

GEO WEEK & MINISTERIAL SUMMIT 2023

Flash Talk

#TheEarthTalks



science & innovation

Department:
Science and Innovation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



GEO WEEK
2023 MINISTERIAL
SUMMIT

GEO GROUP ON
EARTH OBSERVATIONS



**GEO
WEEK
2023
MINISTERIAL
SUMMIT**

#TheEarthTalks GEO WEEK & Ministerial Summit 2023

Supporting climate assessments and adaptation planning in Latin America and the Caribbean - LACI

06 November 2023, 14:20-14:30



Virginia Burkett



science & innovation

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



OUTLINE

1. Genesis, Vision, and Goal of LACI

2. Partners and Timeline

3. LACI Pilots

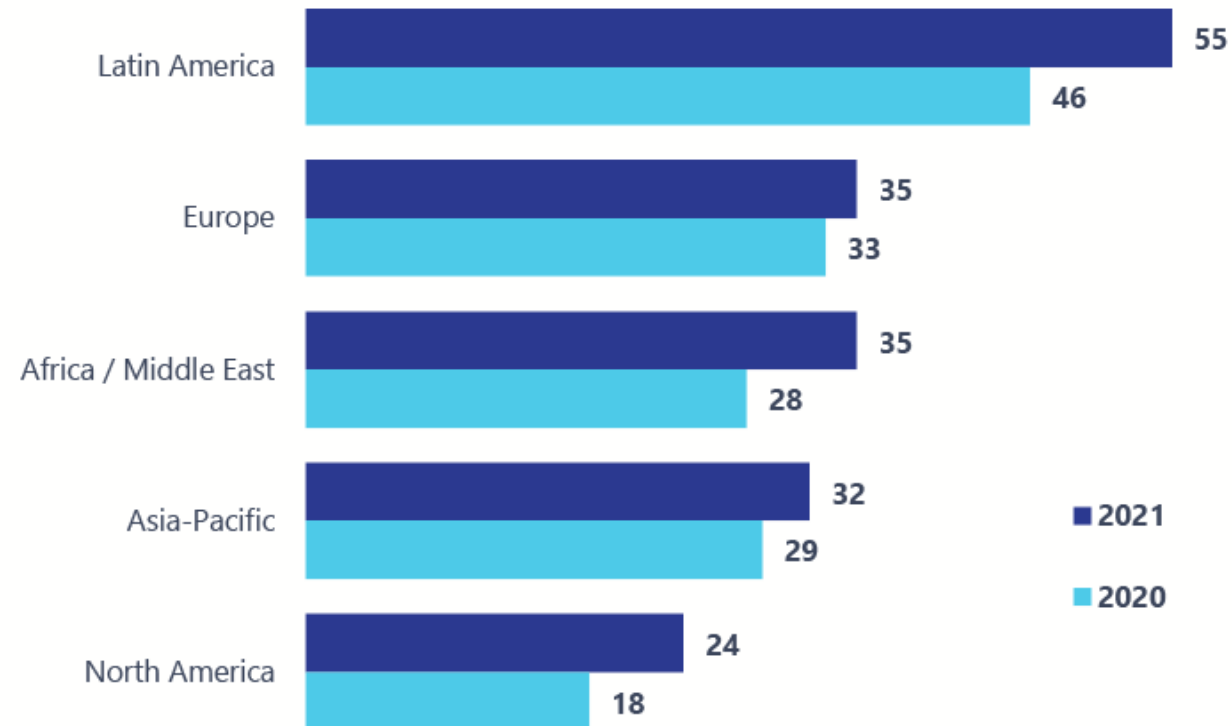
LACI - conceived in response to Americas Caucus, 2021

- Ministerial roundtable – every country represented addressed climate change and the need for data and tools to help Nations in the Americas adapt.
- Americas Caucus adopted climate change as a cross cutting theme of the work of AmeriGEO. AmeriGEO Working Group continued the discussion.
- Theme of AmeriGEO Week 2022: *“Human Migration in Focus”* - 804 participants
- First LACI partnership building workshop May 2022



People Feel Increasingly Affected by Climate Change

“Greatly Affected,” by Region, 2020–2021



Around the world, more people feel “greatly affected” by climate change than a year ago.

This sentiment has increased across all regions and is highest in Latin America, where a majority now feel greatly affected by climate change. While this is lower in North America, there is still a significant increase in the number of people who feel climate change is greatly affecting them.

This figure will likely continue to grow as temperatures rise and extreme weather events intensify, leading to increasing public pressure for strong action on climate change.

Source: GlobeScan Radar Report 2021 (survey of 30,000 people in the general public in July 2021)

LACI Vision

To provide opportunities for partnerships across the Americas to enhance capacity for climate risk assessments that would support local and regional decision-making in response to climate change impacts.

