

IAI Science Diplomacy Center (SDC)



**CoP 31 Side Event
21 June 2023**

The Science Diplomacy Center (SDC) - Background

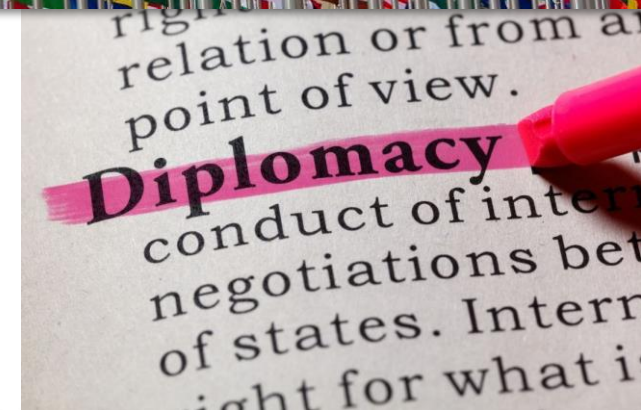
Seated in the heart of the Americas for 30 years, the IAI has excelled in:

- Fostering international and regional cooperation in science.
- Establishing scientific networks on global change research.
- Expanding transboundary and transdisciplinary networks.
- Supporting capacity-building efforts – investing in generations of GC scientists.

Yet, major challenges persist

The state of the science-policy interface:

- Institutional and professional capacities in science-policy.
- Fragmented governance mechanism and lack of effective science-policy instruments.
- Limited resources (human, financial, technological etc.)
- Challenges that no single Nation can address alone (Multilateralism).



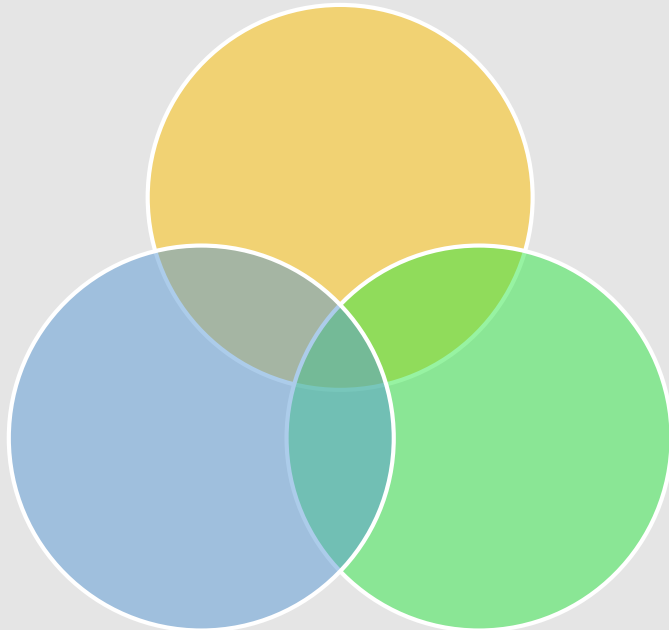
The IAI Science Diplomacy Center (SDC)

A regional initiative to foster Science-Policy Dialogue and Collaboration for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable Americas



Pillars

Capacity Building



Science Diplomacy Knowledge Hub

Convener on Emerging Issues

Vision: The Science Diplomacy Center shall contribute to the maintenance of a peaceful and sustainable Americas through innovative transdisciplinary collaborations to address the region's shared challenges and safeguard the livelihoods and well-being of future generations and the planet.

Mission: The Center shall enhance the capacity of Parties (IAI member states) to meet the objectives of the IAI Strategic Plan and the Sustainable Development Goals by strengthening the interface between science and policy, establishing a science diplomacy knowledge hub, and developing open, just, and equitable programs and activities for the Americas to meet the challenges of global change.

