

**Eighth Meeting of the Science Committee
Chengdu, China
November 4-7, 2012**

SUMMARY REPORT

Members present:

Salvano BRICEÑO (Chair), Irasema ALCÁNTARA-AYALA, Ann BOSTROM, Susan L. CUTTER, Ferruccio FERRIGNI, David JOHNSTON, Anthony OLIVER-SMITH (NOV 5-6) , Mark PELLING, Chamhuri SIWAR, Kuniyoshi TAKEUCHI, Angelika WIRTZ, Sisi ZLATANOVA

Ex-officio:

Huadong GUO (CEODE, Morning of Nov.6), Andrew MASKREY (UNISDR), Mathieu DENIS (represents Gudmund HERNES, ISSC), Howard MOORE (ICSU)

Invited participants

Sarah BEAVEN(Nov.4-5), Christopher BURTON , Richard EISER, Shaw LIU(Nov.6) , Jane MORGAN (Nov.4-5)

IRDR IPO:

Jane E. ROVINS, Yaoying CHENG, Lang LANG, Tracy ZHAO

Opening and introduction of participants and guests

(Attachment - List of Participants)

BRICEÑO opened the meeting by welcoming new members and all participants.

Approval of Draft Agenda

(Attachment –Agenda of the 8th SC Meeting)

The draft agenda was approved with changes due to participant schedules.

Discussions on IRDR mission and IRDR Statement on L’Aquila Case were added to the agenda.

Summary Report of the Seventh Meeting of the Science Committee

(Attachment- Summary Report of the 7th Meeting)

The Summary Report of the Seventh Meeting of the IRDR Science Committee will be reviewed.

Co-Sponsors Updates

ICSU Update

- MOORE presented a new 10-year initiative: Future Earth. This initiative will be built with the existing global environmental change programmes of ICSU (Diversitas, IGBP, IHDP, and WCRP). ICSU recognized the need to restructure those programmes.
- Future Earth should take disaster risk into account as a key issue.
- It was suggested that several initiatives on risk governance should be reconstructed and integrated with IRDR, such as Integrated Risk Governance Programme, LOICE, etc.
- The communications between IRDR and Regional offices on Future Earth activities should be encouraged.

ISSC Update

(Attachment- IRDR/ISSC cooperation on an RIA seminar)

DENIS introduced ISSC planned activities for the next year.

- **World Social Science Fellows Program:** launched at the beginning of this year. It’s built around a series of seminars targeting interdisciplinary scientists in their early careers, to identify 5-10 prioritized questions for future research, and to build research collaborations. The first series of 3 seminars will be within the same concept note but in different regions.

- **Independent activities:** series of networking conference among ISSC, ICSU, and DFG. The first one will take place in April, 2013 with the topic on food future.
- **World Social Science Forum:** It is scheduled on October 13-15, 2013, in Montreal. Call for Papers and Panels has been released. The topic is social transformations and digital age. IRDR was encouraged to submit a panel, which JOHNSTON will lead.
- **ISSC General Assembly:** October 10-12, 2013, Montreal. ROVINS & JOHNSTON will attend.
- **Second World Science Report 2013:** Transformative cornerstones of social science research for Global Change. The 2013 WSSR will differ from the 2010 WSSR in that it will have a specific scientific focus, namely Changing Global Environments. The 2013 Report is scheduled for launch at the October 2013 UNESCO General Conference.
- DENIS expressed that ISSC is willing to be involved in the Future Earth and be helpful in profiling IRDR within Future Earth.

Strategic Plan 2012-2016

Attachment: IRDR Strategic Plan 2012-2016

Attachment: MISSION

Discussions on the outline of Strategic Plan was conducted. The revised version will be created by IPO.

Goal 1: Promotion of Integrated & Applied Research, Advocacy and Awareness

Ministerial Meeting Update

Attachment: AMCDRR Annex

- ROVINS introduced the 5th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Reduction. IRDR was involved in planning committee meetings, side events, and declaration process. A draft of Statement was circulated for comments, which has been developed by IRDR on the basis of the Beijing Declaration, the outcome of Rio+20 Forum, and several declarations from the Asia-Pacific conferences.
- Suggestions: More details could be provided in a summary document (MOORE). ROVINS agreed to follow up.

