

Notes of the 11th IFI teleconference held on Wednesday 5 April 2017

(first draft version: 7 April 2017)

Participants:

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Slobodan Simonovic (ICLR, ICFM)

Toshio Koike, Mamoru Miyamoto, Hisaya Sawano, (ICHARM)

Tadashige Kawasaki (NARBO)

Petra Koudelova (UTokyo)

Discussion Topics:

1. Review of the last call Notes
2. Updates on the ICFM7 2017 preparation and IFI sessions
3. Other IFI-relevant upcoming events
4. Updates on establishing national IFI platforms in Asian countries – outcomes of negotiations with involved organizations and institutions in countries
5. Updates on IFI Implementation Plan development – Project Design Matrix table

Reference Documents:

- The call timeline (11thIFI-telecon_20170405_Timeline.docx)
- Last call notes (10thIFI-telecon-20170126-Notes_drft0130.docx)

NEXT CALL

The **12th IFI Teleconference** will be during the last week of June. Koudelova will prepare a Doodle poll to find out the most convenient date and will set up the call accordingly.

1. Review of the last call Notes

At the last IFI call, the following points were discussed:

- S. Simonovic updated the participants on the status of preparations for ICFM7 in Leeds, UK, 5 – 7 September 2017. Finally, only one IFI session was proposed and its format (including a panel discussion) was confirmed. The agenda included strong representation from Asia, but other continents were not represented. Accordingly, Simonovic and the UNESCO team took action to nominate suitable representatives from Americas, Africa and Europe. The IFI session will be highlighted and is scheduled at the beginning of the conference. The call for abstracts would close on 31 January and the decision on the abstracts should be known by the end of March. Sponsors and helpers with the abstract review are welcome.
- T. Koike reported on the outcomes of the IFI Implementation Planning Workshop and the 9th GEOSS AP Symposium held in Tokyo, 10 January and 11 – 13 January 2017, respectively. The IFI implementation workshop discussed how to implement the plans and actions identified by the Jakarta IFI statement. In particular, the focus was on:

- How to promote to establish and strengthen a flood (IWRM) platform as a part of national platform?
- How to confirm the IFI implementation plan?

A set of recommendations resulted from the workshop and the outcomes were conveyed to the ensuing GEOSS AP Symposium, which focused on Earth observations in support of SDGs. A one-day parallel session dedicated to Water was held, which featured IFI and IDI activities and discussed observation, data integration and information dissemination, collaboration with development organizations as well as private sector and contributions to SDGs. The session provided an input to the GEOSS AP Symposium Tokyo Statement 2017.

- T. Koike reported on the updates of the IFI Project Design Matrix, which were made based on the country contributions following the IFI workshop.
- Other upcoming events related to IFI were mentioned, including the 9th meeting of HELP in Chengdu, May 2017, 3rd UN special session on Water and Disasters in July 2017, and HLPW meeting in September 2017.
- The 6th NARBO General Meeting was announced to be held in February in Jakarta, Indonesia.

2. The 6th NARBO General meeting

T. Kawasaki reported on the 6th NARBO general meeting held in Jakarta, 22 – 24 February:

- The meeting discussed and approved the NARBO's "Action Program 2017 – 2019", which incorporates activities consistent with the new IFI strategy and the IFI Implementation framework.
- T. Koike attended the event and provided a keynote lecture.
- The NARBO team will discuss with country representatives about the new action program and the collaboration with IFI and then inputs to the IFI Project Design Matrix will be provided (~in May 2017).

3. Updates on the ICFM7 2017 (Leeds, UK, 5 – 7 September 2017 (<http://www.icfm7.org.uk/>)) preparation and IFI sessions

S. Simonovic reported on the progress in preparation for ICFM7:

- S. Simonovic has informed T. Koike and others about potential candidates from USA and South America for the IFI special session panel discussion. T. Koike confirmed the receipt of this information. Necessary actions has been/will be undertaken to invite these people to the IFI session.
- The conference will be very well attended; the list of keynote speakers and special sessions is impressive and more than 350 abstracts have been received. Review of the abstracts has not been completed yet but it is expected to be finished by mid-April. A. Amani voiced that the UNESCO team was willing to help with the review. S. Simonovic appreciated this offer and will communicate the details of such support with the UNESCO team separately by via email.

