

**12th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee
ICSU Secretariat, Paris, France, 13-15 November 2014**

Item 1: Approval of the Agenda

The IRDR SC Chair presents the agenda for the 12th IRDR SC meeting.

SC members had been invited to comment on the agenda.

The SC Chair invites SC members to work closely, during these three days, with the IPO to make sure they have as much of the relevant information as they need for the upcoming Annual Report 2014.

SC members had been requested prior to the meeting to provide relevant information in their capacities as SC members, ICoE leaders or participants, representatives on related scientific, capacity building and science policy initiatives, as members of National or Regional Committees, etc.

By way of introduction, the SC reminds the meeting of the Terms of Reference for SC members.

Attachments:

- 1.1 Practical Arrangements for the 12th IRDR SC meeting
- 1.2 Agenda for the 12th IRDR SC meeting
- 1.3 List of Participants for the 12th IRDR SC meeting
- 1.4 Terms of Reference of the IRDR SC members

Action:

- 1.1 The SC is invited to approve the agenda or to request modifications orally.

**12th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee
ICSU Secretariat, Paris, France, 13-15 November 2014**

Item 2: Approval of 11th SC Meeting Report

Item 2.1: Approval of report of the 11th SC meeting

The IRDR SC Chair presents the draft report of the 11th SC meeting.

The draft report of the 11th SC meeting had been circulated some time prior to the meeting. The delay in circulating the report was due to a number of logistical problems at the IPO.

In proposing a new format for the presentation of the meeting agenda (coversheets; proposed decisions) it is expected that future meeting reports can be issued more rapidly after the event.

SC members had been invited to comment on the report. No written comments had been received by the time of publication.

Item 2.2: Review of actions decided on at the 11th SC meeting

The IRDR SC Chair invites JSO Kerry-Ann Morris to give an overview of actions decided at the 11th SC meeting and contained in the meeting report referring for details, as appropriate, to agenda items for this meeting.

Attachments:

2.1 Draft Meeting Report of the 11th IRDR SC meeting

2.2 Overview over actions decided on at the 11th IRDR SC meeting

Actions:

2.1.1. The SC is invited to approve the meeting report or to request modifications orally.

2.2.1. The SC is invited to comment on the overview of actions taken.

**12th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee
ICSU Secretariat, Paris, France, 13-15 November 2014**

Agenda Item 3: Planning Meeting of IRDR Working Groups

The purpose of this session is for the Working Groups (WGs)—DATA, FORIN and RIA—to conduct a short informal self-assessment of their progress so far, in order to proceed to WG / Core Project forward-planning, in terms of WG composition and format, research activities, networking and dissemination and application of results.

SC members had been sent a proposed guidance note for this session, which also listed desired outcomes.

N.B.: AIRDR will be discussed in a separate item by the SC plenary, following up on the Chair's presentation during the 11th SC meeting and subsequent exchanges with the IPO.

The outcomes from this session will be presented during the strategy and forward looking session on day 3 (morning), enriched by insights gained and exchanges during the networking and partnership session, and the SC business meeting proper.

With a view also to facilitating communication about WG activities (past, ongoing and planned), SC members will be asked to cover in their presentations the items suggested in the guidance note.

The exercise also serves the purpose of preparing (and allowing WGs to make adjustments prior to) the programme evaluation that will occur in 2015.

It is desirable that next to those SC members already actively involved in the respective WGs, also at least one SC member who is not (yet) involved volunteer to join the discussions to provide an active external commentary.

The three small break-out working group meetings will be preceded by a joint briefing on the likely budgetary situation in 2015, as well as on perceived likely elements under HFA2 that IRDR might want to be addressing. The SC Chair will join the WG RIA. The ED will remain available as resource person.

Items to be covered during the WG meetings include; outcomes are suggested:

- WG Composition (are additions needed? Consider: disciplines, non-academic sectors / stakeholders with a view to co-design of research and application, geographic spread, gender balance).
Desired outcome: a list of possible new external WG members.

- Review of activities (completed, ongoing, and planned): give dates, links, supporting or resulting documents. Make specific reference to WG work plans, IRDR Strategic Plan, ICSU Science Plan for IRDR (addressing also explicitly notably the issue of multiple integration characteristic for IRDR).
Desired Outcome: a calendar of past and future WG-related activities and events; a catalogue of products / programmes; an understanding of achievements and shortcomings compared to the programme and WG plans (work plans revised).
- List contributors (individuals and institutions) and contributions, such as case studies, articles, books, grey literature, software, contributions to teaching tools etc., applications (including interaction with government at all levels, business, civil society, NGO sector etc.).
Desired outcome: better understanding of the network behind the WG to be used for the mapping of IRDR-related activities.
- Consider links with / involvement of / related initiatives (please give names), identifying potential Affiliated Projects (Terms of Reference under development), considering also new DRR science trajectories, and envisaged / needed changes of the DRR environment under HFA2 (and how the WG would be able to address those by appropriate alliances).
Desired Outcome: list of potential Affiliated Projects (with rationale for alliance).
- Identify funding needs (for WG meetings to complete respective work plans (in the short term: 2015) and for case studies (until the end of the programme)).
Desired Outcome: realistic and specific elements that can be built into an IRDR programme-wide fundraising strategy (with rationale).
- Suggest at least two initiatives that can be taken forward with the respective National or Regional Committees (including possibly involving ICSU's Regional Offices and UNISDR/UN regional bureaus).
Desired Outcome: concrete guidance on needs- or opportunity-based options for closer liaising with the regional support networks of the Co-Sponsors.
- Identify venues in 2015 for the WGs / Core Projects to present or to be represented (by an SC member or her/his delegate).
Desired outcome: basis for better forward planning for equitable and strategically meaningful allocation of resources for travel support for SC Members and their delegates.

Some feedback received suggests that it might be useful also to consider thematic sub-working groups, with easily recognisable leaders, which would probably entail also a widening of the network along the trajectories of these themes.

Additional elements can be included into the reports, but the suggested elements should be covered.

