

PLANNING MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE OAS MINISTERIAL PROCESS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



The Meeting convenes the elected authorities of the Inter-American Committee on Science and Technology (COMCYT) and members of the Troika for the 2025-2027 period, namely: the National Council of Science, Technology and Innovation (CONCYTEC) of Peru, as Chair; the Ministry of Science, Innovation, Technology and Telecommunications (MICITT) of Costa Rica, as Vice-Chair; the Secretary of State for Science, Technology and Innovation of Honduras, as Vice-Chair; and the Ministry of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport of Jamaica, as member of the Troika (past Chair).

Likewise, representatives of the Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) and specific strategic partners of the COMCYT are invited to the meeting. The Planning Meeting is open to all delegations.

The purpose of the Planning Meeting is to define the Work Plan of the COMCYT for the 2025-2027 period, with concrete actions, projects, and activities.

The Work Plan is intended to facilitate implementation and follow-up to mandates and commitments established in the **Declaration and Plan of Action of the VII Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Science and Technology (VII REMCYT)** “Towards the Safe, Secure and Trustworthy Development and Deployment of Artificial Intelligence in the Americas: The Importance of Governance, Regulatory and Institutional Frameworks” adopted during the Ministerial Meeting held in Washington, DC, on December 12 and 13, 2024, under the leadership of Peru.

The Preliminary Draft Work Plan takes into account the **Regional Agenda for Digital Transformation**, adopted by the Heads of State and Governments during the IX Summit of the Americas held in Los Angeles on June 9, 2022, as well as the mandates of Resolution “Advancing Hemispheric Initiatives on Integral Development: Promoting Resilience”, adopted by the Member States on June 27, 2024 during the **54th OAS General Assembly** held in Asuncion, Paraguay.

Likewise, MOUs, Cooperation Agreements, work plans and initiatives with strategic partners of the COMCYT established prior to the Planning Meeting are also being considered.

This Preliminary Draft Work Plan is conceptualized as a living, flexible working document and, therefore, it will be adapted and complemented to the extent that the COMCYT Authorities identify projects of common interest to improve regional collaboration and cooperation in science and technology.

LACCEI will continue supporting the implementation of the “Prospecta Americas” program and the OAS Network of Centers of Excellence in Transformative Technologies. In collaboration with CEITTEC of Córdoba, they will organize a webinar on AI and the Circular Economy.

CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION, THE TWO DRIVING FORCES THAT DRIVE US FORWARD: FIDELITAS UNIVERSITY

By Emilia Gazel Leitón, Rector of Fidéлитas University

Creativity has no limits and is the first step toward reinventing the world; it is the engine that drives original thinking and change. Innovation is the practical application of ideas to generate value in solutions that change the future. In other words, it is the bridge that turns creative concepts into tangible realities that improve our daily lives. Just look around us and observe everything we use.

That is why, every April 21st, we globally celebrate World Creativity and Innovation Day, a date that invites us to reflect on the transformative power of these two essential human qualities for progress.

It is no secret that today's world is experiencing challenges that demand increasingly rapid, disruptive, and effective responses, and this is where creativity and innovation become fundamental tools in all areas and at all levels.

Let us keep in mind that without creativity there is no innovation, and without innovation, there is no progress. Without progress, there is no evolution and growth. Therefore, it is essential that universities foster creativity, ingenuity, critical thinking, and innovation in young people, as these qualities will enable them to face the challenges of the future and transform the world with unique and revolutionary solutions.

LACCEI APPOINTS DR. MARCOS MOYA AS ITS REPRESENTATIVE BEFORE THE RICYT

LACCEI is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Marcos Moya Navarro, distinguished professor and researcher at the Universidad Latina de Costa Rica, as its Official Representative to the Science and Technology Indicators Network (RICYT).

This appointment recognizes Dr. Moya's outstanding career and commitment to research and academic development in the field of engineering in Latin America. In his new role, Dr. Moya will assume responsibility for coordinating and leading the working group dedicated to engineering indicators in Ibero-America. His work will be key in the development, analysis, and standardization of metrics that allow for evaluating the impact and evolution of the sector in the region.

Through this appointment, LACCEI reinforces its commitment to knowledge generation and inter-institutional cooperation, promoting a comprehensive vision that strengthens engineering in Latin America and the Caribbean. Dr. Moya's leadership will be essential in strengthening ties between academic institutions, research organizations, and government entities, driving strategic initiatives for the sustainable growth of the sector.

We congratulate Dr. Marcos Moya on this important appointment and wish him every success in this new phase of collaboration between LACCEI and RICYT.