



EDITORIAL

CARIRI'S RELATIONSHIP WITH WAITRO

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A defining feature of CARIRI's journey as a Research and Technology Organization (RTO) is its relationship with the World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organizations (WAITRO). The Institute is a founding member of WAITRO which is the largest global network of RTOs.

WAITRO has more than 100 full and associate members in over fifty (50) countries across the globe. The membership base spans Europe, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Middle East and North Africa, and Sub-Saharan Africa. The Organization provides a wide range of services and programs to foster R&D capacity building and facilitate the transfer of technologies around the globe.

Membership in WAITRO affords CARIRI access to high level technical expertise, transfer of technology/know-how and opportunities to participate in bidding for consultancy assignments from international funding/developmental agencies under consortium arrangements.

The Institute has benefited immensely over the years from membership in WAITRO, as follows:

1. RTO Capacity Building via Training and Consultancy Support in a number of areas, including specialized technical/operational areas and various aspects of management of RTOs.

CARIRI has benefitted over the years from capacity building in areas such as RTO Management, Food Technology, Industrial Materials (Metallurgy), Analytical Chemistry and Microbiology, and ICT.

This has been achieved through participation in training programmes conducted and sponsored by WAITRO, and engaging Consultancy support from key member organizations such as the Shriram Institute for Industrial Research (SRI) and National Metallurgical Laboratories (NML), India; Standards and Industrial Research Institute of Malaysia (SIRIM Berhad); Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), South Africa; and the Danish Technological Institute (DTI).

2. Joint bidding for the undertaking of project initiatives within the framework of consortium type arrangements; which involves the pooling of skills/resources of a number of RTOs to bid for the undertaking of projects sponsored by international/regional funding/developmental agencies. Developmental project initiatives could also be put forward to WAITRO for consideration under competitive funding arrangements.

Other areas of interest to CARIRI, in terms of benefiting from membership in WAITRO are as follows:

Joint undertaking of applied research projects

This is an area that CARIRI has not exploited, though there is potential for so doing. Opportunities in this area could be identified through networking and utilization of SAIRA, WAITRO's Open Innovation Platform for sustainable development.

Sustainability, Access, Innovation, Research and Application (SAIRA)

SAIRA is an open innovation hub that is designed to foster/accelerate collaboration among RTOs, Academia, Governments, Civil Society and the Private Sector with the aim of achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is imperative that all members thoroughly familiarize themselves with SAIRA and seek to fully exploit the wealth of opportunities that it affords.

Webinar "Intellectual Property in Technology"

On Tuesday, April 9th, we held the webinar "Intellectual Property in Technology," led by Carlos Salazar Lopera, legal advisor of the Corporation for Biological Research of Colombia - CIB (Corporación para Investigaciones Biológicas de Colombia)

In an increasingly digitized world, safeguarding intellectual property stands as a fundamental pillar for innovation and development, being crucial to drive competitiveness and investment in this field.

The session not only provided legal perspectives on intellectual property protection in technology but also highlighted its role in fostering an environment conducive to creativity and progress.

We invite you to stay tuned for upcoming knowledge exchange activities.



Successful Connections in Latin America and the Caribbean!

We began our institution presentation rounds in Latin America and the Caribbean. This marks a significant step towards strengthening our regional connections and fostering fruitful collaborations among the RTOs in the region.

In our recent virtual sessions, we had the honor of hearing from several prominent institutions in the region as they shared their areas of interest and focus. Among them, we had:

The **CES University** of Colombia, which spoke to us about their four areas of interest: One Health, combating hunger, equity and inclusion, and climate change, biodiversity, and natural disasters.

The **National High Technology Center – CeNAT/CeniBiot** of Costa Rica, which shared its interest in negotiating access to genetic resources and bioprospecting with a scientific focus.

The **Center for Innovation and Technological Development of the Power Industry - CIDET**, focusing on national and international conformity assessment, project formulation and management, and collaboration with public and private entities and sectoral networks.

The **National Institute for Technical and Vocational Training - INFOTEP** of the Dominican Republic, focused on business development, technical assistance for companies, innovation management, and dual training.

