



IAI Science Diplomacy Center

Science Diplomacy Training Program for Policy Makers in the Americas

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research [Science Diplomacy Center \(IAI-SDC\)](#) has introduced a novel initiative called the **Science Diplomacy Training Program for Policy Makers in the Americas**. The inaugural [Introduction to Science Diplomacy](#) training workshop is organised by the Science Diplomacy Center (SDC) and sponsored by the National Secretariat of Science, Technology, and Innovation ([SENACYT](#)), Panama. The program, including its associated training workshops, aims to enable government officials, science advisors, and experts in the Americas, particularly Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region, to support evidence-based national and multilateral science-policy processes. Likewise, the event aims to serve as a venue to catalyze areas of common interest, and foster dialogue and collaborations among government officials, institutions, and countries to address shared global challenges faced by the Americas.

Science, technology and innovation (STI) are central pillars in government investments and strategies in developing high-income nations. STIs are also key to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the collective action needed to address global challenges that no country can tackle alone, such as climate change, biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services, health, water crises, and food insecurity, among many others. Over the years, the LAC region has been engaged in various [science diplomacy capacity-building efforts](#), national strategies and international agreements. However, these efforts remain fragmented and insufficient. The IAI member countries could benefit from programs that strengthen science-policy-diplomacy mechanisms and instruments, and institutional and individual professional capacities. The new IAI SDC training program aims to contribute to this challenge, bolstering science policy and diplomacy capacities across the Americas, while showcasing expertise and experiences of several IAI Parties, and promoting regional collaborations among member countries.

OBJECTIVES

- To support key decision makers, and government officials in the region with an introduction to science diplomacy concepts, knowledge, skills, tools and networks to jointly tackle key priority topics related to global environmental change (GEC) challenges of the Americas such as biodiversity conservation, ecosystem services, and climate change.
- To promote and facilitate regional dialogue and international cooperation on shared GEC challenges and understand and discuss effective governance mechanisms for science diplomacy, among participating professionals, institutions and countries.
- To promote understanding of the role of science in policy priority areas for the region and foster understanding of the dynamics of the intergovernmental processes relevant to transboundary and multi-stakeholder global change (e.g. UNFCCC, CBD, etc) and other multilateral Fora.
- To nurture an Inter-American science diplomacy network and community of policy and practice associated with the IAI Science Diplomacy Center.

- To showcase and share examples, experiences, and best practices of IAI member countries in science, in policy, and in science diplomacy with other countries in the region and encourage knowledge sharing and forge collaborations.

WORKSHOP CONTENT & THEMATIC AREAS

The main topic of the workshop will be an Introduction to Science Diplomacy, including:

- Science Diplomacy concepts, tools, instruments, history, examples.
- Science Diplomacy & Global Environmental Change in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Intergovernmental processes relevant to GEC
- National Science Diplomacy Strategies
- Emerging/Evolving Issues in Science Diplomacy and Innovation
- Science Advice to support policy processes
- Science Diplomacy, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)
- Climate Action
- Biodiversity

AGENDA

SUNDAY, October 15, 2023

Arrival of participants and country representatives for the Science Diplomacy Field Trip/Excursion

Hotel: Decapolis Hotel Panama.

Address: Av. Vasco Nuñez de Balboa, Panama City. <https://decapolishotel.com/en/>

Field Trip

The field trip to Coiba Public Interest Association (AIP) Scientific Station will take place prior to the 3-day science diplomacy workshop. Located in the Gulf of Chiriquí, the [Coiba National Park](#) is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a marine reserve forming part of a system of oceanic islands of volcanic origin off Panama's Pacific coast. An outstanding natural laboratory, the park provides key ecological links and an important area for scientific research. The park is subject to national level management which is supported by the legal and institutional framework that allows for the execution of an innovative governance model, through cooperative and coordinated participation of different stakeholders such as the [Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute](#). STRI has its roots in the Smithsonian 1910-1912 Panama Biological Survey and is deeply involved in the management of the park and its management plan and is working with the Ministry of Environment and SENACYT's Coiba AIP to establish this area into a sustainable state-of-the-art facility/field station to accommodate research needs. Coiba AIP also aims to promote, support, and carry out both national and international scientific research in Coiba island, surrounding areas and other parts of Panama. They've also established collaborative relationships with research institutions, established programs, and organisations in the field of biodiversity and/or natural, cultural, historical, and archaeological resources. Thanks to all of their conjoined efforts, the research conducted at Coiba circulates widely promoting collaborations that transcend borders and also reach local policy makers. This governance framework, along with the integration of other marine protected areas at both national and regional levels, provides additional protection of the park's biodiversity and it plays an important role by ensuring scientific findings inform decision-making processes and policy development by fostering a mutually beneficial relationship between science and diplomacy. This is a unique opportunity to visit this rich ecosystem site to host discussions of science diplomacy among the government of Panama, the IAI and member countries.

