

July 2026

# **Latin American Strategy Forum for Research Infrastructures for High Energy, Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics (LASF4RI FOR HECAP)**

## **Report on LASF4RI Strategy Document**

### **High Level Strategy Group for LASF4RI-HECAP**

**Chair:** *Luciano Maiani*

**Co-chair:** *Fernando Quevedo*

#### **Countries/Regions Representatives:**

Argentina: *Teresa Dova*

Brazil: *Ignacio Bediaga*

Chile: *Claudio Dib*

Mexico: *Arturo Fernandez Tellez*

Europe: *Peter Jenni, José Ocariz*

North America: *Andre Luiz De Gouvea, Gabriela Gonzalez*

Middle East: *Marta Losada*

Asia: *Yifang Wang*

#### **Directors of Institutes and Networks:**

ICTP-SAIFR: *Nathan Berkovits*

Perimeter Institute: *Marcela Carena*

CLAF: *Ulisses Barres*

ASFAP: *Ketevi Assamagan*

Sirius: *Jose Roque da Silva*

# Assessment of the LASF4RI Strategy Document

The members of the High-Level Strategy Group (**HLSG**) reviewed the second LASF4RI Strategy Document (SD) and convened on July 15 2026, to discuss its content and recommendations.

This marks the second round of the LASF4RI initiative. The HLSG commends the members of the Preparatory Group for their excellent work in compiling the 42 white papers and effectively summarizing the outcomes in the SD.

The 10 recommendations of the SD can be grouped into four overarching initiatives:

1. Major experimental initiatives located within Latin America
2. Participation in major scientific experiments such as CERN
3. Small and medium size projects with scalability potential.
4. Identification of a flagship project.

The HLSG hereby endorses the new version of the 10 recommendations stated in the SD after the modifications suggested in the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting got implemented.

In general, the HLSG congratulates the effort of the Latin American HECAP community for the many achievements in the past 5 years, including the selection of Brazil and Chile as Associate Members of CERN as well as the major participations in DUNE and other projects.

Furthermore, the HLSG notes with appreciation that two key recommendations from its **2020 report** of the HLSG have been successfully implemented:

- The organisation within a period of 5 years of the second round of the white papers.
- The establishment of the Latin American Association of High Energy, Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics (**LAA-HECAP**).

With over 500 members, the establishment of LAA-HECAP fulfills a central recommendation from the 2020 HLSG report by providing the community with a unified platform to address collective challenges and secure funding for key proposals. Securing initial funding represents a promising start.

Additionally, the statistical study tracking the evolution of the scientific productivity and collaborative networks within and outside the region allows for a better understanding of the resources, limitations and achievements in order to identify possible roads for the future, <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2503.05658> .

In the July 15<sup>th</sup> 2026 meeting the HLSG identified further points to emphasize for future actions.

- **Engagement in future collider projects:**

Long-term plans for future colliders are being finalized in the near term, with CERN's **FCC-ee** emerging as the primary project set to dominate collider physics. The Latin American community has a timely opportunity to join these collaborative efforts early on. Ideally, **LAA-HECAP** will lead in formulating proposals that unify researchers from both larger and smaller nations across the region, which may also encourage regional decision-makers to commit project support.

- **Leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI):**

The rapid advancement of AI should take a central role in future strategic planning. This represents both, an opportunity and a challenge: the region must proactively design projects focused on both AI for physics and physics for AI. Crucially, the community must address potential research disparities to ensure Latin American scientists gain equal access to advanced AI tools compared to their global peers.

- **Adapting to Regional Experimental Shifts:**

The regional experimental landscape has evolved in recent years. While the future of the **ANDES** project—previously viewed as a potential flagship initiative—remains uncertain, priority consideration should also be given to the **SWGO** project that has been highlighted in the Strategy Document.

As emphasized in the previous report, securing **stable, long-term funding** from regional governments, international organizations, and the private sector remains one of the primary challenges for the Latin American community. Establishing reliable funding streams is critical for the long-term sustainability of this initiative, and the HLSG strongly encourages LAA-HECAP to intensify its efforts in this area.

Finally, the HLSG reiterates its 2020 recommendation to follow established international practices—such as Europe and North America—by conducting this strategy review every five years. Maintaining a regular cycle will keep the community aligned, enable priority updates, and adapt to emerging challenges.

With these considerations, the HLSG **enthusiastically endorses** the 2025/2026 Strategy Document.