











NEWSLETTER N°23 **APRIL 2023**







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It is a pleasure for the Latin American and Caribbean Network of National Contact Points (LAC NCP Network) to greet you and share with you the year 2023's first newsletter.

Since the creation of the Network in 2017, our objective has been to strengthen the capacities of the National Contact Points of Latin America and the Caribbean's (NCP) so that everyone is in the best condition to disseminate, inform and assist researchers, public and private organizations, civil society associations, encouraging their participation in the framework programs of the European Union.

With this bulletin we seek to bring information to researchers, universities, companies, civil society organizations and any type of institution willing to promote science, technology and innovation in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

The entire team is at your disposal to boost the network, increase the region's participation in the Horizon Europe Program and face the new challenges that await us.

LAC NCP Network Team:

Claudia Romano Núñez - LAC NCP Network Coordinator Linkedin

Alejandro Quinteros - Linkedin. Asisstance: Gimena Perez

We invite you to follow us on our social networks:



redlacncp@auci.gub.



<u>Linkedin</u> <u>https://www.linkedin.com/company/red-lac-ncp/?viewAsMember=true</u>



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Youtube https://www.youtube.com/@redlacncp

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Montevideo held the "EU-LAC Knowledge Forum"

24th-25th of April, 2023



On April 24th and 25th, organized by the EU-LAC Foundation together with the Uruguayan Agency for International Cooperation (AUCI) and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), with the support of the Delegation of the European Union in Uruguay and UNESCO, the "EU-LAC Knowledge Forum" was held.

It was attended by more than 120 academic representatives, policy makers and actors linked to education, science, culture and innovation.



The opening remarks were attended by the Executive Director of the EU-LAC Foundation, Adrián Bonilla; the Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs of Nicolás Albertoni; Uruguay, National Director of Innovation, Science and Culture of Uruguay, Alberto Majo; the Director of Global Approach and International

Cooperation in Research and Innovation (R&I) of the European Commission, María Cristina Russo; the Ambassador of the European Union in Uruguay, Paolo Berizzi; and the Ambassador of Spain in Uruguay, Santiago Jiménez Martín.

During the two-day forum, the debates focused on three main themes: cooperation in science, technology and innovation; towards a Common Higher Education Area; and closing gaps in access, equity, quality and capacities. The experts exchanged experiences based on formulated policies, resources, programs and bi-regional, regional and national instruments. Furthermore,



the attendants formulated proposals to be taken into consideration by the political decision-makers who will be present at the EU-CELAC 2023 Summit.

At the end of the event, in relation to the budget and cooperation issues, the Head of Cooperation of the European Union Delegation in Uruguay, Markus Handke, argued that it is necessary to seek the participation of the private sector between the two blocs to mobilize funds. Meanwhile, the head of AECID Programs, Carmen De Diego, said that innovation is a major challenge for cooperation, in order to reach the goals of the 2030 Agenda.

Claudia Romano, coordinator of the LAC NCP Network, stated that it is vital to identify priority actions that set the roadmap for dialogue between Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean. She mentioned that networking, coordination, non-duplication of efforts, visibility, access and quality are factors that must be put into practice. Adrián Bonilla mentioned that the topic of knowledge is transversal to all the dialogues between the heads of state because it includes the digital transition, infrastructure and the exchange of information between the two regions.





Presentation of the "Guide for Participation in the Horizon Europe Program"



During the "EU-LAC Knowledge Forum", Inmaculada Aguilar, General Director of the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology, Sabina Guaylupo Coordinator of the Ibero-American Office FECYT and Claudia Romano Manager of AUCI and Coordinator of the LAC NCP Network, presented the "Guide for participation in the Horizon Europe Program for Latin America and the Caribbean".

This guide, prepared by Almudena Carrero, with the support of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), the Spanish Cooperation Training Center in Montevideo (CFCE), the Uruguayan Agency for International Cooperation (AUCI), the Latin American and Caribbean Network of National Contact Points (RED LAC NCP), is an excellent contribution to think of options that incorporate institutional learning from previous editions.

