



Report of 11th Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee (SC)

**Beijing, China
6, 10-11 June 2014**

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1. Organisation of Meeting and other Administrative Matters

Date and Place of the Meeting

The 11th meeting of the IRDR Science Committee (SC) was held on 6 and 10 to 11 June 2014, in Beijing, China at the Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth (RADI), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). The meeting coincided with the second IRDR Conference, held at the Beijing International Convention Center (BICC) from 7 to 9 June 2014.

Documentation

The full set of documents prepared for and tabled during the SC meeting, as well as the presentations given during the meeting, are listed in annex 1 and available for download from the SC Members' page on the IRDR website, <http://www.irdrinternational.org/sc-members-zone/>.

Attendance

- **Members:** Irasema Alcántara-Ayala; Sálvano Briceño (Vice-Chair); Djillali Benouar; Ann Bostrom; Omar Darío Cardona; Susan Cutter (Vice-Chair); S.H.M. Fakhruddin; Ferruccio Ferrigni; Virginia Jiménez Díaz; David Johnston (Chair); Shuaib Lwasa; Anthony Oliver-Smith; Mark Pelling; Kuniyoshi Takeuchi (Vice-Chair); and Sisi Zlatanova.
- **Ex officio:** Huadong Guo (RADI); Feng Min Kan (UNISDR); Howard Moore (ICSU); and Vivi Stavrou (ISSC).
- **IRDR IPO:** Charina Cabrido; Lang Lang; Fang Min; Kerry-Ann Morris; Yijie Zhao.
- **Invited guests:** Samuel Ayonghe (delegate from the ICSU Regional Office for Africa); Maureen Brennan (ICSU Secretariat, Paris); Mingmei Chen (RADI); Daniele Ehrlich (EU JRC, DATA Project Co-Chair); Qiang Feng (IRDR China); Emma Hudson-Doyle (RIA ISSC Fellow, IRDR ICoE-CR); Rüdiger Klein (incoming IRDR Executive Director, from 1 July 2014); Jie Liu (RADI); Tony Liu (IRDR ICoE-Taipei); Robyn Pharoah (Periperi U Consortium); Jane Rovins (IRDR Conference Consultant); and Kenichi Tsukahara (IRDR Japan).

A number of researchers from China joined the meeting on 11 June for the discussions and three breakout sessions for DATA, FORIN and RIA held on 11 June 2014: Fang Chen (RADI); Xiaotao Cheng (China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research); Jie Gao (China Earthquake Disaster Prevention Center); Pan Gao (Dalian University of Technology); Gensuo Jia (Institute of Atmospheric Physics, CAS); Huicong Jia (RADI); Bin Li (RADI); Kuo Li (Institute of Environment and Sustainable Development in Agriculture, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS)); Qin Li (Dalian University of Technology); Haitao Liu (Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS)); Jiuliang Liu (RADI); Zhenye Liu (Academy of Sciences, located in Taipei, China); Yonglong Lu (Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences, CAS); Huixin Meng (Institute of Urban Environment, CAS); Guocheng Qu (National Earthquake Response Support Service); Jusong Shi (China Geological Survey); Zhongfu Sun (Institute of Environment and

Sustainable Development in Agriculture, CAAS); Xiaoqing Wang (Institute of Earthquake Science China Earthquake Administration); Yinlong Xu (CAAS); Hongyue Zhang (RADI); Wanchang Zhnag (RADI); and Yan Zheng (Institute of Urban Environment, CAS).

Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted without revisions.

Report of the 10th SC Meeting

The SC Members had previously provided comments on earlier drafts of the 10th SC meeting report (Doc11/2.1). The action items from the report were reviewed, and the responsible parties for each item provided status updates. There being no other comments, the report of the 10th SC meeting was approved without change.

Introduction of Newly Appointed IRDR Executive Director

Moore announced the appointment of Klein as IRDR's new Executive Director, effective 1 July 2014, and briefly presented his background and previous roles. Upon request of the Co-Sponsors, Klein accepted the invitation to attend, as a guest, both the SC meeting and Conference. The signing of the employment contract between RADI and Klein took place during the SC meeting.

SC Membership

Speaking on behalf of the three Co-Sponsors, Moore advised the meeting that three members, Ferrigni, Pelling and Oliver-Smith, will complete their first terms on the SC at the end of June 2014. The Co-Sponsors were in discussions about the possible renewal of their appointments, and the members concerned will be notified of their decision.

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

Moore reported that ISSC had requested that the gender balance of the Committee be proactively addressed for upcoming replacements.

SC Executive

In order to smoothen the re-composition of the SC Executive in 2015, the following gradual transition is envisaged:

- Briceño agreed to stay on the SC but to step down as Vice-Chair with immediate effect and be replaced by Alcántara-Ayala.
- On 31 December 2014, Cutter will step down as Vice-Chair, staying on as an SC Ordinary member until her second and last term, which will end on 30 June 2015. She will be replaced by Lwasa as Vice-Chair on 31 December 2014.

As of 11 June 2014 the SC Executive will comprise:

- Chair: Johnston
- Vice-Chairs: Alcántara-Ayala; Cutter; Takeuchi

As of 1 January 2015, the SC Executive will comprise:

- Chair: Johnston
- Vice-Chairs: Alcántara-Ayala; Lwasa; Takeuchi

From 1 July 2015, two new SC members will join the SC Executive.

Date and Venue of 12th SC Meeting

The Committee agreed that the 12th SC meeting will be held from 13 to 15 November 2014, at the ICSU Secretariat in Paris, France. The meeting will be conducted for two and a half days: day one (13 November) will be dedicated to networking and partnership building; and day two and half of day three (14 and 15 November) will be dedicated to SC business.

