



# Colombian National Astronomy Education Coordinators (NAEC)

Advancing Astronomy Education through Professional Development, Resource Access, and Curriculum Promotion

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## MOTIVATION

The Colombian National Astronomy Education Coordinators (NAEC) team that is part of the network of the IAU Office of Astronomy for Education (OAE), aims to promote and professionalize the teaching of astronomy in the country, providing access to good resources and promoting its inclusion in curricula. To achieve its goals, the Colombian NAEC team has developed various activities since being established in 2020, such as workshops on teaching astronomy, supporting citizen science projects, and providing training for teachers and students.

## ACTIONS

One of the most significant actions developed by the Colombian NAEC team is the support provided to the Colombian Astronomy Olympiad, a competition that serves as a trigger for learning and diagnosis regarding the incorporation of astronomy into the curriculum. Additionally, NAEC has collaborated with the International Astronomical Search Collaboration (IASC) on the "Colombia Searches for Asteroids" campaign, which provides training and resources for schools interested in astronomy.

Colombian NAEC team has also contributed to the professionalization of astronomy education through the development of courses.

The office has also conducted a diagnostic phase on the didactic-curricular relationships of astronomy in Colombia to identify areas for improvement.

## IDEAS AND CONCLUSION

Colombian NAEC team efforts to promote astronomy education are of great importance, as they contribute to the development of scientific culture in the country and promote interest in STEM careers among students. The office's activities also serve to improve the quality of education in Colombia, providing teachers and students with access to resources and training that can enhance their learning experience. Overall,

they have contributed significantly to the promotion of astronomy education in Colombia, making it an essential institution for the development of scientific culture in the country though there are multiple challenges ahead.

