

Declaration of the Parties and Associated Institutions of the IAI on Water Security, Biodiversity, and Climate Resilience in the Americas

Within the framework of the 33rd Meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI), held in Asunción, Paraguay, on May 29 and 30, 2025, with the member countries of the IAI and its associated institutions, and the previous events—the side event “Regional Priorities in Early Warning Systems, Droughts, and Sustainable Development,” held on May 28, and the workshop “Scientific Diplomacy for Drought Management in the Agricultural, Energy, and River Transport Sectors,” co-organized by the IAI, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Global Change Research Center (CICAG) of the National University of Asunción, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)—guided by the principles of scientific excellence, international cooperation, open data sharing, regional resilience, and environmental governance in the Americas, we express the following:

Considering:

1. That recent WMO reports on the state of the global climate and in Latin America and the Caribbean show an increase in the intensity and frequency of extreme weather events, such as droughts, floods, and heat waves, which have caused significant human and economic losses, as well as negative effects on biodiversity in the Americas.
2. The importance of monitoring atmospheric parameters and extreme events that can lead to disasters, as well as the need to act promptly and respond in a timely manner to droughts, floods, and other events, in support of agricultural development, food security, and livelihoods.
3. The positive progress made in the region in terms of energy transition, with 69% of energy coming from renewable sources (WMO, State of the Climate in Latin America and the Caribbean 2024), and, at the same time, the risks posed by droughts and other extreme events to this transition, particularly for hydroelectric power generation and energy sustainability.
4. The relevance of the United Nations Global Initiative “Early Warning for All” (EW4All), which seeks to ensure that all people are protected by multi-hazard early warning systems by 2027, and whose implementation in the Americas requires regional cooperation, institutional strengthening, and the integration of scientific and local knowledge to reduce risks and protect lives and livelihoods.
5. The synergies between the mandates of the IAI, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and the Rio Initiative on Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Drought, which enable an integrated and intersectoral approach to address and innovate in response to the environmental challenges of global warming.

We reaffirm our commitment to:

1. Strengthen regional early warning and response systems for droughts, floods, and other extreme events through transdisciplinary science applied to meteorology, hydrology, economics, social sciences, and other related disciplines, for the benefit of key sectors such as health, agriculture, energy, transportation, and others.
2. Promote transdisciplinary approaches that integrate sectors and knowledge—academic, governmental, private, civil society, and indigenous peoples—for the joint construction of knowledge and tools, adaptation and mitigation strategies, and the sustainable management of ecosystems and water resources.
3. Promote science diplomacy initiatives that foster regional dialogue on the science-policy nexus, the exchange of good practices, and the strengthening of cooperation mechanisms between countries, in support of national and subnational plans, as well as commitments to multilateral environmental agreements.
4. Promote access to and exchange of open and interoperable meteorological, hydrological, environmental, social, and other data relevant to the management of droughts, floods, and other extreme events.
5. Support governments and other actors in the formulation of evidence-based public policies and regional, national, and subnational plans.
6. Mobilize financial and non-financial resources to implement scientific programs and projects, training processes, and other initiatives that respond to the above points.

We call on

The Parties to the IAI, other States, multilateral organizations, the private sector, research networks, civil society, and other institutions to join this joint effort to ensure a more resilient, equitable, and sustainable future for the Americas.