



GUATEMALAN SYSTEM OF CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE –SGCCC–

1) INTEGRATION OF THE SGCCC

The Guatemalan System of Climate Change Science (SGCCC in Spanish) is integrated by the following institutions: Association for Research and Social Studies (ASIES in Spanish), Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO in Spanish), National Institute of Seismology, Volcanology, Meteorology and Hydrology (INSIVUMEH in Spanish), Private Research Institute on Climate Change (ICC in Spanish), Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN in Spanish), Universidad del Valle de Guatemala (UVG), Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala (USAC), Universidad Galileo (UG), Universidad Mariano Gálvez (UMG), and Universidad Rafael Landívar (URL).

Other institutions doing research on climate change in the Mesoamerican region may join the System.

2) FUNCTIONS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE SGCCC

The SGCCC is the body responsible for reviewing, generating and transferring of scientific information related to the main aspects of climate change to political decision-makers and other stakeholders: Physical Science Basis, Adaptation and Vulnerability, and Mitigation and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventories.

The SGCCC promotes the coordination of research activities within its institutions and the integration of scientific information to the decision making process of the Guatemalan National Council of Climate Change (CNCC in Spanish) established in 2013 by act of the Congress of Guatemala.

Specifically, the SGCCC has the following functions:

- a. Provide scientific advice on climate change issues to institutions and relevant stakeholders, including the National Council of Climate Change, which is the governing body on matters related to climate change in Guatemala.
- b. Develop periodic assessments of the situation of the country regarding climate change, following the usual divisions: 1) Physical Science Basis; 2) Adaptation and Vulnerability; and 3) Mitigation and GHG Inventories.
- c. Issue science-based opinions and public communications on climate change, as required by the Guatemalan national context.
- d. Coordinate, facilitate and/or conduct research on matters related to climate change, through its participating institutions, prioritized by the availability of financial resources.
- e. Coordinate activities and support the generation of data for the National Information System on Climate Change (SNICC in Spanish) to be developed within the Ministry of Environment.

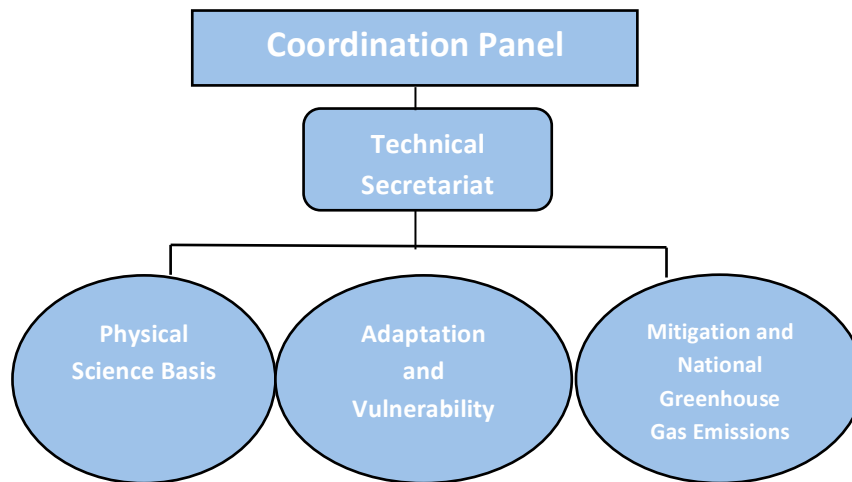
In addition to the functions of the SGCCC listed above, there are other topics that may enhance the development of the system, such as:

- a. Incorporation of traditional and ancestral knowledge, as well as gender analysis, specifically in relation to aspects regarding climate change, considering the fact that there are different sources of knowledge subject to systematization and publication.
- b. The SGCCC will function as the scientific liaison with similar international institutions, such as the IPCC.

3) ORGANIZATION OF THE SGCCC

The SGCCC is integrated according to the following structure (Figure 1):

Figure 1. Organizational structure of the SGCCC



The Coordination Panel serves as the contact with stakeholders outside the System and the Working Groups are in charge of carrying out the functions of the system described above.

Specifically, the Physical Science Basis Group covers topics of analyzing historical climate data, storage and current data availability, and generation of future climate models. The Adaptation and Vulnerability Group addresses issues primarily in the areas of water resources, terrestrial ecosystems, coastal areas, food production systems, human settlements and infrastructure, renewable energy and human health. Finally, the Mitigation and GHG Inventories Group addresses issues such as reducing and preventing the emission of greenhouse gases; creation and use of new technologies and renewable energy; change of management practices and consumer behavior; protection and/or creation of carbon sinks, particularly forests; and improvement of agricultural practices, especially on soil conservation and fertilization.

4) CONTACTS

For more information about the Guatemalan System of Climate Change Science, contact the Technical Secretariat located at the Center for Environmental Studies and Biodiversity (CEAB in Spanish) at Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, by e-mail cea@uvg.edu.gt, or by phone (502) 2368-8353 (<http://www.uvg.edu.gt/investigacion/ceab/cea/index.html>).