Its objective is to offer research personnel, companies, universities, research centers, ministries and other entities in Latin America and the Caribbean the opportunities offered by the European Union's Framework Program for Research and Innovation: Horizon Europe (HE).

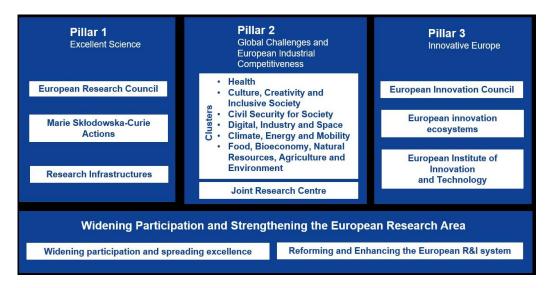
The publication includes a description of the objectives and structure of HE; the importance of international cooperation in the framework program and the priorities in LAC-EU collaboration; as well as the phases for preparing and submitting a proposal to HE with the support that all persons and entities in LAC will find in their countries and in the region.

Link: <u>Guide for participation in the Horizon Europe Program for Latin America and the Caribbean</u>



Horizon Europe - Opportunities for Researchers

Work Programs 2023 - 2024



The Horizon Europe Program is the fundamental instrument for carrying out the European Union's R&D&I policies. The overall objective is to achieve a scientific, technological, economic and social impact of EU investments.

It is based on three pillars:

Pillar 1, Excellent Science, which through the European Research Council (ERC) funds research projects at the frontier of knowledge designed and led by researchers. It also supports the professional development and training of research staff, through the international and intersectoral mobility activities of the Marie Sklodowska-Curie (MSCA) program, and invests in improving and optimizing transnational access to worldwide Research infrastructures.

Pillar 2, Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness, funds research into societal challenges, strengthens industrial technological capabilities and establishes missions with ambitious objectives oriented towards major global challenges (health, climate change, renewable energies, mobility, security, digital, materials, etc.) In this pillar we also have the Joint Research Center (JRC) which assists the EU and national governments in their decision-making by providing scientific evidence and technical support.

Pillar 3, Innovative Europe, aims to make Europe a pioneering power in marketcreating innovation and growing innovative SMEs through the European Innovation Council (EIC). In addition, the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)



continues to foster the integration of research, higher education and entrepreneurship through knowledge and innovation communities (KICs).

These three pillars are based on a horizontal program, broadening participation and strengthening the European Research Area (ERA).

For collaborative projects, there are three types of actions:

- <u>Research and Innovation Actions (RIA)</u> provide funds for research projects that address clearly defined challenges, which may lead to the development of new knowledge or new technologies.
- <u>Innovation Actions (IA)</u> funding focuses on activities closer to the market, such as prototyping, testing, demonstration, pilot testing, scale; either to produce new products or services or to improve them.
- <u>Coordination and Support Actions (CSA)</u> provide accompanying measures to support Research and Innovation (no research involved). Activities may include standardization, dissemination, awareness raising and communication, networks, coordination or support services, policy dialogues and exercises, and mutual learning studies.

Remind you that participation in the Horizon Europe program is open to all countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. However, European Union funding is not automatically available for Brazil, Mexico, Chile, Panama and Uruguay, and in the Caribbean countries for Aruba, Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago. In these cases the participating institutions, companies, universities, research centers, associations, public administration or any other type of entity with a legal entity should cover the financing costs through the mechanisms foreseen in each country.

