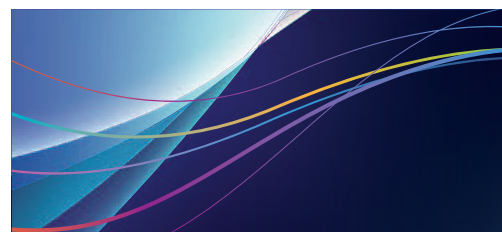


# DECLARA

Second TICAL Conference:  
Collaborative work and the  
exchange of knowledge already  
have their space

Sustainability and collaboration:  
The big issues at the half-yearly  
meeting of RedCLARA and ALICE2

Through LA Referencia:  
Latin America integrated into  
COAR





This Project is funded by the European Union

European Commission  
EuropeAid Cooperation Office  
Directorate B2 - Latin America  
@LIS Programme  
Rue Joseph II, 54 J54 4/13  
B-1049 Brussels  
BELGIUM



A project implemented by RedCLARA

Press Contact:  
María José López Pourailly  
PR & Communications Manager - CLARA  
maria-jose.lopez@redclara.net  
(+56) 2 584 86 18, extension 504  
Avenida del Parque 4680-A  
Edificio Europa, oficina 505  
Ciudad Empresarial  
Huechuraba  
Santiago  
CHILE

«The European Union is constituted by 27 member states which have decided to progressively join their practical knowledge, their resources and their destinies. Over an expansion period of 50 years, together they have built a stability, democracy and sustainable development zone, and have also preserved cultural diversity, tolerance and individual liberties. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and values with countries and peoples which are beyond its borders».

**The European Commission is the executive body of the European Union.**

# Contents

- 4 Editorial  
Carmen Gloria Labbé, Innovation and Development Manager, RedCLARA
- 6 Second TICAL Conference  
Collaborative work and the exchange of knowledge already have their space
- 13 Mexico, Ecuador, Colombia and Costa Rica sign an agreement for e-Science in Latin America
- 15 Sustainability and collaboration: The big issues at the half-yearly meeting of RedCLARA and ALICE2
- 17 The ELCIRA Project takes off
- 18 COMCLARA Landmarks
- 21 Through LA Referencia:  
Latin America integrated into COAR
- 22 Attention National Networks:  
Call to participate in the room certification plan
- 23 Questions? Suggestions? Comments?  
The new Technical Support Service it's here!

# Editorial



Carmen Gloria Labbé

Innovation and Development Manager,  
RedCLARA

The confirmation of a necessary space for collaboration. That is what TICAL 2012 was. A space visited by directors, academics, enterprises, promoters and, in general, actors who are related to the world of Information Technologies in the universities across the region, as well as guests from other latitudes. A space in which experiences, knowledge, needs and common objectives were shared.

As a member of both RedCLARA and the organising Committee, it is very rewarding to appreciate how TICAL 2012 enormously exceeded our expectations, given the great interest in participating, and the proactive and collaborative attitude shown by the delegates. 45 papers submitted and more than 180 delegates exceeded TICAL 2011 by far. And particularly, a wide network, with common interests, which is being built around the better use of IT in the university sector.

What remains: several initiatives which we hope will be materialised, such as the case of the project for the integration of academic networks of Voice over IP in Argentina and Brazil, and the creation of the digital repository at the Don Bosco University in El Salvador, both originated in TICAL 2011. From RedCLARA, we will provide all the necessary support for the new projects to move forward, through the space and tools for collaboration offered by the RedCLARA Portal, as well as the articulation actions that may be required.

It is important to highlight the participation of enterprises and institutions, which apart from supporting us for the organisation of the conference, went further by enriching the agenda with presentations and activities which enhanced TICAL 2012's programme. Such is the case of the presentation given by Daniel Jiménez, Director of Telefónica for Latin America, the breakfast

held with CISCO, where IT directors shared the concerns, needs and projects of their universities, and the presentation given by Magdalena de Luca from Blackboard on the latest tendencies in e-Learning.

Likewise, the presentations given by Juan Carlos Alonso from LANIC and Christian O'Flaherty from ISOC, made it possible to learn about the tendencies and projections in IT. We thank all of them for their significant contribution.

All the things mentioned only encourages us to continue working in order to strengthen TICAL, both as a network of IT directors from Latin America, and also as the space for exchange and collaboration, as the TICAL Conference is.

