

**Seventh Meeting of the Scientific Committee  
Ravello, Italy  
May 9-11, 2012**

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**SUMMARY REPORT**

***Members present:***

Irasema ALCÁNTARA-AYALA, Sálvano BRICEÑO (Chair), Djillali BENOUAR, Omar Darío CARDONA, Susan L. CUTTER, Ferruccio FERRIGNI, David JOHNSTON, Anthony OLIVER-SMITH, Mark PELLING (May 10-11), Chamhuri SIWAR, Kuniyoshi TAKEUCHI, Angelika WIRTZ

***Ex-officio:***

Huadong GUO (CEODE), Gudmund HERNES (ISSC) (May 10-11), Andrew MASKREY (UNISDR) (May 10), Howard MOORE (ICSU)

***Other participants:***

Maureen BRENNAN (May 9-10), Christopher BURTON (May 9-10), Ian BURTON, Yaoying CHENG, Richard EISER (May 9-10), Francis GHESQUIERE (May 10-11), Allan LAVELL (May 11), Jane E. ROVINS

***Apologies from members:***

Ann BOSTROM, Sisi ZLATANOVA

**Opening and introduction of participants and guests**

*(Attachment 1.1 - List of Participants)*

*(Attachment 1.2 - CVs of SC Members)*

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

**Approval of Draft Agenda**

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

Added updates on Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami (GEJET) and Christchurch Earthquake (New Zealand) – May 10.

**Summary Report of the Sixth Meeting**

*(Attachment 2.1 - Summary Report of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting)*

The Summary Report of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the IRDR SC was approved.

BRICEÑO thought that the Report of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the IRDR SC was too long.

**International Programme Office**

*(Attachment 3.1 – Annual Report 2011 Power Point)*

**Annual Report 2011**

ROVINS presented a brief summary of the Annual Report 2011.

[ROVINS] Any comments, modifications, clarifications are welcomed and requested to be forwarded to the IPO. Primarily the report will be published in digital form, but there will be approx. 50-100 printed copies available.

## **Staff Update**

*(Attachment 3.2 - Fellowships Programmes)*

[ROVINS]

- Yaoying CHENG started to work at IRDR as a Junior Science Officer in November 2011
- Post of the Senior Science Officer is still open
- Personal Assistant to the IRDR Executive Director starts June 7th, 2012 (Tracy ZHAO – Chinese national)
- A need for team building activity at the IPO
- CAS Fellowship Programme – for Visiting Professorship/Young International Scientist. Visiting Professorship, must have a PhD, duration period 2 to 12 months, Chinese language skill is a plus, but not an absolute requirement. The Young International Scientist is a 12-month position; a good command of English is required, and the person must be under 40 years of age and have over 5 years of research experience. The identification process can be either (1) similar to that used for SC Members; or (2) individual targeting. Candidates must be from outside China. Next application period is September 2012. IPO's role: to put out a Call for Visiting Professorship and to develop an internal process for Young International Scientist, to be later sent out to SC members.
- Long-term goal is to hire additional staff members to manage the specific WG projects.

## **Development of IRDR Database**

*(Attachment 3.3 - Proposal for Developing IRDR Researchers Database)*

[ROVINS]

- Three databases to be developed:
  - High Education Database: from Bachelor's degree to PhD degree, aims to develop central database for global information.
  - Researcher Database: IPO has over 1200 contacts; potential cooperation with UNISDR Bangkok on this. Suggestion was made to cooperate with UNISDR Asia-Pacific Office.
  - Grants Database: came as a request from ICSU ROAP, with the aim of helping individual researchers identify funding sources for integrated research and disaster risk research.
- The main goal for IRDR IPO is to be a 'go-to' place for information, while avoiding duplication and defining a fine line between quality and exploitation.
- IPO will research and verify, this is not a duplication of existing activities.

