27. The IAI Directorate is instructed to continue the development of capacity building programs and activities for professionals from the Americas; to engage with strategic partners, and support Parties by providing training in areas of national and regional interest...	Theme I: Meeting the goals of the Parties to address global environmental change	The IAI Directorate in collaboration with OAS is contributing to the organization of a <i>High-Level Seminar on a science-based agenda for resilience in the Caribbean region</i> . This event, to be attended by 15 CARICOM nations, will be held on 19-21 October 2022 OAS, and the U.S. NOAA	IAI Directorate staff will participate and co-lead discussion on natural disasters in the health sector and Science for Building Citizen Resilience. Opportunity to discuss accession to the Agreement by non-Party states in the Caribbean

Conclusions

7. This report does not purport to present a complete summary of activities organized by the IAI Directorate. Updates on activities omitted from this report will be provided to Parties on an ongoing basis during the 2022-2023 intersessional period and during the 31st meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Recommendation

8. The Executive Council is invited to take note of this report.