

IRDR Action Plan 2025-2027

Adopted by IRDR SC27, 2024

1. Introduction

1.1 In May 2022, ISC, UNDRR and CAST reached a co-sponsorship agreement for IRDR Phase II which will cover a ten-year period of 2022-2031. The co-sponsors subsequently requested IPO to prepare its first triannual IRDR Action Plan 2022-2024¹, corresponding to the timeframe of ISC Action Plan 2022-2024. In May 2023, IRDR Phase II was officially assigned. In November 2023, it was decided by IRDR Coordination Meeting that the action plan shall be revised for 2025-2027 and be adopted by the first Scientific Committee Meeting in Phase II.

1.2 The IRDR Action Plan is framed on the basis of the following documents:

- The new global research agenda entitled “**A Framework for Global Science in Support of Risk-informed Sustainable Development and Planetary Health**” (hereinafter as Research Framework) launched by ISC, UNDRR and IRDR in 2021² ;
- The ISC Action Plan 2022-2024 and its thematic actions on Systemic Risk and Global Emergencies³ ;
- The concept document of IRDR Phase II, articulated IRDR’s mission, research objectives, main functions and mechanisms for programme delivery (Annex 1).

1.3 IRDR’s mission 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 effective use of risk science in decision-making.

1.4 The new mission requires IRDR to bring together expertise from sciences, technologies, engineering and more. Engaging and working with relevant stakeholders, IRDR will:

- ✧ improve knowledge and understanding of risk and uncertainty that hamper progress toward inclusive, safe and sustainable development;
- ✧ promote innovation in research and action, and explore effective solutions in DRR; and
- ✧ build institutional capacity required under various socio-economic and cultural settings and development contexts for risk informed development.

1.5 IRDR community, namely the researchers and practitioners participating in the IRDR Scientific Committee, IRDR National Committees, International Centres of Excellence (ICoEs) and Young Scientists Programme (YSP), will be called to support the implementation of the IRDR Action Plan. The implementation will also be pursued through the partnerships and joint initiatives with other DRR related institutions and networks. Fig 1 is the overall structure for IRDR implementation.

¹ The timeframe of this draft action plan is adjusted from 2022-2024 to 2025-2027. This adjustment is due to the fact that the signing of Letter of Agreement of IRDR Phase II was completed in May 2023, and the first term of Scientific Committee members was announced in June 2024.

² https://www.irdrinternational.org/knowledge_pool/publications/888

³ <https://council.science/publications/action-plan-2022-2024/>

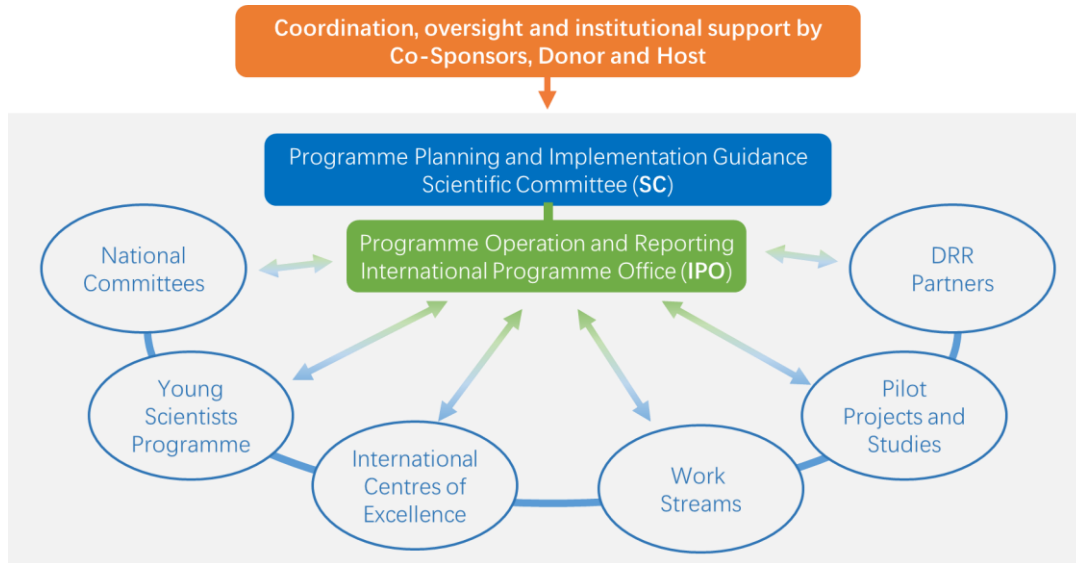


Fig 1. Structure of IRDR for delivery

2. Research Priorities

2.1 The Research Framework has identified nine global research priorities for 2030 and beyond, as show in the box below⁴. This priority setting is the overall guidance for IRDR planning and development. The Co-Sponsors, Donor and IPO Host of IRDR will provide institutional and policy support, and mobilize partnership and resources needed for the implementation of IRDR Action Plan. The SC will provide planning and implementation guidance for IPO to operate and deliver.

