



**Sixth Meeting of the Scientific Committee
Center for Earth Observation and Digital Earth (CEODE), Beijing, China
28-29 October/3 November, 2011**

SUMMARY REPORT

Members present:

Djillali Benouar, Sálvano Briceño (Chair of 1 November 2011), Omar Darío Cardona, Raymond Chan, Susan L. Cutter, Ferruccio Ferrigni, David Johnston, Allan Lavell, Gordon McBean (Chair until 31 October, 2011), Anthony Oliver-Smith, Maria Patek, Chamhuri Siwar, Kuniyoshi Takeuchi, Angelika Wirtz.

Ex-officio:

Huadong Guo (CEODE) (day 1 and day 3), Andrew Maskrey (UNISDR) (day 1 – afternoon)

Other participants:

Dick Eiser (University of Sheffield) (day 1 and 3), Nordin Mohd Hasan (The ICSU Regional Office for Asia and Pacific) (day 3), Kerstin Schmidt-Verkerk (The ICSU Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean) (day 2 and 3), Jane Rovins (Executive Director, IRDR IPO), Anna Rudashko (Communication Officer, IRDR IPO)

Opening and introduction of participants and guests

(Attachment 1 - List of Participants)

McBean opened the meeting by welcoming all participants

Approval of Draft Agenda

Co-Sponsor updates moved after lunch.
IRDR IPO updates moved before lunch.

The draft agenda was approved.

Summary Report of the Fifth Meeting

(Attachment 2 - Summary Report of the 5th Meeting)

The Summary Report of the Fifth Meeting of the IRDR SC (April 27 -29th, 2011, Paris, France, ICSU Headquarters) was approved.

International Programme Office

Staff Update:

- Science Officer has been hired – Yaoying Cheng (*starting date – November 21st, 2011*)
- Secondments: Sarah Beaven (IRDR New Zealand), Miriam Hughes (IRDR New Zealand)
Recommendation: To second more people for a longer period of time as well as second more people from within China.
- Interns: Elaine Chong (Earth Observatory of Singapore)

Legal Status: There have been questions about IRDR's legal status. It impacts grants and often operational issues. Guo suggested contacting Wang Chanlin from International Society for Digital Earth (ISDE) for a consult.

Website: www.irdrinternational.org

- IRDR website was redesigned , as requested by the SC
- Added a Members Only Section,protected by individual passwords (which have been given out to the SC members)
- Sometimes has access issues due to the different internet browsers (such as IE, Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox)
- *Recommendation* : to create Event Calendar and Online Library

IPO Library: IRDR will create a Check in-out system; publications and a variety of reports are organized by regions

- *Recommendation* : To create an electronic library with an online international access

Partnerships:

- World Climate Research programme (WCRP) – signed
- The International Humans Dimensions Programme (IHDP) is revamping their organizational structure therefore there is no need for an MOU – based on a meeting with IHDP Executive Director
- Land Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone (LOICZ) interested in AIRDR project
- Global Change System for Analysis, Research and Training (START) – signed
- European Commission, Joint Research Centre (EC/JRC) – signed, interested in DATA and AIRDR working groups, participation in workshops, JRC sent representatives to participate in IRDR Conference 2011
- World Weather Research Programme (WWRP) – on verbal agreement, World Meteorological Organization (WMO) sponsored Societal and Economic Research and Applications (SERA) working groups for IRDR Conference 2011 side event – actual MOU is under consideration by the WMO legal office

Role of the IPO on work of Working Groups:

- Recommendation: to share reports and communications of working groups with the IPO, important to keep IPO abreast of developments and go through it for outside communications with partners, fundraising, potential collaboration, etc. so that IPO can keep track of work being done and provide support as needed.

IRDR Publications: FORIN and RIA Reports

- ISBN number – IRDR is not a legal entity, hard to obtain the number from the regional ISBN office, 3-4 months wait, [McBean] ISBN number was a requirement to show the References in the reports

Grants/RFP

- ICSU Annual Grant - was used for young scientist for Pacific Congress and IRDR Conference 2011
- ICSU2012 money in partnership with IUGG and the ICSU Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean – request to do a young scientist event on July 9th, 2011;
- McBean suggested to find a way at finding funding sources that will make multi-year commitments
- UNISDR 2011 money was written for AIRDR WG, and smaller fund for SC members to represent IRDR
- Need for smaller grants to use annually
- RFP from UNICEF (Bangladesh) – “Formative Research (Qualitative and Quantitative) to Guide Strategic Communication for Development Interventions for Families in Cyclone Prone Coastal Districts” – SC request IRDR Executive Director to determine value of the grant, then the decision will be made on whether to submit a proposal
- USAID Grant - "Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER)", due the end of November, key topic “Disaster Mitigation”, preferably with an entity in a developing country
- IDRC – Canadian International Developing Research Centre (2.5 million Canadian dollars)

