

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Regional Focal Point for
Latin America and the Caribbean

2024



**International
Science Council**

The global voice for science

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About the International Science Council (ISC)

The ISC is an international non-governmental organization with a unique global membership that brings together 250 international scientific unions and associations, national and regional scientific organizations including science academies, research councils, regional scientific organizations, international federations and societies, and academies of young scientists and associations.

The ISC works at the global level to catalyse change by convening scientific expertise, advice and influence on issues of major importance to both science and society.

About the ISC Regional Focal Point for Latin America and the Caribbean (RFP-LAC)

The RFP-LAC is a consultative body and the regional voice for science, which works with ISC Members to foster collaboration and represent the scientific community in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Contents

Foreword	4
Introduction	5
<hr/>	
1. REGIONAL SCIENTIFIC PRIORITIES	6
<hr/>	
2. STRATEGIC COLLABORATIONS AND REGIONAL ENGAGEMENTS IN 2024	7
2.1. Engagement with ISC headquarters and global projects	7
2.2. Supporting global science policy engagements	8
2.3. Participation in key regional scientific events	9
2.4. Working group participation	11
<hr/>	
3. A REGIONAL MILESTONE: GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE DIALOGUE 2024, ELEVATING THE REGIONAL VOICE	13
<hr/>	
4. STRATEGIC PRESENCE IN GLOBAL DIALOGUES: POSITIONING SCIENCE IN REGIONAL POLITICAL AGENDAS	14
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5. OTHER COLLABORATIONS	19

Foreword

It is with great pleasure that we share the 2024 Annual Report of the Regional Focal Point for Latin America and the Caribbean of the International Science Council (ISC RFP-LAC). This report reflects a year of meaningful progress, collaboration and shared purpose across the region's scientific community.

In 2024, we prioritized expanding the ISC's presence and fostering inclusive participation throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. The Latin American and Caribbean edition of the Global Knowledge Dialogue (GKD) marked a major milestone, strengthening ties with the ISC Membership Committee and supporting greater engagement from academies in the Global South. Regional voices shaped global ISC outputs – including those from the Centre for Science Futures and Science Missions for Sustainability – and contributed to key international dialogues with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

We continued to strengthen regional scientific networks through collaborations with science academies, the International Network for Governmental Science Advice – Latin America and the Caribbean (INGSA-LAC), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD), UNEP and others, and participated in high-profile forums including the Latin American and Caribbean Open Science Forum (CILAC Forum), COP16 and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) Science and Innovation Conference. Looking ahead, we are preparing to launch a science advice pilot with ParlAmericas and increase engagement ahead of COP30 in Brazil.

Supporting young scientific leadership remains a cornerstone of our work. We advanced national young academies, partnered with key institutions such as National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) and the Global Young Academy, and expanded training opportunities through the World Academy of Sciences Young Affiliates Network (TYAN) summer school series. Our partnerships with Small Island Developing States (SIDS) stakeholders have further amplified regional resilience efforts and representation.

We are also pleased to present the first draft of our Regional Action Plan, shaped by broad consultation and grounded in five key working groups: Fundraising & Membership, Partnerships, Capacity Building & Events, Communication, and Science Policy & Freedom and Responsibility in Science.

Our heartfelt thanks go to the ISC Members and partners in the region for their commitment and leadership. We look forward to building on this momentum in 2025.

Ana Rada and Luis Sobrevia

Co-Chairs of the RFP-LAC Liaison Committee

Introduction

As the interface between the ISC and its diverse scientific communities in the region, we strive to ensure that Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) perspectives are not only visible but influential in shaping the global scientific agenda. We aim to be more than a liaison – to serve as a catalyst for dialogue, collaboration and strategic action that reflect the region’s priorities and capacities. In 2024, the Regional Focal Point for Latin America and the Caribbean (RFP-LAC) continued to consolidate its role as a dynamic platform for amplifying the ISC’s global mission through regional action.

Our commitment is twofold: to support our members in actively engaging with the ISC’s work and to ensure that the outcomes of this engagement translate into tangible benefits for science and society across the region.

With growing engagement and deepening networks, we remain focused on strengthening regional scientific integration, while promoting inclusive, knowledge-based development through science–policy–society interfaces. As we look ahead, we reaffirm our mission to co-create a shared vision for science in Latin America and the Caribbean that is bold, connected and future-focused.

What follows is a detailed overview of key activities and collaborations fulfilled during 2024.

