Logo

Description automatically generated

INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH

**SCIENCE DIPLOMACY CENTER**

**FIRST ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**11-13 November 2022 - Punta del Este, Uruguay**

**Guidance Document for Breakout Group Chairs & Rapporteurs**

**Main Topics for the Implementation of the IAI Science Diplomacy Center**

1. Vision, Mission, Goals, Objectives
2. Science Diplomacy (SD) Focus Areas (3 priority themes and target audiences)
3. Capacity Building & Training (3 priority programs)
4. Approaches to a sustainable funding strategy
5. Strategic Initiatives (key programs, partners, outreach & visibility etc.)

**Vision, Mission, Goals, Objectives**

1. What is the vision / mission / objectives?
2. Why is the IAI and the SDC important? What is unique about us?
3. What is the main goal of the SDC? What do we want to be? What are the short, medium and long-term goals?
4. What do we want to achieve? What are potential impacts we can have in the region? How can we get to our mission and goals?
5. Who are our audiences? What do we need to focus on (programs, activities) to achieve our vision and have impact?

**Science Diplomacy Focus Areas (aligned with IAI regional assessment)**

1. What are the needs and the gaps in SD in Global Change for the Americas?
2. What do we do well? Thematic focus on GC encompasses almost all global challenges (SDGs and key sectors, i.e. agriculture, water, health, energy, biodiversity, disasters…)
3. What areas the IAI could be a leader in SD in the Americas? What should be the initial niches? Where can we improve?
4. Do we have all the right stakeholders at the table? If not, who is missing? How to engage them?
5. What would we like to see?
   1. Potential to become the household/hub name for Science Diplomacy, particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean on global change.
   2. Integrating Transdisciplinary (TD) approaches for innovation in SD intellectual frameworks.

**Capacity Building & Training**

1. What are the needs and the gaps?
2. What do we do well?
3. What / Where can we create new and/or improve?
4. What would we like to achieve and deliver to the IAI Parties, scientific community, other audiences
   1. Unique position, capabilities and potential to connect the transdisciplinary science of GC with the training and capacity building for decision makers at a hemispheric scale.
   2. From individual capacity building to institutional transformation
5. How to evaluate our capacity building actions and impact in the short-mid-long term?

**Approaches to a sustainable funding strategy**

1. What is the value of the IAI for SD in the region? What do we do well, where can we improve, and what would we like to achieve, deliver?
   1. What is the Unique Selling Proposition (USP)?
2. What is the funding mechanism for the SDC? What level of funding is necessary to achieve our mission and goals in 3, 5,10 years and in the short-medium-long term? Focus should be on the short-medium term.
3. How can we diversify funding partners (currently dependent on a few funding partners)? How to identify funders and strategies to approach them?
   1. Opportunities within the Americas?
   2. Opportunities outside the Americas?
4. How do we communicate value and impact to attract funding partners (i.e. governments, foundations/philanthropy, private sector, etc)?

**Strategic Initiatives**

1. What is the strategic role of the SDC
   1. How can we position the Center to increase/strengthen participation of governments and IAI Parties (improve relationship with foreign ministries, ministries of Science & Technology (S&T), ministries of the environment, ministries of planning and finance, and research councils in member states)
   2. What is the Unique Selling Proposition?
   3. How can the IAI SDC become a resource for governments to support their science diplomacy agendas?
2. How can the SDC’s success be measured? How can the Center evolve and continue its foresight?
3. How do we track progress?
4. How do we increase visibility of the IAI SDC (academia, government, private sector, philanthropy, etc.)
   1. Presence at global GC events e.g. UNFCCC
   2. Means of implementation
   3. Regional opportunities

**General Questions**

* How can the IAI SDC serve as a mechanism/platform to strengthen the science-policy-diplomacy interface at the regional level?
* There are existing science diplomacy programs currently focusing on diverse topics and efforts. How can the IAI SDC operate as a unique platform on Global Change (GC) to be a reference point for science diplomacy in the Americas, particularly for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)?
* What is the unique niche that the IAI SDC can fill and be attractive to governments and other target audiences?
* What are the 3 priority themes, programs or activities that the SDC should focus on in the short/medium timeframe? Should there be a focus on sub-regions in the initial phase?
* What is practical and achievable within 3 and 5 years? What are some of the concrete outputs/deliverables the Center could achieve in the short to medium term?

Crosscutting to all topics to be discussed as appropriate (comprehensive view). How can we be ambitious, while realistic, and pragmatic to show value and impact in 3, 5,10 years?

**For Strategic Report and Recommendations**

**Plenary Sessions Summary**

Main Comments / Brainstorming

Major Ideas / Recommendations (agreement)

Other relevant Information

Action Items (if any)

Others

**Breakout Group Summary:**

Chair:

Rapporteur:

Main Comments / Brainstorming

Major Ideas / Recommendations (agreement)

Other relevant Information (i.e., timeline, budget, key partners, themes, regions, approaches, etc)

Action Items (if any) and next steps

Others

Advisory Board discussion will address: The SDC

1. Goal
2. IAI SDC unique selling proposition
3. Priorities: themes/ programs-activities / audience
4. Desired Impact and how to measure it
5. Budget
6. Timeline (1-3 or 5 years)
7. Funding resources
8. Challenges and Opportunities (how to overcome challenges and maximize opportunities)
9. Partners / collaborators
10. Outreach & Visibility
11. Follow up/others

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **STRENGTHS**  **(Internal/Unique features that make the Center strong)** | **WEAKNESSES**  **(Internal aspects that make the Center weak)** |
|  |  |
| **OPPORTUNITIES**  **(External aspects that may positively affect the Center)** | **THREATS**  **(External aspects that may negatively affect the Center)** |
|  |  |

**SWOT Analysis- IAI Science Diplomacy Center (SDC)**

**Stakeholder/Funder/Meeting Analysis- IAI Science Diplomacy Center (SDC)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of the Stakeholder/Organization/Network** | **Importance (high/medium/low)** | **Influence (high/medium/low)** | **Specific aspects about the Stakeholder/Organization/Network** |
| International Climate Politics Hub\* |  |  |  |
| Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture \* |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Name of Funding Organization** | **Importance (high/medium/low)** | **Influence (high/medium/low)** | **Specific aspects about the Funding Organization** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Name of Regional/Global Meeting** | **Importance (high/medium/low)** | **Influence (high/medium/low)** | **Specific aspects about the Regional/Global Meeting** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

\*initial suggestions by advisory board members who will not attend the meeting in Uruguay