New Members: CSPR and the executive board of ICSU will have a meeting March-April 2012; Rovins requested to have a list of suggested members by February 15th, 2012; Lavell’s term is over in April 2012 and it is not renewable. Process: Rovins will go out to every SC member as well as the key partners like ICSU unions (will have more input)

to take nominations, IRDR IPO will compile all the nominations; Rovins will get back to the SC members with a resume, spread sheet and a ranking system.

Activities:

- 2011 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction – IGNITE Stage, Geneva and side event in partnership with IRDR Japan
- Workshop for Young Scientist on how to develop good presentation skills – CEODE, Beijing
- Rio +20 regional meetings – IRDR had 4 representations: Siwar-last meeting on Asia, Vogel-Africa, Briceño-LAC regional meeting, Rovins-Europe meeting in Helsinki, no representation in Arab States

Co-Sponsor Updates

UNISDR (Maskrey)

- Launch of GAR 2011
- Work in progress for the next reports GAR 2013 and GAR 2015, requirement to have a more formal and structured process in collecting information for the 2013 report. Backdrop - global economic crisis, risk governance, climate change adaptation, current economic crisis, systematic effect on society, innovation in risk financing, insurance, growing concern on how to handle sovereign risk

What will go into GAR 2013:

- new approach to global risk model – probabilistic approach, 4 year plan 2011-2015
- governments to report back on the progress on implementing Hyogo Framework for Action

Draft chapter outlines:

- 1.0 Economies at Risk
- 2.0 Real Cost of Disasters
- 3.0 Review of Finance Innovation
- 4.0 Investment in DRR
- 5.0 New Models of Risk Governance
- 6.0 Future Risk Scenarios

- Global Platform 2013 –by 2013 there will be concrete results from different IRDR projects like FORIN, RIA,AIRDR and DATA
- Global Risk Model – systematic involvement of IRDR, scoping meeting as the parallel meeting of IRDR Conference 2011. Invited institutions for the scoping meeting GEM, EOS, UNEP, IUGG etc. Development of Global Risk Model endorsed by IRDR. Suggestion for SC members was to attend the scoping meeting

ISSC (presented by Rovins at ISSC request)

- World Social Science Fellows Programme – the programme will start January 2012
- An offer was made at the ICSU General Assembly to have ISSC and ICSU young scientist initiative, where the initial focus will be related to IRDR
- ISSC Climate Change Design Project – 10 year global climate change research finding and coordination initiative for social sciences research on climate change, in collaboration with ISSC members, programmes and partners

ICSU

- Rovins, Briceño, McBean and Lang attended General Assembly in Rome, on behalf of IRDR Rovins made a presentation which was very well received. Guo and Patek were also present
- IUGG proposed a resolution related to doing a Global Assessment of Integrated Research, which was not received by the Assembly on procedural grounds, IUGG would like IRDR to lead this project in the future
- ICSU approached IRDR in August 2011 to be a part of a grant from the Swedish Institute for Development and Administration (SIDA), they are expecting an approval before the end of December 2011, the grant is scheduled to begin January 1st, 2012; it includes regional, global integration workshops, proposed for February 2012 and will take place in Europe or Africa; the grant is yet not public, but the idea is to bring IRDR and ICSU regional offices integrating their regional disaster risk plans; its initial period is 18 months.
- Moore asked the SC to:
 - a. develop a clear selection procedures and criteria for the National Committees and ICoE's
 - b. updates from McBean on ICoE funding

- c. clear agreements on what WG membership is going to look like

IRDR Conference

- Agenda (*Attachment 3: IRDR Conference Agenda*) – working agenda for SC members (conference moderators) with micro time
- Role of Moderators was discussed
- Beijing Declaration – was circulated and requested a short document calling on partners to do integrated research, more funding of the research, more support of the idea of integration; to be presented at the last day of the Conference during the Closing Ceremony
- Organization (*Attachment 4: Timeline, Attachment 5: Workplan*) – planned for 300 people to attend, variety of speakers from 34 different countries; every breakout room will have a computer and projector for presentations and will have staff rapporteuring;
- Poster Session – invited 40 organizations for a representation; young scientists: 4 Chinese, 1 Latin America, 1 USA, also a special session during the conference will be dedicated to young scientists
- Conference Budget – CAST to pay local cost; CAS through CEODE to cover volunteers, media, transportation; IPO to cover the rest; IRDR will come under budget;