Important: Due to the ecological importance of Coiba Island, the number of visitors permitted is restricted to 15 individuals for this field trip. This limitation is enforced as a precautionary measure, as large groups could pose risks to the island's delicate ecosystem. Obtaining a permit is necessary for entry, and certain areas are off-limits due to their role in protecting the island's diverse flora, fauna, and overall biodiversity.

MONDAY, October 16, 2023

Departure to Santa Catalina where the boat is taken to Coiba National Park the next day.

Time	Description
07:00	Depart from Ciudad de Panama to Santa Catalina
15:00	Arrive at Santa Catalina and lunch at time of arrival
20:00	Dinner/Overnight in Santa Catalina

TUESDAY, October 17, 2023

Departure to the Coiba (AIP) Scientific Station by boat for a tour.

Time	Description
07:00	Depart to Coiba Island
	Arrive and Tour guide by Edgardo Díaz Ferguson, Executive Director, Coiba AIP Scientific Station, Presentation, Q&A Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Priority research areas, science diplomacy and objectives for international collaboration.
14:00	Return to Santa Catalina
15:00	Lunch
20:30	Dinner

WEDNESDAY, October 18, 2023

Return to Panama City

Time	Description
08:00	Breakfast
09:00	Depart to Panama City (9 hours)
17:00	Arrive at Panama City
All Day	Arrival of speakers and country representatives for the Science Diplomacy workshop (second group)
19:30	Departure from hotel to Welcome Dinner at Casco Antiguo
20:00	Welcome Dinner Introduction of the participants and presentation of the workshop goals (ice-breaker and informal networking)

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THURSDAY, October 19, 2023

First Day of training workshop

Meeting Room: Gran Krypton Room, second Floor

Time	Description
08:30-09:00	Registration
09:00-10:00	<p>Master of Ceremony: Yaricel Digeres, Panama</p> <p>Welcome and Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marcella Ohira, Deputy Executive Director, IAI • Anabella Vazquez Fabrega, Director for International Cooperation, SENACYT, Panama • Yill Otero, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Panama • Diana Laguna Caicedo, Vice Minister of the Environment, Panama <p>Moderator: Omar Lopez, SENACYT Panama, and Chair of IAI Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)</p> <p>Keynote speakers on Science Diplomacy and Global Change (Climate Change and Biodiversity)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marcella Ohira, Deputy Executive Director, IAI • Edwin Castellanos, Science Director, IAI • Edgardo Díaz Ferguson, Coiba AIP, Panama
Training Workshop	
10:00-11:30	<p>Module 1: The evolution of science-policy-diplomacy</p> <p>Moderator: Franklin Carrero Martinez, National Academy of Sciences, USA</p> <p><i>Kim Montgomery (American Association for the Advancement of Science-AAAS, USA), Luisa Echeverria-King (Simón Bolívar University, Colombia, and Diplo-Científica, Latin America & Caribbean), Gabriela Ferreira (University of Sao Paulo, Brazil)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Science diplomacy as an evolving field at the intersection of science and international relations ○ Science diplomacy concepts from the Global South and Emerging Economies

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Science Diplomacy and Innovation Diplomacy <p>Q&A</p> <p>Link for simultaneous Interpretation</p>
11:30-11:45	Interactive Coffee Break
11:45-13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recap ● Discussing with participants how they understand/perceive science diplomacy; the type of support they may need to strengthen science diplomacy capacity in their countries and in the region ● Regional case studies from the Americas and abroad to illustrate science diplomacy (eg. Cuba-USA; Ukraine; Rio Madeira, Brazil; Misión de Sabios, Colombia) ● Approaches to science diplomacy, key stakeholders, mechanisms and instruments. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ National, regional and global approaches to science diplomacy ○ Science diplomacy institutions, networks, actors <p>Q&A Discussion</p>
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-16:00	<p>Moderator: Kim Montgomery, American Association for the Advancement of Science-AAAS, USA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● From individual to institutional capacities: building sustained bridges between actors, policies, and functions at all governance levels. <i>Franklin Carrero-Martinez (National Academy of Sciences, USA)</i> ● Innovative programs that foster the development of human and institutional capacities on science-policy-diplomacy at the national and multinational spheres: IAI Science-Technology, Policy (STeP) Fellows Program. <i>Marcella Ohira, and Kim Portmess (IAI), and STeP Fellows from Panama, Jamaica, Argentina, and hosts institutions from Brazil, Chile and Panama</i> ● Science and Innovation Diplomacy: Typology of Building Cases (practical exercise) (<i>Gabriela Ferreira (University of Sao Paulo, Brazil)</i>) <p>Link for simultaneous Interpretation</p>