## **Grants**

*(Attachment 3.4 - Belmont Grant)*

[ROVINS]

- ICSU Grant 2011: €30,000 awarded to IRDR, in partnership with ICSU ROLAC and National Council for Scientific and Technological Research of Argentina. It will involve a senior and junior scientist activity in September 2012 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Funding has been transferred to the IPO.
- IUGG Grant: Through TAKEUCHI, \$US 30,000 was requested for a Senior Scientist FORIN Workshop to be held in Southern California (Orange County) on December 8-12, 2012.
- Belmont Grant (scientific and geographical integration): collective funding; two themes – freshwater security and coastal vulnerability; medium-sized, regionally-based projects of 2-3 years' duration; €1-2 million per project; team representation at least 3 countries, 1 academic partner; integration of natural sciences and social sciences. Timeline: July 20, 2012 (short pre-proposal), September 20, 2012 (invite submission of full proposal), December 20, 2012 (full proposal submission).

## **Strategic Plan**

*(Attachment - 4.1 Strategic Plan for the IRDR Programme – Draft)*

[BRICEÑO/ROVINS]

BRICEÑO and ROVINS presented the latest draft of the Strategic Plan.

Three important outcomes out of the Plan: research; impact on policy-making; awareness raising.

## Suggestions made by SC:

- Goals 1 and 5 to be switched around
- Add a generic description of the 4 WG's
- Establish a specific timeline for DATA, FORIN and RIA (further to build it in the Strategic Plan)
- Create an on-going activity for FORIN workshops
- Specify deliverables
- Involve decision-making in risk and vulnerability assessment
- Develop specific strategy for specific users
- Comments and suggestions to be sent to the IPO via email. Working plans are requested to be provided and to be merged into the strategic plan. The deadline hasn't been established.

## New Activities

*(Attachment 5.1 - List of events)*

*(Attachment 5.2.1 - Events Calendar)*

*(Attachment 5.2.2 - Upcoming events)*

*(Attachment 5.3 - Rio +20 Science Forum Update)*

*(Attachment 5.4 - ICSU Grant)*

## [BRICEÑO/ROVINS]

- Events calendar: on the IRDR website
- List of upcoming events: on the IRDR website, a need for SC members to use the Representation Sheet to attend the events and share the information accordingly. It was agreed that sustainable funds should be sought to support SC members travel (to attend events on behalf of IRDR). Chinese annual grant should be flexible enough to cover travel of SC members. ROVINS will negotiate with CAST through CEODE and try to get more flexibility on this issue. If not possible it was suggested to relocate the IPO. There is a need for fundraising; IRDR cannot only rely on the contribution from the Chinese side.
- Rio +20 - ICSU Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development: June 14, 2012, IRDR, 2 panel discussions co-convened by ROVINS (IRDR) and Badaoui ROUHBAN (UNESCO). Panel 1: Integrating Science and Disaster Risk; Panel 2: New Developments in Risk Management. Participants: Walter AMMANN, Ana Maria CRUZ, Peter HÖPPE, Allan LAVELL, Gordon McBEAN, Abdou SANÉ, Kuniyoshi TAKEUCHI.
- IRDR/ICSU ROLAC Buenos Aires Workshop: September 2-4, 2012, funding from ICSU Grant 2012; ideal to use the workshop to follow-up with the recommendations that have been made since 2008. BRICEÑO will attend.
- GRF/IDRC, Davos: August 27-30, 2012, waiting for final agenda to be published. ROVINS will attend, BENOUAR, EISER, WIRTZ have all submitted abstracts, but no feedback to date. Importance in network building between IRDR and GRF.
- IDRIM Conference: Beijing September 7-9, 2012. The conference organizer has not responded to the offer of assistance from IRDR. BRICEÑO will follow-up with the Japanese counterparts.

## Working Group Updates

*(Attachment 6.1 - DATA work plan)*

*(Attachment 7.1 - RIA work plan)*

*(Attachment 8.1 - AIRDR Summary)*

*(Attachment 10.1 - FORIN work plan)*

## DATA WG

[CUTTER/ROVINS/WIRTZ] – brief introduction.

- Activities postponed due to shortage of funding.
- [ROVINS] WG memberships – to develop a generic ToR for all the WG's.
- Kick-off meeting budget – need of roughly €20,000, budget to be reflected in the Strategic Plan.
- Possibility of conducting a DATA Advanced Institute at the ICoE, located in Taipei, China, which will be held a week before the 23<sup>rd</sup> CODATA International Conference, foreseen for October 28-31, 2012. It is recommended that the DATA Advanced Institute be cancelled and replaced by a DATA WG meeting, subject agreement to the ICoE.

## **RIA WG**

[EISER/JOHNSTON] – brief introduction.