DECISIONS

- 1.1 Update and publish the SC members list (showing gender, nationality, affiliations, areas of specialisation, roles in the IRDR programme, and their terms and exit times. **(Lead: IPO)**)

2. Co-Sponsors' and Host Updates

International Council for Science (ICSU)

Moore provided the meeting with updates on:

- **31st General Assembly (GA):** the GA will be held in Auckland, New Zealand, from 30 August to 3 September 2014. ICSU's Committee on Scientific Planning and Review (CSPR) will deliver a report, which will also include updates on IRDR. IRDR will have a poster session and a short programme presentation to the plenary. Johnston and Klein will attend on behalf of IRDR, thus taking advantage of the opportunity to network and interact with other ICSU programmes and national members and international scientific union members. IRDR's Co-Sponsors will also make presentations at the GA (UNISDR: Margareta Wählstrom; ISSC: Heide Hackmann). As of the 31st GA, ICSU's new president will be Gordon McBean, the founding Chair of the IRDR SC.
- **Future Earth (FE):** a brief summary was given of recent FE developments. Its global secretariat will be distributed among five hubs the location of which was yet to be decided on.

Moore described the purpose of FE's Engagement Committee, which focuses on involving non-academic stakeholders and also advises on outreach activities and capacity-building, thus leaving the Science Committee to focus on science.

Pelling suggested exploring a structural planning approach by which engagement for IRDR is along similar lines. The SC was reminded that the Science Plan already foresees the establishment of a Consultative Forum that would assemble a wide range of non-academic stakeholders in DRR science and that could fulfil this function, thereby facilitating closer links to implementation. At national and regional levels, the IRDR National Committees (NCs) and ICSU's regional offices (ROs), as well as the programme's International Centres of Excellence (ICoEs), are under-utilised resources that can be employed as platforms to engage with relevant stakeholders.

Johnston reported that he had agreed with FE's Science Committee Chair, Mark Stafford-Smith, to establish regular exchanges at the level of SC Chairs and Executive Directors. Such exchanges should focus on concrete activities and aim at exploiting the potential for synergies and avoiding duplications. Johnston noted that Stafford-Smith had been invited to the SC meeting, but was unable to attend, whereas FE's Executive Director, Frans Berkhout, attended the IRDR Conference banquet on 7 June.

- **Evaluation of the IRDR Programme:** Moore advised that ICSU is obligated to evaluate its interdisciplinary programmes, and provided a brief description of how such an evaluation will be undertaken. The evaluation of the IRDR programme will begin in mid-2015.

Johnston informed the meeting that Moore will retire from his role at ICSU in September 2014 and that the 11th SC meeting will be his final formal engagement with the IRDR SC. The SC thanked Moore for his support of the programme before and since its inception, and wished him well in his retirement. Moore reflected on his involvement with the programme and wished the Committee continued success in attaining the mission of the IRDR programme.

International Social Science Council (ISSC)

Stavrou provided the meeting with updates on:

- **World Social Science Forum (WSSF):** the third WSSF will take place from 13 to 16 September 2015, in Durban, South Africa under the theme "Transforming Global Relations for a Just World." She invited IRDR to become involved in sessions, but it was also noted that there would be few if any resources available to support IRDR activities during the meeting.
- **World Social Science Report:** the 2016 edition of the Report will be published under the topic "inequality and justice." IRDR was invited to contribute to the Report, as had been the case for the 2013 report.
- **World Social Science Fellows (WSSF) programme:** this capacity building programme enables 20 competitively selected early career scientists participating in thematic seminars with senior scientists and others. Next to seminars on "Sustainable Urbanisation" and "Transformations to Sustainability in Urban Contexts," a seminar on

“Risk Interpretation and Action,” a collaboration with IRDR’s core project RIA, IRDR ICoE-Taipei, START International, as well as Massey University, Canterbury University, and the Royal Society in New Zealand, was held in December 2013. From this seminar six collaborative research projects were developed by the Fellows, out of which four received seed funding from IRDR ICoE-Taipei. Ten Fellows were funded to present four research projects at the IRDR Conference; they also participated as note-takers in the Conference sessions and contributed to the conference summary and conference report.

- **Transformations to Sustainability:** supported by funding from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and others, this new global research programme is ISSC’s major contribution to FE aimed at increasing the social science presence in the science of global change and sustainability. The programme was launched on 31 March 2014, with the publication of its first call for proposals. A committee had been established to select 30 proposals out of the 500 submitted.
- **Transdisciplinarity training programme:** a global expert design workshop will be held from 16 to 18 June 2014 to, among other things, identify best practice cases for transdisciplinarity in research and research management, and to identify a pool of experts from different regions as potential trainers/contributors. Stavrou reiterated the possibility of an IRDR contribution to this training initiative, and noted that Lwasa had been participating in similar initiatives.

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)

Kan, who replaced Andrew Maskrey as the UNISDR ex-officio member on the SC, provided the meeting with updates on:

- **6th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR):** the AMCDRR is a biennial conference in the Asian region to ensure political and stakeholders’ commitment towards disaster risk reduction (DRR) implementation. IRDR co-chairs the Stakeholder Group for Science, Technology and Academia, one of the stakeholder groups represented at the AMCDRR conference. Despite the unstable political situation in Thailand the 6th AMCDRR will be held from 22 to 26 June 2014 in Bangkok under the theme “Promoting Investments for Resilient Nations and Communities.” Three sub-themes will be explored in technical sessions: Enhancing Resilience at Local Levels; Improving Public Investments for Disaster and Climate Risk Management to Protect and Sustain Development Gains; and Private Sector Role – Public & Private Partnership for Disaster Risk Reduction. For more information about the 6th AMCDRR visit: <http://6thamcdrr-thailand.net/6thamcdrr/>.
- **Hyogo Framework for Action 2 (HFA2):** the development of HFA2 was sketched against the backdrop of shortcomings of and lessons learnt from HFA. HFA2 will also reflect the need to place the management of disaster risks in the context of development processes and climate change adaptation, focusing on and strengthening at local national and international levels, the resilience of people and countries. It was considered to extend the timeline for HFA2 to 20 years or even longer.
- **World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR):** the third WCDRR will be held in Sendai, Japan from 14 to 18 March 2015. Among other things, this intergovernmental conference will complete the assessment and review of the

implementation of HFA, and is expected to proceed to adopt a post-2015 framework for DRR. UNISDR, as the Secretariat of the Conference, has been leading the consultation process ever since March 2012, involving intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder meetings, also held at the regional level. The first Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee meeting (PrepCom1) will be held from 14 to 15 July, and the second from 17 to 18 November 2014, both in Geneva. For more information about the third WCDRR visit: <http://www.wcdrr.org/>.