FRIDAY, October 20, 2023

Second day of the training workshop and Science Diplomacy Forum

Training Workshop	
Time	Description
07:45-08:00	Registration
08:00-09:45	<p>Moderator: Gabriela Ferreira, University of Sao Paulo, InnSciD, Brazil</p> <p>Science Diplomacy and Emerging and Evolving Issues across the Americas and the world. <i>Marga Gual Soler</i>, Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator-GESDA, Switzerland),</p> <p>Commentators:</p> <p><i>Franklin Carrero-Martinez</i> (National Academy of Sciences, USA), and <i>Rolando Gittens</i> (INDICASAT AIP, Panama)</p> <p>Q&A, Discussion</p>
Science Diplomacy Forum	
10:00-11:30	<p>Science Diplomacy Forum: It's open to a broader community of scientist, policymakers, diplomats, private sector and international organisation representatives in Panama</p> <p>Master of Ceremony: Yaricel Digeres, Panama</p> <p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marcella Ohira, Deputy Executive Director, IAI• Anabella Vazquez Fabrega, Director for International Cooperation, SENACYT, Panama• José Simpson Polo, Minister of the Presidency, Panama <p>Panel 1: Science diplomacy in Panama and the Americas</p> <p>Moderator: Rolando Gittens, INDICASAT AIP, Panama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Omar Lopez, SENACYT, IAI Science Advisory Committee<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Why science, technology and international collaboration is important for the government of Panama• Yill Otero, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Panama<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Discuss how to use foreign policy to achieve national priorities. Panama's Foreign Affairs○ Discuss foreign affairs perspectives, eg. diplomats, ambassadors who have been involved and practising science diplomacy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ligia Castro, Director for Climate Change of the Ministry of Environment, Panama <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discuss environmental issues of priority to Panama (eg. biodiversity, climate change, and national commitments to UNFCCC and science diplomacy) • Ivonne Torres, Director, Department of Pharmacology, University of Panama <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Role of the private sector in science diplomacy ○ Science diplomacy in academia <p>Q&A Discussion (15mins)</p>
11:30-11:45	Coffee Break
11:45-13:00	<p>Panel 2: Science Diplomacy and innovation Abroad</p> <p>Master of Ceremony: Yaricel Digeres, Panama</p> <p>Moderator: Marcella Ohira, IAI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Dolores Penna de Almeida Cunha, Minister Counsellor, Embassy of Brazil in Panama <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discuss how to use foreign policy to achieve national priorities. ○ Discuss foreign affairs perspectives, eg. diplomats, ambassadors who have been involved and practising science diplomacy • Gabriela Ferreira, University of Sao Paulo, InnSciD, Brazil <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Role of the private sector in science diplomacy ○ Science diplomacy in academia • Nicolas Trujillo, Ministry of Sciences, Technology, Knowledge and Innovation, Chile <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Why science, technology and international collaboration is important for the government of Chile • Maritza Jadrijevic, Ministry of Environment, Chile <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discuss environmental issues of priority to Chile (eg. biodiversity, climate change) and national, commitments to UNFCCC <p>Q&A Discussion</p> <p>Closing Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anabella Vazquez Fabrega, Director for International Cooperation, SENACYT, Panama
13:00-14:00	Lunch

Training Workshop	
14:00- 15:30	<p>Module 2: Science diplomacy in Latin America and the Caribbean</p> <p>Moderator: Ivonne Torres, Director, Department of Pharmacology, University of Panama, Panama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National science diplomacy strategies eg. Panama, Colombia, Brazil <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Motivation for developing the strategy, the mapping/method to develop the strategy, the key actors, the governance, the leadership, how they plan to use the strategy to promote more science, technology innovation for the country, linking it with other partners in the region, challenges, opportunities. • Breakout Discussion/Roundtable - Discussion among government officials representing their countries in the region and their ideas, thoughts about science diplomacy as government strategies/policies and how they could be shaping up through different programs, activities to foster science diplomacy at the national and regional level
15:30-15:45	Coffee Break
15:45 -18:00	<p>Module 3a: Science Diplomacy and Global Frameworks</p> <p>Moderator: Luz Cumba Garcia, AAAS-STeP Fellow, USA and Diplo-Cientifica, Latin America and the Caribbean</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of the dynamics of the intergovernmental processes relevant to global frameworks and international agreements (e.g. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change-UNFCCC, Convention on Biological Diversity-CBD, Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services-IPBES, G20, Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa-BRICS, Central American Integration System-SICA) and the role of science and scientists in diplomatic negotiations: skills and competencies for scientists and diplomats to advance international climate policy. <i>Carol Franco (Virginia Tech, USA, Science Adviser to the government of the Dominican Republic), Carlos Matsumoto, (Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, Brazil- virtual), (Edwin Castellanos, (IAI, Science Advisor to the government of Guatemala)</i> <p>Plenary or working groups (TBC)</p> <p>Q&A Discussion</p>

