



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



# How regional offices work with regional organizations such as IAI to support the work of IPBES

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# UNESCO and IAI

- UNESCO especially through its Regional Office for S&T in Montevideo has a longstanding cooperation with IAI
- IAI and UNESCO/Montevideo have establishment of a new Regional Centre on Climate Change and Decision Making based in Montevideo. Cooperation is foreseen with Ministries of Education, Science, Environment, Industry and Mines, Agriculture and Livestock, etc.; Universities from MERCOSUR; Foundations; the South American Institute for Resilience and Sustainability Studies (SARA(S)); the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN); and the International Development Research Centre, IDRC
- Focus of the institute is on capacity building; work multistakeholder in nature
- UNESCO recently signed a regional agreement with IAI and ICSU LAC on the creation of a consortium broad context of global change and sustainability and in the more specific context of Future Earth. Disaster risk reduction and sustainable energy were identified as priority areas

# UNESCO field presence

- A global organization
- 58 offices in 110 countries
- 10 regional, 27 cluster
- Other national (programme design)
- 10 Category I, 81 category II
- Future: multisectoral regional offices
  - Coordinate strategic contributions to the formulation of regional strategies
  - Run technical consultations with regional and subregional organizations

# UNESCO and IPBES

- Support – substantive, in-kind and financial – to IPBES functions and work programme
- Elements related to knowledge generation and to ILK – for example
- The Busan outcome and IPBES' scales of work
- The need to rely on relevant institutes and centers and to triangulate with the IPBES UN partners – UNESCO in particular with regard to identifying and catalyzing relevant knowledge

# Lessons learned

- Different characteristics and priorities of the regions
- Field presence and action must be specifically tailored to and capitalize upon those characteristics and priorities
- Success factors:
  - Presence of relevant partner organizations
  - Expertise, facility provisions and budgetary capability
  - Political commitment
  - **Quality of personnel, operations and deliverables**

# IAI – UNESCO – IPBES: a possible model

- IPBES rigorous but flexible and ‘opportunistic’ in its operations
- IPBES Busan principles – *building on existing structures...*
- Examples, test cases, lessons to be drawn
- The UNESCO-IAI collaboration model (also in relation to the relation between UNESCO and IPBES) can provide a useful model to this end



**THANK YOU**