

Terms of Reference of Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) Young Scientists Programme

1. Background and purpose

- 1.1 Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) is an international scientific programme cosponsored by the International Science Council (ISC) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), and supported by China Association of Science and Technology (CAST). International Programme Office of IRDR (IRDR IPO) is hosted by Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and Aerospace Information Research Institute (AIR) of CAS. The mission of IRDR is to mobilize science for the reduction of all types of disaster risk, building resilience and reducing vulnerability by integrating risk science with climate change adaptation and mitigation and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). IRDR aims to usher in an inclusive, safe and sustainable world by promoting a better understanding of disaster risk and the effective use of risk science in decision-making.
- 1.2 IRDR Young Scientists Programme (hereafter referred as YSP) is established to promote capacity building of young professionals, and encourage them to undertake innovative and needs-based research which improves DRR research, policy and practice interaction.
- 1.3 IRDR YSP is a participation programme for those young professionals who are committed voluntarily to contribute to IRDR mission in their career development.

2. The objectives

- 2.1 To increase the awareness among young scientists about Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (hereafter referred as Sendai Framework) and its implementation and provide opportunities for engagement through the Young Scientists Programme on DRR;
- 2.2 To collate existing research knowledge on DRR and identify research gaps and priorities in relation to the Priorities for Action of the Sendai Framework and the Research Priorities of “*A Framework for Global Science in Support of Risk-informed Sustainable Development and Planetary Health*”, which was launched by ISC, UNDRR and IRDR in 2021;
- 2.3 To promote integrated and multi-disciplinary research initiatives by young scientists and early career researchers and provide technical support to promising young researchers in DRR fields;
- 2.4 To develop a community of high-quality IRDR young professionals as part of global DRR networks of experts and institutions for the implementation of the Sendai Framework and SDGs.

3. Selection process of IRDR Young Scientists

3.1 The application of YSP will be open once a year by IRDR International Programme Office (IRDR IPO) through official announcement in IRDR Website.

3.2 The applicants should submit the following materials:

- (a) Filled Application Form as provided in the appendix;
- (b) Detailed Curriculum Vitae;
- (c) Detailed Research Plan with the template provided in the appendix;
- (d) Recommendation/Endorsement Letter(s);
- (e) Copy of Student/Faculty ID Card

3.3 The necessary criteria of submission are as followed:

- (a) Applicants should be less than 40 years old on the date of application;
- (b) The applicant needs to be affiliated with an academic program either as a student (master or doctorate) or as a young faculty;
- (c) The subject of research plan needs to be related to the integrated research or practice on disaster risk reduction within the context of broader environment and development issues;
- (d) The applicant must be endorsed by academic supervisor (for students) or head of the department /graduate school (for young faculties).
- (e) The period of research plan should be one year minimum, and three years maximum.

3.4 IPO will organize a selection panel for the review and evaluation after the application closed. The panel will consist of four senior experts from IRDR community and the Executive Director of IRDR IPO .

3.5 The evaluation of the research plan will consider the following aspects of the applicants: if they are toward integrated research, having strong relation to the four priorities of Sendai Framework and the level of innovation in the research. Gender and regional balance will be considered in the evaluation.

3.6 All applications will be acknowledged by emails from IPO. The result of panel evaluation will be communicated to every applicant by IPO in two months after the closure of the application. IPO will send the IRDR Certification Letter individually to the selected IRDR Young Scientists.

4. Responsibilities and benefits of IRDR Young Scientists

4.1 The IRDR Young Scientists is required to:

- (a) Contribute to integrated and innovative research in the field of disaster risk reduction;
- (b) Be the ambassador of IRDR in different conferences and/or social media;
- (c) Develop and contribute to networking of young professionals;
- (d) Submit annual report of activities with the template provided in the appendix;
- (e) Acknowledge the contribution of IRDR in the academic paper, thesis, report etc. when it is appropriate.

- 4.2 The IRDR Young Scientists will receive the following benefits:
- (a) Connection to IRDR network of professionals and practitioners for academic support/advice;
 - (b) Priority in the participation in the IRDR related training programmes, workshops, and conferences;
 - (c) Priority in the communication through IRDR Youth Podium;
 - (d) Possible publication in IRDR Working Paper Series, IRDR Special Reports, and contribution to IRDR Policy Briefs;
Possible seed fund via IRDR research projects supported by IPO, IRDR National Committees (NCs) or IRDR International Centres of Excellences (ICoEs).

5. Operation and communication

- 5.1 IPO will provide the overall support for the development of YSP, including the organisation of application and selection, the facilitation of YSP activities, and the communication of the achievements of the IRDR Young Scientists. IRDR Science Officer will be the focal point of YSP to ensure the communication between IRDR Young Scientists and the whole IRDR community.
- 5.2 IRDR Scientific Committee (SC) will have two positions reserved for IRDR Young Scientists. This is to ensure effective interactions between YSP and the IRDR governing body. The application and appointment for these two positions will follow the ToR of IRDR SC.
- 5.3 IRDR encourages the IRDR Young Scientists to take their own initiatives to organise work teams, groups or joint activities.
- 5.4 IRDR will promote the visibility of young professionals in global DRR agenda and will organise the IRDR Young Scientists Conference in accordance with the IRDR Action Plan, and the IRDR Youth Innovation Workshops on specific topics.
- 5.5 IRDR will connect with other young professional networks in DRR to develop the collaborations and partnerships.

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Young Scientists Programme Application Form

Please complete all sections of this application form accurately. Detail information about Young Scientists Programme is available on IRDR website.

1. Personal Information

Family Name: _____

Given Name: _____

Nationality: _____

Date of Birth: Year _____ Month _____ Day _____

Male Female Other (Please use √)

Present Address: _____

Tel: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Permanent Address: _____

2. Education Background (from undergraduate / bachelor degree onward)

Institutions	Years Attended (from/to)	Fields of Study	Certificates Obtained or to Obtain

3. Employment Background

Employer	Time (from/to)	Work Engaged	Posts Held

4. Academic Papers, Writing and Artworks Published (list only, do not attach)

5. Please Describe Your Research Plan Briefly (300 words max)

Please describe how you will be benefited from the IRDR programme, and IRDR will be benefited from your research.

6. Application Statement

The information provided in my applications is to the best of my knowledge, complete and accurate, and I understand that false statements on this application will disqualify me from the Program.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Young Scientists Programme Research Plan

The Research Plan should be stated within 5-8 pages following the template as following.

1. Title of the Research

2. Rationale and research objectives

The targeted research priorities of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and A Framework for Global Science in Support of Risk-informed Sustainable Development and Planetary Health should be clearly indicated in this session.

3. Methods

4. Expected results

5. Timeframe of the research (one year minimum, three years maximum)

6. Work Team or partners (if any)

7. Reference

Young Scientists Programme Annual Report of Activities

The report should include diagrams and pictures and be no more than 3 pages.

1. Information of the IRDR Young Scientist

Name: _____

Current Affiliation: _____

Accessible Email: _____

2. Title of the Research

3. Progress of the Research

Brief descriptions on research progress, with diagrams and pictures. List the publications if any.

4. DRR Activities

List the DRR activities participated during the period of reporting with photos if any.