1. Regional scientific priorities

Since 2022, the Liaison Committee of the ISC Regional Focal Point for Latin America and the Caribbean (RFP-LAC) has been engaged in the collective formulation of a **Regional Action Plan**. This plan strategically aligns with the ISC Global Action Plan and is adapted to the unique opportunities and challenges of Latin America and the Caribbean, with the overarching goal of supporting and empowering the region's scientific community.

Input was sought through scientific dialogues and multistakeholder consultations, including contributions from the Global Knowledge Dialogue for Latin America and the Caribbean (GKD-LAC). Consideration was given to not only scientific exchanges but also diplomatic forums that amplified collaboration between researchers, institutions and decision-makers. Importantly, the inclusive nature of these discussions ensured that diverse voices – from early career scientists to senior policy-makers – were incorporated.

These inputs became the cornerstone for the development of the ISC RFP-LAC Regional Action Plan, a guiding document that connects local scientific priorities to global challenges. The first official version of the Action Plan was published at the end of 2024 in preparation for the ISC General Assembly in Oman, where the Liaison Committee formally presented it to ISC Members in the region.

The Regional Action Plan will continue to evolve, incorporating refinements and new developments that reflect the dynamic scientific and policy landscape of Latin America and the Caribbean. The next annual report will present the fully updated Action Plan in detail, highlighting how it is becoming one of the most significant outcomes of the joint work of the ISC RFP-LAC Regional Office under the guidance and expertise of its Liaison Committee.

2. Strategic collaborations and regional engagements in 2024

As a regional office, the ISC RFP-LAC actively contributes to global ISC initiatives while strengthening science systems and networks across Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2024, we advanced a wide range of strategic collaborations, engaged in key global dialogues, and worked closely with members to foster inclusion, visibility and influence of the region in international science policy processes. Key highlights:

2.1 Engagement with ISC headquarters and global projects

We have closely supported initiatives from ISC headquarters, including:

- **ISC Centre for Science Futures:** The ISC RFP-LAC contributed to the report *Preparing National Research Ecosystems for AI: Strategies and progress in 2024* – International Science Council, which highlights global strategies for accelerating AI in science and research by connecting the writers with a series of country case studies, including those from Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Uruguay.
- **Support for early- and mid-career researchers (EMCRs):** The ISC continued to advocate for the establishment of new young academies in the LAC region and offer support to young scientific associations by connecting them with the [Focal Point for EMCR at the ISC](#), promoting participation in the recently launched [ISC Early and Mid-Career Researchers \(EMCR\) Forum](#) and in opportunities disclosed in their dedicated [newsletter](#). In 2024 the Colombian Young Academy became the first LAC young academy to join the ISC, followed by the Young Academy of Argentina. We expect the Young Academy of Mexico to move in the same direction in 2025.

The ISC RFP-LAC supported the organization of the [ISC Early and Mid-Career Researchers \(EMCR\) Forum: Latin America and the Caribbean](#) held during the GKD-LAC in Santiago de Chile, on 9 April 2024. The results of this forum are being used to formulate initiatives in collaboration with participating organizations.

Building on this momentum, the ISC RFP-LAC is currently designing a leadership capacity building programme dedicated to EMCRs. The objective is to equip emerging leaders with the skills and networks necessary to consolidate national platforms that can evolve into future young academies.

In addition, the ISC RFP-LAC has actively participated in international events organized both by ISC Members and by partner organizations, allowing us to connect with regional scientific communities – particularly EMCRs, women in science, and researchers from Small Island Developing States (SIDS). These exchanges have laid the groundwork for the

creation of a Regional Roster of Experts, which will enable us to respond more effectively to ad hoc requests from the ISC Global Science Policy Unit and its collaboration with various United Nations agencies. Through this mechanism, the LAC scientific community will be able to actively contribute to the science–policy interface established by the ISC with the UN system.

2.2 Supporting global science policy engagements

We have collaborated with the ISC’s Global Science Policy Unit to ensure representation of the LAC scientific community in various roles, such as speakers, reviewers, advisors or contributors to reports, across training and statement development efforts.