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Proposed Activities for the SDC

- I. Capacity building: Introduction to Science Diplomacy:** To develop effective governance mechanisms for science diplomacy by strengthening science in policy, and priority areas for the Americas

Negotiation Best Practices: To strengthen new/emerging generation of negotiators to understand the mechanics of the negotiating process within several multilateral frameworks, (eg. the UNFCCC, CBD, G-20, etc)
- I. A Science Diplomacy Knowledge Hub:** A platform where countries can access training, information, regional case studies, scientific literature, policy papers, and national science diplomacy strategies, among others to foster knowledge sharing across borders.
- I. Convene webinars, conferences, and workshops / Emerging Issues:** Convene relevant communities to promote collaboration, networks and dialogue between scientists and decision-makers in the Americas on emerging issues

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The SDC will:

- Foster a supportive environment for government officials, experts, and advisors.
- Strengthen institutional, professional capacities in countries, in the region.
- Contribute to the development of national and regional science diplomacy strategies, programs, and effective public policies.
- Support the next generation of science advisors (STeP fellows included), and policy makers.

Development of training materials on science diplomacy related to global environmental change in the Americas

A consortium led by the University of São Paulo (USP) entitled *Americas Science Diplomacy Initiative (ADSI)*

Objective:

Develop training materials (curriculum) to enhance the capacity of professionals and institutions across the Americas to better understand and practice science diplomacy.





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| 17:10-17:30 | <p>Panama Science Diplomacy Case Study Panama, CoP31 host country, will share their experience in science diplomacy, including the establishment of the first national science diplomacy strategy in Latin America.</p> <p>Milagro Mainieri, Director of Innovation and Development, SENACYT Panama</p> <p>Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) will provide an example of the role of science in diplomacy by sharing its experience working with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to shift shipping lanes to protect migratory whale species.</p> <p>Hector Guzman, Marine Biologist, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI):</p> |
| 17:30-18:15 | <p>Co-Design Session: Participants will rotate in stations (15 min each) to discuss and contribute to the flagship initiatives of the SDC 2023-2026</p> |
| | <p>Station 1: Why is science diplomacy important to support regional collaboration (multilateralism) among member states in global environmental change related issues? How can the IAI SDC support national strategies, plans, programs and other institutional mechanisms?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair: Milagro Mainieri, Panama Focal Point and Vicechair of IAI Executive Council • SAC/SPAC co-chair: Omar Lopez • IAI Representative: Kim Portmess • STeP Fellow: Rosario Quintero <p>Station 2: What are the priority capacity-building needs and skills for government officials?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair: Carlos Matsumoto, Brazil Focal Point, MCTI • SAC/SPAC co-chair: Carol Franco |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IAI Representative: Marcella Ohira • STeP Fellow: Anne Teresa Birthwright <p>Station 3: What are the priority topics and emerging issues in global environmental change the SDC should focus on? What kind of resources are needed in the SDC Knowledge Hub?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair: Maria Uhle, US Focal Point, NSF USA • SAC/SPAC co-chair: Javier Garcia Garza • IAI Representative: Marcos Regis da Silva • STeP Fellow: Brian Leung |
| 18:15-18:30 | Report out & Closing |

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Co-Design Session for the SDC's 3-year plan: Guiding Questions for Stations



Station 1: National Science Diplomacy Plans and Programs

- How can the SDC be a useful resource to support your government in its national science diplomacy strategy, plans or programs?

Station 2: Capacity Building in Science Diplomacy

- How can the Science Diplomacy Center support human and institutional capacity related to global change for the governments of the IAI Parties?
 - What are the priority capacity building needs for government officials?
 - How can the SDC promote and facilitate international collaboration (multilateralism) among member states?

Station 3: Emerging Issues & Science Diplomacy Center Knowledge Hub

- What are the priority topics and emerging issues in global environmental change the SDC should focus on? To best support the human and institutional capacity of your government, what type of resources and materials would be preferred in the SDC Knowledge Hub?
 - Should the SDC Knowledge Hub:
 - Host a discussion platform/panel to facilitate engagement?
 - Host a clearing house of scientific publications, grey literature, policy papers on global change challenges that are of national and regional priority in the Americas, etc.