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**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL
CHANGE RESEARCH
Twenty-seventh meeting
Brasilia, Brazil, 5-6 June 2019
Agenda item 21a**

Report of the Executive Director on fund-raising activities

1. This document has been prepared by the IAI Directorate.

Background

2. The Conference of the Parties, at its 26th meeting (CoP-26, Antigua, Guatemala, 2018), adopted Decision XXVI/41 which states:

The IAI Directorate is directed to adopt the IAI long-term funding strategy to guide efforts to secure alternate funding sources, particularly the establishment of an IAI endowment, in support of the IAI scientific agenda, capacity building program, provision of information to policy makers and stakeholders and other activities.

3. The *IAI Long-Term Funding Strategy*¹, guides the IAI Directorate in efforts to provide the Institute with sustainable financial resources in support of its scientific agenda, capacity building program, informing of policy makers and other activities. Towards this end, it uses a Four-Phased IAI Endowment Campaign to secure the fiscal, intellectual, and social capital for IAI to operate as needed with external funds.

¹ See document no. IAI/COP/26/19a <http://www.iai.int/admin/site/sites/default/files/uploads/iai-cop-26-19a-e.pdf>

4. Efforts related to the establishment of a Flexible funding mechanism for the Americas, Decision XXVI/42, are reported in document IAI/COP/27/21c. In addition, Parties are invited also to refer to documents IAI/COP/27/21b, *Report on the Implementation of the long-term funding strategy* and IAI/COP/27/21d *Donor's Session and Parties contribution*.
5. The IAI Directorate notes that efforts to secure external funding will be facilitated with the approval by the United States Internal Revenue Service of 501(c)(3) tax-exemption status. A progress report on this activity is provided in document IAI/COP/27/21b.

Donor Research

6. The Directorate is currently executing Phase One of its Funding Strategy. During *Phase One: Planning and Preparation*, the Directorate has initiated contacts to create a Major Contributions Chart to identify potential donors. At the time of writing, the IAI Directorate sought the advice of a fundraiser and identified individual donors and foundations in the following four categories:
 - a) Environmentally focused philanthropists/philanthropies (Bill Gates, Michael Bloomberg, Richard Branson, Tom Steyer, Jeff Skoll)
 - b) Entertainment industry icons with environmental support history (Leo DiCaprio, George Clooney, Sting, Meryl Streep, Robert Redford)
 - c) Politically-based public figured (Al Gore, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jay Inslee, Gavin Newsom, Eric Garcetti)
 - d) Technology / Crypto-Blockchain industry leaders (Bitcoin Foundation, Y Combinator, Brock Pierce, Sheryl Sandberg, Craig Newmark) and,
 - e) Family foundations (Bronfman, Pritzker, Haas, Spielberg, Streisand, Revson).
7. The IAI Directorate will develop an endowment study and strategy to include a framework, guidance on funding mechanisms and coordination of activities that can be implemented as soon as it is granted the 501(3) tax-exemption status. Fundraising activities and meetings will be largely dependent on the availability of funds to carry out these activities.
8. On the margins of the Belmont Forum Plenary Meeting, held in London, United Kingdom, from 16 to 18 October 2018, the IAI Directorate held meetings with the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF), the UK Children's Fund and the Wellcome Trust, to explore potential partnerships and introduce the work of the IAI.
9. The Directorate met with Charities Aid Foundation (CAF), a large donor group working internationally with a Brazil-based partner office, to explore collaboration opportunities for research, with an interest identified particularly on the topics of Artificial Intelligence and blockchain.
10. The Directorate also introduced the work of the IAI to the Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), a philanthropic organization, headquartered in London, working with partners to evaluate progress to achieve large scale and sustainable impact based on quality data and evidence. As CIFF senior staff abroad to attend a Board meeting, the Directorate will follow-up to identify specific opportunities.

11. The principal investigator of the Third Round Collaborative Research project on the “Effects of anthropogenic habitat perturbation on rodent population dynamics and risk of rodent-borne diseases” (CRN3076), Dr. Daniel Bausch, who now leads the United Kingdom Public Health Rapid Support Team at Public Health England, set-up the meeting and accompanied IAI Directorate staff to introduce the work of the IAI and explore partnership opportunities. The Directorate is currently following-up on this meeting.

Green Climate Fund

12. The IAI Directorate has been discussing application for the Readiness Delivery Partner status with the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The *GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme* is designed to support countries’ engagement with the GCF, the building of a pipeline of climate change projects, and enhance country ownership. Resources may be provided in the form of grants or technical assistance.
13. The Readiness Programme² provides up to USD 1 million per country per year. Of this amount, National Focal Points may request up to USD 300,000 per year to help establish or strengthen a NDA or Focal Point to deliver on the GCF’s requirements. Up to USD 3 million per country for the formulation of National Adaptation Plans and/or other adaptation planning processes. It is important to note that within these specific funding caps, countries may submit multiple proposals over multiple years, to best meet the needs of the country over time.
14. Following the participation of the GCF General Counsel, Mr. Douglas Leys, at the Directorate’s side-event³ held on 4 December in Katowice, Poland, during the UNFCCC Twenty-Fourth Session of the Conference of the Parties in Katowice, Poland, the Directorate has been discussing the application for a Readiness Delivery Status for the IAI. At the time of preparation of this report, the Directorate was waiting for directives from the country programming office on the next steps to be taken. The GCF has encouraged the IAI Directorate to work with Parties to explore this funding mechanism to support countries’ engagement with the GCF.