Pillar II of Horizon Europe is subdivided into 6 clusters, to address global challenges, before seeing the calls that are open or proximate to, it is important to remind you that the deadline to submit your applications is more than two months, since the process of finding partners, drafting and preparing of the same involves a lot of work time, however, for your knowledge the open calls are:



Open calls

Cluster 1: Civil Security for Society



I) HORIZON-MISS-2023-OCEAN-SOIL-01-01 Mission Oceans and Seas and a Soil Agreement for Europe: Joint demonstration of approaches and solutions to tackle nutrient pollution in the landscape-river-sea system in the Mediterranean Sea basin

Opening: 17 January 2023 Closing: 20 September 2023 17:00 Brussels time
Type of action: IA Budget: EUR 16 000 000

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-miss-2023-ocean-soil-01-01

Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity and Shared Society



I) HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-04 Innovations to Prevent and Combat Desertification

Opening: 17 January 2023 Closing: 20 September 2023 17:00 Brussels time
Type of action: IA Budget: EUR 14 000 000

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-miss-2023-soil-01-04

II) HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-07 Back to the land: bringing communities and citizens closer to the soil

Opening: 17 January 2023 Closing: 20 September 2023 17:00 Brussels local time
Type of action: CSA Budget: € 6 000 000

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-miss-2023-soil-01-07



III) HORIZON-MISS-2023-OCEAN-01-03 Atlantic and Arctic Sea Basin Lighthouse: Addressing climate change and human-induced threats to marine biodiversity

Opening: 17 January 2023 Closure: 20 September 2023 17:00 Brussels time
Type of action: IA Budget: EUR 16 000 000

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-

details/horizon-miss-2023-ocean-01-03

IV) HORIZON-MISS-2023-OCEAN-01-07 Inter-basin theme - Analysis of obstacles and opportunities for the re-use of ageing/unused marine infrastructures

Opening: 17 January 2023 Closing: 20 September 2023 17:00 Brussels time Type of action: RIA Budget: EUR 1 400 000

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-

tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-miss-2023-

ocean-01-07

V) HORIZON-MISS-2023-OCEAN-01-08 Integration of socio-ecological modelling in the Digital Twin Ocean

Opening: 17 January 2023 Closing: 20 September 2023 17:00 Brussels local time
Type of action: RIA Budget:

EUR 10 000 000

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-

<u>tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-miss-2023-ocean-01-08</u>

VI) HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-01 Protest Politics and Opposition Cultures in Democracy

Opening: 04 October 2023 Closing: 07 February 2024 17:00 Brussels local time

Type of action: RIA Budget: EUR 9 000 000

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-

tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl2-2024-democracy-01-01

VII) HORIZON-CL2-2024-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-03 Minimising the costs and maximising the benefits of job creation and job destruction

Opening: 04 October 2023 Closing: 07 February 2024 17:00 Brussels local time

Type of action: RIA Budget: EUR 10 000 000

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-

tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl2-2024-transformations-01-03



3: Civil Security for Society



I) HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-04 Innovations to Prevent and Combat Desertification

Closing: 20 September 2023 17:00 Brussels time Opening: 17 January 2023 Type of action: IA Budget: EUR 14 000 000

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-

details/horizon-miss-2023-soil-01-04

II) HORIZON-CL3-2023-DRS-01-04Robotics: autonomous or semi-autonomous UGV systems to complement skills for use in hazardous environments

Opening: 29 June 2023 Closure: 23 November 2023 17:00 Brussels local time Budget: EUR 6 000 000 Type of action: RIA

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-

details/horizon-cl3-2023-drs-01-04

(III) HORIZON-CL3-2024-BM-01-03 Risk-based integrated border control that mitigates public security risk, reduces false positives and strengthens privacy

Opening: 26 June 2023 Closing: 20 November 2024 17:00 Brussels local time

Type of action: IA Budget: EUR 10 000 000 https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-

details/horizon-cl3-2024-bm-01-03

(IV) HORIZON-CL3-2023-FCT-01-03 New methods and technologies for community policing and transferable best practices

Opening: 29 June 2023 Closing: 23 November 2023 17:00 Brussels local time Type of action: RIA Budget: EUR 4 000

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-

tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl3-2023-fct-01-03



(V) HORIZON-CL3-2024-DRS-01-04 Cost-effective sustainable technologies and crisis management strategies for the large-scale protection of the population and NR infrastructure after a nuclear explosion or an incident at a nuclear installation

Open: 27 June 2024 Close: 20 November 2024 17:00 Brussels time
Type of action: RIA Budget: EUR 6 000 000

