

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



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Second Round of the IAI Small Grant Program (SGP II)

In response to the announcement of the second round of the IAI Small Grant Program (SGP II) eighty eight proposals were received by the deadline (18 August 2003). The total budget available for project under this program is US\$ 600K. Individual grants are up to US\$ 30K. The total budget request was US\$ 2,512,527. The IAI intends to fund approximately 20 proposals under SGP II.

Prior to the three-step peer review all proposals were checked by the IAI Directorate for completeness of submitted documentation. Two proposals were disqualified due to incomplete documentation (no main proposal included). The remaining 86 proposals (41 Research, 42 Workshop, 3 Technical Report) proceeded into the review process.

The proposal review applied was the established IAI three-step peer-review process, including mail, panel and IAI SAC review. While the mail review assessed the scientific excellence of the proposals, the panel review considered additional aspects, e.g., multinational collaboration, contribution to capacity building, appropriateness of budget. For each proposal at least three mail reviewers were approached. In quite a number of cases there was either no response by the mail reviewers, or reviewers declared a Conflict of Interest. In case of proposals with no mail review, the scientific review was done by at least two panelists. The IAI Directorate continued to approach mail reviewers for responses until the end of the panel review.

The review panel convened in Sao Jose dos Campos, Brazil from 20-22 October 2003. The panel was composed of four external scientists and three members of the IAI SAC with different areas of expertise. Additional expertise was included by the mail reviews received. The panel was chaired by the IAI SAC Chair. All eighty six proposals were reviewed by the panel. Each panelist took the lead on several proposals in/close to her/his field of expertise and introduced those proposals to the group. The review criteria applied by the panel were scientific excellence and technical soundness, regional collaboration, contribution to capacity building, policy relevance, appropriateness of budget.

Applying a five increment rating scale (1=poor, 5 = excellent) the panel ranked 48 proposals as fundable (≥ 3.4) and recommended those to the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) with a total budget of US\$ 1,369,361. The remaining 38 proposals were not recommended for funding.

The SAC met from 3-5 November 2003 in Santo Domingo to prepare a list of funding recommendations to the IAI Executive Council (EC) based on the forty-eight proposals recommended for funding by the review panel. Additionally to the evaluation criteria applied by mail and panel, the SAC also considered the thematic distribution across the themes of the IAI Science Agenda, regional and institutional balance, participation of new groups, new topics.

The SAC recommends to the EC twenty-two proposals (see Table attached), totaling US\$ 612,701 for funding, including two proposals with recommended major budget reductions.

PI	PI Base	Cat.*	TITLE OF THE PROJECT	Overall Rating	OTHER countries	BUDGET	Accum. Budgets	Notes
Fidel A. Roig	ARG	Res	Development of climate-sensitive tree-ring chronologies of Araucaria angustifolia in southeastern South America	5	BRA, CAN	29780	29780	
Dimitri Gutierrez Aguilar	PER	Res	Paleo-reconstruction of population dynamics of anchovy and sardine off the Peruvian/northern Chilean coast related to climate shifts during the last 200 years	5	CHI, MEX, USA	30000	59780	
Arturo Sanchez Azofeifa	CAN	TR	Understanding the ecological, biophysical and human dimensions of tropical dry forests: A regional workshop	5	CR, CU, MEX, PAN, USA, VEN	30000	89780	
Patricia Romero Lankao	MEX	WS	Can Cities Reduce Global Warming? Urban development and the carbon cycle in Latin America	5	ARG, CHI	30000	119780	
Frank Wania	CAN	WS	Persistent toxic substance fate along latitudinal and Vertical gradients in the Americas	5	BRA, CHI, CR, USA	30000	149780	
Peter F. Sale	CAN	WS	Assessing the Resilience and Dynamics of Coral Reef Populations: a Workshop for Targeted Research on Recruitment Dynamics of Mesoamerican Reef Species	5	MEX, USA	15000	164780	Budget requested US\$30K
Robert W. Howarth	USA	WS	Inter-American Nitrogen Network	4,5	ARG, BRA, CAN, CHI, MEX, VEN	30000	194780	
Jorge Sanchez-Sesma	MEX	Res	Evaluation of Paleo-Hurricanes in the Intra-Americas Sea (IAS): A Reconstruction and Analysis Based on Proxy Records	4,4	CR, USA	30000	224780	
Vicente Ricardo Barros	ARG	TR	Trends in the hydrologic cycle of the Plata Basin: Raising awareness and new tools for water management	4,4	BRA, PAR, USA, URU	30000	254780	
N. Michele Holbrook	USA	WS	Effects of bamboo on the diversity, productivity, and stability of Amazonian and Atlantic forests	4,4	ARG, BRA, COL, PER	25877	280657	
Diego Gaiero	ARG	Res	Airborne Transport of Aerosols into the South Atlantic Ocean: Assessment of sources, horizontal fluxes, iron fertilizing potential and impact on climate	4	BRA, USA	30000	310657	
Ricardo Grau	ARG	Res	The effects of increasing urbanization and agricultural intensification on land cover and carbon budgets in subtropical America	4	Dom. Rep., USA	30000	340657	
Osvaldo Ulloa	CHI	Res	Coastal Ecosystems of the South American Region (CESAR): An integrated satellite data management and distribution system	4	ARG, BRA, CAN, USA, VEN	30000	370657	
Daniel Conde	URU	Res	Food web structure in two coastal laggons of the Southern Atlantic Ocean: a comparative and using stable isotopes ratios	4	BRA, CHI	29739	400396	

Laura Gallardo Klenner	CHI	Res	Urban mobile emissions in South American Megacities (UMESAM)	4	ARG, BRA, COL, PER, USA	30000	430396		
Pedro Silva Dias	BRA	TR	Environmental changes in South America in the last 10k years: Atlantic and Pacific controls and Biogeophysical Effects	4	ARG, CHI, PER, VEN	30000	460396		
Agustin Gimenez	URU	WS	Improving climatic risk management for dryland cropping in two regions of South America - A regional workshop to prepare a research proposal	4	ARG, BOL, BRA, PAR	20730	481126		
Roberto Sanchez	USA	WS	The Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change in Urban Areas of Latin America. A Network Approach	4	ARG, BRA, CU, MEX	12000	493126	Budget requested US\$30K	
Michael McClain	USA	WS	Land-Ocean Interactions in the Caribbean: Formulating a Research Agenda to Support Regional Integrated Watershed and Marine Ecosystem Management	4	CR, CU, Dom. Rep., GUA, JAM, MEX, PAN, VEN	29597	522723		
Christopher W. Landsea	USA	Res	A Re-analysis of Atlantic Basin tropical cyclone database (with an Emphasis on Cuban and Mexican landfalling hurricanes) and an Update of the Estimation of Risk from Extreme Winds, Waves and Rainfall	3,5	CR, CU, MEX	30000	552723		
Evamaria Koch	USA	Res	The impact of global changes on seagrasses along the Americas	3,5	MEX, BRA	29978	582701		
Armando Trasviña	MEX	Res	Initiating an ARGO program in the Colombian and Mexican Pacific	3,5	COL, USA	30000	612701		
		*	<i>Res = Research; WS = Workshop; TR = Technical Report</i>						