Moore added that ICSU had been recently invited by UNISDR to be the Organising Partner for the science and technology (S&T) community for the process leading up to the WCDRR. ICSU accepted this task but pointed out that the short timeline would inevitably mean that it would have to rely on established networks for the coordination of the scientific community's participation in the discussions and the meetings during the preparatory phase and at the conference itself. ICSU will determine the composition of the delegation to attend these preparatory meetings, in which representatives from IRDR will play a prominent role. He also clarified the relationship between ICSU's Ad Hoc Group on DRR science assessment, and the PrepCom meetings.

Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth (RADI)

Guo provided the meeting with updates on:

- **CAS-TWAS Centre of Excellence on Space Technology for Disaster Mitigation (CoE STDM):** held its second training workshop from 3 to 13 June 2014, involving 24 early- and mid-career scientists from 18 developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The participants from this workshop also attended the IRDR Conference and the CAS-TWAS special session held during the conference on 9 June 2014.
- **Committee on Data for Science and Technology (CODATA):** from 8 to 9 June 2014, CODATA held its "Workshop on Big Data for International Scientific Programmes: Challenges and Opportunities." Johnston delivered opening remarks on behalf of IRDR, one of the workshop's co-sponsors, during the opening session.
- **National Expert Committee of Disaster Mitigation:** Guo informed the meeting that he was recently elected a member of this high level committee, and suggested this could be an additional platform for IRDR in China.

DECISIONS:

- 2.1 Encourage and support SC Chair and Executive Director to engage with FE's counterparts, to provide an update at the next SC meeting and to seek a representation at future SC meetings. **(Lead: SC Chair/IPO)**
- 2.2 Encourage participation of IRDR in the various ISSC activities, requesting more concrete information on opportunities from the ISSC secretariat (including WSSF programme). **(Lead IPO)**
- 2.3 Support UNISDR's engagement with the S&T communities, including by providing input to the upcoming consultations that would contribute to ICSU's and IRDR's positioning in the process leading up to the third WCDRR. **(Lead: SC Chair / IPO)**

3. International Programme Office (IPO) Updates

IPO Management and Staffing

The SC expressed their gratitude to SC Chair Johnston who acted remotely as interim Executive Director of the IPO since December 2013. Members also applauded the efforts of the IPO staff in maintaining the Office throughout the prolonged period of transition. Johnston thanked RADI for their assistance in facilitating his remote management of the IPO during this period.

Morris informed that Tracy ZHAO, the Executive Assistant, resigned effective 24 April 2014, and two persons were employed on a part-time basis to assist in the preparations for the conference.

IRDR Conference 2014

Pre-conference session (6 June):

Rovins gave an update on final arrangements for the Conference and reviewed the roles of the SC Members, including their roles as chairs of parallel sessions (Doc 11/3.2).

Post-conference session (10 June):

During the review of the Conference on 10 June 2014, the Members provided the following feedback:

- **Attendance:** the Committee expressed concerns about the overall low participation of Chinese experts, which raised questions about the venue. RADI's International Office and IRDR China were encouraged, for future conferences, to take early measures to ensure a more active and more numerous local attendance.
- **Planning:** Members discussed the appropriate level of involvement of the SC in the conference planning. The establishment of a conference sub-committee was suggested by Stavrou.
- **Promotion:** Members offered they could play a more active role in promoting the conference through their professional networks.
- **SC Participation:** Members discussed the involvement of the SC as session chairs and presenters. Rovins explained that this was a result of the feedback received after the first conference in 2011, in which the SC Members requested more involvement in the second conference.
- **Sessions:** Members felt that the large number of parallel sessions needed to be addressed; several members suggested that holding thematically focused pre-conference workshops could target young scientists and could prepare plenary reporting. Session chairs felt they—and speakers—should have been provided in advance more information about their respective sessions. In the future, chairs and speakers should liaise in advance of the conference to ensure smooth and coherent sessions, with sufficient time for discussions.

For plenary sessions, Members agreed that future conferences would have to be more careful in selecting and briefing speakers, including guidelines about the purpose of sessions and the overall theme of the conference to better guide the preparation of their presentations.

4. Research Programme Updates

Assessment of Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (AIRDR)

Reporting

Cutter gave a comprehensive presentation about the background to and original vision for the AIRDR project and its activities to date, including highlights from the recently concluded preliminary assessment (see Doc. 11/2.1, pg. 7).

After being involved in a UK-launched initiative on a possible international scientific advisory mechanism in March 2014, the AIRDR team also joined, in May 2014, the ICSU-convened ad-hoc expert group on disaster risk assessment in Paris, to further a resolution on Disaster Risk Research and Assessment at the 31st ICSU GA.

UNISDR had provided funding to AIRDR to conduct a scientific literature review of three themes to be explored in the 2015 edition of the Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction (GAR15). The first paper, “Incentives for Disaster Risk Management,” had been completed; the second paper, “Governance in Disaster Risk Management,” was due 15 June 2014; the third paper, “Transformative Development and Disaster Risk Management,” was in progress.

Planning

A discussion on the future of AIRDR found that AIRDR may need to be re-scoped, given the insufficient resources available to implement the original work plan. Cutter noted that a next step for the project could be to assess the science in the literature and to produce a document that prescribes how to conduct a similar bibliometric analysis. It was suggested to involve ongoing and emerging literature surveys and encourage them to apply the AIRDR approach. Johnston referred to a study of the literature produced in response to the Christchurch earthquake event; Jiménez Díaz mentioned a survey of DRR science capacity in Latin America, which was supported by ICSU ROLAC. A decision on AIRDR’s future was not taken.