IAI Research Partnership on Climate Resilient Governance in Megacities in the South

15. At the IAI CoP-26, the Directorate reported on its partnership with leading organizations, ministries and municipalities working jointly on a program on climate governance to provide the scientific knowledge needed by cities to guide policy and implement more effective decisions. This initiative will provide the results of cutting edge science and research to IAI Parties to assist in reaching better decisions at sub-national levels, including the municipal and local communities level. The development of this pilot network with Argentina, Brazil, Chile, ICLEI and other partners co-design guidance for adaptation and mitigation actions in the cities of Buenos Aires, Santiago and São Paulo.

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https://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/466886/Readiness_and_Preparatory_Support_Guidebook.pdf/9eea580f-a109-4d90-b281-c54695114772

³ See event description at: <http://www.iai.int/en/post/detail/unfccc-cop-24-side-event-achieving-the-sdgs-in-a-1-5-degree-warmer-world>

16. As reported in the Directorate's Report on Global Outreach and Cooperation⁴, discussions with the United Nations Office for South South Cooperation (UNOSSC) are ongoing on the possible implementation of the project proposal, *International collaborative initiative for decarbonization and climate resilient governance in megacities of South America*. The proposal was submitted under the QIAO Plan by the Directorate in collaboration with the Environmental Protection Agency of the Government of the City of Buenos Aires, Argentina, Secretaria do Verde e do Meio, Rede Clima, Ambiente da Prefeitura do Município de São Paulo and the Governo do Estado de São Paulo, Brazil, and the Ministerio de la Vivienda y Urbanismo (MINVU), División de Desarrollo Urbano del MINVU and Ministerio de Medio Ambiente, Chile.
17. Based on the initial meeting among these partners and further to the proposal submitted to the QIAO Plan, the UNOSSC funded the participation of the IAI focal points to a joint workshop organized jointly with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as part of the Climate Week 2018, on 20 August. Discussions were aimed to follow-up on the discussions initiated during the IAI meeting that brought together the same participants, in Santiago, Chile from 2 to 3 April 2018.
18. The UNOSSC funded the participation of IAI focal points from Argentina and Chile as well as of scientists and representatives from the División de Desarrollo Urbano del MINVU and Ministerio de Medio Ambiente, Chile, the Government of São Paulo, Brazil, and the Comision Nacional de Energia Atomica de Argentina. The Directorate and the UNOSSC also invited the focal point from Brazil to the IAI and a representative from Rede Clima to participate in the event but due to conflicting schedules, they were unable to participate in this event. The IAI Directorate is grateful for the support received from the UNOSSC that made this event and the participation of the IAI Directorate's initiative possible.
19. The Directorate and the UNOSSC are currently developing a joint publication on *Cities and Local Communities, Urban Systems and Transportation*, to be funded by the UNOSSC, scheduled for publication in fall 2019.
20. The IAI and The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) submitted an application for a grant in the amount of twelve thousand euros to explore opportunities to apply novel uses of the best-available Earth Observation data from the European Space Agency to help maintain the integrity of the vast, interconnected, and dynamic Amazon River basin to support human well-being, wildlife, and the environments on which they depend. Although the proposal was not selected for funding it identified multiple ways for the IAI and WCS to work together towards common priorities in the future.
21. The IAI Directorate participates in research project proposal entitled "Socio-hydrOlogical soURCES of migration flows" – SOURCES. The \$7 million euros proposal led by the Institute for Environmental Studies of the University of Amsterdam is a global initiative of a group of 20+ research, international and government organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations. The proposal was submitted to the H2020 call on Climate change and migration of the European Commission in February 2019.
22. In support of Decision XXVI/28, the Directorate is now considering potential donor agencies to request funding to support this program for a Seed Grant Program on *Innovative Climate Change Solutions to Reduce Risk and Vulnerability in Latin America and the Caribbean: The Science for*

⁴ See document IAI/COP/27/18

Policy Action Program (SPAP). More information on this initiative and other capacity-building initiatives can be found in the Capacity-Building report, document IAI/COP/27/17.

23. Parties are invited to refer to document no. IAI/COP/27/22b, Decision XXVI/22: Report on implementation of the IAI Open data policy and principles and the IAI open data portal, which describes a partnership between the IAI Directorate, eCommittee on Data of the International Council for Science (CODATA), International Council for Science (ICS) and African Academy of Science (AAS) in the development of a large-scale project on *Collaborative South-South regional approach to the promotion of and adherence to open data and open science*.
24. The IAI's mission to develop the capacity of understanding the integrated impact of past, present and future global change on regional and continental environments in the Americas to promote collaborative, well informed actions at all levels represents great potential for transformative effectiveness in today's societies. The development of partnerships and strategic planning to diversify and innovate funding sources will rely on strong communication, outreach and marketing to promote the mission of the organization, based on its main three pillars: science-policy exchange, capacity-building, scientific synthesis and a co-funding approach to science.
25. As the Directorate executes Phases 1 of its Long-Term Fundraising Strategy and prepares to enter into Phase 2 prior to the IAI's Twenty-Eighth conference of the Parties in 2020, it will be critical that potential donors recognize the scope and wealth of opportunities offered by the IAI for multi-national collaboration through: a. the development of flexible mechanism for funding in the Americas, b. building partnerships in science-policy to address the Sustainable Development Goals, as appropriate and as identified by Parties, c. act as a broker among scientific projects, facilitating dialogue among science and between science and policy and d. hosting communication campaigns with strategic partners, hosting and co-hosting meetings at the international science-policy fora and hosting capacity-building activities.

Recommendation

26. The Conference of the Parties is invited to take note of this document.