Attachments:

- 3.1 Guidance Note: IRDR Working Groups Meetings
- 3.2 ICSU Science Plan for IRDR
- 3.3 IRDR Strategic Plan 2013-2017
- 3.4.1 Work Plans of the DATA, FORIN, RIA Working Groups

3.4.2 Background material for DATA:

- EU Disaster Loss Data Meeting, 23-24 October 2014: Agenda and Concept Note
- Agenda and concept note, UNESCAP First Meeting of the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific, Sendai, 27-29 Oct 2014
- CODATA Task Group - “Linked Open Data for Global Disaster Risk Research” (LODGD)

3.4.3 Background material for FORIN:

- Editorial in upcoming issue of *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction* by Ian Burton: “The forensic investigation of root causes and the post – 2015 framework for disaster risk reduction”
- Progress Report and Proposals on FORIN to Sendai PrepCom 2
- A Review of the FORIN Methodology and Existing FORIN Case Studies (July 2014)
- Concept Note: A FORIN Disaster Research Workshop Programme

3.4.4 Background material for RIA:

- Pathways for Transformation: Disaster risk management to enhance development goals (2014)

Actions:

3.1 SC members who are WG co-chairs are invited to lead the session and to prepare a short report for the strategic planning session on Saturday.

3.2 SC members are expected to decide on priority support for activities, in the light of the short overview over budgetary constraints.

N.B.: WG members are invited to submit (in digital form or hard copy) any relevant material related to meetings past or upcoming and publications/products that can be feature on the IRDR website.

**12th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee
ICSU Secretariat, Paris, France, 13-15 November 2014**

Item 4: Networking and Partnership Session

Item 4.1: Introduction: IRDR and the Policy Context (HFA2)

(N.B.: Input to this section will be provided by the delegates from UNISDR and ICSU, with a commentary from STAG and IRDR IPO on aspects they would like to highlight for the benefit of the SC members; the text that follows and the links and documents provided merely serve as introductory and background documents.)

The analysis of the implementation of the **Hyogo Framework for Action 2005** highlighted gaps in the formulation of goals and priorities for actions. This has brought the need for a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction (Hyogo Framework for Action 2/HFA2) to update and reorder the strategic goals and priorities, give visibility to all levels, and place emphasis on stakeholders and their role in advancing the priorities.

IRDR has been integrally involved in the consultations towards the development of a post-2015 disaster risk reduction framework. [ICSU](#), one of IRDR's three Co-Sponsors, is acting as the Organising Partner for the Science and Technology (S&T) Community Major Group for the [Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction \(WCDRR\)](#). Additionally, IRDR also led the **S&T Community Major Group** on behalf of ICSU at [PrepCom1](#), 14-15 July 2014, and has been part of the Major Group discussions ever since.

Click [here](#) for the S&T Community Major Group statement, read to the PrepCom1 plenary session of Member States. The Major Group also contributed to the technical sessions and workshops.

Key positions advocated included:

- Strengthen linkages between sustainable development goals (SDGs) and DRR, recognising DRR as a key driver for advancing SDGs;
- Better knowledge flows (co-design, advice, capacity building, etc.) between the S&T domain and civil society and government at all levels, aiming to improve communication and risk literacy among all communities;
- Ensure the emergence of a robust evidence-base for decision-making in public and private sectors at all levels (reference to indicators, targets, databases, etc.);

- Recognise, in research and action, the specific needs of both SIDS and LDCs as well as developed countries.

A summary of the meeting can be read [here](#).

Internally, ICSU decided to use the window of opportunity also to draw up a synthesis of available DRR knowledge with the help of the **ad hoc expert group** convened earlier in 2014 to debate the usefulness of advisory mechanisms. The brief for this exercise can be **SEEN HERE**. The IRDR Executive Group is part of the drafting group, chaired by Alik Ismail-Zade from IUGG.

On 8 August 2014, the two co-Chairs of the Preparatory Committee for the 3rd UN WCDRR, Ambassadors Päivi Kairamo (*Finland*) and Thani Thongphakdi (*Thailand*), released the **pre-zero draft of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction**. It served as the basis for the open-ended informal consultative meetings in September and October 2014. Read the pre-zero draft [here](#).

ICSU and IRDR consulted widely and compiled a documentation reflecting the views submitted from all sectors of the scientific community, including from the social sciences and humanities ([click here](#)).

IRDR provided **an independent collective response** to the pre-zero draft of the post 2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, which was also fed into the Major Group discussions. The text identified three primary concerns:

1. The need to reflect, on the basis of state of the art prospective knowledge, a forward-looking agenda, notably in terms of the links to sustainable development (replacing “resilience” with “transformations to sustainable and equitable development”);
2. Emphasis on the strengthening of support for the science as the foundation for action-oriented cutting-edge knowledge, including all the necessary monitoring activities;
3. Emphasis on better connecting national and local levels for the collection of the necessary vulnerability and loss data as prerequisites for both responsive and proactive planning and investment.

Read the IRDR response to the pre-zero draft of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction [here](#).

These and other points were expanded and discussed in depth during subsequent sessions, where, in smaller delegations the S&T Major Group (STMG) proposed comments to all sections of the draft. In joint sessions with the other major groups, with member states, and with the co-chairs, these key positions were further developed.

A number of meetings were held that sought to explore “how science and technology can help reduce the human, economic and environmental impact of disasters and emergencies.” A survey of government positions around the globe revealed that a key message was about “embedding science into the heart of the post-2015 DRR framework as a tool for implementation.”

For UNISDR, the importance of strengthening mechanisms to provide scientific input (whether in the form of policy advice, capacity building, evidence or foresight) has also been

recognised as a key element for the success of HFA2. So much so in fact that UNISDR also published on their website an initial non-paper, developed by an internal working group of the STMG, on the modalities of an **international science advisory mechanism** ([click here](#)).

Having clarified concerns about the role of existing DRR science networks and resources, an ICSU-hosted meeting on 1 October suggested to baptise the format for the framework that would help advance the development and better use of DRR science as **“STEP4DRR – or Science and Technology Engagement Partnership for DRR”** emphasising both the inclusiveness and plurality needed as well as – in the acronym chosen – the notion of steady evolution and progress of the challenges to be tackled. It would be comprised of a set of four knowledge-based actions (such synthesis of the state-of-the-art of science and all relevant DRR knowledge, assessment, monitoring and review) and two cross-cutting as knowledge building actions (focusing on communication and engagement and capacity building across all sectors).

The outcome of the multiple rounds of national and regional consultations prior to PrepCom1, the exchanges during the open meetings, and initial feedback received from Major Group communities and member states allowed the co-chairs, with support from the UNISDR secretariat, to prepare **a Zero-Draft** ([click here](#)).

