



Press Release
2016

Montevideo, 14th July

The countdown has begun! It's less than 2 months to go until CILAC 2016 will take place in Montevideo, Uruguay

We are delighted to announce that the countdown to the **First Open Science Forum in Latin America and the Caribbean: CILAC 2016** has now begun! There is only less than 2 months to go until this pioneering event will take place, in the Uruguayan capital of Montevideo.

CILAC 2016 is an opportunity for relevant stakeholders to discuss and align regional policies, priorities and practices as well establish grounds for cooperation in the fields of science technology, innovation, education and research. The forum will include 100 plus activities, 5 plenary conferences, 4 round table meetings with Ministers and 1 Dean's forum with university leaders from all over the region as well as presentations, dialogues, discussion groups and workshops lead by widely acclaimed international and regional experts, both from the scientific and political arena.

The programme also includes an array of multi-stakeholder, multi-faceted sessions, including a seminar on the Ska Project Experience (South Africa) - the world's largest radio telescope, sessions on science diplomacy in Latin America with the American Association for Advancement of Science (AAAS), dialogues on business and human rights, presentations on popular and mainstream culture and science, a seminar about ancestral knowledge and science... just to name a few.

The fun does not end there... further activities including science in the streets; activities in public spaces linking science & society, technical visits, cultural galas, posters exhibition, institutional stands are also some of the forum's highlights.

CILAC 2016 will be held in the LATU technology park in Montevideo, Uruguay. The facilities include the main building, eleven modules with laboratories and pilot plants, business incubators, exhibition park, science museum, centers to train human resources for the information technology sector.

The principal objective of the forum is to create a space for debates, exchanging knowledge and ideas, while constructing mechanisms towards a common goal: a consolidated science agenda for sustainable development for Latin America and the Caribbean, under the framework of the new UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Lidia Brito, Director, UNESCO Regional Office for Science for Latin America and the Caribbean said: "this is an exciting opportunity to bring the region together and to work towards common goals and transform Latin America and the Caribbean through science, technology and innovation."

For more information about CILAC 2016 please visit our website:

www.forocilac.org

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