Moore advised that ICSU is preparing work towards an IPCC-inspired assessment mechanism for DRR that would be based on the IUGG proposal (Doc. 11/2.1, pg. 7). Another meeting was planned for October and this might be an outlet for AIRDR products.

Disaster Loss Data (DATA)

Reporting

Cutter provided an overview of the project’s goals and the recently held third meeting of the working group (WG) in Ispra, Italy from 19 to 21 May 2014, hosted by the European

Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC). A joint meeting was also held with EU loss data experts on 21 May. The most significant accomplishment of the DATA project to date was the **Peril Classification and Hazard Glossary** in March 2014 (Doc. 11/6.1; also: <http://www.irdrinternational.org/2014/03/28/irdr-peril-classification-and-hazard-glossary/>). This publication aims to reconcile the taxonomy and definitions of perils and currently being used in the development of disaster loss databases in the EU.

Technical experts from the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) reviewed the classification scheme and provided their feedback at the third DATA meeting. Despite some specific concerns (definitions of perils), they expressed WMO's support of the classification scheme.

The project's WG members had begun testing the classification scheme within their respective databases (EM-DAT, Swiss Re, Munich Re, UNISDR-DesInventar and SHELDUS). The tests found that in practice the reconciliation process was more difficult than theoretically anticipated, often for reasons other than the classification itself; however, the members have begun to develop a revised classification of peril classes to achieve a better fit with their respective databases.

Planning

The WG plans to meet with the WMO's technical team to clarify the latter's concerns about the classification scheme. Subsequently, the WMO would be able to give its formal approval and could encourage the world meteorological associations to utilise the scheme. Similar input will be sought from UNESCO about geo-physical hazards, and from the World Health Organisation (WHO) for biological hazards.

This incorporation of external and internal feedback and the resulting reconfiguration are expected to be completed by the end of 2014.

The WG also identified the need to draft guidance and standardised indicators and definitions of economic losses and will develop a guidance document for normalisation options/procedures when displaying loss information and uncertainty in loss data.

Cutter suggested that IRDR take the lead in providing a methodological framework for compiling future loss databases. The WG will also provide a conceptual framework that defines human impacts based on the CRED/Munich Re/Swiss Re white paper, **Working Paper 264: Disaster Category Classification and Peril Terminology for Operations Purposes**, http://cred.be/sites/default/files/DisCatClass_264.pdf, using simplified schema and definitions. This will be completed in September 2014.

The WG proposes to hold its fourth meeting between September and November 2014, possibly in Brussels or Leuven (hosted by EU and CRED). It was noted, however, that currently no funding was available for convening such a meeting.

Forensic Investigations of Disasters (FORIN)

Reporting

Alcántara-Ayala, whom Oliver-Smith presented as the new FORIN project co-chair after the resignation of Ian Burton in early 2014, gave a summary of the International Seminar on FORIN held in Mexico City, from 24 to 25 February 2014. The main objective of the

workshop was to present the FORIN methodology in understanding the underlying causes of disasters through keynote addresses, lectures, working groups, roundtable discussions and interviews with the media. This was the second workshop under the *Landslide Networking for Disaster Studies, Capacity Building, Partnership and Engagement in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LANDSCAPE-LAC) project, which received funding from ICSU and the International Geographical Union (IGU) in 2013. Twenty young scientists from seven Latin American countries with different scientific or professional backgrounds (administration, anthropology, civil engineering, civil protection, economics, geography, geology) participated in the International Seminar.

Planning

Oliver-Smith reported that, as negotiated between IRDR and UNISDR, FORIN had also received US\$30,000 from UNISDR to prepare a second version of FORIN (FORIN 2.0) via a three-day workshop. Workshop discussions will be guided by the evaluation of FORIN studies being currently conducted by Pelling and his team as part of the EU-FP7 project PEARL (Preparing for extreme and rare events in coastal regions) project, which began in January 2014 (Doc. 11/2.1, pg. 9). Pelling provided the meeting with a summary of the findings of the review to date. Another expected outcome of this FORIN 2.0 workshop will be a potential contribution to GAR15.

Briceño reminded the SC of the need for FORIN case studies to be developed that would allow the application of the FORIN methodology and that can be used as showcases for subsequent fundraising. He emphasised that the project should focus on ensuring proper dissemination of the methodology to the DRR research community, also by proactively engaging all relevant scientific fields. Cardona offered a possible study of the Haiti earthquake as an example for a strong case study, and proposed that the IRDR ICoE-UR&S in Colombia, with possible support from LA RED, could coordinate such an effort.

As reported at the 10th SC meeting, the FORIN WG continued discussions with UNU-EHS about a joint two-year workshop series, consisting of three workshops per year, incl. notably in Africa. The development of this workshop series is expected to reach completion in conjunction with the planning for the FORIN 2.0 workshop.

Risk Interpretation and Action (RIA)

Reporting

Pelling gave an overview of the RIA project's past activities. HUDSON-DOYLE, representing the ISSC RIA Fellows, provided the meeting with a summary of the WSSF seminar on Risk Interpretation and Action held in New Zealand in December 2013 (see also under ISSC pp. 5-6). She suggested that IRDR could offer assistance in promoting the RIA fellows and integrate them into the IRDR programme activities, including a presence on the IRDR website.

Pelling also updated on the status of RIA's contribution to GAR15, "transformation of decision-making for disaster risk reduction." The first draft of this paper was completed and a final version is expected by mid-summer.

Planning

The WG will be revising the paper, *Disaster Risk Communication: Dialogues for Reducing Disaster Risk (an Integrated Research on Disaster Risk, Risk Interpretation and Action*

programme Briefing Note), produced after the workshop held in London in May 2013 to re-establish RIA as an agenda-setting working group.

Bostrom reported that she expected to be invited to organise a workshop funded by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) and the US' National Science Foundation (NSF), noting that this could lead to RIA co-sponsored research. The workshop would discuss funding needs of the behavioural and social sciences on decision-making in disaster risk reduction contexts and in response to extreme events.

Pelling emphasised the potential for the inclusion of affiliated projects to assist RIA in building its wider community of experts. It was suggested to expand this approach to the programme as a whole.