SATURDAY, October 21, 2023

Third day of training workshop

Training Workshop	
Time	Description
07:45-08:00	Registration
08:00-09:30	<p>Module 3b: Science Diplomacy and Global Environmental Change</p> <p>Moderator: Carol Franco, Virginia Tech (USA) and Science Adviser to the Government of the Dominican Republic</p> <p>Global Environmental Change (GEC) in the Americas, importance for addressing global, regional, transboundary challenges, promoting regional integration for achieving the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linking of science to policy, challenges in science communication, synthesising key messages from organisations such as IPCC to support national level, • <i>Edwin Castellanos, (IAI, Science Advisor to the government of Guatemala),</i> • <i>Omar Lopez (SENACYT Panama, IAI SAC),</i> • <i>Luz Cumba Garcia (AAAS-STeP Fellow, USA).</i> • Ways to gender equality, diversity and inclusion in Climate Action <i>Pedro Coss (Dominican Republic)</i> <p>Q&A Discussion</p> <p>Coffee Break</p>
09:45-11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science Advice and Science Diplomacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the concept, tradition, culture and mechanisms of science advise, as well as challenges, gaps and opportunities • Key skills and elements applicable to national and international contexts • <i>Alma Hernandez, (Center for Research and Advanced Studies, Mexico)</i> <p>Coffee Break</p>
11:15-12:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short practical exercise: How to pitch to policy makers • <i>Alma Hernandez (Mexican Association for the Advancement of Science, Mexico)</i>

	<p>Comments by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Nicolas Trujillo (Science Advice Program, Ministry of Sciences, Chile)</i> • <i>Carol Franco (Virginia Tech, USA and Science Adviser to the Government of the Dominican Republic)</i>
12:45-14:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Negotiation Simulation • <i>Carol Franco (USA/Dominican Republic)</i> • <i>Pedro Coss (Dominican Republic)</i>
14:45-15:00	<p>Closing, debrief & next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anabella Vasquez Fabrega, SENACYT • Marcella Ohira, IAI
15:00-16:00	Lunch
19:00-00 bus returns	<p>Farewell Dinner (bus to the restaurant at La Fabrica Causeway Amador</p> <p>https://lafabricapty.com/</p>

SUNDAY October 22, 2023

Departure from the hotel. Return of the participants

TARGET AUDIENCE

- Mid-level government officials from 10 Latin America and the Caribbean IAI member countries: policy makers in the executive branch, all levels of government from federal/national with policy mandate on global environmental change issues. (Ministries of Science, Technology, Foreign Affairs, and the Environment; Meteorological Services, Science and Technology Councils, etc).
- Priority for foreign, science & technology, and environmental ministries (including local diplomats/attachés with relevant portfolios).
- Country delegates and country representatives designated to international negotiation processes and Fora on global environmental governance, especially junior staff who are starting in this career path.
- Current and future expert advisors to international processes (e.g. IPCC, IPBES) and others.
- Science, Technology and Policy Program (STeP) fellows and their host organization supervisors (e.g. Fellows from Panama, the IAI Directorate and Belmont Forum Secretariat).
- Senior representatives from other intergovernmental organizations with a mandate in global environmental change.
- Preferred participant selection criteria will be direct nomination via IAI focal points and the IAI Directorate.

FORMAT

- In person 3 day workshop, first SDC training workshop pilot of 2023. Assess after the first pilot the addition of intermediate or advanced levels as appropriate.
- Science Diplomacy Field trip on October 17th before the trainings
- Language: Spanish (one module in English with simultaneous interpretation)

- 10 countries; 35-40 participants (50% from Panama, 50% other countries)
- Panama suggestion for priority countries to engage in collaboration from the Americas (in alphabetical order): Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay,

BUDGET

- Travel, lodging, meals, and incidental expenses for 18 participants from 9 countries funded by SENACYT Panama
- Travel, lodging, meals, and incidental expenses for 10 speakers, trainers funded by SENACYT Panama
- Travel, lodging, meals, and incidental expenses for 5 IAI staff members and fellows funded by SENACYT Panama
- Others: coffee breaks, local transportation, materials, communication

WORKSHOP DEVELOPMENT AND ORGANIZATION

IAI Directorate – Science Diplomacy Center

Science Diplomacy Center Advisory Board members

Science Diplomacy Center Partners and Collaborators