 $\underline{\text{https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-}}$

details/horizon-cl3-2024-drs-01-04

Cluster 4 Digital, Industry and Space



I) HORIZON-MISS-2023-OCEAN-01-07 Inter-basin theme - Analysis of barriers and opportunities for the re-use of ageing/unused marine infrastructure

Opening: 17 January 2023 Closing: 20 September 2023 17:00 Brussels Time Type of action: RIA Budget: EUR 1 400 000

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details/horizon-miss-2023-ocean-01-07

(II) HORIZON-CL4-2024-DATA-01-01 Al-driven data operations and compliance technologies (AI, data and robotics partnership) (AI)

Opening: 15 November 2023 Closure: 19 March 2024 17:00 Brussels time

Type of action: AI Budget: EUR 38 000 000

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-

details/horizon-cl4-2024-data-01-01



Cluster 5 Climate, Energy and Mobility



I) HORIZON-CL5-2023-D3-02-08 Development of micro algae and/or direct solar fuel production and purification technologies for advanced aviation and/or maritime transport fuels

Opening: 04 May 2023 Closure: 05 September 2023 17:00 Brussels time
Type of action: RIA Budget: EUR 8 000 000

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-

<u>tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl5-2023-d3-</u>02-08

(II) HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-01-04 Enhancing light harvesting and carbon sequestration with synthetic biology and/or bio-inspired//biomimetic pathways for the production of renewable direct solar fuels

Open: 12 September 2023 Close: 16 January 2024 17:00 Brussels time
Type of action: RIA Budget: EUR 8 000 000

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-

tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl5-2024-d3-

01-04



Cluster 6 Food, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture and environment.



I) HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-01-7 Impact of the development of novel foods based on alternative protein sources

Opening: 17 October 2023 Closure: 22 February 2024 17:00 Brussels time
Type of action: RIA Budget: EUR 9 000 000

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-

tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl6-2024-

farm2fork-01-7



Workshop on Intellectual Property Strategies in Horizon Europe



The LAC NCP Network - AUCI and the All invest green IPR Program are pleased to invite you to the webinar "Successful Intellectual Property Strategies in the Horizon Europe Program: cooperation opportunities for Latin American and Caribbean countries".

It is aimed at public officials, decision makers, representatives of governmental STI authorities of LAC, university managers, representatives of university associations, research centers, project coordinators and NCPs.

Seminar objectives:

- To achieve a better understanding by the participants of the different types of intellectual property, such as patents, trademarks and copyrights, and to provide practical knowledge on how to address intellectual property issues in research and innovation projects.
- To convey the legal and ethical aspects of intellectual property and how to ensure compliance with EU regulations, especially in Horizon Europe partnerships.

Link: Register

Note to interested parties: If you are interested in continuing to receive the LAC NCP Network bimonthly newsletter, please complete the following form: https://forms.gle/u6hJi18AUfVbPxWK9



CONCYTEC organized the National Contact Points of the Horizon Europe Program in the Andean Region (Peru).



On April 27, the meeting of National Contact Points of the <u>Horizon Europe Program</u> of the Andean Region (Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia and Peru) was held at the Universidad del Pacífico.

The main objective of the event was to strengthen the capacities of the NCPs through the exchange of experiences and tips on tools for their annual strategic planning.

Speakers from Colombia included representatives of the Colombian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, the Technological University of Bolivar, the Bucaramanga Chamber of Commerce, the Universidad de la Sabana, the Universidad EAFIT, the company Tecnova, AUCI, the LAC NCP Network and Concytec.

The Universidad del Pacifico, host of the meeting, appointed engineer Mario Gustavo Chong Chong, professor of its Engineering Department, as NCP of the Horizon Europe Program for the item "Widening Participation and ERA", part of the program that supports geographical diversity, building the necessary capacities to enable successful participation in the process of Research and Innovation (R&I), promoting networking and access to excellence, and includes the management of opportunities for the participation of researchers in open access calls, open science, research integrity and ethics.

