

Agenda

Future Earth Regional Workshop for Latin America and the Caribbean

Venue: Mexican Academy of Sciences

Mexico City, Mexico

3 to 4 December 2012

Organiser



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Main goals:

1. To develop a common understanding of Future Earth, including its vision, research framework and governance;
2. To identify regional research priorities (research questions, required capabilities, etc.) that will help shape the Future Earth research strategy in Latin America and the Caribbean;
3. To discuss opportunities and challenges for implementing Future Earth in the region;
4. To explore the best ways of establishing a regional interface for Future Earth.

Expected outcomes:

1. Regional feedback on Future Earth, including its vision, research framework and governance;
2. Identified links with existing regional research plans and priorities;
3. Guidance on the next steps to implement Future Earth in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

Meeting co-chairs:

Day 1:

- **Jakob Rhyner** – Director, UNU Institute for Environment and Human Security and representative of the Science and Technology Alliance for Global Sustainability
- **Susana Camargo Vieira** – Professor in Law, Universidade de Itaúna, Brazil

Day 2:

- **Diana Liverman** – Director, Institute of the Environment, University of Arizona and Co-chair of the Transition Team
- **Roberto Guimarães** - Professor e Coordenador do MBA em Gestão do Ambiente e Sustentabilidade - Fundação Getulio Vargas, Professor Visitante do Doutorado em Ambiente e Sociedade - Universidade Estadual de Campinas

Chief rapporteur: Anthony Clayton – Professor, Institute for sustainable development, Mona Campus, Jamaica and ICSU Regional committee member

First day, 3 December 2012:

Overview of Future Earth and regional activities on global environmental change research

7:45 ***Bus leaves the Hotel Radisson Paraiso for the Mexican Academy of Sciences***

08:00-09:00 *Registration*

09:00-09:30 **Opening remarks and aims and structure of meeting**

Steven Wilson – Executive Director, International Council for Science (ICSU)

09:30-10:00 **Future Earth – Background, history and aims**

Roberto Sanchez Rodriguez – Professor, Department of Urban and Environmental Studies, El Colegio de la Frontera Norte and Member of the Transition Team

10.00-10.30 **Future Earth – Global research framework**

Diana Liverman – Director, Institute of the Environment, University of Arizona and Co-chair of the Transition Team

10:30-11:10 **Discussion**

11:10-11:30 *Coffee break*

11:30-12:00 **Future Earth – Governance structure and overview of funding mechanisms**

Peter Liss – Professor, University of East Anglia, United Kingdom

Steven Wilson – Executive Director, International Council for Science (ICSU)

12.00-12.30 **Future Earth – What comes next**

Steven Wilson – Executive Director, International Council for Science (ICSU)

12:30-13:00 **Discussion**

13:00-14:00 *Lunch*

14:00-15:20 **Roundtable discussion:** Current regional research priorities and coordination mechanisms already in place for Global Environmental Change research in Latin America and the Caribbean. How can Future Earth build on these and add value?

- Lilliam Álvarez Díaz – The Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS) and member of the Academy of Sciences of Cuba

- Holm Tiessen – Director, Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research
- Jose Sarukhán – National coordinator, Comisión Nacional para el conocimiento y uso de la biodiversidad (CONABIO), Mexico
- Alonso Brenes Torres – Professor researcher, Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO)

15:20-15:30 **Introduction to break-out groups**

Co-Chairs

15:30-15:45 *Coffee break and change rooms*

15:45-17:25 **Break-out group session 1: building a regional vision for Future Earth**

3 breakout groups working in parallel on questions including:

1. What would success look like for Future Earth in the LAC region? What would success indicators be?
2. What are the major research priorities for the LAC region?
3. Given the framework presented, how could Future Earth add to existing research priorities?
4. What kind of research activities would you like to see conducted within Future Earth?
5. What kind of outreach or other activities would you like to see conducted within Future Earth? (In areas such as data, education and capacity building, communication, interface with stakeholders, etc.)

17:25-17:30 *Change rooms*

17:30-18:30 **Report back to plenary from break-out groups and discussion**

20:00-22:00 *Welcome dinner*

Second day, 4 December 2012:
Options for rolling out Future Earth in the region

09:00-09:15 **Synthesis of first day discussions**

Co-chairs of day 1

09:15-10:00 **Funders' perspectives on key directions for sustainability research and recommendations for Future Earth**

- Development funder's perspective: Neda Farahbakhshazad – Research for Development Adviser, Swedish Secretariat for Environmental Earth System Sciences (SSEESS), representing the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida)
- Research funder's perspective: Reynaldo Luiz Victoria – Scientific Director, São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) and Representative of the Belmont Forum
- Regional funding landscape: Holm Tiessen – Director, Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research

10:00-10:15 **Introduction to break-out groups**

Co-Chairs

10:15-10:30 *Coffee break and change rooms*

10:30-12:10 **Break-out group session 2: Propose mechanism(s) for Future Earth to catalyse and further develop GEC research in Latin America and the Caribbean**

Questions to be addressed in breakout groups include:

1. What are current successes and challenges in delivering transdisciplinary research with stakeholders and collaboration across organizations and countries? How can Future Earth build on these?
2. What infrastructure already exists and what is needed to coordinate Future Earth research?
3. How to build on existing activities in LAC in areas such as data, education and capacity building, communication, interface with stakeholders, etc.?
4. What could be the form and functions of a Future Earth regional node/interface?
5. How to get buy-in and engagement in the region?

6. How can the interface between global and regional be improved in the context of Future Earth?

12:10-12:15 *Change rooms*

12:15-13:00 **Report back to plenary from break-out groups and discussion**

13:00-14:00 *Lunch*

14:00-15:00 **Roundtable discussion:** What mechanisms exist in the LAC region for engaging with policy-makers, business, and other stakeholders? How can Future Earth capitalise on these? Where in the region are there strong examples of a good science-policy interface? Can these be scaled up across the region?

- Carlos Joly – Professor, Department of Plant Biology, Biology Institute, State University of Campinas
- Myanna Lahsen – Associate Researcher, Earth System Science Center at the Brazilian Institute for Space Research (INPE)
- German Poveda – Professor, Universidad Nacional de Colombia
- Astrid Puentes – Co-Executive Director, Interamerican Association for Environmental Defense (AIDA)
- Holm Tiessen – Director, Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research

15:00-16:00 **Roundtable discussion:** Implementation of recommendations and resources required (following from recommendations put forward by breakout groups to look at the ways to operationalise them)

- Arturo J. Martínez – Head of Global Programs at the National Council for Scientific and Technological Research of Argentina (CONICET), Vice President of the Argentine Association for the Advancement of Science
- Roberto Sanchez Rodriguez – Professor, Department of Urban and Environmental Studies, El Colegio de la Frontera Norte and Member of the Transition Team
- Reynaldo Luiz Victoria – Scientific Director, São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) and Representative of the Belmont Forum
- Susana Camargo Vieira – Professor in Law, Universidade de Itaúna, Brazil

16:00-16:30 *Coffee Break*

16:30-17:00 **Evaluation of the meeting**

Co-chairs

17:00-17:30 **Summary of the two days**

Anthony Clayton

17:00-18:00 **Conclusions and next steps**

Co-chairs and Steven Wilson