- The UNESCO team would like to organize a special session/side event at this conference. S. Simonovic will communicate with the UNESCO team and the organizing committee about this possibility.
- S. Simonovic reiterated their appreciation of the UNESCO financial support to the conference. The details of the financial support provision will be discussed between the organizing committee and the UNESCO team in separate communication.
- The local organizing committee is also seeking sponsors, who would provide financial support – the list of offered “sponsor packages” is available at the conference website (<http://www.icfm7.org.uk/sponsorship/>). T. Koike will provide Simonovic relevant information on behalf of ICHARM.
- The University of Iowa has proposed that they would host the ICFM8 in 2020. This proposal will be introduced at the conference.
- The Chinese Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower... offered to host a permanent secretariat of ICFM providing these services: hosting a website, keeping the information, cooperating with hosts of individual ICFMs. This proposal will be introduced at the ICFM7.
- On behalf of the IFI Secretariat and the IFI community, T. Koike expressed great appreciation of the special efforts of the ICFM7 organizing committee.

4. Other IFI relevant events

The upcoming events include:

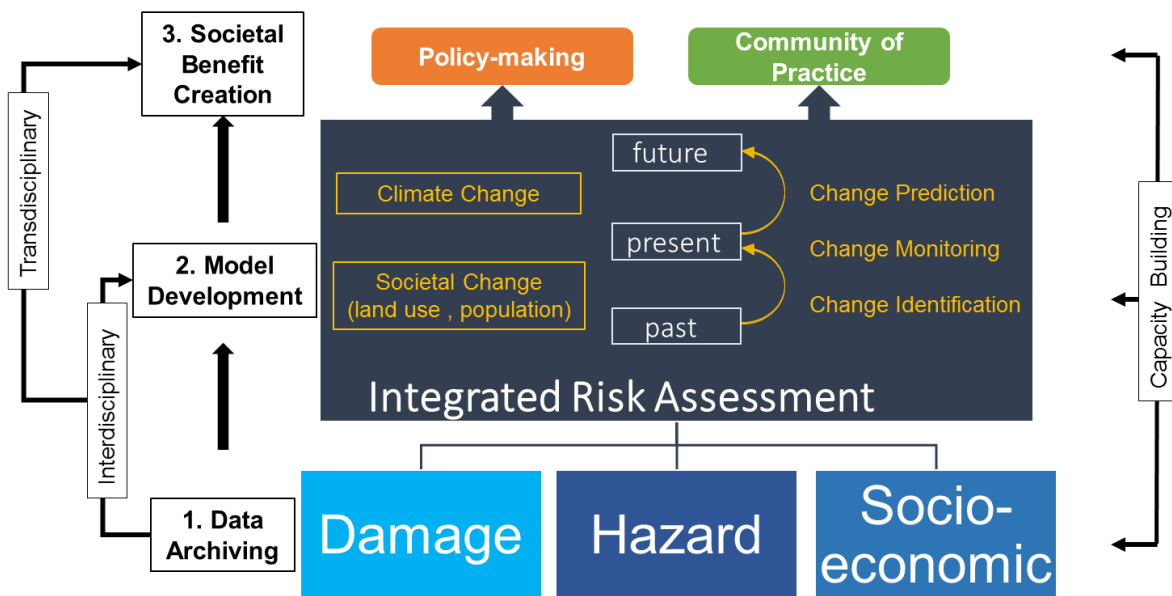
- 18 May 2017: Workshop on Water and Disaster, Chengdu University, Chengdu, China. The workshop will discuss about IFI and research alliance on water and disaster. The concept note of the workshop is now under discussion and the first draft may be finished by mid-April. T. Koike will send the draft to the UNESCO team and also share it with the IFI partners.
- 19 May 2017: The 9th HELP meeting in Chengdu, China. Large scale meeting, President of Hungary and several ministers will attend.
- 20 July 2017: The 3rd special session on Water and Disaster, the UN Headquarter. This is an opportunity for IFI to provide input to the UN framework.
- September 2017: Meeting of HLPW as a part of General Assembly, UN Headquarter. The HLPW Implementation/Action plan will be approved – plan for next 10 years (from March 2018).

5. Updates on establishing national IFI platforms in Asian countries – outcomes of negotiations with involved organizations and institutions in countries

T. Koike voiced that ICHARM was working for organizing national platforms in Asian countries as it was outlined in the Jakarta statement.