A Collaborative Effort Grounded in Co-design



U.S. Global Change
Research Program

Initiative Goal

To provide opportunities for partnerships between North America and Latin American and Caribbean countries to co-develop climate risk and vulnerability assessments that would support local and regional decision-making in response to climate change impacts.



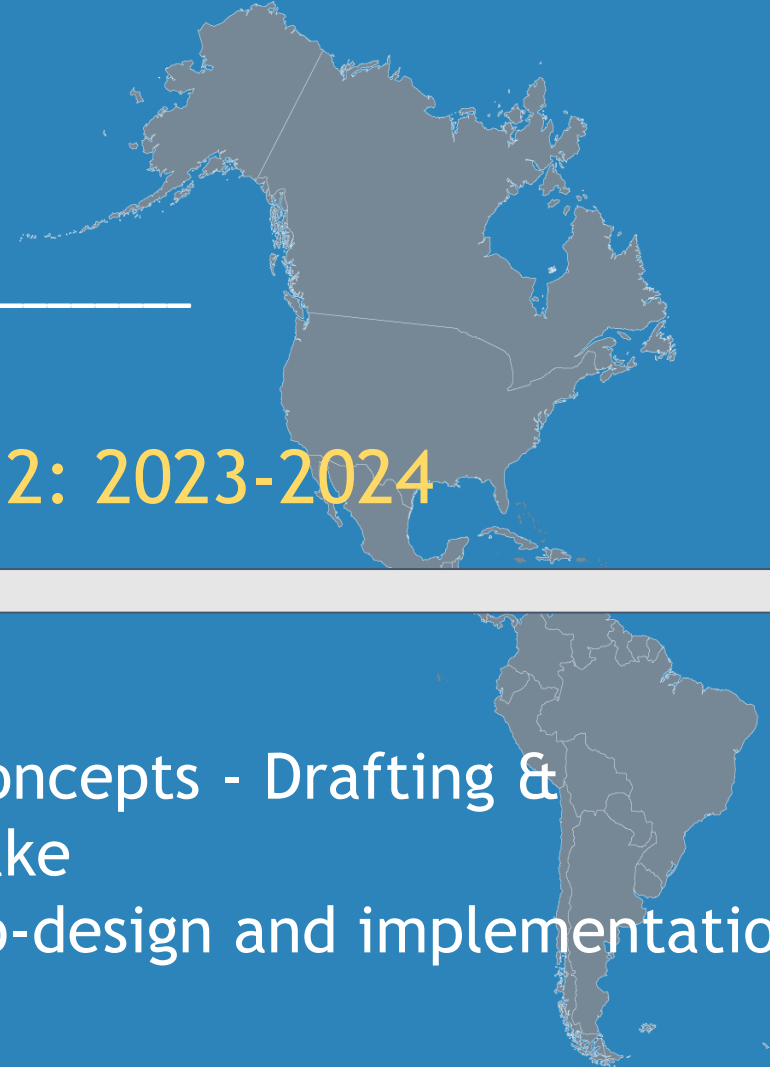
Timeline

Phase 1: 2021-2022


Partnership Building
Planning
Scoping: landscape analysis

Phase 2: 2023-2024

Pilot Concepts - Drafting &
Stocktake
Pilot co-design and implementation



Phase 1: Scoping activities

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- ✓ Landscape Analysis: AmeriGEO, IAI, Agency Surveys
 - To identify LACI's alignment with regional needs and capacities
 - Revealed existing capabilities, programs, and infrastructure that could be best leveraged to move LACI forward
 - ✓ Synthesis of available information from the region
 - ✓ Identification of key individuals from the region to participate in co-design of the initiative

Phase 2: Pilots Co-Design

- Dec 2022 9 Original Concept Notes Submitted

- Mar 2023 4 Pilot Activities Cluster Formed 4 Pilot Co-Design Task Teams Stood Up