Thanks to everyone and see you in TICAL 2013.



Second TICAL Conference

# Collaborative work and the exchange of knowledge already have their space

Presentations, parallel sessions, work groups, round tables and a poster session were part of the extensive programme for the Conference, which brought together, for the second year in a row, the authorities from higher education institutions working in the field of information technologies. What was the result? Synergy among countries in the region for the development of innovative projects, which respond to the challenges that come up with the advance and development of networks.

Tania Altamirano L.

TICAL met its objectives and exceeded them. During two days, Lima, the Peruvian capital, hosted the Second Conference of Information and Communication Technologies Directors from Higher Education Institution, ICT Management for Research and Collaboration, TICAL 2012.

The meeting aimed at providing a space for reflection, exchange of knowledge and good practices which address these issues, so as to contribute to the improvement and optimisation

of the management and work of universities in the region.

“An event like TICAL 2012 has filled a gap which we didn't even think it was necessary to fill: a place for articulation, collaboration and discussion between IT managers from higher education institutions throughout Latin America, and with the academic staff within the same institutions. To create a space of this kind is a great opportunity to strengthen the relations



which will help to strengthen collaboration and the development of joint projects between HEI – Higher Education Institutions- across the whole region, with all the impact this entails for their students, for the institutions themselves and for the countries in which they operate”, states Francisco Valdivia, Director of Technological Development at Universidad Católica de Chile’s DUOC.

The Estelar Miraflores Hotel was the venue that hosted the event, which in turn featured in its programme the participation of renowned speakers Luiz Claudio Mendoça, Director of the Data Processing Centre (Centro de Procesamiento de Datos - CDP) at the Federal University of Bahía (Brazil), Roland Hedberg, IT Architect at the University of Umeå (Sweden), Ognjen Prnjat, Manager of the European and Regional e-Infrastructure at GRNet (Greece), and

Karla Vega, Research Engineer at the Data and Information Analysis Group of the University of Texas (USA).

“TICAL 2012 made it possible to bring together IT directors, authorities, managers and developers from higher education institutions, in order to present and discuss varied and very up-to-date topics, which show the impact and influence of ICT on educational organisation, and force them to bet on their strategic value for growth and development, as support to research and teaching, and most importantly, to enhance the links between university, society and productive sectors”, states Antonio Silva, Coordinator of the LACLO Community and member of the Central University of Venezuela, who adds that “TICAL 2012 represented an excellent opportunity to share good practices and reflect on needs and future advances”.

## An intense programme

On July 2nd, activities began with the opening session on computer Clouds, in which Florencio Utreras, Executive Director of RedCLARA, and Carmen Gloria Labbé, Director of Innovation and Development at RedCLARA, welcomed the Conference's participants. This was followed by the opening presentations delivered by Ognjen Prnjat, Manager of the European and Regional e-Infrastructure in GRNet, and Daniel Jiménez, General Director of Telefónica Empresas Latin America.



Ana Paola Amadeo

After a break the first round of parallel sessions was carried out, addressing local experiences related to computer clouds, ICT governance in universities and digital repositories.

“The topics discussed in the plenary sessions were very appropriate and were presented by important representatives, with great assertiveness and quality. Round tables made it possible to visualise gaps and aspects to be improved in ICT management in higher education institutions across the region, which includes bringing the university closer to the community, research at the service of society, scientific knowledge management, research visualisation, e-Science, ICT federated services, mobility and telecommunication strategies”, commented Silva.

The plenary session on Scientific Visualisation, led by Karla Vega from the University of Texas, was followed by the second round of parallel sessions with topics like the sustainability of Grid Services, ICT strategy and Learning technologies.

To conclude the first day, there was a round table on Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) Management in Latin American Universities, led by Patricia Gudiño, Executive Director of the Inter-American Organization for Higher Education (IOHE-OUI).

“When we were with the Programme Committee, thinking about this conference, and then at a meeting with IOHE, which is our academic partner in the event, we thought it was important to bring together in this space the directors, managers and officers in the IT units and the universities' authorities, since it is not always possible to strike up a conversation with them on the expectations and challenges, which makes it possible to jointly project our future work”, states Carmen Gloria Labbé, Director of Innovation and Development at RedCLARA.

TICAL 2012's second day started with the plenary session on Federated services, which featured professor Roland Hedberg, from the University



of Umeå (Sweden) and Christian O’Flaherty from the Internet Society (ISOC) as speakers.

