

DRAFT: Project plan and time frame of Working Group DATA „Disaster Loss Data and Impact Assessment”

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In line with the IRDR Scientific Plan, Objective No. 3 “Reducing Risks and Curbing Losses through knowledge-based actions” the working group “Disaster Loss Data and Impact Assessment – DATA” has been established.

The data landscape is complex and the community that is dealing with loss data is rapidly growing.

When human, monetary, or environmental losses occur as a result of a disaster, extensive loss data are collected and stored by different organizations, but the thoroughness and accuracy of the data varies from country to country and even among local entities. Government agencies, private companies, and other organizations may collect and manage data related to their own areas of interest using their own standards and procedures, without significant collaboration with other groups. This results in gaps, inconsistent overlaps, and biases that ultimately affect the quality of research conducted and policies made based on the data.

DATA will bring together stakeholders from different disciplines and sectors to reconcile some of these data issues, and to develop synergies and collaborations in the production and utilization of disaster data. The working group intends to establish an overall framework for disaster loss data for all providers, to establish nodes and networks for databases, and conduct sensitivity testing among existing databases.

To this effect, the Data Working Group has identified the following specific project areas:

- Identify what data and quality are needed to improve integrated disaster risk management
- Bring together loss data stakeholders and develop and utilize synergies
- Develop recognized standards, minimize uncertainty
- Educate users regarding data interpretation and data biases
- Ensure increased downscaling of loss data to sub-national geographical levels for policy-makers
- Define “losses” and create a methodology for assessing it.

Timeframe:

November 2011:

- Draft of project plan
- Identification of possible members/organizations (ca. 20 incl. IRDR members). Formal invitation by Salvano Briceno and Wirtz/Cutter
- Cutter/Wirtz write paper about “the Complexity about Disaster Data Landscape” (working title)

March 2012:

- Planet under Pressure, London (26-29 march 2012): Presentation of IRDR-DATA

May 2012:

- Kick-off meeting of working group (2-3 days). Possibly in Vienna under the umbrella of the Austrian Ministry of Life.
- Goal: Team building, identifying strengths of members, finalize and agree upon project plan, specifying concrete working plan according to overall project plan of DATA, including, time frame, milestones, responsibilities. Identifying goals and objectives for students workshop 2012.

June 2012 (4-6)

Rio+20 - communication on web, participation of IRDR or DATA members. How can we get active here?

July 2012:

Meeting Wirtz and Cutter in Munich

Aug/ Sept/ October 2012:

Students workshop in Munich (ca. 20 students, and few Working Group members.) 2 days. Working on max. 2-3 topics according to project plan, in preparation of 2nd DATA Working Group meeting in Taipei (March 2013)

November 2012:

IRDR Meeting in China. Report about progress of DATA. Side meeting with core team and those who are interested in.

Or – to be discussed: 2nd DATA-Working group meeting.

März 2013:

Taipei: DATA-Working Group Meeting (2-3 days). Presentation at University Taipei (NatCatSERVICE & Insurance and Working Group DATA)

May 2013

Geneva: Global Platform. Active participation of IRDR. Presenting of working groups, current state, activities, results, outlook

Project Plan:

Literature Research

Provides overview about Papers related to Disaster losses and damages, Databases, Normalization of loss data, Definition, What is available “The gaps of data - the needs of data”

Overview of existing loss databases

See survey from CRED

Definitions and Terminology

Overview of already accomplished actions. Identify missing issues.

Loss Assessment – Economic Impact (direct, indirect, secondary)

Prepare an overview of applied methodologies to assess losses.

Many different methodologies are currently applied: Examples – ECLAC, Munich Re, Swiss Re, Desinventar, Pielke, Modelling losses (GEM, Pager, Joint Research Center Italy), professional Modelling Organisations (EQE Cat, RMS).

We cannot come to one single methodology, however, we can provide an overview and make the different methodologies more transparent.

Bring together stakeholder

Bring different disciplines that are dealing or working with disaster loss data together – have an interdisciplinary and integrated approach. Stakeholders are for example: data provider, data collector, data platforms, data user, governments, economic knowledge, emergency management.

From bottom to top

Disaster loss data are needed from local, to national, to regional, to global level. Where are the nodes and where can we utilize synergies?

The need of data

Work out the requirements of data. What data are needed and perhaps not yet available to do Disaster Risk reduction. Examples: situation at the time of the disaster, like war, civil war, population, vulnerability information etc.

Disaster Classification

It is necessary to differentiate between extensive/intensive, high frequent/low frequent, high impact/local routine events. Is it possible to establish an internationally agreed disaster scale – like Hurricane Saffir-Simpson scale, or tornado scale?

Members:

The Working Group DATA brings together stakeholders from different disciplines that are dealing and working with disaster loss data. There should be a number of ca. 20 members. The following names or organizations have been identified and are to be discussed with IRDR.

Organisations/Programmes:

IRDR	Wirtz, Cutter, Kuniyoshi Takeuchi, Chamhuri Siwar
CoData	Bob Chen
WDS	Takashi Watanabe

Platforms:

GLIDE ADRC	Takahiro Ono
UNDP GRIP	Carlos Villacis
UN ISDR	Julio Serges

Databases:

Global:	
EmDat	Regina Below
Swiss Re	Lucia Bevere

National	NN
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Local	NN
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Loss Assessment:

ECLAC	Ricardo Zapato
Worldbank Global Facility	Hemang Karelia

Automatic Generator:

European Joint Research	NN (Rudari)
GDACS	Ehrlich

Aid Organisations,NGO:

IFRC	Frederic Zanetti
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Science	NN
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Emergency Management	NN
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Government	NN
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