

Project Summary

“Disaster Risk Management in Latin America and the Caribbean-Towards an Integrated project plan for the Region”

The major activity presented in this ICSU grant proposal, submitted by the Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) and supported by the ICSU Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ICSU ROLAC), and the National Council for Scientific and Technological Research of Argentina (CONICET) is a workshop on disaster risk reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean in Buenos Aires, Argentina in September 2012. The workshop will bring together established scientists, young scientists and policy-makers from different countries in the LAC region and integrate various disciplines in the natural and social sciences as well as engineers. It aims to strengthen scientific capacity in disaster risk research and identify policies to most efficiently reduce losses due to disasters in the region. Before the workshop, there will be a training session for a number of talented young scientists who will then actively participate in the workshop and in the generation of the workshop document.

The expected outcome of the workshop is a plan of action for disaster risk reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean. This plan of action should contain recommendations regarding the improvement of disaster risk research, identify gaps of existing knowledge, and enhance policies to reduce disaster risk in the LAC region.

The workshop will be based on the analysis put forward in the ICSU ROLAC science plan entitled “Understanding and Managing Risk Associated with Natural Hazards: A Comprehensive Scientific Approach for Latin America and the Caribbean”. It will serve as a platform to initiate the implementation of this science plan. The project will provide an excellent opportunity for a close collaboration between IRDR, ICSU ROLAC and other partners in the region to reduce disaster risk in Latin America and the Caribbean.