



Ref: IAIUYDIR/2019/022

12 December 2019

NOTIFICATION

Subject: IAI will co-host a workshop in Uruguay on drought planning for Central and South America

Dear Madam, Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that the IAI Directorate is working with the Drought Information System for southern South America (or SISSA, for its Spanish acronym) to develop more effective drought resilience plans for six SISSA countries.

Representatives from SISSA countries, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay, will meet in Montevideo from 18 to 22 of May 2020 to lay out a roadmap to design and implement national drought policies in the participating countries. Representatives from other countries in South and Central America will also be invited. Participants will come from relevant government ministries, academic and research organizations to discuss the science, policy and governance issues necessary to plan and implement more effective drought policies in the region. The workshop is funded by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

The workshop's guiding framework will be the widely-used 10-step drought planning process developed by the United States National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC). Workshop participants from multiple levels of government, local communities and the private sector will assess the current capabilities and needs of each participating country regarding drought planning and preparation, including: monitoring and early warning, vulnerability and impact assessment, mitigation and response.

The IAI Strategic Plan identifies food and water security as important areas of research. The IAI Directorate works with partners to support Parties by promoting scientific research on drought to provide relevant scientific information to governments for the development of public policy relevant to global change. Drought has important social, economic and environmental impacts throughout the Americas, a region that relies mostly on rainfall to sustain agricultural production and to satisfy household, industrial and environmental water needs.

For more information about the workshop, please contact: proyecto.sissa@gmail.com. The Directorate will provide updates to Parties on the progress of implementation of this important new collaboration.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Marcos Regis da Silva
Executive Director