

13th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee
Ocean University of China, Laoshan Campus, Qingdao
Shandong Province, China
1-3 June 2015

Agenda Item 4: Consultative Forum

At the 12th SC meeting, members briefly discussed the concept of the Consultative Forum. This occurred under different items (partnerships; Sendai; evaluation, etc.). SC members felt that a format was needed for structured exchanges with non-academic stakeholders in order to advance the co-design / co-production / co-delivery mode of research, which was expected to become a hallmark for S&T implementations of the Sendai Framework.

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 partner organisations. As an ongoing stakeholder engagement process, the Consultative Forum could be used as part of the process of assessing and enhancing the impact of the programme.

The SC had decided to build on the contacts developed with scientific and non-academic partners and stakeholders in the pre-Sendai process and to convene a Consultative Forum after the 3rd WCDRR, so as to engage with all partners on the role IRDR could play in the implementation of recommendations issued by the Conference. In this way, half-way through the programme, the Forum may also contribute to the evaluation process and to decision on the possible inclusion of new projects or programme components.

The SC also decided that a Task Group be formed 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. All transactions of the Task Group will be conducted online. This Task Group would be formed after Sendai.

It was recalled that such a forum should serve primarily to refine the research agenda and not constitute an additional policy arena.

Actions:

- 4.1 The SC invited to develop proposals for the format, timing and funding of a Consultative Forum at its next meeting.
- 4.2 SC members are invited to volunteer to form part of the Task Group, which will prepare the CF.