- Unavailability of funding for working group meeting as well as cross-hazards, cross disciplines research
- RIA report to be finalized.
- Suggestion to publish one or more articles in an Open Access Journal.
- Journal article currently under review.

## **AIRDR WG**

[CUTTER] – brief introduction.

- Regional approach – very effective, due to the cultural context.
- Assessment of translation of science into practice, important to also focus on the native language literature.
- Importance of the broad view of integration, not a narrow definition.
- Proposed scoping meeting, June/July 2012 on the occasion of Natural Hazard Conference in Boulder CO.
- To make a connection with GAR for cooperation; may attract funding.

[BRICEÑO/ROVINS]

All 4 WG's need to have guidance (White Paper), which is to be provided by the IPO.

Urgent need to identify and invite members to the WGs.

WMO Societal and Economic Research and Applications (SERA) project – MoU has been signed. The WG will be co-chaired by representatives from both IRDR and WWRP with additional membership from each programme and suitable expertise.

## **FORIN WG**

[BURTON/OLIVER-SMITH] – brief introduction.

Presentation of draft FORIN work plan 2012-2017:

- Large scale studies of FORIN disasters.
- Contribute case-studies (groups interested in applying using FORIN template, but not with direct FORIN/IRDR support).
- Possibility of fellowships and workshops (support for working in context of FORIN).
- Publications and reports. OLIVER-SMITH to be one of the editors of series of books on disasters. Interest shown by Kumarian Press, though no official contracts have been signed. More information regarding conditions to be sought before IRDR commits to this.
- FORIN Project Management – IRDR to manage the logistics and administrative aspects.
- FORIN budget and funding were presented according to future event/workshops.

## **IRDR National Committees Update**

*(Attachment 9.1 - ToR for IRDR National Committee)*

[ROVINS]

- IRDR have revised ToR. No need to develop a Selection Advisory Committee, during stage 3 there is no need for an interview; and instead of quarterly reports annual reports to be provided in preparation for the SC meetings (reminders will be sent by IPO prior to each meeting).
- Important to identify existing committees at the national level that are doing scientific research, so that the NC could build on them.
- It is important for IRDR NC to have regular contacts and work with national committees of other global environment change programmes, such as IGBP, IHDP. Suggested to invite representatives of the NC, RC and ICoE to join future SC meetings to develop a forum in accordance with the IRDR Constitution.
- Algeria, Iran, India and UK are interested in establishing IRDR NCs.

## **IRDR China**

Update on IRDR China was provided by GUO. Summary is available in the Annual Report.

## **IRDR Japan**

Update on IRDR Japan was provided by TAKEUCHI. Summary is available in the Annual Report.

- Action items of IRDR Japan: to contribute to FORIN, to organize a team for a major contribution, to co-operate with IRDR China, to organize a Japanese symposium on IRDR. Next planning meeting to be arranged after the 7<sup>th</sup> SC meeting; meeting with IRDR Chair BRICEÑO is expected in the Fall of 2012.
- Main activities of IRDR Japan have been focused on the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami (GEJET).

### **IRDR New Zealand**

Update on IRDR NZ was provided by JOHNSTON. Summary is available in the Annual Report.

IRDR NZ Annual Report is available at the Natural Hazards Research Platform website.

### **Algeria Update**

- BENOUAR recognized the importance of FORIN methodology and the use of different networks to find the core of disasters. Social scientists are needed in Algeria. He has been involved in many activities of regional initiatives, so he could meet social scientist in the region for integration. Meaning?
- ROVINS working with ISSC's Science Officer to identify social scientists to start a new urban planning-type programme in Algeria.

### **UK Update**

[PELLING]

- Initiatives are coming from Government Office for Science chaired by Chief Scientific Adviser, who reports directly to the Prime Minister's office.
- Two main initiatives: SHED – Science for Humanitarian Emergencies and Disasters is in near completion. SHED will look at the short-term policy-response to the humanitarian review, and within that domain, the proposal will be to set up a national platform. Might be hosted by UK CDS (UK Collaborative on Development Sciences), they look for IRDR to take the leadership. The second is a longer-term initiative for science study – Foresight. The Prime Minister's Office and the Government Office for Science have asked a group to organize a science research on policy advisory document. Foresight to link to DATA Project.
- John REES scoping out the National DRR platforms.
- PELLING and ROVINS met with UK DFID and NERC.