A decision on appointing a new co-chair (or new co-chairs) for RIA was not taken; Pelling will advise the SC accordingly.

Results of Projects' Breakout Sessions

Led by the project co-chairs, three breakout sessions were held on 11 June 2014, allowing IRDR China representatives and researchers to learn more about DATA, FORIN and RIA and to provide input for the way forward for each project. The breakout sessions were led by each project's respective co-chairs.

- **DATA** discussions focused on the **Peril Classification and Hazard Glossary** (March 2014), and a review of the Chinese peril classification system. This session also heard from the Secretary General of IRDR Japan, Tsukahara, who also shared the Japanese experience.
- **FORIN** reported that participants in this session offered constructive criticisms on the strengths and weaknesses of the FORIN template that will inform the discussions at the FORIN 2.0 workshop to be held later in 2014.
- **RIA** reported that the session focused on issues of uncertainty and probability as opposed to descriptive assessments of risks. Younger scientists also raised the issue how to be an active part, in the face of the influence of senior colleagues irrespective of sectors, in efforts to innovate disaster risk reduction.

Formalising Projects' Working Group Memberships

Members provided Oliver-Smith with their feedback on the draft letter aimed at formalising the membership of non-IRDR SC members on the respective working groups and activities. The SC felt that use of such a letter would be helpful for visible community building also for the other working groups. The IPO will provide a revised version to Oliver-Smith.

Affiliated Projects

The SC agreed that a strategy needed to be developed to widen the network beyond its current structures, notably by identifying possible IRDR Affiliated Projects. It was suggested to develop terms of reference (ToRs) for IRDR affiliated projects (APs), taking the cue from similar approaches in other ICSU programmes, and to consider proactive surveying of the

research landscape for the identification of appropriate AP's. The SC recognised that this approach would entail the establishment of a mechanism to allow for existing funded projects to become recognised as IRDR AP's.

DECISIONS:

- 4.1 Provide Oliver-Smith with the revised IRDR Project WG membership letter. **(Lead: IPO)**
4.2 Develop ToRs for IRDR Affiliated Projects (APs) for decision at the 12th SC meeting. **(Lead: IPO; Task Group)**

5. IRDR International Centres of Excellence (ICoEs) and National Committees (NCs) Updates

Reports from Current IRDR International Centres of Excellence (ICoEs)

IRDR ICoE-Taipei

Tony Liu provided an update of the ICoE's activities, both international and domestic, and its future plans. It is to be noted that within its international programme the ICoE focuses primarily on capacity building activities, including workshops, symposia, advanced institutes and a visiting scientists programme.

Reporting

The ICoE was one of the co-sponsors and helped organise the WSSF RIA seminar in New Zealand in December 2013. The ICoE funded four follow-on research projects arising from the six working groups that were formed at the workshop, providing seed funding of US\$15,000 to the selected projects (see also under ISSC pp. 5-6). The Fellows are expected to complete these projects by December 2014.

Within its domestic programme, the ICoE continue to promote and coordinate its five domestic IRDR-related research projects:

- Mega-seismic risk and multi-geological disasters in Taiwan
- Impact of Climate and Land Use Change on Environmental Hazards and Adaptation
- Vulnerability Assessment for Heat Wave and Relevant Adaptation Strategy Recommendations
- Open ISDM: Open Information Systems for Disaster Management
- Taiwan Climate Change Projection and Information Platform (TCCIP)

Planning

The ICoE will hold a second advanced institute on FORIN from 21 to 25 October 2014, to provide 15 to 20 young to mid-career researchers and practitioners from Southeast Asia with enhanced skills to carry out FORIN-related studies.

Proposal for a New IRDR Project

As requested at the 10th SC meeting, Takeuchi presented the report of the SC team (Benouar, Tony Liu, Pelling, Takeuchi) appointed to examine the ICoE-Taipei proposal for an additional IRDR project, Disaster Risk Reduction and Loss Mitigation (RILM; Doc. 11/5.1), as a possible IRDR flagship project. The SC felt that IRDR still needed to develop its approach to possible “flagships” to work across and draw from the existing four IRDR projects and connecting to other research initiatives such as FE.

Following up on discussions during an earlier part of the meeting, the SC agreed that the project proposal could provide, in the format of a localised case study, a test bed for the application of IRDR approaches. The SC decided not to accept the original proposal from ICoE-Taipei, but to encourage the ICoE to conduct the project as an ICoE-Taipei initiative, working with the respective four IRDR projects, and with the full support of the SC. This could help the SC to advance its thinking about the format for a “flagship” project that it felt was needed for the showcasing of IRDR results. The IPO would be asked to liaise with ICoE Taipei to develop avenues for internationalising the project idea in this perspective, possibly by involving networks of municipalities interested in the approaches to DRR targeted by IRDR.

IRDR ICoE on Vulnerability and Resilience Metrics (IRDR ICoE-VaRM)

Cutter gave an overview over the ICoE’s activities since November 2013:

Reporting

- Supporting AIRDR in conducting a bibliometric analysis of integrated disaster risk research and preparing a journal article on the results of this assessment (ongoing; see pg. 9).
- Supporting the DATA project working group in producing the **IRDR Peril Classification and Hazard Glossary** (March 2014), testing the peril classification (ongoing), and assisting in the organisation of the working group’s third expert meeting in Ispra, Italy in May 2014 (see pg. 10).
- Conducting three research reviews as AIRDR’s contribution to GAR15 (ongoing; see pg. 9).
- Participating in a workshop on the role of science in “good enough disaster risk assessment,” Bogota, Colombia (February 2014).
- Hosting a pre-doctoral student from Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), from Karlsruhe, Germany, to study vulnerability metrics (February to April 2014).
- Participating in a workshop to discuss and draft the statement on establishing an international science advisory mechanism for disaster risk reduction to strengthen resilience, in London, UK (March 2014).
- Participating in an IUGG/ICSU Ad Hoc Expert Group on Disaster Risk Assessment, in Paris, France (in May 2014).

