



## IAI's activities involving researchers and stakeholders in Jamaica, and future opportunities for the country.



# JAMAICA

### TRAINING

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Climate, Environment, and Health Responders in the Americas 2022   | 4 participants |
| Pan American Climate Resilient Health Systems Course 2023  | 6 participants |
| Regional training workshop: Climate, Environment and Health for the Americas (in person), San Martín de los Andes, Argentina | 1 participant  |

### FELLOWSHIPS

**STeP Fellowship**  
1 fellow (based at IAI)

### RESEARCH FUNDS

**Seed Grant in Climate, Environment, and Health for the Americas**  
1 team approved for financing (US\$15,000)  
Topic: Climate-Health-Environment Nexus Risk in the 'Shared Economy' Hotel Sector: Assessment and Risk Reduction Planning

### SCIENCE DIPLOMACY CENTER

The Science Diplomacy Center (SDC) is a regional initiative to foster dialogue and collaboration on science and policy for a peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable Americas, with a focus on capacity development through multinational collaboration and diplomacy, science communication, training, and a science diplomacy knowledge hub.

### COMMITTEES

- Member of the IAI's Executive Council 2023 – 2025
- David Smith, University of the West Indies, Member of the Science-Policy Advisory Committee (SPAC) 2020-2023

### SPECIAL EVENTS

The Americas Conference on Solar Radiation Modification: Science, Governance and Implications for the Region was hosted by Jamaica in August, 2022 (organized in collaboration with the Carnegie Climate Governance Initiative of the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs (C2G), the Degrees Initiative and the University of the West Indies)

### SPECIAL PROJECTS

- Project Identification Form (PIF) "Promoting the Integrated Management of Sargassum: Building Resilient Tourism and Fisheries Sectors through the Conservation of Marine Ecosystems (SARGMARINE)" under the Global Environment Facility (GEF), funded by the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF).
- Capacity Building: Science Diplomacy STeP Forum
- Special issue of Journal of Science Policy and Governance Article: Closing the Intention-Action Gap: Behaviourally-aligned Strategies for Effective Plastic Pollution Reduction

### ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:

- Science Summit at United Nations General Assembly (annual, virtual or in-person).
- Sustainability Research and Innovation Congress (SRI) (annual, virtual or in-person)
- Belmont Forum Collaborative Research Actions (depending on each funding call schedule)
- AmeriGEO Week (annual, multi-national and multi-sectoral meetings, Ministerial Roundtable and scientific presentations)
- STeP Professional Development (online and in-person, intensive training in leadership, communication and science diplomacy including group projects and mentoring)
- Nomination of members for the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and the Science and Policy Advisory Committee (SPAC) (annual, prior to IAI CoP meeting)
- Nomination of institutions to be IAI associates (annual, prior to IAI CoP meeting)
- Virtual Campus courses (online and asynchronous, free of charge and with certificate).



### Forums and number of participants

|  |   |  |    |
|--|---|--|----|
| STeP Science Diplomacy Project Forum   | 1 | Networks on past global change research in Latin America and the Caribbean (in partnership with PAGES - Past Global Changes)             | 1  |
| Academic best practices: how to be a reviewer and editor of a scientific journal (in partnership with PLOS Climate)            | 1 | Publishing scientific articles - an editor's perspective (in partnership with PLOS Climate)  | 14 |
| Where to invest and how to create climate-sensitive models to prevent infectious diseases (in partnership with Wellcome Trust) | 2 | 6th IPCC report - Science communication to tackle global environmental change (in alliance with Latin America 21, Belmont Forum, UNIBAC) | 1  |

**More information at:** Opportunities: <https://bit.ly/30skjnR> • STeP Fellowship Program: <https://bit.ly/3QAoyAN>  
Center for Science Diplomacy: <https://bit.ly/3QsP1ju> • IAI News: <https://bit.ly/3QAoyAN>

Share news and opportunities with the IAI community by email to: [communication@dir.iai.int](mailto:communication@dir.iai.int)



The Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI) is an intergovernmental organization serving 19 member states of the Americas. The IAI was established in 1992 with the signing of the Agreement establishing the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research with the mission to "pursue the principles of scientific excellence and integrity, international cooperation, science outreach, and capacity building, and the full and open exchange of scientific information relevant to global change to reach the vision of a sustainable Americas."

## HOW WE WORK

- Support of transdisciplinary multinational scientific research projects
- Training and capacity-building at the science-policy interface
- Communication, outreach, and dissemination of relevant information
- Building of communities of practice and partnerships across the science-policy spectrum

By focusing on transdisciplinary research, the IAI convenes and supports research teams of biophysical scientists, social scientists, decision-makers, the private sector, and civil society to co-create solutions to the most pressing global change issues.

The IAI works with government officials to ensure that research is aligned with national and regional interests and that outcomes are used to support evidence-based decision-making.

- For example, projects from IAI's small grants program have addressed climate change adaptation actions for artisanal fisheries, early detection platforms coupled with education for wildfires in the Amazon, anticipatory governance for water crises, and local and indigenous knowledge systems in the governance of ecosystem services.

In addition to the Agreement, the work of the IAI is guided by a scientific agenda, strategic plan, and a recently adopted policy on gender, equity, diversity, and inclusion. The IAI operates via a conference of the parties, where government representatives (focal points) meet annually to discuss the work of the IAI and adopt decisions. The Directorate is charged with implementing the annual program approved by governments. An executive council and scientific advisory committees guide the work of the Directorate.

# Spotlight on IAI Programs



## The nexus of health, climate & environment

The IAI has partnered with regional and global partners to align funding, research, and training actions at the nexus of health, climate, and the environment in the Americas. Through an intensive 6-month training process, it has formed transdisciplinary research teams that are developing proposals for research applied to address the most pressing issues in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The IAI will provide seed grant funding for these projects. Among the topics of focus are: the development of a South American data portal in the climate, environment, and health nexus; energy-efficient cooling of buildings to reduce heat exposure of the population; sustainable food production by women and healthy nutrition; and multidimensional vulnerability to dengue in the context of climate change.

## Amazonia & Tropical Forests

The IAI and the São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) are developing a global funding call entitled “The Amazon and tropical forests: its global implications and needed urgent actions.” This will be issued as a call for grants (a collaborative research action, CRA) under the Belmont Forum mechanism.

The IAI hosts the Belmont Forum, a global consortium of science funding agencies that issue coordinated research funding calls on transdisciplinary science and global environmental change. Scoping workshops with diverse actors will be ongoing in 2023 to identify the focus of the funding call, which we anticipate to present at the Belmont Forum Plenary in October 2023, followed by a launch of the call in 2024.

## The IAI's Science, Technology, and Policy (STeP) fellowship program

Is an innovative capacity-building program for early career researchers hosted by government and private sector institutions. Fellows earn practical experience navigating the science-policy interface and providing technical, scientific support to decision-makers in their home countries.



Since starting in 2020, 47 fellows from 11 countries have joined this unique inter-American science policy network and community. The IAI provides professional development in leadership, science diplomacy, and communication connecting expertise and skills from both the Global North and Global South to address transboundary issues of global environmental change (GEC). This program is part of the IAI's newly established Science Diplomacy Center.