### **Colombia Update**

[DARÍO CARDONA]

Currently there are two relevant organizations in Columbia. 1) Committee on Knowledge of Risk Understanding; the committee is related to reproduction of disaster knowledge and disaster management. The set of institutions that are particularly related to different points of views like social, scientific and geographic, therefore this committee has a connection with IRDR on the national level. 2) Committee for Disasters Management, this committee is more related to practical actions. The idea is to establish the Committee on Knowledge of Risk Understanding as the IRDR National Committee.

ALCÁNTARA-AYALA suggested that, once formed, the Colombia National Committee might be developed into an IRDR Regional Committee for Latin America to support and develop regional IRDR activities.

### **Malaysia Update**

[SIWAR]

ICSU ROAP Office in Kuala Lumpur will be utilized as the platform to bring together researchers in the sub-region of Southeast Asia to form a sub-regional network which can be linked to IRDR.

### **Co-Sponsors & Host Updates**

*(Attachment 12.1 - SIDA Grant)*

*(Attachment 12.2 - IUGG Proposal)*

*(Attachment 12.3 - Towards a Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction)*

*(Attachment 12.4 - Report World Social Science Programme)*

### **UNISDR**

[MASKREY]

Towards a Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

- Introduction of the document.

- Recognition of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

#### GAR 2013

- Theme: global economic crisis, risk governance, climate change adaptation, current economic crisis, systematic effect on society, innovation in risk financing, insurance, growing concern on how to handle sovereign risk.
- Revamping global risk model. (Weaknesses: not probabilistic, methodology on economic loss estimation)
- New exposure database (coordinated with UNEP).
- Calculation of all the risk metrics (coordinated by CARDONA and his team).
- Increasing the number of countries and governments, reporting disaster losses.
- Role of IRDR: to promote the network, independently from the government. IRDR as an institution to contribute to the system.
- If IRDR is to undertake any additional work in support of UNISDR or GAR in future, funding needs to be provided.

#### ICSU

[MOORE]

##### SIDA Grant

- 18-month pilot period (€20,000) for the integration of ICSU regional activities with those of ICSU's global programmes as a whole. Disasters identified as one of the priorities.
- Document granting the money has been signed.
- September 2-4, 2012 IRDR/ICSU ROLAC Workshop (funded by ICSU Grant, not SIDA).
- September 13-14, 2012 IRDR/ICSU Global Integration meeting to be hosted by ICSU ROAP in Kuala Lumpur.
- September 26-27, 2012 ICSU ROA Implementation Meeting foreseen for in Dakar, Senegal.
- Challenge is to ensure that these events correctly articulated

##### IUGG Proposal for Global Assessment Mechanism

- Proposal at the ICSU General Assembly to set up an intergovernmental platform akin to the IPCC for the assessment of disaster risk. Resolution failed, but subject referred to ICSU Executive Board.
- At the recent (April 2-4, 2012) 107th Session, the ICSU EB duly addressed the IUGG text. It decided to invite IRDR to give its advice on the matter, which it would consider at its next meeting on November 13-14, 2012.
- Whilst the Committee might support the idea of an intergovernmental initiative of the sort proposed, it was pointed out that the IRDR has its own plans for AIRDR, which is an assessment on the state-of-art of disaster risk research, is relatively modest, but should come out with recommendations on the state of knowledge. It will not involve an intergovernmental process, however.

#### CEODE

[GUO]

- Enhanced and enlarged structure
  - 2 research divisions: Global Disasters and Digital Heritage
  - 2 sub-centres: Sanya and Kashgar
  - 2 new remote-sensing aircraft
- Merge with the Institute of Remote Sensing Applications, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IRSA/CAS).
- Innovation 2020 Strategic Plan – includes aspects of collaboration with IRDR

#### ISSC

[HERNES]

##### World Social Science Fellowship Programme

- Call for nominations for the International Advisory Board take place at the end of May 2012
- A series of seminars is planned:
  - First planning meeting held on 21 March 2012.
  - The first seminar funded by SIDA, tentatively planned for the Spring of 2013, with Thomas POGGE and Partha DASGUPTA being approached as potential leaders. The Andean University in Quito, Ecuador, has expressed an interest in hosting the seminar.