IRDR/ICSU ROLAC Event

Attachment: African Regional Workshop Summary

BRICEÑO introduced the Workshop in Latin America and Caribbean, final summary will be distributed. This workshop was supported with ICSU grants with aims to build young scientists capacity and to develop strategy for the region to go forward. The final report will be submitted to ICSU by the end of this year.

- Regarding the development of IRDR regional programme/committee, it's still under consideration that it is going to be one or two committees for the entire region, while the principle is to follow the ToR and to fit the situation in the region (ROVINS).
- More scientists (both senior and junior, next generation) need to be engaged in IRDR events to expand IRDR working groups and networks, while consistency and a unified perspective need to be maintained. (MOORE, CUTTER, BRICEÑO, TAKEUCHI, and ALCÁNTARA-AYALA)

AIRDR Working Group Update

Attachment: AIRDR Plan

- CUTTER introduced the AIRDR workplan, covering goals, research approach, assessment structure, expected outcomes, proposed actions and budgets, etc.
- WG was encouraged to cut projects into manageable pieces so as to pool small grants to use. A lot of interests for involvement were added to the declaration of the AMDRR.
- Timeline considerations should be taken so that AIRDR output and deliverables can influence several major initiatives including IPCC, Post-2015 framework, MDGs, the Future Earth, and UNSDSN (United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network), etc. (PELLING, BOSTROM, DENIS, WIRTZ, BRICEÑO, and ROVINS)
- Suggestions: 1. ISSC could help to bring more social scientists; 2. establish criteria regarding literature reviews. 3. search for literatures in integrated science journals.

Goal 2: Characterization of Hazards, Vulnerability and Risk

FORIN Working Group Updates

- OLIVER-SMITH introduced activities to date including Taipei Workshop (February, 2012), Natural Hazards Workshop (Boulders, July 2012), and the upcoming workshop in California (December 8-11, 2012). Regarding the FORIN workplan which was distributed during last SC meeting in Ravello (May, 2012), OLIVER-SMITH

put forth that due to shortage of funding, FORIN would start from smaller events, such as workshops in Asia, Latin America, and Africa, then would go to a broader level for research and publications.

- ROVINS reported on the status of upcoming FORIN Workshop at IUGG GRC Conference (December 8-11, California, USA), which TAKEUCHI, BRICEÑO, BENOVAR, OLIVER-SMITH and Ian BURTON will attend. The IUGG grant (USD\$17000) will cover the travel expenses of 6-8 participants. The IUGG GRC is working on the conference agenda into which FORIN workshop will be incorporated.
- It was suggested that a whole page on FORIN paper, approaches, and case studies to be created and linked on IRDR website. ROVINS added that FORIN WG need to make decisions on what cases should be branded as IRDR FORIN. The idea of creating a “FORIN Community Practice” column on IRDR was put forth by MASKREY. In that column, FORIN related concepts, criterions, and case studies could be publicized to encourage dialogue and exchange.
- Opportunities for specific FORIN case studies and funding: (1) IRDR ICoE-Taipei showed interests in doing a specific FORIN case study on typhoon Morakot. They have available domestic resources and only need guidance from IRDR SC. They expect to use this case study in the next AI in 2014. (2) IRDR-China has awarded grants for FORIN studies. (3) Funding from EU commission, FP8: Towards the next Framework Programme Horizon 2020, has been encouraged to include FORIN. (4) Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) is doing similar projects akin to FORIN.

Goal 3: Understanding Decision-Making in a Complex and Changing Risk Contexts, Risk Governances, and Institutional Development

RIA Working Group Update

Attachment- IRDR/ISSC cooperation on an RIA seminar

(JOHSTON & EISER)- reported on RIA related activities, products and symposiums in the last year and half. The following issues were discussed:

- Explore how to associate RIA with FORIN topics, for example, using Christchurch case study.
- Conduct RIA group meeting/workshop:
 - June 2013, SRA- Europe Conference
 - Workshop on Risk Communication by US- New Zealand
 - RIA/ISSC Workshop is proposed in Dec. 2013 in Christchurch, NZ
 - World Social Science Forum: RIA would be the overall representation for IRDR
- Link SERA WG with RIA.

