

Progress Report on

World Social Science Fellows Programme

Introduction

With this short report, we would like to inform the Executive Committee on progress on the World Social Science Fellows Programme and signal a number of issues for discussion and/or decision.

Progress: major steps taken to date

General programme work

- Announcement of the programme to ISSC members
- Call for nominations for the International Advisory Team for the programme

General seminar planning

- Discussions with the "World Social Science and Humanities Network" (WSSH Net, a network that has applied for a formal relationship with the ISSC) on collaboration on WSS Seminars.
- Discussions with other parties interested in possibly cooperating on the programme or a seminar within it: UNESCO Science Sector, Academy of Social Sciences in the UK

Planning the first seminar

- Agreement with ISSC sponsored scientific programmes IHDP and CROP to organise a series of three seminars together; one will be financed with Sida funding, joint fundraising will be undertaken for the other two seminars. A first planning meeting was held on 21 March 2012. The first seminar is tentatively scheduled for spring 2013, and Thomas Pogge and Partha Dasgupta will be approached as potential "social science leaders". The Andean University in Quito, Ecuador, has expressed interest in hosting the seminar.

Participation of early career scientists in Rio+20 events

- Distribution of a call for recommendations of early career scientists to participate in Rio+20 events (16 nominations received). Selected early career scientists (or 'grantees') will receive a grant to cover costs of participation in the Rio+20 Conference and the Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development preceding it.
- Planning of grantee involvement in a side event on social transformation during the above-mentioned Forum, as well as planning of a number of working meetings for grantees.

ISSC-ICSU-DFG Young Scientists' Conferences on Integrated Science

- Discussions with DFG and ICSU on the conference series, including a search for fruitful links between the conferences and the WSS Fellows Programme

For decision by the ExCo:

- Appointment of members of the International Advisory Team for the programme (an overview of nominations and an indication of suggested members will be circulated, along with nominees' CVs)

For discussion by the ExCo

- Suggestions for ways of involving Fellows in other ISSC activities (special sessions at the WSSF and contributions to the WSSR are being discussed, but there might be other options) and for how to actively involve ISSC members in the programme
- Suggestions for possible partners/sponsors