



Ref: IAIUYDIR/2022/01

10 January 2022

NOTIFICATION

Subject: Information Session for the IAI Regional Assessment – how Parties can engage and what to expect

Dear Madam, Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that the IAI Directorate will be hosting an information session for Parties to learn about the IAI Regional Assessment, what Parties can expect, and how they can engage with the effort.

The virtual meeting will be held on **3 February 2022 at 14:00-15:00 Uruguay time (UTC -3)**. Information on video conferencing system used for the information session will be made available in due time.

Background

The IAI Strategic Plan calls for a Regional Assessment in order for IAI-supported science and capacity building efforts to better meet the needs of the Parties:

Theme 1, Goal 2: *Parties were able to make better informed and coordinated decisions on global change issues.*

i. *The Parties work with the SAC, SPAC and the Directorate to map their domestic and international global change policy and decision-making landscape. This will support the IAI in funding research that is policy-relevant for Member Countries.*

Decision XXIX/16 Instructs the IAI Directorate, in collaboration with the Parties, the Science Advisory Committee (SAC) and the Science Policy Advisory Committee (SPAC), to map the domestic and international global change policy and decision-making landscape through a regional assessment, subject to the availability of external resources.

Goals of the Regional Assessment

This assessment aims to better understand the decisions made by the Parties that are impacted by global environmental change (GEC), in order to identify the knowledge gaps and uncertainties associated with specific decisions. The IAI will support and/or facilitate science and capacity building efforts to target these information gaps and uncertainties.

This is an internal exercise within each Party to collect information from relevant branches of government at the decision-making level, on issues that address or are impacted by GEC, including but not limited to the following sectors: climate, risk management, health, environment, water, energy, agriculture, development and planning.

Purpose of this Regional Assessment

The results of this assessment will be used to guide science funding priorities and capacity building activities implemented by the IAI, which will support the production of science that Parties will need to make more informed decisions related to GEC. Parties that participate in the Regional Assessment will have the opportunity to drive the future science priorities of the IAI. Once the information needs are analyzed, these will be mapped to identify commonalities across countries in the Americas. These results will also be used by the IAI to identify and/or facilitate collaboration among Parties with similar needs and priorities.

The Regional Assessment will consist of an online survey and sub-regional virtual listening sessions, among other activities, to identify commonalities and points of divergence, identify the decisions and desired outcomes, infer scientific information needed to support those decisions, and to map the decisions/information needs across IAI Parties.

Purpose of the Regional Assessment Information Session

In advance of administering the survey and sub-regional sessions, the IAI Directorate and SAC and SPAC will host an information session for Parties. Parties will learn how they can engage with the effort, and who can be expected to be involved. The expected timeline will also be explained in more detail.

Expected timeline:

- Create the survey instrument Fall 2021; includes scoping workshops
- Info-Session for Parties, Feb 2022
- Distribute online survey, Feb 2022
- Complete online survey (Parties), March 2022
- Sub-regional group sessions, March 2022
- Request for documents sent to Parties, March-April 2021
- Analysis of survey data and review of existing documents, Spring 2022
- Drafting of progress report, May 2022
- Progress report of the regional assessment at CoP-30, June 2022
- Coding and analysis of group session data, mapping of decision/information needs, 2022-2023 intersessional period
- Final report of the regional assessment presented at CoP-31, June 2023

The success of this effort depends on the participation and information exchange by Parties. Your time and dedication to this effort is appreciated.

Questions on the Regional Assessment may be sent to Dr. Anna Ibarra-Stewart (astewart@dir.iai.int).

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

Yours sincerely,



Marcos Regis da Silva
Executive Director