Event recording link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LfXaSXeYWrM&t=24s

Horizon Europe portal access link: https://horizonteeuropaperu.concytec.gob.pe

We congratulate the excellent work of our colleague Rocio Casildo, NCP coordinator of Peru, all the NCPs of the Andean region and the entire CONACYT team.



Workshop for the socialization of international programs for the financing of projects related to Science, Technology and Innovation (Ecuador).



Ecuador's Secretariat of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (Senescyt) is promoting the Horizon Europe Program and other projects aimed at increasing scientific research and the development of innovation in the country. These initiatives benefit the research community, students, fourth level teachers and civil society.

In this regard, on April 19, an informative space was created in hybrid format, called "Science without borders - Workshop for socialization of international programs for the financing of projects related to Science, Technology and Innovation" in which relevant information on STI projects and programs promoted by Senescyt was transmitted to the vice rectors of research



and the teams in charge of international relations of their institutions,

This activity was coordinated by Mr. Xavier Paz, undersecretary of Research, Innovation and Technology Transfer.



Training for National Contact Points

We invite all National Contact Points to participate in the training sessions. Their objective is to offer both NCPs and participants access to the knowledge, support tools and services developed by NCPs to support participation in Horizon Europe.

European Union for beginners



The objective of this course is to provide a general overview of the European Union to NCPs from member states, associated countries and third countries. In the first part, the process of formation of the European Union is described, as well as the functioning of its 8 Institutions. In addition, 4 of the most relevant Research and Innovation Institutions are presented, including their intersection with the

program. In the second stage, the evolutionary process of the European Union is explained, with special emphasis on the links with the R&I program. Finally, the NCPs and their roles are presented.

About the Horizon Europe program

This course provides an overview of the general guidelines of the Horizon Europe program including legal, financial and life cycle aspects. The program is intended for newly nominated NCPs.



From the thematic idea to the presentation of the proposal

The main objective of this course is to understand the application process, starting with the topic of the call for proposals, going through the development of the idea and ending with the writing of the proposal for the application.



The following questions will be addressed: How to develop the project idea? Understanding the topic of the call, developing the general idea and translating it into a "one-page idea", finding partners How to write proposals? Presentation of the general proposal template, aspects to take into account, what not to include in the proposal and preparation of the timetable.



Participants in HE projects



The course presents the basic conditions for participating in Horizon Europe projects. First, it explains the entities from which countries can obtain EU funding. Secondly, the characteristics, roles and responsibilities of the consortium members are presented. It also includes those third parties that can participate, and finally explains the administrative aspects that apply to them.

Link to Access the courses: https://courses.horizoneuropencpportal.eu/



LAC National Contact Points

The Horizon Europe program has eighteen areas for National Contact Points (NCP). These are professionals who are responsible for providing advice and information to all those interested in participating in research and innovation projects in the Framework Program of the European Commission - Horizon Europe.

Their profile is technical and they are in charge of:

- Disseminate and inform about the funding opportunities of the Horizon Europe program among the research community in their country.
- Advise and assist potential applicants in the preparation, presentation and follow-up of their proposal.
- Offer support during project implementation

As of February, 2023 Latin America has 279 new national contact points for the eighteen areas of the Horizon Europe Program.

Reiterate that they can count on the support and support of the LAC NCP Network team for advice.

To find out who are the National Contact Points for each country, please refer to the Funding & Tender page: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp



Opportunities for MSCAs researchers

The LAC NCP Network - AUCI; FECY, MSCA-NET and EURAXESS Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), is pleased to invite you to participate in a seminar offered to institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean through the Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Postdoctoral Fellowships (FP) call.

With the MSCA FP Fellowships, institutions in LAC have the opportunity to attract visiting researchers to carry out fully funded postdoctoral research for one to two years in their laboratories in LAC.

In the Global Fellowships (GF) modality, researchers from Europe apply together with a host institution in Europe, while the institution in LAC will be considered as a partner and will not require co-funding.