This was followed by parallel sessions on high performance computing and grids, the use of ICT and national and regional networks. Subsequently, there were parallel sessions on federated services, information systems (processes) and a round table on National Policies on Broadband.

To conclude there was a closing session focused on Campus networks, which addressed cases like LANs and MANs, as well as the continuity of services in the post IPv4 era.

“The topics addressed in TICAL were outstanding and high-powered. These are the topics that are dominating the current agenda, and are in accordance with world tendencies”, indicates Tiwonge Banda, from UbuntuNet Alliance (Malawi).

In her turn, Ana Paola Amadeo, from the Higher Centre for Information Processing at the National University of La Plata in Argentina, indicates: “I think the selection of topics was very pertinent, because of the novelty of the same proposals and for presenting concrete cases. To tell about and exchange experiences is very valuable and motivating, this is something that many of my peers also valued”.

### The results

TICAL has already yielded some fruits. The effort to bring together IT actors and managers in the region has enabled the development of initiatives between countries and institutions. This is the case of the Institutional Digital Repository at the Don Bosco University (RDUDB) in El Salvador.

“The idea of creating our own UDB repository came up while listening to the experiences presented in TICAL 2011. After that we looked for contacts to help us with consultancies. We managed to contact Malgorzata Lisowska, from the CoLaBoRa community, who helped us and we succeeded in getting one university member to attend REDIAL 2011. When we were





already working on the topic, simultaneously, El Salvador's Consortium of University Libraries (CBUES) started a workshop delivered by some Spaniards; we then managed to implement the project and we shared our experience with everybody so that the rest of universities can also implement it, respecting all suggestions", tells Erika López, Director of the Information and Communications Technology Centre at the Don Bosco University in El Salvador.

Ten months after its launch, the repository has 8 communities, 12 sub-communities and 26 collections which in total amount to 735 archives, which to date have received more than 2,900 enquiries from El Salvador, as well as from Spain, Mexico and Peru, among other countries.

Another outstanding result of TICAL is the integration of VoIP academic networks in Brazil

and Argentina, an initiative which was born following the presentations given by Mariano Javier Martín and Fernando Aversa in the 2011 edition, and which has made possible to establish voice over IP calls between the academic and research communities in both countries.

Currently the network is fully operational in 28 Argentinean institutions and in over 100 institutions in Brazil, and work is being done to expand the connected institutions by incorporating research centres and other entities.

Thanks to this agreement a greater interaction and a more efficient collaborative work is achieved through voice calls over IP within the academic and research community in more than 128 institutions from both countries, since they already have the possibility of communicating effectively and at a low cost.

“TICAL 2011 was the initial kick-off for the integration between Brazil and Argentina. We hope TICAL 2012 can do the same for the rest of Latin America. Argentina presented a Project for the Strengthening of VoIP Networks in Latin America, with which they intend to show the work done for the promotion and enhancement of VoIP networks in countries like Uruguay, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Ecuador, Peru, etc. It consists of training sessions and assistance for the technicians from the NRENs and institutions belonging to these countries in order to increase the development of their IP telephone networks. From Argentina, we believe that this personalised and collaborative work with institutions is necessary to have a strong network in the future, with sustainable development”, indicates Mariano Martin, member of the National Inter-University Council (Consejo Interuniversitario Nacional – CIN) and the National University of Villa María in Argentina.

### More information:

[http://tical\\_2012.redclara.net/es/index.html](http://tical_2012.redclara.net/es/index.html)

## Connectivity for all

During the development of TICAL 2012, delegates had permanent access to the internet and to academic networks, thanks to the connection managed and implemented by RedCLARA’s Mobility Work Group (WG-Mobility) and the Peruvian Academic Network (RAAP), with the support of Telefónica del Peru, the eduroam initiative and the National Institute for Research and Training on Telecommunications of the National Engineering University (INICTEL-UNI).

This effort resulted in the establishment of a double connection possibility, through RedCLARA with 70 Mbps and through a local network with 20 Mbps, which made it possible to give access to online information (programme, presentations and live, direct and high definition transmission) to the 180 delegates participating in the event.

“During the conference I enjoyed very much the use of social networks, Twitter and Facebook, by the entire community, uploading pictures and sharing valuable comments. Furthermore, presentations were published almost instantly”, indicates Tiwonge Banda, from UbuntuNet Alliance.

