

**INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR
GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH
(IAI)**

EC-XIV
November 26-27, 2001
Havana, Cuba

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**INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH
DIRECTORATE**

**Report of the Directorate to the EC
14th EC Meeting
November 26-27, 2001
Habana, Cuba**

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c/o INPE

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**Report of the Directorate to the EC
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An analysis of the IAI's accomplished/on-going activities for the period August 1st – October 31st, 2001, is made in this report.

Additional information and analysis of some items briefly reported here are provided in other documents to be distributed to the EC representatives and/or will be presented by other IAI staff member during the meeting. This is particularly the case of the following items:

- *Status of the core and programmatic budgets;*
- *Update on the CRN Program;*
- *Working Groups' and Task Forces' Activities.*

November 2001

I. INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS

A. Country Memberships

A letter received on October 16, 2001, notified the IAI Director that the Government of Bolivia (one of the signatory countries of the Agreement establishing the IAI in 1992) ratified the Agreement on July 4, 2001. As Bolivia has not deposited the ratification instrument at the OAS yet, the IAI Director is in contact with the Foreign Relation Office of Bolivia to help them in this matter. In addition, the letter notified that the National Program of Climate Change (Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, and Forest Development) is the liaison with the IAI.

B. Ratification Status of the Resolution #7 of the CoP-VI

No documentation ratifying the amendment was received from any member country at OAS up to October 25, 2001.

C. New IAI Representatives

Colombia: Dr. Carlos Castaño Uribe was designated Director General of IDEAM - *Instituto de Hidrología, Meteorología y Estudios Ambientales* - (August 21, 2001) and is the new IAI representative of Colombia.

Mexico: A communication from Dr. Exequiel Ezcurra (President of the *Instituto Nacional de Ecología – INE*) has notified the IAI Director that the INE will continue to collaborate with the IAI and that Dr. Adrián Fernandez (Director General for Global and Regional Urban Pollution) is the liaison with the IAI.

Important remark: It is with much regret that we have to inform in this report that Dr. Fernando Ortiz Crespo (IAI representative from Ecuador) died in a tragic boating accident in September 2001. The IAI will miss his valuable contributions to the Institute's meetings, his important comments, and most of all the warm friendship he was able to cultivate with all the IAI representatives since 1998.

D. Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Composition and Chair

According to the result of the election of the new SAC members in the 8th CoP meeting (Panama – July 2001), the IAI SAC is now composed of: Luiz Bevilacqua (Chair), Otis Brown, Walter Fernandez Rojas, Omar Raúl Masera Cerutti, Lynne Z Hale, Julia Nogues Paegle, René Pablo Capote López, Luiz Fernando Loureiro Legey.

John Robinson submitted his resignation as member of the SAC in September 2001.

The 10th SAC member (to be proposed by the Associates of the IAI) is expected to be elected at the 14th EC meeting in Cuba.

John Stewart and Diana Liverman finished their second and last terms as SAC member. Ernesto Medina and Ronald Woodman finished their first terms as SAC member. We take this opportunity to thank all of them for the excellent work they devoted to IAI.

E. Issues pending from the 13th EC and 8th CoP Meetings

CoP VIII – Action 1, Day 2: “The CoP authorized the IAI Directorate to send the version of the Declaration of Panama discussed during its meeting to the Parties in all its 4 official languages (Spanish, English, French, and Portuguese) by August 17, 2001, in order that the Parties approve it by sending an official communication to the IAI Directorate by September 30, 2001.”

The current status of the approval of the Declaration of Panama is given in the table below:

Country	Representative	Communication received on:	Message content:
Argentina	C. Ereño	Sept. 14, 2001	Approved.
Jamaica	D. Byfield	Sept. 17, 2001	Approved with some modifications in the English version. (*)
Canada	M. D. Everell	Sept. 27, 2001	Approved with some modifications in the English (in accordance with the USA) and French versions. (*)
Costa Rica	E. Zárate	Sept. 27, 2001	Approved.
Brazil	A. MacDowell	Sept. 28, 2001	Approved.
Uruguay	Raúl Michelini	Sept. 28, 2001	Approved.

(*) The modifications in the English versions from Jamaica and Canada are different.

F. IAI Visibility

As already shown in previous IAI Director Reports (EC-XIII and CoPVIII, Panama), there has been during 2001 a series of activities, which, as a whole, are significantly increasing the IAI visibility. In this report we will list and, in some cases, further describe some of them (period August – November 2001).