Goal 4: Reducing Risk and Curbing Losses through Knowledge-based Actions

DATA Working Group Updates

Attachment- IRDR-Data 1st Expert Working Group meeting in Taipei PPT

(WIRTZ & CUTTER)

- Summarized the Kick-off meeting of DATA WG (PPT attached). Outcomes include:
 - Formal approval of DATA WG (timeline December 2012)
 - Establish a list-serve for DATA WG members (timeline December 2012)
 - Short-term workplan (next 6- 8 months) and long-term workplan (9-18 months)
- Proposed WG meetings:
 - 2nd meeting in April, 2013: Deliverable 1: Endorsed framework for perils/hazard classification for use by major data compilers. ROVINS suggested consulting with CODATA and WDS. BRICEÑO mentioned CODATA showed great interest in IRDR DATA, CODATA has a taskforce for disaster loss data, which IRDR is a member. Deliverable 2: Document requirements to enhance the current GLIDE system.
 - 3rd meeting in fall, 2013: (1) Continue to focus on the clearer definition of human impacts and economic impacts; (2) National database (suggest pilot in Japan and Austria, etc.) for the negotiation of 2015 Hyogo Framework.

IRDR/GEM Partnership

Attachment- GEM /IRDR Social vulnerability and Resilience Information system and Metadata Portal

BURTON introduced Social vulnerability and Resilience Information System and Metadata Portal, which is still a pilot project of the GEM/IRDR partnership. IRDR has been appointed to serve as the ICSU representative on the GEM Governing Board.

Goal 5: Networking and Network Building

IRDR/ICSU Regional Coordination (SIDA)

(MOORE)

- Regional Planning Workshop (Kuala Lumpur) and Implementation Workshop are completed. IPO will forward reports when available.
- Concerns expressed about close cooperation between IRDR and ICSU regional office, for example, Regional Office of Africa conducted the hazards workshop without consultation with IRDR.
- ISDR Regional office and ISSC Regional Council etc. can be used to enhance regional coordination.

Organizations/Programs with similar interests

- EUJRC representatives attended IRDR DATA and RIA meeting. They will join the FORIN workshop in California. IPO will participate EUJRC activity to be held in Belgium in November 2012.
- ROVINS introduced the progress of events with UNISDR office in Korea, Natural Hazards Center in Boulders, GRF DAVOS, IDRiM, and Understanding Risk, etc., their backgrounds and IRDR's participation.
- CUTTER suggested that a list of IRDR engagements with relevant organizations are needed to help SC to better understand the status of cooperation, thus to provide guidance for event participation.
- Discussed what activities IRDR should get involved. Need to identify meetings/conferences/forums for specific goals, which is crucial to allocating travel funds strategically.

Goal 6: Research Support

IRDR IPO Update

- Staff: The new Communication Officer is being recruited. 2 positions still open, one is Senior Science Officer (PhD), and the other is Junior Science Officer. Call for applications will go internationally and domestically. For Senior Science Officer, SC members are expected to help circulate the call and identify candidates.
- Events calendar: IPO is running an events column on the website, SC members were expected to forward relevant event information to IPO to be put on the website or IRDR Google Calendar.
- Visiting professorship cancelled for the fall of 2012.
- Research databases: IPO was approved to scope out it. The current situation is we have several partners (such as UNISDR) interested in developing it, but funding is required.
- SC endorsed hiring Kerry-Ann Morris as Junior Science Officer.

Enhance Communications

(ROVINS)

(1) Send newsletters regularly via mail chimp. (2) Enhance IRDR website's capability of conference-convening and advertising. (3) Need to reorganize and update IRDR website in a more logical order.