- Priority 1: Understand risk creation and perpetuation in the present risk landscape
- Priority 2:** Address inequalities, injustices and marginalisation
- Priority 3: Enable transformative governance and action
- Priority 4: Understand the implications of new thinking on hazards
- Priority 5:** Harness technologies, data and knowledge for risk reduction
- Priority 6:** Support regional and national science and knowledge for policy and action
- Priority 7: Support just and equitable transitions, adaptation and risk reduction
- Priority 8: Measurement to help drive progress
- Priority 9: Foster interdisciplinary and multi-stakeholder collaboration

2.2 The above Research Priorities will be further translated into actions of IRDR, including institutional capacity development, IRDR Work Streams, IRDR Pilot Studies, case studies, training, and service in DRR data, information and knowledge. The priority setting of IRDR actions will be continuously reviewed and adjusted in response to the changes in demands in global DRR agenda and dynamics of risk landscape.

⁴ The Priority 2, Priority 5 and Priority 6 were highlighted as the priorities of priorities for 2025-2027 by IRDR community based on the result of the internal survey conducted before IRDR SC27.

3. Main actions and deliverables

3.1 The main actions and deliverables of this Action Plan are aligned with the three main functions of IRDR: 1) Coordinating international research; 2) Working at the science-policy-practice interface; and 3) Acting as an international hub of centres of excellence for disaster risk-related research, innovation, and capacity building.

3.2 IRDR will undertake four clusters of actions and lead the development and implementation of a global risk research agenda for 2030, as has been entrusted in the ISC Action Plan 2025-2027:

- **Enabling a full operation of IRDR Phase II,**
- **Coordination and facilitation of international research cooperation,**
- **Knowledge production, synthesis, and outreach, and**
- **Empower young DRR professionals.**

Specific actions for each cluster are provided in Section 3.3-3.6 of this Action Plan.

3.3 **Enabling a full operation of IRDR Phase II.** Four specific actions will be undertaken.

No.	Specific actions/ <i>deliverables</i>	IRDR role and the actors	Partnerships	Timeframe
1	IRDR Scientific Committee (SC) - <i>Each year there will be an annual session of SC meeting, with other meetings in between</i>	IRDR co-sponsors and IPO		2025 - 2027
2	Staffing of IRDR International Programme Office (IPO) - <i>An enhanced IRDR-IPO is in place with all staff posts and programme positions filled and performing</i>	IRDR co-sponsors, Host and IPO		2025
3	Enhancement of IRDR NCs and ICoEs - <i>Status of all existing NCs and ICoEs updated and engagement confirmed for the new action plan</i> - <i>Process open for applications of IRDR NCs and ICoEs under the renewed ToRs</i>	SC, IPO, NCs, ICoEs	IRDR partners	2025 2025-2027
4	New partnership development - <i>Partnership with UN agencies and international organisations</i> - <i>Partnership with civil society organisations and private</i>	SC and IPO	IRDR co-sponsors, donor and the IPO host	2025 - 2027

	<i>sectors in DRR identified and established priorities</i>			
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3.4 Coordination of international research cooperation. Four actions are planned.

No.	Specific Actions/Deliverables	IRDR role and the actors	Partnerships	Timeframe
5	IRDR support to international and regional dialogue and exchanges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Contributions toward the 2025 Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction;</i> - <i>COP 28/ISC GA</i> - <i>Contributions toward other regional and thematic DRR conferences, seminars, workshops with particular attention to the follow up of Sendai MTR.</i> 	IRDR Community and IPO (lead) IPO in liaison with IRDR Community SC and IPO in liaison with IRDR Community	ISC, UNDRR, Regional offices of ISC and UNDRR, ISC IBs, IRDR partners	2025 2025-2027
6	Development of IRDR Work Streams and Pilot Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>A first set of Work Streams and Pilot Studies identified and established, with the resources mobilized from the partners:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <i>Risk-informed development</i> ◆ <i>Climate change and public health</i> ◆ <i>DRR financing</i> ◆ <i>DRR education</i> ◆ <i>End-to-end Early Warning and Response System (EW4all, Early Warning Early Action)</i> 	SC, IPO, NCs, ICoEs, YSP	IRDR Co-sponsors; WFEO, Risk KAN, ISC IBs, UN related programmes, DRR partners	2025 - 2027
7	Supporting and contributing toward the development of Risk-KAN <i>(IRDR co-sponsors Risk KAN with Future Earth, WWRP and WCRP since 2018)</i>	SC, IPO	ISC, Risk KAN	2025-2027