Planning

The ICoE will continue supporting the AIRDR and DATA projects with specific aspects of the projects’ work plans. In the case of AIRDR, support will be provided in completing the journal article on the results of the preliminary assessment; producing a document that prescribes how to conduct similar bibliometric analysis; and completing the research reviews for AIRDR’s contribution to GAR15. In terms of DATA, the ICoE will continue testing the peril classification scheme.

IRDR ICoE in Community Resilience (IRDR ICoE-CR)

Hudson-Doyle provided an overview of IRDR ICoE-CR, its vision, structure and goals.

Reporting

Activities undertaken by the Centre since its official formation in November 2013 included:

- Establishing a mailing list for the members and interested parties of the ICoE.
- Holding two workshops on “Building Resilience Amongst Communities” in April 2014 at Massey University and Lincoln University respectively.
- Collaborating with the Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (WREMO) on the development of an online Community Resilience Toolbox to house a database of projects, research and related information on community resilience initiatives in the Wellington Region.
- Holding a collaborative workshop with WREMO to explore and identify the key research questions that help inform the WREMO Community Resilience Strategy.

Planning

In the near future, the ICoE will continue the development of the Community Resilience Toolbox, which is expected to be launched by the end of 2014. The ICoE will also hold a community resilience and knowledge sharing workshop at the 7th Australasian Natural Hazards Management Conference to be held in Wellington in September 2014.

IRDR ICoE in Understanding Risk & Safety (IRDR ICoE-UR&S)

Reporting

Cardona provided the meeting with a summary of national and international projects and initiatives of this newly established ICoE. These include risk evaluations and profiles for several countries, development of the Global Risk Model for GAR13 and an update for GAR15. The contribution to GAR15 include:

- A fully probabilistic earthquake and tropical cyclone (wind + storm surge) hazard and risk assessment at global level.
- Computing the Loss Exceedance Curve and other probabilistic risk metrics using the Comprehensive Approach to Probabilistic Risk Assessment (CAPRA) Platform.
- Calculation of Hybrid Loss Exceedance Curves to reflect the extensive and intensive risk.
- Examples of risk evaluations at local level for earthquake, tropical cyclones, floods and volcanoes.
- Country risk profile based on coarse-grain information for risk awareness and comparison among countries.
- Development of a good-enough risk assessment methodology to replicate the global approach at the local level.

Cardona also provided the meeting with an overview of the city of Manizales’ disaster risk management programme. The IRDR ICoE-UR&S was formally approved by the SC at its 10th meeting in November 2013.

Proposed IRDR ICoEs

- **Periperi U Consortium(secretariat at Stellenbosch University, South Africa):** the SC discussed the expression of interest (EoI) from the Periperi U (Partners Enhancing Resilience for People Exposed to Risks) Consortium, based at the Research Alliance for Disaster and Risk Reduction (RADAR) at Stellenbosch University in South Africa. The consortium, which has several partner institutions all across the African continent, requested to be designated the IRDR ICoE for Disaster Risk Reduction Education (IRDR ICoE-DRRE) (Doc 11/5.2). Following requests for clarification by the SC during day one of the meeting, the EoI was revised and resubmitted during the session on day two. The SC approved the designation of Periperi U as the IRDR ICoE-DRRE based on this revised proposal (Doc. 11/5.2a). The name of the ICoE will be revised and, once the IPO is informed of the new name, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) will be drafted.
- **Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia:** the SC discussed the EoI from the new Department of Disaster Risk Management and Sustainable Development at Bahir Dar University in Ethiopia to be designated an IRDR ICoE. The SC decided not to accept this proposal and encouraged Bahir Dar University to engage with IRDR through its membership in the Periperi U Consortium.

Reports from Current National Committees (NCs)

IRDR China

Feng gave a presentation explaining the composition of IRDR China, the NC's role in China's national system for disaster governance, and its research programme, which comprises six projects launched in October 2012:

1. FORIN Case Study of Seasonal Drought in South-western China under the Condition of Climate Change - Yunnan Province Chosen as Case Study (Institute of Environment and Sustainable Development in Agriculture, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS))
2. Study on Data Management Model for Historical Loss Data: Flood as Showcase (Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth (RADI), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS))
3. Urban Disaster Resistance Capability and Risk Assessment - Wenchuan Earthquake as Case Study (China Earthquake Disaster Prevention Center)
4. Study on the Internal Relationship between Global Change and Natural Disaster Risk Variation in China (RADI, CAS)
5. Study on Management Mechanisms of Community-Based Mountain Hazard Risks (Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment, CAS)
6. Climate Change, Drought and Population Migration: Dynamic Mechanism and Risk Assessment (Institute for Urban and Environmental Development Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS))

IRDR China was also instrumental in its support of the IRDR Conference 2014, and was a member of the local planning committee.

In April 2014, IRDR China convened an IRDR session at the Monsoon Asia Integrated Regional Study (MAIRS) Open Science Conference, <http://mairs.csp.escience.cn/dct/page/1>. The session was co-chaired by Morris on behalf of the IPO.

IRDR Colombia

Cardona presented Colombia's National Committee for Disaster Risk Knowledge, the newly established IRDR Colombia. This Committee is located within the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management of the Presidency of the Republic of Colombia (UNGRD). Cardona also provided the meeting with a review of Colombia's national plan for disaster risk management (see also: http://media.wix.com/ugd/a02d6e_1eff708014424892a113344def36a25c.pdf).

IRDR Japan

Tsukahara provided an overview of IRDR Japan, a sub-committee within the Science Council of Japan (SCJ), mainly comprising academics from the SCJ. There is also an IRDR policy sub-committee within the SCJ, comprising members from central/local governments, international development agencies, NGOs, etc. Both sub-committees are expected to work together on IRDR-related research.

As reported at the 10th SC meeting (Doc. 11/2.1, pg. 15), IRDR Japan's "Large Scale Research Program on IRDR" was selected by the Government of Japan (GOJ) as a special priority research project among 27 such projects from all sectors in Japan.

