



ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

15 May 2023

**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL
CHANGE RESEARCH**

**Thirty First meeting
Panama City, Panama
21-22 June 2023
Agenda item 13(b)(ii)**

Agenda item 13(b)(ii): Presentation by SteP Fellows

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

Background

2. The Conference of the Parties, at its 27th meeting, adopted Decision XXVII/18 which states:

XXVII/18. The IAI Directorate is instructed to implement the IAI Science and Technology Policy (STeP) Fellowships Program, subject to the availability of external financial resources.

3. Additionally, The IAI Strategic Plan calls for, by the end of 2022, the creation of fellowship and mentorship programs to train early-career scientists in processes related to the science-policy interface. It is expected that early-career individuals from multiple backgrounds and disciplines trained under these programs will contribute to the creation of a pool of experts on science to policy processes and global change research.
4. During the 2022-2023 intersessional period, the IAI STeP Fellowship Program experienced an increase in enrollment, suggesting an interest in and support by Parties in the program. In the last intersessional period, there were 45 active

participants compared with 17 at the start of the program. A total number of 64 fellows are currently enrolled or have completed the program. The Fellows come from 13 countries with a gender balance of 22 males and 42 females. Their education includes more than 40 different advanced degrees and disciplines. Finally, they are employed in the public sector, executive and legislative branches, and private sector host institutions.

Drafting the STeP Fellow Leadership Statement

5. The IAI provided financial support to 30 fellows from 14 countries in the Americas to attend the *STeP Leadership in Science Diplomacy Workshop*, which was held from November 12 to 15, 2022 in Punta del Este and Montevideo, Uruguay. Workshop sessions included: Transdisciplinary leadership: key principles of the TD Approach; justice, equity, diversity and inclusion and decolonization at the nexus of science and policy; and, a science diplomacy simulation game, Behavioural science in science diplomacy for consensus building and Leadership Redefined.
6. In the final activity of the workshop, the Fellows were tasked to draft a leadership statement reflecting their views and for possible use by early career researchers.
7. The leadership statement was presented by the Fellows in English, Portuguese and Spanish at the opening of the Global Research Council Americas Regional Meeting, which was held from 16-18 November 2022 in Montevideo, Uruguay.
8. Copies of the STeP Fellows leadership statement are available in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish languages in the annex to this document.

Recommendation

9. The Conference of the Parties is invited to take note of STeP Fellows leadership statement contained in the Annex to the present document.

Annex

IAI Science Technology and Policy (STeP) Fellow Leadership Statement

English

PREAMBLE

We leaders in Science Diplomacy,

Concerned about current and future generations and our planet, which are affected by structural challenges, loss of connections among humans and with nature, social inequities, exploitative ways of life, and their impacts on mental health

Acknowledging that harmful social hierarchies perpetuate injustice, and recognizing the need for transformative and radical change in the Americas,

Motivated by the desire for personal, societal, and environmental well-being, inspired by those already working to improve ways of life, and curious about innovative methods of building consensus, *and* Valuing diversity and collective action, and hopeful for opportunities to build relationships that uplift unheard voices, find common ground, and lead to trust and equity.

STATEMENTS

We strive to be empathetic active listeners and learners with compassion to promote inclusive and collective discussion and decision-making across cultural and national differences.

We aim for constant self-awareness, and the willingness to be vulnerable to invoke shared trust and hope across communities and borders.

We commit to transformative meaningful change, beyond incremental, by creating and utilizing innovative methods that are flexible to evolving realities, accepting that decisions may be right today and wrong tomorrow.

We foster recognition of knowledge diversity and its synergies, minimizing knowledge monopolies and boundaries, and moving towards actionable inclusivity.

We apply transdisciplinary approaches that foster networks and collaboration towards enhanced capacities and effective solutions, transcending limitations of acting and thinking as individual people and nations.

We build trust and equity among societies while addressing the most urgent challenges facing the Americas. While all differences may not be reconciled, we commit to mutual respect and civility for progress.