Working Group Updates

- **DATA** – [Wirtz] Disaster Loss Data Working Group is meant to study issues related to the collection, storage, and dissemination of disaster loss data. Differentiation of losses, the question is what methodology to use best and how to come to an agreement? The suggestions are: literature research – which papers are available, to have an overview. This will show which gaps there are. Different communities need different data. Another literature research – definitions. Apply methodologies to assess losses (identify data); put stakeholders together, there are different types of stakeholders: providers, collectors and users. Other suggestions are: to plan for research and to overcome the competition. [Cutter] the landscape of the data is a mess for a country or a region.
- **FORIN** – (Cutter and Lavell) [Lavell] the document has a lot of changes from the previous one, and it is a good document for students to use; [Cutter] it is very important to set a criteria on how to select projects; informal piece that was written by Oliver-Smith was incorporated into the FORIN report; [Rovins] IRDR Germany is looking into hosting a FORIN centre, IRDR France mentioned the same concept; IRDR Germany used FORIN systematic step-by-step approach for the Turkey Earthquake which happened on the October 23rd, 2011; IRDR Japan has been doing FORIN studies, but the question is are those studies fit in with the same methodology? FORIN report to be distributed at the IRDR Conference 2011.
- **RIA** – [Eiser] RIA report that is about to be distributed is not a final document but a draft, and is in need of feedback from SC members; emphasis in this report is on methodology; starting idea of the document was the understanding of human behavior; decision-making in the concept of risk, how is this risk interpreted by people and why the action? RIA had a workshop in Wellington, meeting in Paris; the question for discussion is: where do we go from here in terms of research and risk interpretation and action?
- **AIRDR** – [Cutter] AIRDR started a year ago, its goal is to provide a baseline of current state of knowledge, science needs and disaster reduction, to identify it and support. This assessment would point to revision of the ICSU/IRDR science plan. A side benefit of AIRDR is that it will also provide evidentiary basis.
 - *Recommendation* : to create a small team of colleagues from SC members and outside of the SC committee to write a grant to solicit an interest of a funding agency. A small team will write a proposal and will start to “shop” around. This idea was on a stand-still since April, 2011.
 - *Possibilities*: to have a scientific steering committee of 2-3 people, panels of experts working independently and international teams who will all come together to exchange the work process. It will be a bottom-up project with 2-3 years effort and will have 4-5 meetings in order to develop integration. This project is different from GAR and it is focused on what we know? What we don't know? What we need to know? [Briceño] there are relevant events at which to present some results of AIRDR, e.g., – Global Platform 2013 where a post-Hyogo Framework for Action Agreement 2015 will be discussed, such negotiating processes can benefit from AIRDR knowledge. It will be very important to have initiatives to be involved from the beginning like IDRiM and GAR.

IRDR National Committees Updates

IRDR is getting a lot of interest from Hungary and Macedonia

- IRDR Germany – would like to be more involved in ICoE and FORIN, Rovins met with IRDR Germany in Bonn, they participated in PSA (Malaysia); Schlurmann will be representing IRDR Germany at the IRDR 2011 Conference
- IRDR France had major staff changes; no other updates
- IRDR Canada – [McBean] IRDR Canada had a meeting at the Canadian Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction which was established 2 years ago; National Committees need to generate funding, they need to do research in their countries as part of the contribution to the national programme
- IRDR New Zealand – [Johnston] Set up at the Natural Hazards Platform for Disaster Research, structured to bring social scientist and researchers together; Platform management group approached disaster research and created a structure, within the structure there are 5 team leaders: geological, meteorological, social science, risk modeling and engineers. Decision funding is done by management groups. IRDR NZ as well has a national advisory group and seconded 2 staff members to IRDR IPO
- IRDR China – [Guo] IRDR China started one year ago, and has very strong leadership because of the support from CAST and CAS. IRDR China to host a roundtable meeting on November 1st, 2011
- IRDR Japan – [Takeuchi] IRDR Japan has been busy due to the Great East Earthquake. This is the time for Japan national committee to move to the “next page”. New science committee members will come in.
Recommendation: time to make a change in IRDR Japan

[Rovins] IRDR is looking into regional committees in Africa and Latin America.
[Benouar] there are no national committees from the Arab states.

