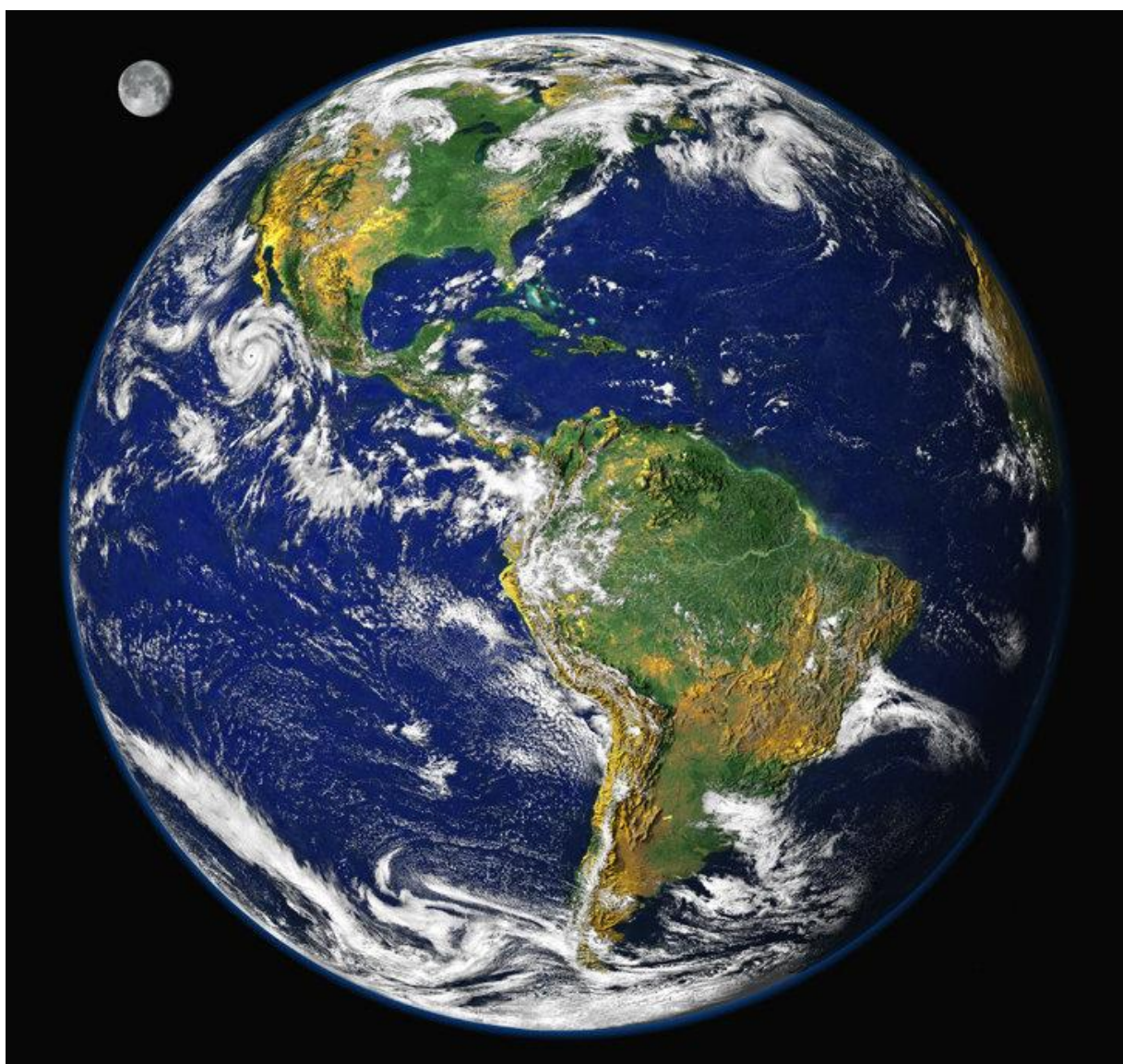


UNITAR Programme on Science Diplomacy

Project proposal for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of
Costa Rica