We strengthen and expand involvement of diverse stakeholders in knowledge, innovation, and diplomatic action beyond individuals in the IAI Science Technology and Policy Fellowship program.

IAI Science Technology and Policy (STeP) Fellow Leadership Statement

French

Déclaration des boursiers STeP de l'IAI sur le leadership

PRÉAMBULE

Nous, les leaders de la diplomatie scientifique,

Préoccupés par les générations actuelles et futures et par notre planète, qui sont affectées par les défis structurels, la perte des liens entre les humains et avec la nature, les inégalités sociales, les modes de vie exploitants, et leurs impacts sur la santé mentale.

Constatant que les hiérarchies sociales néfastes perpétuent l'injustice, et reconnaissant la nécessité d'un changement transformateur et radical dans les Amériques,

Motivés par le désir de bien-être personnel, sociétal et environnemental, inspirés par ceux qui travaillent déjà à l'amélioration des modes de vie, et curieux des méthodes novatrices permettant de parvenir à un consensus, *et*

Valorisant la diversité et l'action collective, et espérant des opportunités pour construire des relations qui élèvent des voix non entendues, trouvent un terrain d'entente, et mènent à la confiance et à l'équité.

DÉCLARATIONS

Nous nous efforçons d'être des auditeurs actifs et empathiques et d'apprendre avec compassion afin de promouvoir des discussions et des prises de décision inclusives et collectives au-delà des différences culturelles et nationales.

Nous visons une conscience de soi constante et la volonté d'être vulnérables pour susciter une confiance et un espoir partagés au-delà des communautés et des frontières.

Nous nous engageons à apporter un changement significatif et transformateur, au-delà de l'incrémental, en créant et en utilisant des méthodes novatrices qui s'adaptent aux réalités changeantes, en acceptant que les décisions puissent être bonnes aujourd'hui et mauvaises demain.

Nous encourageons la reconnaissance de la diversité des connaissances et de leurs synergies, en réduisant au minimum les monopoles et les frontières du savoir, et en nous orientant vers une inclusion réalisable.

Nous appliquons des approches transdisciplinaires qui favorisent les réseaux et la collaboration en vue de renforcer les capacités et de trouver des solutions efficaces, en dépassant les limites de l'action et de la réflexion des individus et des nations.

Nous instaurons la confiance et l'équité entre les sociétés tout en relevant les défis les plus urgents auxquels les Amériques sont confrontées. Bien que toutes les différences ne puissent être réconciliées, nous nous engageons à faire preuve de respect mutuel et de civilité pour progresser.

Nous renforçons et élargissons la participation de diverses parties prenantes à la connaissance, à l'innovation et à l'action diplomatique au-delà des individus participant au Programme de bourses de l'IAI en science, technologie et politique.

IAI Science Technology and Policy (STeP) Fellow Leadership Statement

Portuguese

Declaração dos membros do Programa STeP sobre Liderança

PREÂMBULO

Nós, líderes em Diplomacia Científica,

Preocupadas e preocupados com as gerações atuais e futuras e com o nosso planeta, que são afetados por desafios estruturais, perda de conexões entre as pessoas e com a natureza, desigualdades sociais, modos de vida predatórios e seus impactos sobre a saúde mental,

Constatando que hierarquias sociais prejudiciais perpetuam a injustiça, e reconhecendo a necessidade de mudanças transformadoras e radicais nas Américas,

Motivadas e motivados pelo desejo de bem-estar pessoal, social e ambiental, inspiradas e inspirados por pessoas que já trabalham para melhorar os modos de vida, e curiosas e curiosos sobre métodos inovadores de construção de consenso, e

Valorizando a diversidade e a ação coletiva, e esperançosas e esperançosos por oportunidades para construir relacionamentos que elevem vozes inaudíveis, encontrem uma base comum, e levem à confiança e equidade.

DECLARAMOS

Nós nos esforçamos para sermos ouvintes e aprendizes ativas e ativos, empáticas e empáticos, e termos compaixão para promover discussões e tomadas de decisão inclusivas e coletivas, transpondo diferenças culturais e nacionais.