Report on ICoE (Taipei)

[McBean] The ICoE serves as a global platform for disaster risk reduction and establishes a partnership network of disaster reduction research within Taiwan as well as international scientific community. To have eloquent social sciences programme within the national state. Because of its background it has a capacity building project which also raised discussion with START. In the process of having a meeting in 2012; Another idea for young scientist to come from all around South East Asia to Taipei to do research; Professor Chao-Han Liu to make a presentation during the IRDR Conference 2011. Briceño added that it is important for the centre to report to IPO. It is not a loose entity. It would be a first step to integrate it and guide the centre. Proposal from International Advisory Board - Lavell came with an idea to have a workshop in February 12-13, 2011 in Taipei, which will focus on FORIN, RIA and DATA programmes. Another idea is having senior scholars to go there and spend 2-3 months in the Academy. Chao-Han Liu's idea was to get social scientists more involved in the Academy.

Selection Process and Criteria

After splitting into groups SC members used time to develop selection process and criteria.

[Johnston and Cutter]

- National Committee Process and Criteria – criteria: reputation with research community, funding and government agencies; process: apply to IRDR and have to agree with ToR, IRDR and SC members will help to facilitate the formation of National Committees
- Website – [Wirtz] *suggestion:* to add an Events Calendar, to create an Online Library, Hyperlinks for useful (decision by IPO) websites. Criteria for inclusion: international interest, relation to IRDR interest (integrated subjects), non-commercial, no infringements of copyrights; process: has to be done by the IPO, periodically has to be reviewed by a small group (members of SC)
- New Members
 - a. desired specialties: social sciences, earth sciences, economics, disaster and risk management
 - b. geographical diversity: current is: Europe 4, Africa 2 Asia 3, Oceania 1, North America 2 (+ Rovins), Latin America 2 (+ Briceño)
 - c. gender preferences/location: female from mainland China.
 - d. qualities: young, active and creative, with good communication skills, should be interested in implementation, has to have experience in natural hazards, has to have link between science and practice, has to be a front line leader (i.e Red Cross, humanitarian organizations, NGO)

Upcoming Events

- UNCSD (Rio +20) (Rio de Janeiro, June 2012)
- Planet Under Pressure (London, March 2012 - UK)

- American Geo-Science Meeting (US) – December 5th, McBean to represent IRDR and convene a session with IUGG;
- 6th World Water Forum (Marseilles, March 2012)
- Society for Risk Analysis (April 2012)
- Japanese Geo Survey (21-24 February)

[Rovins] Suggesting SC members to use “Representation Sheet” (*Attachment 9: IRDR Representation Sheet*) whenever they represent IRDR.

Date and Venue of Next Meeting

Place: Ravello, Italy (60 km from Naples).

Date: approximately the first week of May 9 - 11, 2012

Conference Wrap-up and After Action

- [Cutter] Chaotic registration, GAR side meeting took away from the Conference, suggested not to have side meeting simultaneously with Conference events but rather after hours, lunchtime or immediately after or before the conference;
- [Eiser] To have more working discussions, to have smaller side or breakout events;
- [Oliver-Smith] Some of the abstracts were uneven. For future workshops the abstracts should be “richer”;
- [Wirtz] Too many breakout sessions; people couldn’t attend all the sessions they were interested in. Closing ceremony should have had – apart from Sálvano Briceño - a key speaker with an interesting topics in order to attract participants to stay until the end of the conference;
- [Takeuchi] Presentations were not integrated enough;
- [Benouar] Next event to have more engineering, the Conference should have been more action oriented;
- Abstract Book was a bit of a “mess”;
- Online registration system to be more efficient;
- Add organizations and affiliations on the lanyards;
- Have had speakers bios (IPO was unable to pull them from online registration system);
- Improve abstract review process; (breaking abstracts into smaller groups for the revisions);
- [Takeuchi] IRDR China Roundtable was a very good meeting;
- [Briceño] For National Committee’s it is important to show and facilitate integration in their presentations;

