



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

**The European Infrastructure for Biodiversity and Ecosystem
Research — European Research Infrastructure Consortium,
LifeWatch ERIC
and the**

**Cooperación Latino Americana de Redes Avanzadas,
RedCLARA**

CONVENED

On one side, LifeWatch ERIC, the **European Infrastructure for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research — European Research Infrastructure Consortium**, hereinafter referred to as **LifeWatch ERIC**, with its CIF: ESN9101001G, registered office at Plaza de España S/N, Sector II-III, Sevilla -41071; represented by Dr. Christos Arvanitidis, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of LifeWatch ERIC, with NIE Y-7148098-B, appointed in his capacity and powers by the General Assembly of LifeWatch ERIC held on 15 April 2019 and ratified by deed before the notary of Madrid, Luis Garay Cuadros, on 8 October 2021, under the number 3416 of his protocol.

On the other hand, RedCLARA, Cooperación Latino Americana de Redes Avanzadas, addressed in Rambla República de México 6125, Montevideo, Uruguay, represented by Luis Eliécer Cadenas, in his capacity as Executive Director, RUT: 26.409.006-2, hereinafter "the parties".

HEREBY EXPRESS:

That LifeWatch ERIC is an international public sector entity, established by the European Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/499 of 17 March 2017, published in the DOUE (L76/35) of 22 March 2017 and whose Statutes state in Article 2. 1 that its main mission is "the development and operation of the necessary infrastructure and information systems to mobilise and integrate data and algorithms for biodiversity and ecosystem research, and in



particular to strengthen understanding, linkages and synergies with other societal challenges, such as climate change adaptation and mitigation, and to provide analytical capabilities".

That RedCLARA is a non-profit Organisation of International Law, whose legal existence dates back to 23 December 2003, when it was recognised as such by the legislation of the Republic of Uruguay, which develops and operates the only Advanced Internet network in Latin America and integrates 11 national networks in the region under the mission of contributing to the development of science, education, technology and innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean through the articulation, connection and strengthening of their national research and education networks.

That both parties are interested in collaborating within the aims that each one pursues and for that,

AGREE:

First: PURPOSE

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to facilitate the implementation of concrete activities, by establishing the minimum requirements for the articulation, construction, coordination and development of the activities and actions here defined.

Consequently, no legal or economic commitments or obligations of any kind will be derived from this agreement for the parties.

Second: COLLABORATION LINES

In accordance with the aims pursued by each institution, the following lines of collaboration are initially established:

- Drawing up a common agenda for the following year, during the last trimester of this year or of the first of the following one, which will include, among others:
 - Attendance to events, conferences, missions, summits, etc.; jointly or individually.
 - Joint participation in lines of funding and grants.

The provisions of this point will be established and developed by the monitoring committee foreseen in Clause Three.



- Reciprocal collaboration in the Virtual Research Laboratories. Initially, the scope of this collaboration will cover access to MiLab, managed by RedCLARA, that is of interest to LifeWatch ERIC; in the same sense, RedCLARA will be able to access the Virtual Research Environments (VREs) developed by LifeWatch ERIC, through my.lifewatch.eu, that are of interest to it.

Both parties recognise the different technical characteristics of each of the environments and therefore undertake to seek ways, through specific agreements, to ensure compatibility, especially with regard to data loading, management and processing, so that the platforms and systems of both institutions are interoperable and facilitate the efficient flow of information.

Any agreement here should ensure that the parties adhere to and promote the FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable) principles in all shared data, analytical services, VREs, and other research products.

Jointly analyse and study the Blockchain environments currently being implemented: "LACChain" by RedCLARA and "LifeBlock" by LifeWatch ERIC; in order to identify synergies, learning points and collaboration through mutual development opportunities that allow both institutions to optimise and enhance the use of blockchain technology in data management within their respective VREs.

Both institutions are committed to sharing knowledge, experiences and best practices, with the aim of strengthening their capacities and jointly advancing in the adoption and adaptation of blockchain solutions that respond to the current and future needs of the scientific and technological community. This agreement endorses the shared vision of RedCLARA and LifeWatch ERIC to innovate and collaborate for a more secure, transparent and efficient data management.

Creation and strengthening of a Regional Training Platform, whose main objective will be the training and dissemination of the technological tools and solutions offered by LifeWatch ERIC in the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region.

Scientific Collaboration on Climate Change through Advanced Infrastructures, within the context of cooperation between RedCLARA and LifeWatch ERIC, recognises the imperative



need to address the challenges associated with climate change, one of the most pressing issues of our time. To this end, it is proposed to establish a framework for scientific collaboration specifically focused on this issue, which will enable the research capacities of both institutions and the scientific community in general to be strengthened.

One of the first steps in this direction will be the detailed identification of the technological infrastructure and connectivity requirements that researchers need to carry out their climate change projects. This task will not only focus on current needs but will also anticipate future requirements as science advances and research methodologies become more sophisticated.

The specific developments in the areas listed above or others related to them or that may arise in the future, which imply the involvement of human and/or economic resources by the parties, will require a specific agreement to that effect detailing the actions to be developed as well as the obligations that each party assumes in this respect.

Third: MONITORING COMMITTEE

For the purposes of the implementation of the lines of collaboration described above, a Monitoring Committee will be set up, made up of two people from each of the signatory parties.

During the next month of the signature of this agreement, each party will designate and inform the other the names of the members who will form part of the Monitoring Committee. The aforementioned committee will meet every six months in ordinary session and in extraordinary session at the request of any of the members. Whatever the type of meeting, it shall be convened 15 days in advance, including the corresponding agenda.

Functions of the Coordination Committee will be:

- Establish a common agenda of both institutions for the following calendar year.
- Develop collaboration lines listed in Clause Two of this agreement.
- Be the forum for communication and coordination of the present agreement as well as the vehicle for resolving any doubts that may arise in the interpretation of it.

Fourth: RENEWAL, TERMINATION AND AMENDMENTS



This Memorandum of Understanding shall be in effect for a period of four (4) years from the date of signature hereof, with the understanding that it may be terminated by the authorities in each case upon three months' written notice, unless early termination is mutually agreed. The Memorandum may be amended or extended in writing upon mutual consent.

And in witness whereof both parties have signed this agreement at (DIGITAL or PAPER)
PLACE & DATE

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christos Arvanitidis".

DocuSigned by:
Luis Cadenas
CAF89BB9210B45C...
12/20/2023

Santiago de Chile

Christos Arvanitidis
Chief Executive Officer
LifeWatch ERIC

Luis Eliécer Cadenas
Executive Director
RedCLARA