

# Launch of U.S. STIC Chapter

**U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Richard Glenn joined Chilean Ambassador to the United States Alfonso Silva and distinguished guests for a virtual launch on December 15 of the Washington, D.C. - based STIC sister chapter.**



Foreign Minister Andrés Allamand, Minister of Science, Technology, Knowledge, and Innovation Andrés Couve, Director of Chilean National Agency for Research and Development (ANID) Aisen Etcheverry, U.S. National Science Foundation Assistant Director for Mathematical and Physical Sciences Dr. Sean L. Jones, and members of Santiago's STIC participated in the launch event. Chargé Glenn remarked, "Under the inspired leadership of Ambassador Silva, the establishment of the Council's chapter in Washington complements the activities and achievements of the Council in Santiago and sends a strong signal of the high value that both our countries place on greater science,

technology, and innovation cooperation" and offered the U.S. Embassy's support for the STIC chapter in Washington. CDA Glenn lauded the Chilean Embassy's success in creating a bilateral STI forum in the United States to reinforce the STIC's efforts underway in Chile and bring together leading voices from public and private sectors, research and academic institutions, and civil society.

Ambassador Silva stressed "the importance of this Council that will seek to combine the needs and demands of our country in terms of science, technology, and innovation with the infinite possibilities that the United States offers in these areas."

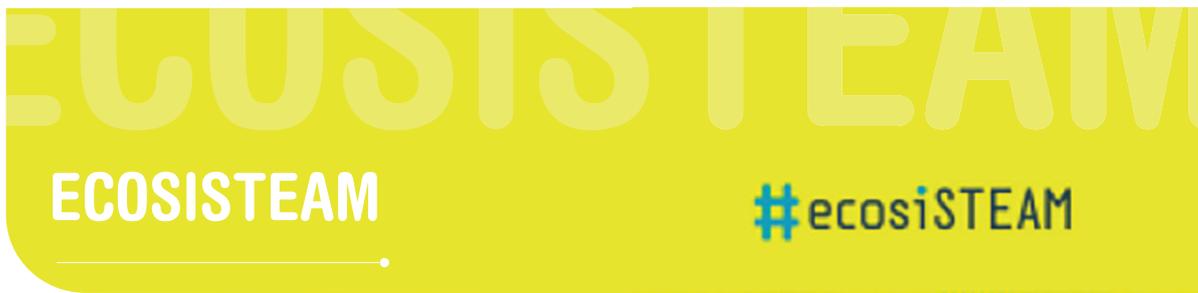
# News letter



Santiago  
Chile  
MARCH  
2021



COUNCIL  
United States \* Chile  
on science, technology and innovation



## U.S. Embassy-funded Program Promotes STEAM Initiatives

The U.S. Embassy-funded **ecosiSTEAM** initiative, completing its second year, explores and implements proven U.S. models and best practices from [Harvard University's School of Graduate Education](#) and the innovative [NUVU Academy](#) to accelerate the development of STEAM competencies and abilities in young students. The ecosiSTEAM initiative is one of six framework proposals adopted by the [U.S.-Chile Science, Technology, and Innovation Council \(STIC\)](#).

Developed by Ana Maria Raad and Marcela Renteria (members of the STIC Education, Workforce Development and Science Culture Working Group) and selected as a priority initiative through a transparent ranking process, the initiative leverages interactive science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics education (STEAM) methodologies to strengthen education and foster critical skills in the next generation. The initiative enables the sharing of lessons learned, best practices, and experiences in the United States and Chile.

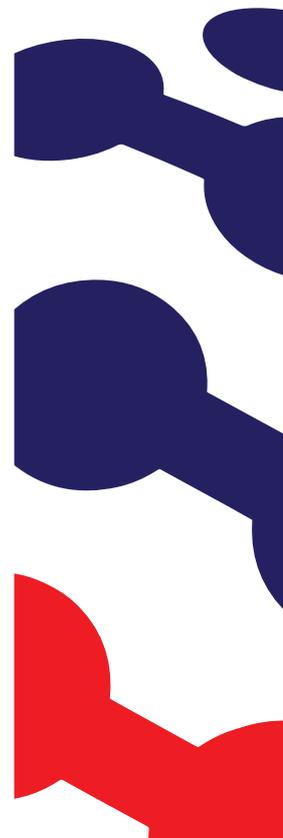


EcosiSTEAM promotes learning based on the powerful concept of STEAM and the development of inquiry, collaboration, and creativity among students. The program integrates interactive methodologies inside and outside of the classroom, including the establishment of Maker Spaces within a network of educational and cultural organizations.