IAI participation in institutional meetings:

Meeting/Conference	Date	IAI representative
START SSC (USA)	Oct. 15-17	Paul Filmer
IGFA Plenary (Sweden)	Oct. 21-24	Armando Rabuffetti
CATHALAC EC (Panama)	Oct. 25-27	Paul Filmer

IAI Participation in scientific/technical meetings:

Meeting/Conference	Date	IAI representative
Special Meeting on Biosphere Reserve Integrated Monitoring, BRIM (Italy)	Sept. 1-6	Armando Rabuffetti
2001 Open Meeting of the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change Research Community (Brazil)	Oct. 6-8	IAI PIs, IAI students, IAI SAC, and IAI Directorate.

Some additional information:

1. The IAI participation in the “2001 Open Meeting of the HD of Global Environmental Change Research Community” was very significant:
 - a) Number of IAI scientists participating and/or making oral presentations in the meeting:

Number of IAI Scientists who:	
- participated in the Conference *	42
- made oral presentations	10

* Support given by the IAI, NSF, and/or NOAA/OGP.

- b) Round table: “The Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI): Science Program and Funding Opportunities”. Co-Chairs: Diana Liverman and Armando Rabuffetti.

“The round table addressed the IAI’s science program and a new funding opportunity for young scientists from Latin America in theme IV of the IAI Science Agenda, which covers human dimensions, integrated assessment, and policy applications activities.” (Sunday – Oct. 7th, 2001 – 1:30 p.m.-2:45 p.m.)

There was an open and long discussion between the 70 participants who included IAI CRN PIs, SAC members, and young/new scientists of the Americas.

2. At the Special Meeting on Biosphere Reserve Integrated Monitoring (BRIM), the IAI presentation included an outline of its mandate and present activities in the Americas with emphasis on its strategy to implement research network and capacity building. As a result of the discussions during the meeting, the possibility that the IAI (as an Institution and/or through its on-going projects) be a partner of the BRIM implementation plan remained clearly opened. Some of the pilot project areas that were recommended for BRIM fit within IAI programmatic activities:
 - integrated mapping;
 - biodiversity;
 - adaptation issues (with a link to relevant convention);
 - ecosystems;
 - human-nature interactions.

II. PROGRAMMATIC DEVELOPMENT

A. Initial Science Program (ISP)

The program will be finishing by December 2001. A preliminary analysis of the scientific productivity of the program – as measured by scientific publications, support for training and education, and network building – as well as some social and policy implications of the emerging information was made by Brad Wilcox and published on the IAI Newsletter #23 (May-October 2000).

The SAC and the IAI Directorate have been discussing ways to capture and revise the accomplishments of the entire program. The initial proposal (SAC-XV, May 2001) was to produce an IAI Synthesis Book based on manuscripts prepared by each ISP PI, discussed and assembled at a DALHEM type conference to be held by September 2002. However, at its last meeting in Rio de Janeiro (Oct. 5, 2001), the SAC further discussed the most appropriate mechanism to produce this book. Some difficulties were perceived to proceed through a DALHEM type conference.

The final recommendations from the SAC were:

- 1) To produce a book written on a style that, while honoring scientific accomplishments, would be understandable by members of the government, international funding agencies and foundations, stakeholders, and decision-makers of relevant socio economic sectors.
- 2) The book will have 4 chapters, each one addressing the accomplishments on each of the 4 main themes of the IAI Science Agenda.
- 3) All contributions made by each project Principal Investigator should be synthesized by one scientific writer.
- 4) One lead person in each theme should also be appointed to support/guide the science writer.
- 5) The SAC recommended that Armando Rabuffetti be the editor-in-chief of the book.

It is important to note that the Initial Science Program has not only supported research and capacity building activities through its rounds I, II, and III. Other very important outreach activities have been conducted with funds assigned to the ISP III. This is particularly the case of the Climate Outlook Fora that were organized in cooperation with NOAA/OGP, IRI, and regional institutions during 1997-1998. It is also the case of some workshops organized at the IAI headquarters aimed to cooperate with international global change programs in the effort of promoting activities in Latin America and the Caribbean (ex: Industrial Transformation Workshop/IHDP held in Brazil in 1999).

B. Program to Expand Scientific Capacity in the Americas (PESCA)

Table 1 (annex 1) summarizes the present status of PESCA projects. Most of these one-year projects have just finished and the final reports are expected within the next weeks. Attached (annex 2) you will find a standard letter sent to all PESCA PIs reminding them of the need to send their final reports in due time.

