



Climate, Environment, and Health in the Americas

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

The IAI is a regional intergovernmental organization that pursues the principles of scientific excellence, international cooperation, and the full and open exchange of scientific information relevant to global environmental change. The IAI has 19 member countries¹ or Parties in the Americas, which have adhered to the Declaration of Montevideo (1992) to expand the frontiers of knowledge and serve as an effective interface between science and the policy process. As part of its strategic plan 2019–2044, **the IAI Directorate also hosts the Belmont Forum Secretariat.**

The Belmont Forum

The Belmont Forum is a partnership of funding organizations, international science councils, and regional consortia committed to the advancement of transdisciplinary science on environmental change issues that require global coordination to accomplish science goals, create synergy, and avoid duplication. BF operations encourage international transdisciplinary research providing knowledge and research funds for understanding, mitigating, and adapting to global environmental change. Since 2009, the Forum has led 17 calls for proposals (known as collaborative research actions – CRAs), supporting 134 projects and more than 1,000 scientists and stakeholders, representing over 90 countries in themes that include coastal vulnerability, food security and land-use change, biodiversity and ecosystem services, freshwater security, among others.

Collaborative Research Actions (CRAs) on Climate Environment and Health

The CRA on Climate, Environment and Health (CEH) aims to fund research that will improve our understanding of the pathways between climate, environment and health to protect and promote human health and well-being in the face of climate challenges. The first round funding for CEH projects was launched in 2019. More than 12 million euros and in-kind contributions from 13 funding agencies in 10 countries supported 9 projects. The projects include 69 researchers based in 20 countries.

The second round of CEH funding is being developed through a **scoping process**, which seeks to identify the science and funding priorities and gaps, and to identify new institutions and programs interested in **leveraging their funds and other resources in a highly flexible Belmont Forum process**. Government agencies can provide in-kind or financial contributions to the CRA.

CEH2 Proposed Timeline

Scoping in the Americas will be ongoing in virtual workshops hosted by the IAI with partners from July to September 2021. The results of the scoping will guide the priorities included in the

¹ Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).



call for funding. In addition, the IAI will launch a series of Professional Development Seminars on transdisciplinary science and CEH, to support the development of research networks of scientists and policymakers to address national priorities identified by IAI Parties.

*For more information about the CEH2 scoping process in the Americas and the IAI:
Anna Stewart Ibarra, Scientific Director, IAI, astewart@dir.iai.int*

*For more information about the Belmont Forum and participating in the CRA:
Nicole Arbour, Executive Director, Belmont Forum, nicole.arbour@belmontforum.org*