2021



UNITAR and its Division for Multilateral Diplomacy

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) was established in 1965 as an autonomous body within the United Nations with the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of the work of the United Nations and its Member States in the fields of peace and security and in the promotion of economic and social development. UNITAR designs and conducts worldwide close to 500 different training and knowledge sharing events per year for some 50,000 beneficiaries, including diplomats and other government officials, non-governmental representatives, local authorities and other stakeholders. The Institute works primarily in six broad thematic areas, including strengthening multilateralism, promoting economic development and social inclusion, advancing environmental sustainability, promoting peace and increasing resilience and humanitarian action and strengthening the implementation of the Agenda 2030. Additional information on UNITAR programming can be found at www.unitar.org.

At the heart of UNITAR, the Division for Multilateral Diplomacy delivers training and support workshops to address the needs of diplomats, government officials, international civil servants and private sector entities to meet complex, global challenges. UNITAR's Division for Multilateral Diplomacy's activities cover a wide range of policy domains, including multilateral negotiation, economic diplomacy, human rights, frontier diplomacy, Agenda 2030 and other related topics, as well as capacities and skills development activities such as diplomatic report writing, public speaking, media relations and negotiation techniques, among many others.

Background

Building on previous workshops with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica on human rights, climate change, and negotiation skills, UNITAR's Division for Multilateral Diplomacy has designed a unique workshop to equip Costa Rican officials to address a challenge that will define the future of international relations – science diplomacy. Scientific literacy has emerged as a topic of increasing concern in diplomatic circles, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, cybersecurity, arms control, and ahead of COP26, the impending climate emergency. This workshop covers the core topics in science diplomacy, how it interacts with decision-making in the diplomatic context, and how diplomats can harness their existing skills to engage on technical topics in international fora. In doing so, UNITAR aims to build on its proven track record of successful trainings for governments and foreign ministries in preparing for technical and scientific discussions.

Overall Goal

The overall goal of this project is two-folded. Firstly, to support the capacities of Costa Rican officials to use science diplomacy in their daily practice of public policy. Secondly, to reinforce the knowledge of diplomats on science-related topics that are prominent (or are gaining prominence) in diplomatic forums. The training will be led by world-renowned expert Prof. Paul Berkman, who pioneered the field of science diplomacy and who is a leading authority on the subject.

Within the first instance, the project will aim to provide participants with training on science diplomacy and how to integrate data and academic knowledge in governance mechanisms, by building a practical and in-depth understanding of how the disciplines interact in a practical context. This Programme will also equip participants with practical skills, such as how to harness their advocacy skills and foster dialogue, and will use roundtables to allow participants to share their experiences in this field.

Within the framework of the second objective, the project will focus on providing participants with a comprehensive understanding of how science diplomacy has evolved since the end of the Cold War, and will highlight current key issues on science diplomacy, such as sustainability, knowledge economies, and balancing environmental concerns with economic recovery.

Structure

The UNITAR Programme on Science Diplomacy will consist of a 5 half days e-Workshop from 8:30 to 12:30pm (CST).

Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman will be the lead trainer for this learning activity. His efforts will be supplemented with experts from Costa Rica. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will communicate to UNITAR the list of those experts.

Learning Objectives

At the end of the workshop, participants will be able to:

- Consider short-term and long-term scientific impacts in their decision-making;
- Build common interests between diplomatic and scientific partners;
- Combine insights from the natural sciences, social sciences, and indigenous knowledge;
- Appraise how informed decision-making operates in practice;
- Use the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a pedagogical tool.

