



March 2019 LAAAMP information page

## LAAAMP Enters Year Three

**Lightsources for Africa, the Americas, Asia and Middle East Project (LAAAMP)**, led by the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) and the International Union of Crystallography (IUCr), just closed its second year of operations and is off to a fast start in Year 3. At conception, LAAAMP identified five tasks to pursue:

### 1. Strategic Plans

Year 3 began with a major push on concluding the **LAAAMP Survey** and help develop a database of AdLS and crystallography users and facilities used in the targeted regions of the project. To assist in this effort and with the development of the Strategic Plans in the regions, **Dorian Bohler**, a staff physicist at the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, joined the LAAAMP team. The LAAAMP Survey can be filled in at <https://laamp.iucr.org/tasks/survey>.

### 2. Colloquium Programme

A huge success of the Colloquium Programme stems from **Dr Thierry d'Almeida's** Colloquium delivered in Cotonou, Benin, in 2018, followed by meetings with President Patrice Talon, his Cabinet and numerous other dignitaries to discuss both LAAAMP and the newly proposed crystallography lab and training programme dubbed **X-TechLAB**. The mission of X-TechLab is to create a centre of training for a new generation of crystallographers in Central Africa.

Colloquium presentations were also given in Costa Rica (**Prof. D. G. Lamas**) and Rwanda (**Dr P. Ngabonziza**). Some IUCr-UNESCO LAAAMP OpenLabs have been finalized. The LAAAMP Executive Committee continues to reach out to the international community to spread the word of its activities. Recent activities included the participation in the **World Science Forum 2017**, **CiLAC 2018**, **General Meeting and Conference of the Caribbean Academy of Sciences 2018**, **Opening Ceremony of the International Year of the Periodic Table 2019**, **Joint African Light Source Conference and Pan African Conference on Crystallography 2019**.

### 3. Brochure

The LAAAMP brochure, entitled **Advanced Light Sources and Crystallography: Tools of Discovery and Innovation**, recently underwent a second printing. It is available on the LAAAMP website in English, Spanish and French, with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) donating the latter two translations. E. Malamud, the brochure editor, currently is in discussions with IAEA about them donating the next translation into Arabic. Hard copies of the brochure have been in great demand at conferences. Indeed the brochure has been extremely helpful in educating the public and governmental officials about the tremendous benefits derived from crystallography and AdLSs.

### 4. Researchers' visits to AdLS and crystallography facilities

Perhaps the most high-profile LAAAMP initiative is its (Faculty-STudent) **FAST Team** programme. For this, LAAAMP disseminates a solicitation each year calling for faculty with less than a year's experience with AdLSs to apply with a PhD student to spend two months at one of the 16 LAAAMP AdLS partners. LAAAMP provides airline tickets and partial meal expenses, while the AdLSs provide housing and additional partial meal expenses. During 2018, LAAAMP and the AdLSs awarded grants to 16 FAST Teams, and they anticipate supporting 15 FAST Teams in 2019. Where possible, LAAAMP allows previous awardees to participate for another two months during the year following the first award.

### 5. Closing meeting and presentation of the Strategic Plans

The future is bright for LAAAMP. In anticipation, it has launched its **2019 fundraising campaign** so that it can continue its activities beyond the December 2019 conclusion of the International Science Council grant that has provided the bulk of the funds for its activities to this time. There is more to come! So, stay tuned for the LAAAMP wrap up of Year 3 at its 2019 meeting to be announced soon.

This page represents an extract from the article "LAAAMP Enters Year Three" by S. K. Mtingwa, S. Scandolo and M. Zema, published in the March 2019 issue of the IUPAP Newsletter ([http://iupap.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/IUPAP\\_march2019\\_E-compressed.pdf](http://iupap.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/IUPAP_march2019_E-compressed.pdf)).

## LAAAMP Tasks

**Task 1.** Develop a **Strategic Plan** for each region to grow and enhance its Advanced Light Sources (AdLS) and crystallography user communities.

**Task 2.** Establish a **Colloquium Programme** for each region to recruit new AdLS and crystallography users and to advertise LAAAMP projects via invited talks at targeted venues. Also, launch a series of new IUCr-UNESCO OpenLabs, which is a network of operational crystallography laboratories in developing countries aimed at increasing the access to, and utilization of, crystallography in all regions of the world.

**Task 3.** Publish an Informational **Brochure** that describes AdLSs, crystallography, and the many fields that they impact.

**Task 4.** Facilitate **researchers' visits** to AdLS and crystallography facilities.

**Task 5.** Convene a **meeting at UNESCO** to present the regions' Strategic Plans and define the charge for more detailed Business Plans that include feasibility studies of constructing AdLSs in regions where they do not yet exist.

## Partner AdLSs

Advanced Light Source (USA)  
Advanced Photon Source (USA)  
ALBA (Spain)  
Australian Synchrotron  
Canadian Light Source  
DELTA (Germany)  
Elettra (Italy)  
European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (France)  
MAX IV (Sweden)  
National Synchrotron Light Source-II (USA)  
Photon Factory (Japan)  
Pohang Accelerator Laboratory (South Korea)  
SESAME (Jordan)  
Siam Photon Source (Thailand)  
Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Lightsource (USA)  
Taiwan Photon Source

## LAAAMP Structure

### Executive Committee

Sekazi K. Mtingwa, Chair  
Michele Zema  
Sandro Scandolo

### Regional AdLS Usage and Strategic Plan Committees

AFRICA - Chair: Simon Connell  
CARIBBEAN - Chair: Carlos Cabrera  
MEXICO - Chair: Matías Moreno  
MIDDLE EAST - Chair: Özgül Öztürk  
SOUTHEAST ASIA - Chair: Rungrueang Phatthanakun

**Brochure Editor:** Ernie Malamud

**Usage Database Manager:** Lawrence Norris

### Steering Committee

### Observers

### Partner institutions

AfLS Steering Committee; AAPPS; Cuban Light Source Initiative; EPS; ICSU ROA; ICSU ROAP; INCREASE; ICTP; IUMRS; UCLA Laboratory for Physics and Applications of High Brightness Beams; Lightsources.org; Puerto Rican Light Source Initiative; Sociedad Mexicana de Física; UNESCO Division of Science Policy and Capacity Building; Triseed Consultants; LLC; TWAS

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