Co-Sponsors Updates (Continued)

UNISDR Updated on Global Platform 2013

Attachment- Concept Note of the 4th Session of Global Platform for DRR

Attachment- The Draft of Proposed Sessions in GP

- MASKREY introduced the preparation of the Global Platform 2013. Registration is currently open, and the agenda is in development with round tables, panels, and side events to be confirmed.
- The value of IRDR's involvement in the GP 2013 is to illustrate the role of integrated sciences in policy and practice. To achieve that, the concept of conducting a session at the GP2013 was discussed. The proposed session will be built around WGs, stakeholder roundtable, side events, and booth presentations. ROVINS will follow up and keep MASKREY updated.
- For IRDR SC participation, IPO will facilitate the online registration (ZHAO) and get funding sorted out (ROVINS).
- The first draft of proposed sessions at GP was submitted to MASKREY.

Global Assessment Reports

Attachment- Key Policy Message

Attachment- Chapter outline of GAR13

(MASKREY) Zero draft will be ready by 15 December, 2012, and timeframe for peer-review is from 15 December 2012 to 15 January, 2013. IRDR SC & IPO will serve as reviewers. On Feb 6-8, a 2-day meeting will be conducted by Advisory Board to look into review comments.

National Committees Updates

IRDR-Japan

Attachment- Activity Report of IRDR-Japan

Attachment- SDGs target proposals

(TAKEUCHI)- *Activity Report is available on IRDR website Members Only Section*

- Briefly introduced the development of IRDR-Japan with 2 different phases.
- Presented the SDGs target proposals and Post-HFA proposals.
- Relevant publications and papers were requested to be shared with IPO for documentation (ROVINS). BRICEÑO suggested papers to be prepared in English.
- It was suggested that more social scientists should be engaged. Several outstanding Japanese social scientists were recommended. (BRICEÑO, DENIS, and PELLING)

IRDR-New Zealand

Attachment- CERA Wellbeing Survey- Integrating research, policy and decision making after the Canterbury earthquake sequence.

- JOHNSTON introduced the history of IRDR-NZ, Natural Hazards Research Platform and CERA (Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority)
- BEAVEN and MORGAN presented the case study on Canterbury earthquake
- Possibility to invite FORIN WG for case studies, consultation, and to participate workshops as resources are available. (JOHNSTON)
- 2011 report on activities is available on website. (PDF version)

IRDR-UK

(PELLING) The Scientific Advisory Board is still keen on establishing IRDR-UK, but for internal reasons, the initiative is pending. Some initial conversation was made around developing ICoE in King's College London, UK. Some concerns are that the core members, initiatives and functions of such an NC and ICoE would be overlapped. So the primary efforts will be focused on developing a National Committee in UK.

IRDR –US

(CUTTER) Two potential approaches to develop the IRDR-USA National Committee. First: a federal agency, an entity called Sub-committee on Disaster Reduction under the Office of Science and Technology in the President office, which represents the Federal government at the Global Platform. CUTTER and ROVINS got in touch with them to explore the possibility of establishing NC, though constitutional limitations exist. The second is National Academies, they are willing to offer support for IRDR NC, but they need funding.

Updates on Others

(ROVINS)

- IRDR-Canada: 5 million CAD grant was secured for Coastal Cities at Risks projects in partnership with IRDR.
- IRDR-Germany: Karl-Otto has left DKKV, and IRDR did not hear who would be his replacement. Negotiation is underway for the development of Center of Excellence in Germany.
- IRDR-France has undergone staff changes, and is translating IRDR Science Plan into French for IRDR.
- South Korea: National Committee planned launch in May, 2013.
- Sweden, Algeria, India, Australia, and several others are in development.
- BRICEÑO called on SC members to encourage, motivate, and facilitate the development of IRDR NC in their respective countries.

IRDR ICoE

- A proposal to develop a small ICoE on social vulnerability and resilience in South Carolina is underway. \$75,000/year could be secured for ICoE related activities. The idea is to keep it small and focused at the beginning. With more partners' engagement and more resources available, it can develop into a bigger ICoE (CUTTER)
- Germany: The process is slow. The German government is still interested, but final decision is yet to be made. (BRICEÑO)

IRDR SC Support

New SC member

Shuaib Lwasa (Ugandan) has been appointed to the IRDR SC as the African representative. (CV is available in the Members Only section).

