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**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE
FOR GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH
Thirty-second meeting
Videoconference
22-23 May 2024
Agenda item 9d**

Updates on the new IAI Strategic Plan

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

Background

2. The Conference of the Parties, at its 27th session (Brasilia, 2019), approved the IAI Strategic Plan and adopted Decision XXVII/13, which states:

... The IAI Directorate, in collaboration with the Scientific Advisory Committee, the Science-Policy Advisory Committee and interested Parties, is instructed to review and adjust the IAI Strategic Plan at minimum every three years and to present its review for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.
3. In order to synchronize the revisions to the Strategic Plan with the term of the Executive Director, the Conference of the Parties, at its 29th meeting (videoconference, 2021), adopted Decision XXIX/14 on the Strategic Plan, which:

... approves the delay of the revisions to the IAI Strategic plan until the 2023-2024 intersessional period.
4. In support of Decisions XXVII/13 and XXIX/14, the Directorate, in collaboration with the members of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and the Science - Policy Advisory Committee (SPAC), prepared a draft document for the Institute's new Strategic Plan.

Introduction

5. The IAI Strategic Plan covers a period starting in 2019 and running until 2044. Specific actions are identified in time frames of three to six years in order to concur with the term of office of the Executive Director and to ensure that the actions respond to changes in the needs of the Parties. These actions are planned for the period 2024-2030.
6. The IAI Strategic Plan is organized around three themes:
 - i. Meeting the needs of Parties to address global environmental change challenges:
The IAI is an intergovernmental organization whose primary function is to serve the needs of Parties for inter- and transdisciplinary research on global change to achieve the vision of the IAI and compliance with the IAI Agreement.
 - ii. Development and contributions to science for the sustainability of the Americas:
the IAI Agreement states that it should support science that improves and increases the capacity of the Americas to cope with and thrive under global change. Theme II focuses, but not limited to, on the priority issues of the region which were identified from the regional assessment along with the science and science and policy advisory committees.
 - iii. IAI Sustainability: The IAI as an organization should be relevant to Parties and society for its continuation. Communication and external funding objectives must be innovative and solid to meet the ambitious goals and objectives of this Strategic Plan.
7. Each theme contains goals, objectives, actions, and indicators:
 - i. the goals are general statements that express the desired results;
 - ii. the objectives describe how the IAI will work to achieve its goals;
 - iii. the actions must be specific, measurable, agreed, realistic and timely. They will make it possible, through the establishment of a roadmap, to achieve the objectives of the IAI;
 - iv. the indicators will make it possible to evaluate and monitor the degree of progress in the proposed actions.

Proposal for the Strategic Plan for the period 2024-2030

8. The development of this proposed Strategic Plan was carried out in consultation with the IAI Directorate, the Science, and Science and Policy Advisory Committees and IAI Party representatives.
9. The objectives, actions and indicators under each target are organized by theme in the following tables:

Goals	Objectives	Actions	Indicators
Theme I: - Meeting the needs of the Parties to address global environmental change challenges			
The IAI leads regional scientific cooperation on global environmental change issues of priority to Parties	Promote transdisciplinary research on priority topics (theme II) through seed grants and calls for funding.	Every two years, the Directorate will complete a grant cycle or call for funding	Amount of communication products (seminars, publications, etc.) derived from transdisciplinary research on priority topics Number and diversity of actors involved in the project
	Promoting transdisciplinary capacity-building to address priority themes (theme II)	The Directorate will implement a regional training program under the Transdisciplinary Academy, accompanying the grant cycles.	Proportion of positive evaluations of training activities by training participants Number and diversity of people trained by the program
	Promote regional alignment of research, training, and political action	The Directorate, together with the SAC and SPAC, will co-lead thematic steering committees to support the alignment of research, training, and policy action	Number of research and trainings that support political action implemented based on committee proposals
	Assess the global environmental change challenges that are priorities for Parties and the barriers and opportunities for the use of scientific information by Parties.	Every three years, the Directorate together with the SAC and SPAC will implement a rapid assessment of regional priorities	Number of focal points, researchers and other stakeholders involved in the regional assessment
IAI strengthens regional science, science funding, and science-policy interface networks related to global environmental change	Strengthen IAI networks of scientists and practitioners and communities of practice	The Directorate will create a database of experts based on the network of STeP fellows, principal investigators, and SAC and SPAC members who participated in the IAI	Number of early and advanced career experts included in the database Number of inquiries received by experts
		Every two years, the Directorate will organize exchange meetings	Number and diversity of participants in exchange meetings between

