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*InterAcademy Panel on International Issues Program on Digital Knowledge  
Resources & Infrastructure in Developing Countries*

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## *IAP Program Overview*

- What is the InterAcademy Panel on International Issues (IAP)?
  - Background to the IAP Program
  - Summary of IAP Program structure and goals
  - Specific projects
  - Cooperation with other organizations, including national and regional research and education networks
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## *LAP Program Overview—What Is the LAP?*

- The IAP is a global network of 98 science academies, formed in 1993, designed to help its members develop the tools that they need to participate in science policy discussions and provide input to policy makers at the national and international levels. Many IAP members are in developing countries.
  - The IAP forges partnerships among its members and works closely with other scientific organizations, including the International Council for Science (ICSU), InterAcademy Council (IAC), and InterAcademy Medical Panel (IAMP).
  - The IAP also cooperates with regional academy networks in Asia (AASA, FASAS), Latin America (IANAS), Caribbean (CSU), Africa (NASAC), Islamic Countries (NASIC), Europe (ALLEA), and Developing Countries (TWAS).
  - Additional background information at: [www.interacademies.net/](http://www.interacademies.net/).
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## *LAP Program Overview—Background to the LAP Program*

Precursor IAP Initiative on Access to Scientific Information in Developing Countries, 2004-2007

- Planning meetings/workshops (Paris, Dakar, Beijing, Sao Paulo, Pretoria)
  - Tool kits (for WSIS, Open Institutional Repositories)
  - White Papers (ICT Programs for Development, Open Availability of Sci. Info in Developing Countries)
  - Survey of Members on their ICT Infrastructure and Institutional Repository Capabilities
  - Development of new IAP Program
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## *IAP Program Overview—Structure and Goals*

- Program directed by the US NAS in partnership with the Academy of Science of South Africa, the Brazilian Academy of Sciences, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and the Indian National Science Academy, as well as other interested academies and organizations.
  - Goal is to promote greater access to and use of digital scientific data and information resources, and to digital networks and infrastructure for research and education, with particular attention to capacity building of IAP Member Academies and the research and education communities in developing and transitional economy countries.
  - The project will perform the following tasks:
    - 1) Hold a series of international workshops and meetings on a regional basis, develop supporting information resources and other outputs, and publish the results on the IAP portal; and
    - 2) Work with other IAP Programs, as well as with other organizations already engaged on these issues, to avoid duplication of effort and leverage existing expertise and resources.
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## *IAP Program Overview—Structure and Goals (continued)*

### IAP Program Structure:

- Steering Committee—representatives from partner Academies, regional Academy Networks, and other IAP Programs, plus *ex officio* participants from other organizations.

### Two main Task Groups:

- *The Task Group on Promoting Access to and Use of Digital S&T Data and Information*
  - *The Task Group on Promoting Access to and Use of Digital Networks and Infrastructure for Research and Education*
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## *IAP Program Overview—Specific Projects*

### *Projects of the Task Group on Promoting Access to and Use of Digital S&T Data and Information:*

- Development of interactive open knowledge environments online
  - Development of open institutional repositories at IAP Member Academies and related organizations
  - Digitization of knowledge resources
  - Young scientists network
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## *LAP Program Overview—Specific Projects (continued)*

*Projects of the Task Group on Promoting Access to and Use of Digital Networks and Infrastructure for Research and Education (in collaboration with leaders and managers of RENs):*

- Regional white papers on status of ICT infrastructure, gaps, and actions for Science Academies.
  - Advisory role to national governments and international and intergovernmental organizations on implementation and use of RENs.
  - Regional workshop in sub-Saharan Africa of scientific data center managers on networking and collaboration.
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## *LAP Program Overview—Next Steps*

- First Steering Committee meeting in Shanghai, 28-29 May 2008
  - “International Workshop on Open Availability to Digital Scientific Information Resources in Central America and the Caribbean: Focus on Education and Health for Sustainable Development,” Havana, Cuba, 3-5 September 2008.
  - Formation of strategic partnerships and networking with other organizations, including RENs.
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## *LAP Program Overview*

For further information and collaborations please contact

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Thank you!

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