Aspiramos à autoconsciência constante e à disposição de sermos vulneráveis para invocar confiança e esperança compartilhadas pelas comunidades e para além das fronteiras.

Comprometemo-nos com mudanças transformadoras relevantes, para além de incrementais, criando e utilizando métodos inovadores que sejam flexíveis às realidades em evolução, aceitando que as decisões podem ser certas hoje e erradas amanhã.

Promovemos o reconhecimento da diversidade de saberes e suas sinergias, minimizando monopólios e barreiras do conhecimento e avançando para a efetiva inclusividade.

Aplicamos abordagens transdisciplinares que promovem redes e colaboração direcionadas ao aprimoramento de capacidades e a soluções eficazes, transcendendo as limitações de agir e pensar como pessoas e nações individuais.

Construímos confiança e equidade entre sociedades enquanto abordamos os desafios mais urgentes que as Américas enfrentam. Embora nem todas as diferenças possam ser reconciliadas, nós nos comprometemos com o respeito mútuo e a civilidade para o progresso.

Fortalecemos e ampliamos o envolvimento de diversas partes interessadas em conhecimento, inovação e ação diplomática para além dos indivíduos envolvidos no programa de Ciência, Tecnologia e Política do Instituto Interamericano para Pesquisas em Mudanças Globais.

Annex

IAI Science Technology and Policy (STeP) Fellow Leadership Statement

Spanish

Declaración de Liderazgo de los Becarios STeP

PREÁMBULO

Nosotras y nosotros líderes en Diplomacia Científica,

Preocupadas/os por las generaciones actuales y futuras y por nuestro planeta, afectados por desafíos estructurales, pérdida de conexiones entre nosotras/os y la naturaleza, por las desigualdades sociales, los modos de vida explotadores y sus impactos en la salud mental.

Reconociendo que las jerarquías sociales perjudiciales perpetúan la injusticia y reconociendo la necesidad de un cambio transformador y radical en las Américas,

Motivadas/os por el deseo de bienestar personal, social y ambiental, inspiradas/os por aquellas/os que ya están trabajando para mejorar la vida, e interesados/as sobre métodos innovadores para generar consenso, y

Valorando la diversidad y la acción colectiva, y buscando oportunidades para construir relaciones que hagan audibles las voces ignoradas para encontrar las bases que tenemos en común, y para conducir confianza y equidad.

DECLARAMOS QUE

Nos esforzamos por ser oyentes empáticos, activos y aprendices, con compasión para promover el diálogo y la toma de decisiones más inclusivas y colectivas a través de las diferencias culturales y nacionales

Nos proponemos trabajar constantemente en nuestro autoconocimiento y en la voluntad de ser vulnerables de manera que podamos invocar una mayor confianza y esperanza compartidas a través de las comunidades y las fronteras.

Nos comprometemos a un cambio transformador significativo y radical mediante la creación y el uso de métodos innovadores flexibles a las realidades cambiantes, reconociendo que las decisiones pueden ser correctas hoy y equivocadas mañana.

Fomentamos el reconocimiento de la diversidad de los conocimientos y las sinergias que existen, la reducción de los monopolios y los límites del conocimiento, y el avance hacia la inclusión activa.

Aplicamos enfoques transdisciplinarios que fomentan la colaboración creando capacidades y soluciones efectivas, trascendiendo limitaciones del pensar y actuar de manera individual y como naciones.

Construimos confianza y equidad en las sociedad mientras abordamos los desafíos más urgentes que enfrentan las Américas. Si bien es posible que no se reconcilien todas las diferencias, nos comprometemos al respeto mutuo y al esfuerzo para el progreso colectivo.

Fortalecemos y expandimos la participación de diversas partes interesadas en el conocimiento(s), la innovación y la acción diplomática más allá de los individuos en el programa de Ciencia, Tecnología y políticas del IAI