The SCJ will hold the "Tokyo Conference on International Study for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience" in January 2015. Takeuchi presented the draft Tokyo Statement and requested the SC to provide comments for improvement. Fakhruddin volunteered to compile SC comments for submission to Takeuchi. This was done by the end of the meeting. IRDR accepted the invitation to become a co-sponsor of the Tokyo conference.

Additionally, IRDR Japan is also involved in the planning for the third WCDRR, with its Vice-Chair, Haruo Hayashi, appointed a member of the planning committee established by the Government of Japan.

IRDR New Zealand

Johnston provided the meeting with an overview of the first four years of activities of Natural Hazards Research Platform (NHRP), which is the basis for the National Committee. He also presented a preview of the way forward for the Platform in reducing New Zealand's exposure to significant hazard risks and working with the global IRDR programme.

IRDR USA

Cutter gave an overview of activities under the newly established IRDR USA, which is a centre-of-centres comprising university centres specialising in different aspects of hazards and disasters and representing different disciplines. The host institution is the Natural

Hazards Center (NHC) at the University of Colorado at Boulder. The NHC is also the chief convenor and coordinator for IRDR USA's activities.

There are 12 founding centres; but it is expected that as the NC becomes more established additional centres will be invited to join. The NHC has been hosting the Annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications Workshop since 1975. This meeting will serve as the venue for the NC's governance meetings, the first of which was to be held at the 39th Annual Workshop (22 to 25 June 2014). The NC will focus on the activities of the respective centres to advance the IRDR agenda, including the NHC's information dissemination, annual workshop and quick response programmes.

Proposed NCs

- **Australia:** the EoI from Australia's Bushfire & Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre (BNH CRC), requesting to be designated an IRDR NC (Doc. 11/10.1), was discussed and agreed to by the SC.

Following the lengthy discussions during the review of the EoIs from Periperi U and from BNH CRC, the SC agreed that the ToRs governing the establishment and functioning of ICoEs and NCs must be revised so that criteria for selection and successful operation are more easily applicable.

DECISIONS

- 5.1 Inform IRDR ICoE-Taipei of its decision, and liaise with the ICoE regarding the implementation of the proposal for a project within the remit of ICoE-Taipei, working with the respective four projects, and with the full support of the SC, and exploring avenues for internationalising the project. **(Lead: SC Chair/IPO; Support: SC Executive; WG co-chairs)**
- 5.2 Approve designating the Periperi U Consortium, based at Stellenbosch University in South Africa, as the IRDR ICoE for Disaster Risk Reduction Education (IRDR ICoE-DRRE). Periperi U will be informed of this decision and the respective MoU prepared, once the IPO has been informed of its new name. **(Lead: IPO)**.
- 5.3 Reject the proposal from Bahir Dar University in Ethiopia for its new Department of Disaster Risk Management and Sustainable Development to be designated an IRDR ICoE. Bahir Dar University will be informed of this decision and will be encouraged to engage with IRDR through its membership in the Periperi U Consortium. **(Lead: IPO)**
- 5.4 Approve designating Australia's Bushfire & Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre (BNH CRC) as IRDR NC Australia. BNH CRC will be informed of this decision. **(Lead: IPO)**
- 5.5 Revise the current ToRs governing the establishment of IRDR ICoEs and NCs/RCs and disseminate to the SC Members for their review prior to the 12th SC meeting in November 2014. **(Lead: IPO; Task Force)**

6. Network Building

Integration with Co-Sponsors' Programmes

ICSU

- **ICSU Regional Office for Africa (ICSU ROA):** Ayonghe presented on ICSU ROA's activities on natural hazards and disasters and their efforts to integrate their hazards and disasters plans with that of IRDR.

A global-regional integration workshop in Kuala Lumpur in September 2012; a follow-up meeting in Dakar resulting in the Dakar Declaration on Hazards and Disasters; and a planning workshop in Pretoria in September 2013, helped ICSU ROA to advance its plans to implement two follow-up activities:

- an interdisciplinary research consortium comprising African and foreign experts co-designing and conducting research projects on bushfires, climate change, drought, earthquakes, floods, landslides and volcanoes.
- a book project on the state of natural hazards and disasters in Africa.

UNISDR

- **ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP):** Rovins provided the meeting with an update on the activities of the ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) Science, Technology and Academia Stakeholders group (previously called the Scientific, Academic and Research Stakeholders group). The group is co-chaired by IRDR and the Asian University Network of Environment and Disaster Risk Management (AUEDM). Rovins also briefly reviewed the elements of the stakeholders group's statement, which will be finalised during the 6th AMCDRR (see pg. 6). The conference will be attended by Fakhruddin, Johnston and Rovins, and, as agreed at the 10th SC meeting, Fakhruddin will represent IRDR on the stakeholders group in the future.
- **Scientific and Technical Advisory Group (STAG):** The IRDR has been invited to contribute to the next STAG report. Fakhruddin volunteered to coordinate the IRDR's contribution at the appropriate time.
- **UN Sasakawa Award for Disaster Reduction:** the SC agreed to support the nomination of Allan Lavell for the 2015 UN Sasakawa Award for Disaster Reduction in consideration of his many years of contribution to the field of DRR. Lavell also contributed significantly to the IRDR programme as former SC Member and AIRDR project co-chair and by sharing his knowledge also with the other projects.

Integration with other International Initiatives

- **EU JRC:** Ehrlich gave a presentation on the DRR-related work of the European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC) and its collaboration with IRDR, established through an MoU signed in 2011. The JRC is a member of the DATA project working group and Ehrlich is one of the project's co-chairs. The JRC is also contributing to

GAR15. Ehrlich emphasised that the JRC is open to working more closely with IRDR experts, especially through the development of case studies.

- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** Represented by Pelling, ICSU, in their capacity as Organising Partner for the global S&T community, participated in the meetings of the UN General Assembly Open Working Group (OWG) on SDGs in New York. At the OWG's Seventh Session in January 2014, Pelling presented the ICSU/IRDR issue brief, developed by an ad hoc working group of several members of the IRDR SC and experts associated with the programme, to inform the discussions of the SDGs. Pelling noted that the first draft of the SDGs document does not have a distinct DRR goal, although the issue of disasters is included within separate goals.

