

Notes of the 12th IFI teleconference held on Friday 30 June 2017

(first draft version: 3 July 2017)

Participants:

Takahiro Konami, Yo Nishimura (UNESCO Paris)

Hans Thulstrup (UNESCO Jakarta)

Slobodan Simonovic (ICLR, ICFM)

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Tadashige Kawasaki (NARBO)

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Discussion Topics:

1. Review of the last call
2. New member introduction
3. Updates on the ICFM7 2017 preparation and IFI sessions
4. Updates on establishing national IFI platforms in Asian countries – outcomes of negotiations with involved organizations and institutions in countries
5. Other major upcoming events

Reference Documents:

- Last call notes (11thIFI-telecon-20170405-Notes_drft.docx)
- IFI updates overview (20170630_Koike.pptx)

NEXT CALL

The **13th IFI Teleconference** will be held in mid-September. Miyamoto and 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

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

- T. Kawasaki reported on the 6th NARBO general meeting in Jakarta, 22 – 24 February at which the NARBO'S Action Program 2017 – 2019 was approved. It reflects on IFI strategy and implementation framework. Discussion with country representatives on collaboration with IFI will ensue and inputs for IFI Project Design Matrix will be provided.
- S. Simonovic updated the participants on the status of preparations for ICFM7 in Leeds, UK, 5 – 7 September 2017 (<http://www.icfm7.org.uk/>). One IFI session was proposed and its format (including a panel discussion) was confirmed. Candidate speakers from Asia and Americas were identified. The IFI session is scheduled at the beginning of the conference. UNESCO proposed a special session. Financial support by UNESCO much appreciated, other sponsors still being sought, negotiation with WMO continues. ICFM8 in 2020 will be

hosted by the University of Iowa, USA. ICFM may have a permanent secretariat – the Chinese Institute for Water Resources and Hydropower in Beijing proposed to host it. Will be confirmed in June.

- Other relevant upcoming events include: 18 May 2017: Workshop on Water and Disaster, Chengdu University, Chengdu, China; 19 May 2017: The 9th HELP meeting in Chengdu, China; 20 July 2017: The 3rd special session on Water and Disaster, the UN Headquarter; and September 2017: Meeting of HLPW as a part of General Assembly, UN Headquarter
- M. Miyamoto reported on establishing national platforms in Asian countries and introduced a diagram of such a platform functions. The platforms were established in Philippines for the Pampanga basin and the Davao basin, and in Sri Lanka. The process has been initiated in Myanmar, Indonesia, and Pakistan – consultation meetings were either held or planned in the near future. Such process should also be initiated in Africa soon.

2. Introduction of a new member

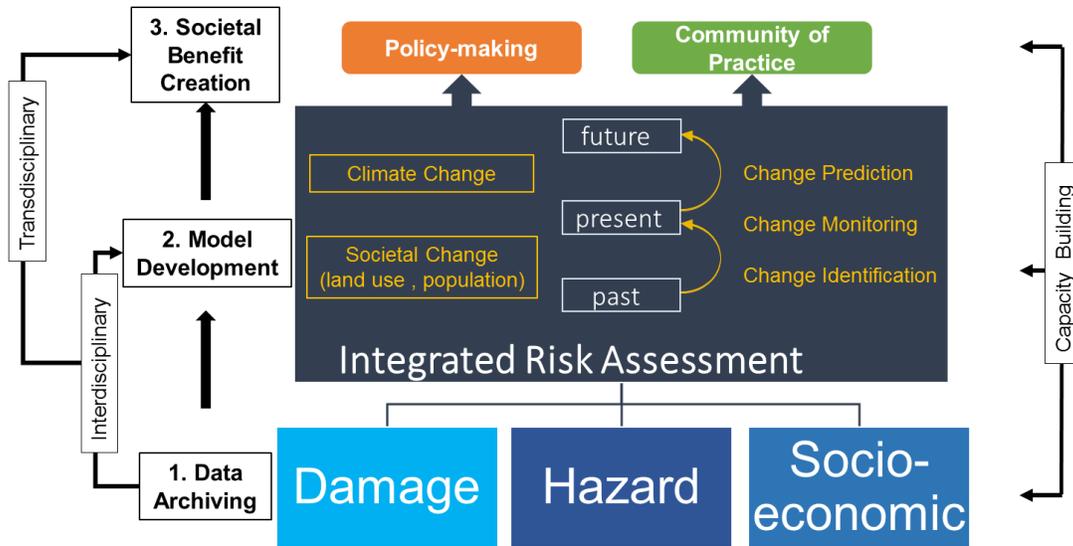
Mr. Hans Thulstrup (UNESCO Jakarta) has recently joined the UNESCO Office in Jakarta and is responsible for water and environmental science program. Mr. Thulstrup will be supporting IFI activities. Before coming to Jakarta, he was working as Program Specialist in the UNESCO Office in Beijing.

