

Partnership Agreement

between

**The Regional Office of the International Council for Science for Latin America and
the Caribbean (ICSU-ROLAC)**

and

**The Regional Science Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of the
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

and

The Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI)

Buenos Aires, Argentina

2013

Whereas *Future Earth* is a new 10-year international research initiative established by the Science and Technology Alliance for Global Sustainability, whose members consist of the International Council for Science (ICSU), the International Social Science Council (ISSC), the Belmont Forum of funding agencies, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations University (UNU).

Whereas *Future Earth* is charged with developing the knowledge for responding effectively to the risks and opportunities of global environmental change and for supporting transformation towards global sustainability in the coming decades.

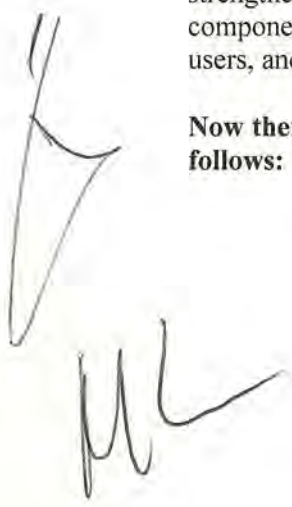
Whereas the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC) represents ICSU, a global non-governmental organization, in the region, and as such is linked to the regions National Academies and to global ICSU programs with the mission to: identify and address major issues of importance to science and society; facilitate interaction amongst scientists across all disciplines and from all countries; promote the participation of all scientists in the international scientific endeavor; and provide independent, authoritative advice to stimulate constructive dialogue between the scientific community and governments, civil society, and the private sector.

Whereas the UNESCO Regional Science Office for Latin America and the Caribbean has the mandate to develop and strengthen UNESCO's global agenda in the region through multinational co-operation; support and seed-funding to local and regional efforts; information dissemination; and capacity building, in order to enhance the science-policy–society interface for sustainable development, as recognized in the post-2015 development agenda, in all regions; and fostering effective operational partnerships for freshwater, terrestrial ecosystems, biodiversity and the ocean to underpin the post- 2015 development agenda; and has established a Regional Advisory Group on Natural Disasters and Sustainable Development.

Whereas the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI) is an intergovernmental treaty organization of 19 countries in the Americas promoting scientific excellence, international cooperation, and the free and open exchange of scientific information to increase the understanding of global change phenomena and their socio-economic implications. The IAI's primary purposes are to augment the scientific capacity of the region, to provide information in a useful and timely manner to policy makers, and to encourage research beyond the scope of national programs by advancing comparative and focused studies based on scientific issues important to the region as a whole.

Whereas the Parties to this partnership agree on the importance of contributing to the *Future Earth* initiative in the Latin American and Caribbean region through the strengthening of focused interdisciplinary programs with social, applied and natural science components, the co-designing of interdisciplinary research involving stake-holders and end-users, and the generation of relevant, policy-oriented research outcomes.

Now therefore, the Parties to the partnership hereby agree to form a Consortium as follows:



Article 1 – Purpose

The present Partnership Agreement between the Parties to the Consortium provides a framework within which specific areas for collaboration may be identified, collaborative activities may be undertaken, services may be exchanged, and an ongoing relationship established between the Parties to the Consortium for a program of research, assessment, capacity building and outreach in support of *Future Earth*, initially on the themes of sustainable energy and disaster risk which have been identified as important themes for Future Earth initiatives for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Article 2 – Scope of Agreement

2.1 Through this Agreement, the Parties to the Consortium declare their intention to seek opportunities for cooperation on aspects of global environmental change and its impacts on human well being. The Parties to the Consortium agree to collaborate in ways that highlight their capacities and ensure recognition of their respective involvement in joint activities.

2.2 This Agreement defines the general conditions that will govern the cooperation. In the implementation of its program, the Parties to the Consortium will consult their organizational bodies of governance, national governments and other stakeholders as appropriate.

Article 3 – Areas of cooperation and joint projects

3.1 Within the broad context of global change and sustainability, the Parties to the Consortium have initially identified the areas of disaster risk and of sustainable energy in which to concentrate their partnership in research, assessments, capacity building and communication to provide significant benefits to society in Latin America and the Caribbean through regional cooperation.

3.2 Joint activities of the Parties to the consortium may take the following forms:

- Collaboration in setting scientific agendas, research networking and the promotion of global change research in the region;
- Collaboration in funding initiatives, including the search for third-party funding;
- Joint organization of workshops, capacity building events, and scientific meetings;
- Communication of research outcomes in support of informed decision making;
- Other forms of cooperation as agreed upon by the Parties to the Consortium.