● June & Aug 2023

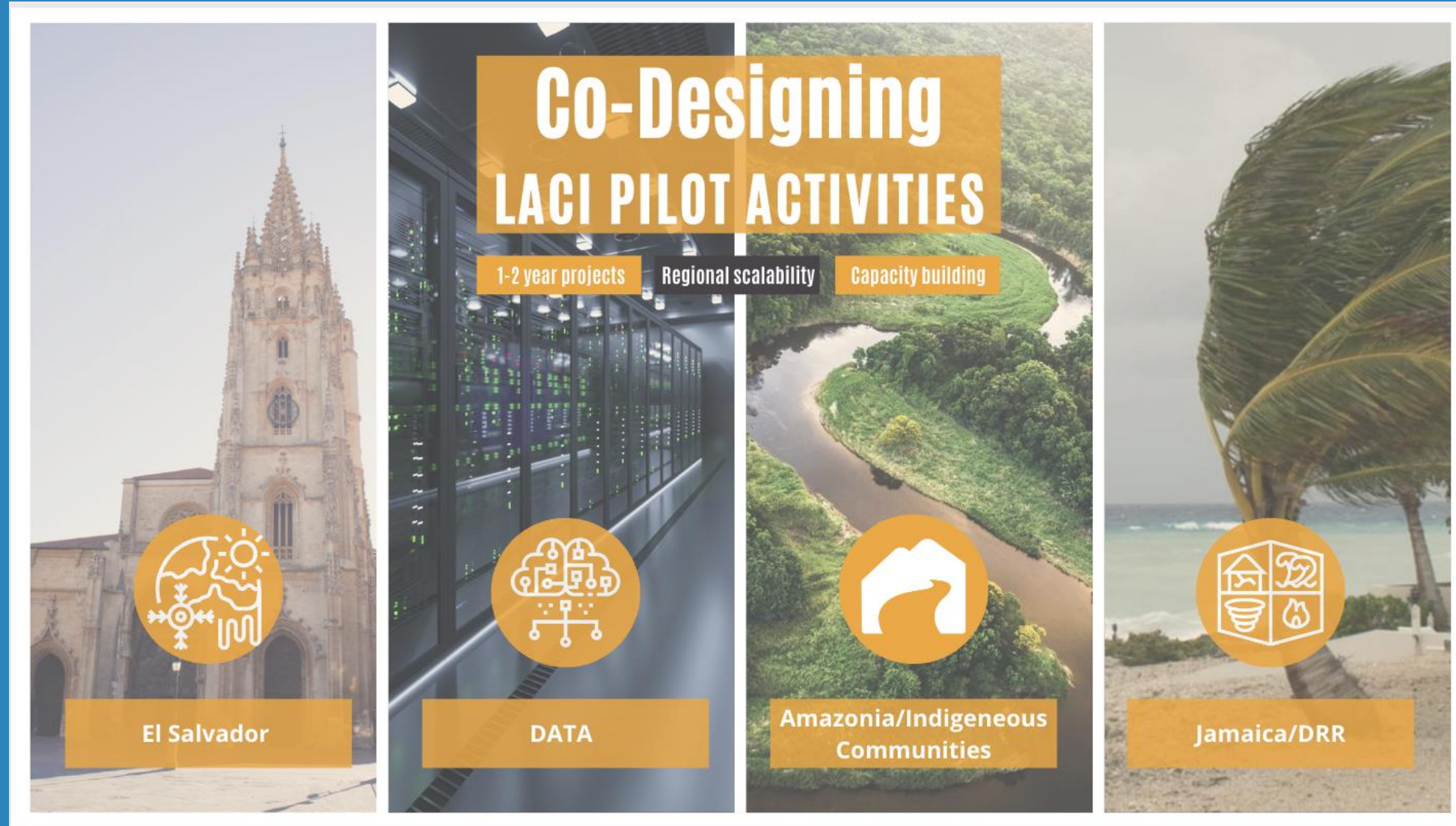
Pilot Activities Introduction

Peer-to-Peer Learning & Training Activities

S / R / I / 2023

AmeriGEO Week 2023
Costa Rica





Co-Designing LACI PILOT ACTIVITIES

1-2 year projects Regional scalability Capacity building

El Salvador

DATA

Amazonia/Indigeneous
Communities

Jamaica/DRR

The graphic consists of four vertical panels. The first panel shows a tall, ornate cathedral tower with a circular icon of a sun, mountains, and a river. The second panel shows a server room with a circular icon of a cloud with circuitry. The third panel shows a winding river through a lush green landscape with a circular icon of a hand holding a leaf. The fourth panel shows a palm tree leaning over a beach with a circular icon of a house, a tree, a bowl, and a flame.

4 LACI Pilot Activities

- Strengthening capacities in El Salvador to assess the impact of climate change on human habitat, biodiversity, forests and water resources (Concept 5)
- Advancing data access and usability across regional actors (Concepts 1, 2, 6, 9)
- Strengthening partnerships and enhancing capacity for climate risk assessment among user groups in the Amazon region (Concepts 3, 4, 8)
- National disaster preparedness and emergency earth observations policy intervention and engagement with Jamaican policy-makers (Concept 7)



Jamaica Pilot

FOCUS

To advance disaster resilience in Jamaica through co-development of geospatial decision-support tools and partnership facilitation between data producers and decision makers

OBJECTIVES

Catalyzing Partnerships

- Between GEO DRR WG and Jamaican climate/disaster experts & decision makers
- Match local capacities with strategic international partnerships for sustainable data streams, technology infrastructure, and technical training

Capacity Building

- To build on existing decision support tools based on free-and-open source (FOSS) software





GEO Week Showcase session featuring the LACI
Jamaica Pilot:

**From Big Data to Better Decisions: Disaster Risk
Reduction (DRR) and Climate Resilience for Small
Island Developing States (SIDS)**

Tuesday, Nov. 7, 11:00 – 11:30 AM Freesia Room