Eduroam Team.

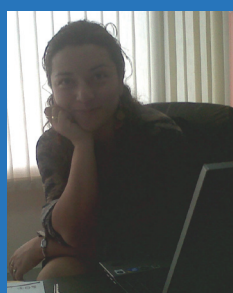




## Successful call

As a result of the call made through national research networks and the institutions related to information and communications technologies in Latin America, 45 papers applying to be part of the TICAL 2012 programme were received.

The papers submitted were assessed by the Programme Committee and the result was the selection of 22 of them, which were part of the TICAL 2012 programme.



*"The event's organisation in this edition of TICAL was very good; everything was swifter and registration, accreditation and the delivery of certificates were quickly completed. The choice of topics was of very good quality, since they contributed to each of the issues that universities look at."*

### **Diana Rocío Plata Arango.**

Coordinator of the Organisation and Systems Group  
Pedagogical and Technological University of Colombia



*"The topics selected and addressed in TICAL 2012 were relevant to the current reality, where ICT play an important role in higher education institutions, as regards the management of research, of knowledge and of the university in synchrony with society."*

### **Antonio Silva Sprock**

Coordinator of the LACLO Community  
Central University of Venezuela, Venezuela



*"The choice of speakers was very appropriate. They were experts in this subject and delivered their presentations outstandingly and with passion. I am happy to have been part of TICAL 2012, creating links with people and learning how others do things. I gathered many lessons for UbuntuNet Alliance"*

### **Tiwonge Msulira Banda**

F&A Manager, UbuntuNet Alliance  
Lilongwe, Malawi



*"The presentations allowed us to consolidate knowledge, share ICT issues in our university environments, learn about the various possible solutions and mostly establish inter-institutional links"*

### **Benito Morales Salmerón**

Director of Informatics  
UNAN-LEÓN



## Mexico, Ecuador, Colombia and Costa Rica sign an agreement for e-Science in Latin America

With the aim of making advanced computing resources available for researchers and educators in favour of e-Science, on June 29 the first regional agreement was signed in order to give continuity to the operation of the e-Infrastructure based on grid technology in Latin America.

Ixchel Pérez Santamaría

The grid will continue to grow in the region, thanks to a regional agreement to give continuity to the operation of this e-Infrastructure. The effort aims to have an impact on strategic sectors of society, like health and environment. In the same way, the agreement aims at the search for financial resources and organisational mechanisms so that Latin America can consolidate, in a sustainable way, the region's e-Infrastructure and encourage its use by academic communities. The pact is the result of the GISELA-CHAIN conference, which was held in Mexico from June 27 to 29. The signatory countries were Ecuador, Mexico and Colombia, through their national research and education networks, CEDIA, CUDI and RENATA, respectively;

on July 3, as part of the TICAL 2012 Conference, held in Lima (Peru), Costa Rica was incorporated into the agreement, through RedCONARE.

GISELA is the last stage of the project funded by the European Community in order to establish and develop the e-Infrastructure based on computer grid technology, which enables the use of research and scientific resources. The agreement signed by the countries aforementioned nails down the political will in order to guarantee the initiative's sustainability.

Mexico, Ecuador and Colombia have had a great development of their e-Infrastructure. The Aztec nation has been outstanding in the Spanish

speaking continent in this area. The representative from the CUDI network, Salma Jalife, acknowledged the GISELA-CHAIN conference as an activity of great importance, since different similar initiatives have been acknowledged at a world level. The best thing about this is that this debate has introduced the concept of sustainability of these services, in which national research and education networks are fundamental.

Ecuador, on the other hand, takes a step forward and takes on a more protagonist role at a continental level, according to what was expressed by Villie Morocho, the highest authority in CEDIA, the local research network. Morocho highlighted the importance of human resources in the strengthening and technical support of its platform over its six years of existence. CEDIA created a platform of 100 cores, which is available for Ecuadorian researchers and which does not stop making efforts to incorporate more institutions into this new phase of scientific production.

Costa Rica, in turn, joined the Declaration of Sustainability of the Grid and Advanced Computing e-Infrastructure for e-Science in Latin America, as part of the 2nd Conference of Information and Communications Technologies Directors from Higher Education Institutions (TICAL 2012), held in Lima on July 2 and 3.

The incorporation of this new country was signed by Álvaro De La Ossa, on behalf of Costa Rica's Research and Education Network of the National Council of University Vice-Chancellors for e-Science and e-Education (RedCONARE).