The **University Center for the Development of the Alto Vale do Itajai - UNIDAVI** of Brazil, focusing on toxicology and health, renewable energies, mobility, information security, and digital transformation.

Yachay Experimental Technology Research University - Yachay Tech of Ecuador, which shared its focus on physics and nanotechnology, quantum optics, alternative energies, data science, biology, and ecology, among others.

Each presentation provided us with a unique insight into the strengths and capabilities of our member institutions.

This exchange of information is crucial for driving our community of practice and promoting stronger and more effective collaboration among our organizations. We will continue to organize these spaces for interaction and collaboration, with the aim of generating innovative and sustainable solutions for the current and future challenges we face in the region.



RTO's Directory

<https://cta.org.co/waitro-rfp-web/organizaciones-directorio/>

NEWS IN THE NETWORK

WAITRO Summit 2024: Paving the Way towards Sustainable Solutions

The upcoming annual WAITRO summit will take place from November 13th to 15th, 2024, in Jiangsu, China. Under the theme "From Innovation to Impact: Strategies for Sustainable Solutions," the event aims to drive the impact of its members and their ideas on the global stage.

All network members are invited to participate in the detailed creation of the agenda for the summit. Currently, several crucial topics are under consideration, including the convergence of digital with environmental concerns and the transcendental step "From local to global". These themes reflect the urgency of addressing contemporary challenges from an interconnected and sustainable perspective.

As an RFP, we have proposed to be part of the "From Local Solution to Global Impact" track, showcasing the various contributions of ancestral knowledge from our region that are currently impacting economic, environmental, and technological development in our realities.

Do you want to be part of the Summit?

We are seeking expert speakers on this topic and successful case studies (organizations, companies, products) from Latin America and the Caribbean to represent us in China. **The WAITRO Secretariat will finance (partially) the participation of the best proposals!** Stay tuned for further updates and details!

The Waitro Summit 2024 promises to be a crucial space for ideas exchange, collaboration, and action oriented towards sustainable solutions and global impact. Participants are expected to contribute their expertise and vision to advance towards a more prosperous and sustainable future for all.



WAITRO SUMMIT 2024
From Innovation to Impact
Strategies for Sustainable Solutions
13th-15th November | Nanjing 南京, China

SESSIONS PLANNED

- Convergence of Digital and Environmental Technologies
- Local (Indigenous) Solutions for Global Impact
- Incubators and Accelerators
- WAITRO Working Groups
- SDG-Impact Posters

Bring your ideas now!

Pre-register



UNIVERSITIES FOR PEACE NETWORK

Lilian Borges (Unidavi)



The pursuit of peace and justice is a universal goal. As a space where knowledge production, community engagement, and protection of human rights take place, universities, other organizations, and governments are essential for promoting a culture of peace. **The Universities for Peace Forum (FOUP - Foro de Las Universidades por la Paz)** includes institutions from Brazil and around the world.

Visit foup.org and get to know the Forum. If there is interest, we invite your organization to be part of FOUP (free of charge), follow the instructions on the "Binding Agreement" tab. Together, we can build a culture of peace!



Artificial intelligence laboratory opens its doors in Medellin

In Medellin, the IALab was inaugurated, a new space dedicated to innovation, where Microsoft, EAFIT University, CES University, and EIA University - School of Engineering of Antioquia have joined forces to create this laboratory focused on democratizing knowledge in Artificial Intelligence (AI).

The purpose of this project is to provide micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises, as well as public administrations, with the necessary tools to maximize the potential of AI and strengthen their competitiveness in the current digital era.

The focus of the IALab goes beyond fostering continuous learning in AI, as it also seeks to promote the practical application of this technology to address specific challenges in the community. From business management to improving public services, the goal of the IALab is to generate a positive impact on people's lives and on the sustainable development of the region.

Access to this space will be available, from now on, in person at the EAFIT campus in Medellin, as well as through the digital channels of the Nodo program, a recognized Center for New Technologies at EAFIT (Centro de Nuevas tecnologías), which focuses on solving real challenges with technology.

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