		between members of the IAI communities of practice (focal points, researchers, SAC and SPAC members, STeP fellows)	members of IAI communities of practice
	Strengthen the networks of IAI Associates and partners	Each year, the Directorate will propose two or three new partners in the CoP and sign two or three agreements with new partners	Number of joint activities with partners and associates per year
	Strengthen networks of science funders in collaboration with the Belmont Forum and other flexible mechanisms	The Directorate will bring new funding agencies to the Belmont Forum and other flexible mechanisms to support projects formed by teams from IAI Parties	Number of new funders included in the Belmont Forum CRAs, brought closer in part by IAI efforts
Parties increase their capacity to use scientific information to make decisions on global environmental change	Strengthen the Science Diplomacy Center to promote capacity building and exchange of good practices in the region	Each year, the Directorate will organize a regional training workshop for decision-makers on current priorities and emerging issues	Proportion of decision-makers among the participants of the annual training workshop on Science Diplomacy Number and diversity of the Center's participants
	Sustaining and expanding the STeP program	The STeP program will implement actions to retain and incorporate interns into the program	Year-on-year percentage change in the number of fellows in the STeP program Number of host countries and agencies participating in the program
		By 2025, the STeP program will launch a training program for senior mentors and look for mechanisms to engage young people (15-24 years old)	Number of Senior Mentors and Young Fellows Added to the STeP Program by year
	Strengthening the Virtual Campus	Each year, the Directorate will offer a multilingual course using case studies from the Americas, accessible to diverse audiences	Proportion of positive evaluations by participants of the annual multilingual course Number of people completing the course

	Establish partnerships with intergovernmental scientific panels and research institutes to strengthen Parties' access to scientific information	By 2025, the Directorate will create a repository of evaluations produced by intergovernmental scientific panels and research institutes to facilitate access to Parties	Number of visits and downloads to the repository originated from IAI member countries Number of evaluation reports available in the repository
	Implement the Open Data Policy	By 2024, the Directorate will generate a database of publications and reports generated by IAI-funded projects, categorized by topic and easily accessible to Parties	Number of total visits and downloads from IAI member countries in the database search engine located on the IAI website
		By 2026, the Directorate will build a digital infrastructure to make data generated by past and future IAI-funded projects available and accessible	Degree of implementation of open data digital infrastructure
The IAI elevates science in the Americas to a global level	Promote and fund the participation of scientists, decision-makers, and civil society from IAI Parties in science and policy forums	Each year, an IAI delegation composed of SAC and SPAC members and STeP fellows will attend two global meetings on environmental change to strengthen engagement in multilateral conventions	Number of global meetings attended
		Each year, the Directorate will lead at least three high-level science and policy sessions and side events	Number of attendees at each high-level science and policy session and side events
		The Directorate will strengthen the IAI's linkage with intergovernmental science-policy platforms (IPCC, IPBES) to increase the participation of scientists from IAI Parties in evaluations	Increase in the proportion of authors from IAI member countries underrepresented in evaluations produced by intergovernmental science-policy platforms
Theme II: Science for the Sustainability of the Americas			
The IAI leads the promotion of transdisciplinary scientific production	Promote transdisciplinary research on the climate, environment, and health nexus	By 2024, the IAI will fund five projects from the Belmont Forum Collaborative Research Actions on Climate, Environment and Health,	Number of CRA CEH2 projects funded in 2024. Percentage of projects that complied with the terms of reference