3. Updates on establishing national IFI platforms in Asian countries

T. Koike reported on the progress of the national platform establishment in Asian countries, referring to the ppt file 20170630_Koike.pptx, which was distributed prior to the call:

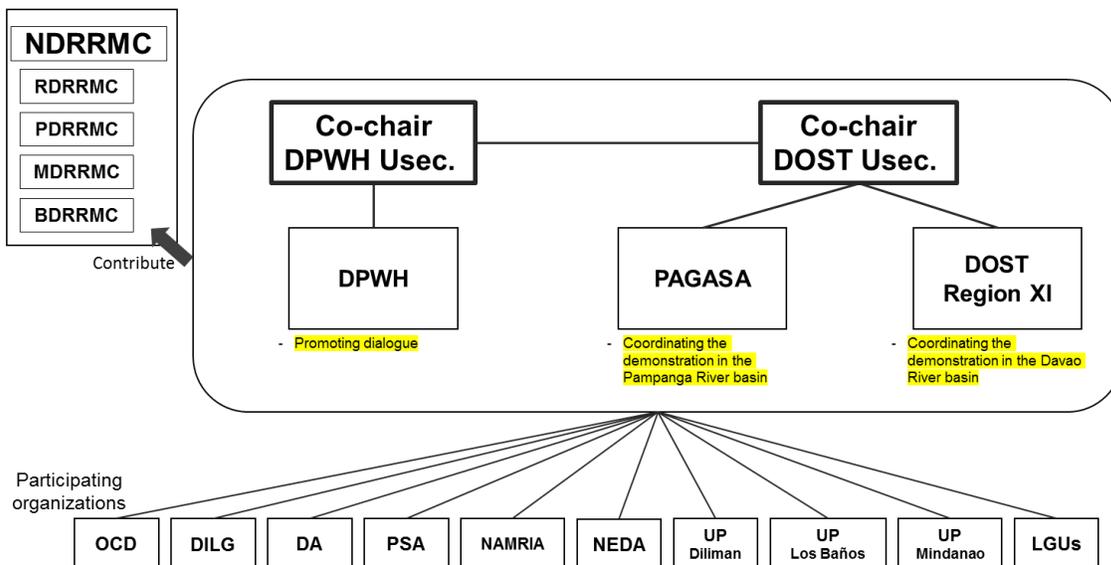
- A schematic diagram of the platform and its functions was reiterated. The diagram is shown below. The main functions include:
 - Data archiving: damage, hazard, socio-economic
 - Model development: interdisciplinary, including integrated risk assessment
 - Societal benefits creation through policy-making and communities of practice: e.g., infrastructure, river planning
- The institutional structure of the platform was established in Philippines, Myanmar, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka and the diagrams were presented and explained. The charts are shown below.
- An example of the IFI support to countries was presented. A prototype of flood early warning system for Sri Lanka was developed as a response to the large flood in the Kalu Ganga river at the end of May 2017. The system integrates real-time in-situ rainfall observation with satellite rainfall and cloud observation (GSMaP and Himawari-8 data), an hourly rainfall prediction for next 3 days, and a flood and inundation simulation scheme with an hourly time step. The system is embedded onto the DIAS system of Japan and openly provides real-time information on rainfall, rainfall prediction, and inundation under the IFI framework.