The aspiration is to continue incorporating new countries to this important declaration, which aims at the sustainability of computing services.



### Read the declaration here:

[http://www.gisela-grid.eu/images/stories/GISELA\\_Images/declaracionMx.jpg](http://www.gisela-grid.eu/images/stories/GISELA_Images/declaracionMx.jpg)

### More information in GISELA:

[http://www.gisela-grid.eu/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=33&Itemid=39](http://www.gisela-grid.eu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=33&Itemid=39)



## Sustainability and collaboration: The big issues at the half-yearly meeting of RedCLARA and ALICE2

Always looking to the future, the communities, the technical team, the directors of national research and education networks and the members of the RedCLARA Assembly gathered on the first week of July in Lima, Peru, in order to discuss about creative ways to face the future of networks in the region. The half-yearly meeting was a good opportunity for each group to suggest new ways of collaboration.

Ixchel Pérez

Strategies to continue growing and give RedCLARA a sustainable future, and strategies to improve the services offered to users and communities, were some of the key issues of the ALICE2 project's (Latin America Interconnected to Europe) first half-yearly meeting, which was held in July 5 and 6 at the city of Lima, Peru.

The wealth of exchanges of experiences, typical of this meeting, included the development of workshops for the communities supported by COMCLARA, training and planning sessions for the technical team, CLARA-TEC, and the ALICE2 and RedCLARA's General Assembly meetings.

The ALICE2 project is about to come to an end and, for the time being, RedCLARA will not receive financial funds from it. However, the work the organisation has been doing since its foundation, 10 years ago, must continue and even gain new energies.

The future is challenging, but collaboration can be the key to face it, as discussed in the different meetings held in Peru, especially at that of RedCLARA's General Assembly.

"RedCLARA will not die, it will continue; this is a phase that for different reasons becomes a bit hard, but we must try to survive. Logically, nobody wants what has been built to be lost", emphasised Rafael Ibarra, president of RAICES and member of RedCLARA's Directing Board.

Ibarra specified that RedCLARA will probably be reduced in terms of human resources for some time, but it will continue operating with its main and unavoidable tasks, and working on and even improving services and encouraging new members to get connected.

During the meeting, it was reasserted that RedCLARA and the different NRENs will work harder in order to support those weaker networks that are facing some risk of disappearing or of being disconnected for some time.

"The agreement is to work jointly with everyone, with shared ideas, with cross-cut proposals. For example, we have mentioned that somebody from Colombia's network, RENATA, should visit other networks, carrying ideas and making presentations... Costa Rica has also offered its support for other networks in Central America", specified Ibarra.

The Latin American scene is heterogeneous in terms of advanced networks. While some countries have a consolidated National Research and Education Network (NREN), like Brazil, Argentina and Chile, others are facing the risk of losing what they have built until now, due to the lack of financial resources, the scarce support they receive from governments and other entities dedicated to science and technology, and the lack of new members.

During the ALICE2 and RedCLARA meeting there was a lot of debate on the issue of sustainability, but it was concluded that users of national networks must not experience any negative change in this new stage; on the contrary, we will work to maintain and improve the services and the added value we provide them.

The executive meeting concluded with RedCLARA's General Assembly, where channels to support each other and move forward were presented.

### Constructive exchanges

Another important moment in the programme of ALICE2's half-yearly meeting was the reunion held between the science and research communities in the region and the directors of national networks.

Between 2010 and 2012, COMCLARA has supported the creation and consolidation of 22 research communities, in areas as diverse as ancient musical instruments, gamma rays, dancing, teacher training in information and communication technologies, disaster prevention and tropical diseases.

Within the context of the event in Lima, there was a training workshop for community leaders and a full day was devoted to debating and exchanging ideas between these communities and the directors of the NRENs.

“This meeting enabled the exchange of experiences and allowed communities to express how they see advanced networks, what their main advantages are and what are the needs they still experience in this regard”, indicated Ibarra. “This was one of the most important things, because since long ago we are more aware of or focused on the fact that the network must have content, something which moves along the fibres or cables, and in that sense the use made by academic communities of researchers and academics in the different topics available in the portal is important for RedCLARA's sustainability”, he added.