In October, ICSU and IRDR are planning to consult members and stakeholders for comments on the zero-draft. The MGST is working with the other Major Groups towards a joint statement. While IRDR had submitted a proposal for a public forum session (which included a request to convene funding agencies), it is also involved, with ICSU as Organising Partner for the MGST and other UN agencies, government delegations etc., in preparing a session on applying science and technology to DRR in the multi-stakeholder segment of the 3rd WCDRR. The focus of this session is expected to be on “commitments,” i.e. tangible and sector-specific contributions towards the HFA2 objectives. At the time of writing, this discussion was still in the early stages.

Attachments:

- 4.1.1. Science and Technology (S&T) Community Major Group (STMG/MGST) statement at Prepcom 1, 14-15 July 2014
- 4.1.2. Outcomes of PrepCom 1, 14-15 July 2014, Geneva: Key outcomes for Science and Technology
- 4.1.3. Brief of the ICSU Ad Hoc Expert Group on Hazards and Disasters (Synthesis Paper)
- 4.1.4. Pre-Zero Draft of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
- 4.1.5. S&T Major Group Summary of Comments on the Pre-Zero-Draft
- 4.1.6. IRDR Independent Statement on Pre-Zero Draft
- 4.1.7. Statements from the Science and Technology (S&T) Major Group at open-ended informal consultative meetings by the co-Chairs of the WCDRR Preparatory Committee
 - 19 September 2014 – S&T Major Group Statement
 - 18 September 2014 – S&T Major Group Statement
- 4.1.8. STMG Non Paper: “How the science and technology community can be strengthened for implementation of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction”
- 4.1.9. Meeting on Proposal from the S&T Community to Strengthen Science in the Post-2015 DRR Framework, Paris, 1 October 2014
- 4.1.10. Summary of discussions with WCDRR Co-Chairs, 2 October 2014 (“Thank you

Letter”)

4.1.11. Proposed “revised approach” for incorporating science into HFA2

4.1.12. Zero-Draft of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

4.1.13. Chart of the Zero-Draft of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

Item 4.2: Partners on the Science and Technology Major Group

A brief overview is given of the preparations for the Tokyo Conference on International Study for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience, including the Tokyo statement, and how this conference is going to reinforce the efforts of the STMG on strengthening the role of science and technology under HFA2.

Following the issuing of the London Statement in March 2014, which called for the establishment of an international scientific advisory mechanism for decision-making in DRR, efforts were made to accompany the ongoing debates on better interfaces between science and policy-making with evidence on existing practices.

A brief report is given of the analysis conducted through two projects commissioned by UKCDS and ODI on national mechanisms to link scientific knowledge and decision-making in DRR and on the functioning of global and international scientific advisory mechanisms in other domains.

Attachments:

4.2.1. Draft Agenda: Tokyo Conference on International Study for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience, 14-16 January 2015

4.2.2. Draft Tokyo Statement

Item 4.3: IRDR in 2014 (Short presentation on IRDR for the Policy Context - HFA2)

Project Co-Chairs will provide very brief introductions into their projects (including progress made, outcomes and objectives to be reached).

Representatives of the ICoEs will give a brief overview of their thematic focus, current and envisaged activities and international networks.

SC members will, as appropriate, refer to the role of affiliated projects.

SC Chair / ED will briefly report on the National and Regional Committees Workshop.

SC Chair / ED / delegates will give a very brief overview of regional activities on hazards and disasters (e.g.: ICSU ROs, UNISDR ROs).

Where appropriate, presentations should refer to possible points of contact with the external partners present at the meeting or highlight existing links to be further developed.

Attachments:

- 4.3.1. Composition of the ICSU ROAP Steering Group
- 4.3.2. Minutes, Steering Group on Natural Hazards and Risk for the AP Region 27-28 April 2014
- 4.3.3. Composition of the ICSU ROA Consortium on Hazards and Disasters
- 4.3.4. **Document of the ROA Consortium (to be completed)**
- 4.3.5. Swedish/Africa Consortium-Building Workshop Programme, 31 October 2014
- 4.3.6. Composition of the ICSU ROLAC Steering Group for DRR (check name)
- 4.3.7. Programme of the Central American Workshop on Natural Disasters, Volcanic Risks etc., 19-20 November 2014
- 4.3.8. Statements from UNISDR Regional Platforms 2014
- 4.3.9. UNISDR Workshop on Risk-Sensitive Investment, Bangkok, 15-17 October 2014
- 4.3.10. UNESCAP: Agenda and concept note, UNESCAP, Sendai, 27-29 Oct 2014

Item 4.4: Partnerships

Delegates from UN and other intergovernmental agencies will give short presentations of their ongoing activities of relevance for DRR and new or anticipated activities under HFA2. One focus will be on suggesting specific areas and formats for collaboration.

They will also briefly comment on the role they see for their organisation under the proposal of the joint statement by UN agencies.

The Executive Director, in his capacity of having been asked to lead the delegation by ICSU as Organising Partner for the STMG, will briefly report on exchanges between STMG and other Major Groups in the period between the two PrepComs, on the emerging joint statement, and on opportunities for joint activities to advance platforms for co-design on research (e.g. business and industry; municipalities).

The concept of the nine Major Groups comes from Agenda 21. In 1992, the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio had agreed to cluster civil society actors for the purposes of the negotiations towards sustainable development into the nine Major Groups (Chapter 23 of Agenda 21). The Major Groups as defined by Agenda 21 are:

1. Women
2. Children and Youth
3. Farmers
4. Indigenous Peoples
5. NGOs
6. Trade Unions
7. Local Authorities
8. Science and Technology
9. Business and Industry

There have been discussions—in ICSU and among active contributors from the IRDR community—about whether the inclusion of S&T into civil society stakeholders, rather than as an enabling partner, is appropriate. This discussion in the DRR domain, to some extent reflects broader debates about the relationship between science and policy-making, as

witnessed during the series of events on the sidelines of the ICSU General Assembly 2014, which focused on building a network of chief science advisors to governments (and advising organisations). It is also reflected in discussions, at the interface between DRR science and practitioners, about the usefulness, usability and actual use of scientific knowledge at local level (a topic also alluded to in the IRDR ICoE Taipei “flagship” proposal).

Representatives from invited non-governmental stakeholder organisations from different Major Groups (here: INGOs) will report on their current and envisaged activities.

