

5. PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS



CITY GATE

Sponsoring organization: Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

Executive organization: Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja (UTPL)

- **Coordinating Committee**

No.	Names	Institution	Country
1	Dr. Araceli Maciá Antón	President of the Ibero-American Association of Higher Distance Education (AIESAD)	Spain
2	Dr. Gustavo Luis Carrera	President of the Inter-American Distance Education Consortium (CREAD)	United States
3.	Dr. Luis Miguel Romero	Rector-Chancellor of the Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja (UTPL)	Ecuador

- **Delegates**

No.	Names	Institution	Country
1	Dr. Juan Manuel Moreno O.	Secretary of AIESAD	Spain
2	Dr. Armando Villarroel	Executive Director of CREAD	United States
3	Dr. María José Rubio Gómez	General Director of the Open and Distance Modality of the UTPL	Ecuador

5.1 BRIEF REVIEW OF THE ORGANIZATIONS THAT COMPRISE THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

5.1.1 **AIESAD** is a non-profit organization that was formed by a resolution adopted during the Ibero-American Open University Rector's Symposium, held in Madrid October 5-10, 1980. The AIESAD was conceived as a permanent mechanism for the exchange of information, coordination, and cooperation to promote higher distance education for the benefit of the people of Ibero-America.

The organization is registered in the National Association Register, number 167,604, Section 1^a, subject to Spanish law because the headquarters are located there (Art. 22 of the Spanish Constitution, Law 191/1964 of December 24, Law 30/1992 of November 26 of the Legal Rules of Public Administration and Common Administrative Procedure, Decree 1440/1965 of May 20 and related rules). Its sphere of influence includes all of the countries of Latin America, and it is engaged in cooperative activities throughout the region.

5.1.2 The CREAD was founded in 1990 during the XV World Conference of the International Distance Education Council held in Caracas, Venezuela. The original idea for this type of consortium came from the Télé-Université de Quebec in Canada and the Universidad Nacional del Mar del Plata in Argentina. The consortium operated with the logistical and financial support of three important international organizations: the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Organization of American States (OAS), and the Inter-American Organization for Higher Education (IOHE). Today, the CREAD is an independent organization, directed by its members.

The CREAD is a non-profit organization that supports individuals and institutions working in distance education in the three Americas.

This organization is the product of a collective decision to combine efforts, resources, and experiences to implement collaborative education projects and take the first steps toward what we envision as common in the twenty-first century.

5.1.3 The Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja (UTPL) is a higher education institution, officially recognized as an autonomous legal entity under private law for social and public purposes, created by executive decree No. 646, published in the Official Register No. 217 of May 5, 1971.

The UTPL has 32 years of experience in educational administration and professional training in different branches of knowledge via both on site and

distance systems. Its mission, which is based on the Christian humanistic vision, is to seek the truth and educate men and women through knowledge to serve society.

The Open Distance Modality was created in 1976, which made it one of the pioneering institutions in Latin America to offer higher distance education. The UTPL provides higher education for undergraduate and graduate studies through the following programs: a) on site; and b) open and distance with several variations: b.1) traditional distance; b.2) semi-present; and b.3) virtual. There are 3,000 on site students and 18,000 distance students with 15 undergraduate careers in the latter program.