“The spirit of the meeting between directors of the NRENs and community coordinators was to find forms of collaboration. Communities provided valuable feedback on the use of networks and novel ideas which can be put into practice. A productive exchange also took place during the meetings of the executive track. The members of CLARA-TEC had three intense days of training and two days to plan their work, discuss the most important points in terms of RedCLARA's infrastructure and national networks, and follow-up to large joint projects, such as the project to create a federation of Voice over IP, which is going very well, and in where Argentina and Brazil have taken the lead.

In fact, the configuration of the point of exchange of voice over IP was one of the core courses in the technical team's training sessions at intermediate/advanced level. There was also a practical course on security, on tools for the creation of a CSIRT.



# The ELCIRA Project takes off

As part of the seventh ALICE2-RedCLARA meeting, the launch meeting for the Europe Latin America Collaborative e-Infrastructure for Research Activities, ELCIRA, was held in Lima, Peru on 4 July.

This initiative aims to coordinate a series of tools and services developed in Europe and Latin America, in order to offer a framework of interoperability which facilitates the work of research teams in both continents and which promotes collaboration in joint research projects.

For its development, ELCIRA features the participation of the Latin American Cooperation of Advanced Networks, RedCLARA, the institution that administrates the European network GÉANT - Delivering Advanced Networking to Europe, DANTE, the Spanish academic and research network, RedIRIS, the GARR Consortium (Italy), Brazil's National Education and Research Network – RNP, Colombia's National Network for Advanced Technology – RENATA, and the Trans-European Research and Education Networking Association, TERENA).

The launch meeting was attended by the project's representatives, the leaders from Work Packages (WP) and members of participating institutions, who worked on the planning and coordination of

activities, according to the calendar proposed.

Over the 24 months projected for the work of ELCIRA, the project will have a total budget of € 1,360,695 with a € 1,000,000 contribution from the European Commission and will have seven work packages:

1. Project administration and management
2. Coordinated actions for an Authorization and Authentication Infrastructure (AAI) between Europe and Latin America
3. Standards for a interregional videoconference service
4. Promotion and implementation of eduroam services
5. Expand and Strengthen the Collaborative Platform
6. Promotion and participation in Framework Programmes run by the la European Commission
7. Dissemination





## COMCLARA Landmarks

After three years of work, RedCLARA's Communities project comes to an end with a portfolio of success stories. Through this article we review its beginnings and its main management achievements.

Ana Cecilia Osorio/ Tania Altamirano L.

In 2010, RedCLARA launched a call for proposals aimed at researchers from institutions connected to national networks, with the purpose of strengthening their work links in the field of their research interests, thus consolidating their relationships and making use of the telecommunication and computer resources available through advanced networks.

The initiative, which is part of the "Latin America Interconnected with Europe" project, ALICE2, was named RedCLARA Communities, COMCLARA, and had two versions: the first from 2010 to 2011 and the second from 2011 to 2012.

In each version there was a call for proposals. In 2010, 32 initiatives were submitted, while in 2011 the call received a total of 37 proposals.

After the evaluation processes of each call, 9 communities were chosen, a total of 18, which addressed areas like education, cultural heritage, astronomy, health, digital libraries and material technology, among many others. Likewise, each community featured the participation of members from at least five Latin American countries, which ensured the group's diversity and the international scope of the initiatives. Thus, COMCLARA communities featured the active

participation of researchers from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala, Peru and Uruguay.

Thanks to COMCLARA these initiatives received support to hire a coordinator, who performed internal mobilisation and coordination tasks among its members for one year. Additionally, each community received technical support on the use of the services offered on the portal, as well as specialised consultancy on project development provided by RedCLARA staff.

### Some interesting figures

If we consider the total of communities in the COMCLARA programme in its two versions, one of the main accomplishments of these groups was the elaboration and proposal of 38 projects to international funding agencies, of which 7 were endorsed with financial support to ensure their sustainability at least for one more year.

Regarding to the use of the network, it is important to point out that between all the communities 988 Gb of transferred data

were reached, plus 474 videoconferences organised, 289 simultaneous connections of videoconference equipment, and the possibility of accessing activities broadcasted by advanced networks for 3,206 users.

The groups initially created were consolidated by the end of the process, with a significant increase in the number of their members. Thus, for example, from 297 original members, the COMCLARA programme concluded with a total of 746, and the creation of 37 strategic alliances that will contribute to increase the possibility of obtaining further resources through collaboration projects, either with entities from Latin America, or from other parts of the globe.