under a nexus approach on priority global environmental change issues in the Americas, and their synthesis, exchange, and use to support decision-making by the Parties		which will present their results to the CoP in 2028	
		By 2024, the 12 seed grant projects on climate, environment and health will be finalized, which will present their results to CoP-33 in 2025	Number of seed grants completed in 2024 Percentage of projects that complied with the terms of reference
	Promote transdisciplinary research on biodiversity and ecosystem services, with an emphasis on tropical and subtropical forests threatened by deforestation	By 2024, the IAI together with the Belmont Forum will launch the call on Tropical Forests and in 2025 they will fund the selected projects. By 2029, participating projects with members of IAI Parties will present their results at CoP-37	Year of launch of the call Number of projects funded in 2025 Percentage of projects that complied with the terms of reference
	Promote transdisciplinary research across academia and research institutes on climate change adaptation and mitigation, with an emphasis on oceans, coasts, and islands	By 2025, the IAI together with the Belmont Forum will launch the call on oceans, coasts, and islands and in 2026 they will fund the selected projects. By 2030, participating projects with members from IAI Parties will present their results at CoP-38	Year of launch of the call Number of projects funded in 2026
	Promote transdisciplinary research on the water, food, and energy nexus, especially in arid and mountain areas	The IAI will support the community of practice of the Andean Regional Hydroclimatic Initiative (ANDEX), and other networks and partners such as the Mountain Research Initiative, by participating in regular working groups and meetings	Number of meetings organized and/or attended
	Promote transdisciplinary research on the nexus between inequality, mobility, and environmental change	By 2025, Belmont Forum Collaborative Research Actions on Migration and Mobility projects will present their results to CoP-33	Number of projects reporting results by 2025
Tema III: Sustainability of the IAI			
The IAI implements a solid	Improve open communication with Parties by	By the end of 2024, the new IAI website will be available to the public	Total number of visits to the new IAI website and

communication strategy to increase visibility and impact	strengthening science-policy dialogue		from the Institute's member countries
		The Directorate will communicate in each CoP, and through a bulletin, the evaluation of the annual performance based on the measurement and monitoring of the indicators of the actions of the Strategic Plan	Number of interactions with the newsletter communicating the results of the IAI's annual performance review
		In each IAI member state, the Directorate will promote research outreach and liaison with focal points across multiple government agencies and scientific institutions	Number of IAI Member States with active focal points in more than one government body
	Increasing the visibility of the IAI in society	IAI staff and partners will receive training in media engagement	Number of staff and partners trained in media engagement Number of mentions of IAI in the media
		The Directorate will expand IAI's presence on social media platforms	Percentage change in interactions with IAI social media posts
		The Directorate will maintain the IAI's active participation in multilateral forums	Number of events in multilateral forums in which the IAI participates
Every one to two years the IAI will offer an on-campus virtual course on scientific communication for staff, PIs, SAC/SPAC, fellows		Proportion of positive evaluations by the attendees of the virtual course on scientific communication	
The IAI promotes a culture of equity, diversity, and inclusion	Execute and monitor the equity, diversity, and inclusion policy implementation plan	The IAI will offer annual training and communication on equity, diversity, and inclusion in global environmental change science	Level of awareness of the equity, diversity, and inclusion policy and plan by IAI staff and other partners
		In 2025, the Directorate will establish an advisory committee on Indigenous	Degree of establishment of the committee and level of participation in regular meetings

		People and Local Communities	
The IAI establishes a sound financial outlook	Ensure stable, long-term financing	The Directorate will explore mechanisms to increase voluntary contributions from Parties to the core budget	Year-on-year percentage change in Parties' voluntary contributions to the core budget
		The Directorate, together with Parties, will identify opportunities to co-finance the program budget	Year-on-year percentage change in voluntary contributions from Parties to the program budget and in-kind contributions
		The Directorate will establish relationships with development banks, philanthropy, and other donors to finance and implement projects aimed at addressing the priorities of the region (Theme II)	Number of successful funding proposals obtained from development banks, philanthropy, and other donors
The IAI increases its presence in the region	Increase the number of IAI Member States	The IAI will develop relationships with potential new Parties in the Americas	Number of potential new Parties in the Americas with which the IAI develops relationships
	Strengthening the IAI's presence in Central America and the Caribbean	In 2025, the Directorate will establish an IAI office in Central America and the Caribbean	Degree of implementation of the opening and operation of the office in Central America and the Caribbean
	Strengthen links with organizations in the region	The Directorate will explore linkages with national, regional, and global bodies with limited membership in the IAI (SICA, CARICOM)	Number of linkages (associates, MoU partners and other collaborators) established with organizations with a presence in the region

Recommendation

10. The Conference of the Parties is invited to take note and provide feedback on this report.