



PROGRAMME “AMIGOS DEL IAC”

Manifesto of the Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias and the Canary Observatories

The IAC is a Spanish research center of international rank whose mission is to contribute to scientific and technological excellence in Astrophysics by promoting research, technological development, the training of postgraduate students in research and engineering, technology transfer, and science outreach. Recognized by the Spanish government as a “Severo Ochoa Centre of Excellence”, it is a world-leading institution providing quality and relevance to the cutting-edge scientific research currently carried out in Spain.

The Canary Observatories (OCC for their Spanish initials) aim at consolidating their position as one of the best astronomical reserves in the world, procuring, within a framework of sustainability, the installation and operation of first-class infrastructure and facilitating synergy with other major projects of research infrastructure (including space missions).

To strengthen the scientific leadership role of the IAC and of the OCC, as well as their contributions as agents of socioeconomic development, requires a strategy aimed at achieving the following goals, applying criteria of sustainability, equality, excellence, teamwork, and integrity, in close collaboration with the local, regional, and national authorities:

1. To widen the frontiers of human knowledge about the formation and evolution of the Universe
2. To consolidate the OCC as an “astronomical reserve” of international importance
3. To provide a first class scientific and technological environment for Spain
4. To be an institution of international reference for advanced training and apprenticeship in research and engineering
5. To foster a network of stable international collaborations, favoring scientific leadership and the emergence of synergy among national scientific communities
6. To drive collaboration with the productive sector in the development of technology, the implementation of technological innovation, and the support of entrepreneurship
7. To contribute to making society more sensitive to research and to the importance of a knowledge-based economy, as well as fostering its cultural enrichment.

Taking these questions into account, as a signatory of the Manifesto, I share the mission and the vision of the IAC and the opportunities offered by this Institute for participation and collaboration by the general public, and by other academic, scientific, and economic institutions via the Programme “AMIGOS DEL IAC”