In what is referred to these communities' visibility, their members organised 118 dissemination activities and participated in more than 69 events (congresses and seminars), both face to face and online, and in all of them these communities and their representatives received the support and endorsement of RedCLARA as sponsoring entity.

### Communities 2010 -2011

Latin American Colaboratory of Experimental Software Engineering Research	Colombia
Latin American Nanotechnology and Society Network	Costa Rica
Microorganisms, Agriculture and Food Network	Peru
Integrated Coastal Management of the Southern Cone	Uruguay
Map and Programme of digital dance (and performance)	Brazil
Latin American Community of Learning Objects	Ecuador
Latin American Community of Digital Libraries and Repositories	Colombia
Gamma Radiation Observatory	Argentina
Education and Research	Colombia



### Communities 2011 -2012

Flu Programme for Central America and Panama	Guatemala
Initial Teacher Training	Chile
International network for recovery of the immaterial heritage of musical traditions	Chile
Scientific and High Performance Computing	Colombia
Art and culture on the network community	Colombia
Image Processing Online Latin America	Uruguay
Latin American Regional Open Community of Social and Educational Research	México
Latin American Community of Space Data Infrastructure	Ecuador
Latin American Community of Research and Knowledge Development	Colombia

At the end of this successful process, RedCLARA is deeply thankful for the opportunity of accompanying these communities for three years, taking part in the growth and development of each of these groups, many of which are now leaders in their field of experience, thanks to their capacity for international projection through top-level alliances and collaborations.

Through LA Referencia:

## Latin America integrated into COAR

In the context of the COAR General Assembly 2012, held in Uppsala (Sweden) on May 21st and 22nd, 2012, the Director of LA Referencia, Carmen Gloria Labbé (RedCLARA), was elected as Vice-President of COAR. Thus, Latin America properly became a member of the most relevant international association of open access repositories.

María José López Pourailly

The Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) is a young association of repository initiatives launched in October 2009, uniting over 80 institutions in 24 countries from throughout Europe, Latin America, Asia, and North America. Its mission is to enhance greater visibility and application of research outputs through global networks of Open Access digital repositories.

LA Referencia (Red Federada de Repositorios Institucionales de Publicaciones Científicas)-led by RedCLARA and funded by the Regional Public Goods Funds of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and with the participation of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela, aims to share and give visibility to the scientific production generated in institutions of higher education and scientific research.

The main purpose of LA Referencia is the creation of a common strategy and a framework of agreements for the construction and maintenance of a Federated Network of Institutional Repositories of Scientific Publications for storing, sharing, giving visibility and open access to scientific production in Latin America. In this context, the full incorporation into COAR is of utmost importance because it leads Latin America to a scenario of highest value for the regional scientific production.



The COAR Directory is integrated by Norbert Lossau, from the Göttingen University (Germany) as Chairman (re-elect), Carmen Gloria Labbé (RedCLARA, LA Referencia - Latin America), and Márta Virágos University and National Library of Debrecen, Hungary, as Treasurer.

### For more information

LA Referencia:

<http://lareferencia.redclara.net/rfr/>

COAR (General Assembly 2012):

<http://www.coar-repositories.org/about-coar/meetings/general-assembly-2012/>

Attention National Networks:

## Call to participate in the room certification plan

Through 14 questions available online, institutions member of the NRENs connected to RedCLARA will be able to identify the best parameters of audio and video quality for each one of their rooms and make videoconferencing service a successful experience.

Tania Altamirano L.

The associated institutions of the national networks connected to RedCLARA are invited to participate in the “Rooms Certification Plan” in order to register and certify the Videoconferencing rooms, Operation Videoconference Centers (COVI) and terminal points users.

With this initiative, Operation Videoconference Center (VNOc) of RedCLARA, seeks to avoid incidents that can occur when making a videoconference with high-quality transmission, where if there are not the configuration and ambience required features, can happen problems related with the image (pixelated, black, distorted) or sound (noise, interference, feedback), among others.

The registration process, available online, through 14 questions allow identifying the best parameters of audio and video quality for each one of their room to make every videoconferencing a successful experience. To start the process of room certification test, see the following link and perform registration: <http://encuestas.redclara.net/index.php?sid=98648&lang=es>.

For more information, questions or comments you may contact the email account [vnoc@redclara.net](mailto:vnoc@redclara.net) or Skype user: [vnoc.redclara](#).



