CABANA
Capacity building for Bioinformatics in Latin America
Report for Advisory Board, 16 Oct 2019, Lima, Peru

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What is CABANA?

• Accelerating data-driven biology in Latin America by introducing a sustainable programme for building capacity in the region

• Orchestrated by an international consortium of ten organisations – nine in Latin America, one in the UK

• Funded by the Global Challenges Research Fund – part of the UK AID budget – and aligned with the UN’s sustainable development goals

• 1 Oct 2017 – 31 Dec 2021
Who is making it happen?
The dearth of data-driven biology in the region

IGSR and the 1000 Genomes Project: underrepresentation of sequences from Latin American populations reduces the usefulness of the data set for personalised medicine on the continent.

Earth Biogenome project: 7 megabiodiverse countries in LatAm; one seat on the EBP Coordinating Council.

COVID-19 Data Portal: 142 out of 165,000 sequences in COVID-19 Data Portal are from LatAm countries.

www.cabana.online
How are we addressing these issues?

Address the slow implementation of data-driven biology by creating a sustainable capacity-building programme

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Challenge 1: communicable disease

Challenge 2: sustainable food production

Challenge 3: protection of biodiversity

Open science • Inclusivity • Training at all career stages
Yesterday’s session

• Themes
  • How do we coordinate sequencing and analysis - nationally and across borders?
  • Understanding virus evolution and impacts on pathogenicity
  • How do we move beyond our understanding in major cities to track local variants and understand the impact of COVID-19 in remote regions?
Today’s session

Panel discussion:
What are the common challenges and what mechanism can we find for support and collaboration at national and international levels?
Thank you for listening!

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