

# The Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research

International Symposium on Geoengineering

Academia Brasileira de Ciências 10 to 11 June 2019 Rio de Janeiro, RJ — Brazil



## IAI Overview

#### Core values

Scientific excellence, international cooperation and full and open exchange of scientific information.

#### Vision

The IAI was envisaged as an intergovernmental instrument by which scientists and decision makers might jointly address the critical issues associated with global change in the region.









\*The future of international environmental law / edited by David Leary and Balakrishna Pisupati. United Nations University, 2010.

## The Americas and shared priorities

#### **Unexpected results:**

Prathapan, K & Pethiyagoda [et al]. (2018). When the cure kills—**CBD limits biodiversity research**. *Science*. 360. 1405-1406.

(more than 170 co-signatories, 71 of which are from the Americas)







- Within this fragmented governance environment the Americas has been uniquely effective in making its priorities known
- GRULAC, for example, is an effective negotiating block in many MEAs
- Such homogeneity in action provides many many opportunities



### Geoengineering and governance

Which international instrument would be most appropriate as the umbrella agreement for sovereign nations to discuss challenges posed by geoengineering?

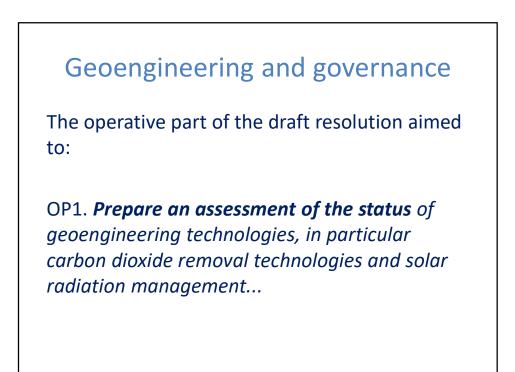
UNEP (UN Environment Assembly)? The Convention on Biological Diversity? UNFCCC?



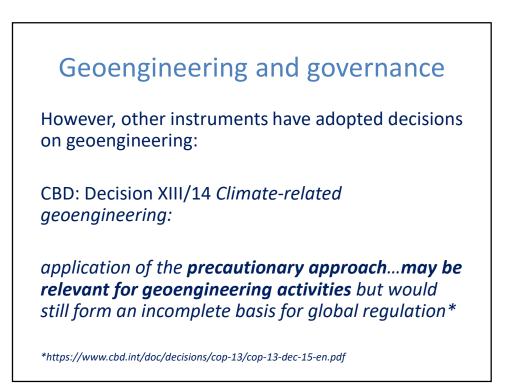
### Geoengineering and governance

From the preamble:

**PP3. Deeply concerned about the potential global risks and adverse impacts** of geoengineering on environment and sustainable development, and noting the lack of multilateral control and oversight.













- Making use of partnerships to establish selfsustaining networks of peers
- Supporting open science and data



## **Collaborative Research Networks**

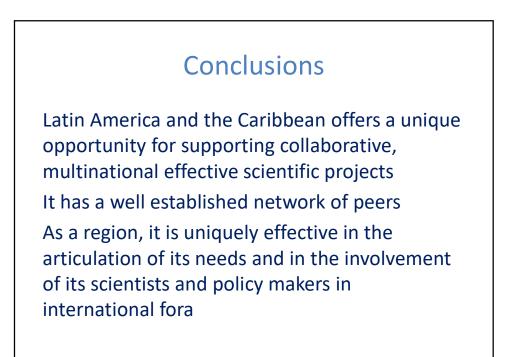
Within this context, the IAI's Collaborative Research Networks (CRN now at its 4th round) is a clear manifestation of the desire by Latin America and the Caribbean to support a joint mutually beneficial approach to science and the use of results from that science for more effective policy making



# Strategy for identifying, developing and maintaining partnerships

None of this could have been possible without:

- Funding to seed the scientific projects
- A collaborative, multinational approach to identifying and researching an issue anchored to national needs and articulated internationally
- Member country involvement through its scientific communities
- Interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research



# Conclusions

In summary, Latin America and the Caribbean have will, the expertise and the willingness to:

- overcome challenges and build opportunities for multi-national collaboration, and
- strengthen linkages to global frameworks to leverage extramural funding for Americas Regional priorities

