

IRDR Fellowship

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). 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. 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 To further strengthen IRDR's scientific capacity, amplify its impact, and broaden its engagement with policymakers, practitioners, and civil society, the IRDR Fellowship mechanism is established.

2. Rationale and Mandate

2.1. The Fellowship shall be the highest honour awarded to individuals by the IRDR. It recognizes the individuals who have an exceptional track record in more than one of the following domains:

- Promoting disaster risk science for the global good internationally
- Providing broad scientific leadership in studies of disaster risks in the international arena
- Advancing the global voice for disaster risk science
- Developing major scientific initiatives and structures related to disaster risk reduction
- Scientific accomplishments in integrated research on disaster risk.

2.2. IRDR Fellows must have the capacity to add value to the IRDR in amplifying the voice for disaster risk science through ambassadorial and advisory roles, and in accepting the fellowship acknowledge their willingness to assist IRDR activities when nominated and requested by the IRDR. Fellows are expected to uphold IRDR mission and vision. Forms of assistance offered by IRDR Fellows could include:

- (a) engagement in IRDR-related research cooperation;
- (b) advocacy for and representation of IRDR at international, national, and local DRR activities and platforms;
- (c) facilitation of partnerships and resources to support the development of IRDR;
- (d) service as a panellist for evaluations within the IRDR community;
- (e) advice on the new nomination and invitation of IRDR Fellow;
- (f) guidance to early- and mid-career professionals in the IRDR community.

2.3. The fellowship aims to have a maximum of 60% of any gender and will have due regard for geographical, disciplinary, ethnic and career-stage diversity. At least 40% of the fellows should come from or work primarily in low- or middle-income countries.

2.4. IRDR Fellows are referred to as active Fellows for the six years following their election (according to article 2.2), and as emeritus Fellows thereafter.

2.5. The IRDR Scientific Committee (SC) can revoke the fellowship of any individual if a case of misconduct is brought forward.

3. Nomination and Election of IRDR Fellows

3.1. Nominations of distinguished individuals are open year-round, with the specified deadline for their submission.

3.2. IRDR Fellow can be nominated by one of two routes:

Group A (IRDR Community):

- IRDR Fellows
- Chair of the IRDR Scientific Committee on behalf of the Committee
- Head of the IRDR National Committee
- Head of the IRDR International Centre for Excellence
- IRDR Executive Director on behalf of the International Programme Office

Group B (co-sponsors, donor and host):

- Representative of Co-Sponsor: the International Science Council (ISC) Secretariat
- Representative of Co-Sponsor: the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
- Representative of the Donor Organisation: China Association of Science and Technology (CAST)
- Representative of the Host Organisation: Chinese Academy of Sciences

3.3. A Fellows Selection Committee will be set up by the IRDR International Programme Office (IPO) and approved by the IRDR SC to evaluate the nominations and select new Fellows. The Fellows Selection Committee will comprise six Fellows.

3.4. After the deadline for nominations, the Fellows Selection Committee will assess the nominations based on the criteria indicated in Article 2.1 and recommend up to 10 new Fellows to be selected. The IRDR SC may suggest changing the number of new Fellows, in consultation with the Fellow Selection Committee.

3.5. The IRDR SC will consider the recommendation of the Fellows Selection Committee and decide on new Fellows. The IRDR co-sponsors, i.e. ISC and UNDRR, will be informed of the final result. The IRDR IPO will then invite the selected individuals to join the IRDR Fellowship. These individuals must agree to receive the fellowship before it is formally awarded.

3.6. The certificate of an IRDR Fellowship will be issued by the IRDR IPO and signed by the IRDR Executive Director.

3.7. Fellows shall not be charged a fee for the fellowship.

3.8. IRDR IPO will serve as the secretariat for the Fellowship programme, managing nominations, appointments, and communications. The IRDR Science Officer will be the focal point of IRDR Fellows.