Agenda

Day 1

TIME (CST)	TOPIC	EXPERT
08:30-09:20	Opening Remarks and Introduction of Experts	<p>Ambassadeur Jorge Sáenz Carbonell, Directeur de l'Institut du Service Extérieur du Costa Rica</p> <p>Dr. Wálter Fernández, President of the National Academy of Sciences of Costa Rica</p> <p>Mr. Rabih Haddad, Director, Division for Multilateral Diplomacy, UNITAR</p> <p>Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman, Associated Fellow, UNITAR Fulbright Arctic Chair 2021-2022</p>
9:20-9:30	Coffee Break	
09:30-10:20	An Overview of Science Diplomacy in Costa Rica <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definitions of science diplomacy • Costa Rica's policies in development and science • Q&A 	<p>Ms. Monserrat Vargas, agent for Science Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica</p> <p>Ms. Ana Avila, Officer Department for security aspects, disarmament, peace and peaceful use of nuclear energy in multilateral bodies</p>
10:20-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-11:40	Science Diplomacy in Latin America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current situation in Latin America • Dimension of work in Climate Change • Q&A 	<p>PhD Melania Guerra, Oceanógrafa</p> <p>Ms. Ana Patricia Villalobos, Chief Negotiator Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p>
11:40-12:30	Science Diplomacy in Latin America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ODS 14 and plastic waste management: global, regional and national dimensions • Q&A 	<p>MBA. Alberto Quesada, Policy Advocacy Advisor Fundacion MarViva</p> <p>Dr. Ingo Wehrtmann CIMAR</p>

Day 2

TIME (CST)	TOPIC	EXPERT
08:30-09:20	Science Diplomacy as a Holistic Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding our globally interconnected civilization across centuries Learning lessons of cold-war cooperation among the two superpowers Balancing national and common interests with science as a tool of diplomacy 	Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman
9:20-9:30	Coffee Break	
09:30-10:20	The Sustainable Development Goals as a Pedagogical Tool SDG Game	Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman
10:20-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-11:30	Q&A Session	Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman
11:30-11:40	Coffee Break	
11:40-12:30	Engine of Science Diplomacy (Methods and Theory of Informed Decision Making) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Researching with questions and data in view of systems Integrating data into evidence with governance mechanisms 	Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman

Day 3

TIME (CST)	TOPIC	EXPERT
08:30-09:20	Engine of Science Diplomacy (Methods and Theory of Informed Decision Making) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acting with evidence and options (without advocacy) for decisions Addressing issues, impacts and resources from security to sustainability time scales 	Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman
9:20-9:30	Coffee Break	
09:30-10:20	Engine of Science Diplomacy (Skills of Informed Decision Making) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity-building with holistic integration as both observer and participant Transforming research and action for informed decision-making 	Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman
10:20-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-11:30	Engine of Science Diplomacy (Skills of Informed Decision Making) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitating dialogues among allies and adversaries alike Accelerating knowledge co-production Common interest-building to promote cooperation and prevent conflict 	Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman
11:30-11:40	Coffee Break	
11:40-12:30	Rountable Q&A Session	Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman

Day 4

TIME (CST)	TOPIC	EXPERT
08:30-09:20	Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Ecosystems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecting the natural and social sciences with indigenous knowledge • Creating holistic capacities across networks • Operating from sub-national to international levels within urban centres • Developing knowledge economies • Achieving progress with sustainability at local-global scales 	Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman
9:20-9:30	Coffee Break	
09:30-10:20	Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Ecosystems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating from sub-national to international levels within urban centres • Developing knowledge economies • Achieving progress with sustainability at local-global scales 	Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman
10:20-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-11:30	Roundtable	Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman
11:30-11:40	Coffee Break	
11:40-12:30	Q&A	Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman

Day 5

TIME (CST)	TOPIC	EXPERT
08:30-09:20	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a Gift for Humanity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowering inclusion from global-local scales • Balancing economic, environmental, and societal perspectives in a holistic manner 	Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman
9:20-9:30	Coffee Break	
09:30-10:20	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a Gift for Humanity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responding to change with informed decision-making for sustainability • Informed decision-making as the apex goal with lifelong learning • Applying SDG pedagogy to train next-generation science diplomats 	Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman
10:20-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-12:00	Roundtable	Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman
12:00-12:30	Closing Ceremony and Group Photo	UNITAR

Target Audience

The workshop will be designed for up to 30 participants. selected by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica. All components of the training programme will be conducted in the English language.