Questions? Suggestions? Comments?

# The new Technical Support Service it's here!

In order to solve any possible doubts and incidents related to the material, the information and the services provided RedCLARA offers to the registered users of the portal the new Technical Support Service.

Tania Altamirano L.

To use the Technical Support of RedCLARA you must use the username and password that was registered in the portal. Then you will have the possibility to create a new service request, on issues related to:

- Financial Funds Alert
- Seeking Partners
- Training
- Manager of events and academic activities
- News, photos, forums and other items about communities
- More
- RedCLARA Ve, Video on Demand
- Register on the site
- SIVIC-Multiconference
- VC Espresso - Desktop Videoconferencing
- Wiki

In addition, the system allows you to review your previous request and has the option to review the FAQs.

After submitting a request for attention, the user will receive a response within 24 hours through the email account used to log into the portal.



The service is available in the main menu of the RedCLARA website and through the link: [http://www.redclara.net/index.php?option=com\\_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=669&url=www.redclara.net/redclara/introAsistenciaEn.php&lang=en](http://www.redclara.net/index.php?option=com_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=669&url=www.redclara.net/redclara/introAsistenciaEn.php&lang=en)

# Agenda 2012

## OCTOBER

**1-2 | IX National Thematic Meeting RENATA – UNIRED: “Colombia Innovates, Collaborates and Advance”**

Bucaramanga, Colombia

[www.unired.edu.co/ixencuentrotematico](http://www.unired.edu.co/ixencuentrotematico)

**3-5 | High Performance Computing in Computational Chemistry and Molecular Biology: Challenges and Solutions provided by ScalaLife project**

Lausanne, Switzerland

<http://www.cecam.org/workshop-0-672.html>

**8-9 | XIII International Congress and XVI National Congress on Innovative Teaching Materials, “New Educational Technologies”**

Mexico D.F, Mexico

<http://www.matdidac.uam.mx/>

**8-12 | 8th IEEE International Conference on eScience (eScience 2012)**

Chicago, Illinois, United States of America

<http://www.ci.uchicago.edu/escience2012/>

**15-19 | 15th Workshop on Internet Network Technologies for Latin America and the Caribbean (WALC 2012)**

Panama City, Panama

<http://www.eslared.org.ve/walc2012/index.html>

**17-19 | eChallenges e-2012 Conference**

Lisbon, Portugal

<http://www.echallenges.org/e2012/>

**28-1 November | LACNIC XVIII and LACNOG 2012**

Montevideo, Uruguay

<http://www2.lacnic.net/sp/eventos/lacnicxviii/index.html>

**29-30 | CUDI 2012 Autumn Meeting**

Chihuahua, Mexico

[http://www.cudi.edu.mx/otono\\_2012/](http://www.cudi.edu.mx/otono_2012/)





# Agenda 2012

## NOVEMBER

### 4-9 | 85th IETF Meeting

Atlanta, Georgia, United States

<http://www.ietf.org/meeting/upcoming.html>

### 7-9 | HEAnet's 2012 National Conference

Athlone, Ireland

<http://www.heanet.ie/conferences/2012/>

### 8-9 | International Workshop on Multiscale Modelling of Materials for Energy Conversion Applications

Athens, Greece

<https://www.multiscale-modelling.eu/cms/workshop?idcat=44&lang=1>

### 10-16 | Supercomputing 2012

Salt Lake City, Utah, United States

<http://sc12.supercomputing.org/>

### 12-16 | 8th ALICE2 – RedCLARA Meeting

Cuenca, Ecuador,

<http://alice2.redclara.net/>

### 13-16 | International Conference on Open Access, Scientific Communication and Digital Preservation

Barranquilla, Colombia

<http://eventos.uninorte.edu.co/index.php/biredial/biredial2012>

### 14-16 | UbuntuNet-Connect 2012

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

[http://www.ubuntunet.net/uc\\_2012](http://www.ubuntunet.net/uc_2012)

## DECEMBER

### 3 -7 | Security Zone 2012

Cali, Colombia

<http://www.securityzone.co/>

### 12-14 | 18th IEEE International Conference on Networks (ICON2012)

Singapore, Singapore

<http://www.ieee-icon.org/2012/>





The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of CLARA and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

The Editor wishes to make it clear that the statements made or opinions expressed in this publication are the sole responsibility of the contributors and cannot be taken to reflect the views of CLARA