C. Collaborative Research Network (CRN) Program

The second meeting of the CRN PIs was held in Rio de Janeiro on October 3-4, 2001. Main expectations of this meeting were:

- to assemble evidences of scientific progress and achievements from each project;
- to evaluate the implementation and development of the research networks, with particular reference to capacity building and multiple joint publications;
- to evaluate the process of integrating human dimension components in some of the projects;
- to report on complementary or parallel funding.

In a separate document, the CRN Manager will be presenting information derived from this meeting and from the first/second year progress reports.

D. IAI Small Grant Program (IAI-SGP)

The announcement of opportunity for this new IAI program has been released in November 2001. The proposal was approved at the EC and CoP meetings in Panama, based on a committed support from the USGCRP (NSF) of US\$ 300,000 (July 2001). During September 2001, NOAA/OGP also committed an additional support of US\$ 43,000 to add some additional activities to the program. The announcement released in November 2001 (document 7_ECXIV/DWD/Nov.2001) also incorporated the opportunity to compete for these additional activities.

III. TRAINING AND EDUCATION

A. IAI Summer Institute

1) Background:

a) The IAI/UM Summer Institute on “Interdisciplinary Global Change Science in the Americas” was made possible through a NSF grant awarded to the University of Miami for a 3-year period. It was the result of a collaborative effort between the UM and IAI. The central goal of the Institute is to foster effective communication and collaboration between natural and social scientists from the Americas.

b) Each year, the Institute is organized based on a regionally important global change issue with societal relevance (table 2).

Table 2: IAI/UM Summer Institute Themes

Year	Themes
1	Interactions between Seasonal to Inter-Annuals Climate Variability and Human Systems
2	Environmental and Social Implications of Land-use and Land-cover in the Americas.
3	Integrated Management of Water Resources in the Americas

c) Table 3: Countries/Students participating in the IAI/UM Summer Institute

Countries	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3	
	# applications	# participants	# applications	# participants	# applications	# participants
Argentina	13	3	10	3	12	2
Brazil	13	3	14	3	19	3
Canada	1	1	7	1	8	2
Chile	3	1	1	-	3	1
Colombia	1	-	9	1	2	1
Costa Rica	3	1	1	-	0	-
Cuba	6	1	5	1	1	-
Dom. Rep.	1	-	1	1	0	-
Ecuador	5	-	2	-	3	1
Guatemala	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jamaica	1	1	2	1	2	1
Mexico	12	3	5	1	10	2
Panama	1	-	-	-	1	1
Paraguay	1	1	1	-	1	1
Peru	2	-	6	2	7	2
Uruguay	2	1	3	2	2	1
USA	15	3	13	4	19	3
Venezuela	3	1	0	-	1	1
TOTAL	83	20	83	20	91	22

d) Selection criteria: The selection of candidates was conducted with the participation of representatives from the two organizing Institutions (IAI and UM/RSMAS), and the two Institute leaders. Institute participants were selected on the basis of the following criteria:

- Academic and/or professional record;
- Demonstrated motivation, interest and qualification to pursue multidisciplinary research;
- Conceptual clarity of the application essay (Statement of interest);
- Relevance of the Institute's theme to the applicant's current research or professional activities;
- Participation in on-going or planned IAI-sponsored research;
- References;
- Geographic distribution and gender balance along with an equilibrium in the number of nature and social scientists were also an important criteria for the selection of the participants.

2) Some comments:

a) Evaluation by the participants:

Ranking	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Excellent	2	5	12
Very Good	17	13	4
Good	1	-	5
Fair	-	-	-
Poor	-	-	-

b) Additional Remarks:

- A steady high number of applications were received for the 3 years. The representatives from IAI and UM participating in the selection process have noted a remarkable increase in the academic/scientific/professional experience qualifications of applicants when comparing year 1 to year 2 and 3. A significant number of applications from scientists with recognizable experience in leading research and/or research administration was noticed in the third year of the Institute.
- The Institute's brought about important connections between natural and social scientists. These connections were not only between them but also between them and the Institute's leaders, the University of Miami and/or the IAI itself. Two out of eleven projects awarded under the PESCA program resulted from initial project formulations conducted in the First Summer Institute. Networks on "land-use land-cover change issues" including natural and social scientists from Argentina, Brazil, and the USA started as a result of the Second Summer Institute.
- **It is both the SAC's and the Director's perception that the Summer Institute has been a very successful activity to advance on IAI's goals of promoting capacity building, multidisciplinary and multinational collaboration. The SAC at its fifteenth meeting in São José dos Campos strongly recommended that the IAI continues with this type of activity.**

B. Some Statistics of Overall IAI Training Support (1995-2001)

Table 4 shows a summary of students trained under total or partial support of IAI awards from 1995 to present. While this is an indication of the efforts made to promote capacity building through T&E activities, we do not have measures on the capacity maintenance of the region, a challenge that the IAI should face in the near future to adjust (if necessary) procedures and strategies.