During 2020, schools, education-related policy and practice groups, and leaders in the field worked to identify strategies and platforms to transition to virtual learning and teaching due to COVID-19 related restrictions. The ecosiSTEAM initiative responded with "**Aprendo En Casa**" (I Learn at Home), a pioneering digital tool that connects and supports educational

communities throughout Latin America with content, resources, and training in digital platforms that enable virtual learning in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and art. To date, the platform has hosted 261,000 users, collaborates with 70 organizations, and has a presence in 8 countries.

The lessons learned from ecosiSTEAM and its partnerships with Harvard University and the NUVU Academy are strengthening and transforming learning for Chile's citizens. The ecosiSTEAM is helping to reaffirm the relevance of STIC priorities for the U.S. Embassy, Chile's Ministry of Science, Technology, Knowledge, and Innovation, and its Ministry of Education.





**The STIC Education, Workforce Development, and Science Culture Working Group promotes innovative learning opportunities for students in disadvantaged communities to support Chile's economic development and bolster participative citizenry.**

**The Ecoscience Foundation**, led by STIC member Eduardo Ergas and a talented team of professionals, featured the December 2020 Total Solar Eclipse to take STEM learning on the road. "Road to the Eclipse," funded by the U.S. Embassy, provided innovative virtual STEM learning



# Ruta Del Eclipse

activities to 1,126 students and 48 teachers in 17 schools in the southern regions of Ñuble, Bío Bío, Araucanía, and Los Ríos.

The learning agenda offered high quality science content and material, and exciting hands-on activities centered around astronomy as a portal to STEM education. Ecoscience developed four learning modules incorporating interviews with U.S. astronomy experts and science entities such as the [San Francisco Exploratorium](#), the [Space Telescope Science Institute](#), and STIC Executive Committee member Dr. Miguel Roth (Vice President and Legal Representative of the [Giant Magellan Telescope](#)). This innovative project is another example of U.S. – Chile Science, Technology, and Innovation Council members partnering with U.S. institutions and counterparts to make a difference in Chile!

*News letter*

## Embassy Programs and the STIC: Identifying Emerging Leaders and Entrepreneurs

**In January 2021, the Embassy continues to support the U.S. – Chile Science, Technology, and Innovation Council's efforts through open competition between proposals within the Public Diplomacy Small Grants Program. This program provides financing for projects in line with Embassy priorities, including**

**those that enhance science and technology cooperation. For more information about the Public Diplomacy Small Grants Program and how to apply, visit: <https://cl.usembassy.gov/education-culture/grants-corner/>.**

The Embassy regularly identifies emerging leaders, to include those from the science, technology, and innovation fields, for the Department of State's flagship professional exchange, the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP). This year we have participants in programs on Cybersecurity and Empowering Women in STEM.

Another opportunity is the Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative (YLA) Professional Fellows exchange for entrepreneurs. YLA empowers entrepreneurs to strengthen their capacity to launch and advance their entrepreneurial ideas and effectively contribute to social and economic development. Following a professional exchange with a U.S. company, YLA Fellows build networks, linkages, and partnerships to attract investment and support for their entrepreneurial ventures. Many Chilean YLA Fellows' businesses in S&T industries are bolstered by the YLA Fellowship opportunity. The YLA program is available to entrepreneurs throughout the hemisphere and provides free networking and professional development opportunities. For more information about how to apply and to join the YLA Network visit: <https://ylai.state.gov/fellowship/>. Members of the U.S. – Chile Science, Technology, and Innovation Council represent key networks in the Embassy's efforts to ensure these and similar opportunities reach emerging talent and future leaders.



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