- **UNEP–ISC Global Foresight Exercise:** The ISC RFP-LAC co-organized the **Regional Foresight Workshop – Latin America and the Caribbean**, held in Bogotá, Colombia, which brought together regional experts to identify priority signals and drivers of change for the region. Their insights fed into the global horizon-scanning and signal-validation process, ensuring that the perspectives and specific challenges of LAC – such as biodiversity loss, climate vulnerability and social inequalities – were reflected in the analysis. These contributions enriched the **2024 Global Foresight Report** prepared for the UN Summit of the Future, which underscores the urgency of addressing the triple planetary crisis while recognizing diverse regional realities.



Figure 1. *Regional Foresight Workshop for Latin America and the Caribbean in Bogotá, Colombia in December 2023.*

- **UNDP Global Signals Report 2024:** The ISC RFP-LAC contributed to the virtual roundtable on the futures of development organized by UNDP, ensuring that perspectives from Latin America and the Caribbean were integrated into the global dialogue. Regional contributions highlighted challenges and opportunities around **intergenerational equity**, emphasizing the importance of safeguarding future generations in development pathways. These insights were incorporated into the **Signals Spotlight 2024**, reflecting the region’s growing engagement with global foresight initiatives: [Signals Spotlight 2024 | United Nations Development Programme](#)

2.3 Participation in key regional scientific events

Active engagement in major regional forums has been instrumental in raising the profile of the ISC in Latin America and the Caribbean, expanding our network of collaborators, strengthening our Regional Roster of Experts, and growing our list of partner organizations. These events connect us with diverse regional scientific communities and reinforce our role as a credible, trusted platform for partnership and knowledge exchange.

- **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) MCAA Awards 2024:** The Senior Science Officer of the ISC RFP-LAC was invited to serve as a jury member for the **MSCA Alumni Association Awards 2024**. These awards celebrate outstanding achievements in science, innovation and societal engagement by members of the global MSCA community. Participation in the jury recognized the ISC RFP-LAC’s credibility in evaluating excellence and strengthened our links with a worldwide network of researchers, contributing to the visibility of the ISC in Latin America and the Caribbean and reinforcing our commitment to promoting scientific leadership across generations.
- **Third MCAA Latin America Conference (Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 27–28 October 2023):** ISC RFP-LAC participated in the conference themed ‘Scientific Cooperation in Latin America’ – a vibrant gathering of MSCA current and former fellows and regional stakeholders. This forum focused on vital topics such as scientific cooperation for regional development, the Sustainable Development Goals, science diplomacy and citizen science, as well as workshops on funding opportunities and grant writing. The ISC RFP-LAC contributed by **presenting our regional initiatives and engaging with leaders of national Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA) chapters**, advancing all of our core priorities for 2024.



Figure 2. The ISC RFP-LAC at the Third MCAA Latin America Conference held in Colombia.

- **Symposium on Connections to Sustain Science in Latin America (2024):** The ISC RFP-LAC was invited to introduce the regional office and present its activities during this high-level symposium, organized by the US National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) in partnership with Universidad Nacional de San Martín, Argentina. The event convened leading voices from across the Americas to explore strategies for strengthening scientific systems in the region through six multidisciplinary plenary sessions. Participation positioned the ISC RFP-LAC as a key regional actor, expanded visibility for our mission, and created opportunities to engage new institutional partners committed to sustaining science in Latin America.



Figure 3. The ISC RFP-LAC at the Symposium on Connections to Sustain Science in Latin America held in Colombia and organized by NASEM in 2024.

- **GEO Mountains Regional Workshop in the Andes (2024):** The ISC RFP-LAC participated in this workshop, organized by the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research, focused on strengthening interdisciplinary monitoring, data sharing and capacity building across the Andes. The ISC RFP-LAC presented the importance of regional scientific collaboration in science policy processes, reinforcing our commitment to connect Andean expertise with international climate resilience initiatives.



Figure 4. The ISC RFP-LAC at the GEO Mountains Workshop: Interdisciplinary Monitoring, Data, and Capacity Sharing Across the Andes – Adaptation at Altitude, held in Bogotá in 2024.

The RFP’s targeted engagement has already yielded tangible results. By strengthening our regional expert roster, which now directly supports ISC’s global science policy initiatives, the ISC RFP-LAC is ensuring that the voices and expertise of the region are effectively represented in global decision-making processes. Experts from Latin America and the Caribbean actively contribute to ad hoc requests from UN agencies and play a role in shaping flagship efforts such as the Science Missions for Sustainability.

