



## ***Open call to the Executive Director of the SARAS Institute (N° 002/2022) Duration: 18 months.***

The South American Institute for Resilience and Sustainability Studies (SARAS) based in Bella Vista, Maldonado, Uruguay, is an interdisciplinary research centre that produces knowledge and builds capacities around sustainability and the processes and mechanisms that guarantee essential ecosystem services for human well-being ([SARAS Institute](#)).

SARAS was designed to generate critical points of view that point to the construction of sustainable futures for South America through innovative approaches, a combination of disciplinary domains (social, natural, exact sciences, and humanities), diverse knowledge, and interaction between art, science, and politics.

SARAS arises from a joint initiative of the University of the Republic (Udelar), the Ministry of Education and Culture (MEC), and the Municipality of Maldonado (Uruguay), the University of Wageningen (Netherlands) and the Resilience Alliance (USA). SARAS is directed by a Scientific Advisory Council (hereinafter CCA) and a Board of Directors (CA) and has a team of associated researchers from different institutions and various countries. The executive direction of SARAS, to which this call corresponds, coordinates, articulates and supervises the activities of SARAS.

### ***Potential applications and profile:***

This call is open to national or international academics or researchers. Looking for a person with a solid track record of research and publications in natural sciences, social sciences and/or humanities, especially related to Sustainability, Resilience, and/or Socioecological Systems.

He or the ideal candidate is an independent, innovative person, with proven experience in managing work teams and recognized international activity. The ability to work in Spanish and English and the ability to work with natural scientists, social scientists, artists, humanists, decision makers and entrepreneurs is essential.

The main tasks of the position will be, on the one hand, the conduct of the basic functions of SARAS and, on the other, the promotion, articulation and supervision of the academic lines of work. The SARAS management will coordinate the set of bodies that make up the Institute: the Scientific Advisory Council, the Foundation's Board of Directors, the network of associated researchers and the executive team or staff. It will also promote greater articulation between all of these. The director or director will have a substantive role in the vision and leadership of the future of the Institute, which includes its operational, financial and political sustainability as well as its insertion in the local, national, regional and global

environment.

It is estimated, for these tasks, **a weekly dedication of 20 hours** and a hybrid work modality is contemplated, between virtual and face-to-face.

### ***Basic functions***

1. Coordinate the work of the CCA, defining dates and modalities of meetings, as well as its internal agenda of activities and products and the selection of new members.
2. Act as a liaison between the executive team, associated researchers, the CCA and the CA, identifying mutual demands and agreeing on agendas, roles, and staff goals.
3. Support the executive team in operational decisions, organization, and internal agreements and in searches for temporary staff.
4. Represent the institute in negotiations with national and international organizations as necessary.

### ***Academic functions***

5. Establish goals and priorities in the search for short and long-term financing.
6. Propose an economic sustainability strategy accompanied by a functional structure of the executive team in accordance with the medium term (5 years).
7. Facilitate the activity of autonomous researchers within SARAS (current and those who will join in the short term), seeking to promote a modular way of working.
8. Define the activities of the next [annual thematic cycles](#) with an agenda of events/products, including the search for funds for it.

### ***Labor conditions***

Duration: the contract will be valid for 18 months from the date of taking office.

Time dedication: 20 hours per week.

Work modality: Hybrid (face-to-face and remote)

Place of work: headquarters of the SARAS Institute in Bella Vista – Maldonado, Uruguay (in face-to-face mode)



Remuneration: monthly fees will be USD 1000.- (American dollars) nominal amount.

### ***Application and selection process***

Those interested in the call have time **until Friday, June 24, 5:00 p.m. (GMT-3)** to complete with your data and Curriculum Vitae (including names and contact information of three referents), as well as a motivation letter describing your potential contribution as director of SARAS, in [this link](#).

The selection of applicants will oversee a committee made up of: **Esteban Jobbágy** (interim executive director), **Jorge Marcone** (director of the Scientific Advisory Council), **Micaela Trimble** (Representative of the Associated Researchers in the Board of Directors) and **Cecilia Fernández** (Representative of Udelar in the Board of Directors).

Interviews will be held with the pre-selected people, and documentation proving merits may be requested.

The selected person is expected to start his duties over August 2022.

In case of doubts or queries about the call, please refer to Fiorella Polcaro at email: [fiorella.polcaro@saras-institute.org](mailto:fiorella.polcaro@saras-institute.org)