Strategic Planning Session

- CODATA MOU – signed
- Lavell to co-chair AIRDR WG, Oliver-Smith to co-chair FORIN WG, Johnston to co-chair RIA WG and Cutter to co-chair DATA WG – approved
- IRDR/WWRP – SERA Working Group had to revisit the MOU, split membership between WWRP and IRDR, [Wirtz] after two meeting nothing have been done – no action; [McBean] not all the members of SC should be on the board to co-chair WWRP. [Johnston] to have a collective message from different working groups to address the WWRP
- ICoE – Takeuchi is an official IRDR representative, McBean is the Chair of the International Advisory Board
- ICSU Regional Offices Briefing – ICSU asked IRDR to make a way into North Africa (National Committee); Summary report of the ICSU Regional Office for Asia and Pacific (ROAP) by Hasan (*document: Summary Report of ROAP for IRDR Scientific Committee*); Kerstin Schmidt-Verkerk presented on behalf of ICSU Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean
- UNICEF Proposal – the question to be asked is how much money is involved in it, [Cutter] what is the level of commitment; [Rovins] resources like FORIN along with money can be used and become very valuable; Rovins will go back to UNICEF and ask what is the amount
- [Briceño] Use fundraising to show and support the 4 working groups of IRDR so that people will know all areas in which IRDR is working
- [Cutter] How many proposals to review? To have 1-2 year proposals; SC to set up the criteria for the review; UK DFID (UK *Government Department responsible for promoting development and the reduction of poverty*) is interested in supporting IRDR
- Working Group Updates:

AIRDR [Cutter]

- interest in getting the assessment done
- need for synthesis paper and series of papers split by region and language
- broad base effort
- set up team leaders for regions
- involvement from parliamentarians
- provide the text on “what is integrated research?”
- provide focus to the assessments so that it fits with broader science plan
- if set up regionally to be sure that they are multi-disciplinary, core team to include: Lavell, Oliver-Smith and Cutter, to meet in the US January or February 2012
- “white paper” to be drafted
- to have a base system for funding

RIA [Eiser]/[Cutter]

- breakout session for RIA WG during the IRDR Conference 2011 went very well
- to revise the document, correct minor typos
- need for guidance over the stages of those documents
- important to have a small meeting in July 2012, Sydney RSA Conference
- to make RIA a Peer Review Publication, which can be used by government, students etc.

DATA[Wirtz]/[Cutter]

- draft paper will come out soon
- kick-off meeting to be hosted next spring in Austria (2012)
- to identify the priorities together with SC members
- to have a workshop in Munich: 15 students in 2 days
- WG members: 20 people (including SC members), invitations should be sent out soon (signed by Briceño);
- 5 different sectors to be included in DATA: database owners and managers, science (from the users point of view), loss assessment organizations, emergency managers and economists
- [Cutter] important to get a broad framework out to the community, to publish an article together with DATA WG

FORIN [Oliver-Smith]

- no decisions to be made without Burton
- FORIN should be structural like engineering
- to use political and economic conditions
- FORIN to be viewed as a research manual
- expand FORIN into methodological manual
- to think about the programme of dissemination and promotion to be used among other institutions imperative
- to think more about users

Meeting Adjourned

SC Meeting After Action Items:

No.	Item	Principal (s)	Deadline	Result
1	IRDR IPO to produce a “Process and Criteria” document for selecting National Committees for IRDR	SC	Feb-12	
2	Website: Online Library, Event Calendar, Hyperlink with other websites	IPO	ongoing	ongoing
3	Share IRDR Conference 2011 contact list with SC members in the Members Only Pages	IPO	Dec-11	ongoing
4	IRDR Conference 2011 wrap-up/proceeding’s e-mail out to the participants attaching Beijing Declaration and Participant’s List	IPO	Dec-11	ongoing
5	Revisit MOU with WWRP	IPO		
6	SC to set up criteria for the funding review (UK DFID)	SC		
7	To create check in-out system for IRDR IPO’s library	IPO	ongoing	ongoing
8	Use “Representation Sheet” to promote IRDR	SC+Ex Officios+WG Chair+IPO	ongoing	ongoing
9	Put all the power point presentation on the web into a Members Only Pages	IPO	Dec-11	done
10	Produce a document “Process and Criteria of Selecting National Committee”	Rovins	Feb 2012	ongoing
11	To create a small team of colleagues to write a grant to solicit interest of funding agencies	AIRDR WG/SC		
12	Lavell to become co-chair of AIRDR WG	AIRDR WG/SC		
13	IRDR to make a way into North Africa (National Committee)	IRDR		
14	Workshop in Taipei, which will focus on FORIN, RIA and DATA programmes	Lavell	February 12-13, 2011	