Research in LAC with MSCA Postdoctoral Global Fellowships - May 19th, 2023

The aim is to provide information to Latin American institutions that want researchers based in Europe to carry out a 1 to 2 year postdoc in their laboratories, thanks to the Global Fellowships (GF) and researchers from Europe or long-term residents who want to make their stay in LAC.

Link to inscription: https://euconf-eu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN-e-znoP0aStmo1bx5Ef5VuQ#/

Note to interested parties: If you are interested in continuing to receive the LAC NCP Network bimonthly newsletter, please complete the following form: https://forms.gle/u6hJi18AUfVbPxWK9



Results of MSCA Doctoral Networks 2022 – Participation of Latin American and Caribbean organizations

Document of the European Union, General Directorate of Education, Youth, Sports and Culture.

1. Context

The European Commission announced the winners of the 2022 call for the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Doctoral Networks on 15th March 2023. With a total budget of €429.4 million, 149 projects were selected out of 946 submitted proposals to pursue frontier research in all scientific disciplines. Selected projects will be working in the following areas:

Engineering and ICT: 33.6%

Life Sciences: 26.2%Chemistry: 12.8%

Environment and Geosciences: 9.4%Social sciences and Humanities: 8.7%

Physics: 7.4%

Mathematics: 1.3%Economics: 0.7%

These projects involve 2322 participations of 1199 academic and non-academic organizations (companies, industry, SMEs, public institutions, etc.) from 62 countries. Organizations from non-associated third countries had a total of 304 participations.

This was the second call of MSCA Doctoral Networks under the Horizon Europe programme for research and innovation. Previously named 'Innovative Training Networks' (ITN), the Doctoral Networks action aims to train creative, entrepreneurial, innovative and resilient doctoral candidates, able to face current and future challenges and to convert knowledge and ideas into products and services for economic and social benefit.

Doctoral Networks aim to raise the attractiveness and excellence of doctoral training, while equipping researchers with the right combination of research-related and transferable competences and provide them with enhanced career prospects in both the academic and non-academic sectors through international, interdisciplinary and intersectoral mobility combined with an innovation-oriented mind-set. Organizations involved can attract international talent and build bridges with other leading scientific teams worldwide.

There are 3 types of Doctoral Networks:

Standard Doctoral Networks;

Industrial Doctorates; which train PhD candidates who wish develop their skills and step outside academia, in particular in industry and business. Individual participants must be enrolled in a doctoral programme and jointly supervised by the academic and non-academic partners.



Joint Doctorates, which provide a highly integrated type of international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration in doctoral training leading to a joint doctoral degree or multiple doctoral degrees awarded by the participating institutions. PhD candidates must be enrolled in a joint programme and be jointly supervised.

Participation in Doctoral Networks is open to the world. Organizations based in Latin America and the Caribbean can participate to Doctoral Networks and can host and/or train and supervise doctoral candidates but not always with funding. The following conditions apply:

Organizations in low and middle income countries1 are automatically eligible for funding.

Organizations in high-income countries can join international consortia but without direct funding. They can still receive doctoral candidates seconded from the EU and countries associated to Horizon Europe under the project's costs.

To participate, organizations in LAC countries should form or join an international consortium of organizations to submit a proposal with countries of the EU or associated to Horizon Europe, either as beneficiaries or associated partners of the project.

As beneficiaries, organizations contribute to the implementation of the doctoral programme, receive funds directly and commit to hire, train and supervise at least one doctoral candidate. As associated partners, organizations can host researchers for research secondments lasting for maximum one third of the individual researchers' contract duration. This maximum limit of one third does not apply in the case of Joint and Industrial Doctorates.

Nationals from anywhere in the world and the LAC region can apply for doctoral fellowships advertised all year round by Doctoral Networks projects on the Euraxess portal.



INTRA-CELAC Working Group on Research Infrastructures (WG RI)



The Intra-CELAC Working Group on Research Infrastructures was held remotely via Zoom and took place on April 20th. In total, delegates from Argentina, Brasil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Perú, Colombia, Cuba, República Dominicana, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panamá; along with the Working Group co-chair, Fernando Amestoy and the Service Facility representatives, Kathrin Megerle and Marianne Vaske.

