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26 December 2018

NOTIFICATION

Subject: Implementation of the Small Grant Program: “The role of ecosystem services in adaptation to global change for human wellbeing” (SGP-HW)

Dear Madam, Sir,

On March 2018, the IAI held a call for proposals for small projects focusing on ecosystem services and adaptation for human wellbeing, i.e.: the SGP-HW. The call asked for projects that adhere to a participatory approach with policy makers and stakeholders. It also emphasized the need for interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research. This modality of research is the most recent effort from the IAI to pioneer methods to better understand the science to policy processes and make use of its leadership in transdisciplinary research.

The call was open to universities, professional societies, not-for-profit organizations and governmental institutions from a minimum of three IAI Parties which have established research programs and are willing to implement a participatory approach with stakeholders in their application for grants up to USD 200,000 to support research, data management, travel, workshops, capacity building, communication and scholarships.¹

The call opened on 21 March 2018 and closed on 27 May 2018. The selection of proposals used the following review process:

1. The IAI Directorate made a pre-selection of 92 pre-proposals received by 27 May 2018. Those proposals not meeting the minimum requirements were excluded.
2. The IAI Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), with the assistance of the IAI Directorate, reviewed the pre-proposals selected under the first round and flagged 23 as fully meeting or going beyond the selection criteria.
3. Accordingly, the 23 proposals selected in the second round were further evaluated providing a list of 10 proposals
4. The 10 proposals underwent external review by 47 renowned researchers in appropriate fields of study. Each proposal was reviewed in accordance to the selection criteria of the call: theme and intellectual merit; societal relevance; expected impact; project scope;

¹ See: <http://www.iai.int/call-for-pre-proposals-co-funded-small-grants-program/>

goals and objectives; work plan and methodology; collaboration and networking; team building and capacities; transdisciplinary approach; monitoring and evaluation plan; communications plan; capacity building plan; data management plan; budget and co-funding offered, among others.

5. An expert panel composed of the IAI Directorate and SAC and SPAC (Science-Policy Advisory Committee) members met on 14 December to review and rank these 10 proposals.

6. The panel used the following criteria to rank the proposals: a. should be funded; b. could be funded provided financial resources are available; c. will not be funded from existing funds but the IAI Directorate will offer to work with Principal Investigators to secure alternate funding:

a. Proposals to be funded

- SGP-HW 091: “Improving the governance of the floodplain in over-built river basins”. PI: Guilherme FERNANDES MARQUES. Co-PIs: Amaury Tilmant, Angelo Antonio Agostinho, Marcelo Olivares, Márcio de Araújo Silva, Emilio Carlos Prandi. IAI’s countries involved: Brazil, Canada, Chile.
- SGP-HW 090: “Socio-ecological resilience in the face of global environmental change in heterogeneous landscapes – building a common platform for understanding and action”. PI: Sandra DÍAZ. Co-PIs: Pedro H. S. Brancalion, Daniel M. Cáceres, Olga L. Hernández Manrique, Matías Mastrangelo, Natalia Pérez Harguindeguy, Yann le Polain de Waroux, Carolina Vera. IAI’s countries involved: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia.
- SGP-HW 016: “Adapting to Forests under Increased Risk of Extensive fires – AFIRE”. PI: Liana OIGHENSTEIN ANDERSON. Co-PIs: Juan Fernando Reyes, Eddy Mendoza, Foster Brown, Luiz Eduardo Aragao, Thiago Fonseca Morello Ramalho da Silva, Victor Marchezini, Vera Reis, Carlos Edgard de Deus. IAI’s countries involved: Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, USA.
- SGP-HW 072: “Incorporating Local and Traditional Knowledge Systems: New Insights for Ecosystem Services and Transdisciplinary Collaborations”. PI: Gabriela ALONSO YÁNEZ. Co-PIs: Lily HOUSE-PETERS, Martín García Cartagena, Carlos Ormond, Sebastián Bonelli, Alexander Rincón. IAI’s countries involved: USA, Canada, New Zealand, Chile, Colombia.

b. Proposals to be funded subject to the availability of resources:

- 1°) SGP-HW 069: “Transdisciplinary observatories to collaboratively assess ecosystem services for human well-being – enabling transformative adaptation of Latinamerica’s Drylands to global change”. PI: Natalia MARTÍNEZ TAGÜEÑA. Co-PIs: Elisabeth Huber-Sannwald, Martha Ileana Espejel Carbajal, Víctor Manuel Reyes Gómez, María Teresa Alarcón Herrera, José Domingo Carriquiry Beltrán, Simone Lucatello, Victor Orlando Magaña, Rosalba Thomas Muñoz, Jorge Valdes Saavedra, Mailing Rivera, Marcelo Oliva, Jorge Cardich, Dimitri Gutierrez, Maria Rivera Chira, Matthieu Carré, Juan Valqui, Diana Ochoa, Alexander Pérez, Abdel Siffedine. IAI’s countries involved: Mexico, Chile, Peru.
- 2°) SGP-HW 056: “Transformando la gobernanza del agua en América del Sur: de la reacción a la adaptación y la anticipación”. PI: Micaela TRIMBLE, Lydia Garrido, Pedro R. Jacobi, Esteban Jobbágy, Miguel Pascual. Countries involved: Uruguay, Brazil, Argentina.

- 3°) SGP-HW 017: “Small-scale Fisheries and Marine Ecosystem Services: Adaptation and Transformation to Secure Human Wellbeing”. PI: Jeremy PITTMAN, Omar Defeo, Alberto Piola, Oscar Iribarne, Mauricio Castrejon, Ricardo Cardoso. IAI’s countries involved: Canada, Uruguay, Argentina, Ecuador, Brazil.
- c. Proposals recommended for alternate funding (IAI Directorate will offer to work with Principal Investigators to secure alternate funding):
- SGP-HW 011: “Supporting resilient cities: Participatory analysis and valuation of ecosystem services provided by green (ecological) infrastructure”. PI: Adriana ZUNIGA-TERAN. Co-PIs: Bram Willems, Francisco Meza, Andrea Gerlak, Sonia Reyes-Paecke, Joaquin Murrieta, Mead Mier, Tulia Garcia Leon. IAI’s countries involved: USA, Peru, Chile.
 - SGP-HW 036: “Temperate grasslands conservation in the Americas: A transdisciplinary socio-ecological analysis”. PI: Pablo MODERNEl. Co-PIs: Jeremy Pittman, Valentín Picasso, Jessica Duchicela. IAI’s countries involved: Uruguay, Canada, USA, Ecuador.
 - SGP-HW 043: “Linking wellbeing and ecosystem service bundles for adaptive governance of coastal systems experiencing rapid change”. PI: Donovan CAMPBELL. Co-PIs: Derek Armitage, Melissa Marschke, Jeremy Pittman, Patrick McConney, Cristiana Seixas, Shelly-Ann Cox. IAI’s countries involved: Jamaica, Canada, Brazil (+ Barbados).

The IAI Directorate noted the high quality of all proposals, and that it will make efforts to acquire additional financial support.

This program will provide Parties to the IAI with much needed data and information to assist in efforts to meet challenges posed by global change. Additionally, it will prepare the groundwork for the upcoming call for a 4th round of the Collaborative Research Networks (CRN4).

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Marcos Regis da Silva
Executive Director