Platform on Water and Disaster



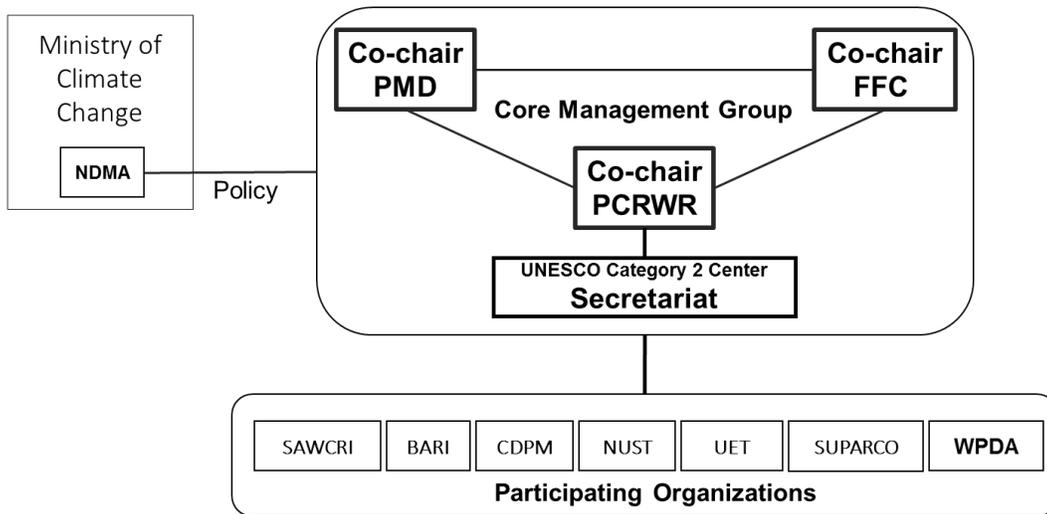
Philippines

Institutional Structure of the Platform on Water-related Disasters

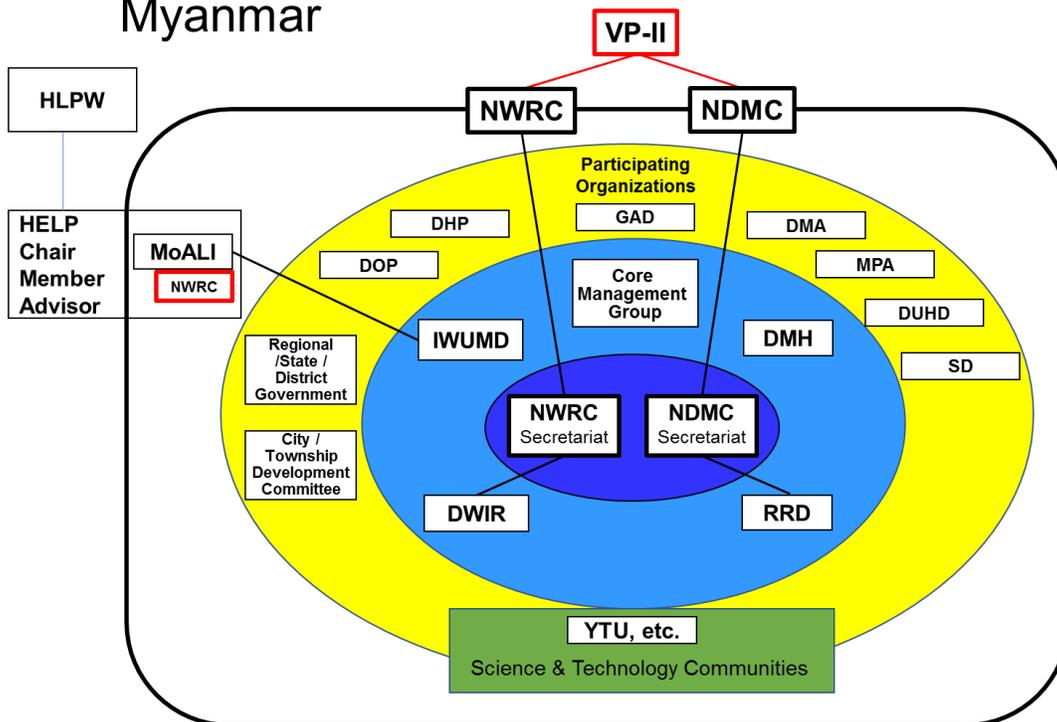


Pakistan

Institutional Structure of the Platform on Water and Disasters

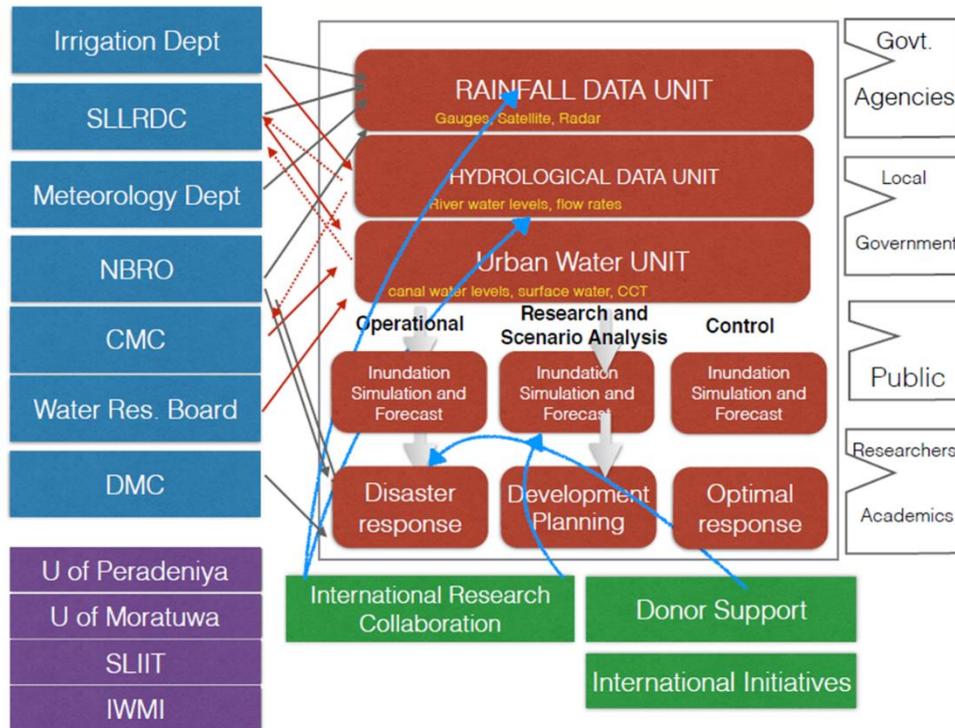


Myanmar



Sri Lanka

System Implementation



4. Updates on ICFM7 preparation

S. Simonovic reported on the progress in ICFM7 preparation:

- Preparations progress well, early bird registration ended in mid-June and the standard registration deadline is on 20 August 2017. About 360 people are expected.
- The UNESCO special session was scheduled.
- Preliminary program is available from the conference website at: <http://www.icfm7.org.uk/>
- There are 12 special sessions, 24 parallel sessions and 2 special poster sessions for young participants and general topics.
- Ad-hoc committee will meet before the Conference (decisions for the upcoming event) and in the morning of the last day of the Conference (summarizing the outcomes). T. Koike is a member of the committee.
- Financial support by UNESCO is greatly appreciated, it is mainly meant for travel support of people from developing countries.
- WMO will also support the event in the similar manner as UNESCO and the WMO support is much appreciated too.
- The Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower in Beijing, China offered to host the permanent secretariat of ICFM and this was confirmed in mid-June. Having the permanent secretariat will improve the efficiency of the Conference organization and preparation in between the events.
- The next ICFM – ICFM8 – will be held in 2020 and will be hosted by the University of Iowa, USA.

5. Other relevant events

- 20 July 2017: The 3rd Water and Disaster special session at the UN Headquarters in New York. A high level meeting including secretariat UN, presidents of several countries and ministers of relevant sectors. A 90-minute session on science and technology contribution to Water related disaster – flood, drought, land slide – will be held and will identify the next step direction.
- September 2017 (approximately mid-September): High Level Panel on Water meeting at the UN Headquarters in New York. Collaborative activities under the framework of UN will be finalized for the UN decade on water and sustainability, which will begin in March 2018.