Item 4.5: IRDR Consultative Forum

At the end of the session, SC and invited speakers will discuss the format and function of a “Consultative Forum” for IRDR. The Consultative Forum was initially (in the ICSU Science Plan of 2008) conceived as a platform for partner organisations from the world of scientific research. In the light of the emphasis given to co-design of research in more recent discussions in all three Co-Sponsor organisations (witness the “engagement committee” of FE), and given the positive interaction with other Major Groups, it is proposed to revisit the idea of the Consultative Forum and to design it as a platform for broad stakeholder interaction with a view to advancing the co-design of DRR research.

Attachments:

- 4.4.1 Joint Statement of the UN Agencies to PrepCom1
- 4.4.2 Joint Statement of the UN Agencies the open-ended informal consultative meetings - 2 October 2014
- 4.4.3 MoU IRDR/WMO WWRP/WG SERA
- 4.4.4 Report of the 4th Meeting of the WWRP WG SERA, 21-22 August 2014
- 4.4.5 UNEP (2014). Promoting Ecosystems for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation: Opportunities for Integration.
- 4.4.6. UNISDR STAG Platform and Network Survey (April 2014)
- 4.4.7. UNISDR Call for Contributions / Case Studies to STAG Report 2014
- 4.4.8. UN System of Major Groups
- 4.4.9. Draft joint statement of Major Groups (to be tabled – will only be ready just before PrepCom2)
- 4.4.10. GNDR Comments on Pre-Zero Draft - 8 August 2014
- 4.5.1. References to Consultative Forum in the Science Plan (ICSU 2008)

Action:

- 4.1 The SC is invited to discuss the presentations and to reflect on the input received, with a view to the relevant session on day 2, aimed at identifying elements for the 2015 IRDR Consultative Forum.

**12th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee
ICSU Secretariat, Paris, France, 13-15 November 2014**

Item 5: Report from NC Workshop (reviews / previews from NCs if requested)

Following discussions at earlier SC meetings, comments received notably from IRDR Japan—about the desirability and need to expand the network of IRDR National Committees (NCs); requests from interested parties in other countries (UK) to have a better sense of the operations and remits of different NCs and hence the potential for collaborations; a request from UNISDR to better connect national S&T communities with the existing and emerging ISDR multi-stakeholder National Platforms; as well as comments received from existing NCs who believe they would benefit from closer interaction among NCs also beyond the traditional SC meeting presentations, an invitation by UKCDS to host a meeting of IRDR NCs came at a timely moment (London, at Wellcome Trust, on 11-12 November (lunchtime to lunchtime)).

NCs were contacted for input into the process leading up to the 3rd WCDRR. It was found that, while some were incorporated into their respective delegations to Geneva (e.g. Germany), others felt they were too distant from their respective governments to provide input. Some NCs and RC were represented on the ICSU-organised Major Group delegation to PrepCom1 (e.g. Australia; ROLAC). A similar situation is expected to pertain to PrepCom2.

Under HFA2, many new opportunities will open up that will require better coordination across levels (from local to national, regional, and global) and between sectors (science, practitioners and policy-makers). Following discussions with the IRDR Co-Sponsors, governance and partners, it is clear that the IRDR National Committees will have a particularly important role to play in connecting the global programme to local contexts, in articulating research needs and knowledge gaps, and enabling cross-sectoral collaboration of all sorts. This was the core rationale for convening the meeting.

A report from the meeting with some preliminary results, recommendations, requests and perspectives for the way forward will be presented.

The agenda foresees that during the meeting, which precedes the SC meeting, NCs will inform each other on their respective governance structures, mandates and missions, share information on their memberships, interests and intentions, and report on their role in connecting non-academic stakeholders to DRR science. More specifically, NCs/RCs are to use the meeting (1) to present best practices in developing and supporting the complex relationship of science, practitioners, policy environments and society at large, including through the ISDR National Platforms; (2) to see clarified and comment on the Terms of Reference for NCs/RCs in the light of opportunities and requirements under the emerging

new Hyogo Framework; (3) to articulate and develop perspectives and ideas for future joint activities with a view to better connecting IRDR-related activities at all levels.

NC/RC's had been invited to submit lists of (or provide links to) ongoing (as of 2014) and recently completed (as in 2012-2014) projects that are operating in areas of interest with a view to comprehensively map such activities and enable actors to network for fundraising and better disseminate the results of their work.

In turn, NCs were also alerted to opportunities for liaising more closely with ICoEs and SC members in their countries. Also explored were options to better connect with ongoing regional activities in both the ICSU and ISDR networks.

Attachments:

5.1 1st Consultative Meeting of IRDR NCs Agenda

Action:

5.1 The SC is invited to discuss the presentations and to reflect on the input received.

5.2 The SC is invited to suggest ways in which to better connect NC/RC activities to the programme, notably also to the Working Groups and ICoE activities.

12th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee
ICSU Secretariat, Paris, France, 13-15 November 2014

Item 6: Reports / Previews from ICoEs

- IRDR ICoE-Taipei
- IRDR ICoE in Vulnerability and Resilience Metrics (IRDR ICoE-VaRM)
- IRDR ICoE in Community Resilience (IRDR ICoE-CR)
- IRDR ICoE in Understanding Risk & Safety (IRDR ICoE-UR&S)
- IRDR ICoE for Risk Education and Learning (IRDR ICoE-REaL)
- Presentations on planned ICoEs in Germany, the UK and Canada

Reports will be given by representatives / chairs of the ICoEs; guidelines on the presentations have been provided prior to the meeting.

Whereas the (one slide) presentation during the Networking and Partnership session is for information purposes, this longer presentation will serve the purpose of reviewing the progress and role played by ICoEs in supporting and expanding the IRDR programme.

ICoE reports will therefore include sections on:

1. Reporting, which should cover:
 - purpose of the ICoE in the context of the IRDR Programme (thematic focus; references to the IRDR Strategic Plan and to the ICSU Science Plan for IRDR);
 - review (activities in 2014, including November and December, or since the last SC meeting): events, ongoing IRDR-related research projects, publications, appointments/awards, exchanges with other institutes, interactions with non-academic stakeholders; successful fundraising;
 - references to internal IRDR networking, on relations with other IRDR bodies, including National Committees (NCs), will be helpful; also references to exchanges/contacts with key programme partners will be welcome, including ICSU and UNISDR regional and national bodies etc.;

N.B.: as complete a catalogue as possible will make it easier to compile the IRDR Annual Report 2014.

