

South America's Cross-Border Scientific Frontiers: Diplomacy, Discoveries, and Challenges

South American Science Diplomacy · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. The Belém Declaration, signed in August 2023, established a new alliance to combat deforestation. Which key treaty organization was revived as the foundation for this alliance among eight South American nations?

- A) The Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO)**
- B) The Andean Community of Nations (CAN)
- C) The Union of South American Nations (UNASUR)
- D) The Southern Common Market (Mercosur)

2. The Multinational Andean Project (MAP) focuses on geological cooperation. Which four South American countries are specifically mentioned as having border regions that are part of this project, known for their significant volcanic rock formations and mineral deposits?

- A) Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, and Peru**
- B) Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela
- C) Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay
- D) Chile, Bolivia, Ecuador, and Colombia

3. The Program for the South Atlantic and Antarctica (PROASA), initiated by Brazil, Argentina, and France, aims to expand scientific knowledge and strengthen research networks. What is a primary focus of this program concerning the marine environment?

- A) Establishing integrated and ongoing monitoring of the South Atlantic and Antarctica**
- B) Mapping the entire coastline of South America for resource extraction
- C) Developing new deep-sea mining technologies
- D) Studying the impact of overfishing on migratory birds

4. The Latin American and Caribbean Space Agency (LACA) was established in September 2021. While it aims for regional cooperation, which two countries are highlighted as the main drivers behind its promotion and initial proposal, despite the absence of Brazil in its foundational participation?

- A) Mexico and Argentina**
- B) Chile and Colombia
- C) Peru and Ecuador
- D) Brazil and Argentina

5. A recent paleontological discovery in Brazil, *Dasosaurus tocantinensis*, offers insights into ancient continental connections. What is the most significant implication of this discovery regarding land routes between continents approximately 120 million years ago?

- A) It suggests a land corridor existed between South America and Europe/Africa.**
- B) It proves that South America was connected to North America via a land bridge.
- C) It indicates that dinosaurs migrated between South America and Australia.
- D) It demonstrates the isolation of South America during the Early Cretaceous period.

6. The ARPA Comunidades initiative, launched in November 2025, builds upon Brazil's commitment to Amazon conservation. This people-centered initiative aims to conserve millions of acres and benefits numerous people. What novel nature finance approach was used to strengthen the preceding ARPA program in 2014, which ARPA Comunidades is poised to build upon?

- A) Project Finance for Permanence (PFP)**
- B) Blended Finance for Conservation (BFC)
- C) Impact Investing for Biodiversity (IIB)
- D) Conservation Easement Financing (CEF)

7. The Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP) is collaborating with the Renewable Energy for Latin America (RELAC) initiative. What is the primary regional target that RELAC aims to achieve by 2030, supported by this collaboration?

- A) At least 70% participation of renewable energy sources in the electricity matrix**
- B) Eliminate all fossil fuel-based energy production
- C) Achieve 50% nuclear energy in the regional matrix
- D) Ensure energy independence for all member nations

8. The TANGO (Trans Andean Great Orogey) project, utilizing a vast network of seismometers in the Andes, aims to understand mountain-building processes. This NSF-funded project primarily focuses on the Andes region spanning which two South American countries?

- A) Northern to southern Chile and Argentina**
- B) Northern Peru and Ecuador
- C) Central Bolivia and western Brazil
- D) Southern Colombia and northern Chile