2.4 Working group participation

The ISC RFP-LAC has actively contributed to several regional working groups, strengthening collaboration with strategic partners and advancing key agendas on science advice, disaster risk reduction and gender equity in science. These engagements ensure that the RFP-LAC remains at the forefront of regional dialogues and action-oriented initiatives.

- **Steering Committee of the International Network for Governmental Science Advice – Latin America and the Caribbean (INGSA-LAC)**

The ISC RFP-LAC participated in the INGSA-LAC Steering Committee, aimed at enhancing science advice capacities in the region. Notably, the RFP-LAC proposed and coordinated a side event at the Latin American and Caribbean Open Science Forum (CILAC Forum) and have planned a future ‘Theoretical-Practical Workshop: Governmental Science Advice in Government Decision-Making’. These initiatives are designed to foster greater interaction between scientists and policy-makers across the region.

- **Regional Scientific and Advisory Group of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) LAC**

As a member of the [Regional Scientific and Advisory Group of UNDRR LAC](#), the ISC RFP-LAC has supported the dissemination of pivotal reports, including the Mid-Term Review of the Sendai Framework. In addition, it has promoted broader awareness through advocacy materials such as the [campaign video](#), reinforcing the importance of evidence-based approaches to disaster risk reduction and resilience-building in Latin America and the Caribbean.

- **Chair of Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD) Colombia**

Serving as Chair of OWSD Colombia, the ISC RFP-LAC has actively contributed to advancing gender equity and science leadership in the region. Implemented through a robust national work plan, activities empower women scientists, foster inclusive participation in research, and strengthen networks for female leadership in science, technology and innovation.

- **Latin American Research Advisory Council, Springer Nature:** As a founding member, ISC RFP-LAC has contributed to shaping the [Latin American Research Advisory Council](#), an initiative of Springer Nature, which convenes leading researchers to identify challenges and opportunities for science systems in LAC.

- **eLife Global South Committee:** ISC RFP-LAC also participates in the eLife Global South Committee, fostering equitable representation of researchers from the Global South in open science, scholarly publishing and leadership in scientific communication: [Community | Global South Committee for Open Science · eLife](#)

3. A regional milestone: Global Knowledge Dialogue 2024, elevating the regional voice

In April 2024, The ISC RFP-LAC organized the landmark ISC Global Knowledge Dialogue for Latin America and the Caribbean, bringing together over 30 countries – with participants including experts from Malaysia, Ethiopia, China and Australia – to foster a unified, regional voice for science in pursuit of sustainable development and catalysing transdisciplinary collaborations. The event was held in Santiago de Chile and supported by the LAC Liaison Committee with participation from high-level representatives and stakeholders in attendance – from ISC leadership to national ministers. This action-oriented forum emphasized scientific diplomacy, urban health, open access and AI integration. As regional cochairs and ISC officials concluded: GKDLAC marked a significant step towards anchoring LAC’s scientific contributions as integral to the global policy discourse.

[Strengthening the Voice of Science: Reflections from the Global Knowledge Dialogue in Santiago, Chile - International Science Council.](#)



Figure 5. Internal meeting of the Liaison Committee of the ISC RFP-LAC during the Global Knowledge Dialogue for Latin America and the Caribbean.

The GKD 2024 in Santiago de Chile demonstrated the growing capacity of Latin America and the Caribbean to shape the global scientific agenda. By fostering trust, strengthening regional cooperation and positioning science as a bridge between knowledge and decision-making, the event consolidated LAC’s role as both a contributor and a convener in addressing shared global challenges. The outcomes reaffirmed that sustained engagement through the ISC and its Regional Focal Point is essential to ensure that the voices, priorities and innovations of the region continue to influence international policy debates and solutions. More pictures of the event are available at [Global Knowledge Dialogue LAC, Chile 2024 | Flickr.](#)

4. Strategic presence in global dialogues: Positioning science in regional political agendas

In 2024, the ISC RFP-LAC played a key role in strengthening the science–policy interface by actively contributing to major regional political and multilateral forums. These strategic engagements ensured that science was positioned at the heart of policy dialogues on sustainable development, biodiversity, innovation and climate action.