2. Planning:
 - Activities for 2015, or since the last SC meeting: events, expected collaboration exchanges with other institutes or interactions with non-academic stakeholders;

envisaged fundraising, and support that may be needed);

- Expressions of interest for input from/exchanges with other IRDR bodies will be helpful; also references to envisaged exchanges/contacts with key programme partners will be welcome, including ICSU and UNISDR regional and national bodies etc.;

N.B.: as complete a catalogue as possible will facilitate preparing / managing communications in 2015.

Against the background of an analysis of the Terms of Reference and observations of current communication patterns between ICoEs and the programme as a whole, both the Communications Plan 2014/15 and the proposed guidelines comprise a number of recommendations that might be discussed after the presentations.

The exercise also serves the purpose of preparing the Programme evaluation that will occur in 2015.

It is expected that here will also be presentations for planned ICoEs from Germany, the UK and Canada.

Attachments:

- 6.1 Guidance notes for reporting
- 6.2 ICoE Terms of Reference

Actions:

- 6.1 The SC is invited to note the reports, to comment on the progress of the ICoEs in the context of the Programme, and to make recommendations, if appropriate, as to steps that can be taken to enhance the coherence of the ICoEs with activities within the programme, including, but not limited to, WGs, NCs, etc., as well as between IRDR and partners.
- 6.2 The SC is invited to comment and/or decide on the plans for new ICoEs, combining an assessment of the elements of the forward planning for these ICoEs shared in the presentations against the background of the ToR and an interpretation of programme needs.

**12th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee
ICSU Secretariat, Paris, France, 13-15 November 2014**

Item 7: Review of ToRs for IRDR Programme Bodies (Part 1: ICoEs / AP)

Item 7.1: Draft Guidance Note for Implementation of IRDR ICoEs

During its 11th meeting, the SC had accepted a new ICoE that is multi-site in nature (IRDR ICoE REaL). In order to accommodate an ever growing number of different ICoEs it was suggested to review the currently applying ToR (for both ICoEs and NCs) and to make more specific about the functions and roles of these bodies in the programme.

An initial review of the current ToR by the IPO found that the text allows for a good mix of flexibility and encouragement to collaboration and openness, but that it lacks guidance for the implementation and requirements that would allow for measuring progress over time.

It is therefore proposed that prior to changing the ToR they are interpreted in a way that would allow for better reporting (also with a view to the upcoming critical year 2015) on programme coherence and impact.

Providing guidance for this interpretation of the ToR, giving all parties (SC, ICoE leadership and IPO) the tools to seek to comply with their respective roles (oversight, implementation, support, respectively), is the purpose of the draft guidance note.

The objective is to more visibly connect the ICoEs to the programme-wide activities, but also to relevant organisations and activities at regional and national levels, and to let them exercise their pull-function in their respective sub-areas of IRDR research by better advertising their achievements and profiles.

Attachments

7.1.1. ToRs IRDR ICoEs

7.1.2. Draft Guidance Note for Implementation of IRDR ICoEs

Action 7.1.:

7.1.1. SC members, including ICoE leaders in their capacity as SC members, are invited to discuss the proposed guidance note online prior to the meeting, so as to identify discussion and decision items for the plenary meeting.

7.1.2. The SC meeting is invited to decide on the guidance note proposing, if necessary, amendments.

Item 7.2: Draft Revised ToRs for IRDR NCs and RCs

Against the background of the recently held consultative workshop with existing and emerging IRDR NCs and RCs, a brief oral report will be given which will include, by way of conclusion and recommendations for follow-up, possible elements for a guidance note for the implementation of NCs/RCs, following the same approach as is proposed for the ICoEs.

At a later stage (once the requirements and opportunities under HFA2 have become clear, a more thorough review of the ToR proper may need to be undertaken.

Attachments

- 7.2.1. ToRs for IRDR National Committees
- 7.2.2. Reference to List of Attachments on NC/RC for Item 4
- 7.2.3. Lists of Steering Groups for Hazards and Disasters in ROLAC, ROA, ROAP

Action 7.2.:

7.3.1. SC members are invited to discuss the report and to consider possible elements for a proposed guidance note for the implementation of NCs/RCs.

Item 7.3: Draft ToR for IRDR Flagship Projects

At the 10th and 11th SC meetings, a project proposal by one of the IRDR ICoEs was evaluated that gave rise to a discussion on the desirability of having IRDR Flagship Projects.

The SC had decided that it was premature to decide on a project to be adopted as Flagship Project, as no ToR had been adopted yet. It was suggested to have a draft document prepared to be submitted to the next SC meeting for discussion and decision.

Through its Co-Sponsors, IRDR has become a key actor in the preparations for the 3rd WCDRR. As such, the programme has been instrumental in making the case for a stronger science-driven evidence base for decision-making in DRR-related policy and practice. Judging by the discussions so far, the appeal of having IRDR Flagship Projects would be to define locales for this implementation and action-focused to this ambition and approach within the programme itself. It seeks to respond to demands from Co-Sponsors for co-design and implementation of research in real life DRR contexts at different levels.

The proposal takes into account the concern, expressed by SC members in their roles as WG co-chairs, that it might be overstressing the capacities of the WG and the WG-related projects if such an outreach and implementation function was expected from them on a large scale. This is why the proposal allocates to WGs and projects the responsibility of fulfilling an input function, whereas the implementation functions is allocated to the flagship sites and

owners. Unless they express the wish to assume a leading role in co-design of implementation projects, WGs/project co-chairs are seen as resource persons to inform the implementation process, and to reflect on results in subsequent research aimed at refining the IRDR products.

The proposal therefore, while subscribing in its spirit to the notion of co-design and demand-driven research, inscribes itself, through the proposed practice, in the traditional mode of supply-driven research, with subsequent reviews based on test-bed applications.

Partners in the process of identifying appropriate test-bed sites for flagship projects can be all IRDR bodies, Co-Sponsors and Major Group partners, as well as others identified through the SC. Flagship projects should be demand-driven and offer concrete opportunities for demonstrating the use of IRDR products stemming from at least three WGs and related work identified as relevant by co-chairs and other IRDR bodies.

The several rounds of discussions during the 10th and 11th SC plenaries, among members of the Task Group and between the ICoE Board and leadership and the IPO, had produced a number of elements that have been synthesised into a draft ToR text that reflects both context, objectives and operational elements, both for the selection and implementation of IRDR Flagship Projects. Options are offered for a number of elements.

