



UNAP

RECTORADO

"Year of the Bicentennial, of the consolidation of our Independence, and the commemoration of the heroic battles of Junín and Ayacucho"

Iquitos, October 14, 2024

Dear members of the Selection Committee,

VLIRUOS - IUC Program

Subject: Letter of Commitment IUC program

As Rector of the Universidad Nacional de la Amazonía Peruana (UNAP), I am pleased to express my full support and commitment to the Institutional University Cooperation (IUC) Program proposal **"Empowering the Universidad Nacional de la Amazonía Peruana as a driver of change for sustained resource management and inclusive development by promoting environmental sustainability and fostering the well-being of vulnerable Amazonian communities"** submitted to the VLIRUOS.

The UNAP, as a leading institution in higher education and research in the Peruvian Amazon, recognizes the crucial importance of this initiative in enhancing our role as a driver of change in our region. Our university policies align with the objectives of the IUC program and with our institutional mission to promote the sustainable and equitable development of the Amazon. It should be noted that the project proposal has recently been declared of institutional interest for its formulation and presentation within the framework of the IUC Program, by the UNAP's University Council (see the attached University Council Resolution).

Our institution has the internal capacity to effectively manage a program of the magnitude that the IUC Program represents, thanks to our strong track record in implementing large-scale research and development projects, with well-established administrative and academic structures that will ensure successful implementation. It is noteworthy that we are open to adapting and improving our administrative and financial procedures by following national regulations. In this matter, administrative offices are involved in developing the IUC proposal and understanding the program's needs. Therefore, our administrative staff, expert consultant, and UAntwerp collaborators have developed optimized administrative/financial procedure guidelines for international cooperation funding.

I wish to express my full support for the appointment of Prof. Dr. Viviana Vanessa Pinedo Cancino as a local project coordinator. Prof. Pinedo Cancino is a highly qualified researcher and a respected leader in our academic community. Some years ago, Prof. Pinedo returned to UNAP despite possibly continuing to work abroad, but she preferred to contribute to her hometown and her alma mater, UNAP. Her experience in managing national and international projects, excellent skills for networking and communication, and dedication are critical to the program's success. I commit to providing all the necessary institutional support to facilitate her work as coordinator, including the adequacy of her academic and administrative responsibilities to ensure optimal project management. In addition to Prof. Pinedo, there are a substantial number





of experienced professors and administrative staff from various faculties working hand-to-hand with Prof. Pinedo and the Flemish team on developing the IUC proposal.

As a rector, I declare that the UNAP commits to:

1. Provide the logistical, administrative, and financial support necessary for the successful implementation of the program.
2. Facilitate active participation of academic and administrative staff in program activities.
3. Guarantees the sustainability of the program's initiatives and results beyond its funding period.
4. Promote the integration of the program's objectives into long-term institutional strategies.
5. Foster interdisciplinary collaboration and linkages with relevant external academic and non-academic stakeholders to maximize the program's impact.

Finally, I highlight the UNAP's excellent collaboration with Profs Christopher Delgado and Jean-Pierre Van Geertruyden (University of Antwerp), who embarked on the IUC program proposal as Flemish coordinators. We started working together in 2016, leading to strong, fluent, and respectful collaboration facilitated by VLIR-UOS and locally financed projects. We appreciate their enormous enthusiasm for supporting UNAP's growth. Strong links between these Flemish-Peruvian professors have been developed with academic and administrative staff involved in past and current VLIR-UOS projects, which are vital for maintaining the health progress of the IUC program.

This collaboration with VLIR-UOS and Flemish institutions will significantly strengthen our educational, research, and management institutional capacities to impact the sustainable development of the Peruvian Amazon.

We want to take this opportunity to express that many of the reviewers' comments and recommendations from our previous IUC application have been considered while preparing this application. At this time, we will have the opportunity to work with VLIR-UOS and Flemish universities and university colleges to a more considerable extent towards the sustainable and equitable development of the Peruvian Amazon.

I will remain available to provide any additional information that you may require.

Sincerely yours,



Prof. Dr. Rodil Tello Espinoza
Rector

Universidad Nacional de la Amazonía Peruana