DECISIONS:

- 6.1 Contribute to the next UNISDR STAG report; Fakhruddin will coordinate the programme's contribution. **(Lead: Fakhruddin; Support: IPO)**
- 6.2 Support the nomination of Allan Lavell for the UN Sasakawa Award for Disaster Reduction. **(Lead: IPO; Support: SC Executive)**

Annex 1 - Meeting Documents and Powerpoint Presentations

Table 1: List of 11th SC Meeting Documents (also available at <http://www.irdrinternational.org/sc-members-zone/sc11-june-2014-beijing-china/>)

Symbol	Title
11/1.1	List of Participants
11/1.2	Practical Arrangements
11/2.1	Report of the 10 th SC Meeting
11/3.1	IRDR Conference 2014 Programme
11/3.2	Moderator Guidelines (for IRDR Conference 2014)
11/4.1	Draft Letter of Appointment for non-IRDR SC Members (as prepared for the FORIN Project Working Group)
11/5.1	Draft Proposal ICoE Taipei: Flagship Project for IRDR: Disaster Risk and Loss Reduction
11/5.2	PeriPeri U Consortium: Expression of Interest for Status as IRDR International Centre of Excellence
11/5.2a	PeriPeri U Consortium: Revised Application for Status as IRDR International Centre of Excellence
11/5.3	PeriPeri U Consortium: Annual Report 2013 (1 January to 30 September 2013)
11/5.4	PeriPeri U Consortium: Annual Consultative Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland,

Symbol	Title
	19-24 May 2013
11/5.5	Expression of Interest for IRDR International Centre of Excellence, at Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia
11/6.1	DATA Project Report No. 1
11/7.1	ISSC “Transformations to Sustainability” Programme: Description and Call for Proposals
11/8.1	IRDR ICoE Logo
11/9.1	IRDR NC Logo
11/10.1	Expression of Interest for IRDR National Committee Australia, Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre (BNH CRC)

Table 2: List of 11th SC Meeting PowerPoint Presentations (also available at <http://www.irdrinternational.org/sc-members-zone/sc11-june-2014-beijing-china/>)

Category	Slide Presentations
Co-Sponsors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Social Science Council (ISSC): Update
Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AIRDR • DATA • FORIN (specifically regarding the FORIN workshop) • RIA (specifically regarding the RIA World Social Science Fellows)
ICoEs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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)
NCs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IRDR China Presentations were also given on the following IRDR China projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Risk Analysis and Management of Mountain Hazards in Western China (Rong CHEN, Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment, Chinese Academy Of Sciences) ○ Study on data requirement of specific disaster events- Earthquake & Flood as showcase (Zhang Hongyue, Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth, CAS) ○ Climate Change, Drought and Migration: Dynamics and Risk Assessment (ZHENG Yan, Chinese Academy of Social Science) ○ Urban Disaster Vulnerability Analysis and Risk Assessment (China Earthquake Disaster Prevention Center; Dalian University of Technology; Liaoning Normal University) • IRDR Colombia • IRDR Japan • IRDR New Zealand

Category	Slide Presentations
Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Joint Research Centre - “JRC and Disaster Risk Reduction” • ICSU Regional Office for Africa (ICSU ROA) - “Activities of ICSU ROA on Natural Hazards and Disasters”
Proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC Task Group: “IRDR Flagship: Disaster Risk and Loss Reduction – Integrating Research, Policy and Practice”

Annex 2 – Summary of Action Items from 11th SC Meeting

No.	Action	Lead (Support)
1.1	Update and publish the SC members list (showing gender, nationality, affiliations, areas of specialisation, roles in the IRDR programme, and their terms and exit times.	IPO
2.1	Encourage and support SC Chair and Executive Director to engage with FE’s counterparts, to provide an update at the next SC meeting and to seek a representation at future SC meetings.	SC Chair (IPO)
2.2	Encourage participation of IRDR in the various ISSC activities, requesting more concrete information on opportunities from the ISSC secretariat (including WSSF programme).	IPO
2.3	Support UNISDR’s engagement with the S&T communities, including by providing input to the upcoming consultations that would contribute to ICSU’s and IRDR’s positioning in the process leading up to the third WCDRR.	SC Chair (IPO)
4.1	Provide Oliver-Smith with the revised IRDR Project WG membership letter.	IPO
4.2	Develop ToRs for IRDR Affiliated Projects (APs) for decision at the 12 th SC meeting.	IPO (Task Group)
5.1	Inform IRDR ICoE-Taipei of its decision, and liaise with the ICoE regarding the implementation of the proposal for a project within the remit of ICoE-Taipei, working with the respective four projects, and with the full support of the SC, and exploring avenues for	SC Chair/IPO (SC Executive; WG co-chairs)

No.	Action	Lead (Support)
	internationalising the project.	
5.2	Approve designating the Periperi U Consortium, based at Stellenbosch University in South Africa, as the IRDR ICoE for Disaster Risk Reduction Education (IRDR ICoE-DRRE). Periperi U will be informed of this decision and the respective MoU prepared, once the IPO has been informed of its new name.	IPO
5.3	Reject the proposal from Bahir Dar University in Ethiopia for its new Department of Disaster Risk Management and Sustainable Development to be designated an IRDR ICoE. Bahir Dar University will be informed of this decision and will be encouraged to engage with IRDR through its membership in the Periperi U Consortium.	IPO
5.4	Approve designating Australia's Bushfire & Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre (BNH CRC) as IRDR NC Australia. BNH CRC will be informed of this decision.	IPO
5.5	Revise the current ToRs governing the establishment of IRDR ICoEs and NCs/RCs and disseminate to the SC Members for their review prior to the 12 th SC meeting in November 2014.	IPO (Task Force)
6.1	Contribute to the next UNISDR STAG report; Fakhruddin will coordinate the programme's contribution.	Fakhruddin (IPO)
6.2	Support the nomination of Allan Lavell for the UN Sasakawa Award for Disaster Reduction.	IPO (SC Executive)