Training Methodology

UNITAR training programmes are designed to be highly interactive and participatory and will include – whenever possible – a variety of simulation exercises, case studies and pedagogical tools to enable participants to acquire a thorough knowledge and understanding of substantive topics, as well as a practical appreciation of negotiation processes and dynamics. Illustrations and case studies will be shared with participants so that they can strengthen their understanding of the topics.

Training Material

Participants will be provided with a comprehensive set of training materials, allowing them to follow the activities with ease and to deepen their knowledge with relevant background readings. The training material will include a booklet and copies of the PowerPoint slides used by the resource persons. This is crucial for participants in order to do their own work and pass the test you provided to have the certificate. It is also useful for diplomats if they want this training to be recognized as part of the different courses they must take for promotions.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

UNITAR evaluates its trainings for accountability, learning and quality improvement purposes. During the delivery of the trainings, experts will engage learners to assess progress towards the achievement of pre-defined learning objectives (which will be communicated to the participants prior to each learning event). The training activities will be monitored and evaluated through the standard UNITAR Quality Assurance Framework and by Kirkpatrick's methods for evaluating training. The two Kirkpatrick levels of evaluation that will be implemented in the project are:

Level I (Reaction Evaluation): To capture beneficiaries' immediate reactions to the training and the overall learning experience;

Level II (Learning Evaluation): To measure the increase in knowledge of the beneficiaries

Recommendations received will be systemically considered for the continuous improvement of activities and their implementation will be executed progressively.

Certification

At the end of the workshop, participants who have attended the training will be awarded a UNITAR Certificate of Participation.

Roles and Responsibilities

UNITAR: UNITAR will be responsible for the design, coordination and implementation of the workshop; training material; evaluation and reporting. UNITAR will also liaise with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica regarding organizational details, substantive content and design of the workshop. In the event of a face-to-face training, UNITAR will pay for the flight and transportation costs of its staff, as well as book relevant accommodation.

Costa Rica: the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica will select the e-workshop participants and coordinate with national experts.

Expert

Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman

Professor Paul Arthur Berkman is a science diplomat, applying, training and refining informed decision-making to balance national interests and common interests for the benefit of all on Earth across generations. He became a Visiting Professor at the University of California Los Angeles at the age of 23, after wintering the previous year in Antarctica on a SCUBA research expedition with Scripps Institution of Oceanography, leading him to all seven continents before the age of thirty. During the intervening years, Paul received his masters and doctorate as a National Science Foundation graduate fellow at the Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island. A decade later, he wrote the textbook on Science Into Policy.

As a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar at the University of Cambridge, he chaired the Antarctic Treaty Summit at the Smithsonian Institution in 2009, resulting in the first book on Science Diplomacy. The following year, applying lessons of science diplomacy as Head of the Arctic Ocean Geopolitics Programme at the University of Cambridge, he co-directed the first formal NATO-Russia dialogue regarding Environmental Security in the Arctic Ocean, which became the title of an edited book with over 65,000 downloads. He also co-convened and chaired the 1st and 2nd International Dialogue on Science and Technology Advice in Foreign Ministries in Austria (2016) and France (2017). He currently coordinates the Arctic Options / Pan-Arctic Options projects (involving support from national science agencies in the United States, Russian Federation, Norway, France, China and Canada from 2013-2020).

Prof. Berkman joined the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in 2015 as Professor of Practice in Science Diplomacy and is Founding Director of the Science Diplomacy Center at Tufts University, training science diplomacy among university networks, national diplomatic academies and through the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). His common-interest building also is reflected most recently with the Baseline of Russian Arctic Laws (2019) and the new book series on Informed Decision-making for Sustainability that was launched with 2020 publication of the first volume on Governing Arctic Seas: Regional Lessons from the Bering Strait and Barents Sea. For his international, interdisciplinary and inclusive (holistic) contributions, Prof. Berkman has been honoured with awards in the United States, United Kingdom, Russian Federation, Norway, New Zealand and Japan.