Key highlights include:

- **COP16 on Biodiversity – Cali, Colombia**

In October 2024, the ISC RFP-LAC actively participated in the **16th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP16)**, held in Cali, Colombia. This global summit brought together governments, international organizations, scientists and civil society to accelerate action on biodiversity conservation under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

The ISC RFP-LAC contributed by:

- **Strengthening regional science policy dialogue:** Collaborating with the Montpellier Process (see below) to promote scientific evidence as a foundation for biodiversity governance and sustainable land management in the region.
- **Bringing regional perspectives to the global stage:** Ensuring that Latin America and the Caribbean’s unique biodiversity challenges and solutions were represented within the negotiations.
- **Positioning science as a driver for action:** Advocating for stronger integration of science into policy processes, highlighting the role of research and innovation in reversing biodiversity loss and advancing sustainable development.

This engagement marked a milestone for the ISC RFP-LAC, reinforcing its role as a bridge between the scientific community and political decision-makers at one of the most important biodiversity summits of the decade. [The ISC RFP-LAC at COP16: A turning point for biodiversity action](#)

- **Montpellier Process at COP16**

At COP16 in Cali, Colombia (October 2024), the ISC RFP-LAC contributed to the **Montpellier Process side events**, a series of seven connected dialogues organized across the Blue and Green Zones. The Montpellier Process is a learning collective convened to model more effective, iterative and inclusive science–policy–society interfaces, with food systems as the entry point for addressing interconnected challenges across the **Feed–Care–Protect nexus**.

The ISC RFP-LAC’s participation reinforced its mission to strengthen science–policy interfaces in the region, ensuring that Latin American perspectives were integrated into global debates on biodiversity and food systems. Through its engagement, the Regional Focal Point contributed to highlighting how food systems transformation must be aligned with the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, while also demonstrating that biodiversity targets can only be achieved if embedded in food system pathways.

The ISC RFP-LAC’s involvement also contributed to laying the groundwork for sustained regional engagement in future biodiversity negotiations, particularly in the lead-up to COP30 in Brazil.

Read the **Montpellier Process COP16 Outcome Document here**: [Pooling Collective Intelligence for Action across the Feed–Care–Protect Nexus](#)

Explore the **Book of Use Cases** presented at COP16: [Pooling Collective Intelligence for Action \(PCI4A\)](#)

Figure 6.
Montpellier
Process side event:
‘Pooling Collective
Intelligence for
Action at COP16’,
CBD Side Event.
CBD Pavilion, Room:
Sierra Nevada –
Working Group II,
CEVP Ground Floor,
25 October, 1.20–
2.40 p.m. COT, Blue
Zone.



- **CILAC Forum 2024 – San Andrés, Colombia**

In December 2024, the ISC RFP-LAC participated in the **IV Open Science Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean**, held in San Andrés Island, Colombia (2–4 December). This high-level regional platform convened policy-makers, scientists and civil society to advance dialogue between science, policy and society in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. [Learn more about CILAC 2024.](#)

The ISC RFP-LAC organized and led the **thematic session ‘Advancing Science for Sustainability in Latin America and the Caribbean: The Role of the International Science Council’s Regional Focal Point’**, held on 3 December 2024. The session highlighted the outcomes of the **GKD-LAC** (April 2024, Santiago, Chile) and underscored the role of ISC RFP-LAC in shaping regional scientific priorities. It also addressed strategic themes such as urban health and wellbeing, open science and publishing, the voice of LAC in global science, and the future of funding and evaluation systems. The session was chaired by members of the Liaison Committee, including Graciela Díaz de Delgado, Silvina Ponce Dawson, and members of the ISC RFP-LAC Secretariat, Helena Groot de Restrepo, and Carolina Santacruz-Pérez, with contributions from other committee members joining in person or virtually.



Figure 7. Thematic session held during the CILAC Forum, entitled ‘Advancing Science for Sustainability in Latin America and the Caribbean: The Role of the International Science Council’s Regional Focal Point’, on 3 December 2024.

In addition, ISC RFP-LAC was invited to participate in the **Ministerial Roundtable and the Launch of the International Decade of Science for Sustainable Development**, held during the forum’s **Open Session on 2 December 2024**. In her intervention, Carolina

Santacruz-Pérez, Senior Science Officer of ISC RFP-LAC, delivered a statement on behalf of the ISC President, Sir Peter Gluckman, and CEO, Salvatore Aricò, highlighting the central role of science in the implementation of the Pact for the Future and the transformative vision of Mission Science for Sustainability.

The Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development is not just a symbolic declaration – it is a transformative journey. Through Mission Science for Sustainability, we envision a global approach where research is co-designed with local communities and stakeholders, driving innovative and evidence-based solutions to the urgent crises of our time.