It is envisaged that there could be an open call for candidatures. In order to capture as large as possible an audience, a first Call could either be issued in conjunction with the 3rd WCDRR (Sendai, Japan, mid-March 2015), or, at the very least, the first consultative forum held after the Sendai conference could be used to co-design the call with partners.

Attachment:

- 7.3.1. Draft Terms of Reference for IRDR Flagship Projects
- 7.3.2. Slide “Flagship Project”

Action 7.3.:

- 7.3.1. The SC is invited to discuss the Draft ToR for IRDR Flagship Projects in the light of the programme objectives and in terms of opportunities for the programme to liaise with non-academic stakeholders and to increase the impact of its products through application in concrete case studies.
- 7.3.2. The SC is invited to decide on the ToR, including on whether or not options should be kept, and suggesting amendments or changes to the text.

Item 7.4: Draft ToR for IRDR Associated Projects and Programmes (AP)

At its 11th meeting, the IRDR SC decided that it would consider establishing a new category of programme related activities, described as Associated Projects and Programmes (AP).

In line with good practice in other ICSU-related programmes, it was suggested that IRDR would benefit in terms of impact and strengthen its centrality in integrated DRR science

worldwide by recognising, next to the formally established IRDR bodies, a number of Associated Projects and Programmes (AP) that, due to the methodologies and approaches employed and/or due to their stated objectives and/or due to existing personal or institutional links, show strong affinities with the IRDR programme and its goals, and/or that complement its activities in important ways.

Attachment

7.4.1. Draft ToR for IRDR Associated Projects and Programmes (AP)

7.4.2. Current list of Associated Projects linked on the IRDR Website

Action 7.4.:

7.4.1. SC members (especially members of the Task Group) are invited to discuss the proposed ToRs online prior to the meeting, so as to identify discussion and decision items for the plenary meeting.

7.4.2. The SC meeting is invited to decide on the ToRs, requesting, if necessary, amendments to the proposed ToRs.

7.4.3. Provided the notion of APs is approved, SC members are invited to suggest possible candidates for APs.

12th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee
ICSU Secretariat, Paris, France, 13-15 November 2014

Item 8: Towards an IRDR Communications Plan

The SC had, in the past, repeatedly discussed, in a generic fashion, the need to enhance the communications services of the IPO; a more news and impact focused approach had been suggested during the 11th SC meeting.

The IPO staff has been working on a communication plan for 2014/15. The CO will provide an overview of existing communication tools, and refer to shortcomings of the current set-up (in terms of input received from the IRDR network, restrictions on communications at the IPO location, staffing, etc.). The presentation refers to some perceived strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and strengths (SWOT) of IRDR communications.

A more detailed document is currently being revised and will be uploaded as soon as possible. This document will comprise proposed targets and measures for all parties concerned, including IRDR bodies.

This more specific approach should make it possible to review and evaluate the effectiveness of the communications activities as part of the programme evaluation.

Attachment

8.1 Draft Communications Plan (yet to be uploaded)

Actions:

- 8.1 The SC is invited to comment on the proposed communications plan and to suggest measures to increase the impact of IRDR through such a plan.
- 8.2 The SC may also, as part of this discussion, comment on some of the key messages that an emerging communications strategy should focus on.
- 8.3 The SC is invited to include recommendations on communications actions in the discussion on the forward planning to occur during day 3.

12th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee
ICSU Secretariat, Paris, France, 13-15 November 2014

Item 9: Reports / Previews from Co-Sponsors

Co-Sponsors will provide the meeting with short reports on recent, ongoing and planned developments of relevance to IRDR.

They will point to opportunities for connecting to related programmes, for joint activities and to grants available for the development towards the programme aims.

9.1 ICSU

ICSU's interim Executive Director, Peter Liss, will give a brief account on the recent ICSU General Assembly.

A brief update will be given on recent developments regarding Future Earth (FE). The activities of its global secretariat and of the science and engagement committee will be presented.

It is hoped that after its initial meeting in Argentina, a first oral report on the operations of the engagement committee can be given.

SC Chair and Executive Director will report on their contacts with their current counterparts at FE.

Attachments:

9.1.1. ICSU Press Releases on General Assembly

9.1.2. ICSU Press Release on FE Global Secretariat

Action:

9.1.2. The SC is invited to discuss in which areas it wishes to collaborate with FE in the future, given that the science profile of the emerging sister programme is still in flux.

9.2 ISSC

The ISSC ex-officio member, Vivi Stavrou, will give an update on recent, ongoing and planned developments of relevance to IRDR.

Action:

9.2.1. The SC is invited to discuss the proposed activities and to collect sufficient information from the ex-officio member to ensure that they can proceed to prioritisations and division of tasks during the strategic forward planning on Day 3.

9.3 UNISDR

The UNISDR ex-officio member, Feng Min Kan, will give an update on recent, ongoing and planned developments of relevance to IRDR, notably as regards the 3rd WCDRR, and ongoing and envisaged activities in Asia.

Attachments:

9.3.1. Documents relating to the role of ICSU and its programmes in the process leading up to the 3rd WCDRR are comprised under Item 4

Action:

9.3.1. The SC is invited to note the updates on the work of UNISDR.

12th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee
ICSU Secretariat, Paris, France, 13-15 November 2014

Item 10: Networking and Partnership Session

The SC will discuss the networking and partnership session with particular reference to:

- Expanding the impact of IRDR's work through closer collaboration with UN agencies. Given that the invited presentations present merely a fraction of such activities, and that other contacts occur and have occurred in other fora as well, a proper inventory would be desirable. Comments are invited on such existing contacts, and how they can be used to advance the impact of the programme.
- Expanding the reach of the IRDR programme (and ultimately also its impact) by systematically using the Major Groups framework to interact with organisations representing civil society, both with a view to advancing the co-design mode of research (encouraged by all three Co-Sponsors), for example through the IRDR consultative forum, and in terms of continued interaction in the framework of the implementation of HFA2.

10.1 Consultative Forum

The ICSU Science Plan had foreseen that already in the first three years of the programme a consultative forum be launched that would lay the foundations for the co-design of research with the involvement of multiple stakeholder organisations.

Such stakeholder consultation fora would serve the purpose of both receiving input and reviewing the progress of the programme. As an ongoing stakeholder engagement process, the Consultative Forum would be used as part evaluating and enhancing the impact of the programme. After ten years, the Science Plan suggested, it would be appropriate for the sponsors, together with the then ongoing consultative forum, to review the programme and the investments made to see how well the vision and legacy has been achieved.