Table 4: Students trained under total or partial support of IAI Awards.

PROGRAM/PROJECT	DEGREE LEVEL	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	TRAINING AREAS
Initial Science Program	BSc MSc PhD	22 55 15	IAI Science Agenda Themes
Collaborative Research Network Program *	BSc MSc PhD Pos-doc	45 39 37 2	IAI Science Agenda Themes
IAI/UNDP/GEF/WMO Project	--- --- MSc/PhD	250 25 30	GIS Meteorological Softwares IAI Science Agenda Themes
IAI/University of Miami Summer Institute (I, II, III)	---	62	Global Change issues of societal relevance.

* as per information of up to October 31, 2001.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

On another document, our Financial Officer (Silvio Bianchi) will be presenting the status of the IAI programmatic and core budgets.

Table 1
Annex 1

P E S C A			
PROJECT TITLE	<u>PI</u>	STARTING DATE (*)	PRESENT STATUS
<u>Analysing and understanding climate variability in the Caribbean Islands</u> A. <u>US\$ 22,000</u>	Magaña, Victor	09/Ago/2000	
Predicting ENSO effects on sugar cane yields using a weather-generator and mechanistic crop modelling. B. <u>US\$ 24,600</u>	Utset, Angel	11/Oct/2000	Project not done (**)
Impact of forestry on Uruguayan grasslands: changes in landuse patterns and ecosystem functioning C. <u>US\$ 25,900</u>	Paruelo, José	07/Jul/2000	Interim Report (May 2001)
Dowscaling activities and their applications of studies of climate variability and change in South America D. <u>US\$ 15,000</u>	Nobre, Carlos	10/Ago/2000	

(*) Date payment was made

(**) Money transfer problems

Table 1
Annex 1

P E S C A			
PROJECT TITLE	<u>PI</u>	STARTING DATE (*)	PRESENT STATUS
An inventory of Disasters in Chile, ENSO and non-ENSO related: A La Red-Chile Project E. <u>US\$ 30,000</u>	Franco, Eduardo	22/Sep/2000	
Efectos de los cambios globales sobre la diversidad de la vegetación en ecosistemas insulares y continentales F. <u>US\$ 28,000</u>	Silva, Juan	09/Ago/2000	Interim Report (May 2001)
When oceans conspire: Examining the effect of concurrent SST Anomalies in the Tropical Atlantic and Pacific on Caribbean Rainfall G. <u>US\$ 25,000</u>	Cornejo, Pilar	28/Ago/2000	
Characterization of stratospheric and upper tropospheric aerosols over Central and South America H. <u>US\$ 29,923</u>	Canziani, Pablo	28/Ago/2000	Interim Report (May 2001)

(*) Date payment was made

(**) Money transfer problems

Table 1
Annex 1

P E S C A			
PROJECT TITLE	<u>PI</u>	STARTING DATE (*)	PRESENT STATUS
Estudios dendroncronológicos de eventos El Niño y otras variaciones climáticas I. <u>US\$ 26,600</u>	Luckman, Brian	07/Jul/2000	Final Report (August 2001)
Mercury in Andean Amazon river catchments – MAARC Project J. <u>US\$ 30,000</u>	McClain, Michael	07/Jul/2000	No cost extension to May 2002
Aplicación de modelos numéricos de alta resolución en la simulación de la circulación atmosférica a escala local y regional en areas del Caribe K. <u>US\$ 16,500</u>	Magaña, Victor	09/Ago/2000	

(*) Date payment was made

(**) Money transfer problems

Annex 2

Dear Dr. :

According to our records the project Pesca " Title of the Project " has finished on (Date end).

We would like to remain you that according to the item 2.5 Reporting Requirements of the contract signed between IAI and your

Institution, "...within 90 days following expiration of the grant as well as Final Technical Communication Items as soon as they are available."

We would appreciate if you can fulfil this requirement on due time.

Best regard

Isabel C. Vega