Contributions reinforced the ISC's position as a key actor in bridging science and policy at regional and global levels, while enhancing the visibility of the Regional Focal Point as a hub for scientific collaboration in Latin America and the Caribbean.

- **Fourth ECLAC Conference on Science, Innovation and ICTs – Bogotá, Colombia**

The ISC RFP-LAC actively contributed to the **Fourth Meeting of the Conference on Science, Innovation and ICTs of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)**, held on **4–5 April 2024 in Bogotá, Colombia**. This high-level intergovernmental forum brought together ministers, policy-makers, international organizations and the scientific community to discuss the role of science, technology and innovation in advancing sustainable development across Latin America and the Caribbean.

Participation ensured that regional science perspectives were represented in a critical multilateral dialogue. Notably, the meeting resulted in the **presidency of the Conference being granted to the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Colombia** for the next two years – an opportunity to reinforce the integration of scientific evidence into regional policy frameworks.

By engaging in this process, the ISC RFP-LAC helped position science as a driver for innovation, sustainability and resilience in alignment with the broader goals of the 2030 Agenda.

Fourth Meeting of the Conference on Science, Innovation and ICTs of ECLAC

- **Caribbean Science and SIDS**

In 2023–2024, the ISC RFP-LAC deepened its engagement with regional and interregional scientific communities, with a special emphasis on the Caribbean and SIDS. These dialogues have been essential in strengthening regional cooperation and amplifying the role of science in addressing the unique challenges faced by SIDS and Large Ocean States.

A key milestone was our participation in the biennial Caribbean Academy of Sciences (CAS) Conference, which brought together scientific communities from French-, Spanish- and English-speaking Caribbean countries. This engagement not only fostered stronger relationships within the region but also helped identify areas for joint action on pressing issues such as climate resilience, sustainable development and science-based policy advice (Caribbean Academy of Sciences 23rd Biennial Conference and General Meeting).

Insights from the CAS Conference also informed the active participation of the ISC RFP-LAC and ISC Regional Focal Point for Asia and the Pacific (RFP-AP) in the UN 2024 SIDS Conference jointly with the ISC Small Island Developing States Liaison Committee (SIDS LC). Through this platform, RFP-LAC contributed to collective initiatives, including a high-level side event on the **future role of science academies in SIDS**, which highlighted the importance of scientific institutions in shaping inclusive and sustainable development pathways.

Furthermore, the ISC RFP-LAC, in collaboration with the ISC RFP-AP, accompanied the SIDS Liaison Committee in launching the global call to ‘Join the Conversation, Sign the Declaration: From Shores to Horizons – Empowering Science for the Future of Large Ocean States’. This initiative underscores the ISC’s commitment to amplifying the voices of SIDS communities, promoting their leadership in global scientific dialogues, and ensuring that their perspectives are integrated into international science policy frameworks.

Together, these activities demonstrate the growing role of the ISC RFP-LAC in creating bridges across regions, strengthening the visibility of Caribbean science, and reinforcing the global solidarity of SIDS and Large Ocean States in shaping a sustainable future.



Figure 8. The ISC RFP-LAC at the Caribbean Academy of Sciences 23rd Biennial Conference and General Meeting.