- Participation of early career scientist at Rio +20 events: grants to young scientists selected to participate in the Rio+20 Conference and the Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development.
- ICSU-ISSC-DFG Young Scientist Conference on Integrated Research being planned

### **New Proposals**

[TAKEUCHI – PPT is available in Members Only Pages]

#### **Proposal of establishing “Standard Scale of Measuring Risk and Preparedness”**

IRDR could play a role as scientific integrator of many existing efforts for establishing standards.

[FERRIGNI – PPT is available in Members Only Pages]

#### **Reducing the Vulnerability of Ancient Built Up in Seismic Regions by Recovering the Local Seismic Culture**

[PELLING – PPT is available in Members Only Pages]

#### **Disaster Recovery and Resilience**

IRDR could offer strategic global leadership.

[No decisions were taken]

### **ICoE Updates**

*(Attachment 15.1 - ToR for ICoE)*

- ICoE Update (activities, on-going and proposed projects)
  - The Advanced Institute to be held in Taipei, China in October 2012 will be on Disaster Loss Data
  - The 2nd IRDR ICoE Scientific Advisory Board meeting would be held in conjunction with the AI on DATA. [Note: Recommended that Advanced Institute be replaced with DATA WG Meeting]
  - Visitor Program, ICoE is now working on the senior and junior researchers visiting programs. The term can be a few weeks to several months, even up to one year. All this is not clear. What decisions were taken?
- ICoE Advanced Institute on FORIN
  - Held at Academy of Sciences located in Taipei, China, March 12-19, 2012.
  - Partners: IRDR ICoE, IRDR SC, FORIN WG, START, NCDR
  - Programme: opening and lectures, visit to NCDR, lectures on FORIN analytical templates, field trip to the Rinari Tribal Village, practice: from knowledge to action, participant presentation.

### **Senator Alfonso ANDRIA, President Centro Universitario Europeo per i Beni Culturali (CUEBC)**

Gave a brief 10-minute Speech of welcome.

### **Partner Activities**

#### **World Bank/GFDRR - Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery**

[GHESQUIERE]

- GFDRR is a partnership of 41 countries and 8 international organizations committed to helping developing countries reduce their vulnerability to natural hazards and adapt to climate change hosted by the World Bank.
- 3 common tracks: global and regional partnership, mainstreaming disaster risk management into development process, resilience and recovery.
- Interests of GFDRR: economics of disasters; integration of risk information into development planning in fiscal process, data management, and budget planning; climate change adaptation; integration of disaster risk.
- Possible engagement of IRDR in GFDRR:
  - Peer-review of the GAR 2013, publications and journals
  - Request senior scientist to be dedicated to designing programme in partnership
  - Engagement in some major events, such as Understanding Risk Forum in Cape Town, South Africa, July 2-6, 2012)
  - Such engagement should be undertaken only if the regular IRDR programme is not compromised [ICSU]



## **CODATA**

[GUO]

- Cooperation with IRDR:
  - IRDR SC members and Executive Director participated in the CODATA 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Beijing, China
  - A CODATA delegation participated in IRDR Conference 2011, October 31-November 2, 2011, Beijing China
  - IRDR-CODATA MoU - signed in Beijing 2011
  - IRDR SC Member Angelika WIRTZ participated and made presentation in a session entitled “Data Challenges for Global Sustainability” organized by CODATA/WDS in CODATA’s 57th EC meeting this year.

## **GEM**

[C. BURTON]

Revised GEM Framework.

- Purpose of GEM: development of indices, interactive tool development and social vulnerability knowledge and meta-database which is relevant to IRDR and DATA Project.
- Benefits: direct comparison of risk; allows assessing systematic risk, locally, regionally and globally; focus on risk monitoring.
- IRDR will follow-up

### **Date and Venue of the Next Meetings**

- The 8<sup>th</sup> Science Committee Meeting: November 2012, Chengdu, China
- The 9<sup>th</sup> Science Committee Meeting:
  - Option 1: April-May, 2013 – Sanya, China
  - Option 2: fall 2013, Montreal, Canada, on the occasion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Social Science Forum
  - Option 3: Coincides with the Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction May 19 - 23, 2013, Geneva
- The next IRDR Conference tentatively scheduled for 2014

### **Meeting Adjourned**