

Summary Report: 2025 GRC Regional Meeting of the Americas

From November 27 to 28, 2025, the National Research and Innovation Agency (ANII) hosted, with the São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) as co-host, the Global Research Council (GRC) Americas Regional Meeting in Montevideo, Uruguay. The event convened representatives from twelve funding agencies across the region, alongside key observer institutions.

The meeting was structured into six sessions aimed at fostering regional collaboration and refining contributions to the GRC's next Annual Meeting in Bangkok. The agenda included discussions on the papers: *Research for Sustainable Communities* and *Reimagining Inclusive Open Science and AI*. Additionally, sessions were dedicated to the operationalization of Statements of Principles (SoPs), updates from GRC Working Groups (EDI, MLE, and RRA), and strategic discussions on transdisciplinary research and emerging funding mechanisms. Time was also allocated for the Collaboration and Neutrality Task Group.

The discussions on *Research for Sustainable Communities* highlighted the need for transitioning from research *for* communities to research *with* communities. Participants emphasized that sustainable solutions require transdisciplinary approaches that integrate local knowledge alongside academic science. A recurring theme was the urgency to redefine *scientific excellence* to value long-term societal impact over traditional bibliometric metrics. Funding agencies were requested to develop flexible grant schemes that accommodate the extended timeframes required to build trust and effectively engage stakeholders in co-design processes.

Regarding the *Reimagining Inclusive Open Science* paper, the region reinforced its strong commitment to non-commercial Open Science infrastructures. Participants critically examined the Article Processing Charges (APC) model and the financial barriers it creates for the Global South, expressing support for regional platforms like RedALyC, SciELO, and Latindex. The discussion also underscored the need for equitable governance of data and infrastructure to ensure digital sovereignty. Building trust was identified as a priority, as was the need for science to be accessible to the broader society. It was agreed that Open Science must extend beyond access to publications for peers to include the creation of relevant, accessible outputs for society.

The 2025 Americas Regional Meeting successfully consolidated a regional perspective for the upcoming GRC Annual Meeting. The event reaffirmed the region's leadership in promoting inclusive, non-commercial Open Science and its commitment to advancing transdisciplinary research that directly addresses the social, environmental, and economic challenges of its communities.