8	Participation in the work of 'Hazards Definition and Classification' and 'Hazard Information Profiles' (HIPs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Technical inputs for the update and the application of this document</i> - <i>Formulating an IRDR Work Stream</i> 	SC, IPO, NCs, ICoEs, YSP	ISC and UNDRR (lead)	2025-2027
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3.4.1 IRDR Work Streams and Pilot Studies are two new arms of IRDR for programme delivery. The Work Streams are oriented to areas of thematic and cross-cutting DRR research, while Pilot Studies are context specific and for addressing practical DRR challenges in regions, countries and communities.

3.5 **Knowledge production and outreach.** Six actions are planned.

No.	Specific Actions/Deliverables	IRDR role and the actors	Partnerships	Timeframe
9	IRDR annual report on the implementation of the Action Plan 2025-2027	IPO and SC (lead), NCs, ICoEs, YSP	IRDR co-sponsors, IRDR partners	2025-2027
10	Contribution to Global Assessment Report (GAR) series and its special reports	IPO and SC (lead), NCs, ICoEs, YSP	UNDRR, IRDR partners	2025-2027
11	Production of IRDR Working Papers and IRDR Special Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>IRDR working papers and Special Reports are produced on emerging, pertinent and integrated issues of DRR</i> 	IPO (lead) SC, NCs, ICoEs, YSP	IRDR partners	2025 - 2027
12	Compilation of DRR Policy Briefs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Policy briefs produced by IRDR and with its key partners</i> 	IPO, SC, NCs, ICoEs and YSP	IRDR co-sponsors, IRDR partners	2025 - 2027
13	Maintenance and upgrading IRDR knowledge portals, databases and services in social media <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>A full-functioning IRDR internet knowledge pool</i> - <i>Higher visibility of IRDR community toward global agendas</i> 	IPO ICos//NCs	IRDR partners including CODATA, UNESCO Open Science Platforms, CBAS, UNESCO IKCEST	2025 - 2027

14	IRDR online lectures and training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Package IRDR training materials and Open Courses</i> - <i>Professional trainings across continents, sectors and expertise</i> 	SC and IPO (lead) NCs, ICoEs, and YSP	IRDR partners and the leading universities in DRR	2025 - 2027
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3.6 Empowerment of young DRR professionals. Two actions are planned.

No.	Specific Actions/Deliverables	IRDR role and the actors	Partnerships	Timeframe
15	Rejuvenating IRDR Young Scientists Programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Expansion of IRDR YSP network under the renewed ToRs and promotion</i> - <i>Studies of YSP geared with the local needs and requests for DRR solutions and mentorships</i> - <i>Compilation of best practices and benchmarking reports and publications for the global impacts of IRDR YS programmes</i> 	SC and IPO (lead) NCs, ICoEs, YSP	IRDR co-sponsors, donor and IPO host, IRDR partners	2025 - 2027
16	Alliance with DRR youth initiatives and networks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Official partnership established with young professional networks in DRR</i> - <i>IRDR Young Scientists Lumos and IRDR Youth Podium</i> - <i>Establish programs that enables Dialogues, knowledge sharing, codesigning DRR proposals and projects in a multidisciplinary-transdisciplinary and cross-borders collaboration</i> 	YSP (lead) SC and IPO	IRDR Co-sponsors, IRDR partners	2025 - 2027

4. Resources for implementations

4.1 The resources for the implementation will be provided and mobilized in accordance with the provisions of Letter of Co-operation and the IRDR Concept Document.

5. Reporting

5.1 After the endorsement by IRDR co-sponsors of this first IRDR Action Plan, IPO will coordinate the implementation and mobilize resources required, and keep compressive and concise records of the progress of the planned actions. The implementation report will be prepared and presented for examination in accordance with the request of IRDR co-sponsors and SC.

<End of the Action Plan>