Funding

- At least 5-10 percent of the IRDR annual grant (about \$43,000) could be allocated to support SC members and Chair to travel to promote IRDR project, on the condition that the Executive Director's travel can be minimized. IRDR travel rules would apply. Travel plans need to be developed. Suggestion: Chair and 3 Vice-chairs should get involved in the process of nominating representatives. (BRICEÑO, MOORE, and ROVINS)
- Funding for WG meetings: Regular grants from ICSU, UNISDR, and China sponsors are not sufficient to fund WG meetings. There are additional resources from NZ for RIA, ICoE-Taipei for FORIN case study, ISSC Social Science Fellows Program for RIA, etc. Suggestion: all IRDR activities should be stamped with IRDR brand and brought together as one portfolio.
- Suggestion: taking the GP opportunity, conduct a meeting to bring donors together and seek funding for IRDR projects. (A glossy document on overall IRDR projects needs to be developed)
- Fundraising responsibility is to be shared by Chair and IPO. BRICEÑO suggests ROVINS to present SC members' projects to donors.
- CUTTER suggests ED to schedule some specific periods for fundraising activities.

Next 2 SC Meetings

- The 8th SC Mtg will be held on May 16-18, 2013 in Geneva, Switzerland.
- 9th SC Mtg in Sanya, China, in Oct/Nov 2013. It is suggested to schedule it in late September, 2013, to connect with the World Social Science Forum in Canada. The final decision was not made yet.

IRDR SC Chair

BRICEÑO is stepping down. JOHNSTON has been nominated, awaiting Co-Sponsors confirmation which is expected within a month. The change would be effective on Jan. 1, 2013.

IRDR Conference 2014

The next IRDR Conference would be held in early 2014 (April or May) in Beijing. It's better to have 5-6 formal plenary sessions that would convene VIPs to set tones for directions, then several break-down sessions in Q&A format (CUTTER). If conducted early in 2014, the output of the conference would influence other 3 processes including climate change, SDGs, and Post-Hyogo Framework, and that would push IRDR WGs to generate substantive products earlier.

Co-Sponsors Updates (Continued)

Attachment- Activities of IRDR-China in 2012

Attachment- CEODE update

(GUO)

IRDR-China

- Expert committee: 16 members.
- IRDR-CHINA Grants Funded Projects (2012-2013): FORIN –China, DATA-China, IND-CHINA, Young Scientists (25 proposals).
- IRDR-China Website revised.

CEODE

- Merging with Institute of Remote Sensing Application, CAS, and the new name will be Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth, CAS.

CODATA

- Introduction of the 23rd CODATA international conference and CODATA General Assembly, highlighted the IRDR-DATA session in 23rd CODATA international conference.
- Addressed the partnership between IRDR and CODATA, envisioned more cooperation.

IRDR ICoE updates

Attachment- International Center of Excellence (ICoE) Annual Report

(LIU)

- LIU introduced the goals & organization of ICoE, its operating framework for IRDR, the ICoE international and domestic program (Center for Sustainability Science), as well as its research on adaptation. PPT is available.
- FORIN AI: The possibility for ICoE to dedicate resources to undertake the FORIN case study on Typhoon Morakot, and present findings at the next FORIN AI (2014) was put forth by BRICEÑO. ICoE has already done a preliminary case study on Typhoon Morakot (IPO requested a copy of the report for FORIN WG review). More comprehensive case studies employing FORIN format are to be carried out according to the discussion between BRICEÑO and Chao-Han.

- RIA AI: ICoE IAB has approved the budget and plan for conducting RIA AI in 2013, but the final date is yet to be decided. It was noted that this would conflict with RIA/ISSC activity.
- Chao-Han proposed to have more representation of IRDR SC in the International Advisory Board of ICoE. BRICEÑO has the same concern.
- It was suggested to include ICoE representative in IRDR SC meetings and IRDR WGs (TAKEUCHI).
- It is important to fix the institutional mechanism of ICoE-Taipei, which can be taken as a model for new ICoE (BRICEÑO).

The statement on L'Aquila

The final version was drafted and approved by the SC.

Meeting Adjourned