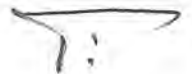
3.3 The Consortium may develop annexes to this agreement to guide specific joint projects, outlining goals, activities, responsibilities of the Parties, a budget that indicates each Party's contribution if applicable.

Article 4 – Implementation, monitoring and review

4.1 Subject to their respective policies on the disclosure of information, the Parties will look for opportunities to exchange information of mutual interest in the development of joint initiatives.

4.2 The Directors of the Regional Office of the ICSU-ROLAC, the IAI, and the Regional Office of UNESCO, or their designated representatives will form a coordination committee which will be responsible for directing the Consortium, and will review progress on collaboration, and the nature of collaborative activities.

4.3 Under this Agreement, the Parties to the Consortium will maintain the individuality and autonomy of their respective technical and administrative organization and will assume individually the consequent responsibilities.



4.4 This Agreement does not limit the right of the Parties to enter into like agreements with other institutions.

4.5 Anything not covered by this agreement shall be resolved by the Parties to the Consortium by mutual accord. Should collaboration not proceed in a manner acceptable to them, the Parties may agree to suspend and/or re-evaluate certain activities.

4.6 For any dispute arising from the application or interpretation of this Agreement, the Parties to the Consortium agree to exhaust all measures to end the conflict through its coordination committee, in case they cannot reach an agreement the issue will be submitted to an International Arbitral Tribunal in accordance with applicable international standards.

Article 5 - Intellectual property rights

5.1 In developing joint projects, the Parties to the Consortium will adopt arrangements for protecting the proprietary rights of the Parties and their collaborators to materials developed and produced.

5.2 The intellectual property rights arising within the scope of this Agreement will belong to the Parties in proportion to the contributions made by each.

5.3 Any publications shall include full attribution to the authors, and a statement that the work was carried out within the framework of the Consortium.

5.4 In any project, specified in an annex to this Agreement, in which outcomes of economic importance are foreseen, a clause shall be incorporated providing for the protection of the intellectual property of the attained results and establishing the distribution of any benefits obtained, between the Parties and the authors of these results.

5.5 No Party may use the logos, names, trademarks and / or emblems of any other without prior written permission and consent in publications to be made.

Article 6 – Funding Arrangements

6.1 Unless otherwise specified, each Party to the Consortium will assume its respective costs in the furtherance of the cooperation.

6.2 Any funds provided towards Consortium activities by the Parties will be administered by the Party that provides the fund. Such separately administered funds may be directed towards joint activities.

6.3 The Consortium may obtain funding from other organizations to support activities developed under this agreement.

Article 7– Notification

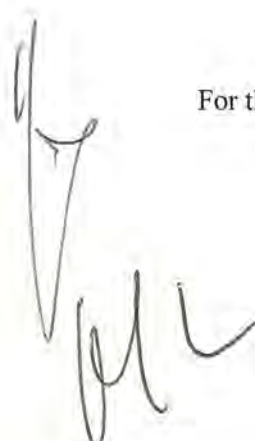
7.1 The addresses for service of notices under the present Agreement shall be:

For the ICSU-ROLAC:

Manuel Limonta, Director
Avenida Cipreses s/n
Colonia San Andrés Totoltepec
Tlalpan, 14400 México, D.F.
Mexico
mjlimonta2000@yahoo.com
Tel: +52 55 58 49 20 32

For the UNESCO:

Jorge Grandi, Director



Luis Piera 1992
Edificio Mercosur, 2do piso
Montevideo 11200
Uruguay
jgrandi@unesco.org.uy
Tel: +598-2413.2075

For the IAI:

Holm Tiessen, Executive Director
htiessen@dir.iai.int
Tel: +55 12 3208 6854

7.2 Each Party shall inform the other Parties immediately of any change in the above contact.

Article 8 – Duration

The present Agreement enters into force upon signature by the parties. The Agreement may be amended by mutual consent of the Parties, and may be supplemented with mutually agreed Annexes providing details on specific activities. This agreement shall remain in force unless otherwise terminated by either party in writing.


Done at Buenos Aires on 4th October 2013
in 3 original copies

For the UNESCO:



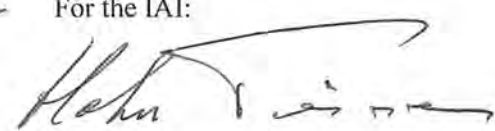
Jorge Grandi
Director

For the ICSU-ROLAC:



Manuel Limonta
Director

For the IAI:



Holm Tiessen
Director