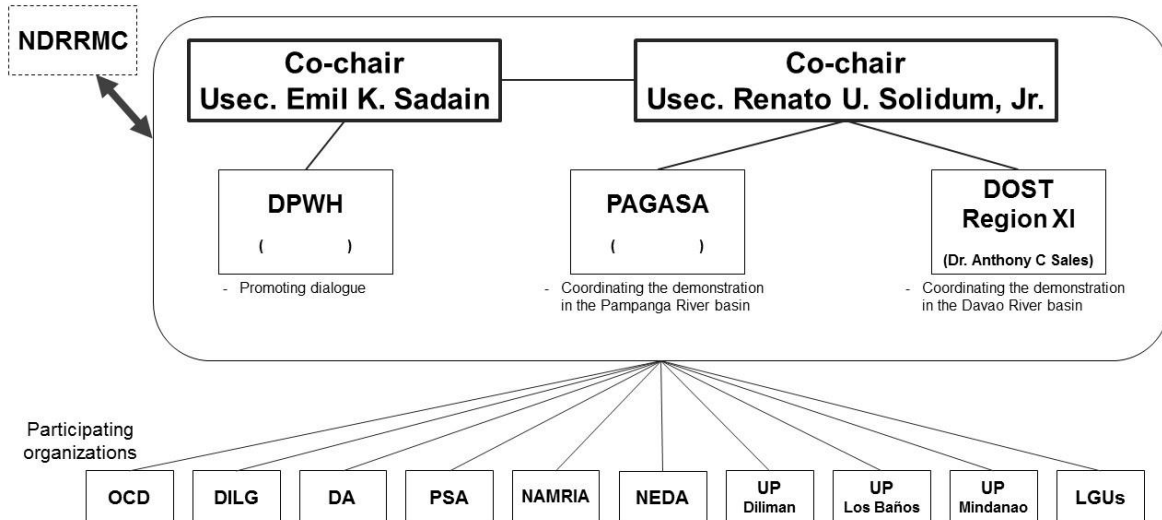
- M. Miyamoto reported on the progress of the national platform establishment in the Philippines. Two meetings were held in Philippines among ICHARM and national organizations and agencies: (i) on the Pampanga river basin case and (ii) on the Davao river basin case. The meetings resulted in a draft concept of the national platform and its functions.
- A schematic diagram of the platform and its functions was developed and it was presented at the time of the call. The diagram is shown below. The main functions include:
 - Data archiving: damage, hazard, socio-economic
 - Model development: interdisciplinary, including integrated risk assessment
 - Societal benefits creation: infrastructure, river planning

Platform on Water and Disaster



- Based on the discussions at the meetings, the institutional structure of the platform in Philippines was proposed. It includes three coordination organizations.

Draft Institutional Structure of the Platform on Water-related Disasters



- H. Sawano introduced the status of the national platform establishment in Myanmar and Indonesia.
- Two teleconferences were held between ICHARM and Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) of Myanmar and the functions of the national platform were discussed. DMH will be one of the leading organization of the In order to initiate establishment of the platform in Myanmar, a high level consultation meeting will be held in Myanmar on 9th May 2012, including representatives of other relevant governmental organizations and agencies, who are expected to be involved in the platform establishment and functioning, namely Directorate Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems (DWIR) and Irrigation, Water Utilization Management Department (IWMD), and Release and Resettlement Department (RRD).
- In Indonesia, a workshop on climate change impact assessment in the Solo River basin was held in March and on this occasion, ICHARM discussed with Minister of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing about the establishment of the national platform on water and disasters and collaboration with IFI. The Minister agreed with the idea of the national platform establishment and assigned the Research and Development Center for Water Resources Secretariat (under the Research and Development Agency of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing) be responsible for initial steps towards the platform establishment. Currently, ICHARM communicates with the Research and Development Center for Water Resources and a JICA expert of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing on how to initiate a dialog among relevant agencies. The first target is the HELP meeting in Chengdu in May.

- A. Amani acknowledged the progress in national platform establishment in Asia and reiterated that a strategic discussion was desirable on how to expand these activities in other regions, namely Africa and South America. T. Koike mentioned that in case of Africa, the proposals that resulted from the GEOSS African Water Cycle Coordination Initiative (AfWCCI) may be a good basis for the IFI activities there. These proposals included the following basins: Volta river, Niger river, Chad lake, Medjerda river (Tunisia), Tana river (Kenya), and Ou Er Rbia river (Morocco).
- The current IFI activities in Asia will be reported at the HELP meeting in Chengdu and approval of high level leaders will be sought, which will be helpful for further expansion to other regions.

6. IFI Implementation plan and Project Design Matrix Updates

PDM will be updated based on the national platform inputs in the near future, including inputs based on the Chengdu meeting, UN session on Water and Disaster and HLPW meeting. More detailed implementation framework will be then developed.