



INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH

The Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI) is recruiting a Science Director

The Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research

The IAI pursues scientific excellence and the principles of integrity, international cooperation, scientific dissemination, capacity building, and the full and open exchange of scientific information relevant to global change to achieve the vision of a sustainable America. The Institute also strives to provide scientific information to governments to develop public policies relevant to global change. It supports and funds research at the regional level that no individual state or institution can achieve. In this context, it promotes regional cooperation for interdisciplinary research on aspects of global change related to earth, ocean, atmospheric and environmental science, and social sciences, with special attention to impacts on ecosystems and biodiversity, socio-economic impacts and technologies and economic aspects associated with climate change mitigation and adaptation. The Institute believes that national priorities are articulated in a regional context, especially in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals.

Global change refers to the long-term chemical, biological, physical, and socioeconomic processes and cycles of the Earth system that undergo continuous, human-induced natural alteration.

To achieve this vision, the IAI is recruiting a Science Director with proven scientific expertise and leadership to provide scientific advice and visionary guidance to governments in the Americas on issues related to global change in the Americas.

Organizational Configuration

The Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI) is a regional intergovernmental organization that aims to provide the nations of the Americas with the institutional tools and capacities to better meet the challenges posed by global change. The understanding guides this collaborative, multinational, and mutually beneficial regional government effort that global change is complex, multifaceted, dynamic, and urgent and requires innovative transdisciplinary science and training to increase institutional and research capacities and open stakeholder participation. Parties also support approaches to science and capacity framed by the principles that guide open science and data.

The IAI is supported by 19 Parties: Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Responsibilities

In collaboration with the rest of the Executive Director's staff and reporting directly to the **Executive Director, the Science Director:**

1. Assists in the development and implementation of short- and long-term scientific plans, including new initiatives and programs, in alignment with the Scientific Agenda, the Strategic Plan, and other relevant policies.
2. Ensures that science-related priorities and needs identified by IAI Parties are taken into account in scientific projects and activities, that resources are secured to address these needs where possible, that activities are carried out effectively through collaborative efforts, and that IAI is fully accountable to its Parties and donors.
3. Leads and coordinates the IAI's transdisciplinary research funding programs in all its steps, from the call, reception and evaluation of proposals, preparation of agreements and/or contracts, coordination, and training of research teams during execution, and review/approval of annual and final reports.
4. Acts as the main liaison with IAI-funded scientific projects, the regional and global scientific community, and as an advisor to the IAI Executive Director.
5. Supports the work of the IAI's Scientific Advisory Committee and Science Policy Advisory Committee.
6. Monitors and evaluates the scientific progress of IAI programs: prepares required reports for Parties and donors.
7. Supervises staff dedicated to the IAI Science Program, including STeP Fellows and Interns dedicated to the IAI Science Program, when applicable.
8. Ensures that the results of research projects funded by the IAI, and projects implemented by the IAI (funded by external sources), are available to IAI Parties and disseminated, by participating in forums, workshops, and public and scientific congresses as necessary.
9. Conducts on-site visits for project monitoring and follow-up when necessary.
10. Develops and supports with the follow-up of alliances with relevant organizations to advance the Scientific Agenda and the Strategic Plan of the IAI.
11. Participates in the communication and dissemination of IAI activities and relevant scientific information through virtual and face-to-face events, social networks, email and other communication channels, in coordination with the IAI communication team.

Qualifications

Education and Experience

- An advanced graduate degree (PhD) in natural, physical, or social sciences relevant to global change is required.
- Experience in scientific program administration and management processes.
- Proven experience and knowledge of the technical and scientific aspects of global environmental change problems and interdisciplinary and/or transdisciplinary science, for at least 10 years.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills in English and Spanish. Proficiency in Portuguese or French is desirable.
- Experience in multinational research environments in the Americas.

- Proficient in communicating science to non-academic audiences, particularly at the science-policy interface in the Americas.
- Experience in fundraising and grant writing.

Special Note

- Applicants for the position of Science Director must be citizens of an IAI Party.
- It is essential to possess an impeccable record of integrity and professional ethical standards.
- This position will be based in Panama City, Panama, and preference will be given to candidates working there; however, remote work from an IAI Member Party is negotiable.
- The IAI Executive Directorate is a non-smoking environment.
- The IAI is committed to the principle of equal employment opportunity for all employees and to provide employees with a work environment free from discrimination and harassment. You do not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, or membership in an employee organization. Applicants are encouraged to review the Gender, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Policy for IAI Scientific Projects and Capacity Building Activities.
(See: <https://www.iai.int/administrador/assets/images/ckfinder/files/EDI-IAI-CoP-30-9-en.pdf>)

Remuneration:

Remuneration is based on United Nations salary scales with a cost-of-living adjustment. In the event that the incumbent moves to the host country, he or she will also receive housing and holiday allowances in the country of origin. Additionally, you will have other benefits such as health insurance, education subsidy for your children. For employees who are not citizens of the host country, income will be exempt from taxes in the host country.

Application instructions:

- **Applications may be submitted in English or Spanish and must be submitted to opportunities@dir.iai.int by 12 June 2024.** Applications must include a cover letter with the required qualifications and motivations, a current resume, and the names, addresses, phone numbers, and emails of three references.
- More information about the IAI and its science program is available at: www.iai.int