It is suggested to build on the contacts developed with scientific and non-academic partners and stakeholders and to convene a Consultative Forum after the World Conference, so as to engage with all partners on the role IRDR could play in the implementation of recommendations issued by the conference. This may also be the moment, half-way through the programme, to decide on the possible inclusion of new projects or programme components.

Attachments:

10.1.1. N.B.: Documents regarding the partners among the Major Groups are comprised

under Item 4.

10.1.2. List of current partner organisations (preliminary document; yet to be uploaded)

10.1.3. See item 4.5.1

Actions:

10.1.1. The SC is invited to comment on and to develop the concept of the consultative forum as envisaged originally by the ICSU Science Plan for IRDR.

10.1.2. The SC is invited to decide on the formation of a Task Group to prepare this Consultative Forum together with the SC Chair and the ED. The Task Group would propose a work plan towards the forum, including partners to be involved, timeline, venue, resources and objectives to work towards.

10.1.3. SC members are invited to volunteer to be members of the Task Group. All transactions of the Task Group will be conducted online.

12th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee
ICSU Secretariat, Paris, France, 13-15 November 2014

Item 11: Previews

11.1 Evaluation of the IRDR Programme

ICSU will explain the timeline and modalities for the envisaged IRDR programme evaluation. The SC had learnt at its 11th meeting that ICSU is obligated to evaluate its interdisciplinary programmes. The evaluation of the IRDR programme will begin in mid-2015.

The SC is reminded that the Science Plan for IRDR had already identified (pg. 50) a number of possible criteria for the evaluation:

1. Co-Sponsors are in place and actively engaged in the programme;
2. Partnerships are agreed to and function;
3. Projects are in place with viable and strong scientific teams, appropriate geographical representation and adequate funding, so as to enable them to meet their objectives within the overall framework of the Programme objectives;
4. Working Groups are established and FORIN has completed several case studies in the first three years of the programme.

Action:

- 11.1 The SC is invited to discuss whether any specific actions are necessary to prepare for the evaluation and bear in mind the relevance of the evaluation for activities in 2015.

11.2 SC Membership

In June 2015, four SC members (Cardona, Cutter, Johnston and Takeuchi) will come to the end of their second three-year terms. Their memberships cannot be renewed. Three of them are also SC Executive members.

A list of the SC membership is included in the meeting documents. A matrix of the distribution of countries, areas of expertise, sector and gender is currently being prepared. It is to be recalled that Co-Sponsor ISSC already at the 11th SC meeting had requested that the gender balance of the Committee be proactively addressed for upcoming replacements.

As regards the SC Executive, it is to be recalled that on 31 December 2014, Cutter will step down as Vice-Chair, staying on as an SC member until 30 June 2015. She will be replaced by

Lwasa as Vice-Chair on 31 December 2014. As of June 2015, two new SC Executive members will need to be elected; one of them being the new SC Chair.

Attachments

11.2.1. List of SC members (as of 22 September 2014)

11.2.2. Current distribution of SC members according to geographic regions and gender (including projection after end-of-term of four SC members)

11.2.3. Matrix of SC member profiles (yet to be uploaded)

Action:

11.2 The SC is invited to discuss the future composition of the SC, identifying in particular relevant shortcomings in terms of current or envisaged geographical, disciplinary or gender distribution.

**12th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee
ICSU Secretariat, Paris, France, 13-15 November 2014**

Item 12: IPO Report

The IPO report is divided into three sections.

12.1 IPO Host Organisation, Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth (RADI)

The delegate of the IPO's host organisation, RADI, will give an overview of completed, ongoing and envisaged activities.

Both the activities of the other international programmes based at RADI as well as the IRDR related domestic research activities should be reflected.

12.2 Office Report

The JSO will present an oral report on recent developments in the IPO office (staffing, safety and health report, ICT challenges etc.)

12.3 IPO Relations with Host Organisations

The ED will provide a short oral report about the relationship between the IPO and the host institute RADI, the Chinese hosting organisations Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and Chinese Association for Science and Technology (CAST), and partners such as the Chinese Association for Social Sciences (CASS).

Actions

- 12.1 The SC is invited to note the report and comment on the issues raised that may have an impact on the functioning of the programme in 2015.

12th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee ICSU Secretariat, Paris, France, 13-15 November 2014

Items 13-15: Strategic Programme-wide Forward Planning

Based on the presentations and discussions of days 1 and 2 of the meeting, this last session will proceed to drawing up concrete plans for the progress of the programme and its bodies.

These strategic considerations will be underpinned by a close reading of the challenges posed by:

- The ICSU Science Plan for IRDR:
 - expectations of broad and systematic engagements with non-programme actors and strong coherence and goal-oriented collaborations across programme components
- The IRDR Strategic Plan:
 - generic and yet over-ambitious language, which does only partly correspond to the reality of the programme, and which was adopted in a period despite funding issues being known
- Latest developments re: HFA2:
 - High visibility of IRDR, with expectations that offer opportunities but require strong engagement and close collaboration by all parties

The year 2015 will call not only for a proactive engagement of the programme with external partners (due to the framework imposed by the HFA2 process and other related processes such as the SDG negotiations, progress on CCA, and World Humanitarian Summit), but also for a demonstrably increased level of internal cohesion.

Some of this can be addressed through targeted messaging and the overall communications function of the IPO, which is why active support for the emerging communications plan is urgently needed.

2015 ICSU Evaluation of IRDR

The ICSU-led evaluation of the programme will be launched in the second half of the year. Typically evaluations would look at the outcomes and products of programmes in terms of publications etc. Since IRDR is a somewhat different programme that is seeking to establish a new field of scientific endeavour and of science-and-policy engagement, other factors (focusing on network and community building) may also be considered.

The ICSU Science Plan had mentioned that an evaluation could look at:

1. The active engagement of sponsors in the programme;

2. The level of engagement and impact of partnerships;
3. The viability and functioning of projects/Working Groups and the quality of the scientific teams, including appropriate geographical representation;
4. The funding mobilised so as to enable programme bodies to meet their objectives within the overall framework of the Programme objectives;
5. The functioning of the Working Groups established and FORIN has completed several case studies in the first three years of the programme.

Given the specific framework in which IRDR is operating (i.e. active co-sponsorship by UNISDR) there may be additional elements in the evaluation that refer to science and policy interaction.

The SC should refer to the ToR for SC members to self-assess what activities it might still need to undertake to satisfy the role it has been given.