The main goal of the meeting was to provide a space for exchange between the new members and those previously appointed, along with working on a regional position considering the next EU-CELAC meeting to be held on April 27th.

Fernando Amestoy, co-chair of the Working Group, enunciated the opening remarks, followed by the presentation of the delegates. Then, the Technical Secretary Claudia Romano presented the historical evolution of the Working Group. The Service Facility made a presentation including recommendations to take into consideration for the following EU-CELAC Working Group meeting. The most relevant among them was to select specific Research Infrastructures to keep working on them. Furthermore, Fernando Amestoy introduced the guidelines of the agenda for this year.

Finally, the delegates emphasized on the following remarks:

- The relevance of acknowledging and approaching the threat that the sargassum represents not only for tourism but also for the ecosystems and the economy.
- The importance of turning a problem into a solution for transversal issues that affect the region. Approach those issues from the three thematic areas: health, climate change and diversity.
- The bio-regional approach as a strategy to address common issues.



EU-LAC Working Group on Research Infrastructures meeting (WG RI)



The EU-CELAC Working Group on Research Infrastructures meeting was held via WebEx and took place on April 27th. In total, delegates from more than 25 both regions (15 from the Latin-American region) countries joined the meeting, as well as the group's Co-chair Fernando Amestoy. In this vein, Sabina Guaylupo, delegate of the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology, Anneken Reise, from the DLR and Claudia Romano, Technical Secretariat hold an in-person meeting in order to participate together of the event.

The main goal of the meeting was to deepen the relation between the delegates of both regions and to determine the guidelines of this year's agenda.

The European Commission Representative, Daniel Kiapes, enunciated the opening remarks. The, the Working Group Co-chairs, Fernando Amestoy and Martin Penny inaugurated the discussion section, emphasizing the relevance of obtaining recommendations and insights to present in the Senior Official Meeting on September. Afterwards, Sabina Guaylupo and Claudia Romano, presented the guidelines of the Sustainability Plan, focusing on recommendations to take into account for future cooperation on Research Infrastructures.

During the discussion section, the delegates were divided into three groups in order to debate on three different topics. Firstly, they discussed about climate change, with special focus on how the group could elaborate public policies to address the gaps and asymmetries that prevent Latin America and the Caribbean from making a green and just transition, taking into account the experiences of the European Green Deal. The second topic was biodiversity, and hence, the delegates exchange their views about how to create innovative policies to protect the unique biodiversity and natural ecosystems that Latin America and the Caribbean region has. The third and last topic was health. The delegates focus the discussion on how to improve the health system, as well as the prevention and combat of health threats.



On each topic, the representatives presented examples of successful cooperation among both regions, in addition to consider the next steps to assure a long-lasting cooperation and reducing bureaucratic barriers. The guiding questions of the discussion were the following:

- 1. What are the most successful collaborations between research infrastructures in Europe and Latin America in each research area and why?
- 2. What concrete steps can be taken to improve cooperation, in terms of reducing bureaucracy, facilitating mutual access, ensuring common quality standards, harmonizing technical procedures, etc.?
- 3. How can be ensured that cooperation between RIs is sustainable and leads to long-term partnerships?

Among the suggestions and comments made by the delegates, we highlight the following:

- To increase the funding for cooperation programs
- To use new Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to improve the communication between the managers of the Research Infrastructures from both regions
- To deepen the cooperation between the regions by signing Memorandums of Understanding

To close the event, the following aspects of the content and organization of the work in 2023 were presented:

- Destination and content of the next face-to-face RI WG meeting, 2nd half of 2023 in Europe
- Networking activities for RI managers (e.g. online cooperation workshops)
- Schedule for study visits
- Prepare the contribution to the next Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation Senior Officials Meeting (JIRI SOM), 2nd half of 2023
- Strategic networking with RI stakeholders and forums in EU and LAC



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Link: https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/43e0204c-6ed3-11ed-9887-01aa75ed71a1

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