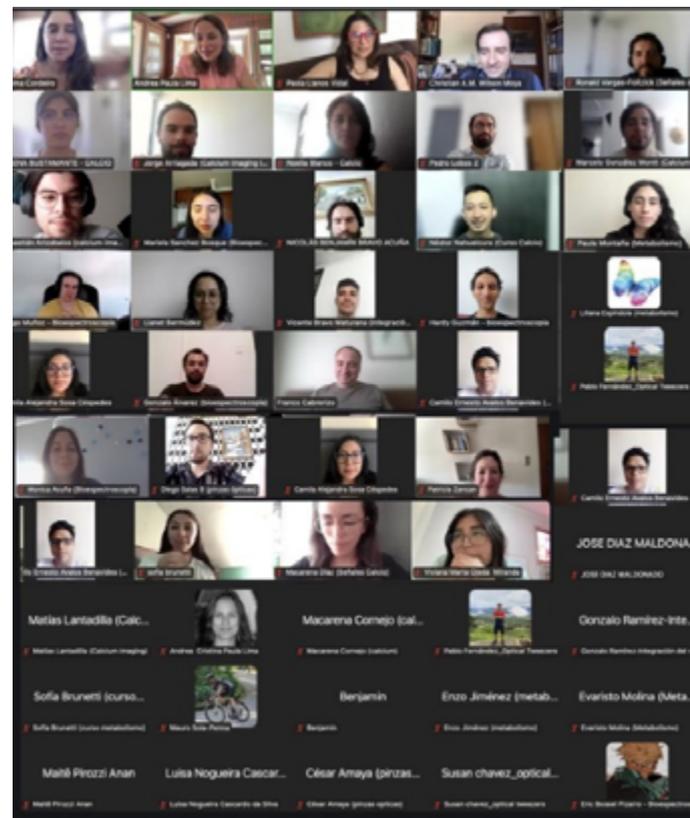


Figure 9. The ISC RFP-LAC, ISC RFP-AP and ISC Secretariat at the SIDS4 side event: Amplifying Science in and from Small Island Developing States, during the SIDS4 conference in 2024.

5. Other collaborations

- On **30 April 2025**, the ISC RFP-LAC co-organized a regional webinar to introduce the global **‘Towards IPOS – Unveiling of the Strategic Overview’** platform to the Latin American and Caribbean scientific community engaged in ocean research. The event, part of a worldwide consultation process led by the Towards IPOS consortium, outlined the rationale, core services and proposed governance model of a new mechanism designed to provide decision-makers with the best available ocean knowledge to support sustainability. By convening researchers, institutions and stakeholders from across the region, the ISC RFP-LAC helped ensure that Latin American and Caribbean perspectives and priorities are reflected in the design of IPOS (International Panel for Ocean Sustainability). This series of webinars will continue to strengthen regional engagement and collaboration. [Towards IPOS – Unveiling of the Strategic Overview Webinar – International Science Council.](#)
- The ISC RFP-LAC is a formal collaborator of the **TWAS Young Affiliates Network (TYAN)** and its **Third TYAN Hands-on School**, organized under the **TEACH-4-SD (Teaching for Sustainable Development)** initiative. This programme is designed to equip students from low-income countries with **practical laboratory skills and methodological expertise** essential for advancing research aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals. The 2024 edition was held in **Santiago de Chile, 11–15 December 2024**, bringing together instructors from **Chile, Brazil and Argentina** to lead six intensive courses. Courses covered a wide range of cutting-edge topics, including biospectroscopy, photochemistry, energy metabolism, calcium imaging in live cells, optical mineralogy and data analysis for optical tweezers experiments. Through this collaboration, the ISC RFP-LAC contributed to strengthening regional scientific capacity and fostering South–South cooperation. [Hands-on training courses on health, biotechnology and environmental sciences.](#)

Figure 10. Virtual session about **Science Diplomacy in the LAC region, and the regional presence of the International Science Council**, during the Third TYAN Summer School held in Santiago, Chile, 11–15 December 2024.



- **Collaboration with the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Open Science Alliance (APECOSA)**

The ISC RFP-LAC collaborated with the **Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM)** in implementing the **APECOSA**, a regional initiative designed to strengthen open science practices across APEC. As part of the APECOSA landscape study in 2024, the ISC contributed to two workshops: a **virtual session in June 2024** moderated by Petra Lundgren (ISC RFP-AP) and an **in-person workshop in Lima, Peru**, moderated by Carolina Santacruz-Pérez (ISC RFP-LAC). The Lima workshop was organized alongside the **23rd APEC Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI-23)** and partially supported through ASM's remaining ISC Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific hosting funds: [APEC 2024 PPSTI 23 Meeting \(The 23rd Policy Partnership on Science and Innovation Meeting\)](#)

In 2025, the outcomes of these workshops were consolidated into the report '[Landscape Study Report on Policy Recommendations for the Implementation of APECOSA](#)' – Official Portal Academy of Sciences Malaysia). The findings were presented by ASM Secretary-General, ChM Noorsaadah, during the **25th PPSTI Meeting (24 February 2025, Gyeongju, Korea)**, where the proposal to establish the APECOSA received strong support from APEC members.

Through its role as moderator and collaborator, the ISC RFP-LAC ensured that perspectives from Latin America and the Caribbean were represented in this influential intergovernmental process, while also strengthening ties with Asian partners on global priorities in open science. [PPSTI Workshop: 'Landscape Study and Benchmarking Workshop for the APEC Open Science Alliance'](#) | Flickr

Figure 11. 23rd APEC Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI-23) held in Lima, Peru, August 2024.



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