N.B.: the above are NOT the Terms of Reference for the actual evaluation in 2015, but a summary of the elements contained in the ICSU Science Plan (2008). The presentation from ICSU on day 2 may shed further light on this issue.

The 11th SC meeting had reiterated concerns about the funding situation of the programme. While failures to systematically fundraise over the last few years should not be the subject of discussions at this meeting, the various exchanges between the new ED and SC members suggest that no programme-wide strategy to this effect exist.

The overview of the budgetary situation of the IPO can, against this background, be merely a reminder that while some resources for basic service function support (including some programme promotion travel for SC members) may exist in the IPO, funds for case studies or projects and even for WG meetings etc. must be sought out elsewhere. Given the restrictive currency and payments regime at the IPO location, it is advisable, if requested, that the ED assist with fundraising locally or internationally; but in order to benefit an IRDR body elsewhere.

The absence of a fundraising strategy (and of an acknowledged distribution of roles and responsibilities) means that no fundraising has occurred in the programme in 2013 and 2014 (apart from small grants). It is also against this background that a clearer strategy must emerge that might spell out the value or otherwise of such small scale (yet time-consuming) fundraising.

It would seem critical that SC members share information resources or, otherwise, empower the ED to proactively connect the programme to funding agencies. It is to be borne in mind, however, that results of such an approach will not be available in the short term, whereas activities in 2015 must be taken forward with resources available now.

Report on post-2014 IRDR Conference and pre-2015 Budgetary Situation

It is to be noted that the organisation of the conference had been severely depleting the 2014 budget in ways that had not been anticipated. At the end of the six-month consultancy contract for J. Rovins, all reserves that had been accumulated (whether due to lack of activities or for other reasons) in previous years had been used up. Only with the help of an additional grant from CAST, obtained after intervention on the part of ICSU this autumn,

could the financial situation be stabilised for the transition into 2015.

There had been, it seems, disagreements about the budget years in the past. Whereas IRDR (and hence the IPO) runs on an annual budget from January to December, the host institute that processes IRDR finances in China (RADI) receives its annual grants from the Ministry of Science and Technology of China (MOST) only in May and is ready to pay out from this grant some time in summer. In order for the IPO to remain viable under these conditions in the future, RADI will provide the necessary budgetary support for the first period of the year from its own resources, later to recover that sum from the grant allocated to IRDR/IPO.

As part of the preparations for the approval of the 2015 budget, it is to proceed towards a prioritising agenda for 2015.

Given the centrality of the Working Groups to the progress of IRDR, given the need (in all likelihood) to expand the Working Groups to draw on a wider circle of expertise, and given the shortness of resources, it is expected that the Working Groups reports will provide the necessary background for a priority setting exercise that will capitalise on meeting venues and occasions, resources, and participants (but also, wherever possible, factoring in electronic communication) in goal-oriented way.

Apart from the three projects (DATA, FORIN and RIA) that met on day 1, the plenary will also need to decide on the future of AIRDR. A short progress report will be provided by the co-chair. The ED will report on exchanges he had with parties potentially interested in providing input to bibliometric/bibliographic studies for other linguistic areas, with, possibly, some elements of conceptual reflections (but which, in the absence of a conclusive decision by the SC at its 11th meeting could not be taken forward).

The AIRDR chair will provide a review of the drafting process of the synthesis paper on the state-of-the-art of DRR science, and assess whether this process satisfies the AIRDR criteria.

Previews on the activities of ICoEs, NCs and RCs should be scanned against the backdrop of necessary activities; there may be among such activities and events as were mentioned, some that could serve as potential venues for WG related meetings (possibly of sub-sets of Working Groups to whom specific tasks may have been allocated that require meetings in person).

Actions (operations and strategy):

At the operational level (short term), the SC is invited to:

1. Commit to provide the support requested to the communication effort of the IPO (and/or suggest additional or better ways to achieve the communication goals);
2. Consider the possible / likely elements for an ICSU-led evaluation in the prioritisation of actions over the next months;
3. Propose a catalogue of venues and opportunities for the promotion of the programme that the SC wishes to use in the course of 2015 (can also be used to bring Working Group members for meetings at third-party venues, incl. IRDR bodies etc.)

4. Decide on the future of AIRDR.

At the operational level (medium term), the SC is invited to:

1. Decide on the parameters / priorities for a fundraising strategy (as the basis for the ED to develop an implementation for such a strategy)

At the strategic level, the SC is invited to:

1. Discuss whether the level of integration reached across the programme is sufficient or corresponds to the “integration” expected under the Science Plan and Strategic Plan and to identify areas that require specific intervention.
2. Decide on the use to be made of the Consultative Forum for advancing the goals of the programme.

**12th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee
ICSU Secretariat, Paris, France, 13-15 November 2014**

Items 16: Budget 2015

Based on these decisions and the outcomes of the priority setting exercise, an indicative budget will be proposed.

Actions:

- 16.1 The SC is invited to note the indicative budget for 2015.
- 16.2 The SC is invited to express its appreciation for the efforts by RADI to secure the functioning of the IPO in the period between the end of the budget year 2014 and the arrival of the Ministry of Science and Technology of China (MOST) funds for the year 2015.

**12th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee
ICSU Secretariat, Paris, France, 13-15 November 2014**

Items 17: Next SC Meeting

The next SC meeting is expected to be held again at one of the venues provided by the Chinese host organisations.

- A. The meeting can be held at the Central Asian campus of RADI (Kashgar). This would offer opportunities for exchanges with the DRR research community in Central Asia and Russia, who have so far remained extraneous to the programme;
- B. It may be possible to identify a meeting venue in Shanghai, provided that progress is made on establishing the water/ocean hazard-related reach station IRDR China had referred to in earlier exchanges;
- C. RADI Campus Beijing;
- D. Other CAS campuses elsewhere in China.

Some background documentation will be provided by the IPO staff.

The SC should also consider the timing of the Consultative Forum. It is to be considered that the timing should consider:

- That it be held either before or during the evaluation.
- That it be held under the current chair, or as one of the first activities of the incoming chair.
- Since in all likelihood no additional resources will be available, it seems preferable to hold the Consultative Forum either in conjunction with another major event where the majority of actors will be present (Sendai?) or in conjunction with the first or second SC meeting in the year 2015.

Actions:

- 17.1 The SC is invited to decide on the venue for the next SC meeting.
- 17.2 The SC is invited to decide on timing and venue for the Consultative Forum.