43rd Session of the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee
27/06-01/07/2022, Online

Regina Rodrigues & Ted Shepherd
Progress and achievements

- **Grappling with complexity** of local situations...
  ...by expressing climate knowledge in a conditional form

- **The importance of simplicity** when dealing with deep uncertainty...
  ...through the use of physical climate storylines

- **Empowering local communities** to make sense of their own situation...
  ...by developing “intermediate technologies” that build trust and transparency
Progress and achievements

- Session at **SRI 2020** (held in 2021)
- **HUC Summer School 2021**
- **HUC Workshop** on Storying Climes of the Himalaya, Andes, and Arctic (leading to an edited book)
- Session at **AGU 2021** (leading to a paper)
- Many presentations of My Climate Risk in various fora
<table>
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<th>Progress and achievements</th>
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<td>✓ 11 members of the <em>Science Plan Development Team</em> indicated a desire to continue as regular members of the SSG</td>
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<td>✓ There were <strong>34 applicants</strong>; 9 have been nominated for SSG membership</td>
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<td>✓ We need a relatively large SSG to provide good regional representation and for our GAs to function well, as they will be virtual</td>
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<td>✓ We held an <em>open call</em> for new members from all continents except Europe (since it was already well represented among the continuing members)</td>
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<td>✓ Overall description of the <strong>20 nominees</strong>:</td>
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<td>✓ Europe (4), Africa (2), South and Central America (4), North America (4), Asia (5), Australasia (1)</td>
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<td>✓ Female (12), Male (8)</td>
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<td>✓ PhD's before 2000 (5), from 2001-2020 (13), after or not yet (2)</td>
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Progress and achievements

- Eight MCR regional hubs in process of establishment
- Arose through a variety of routes, including WCRP Climate Forums
- Hubs need to share bottom-up approach of MCR
- Aim is to expand (slowly) into regions not well represented within WCRP
- See the MCR website for FAQs about hubs
Progress and achievements

WEBINAR
Climate risk and uncertainty in India
12 May 2022 | 16:00-18:00 (IST) | Zoom

Take-home message: For vulnerable communities, uncertainty is a way of life, not an error bar.
Progress and achievements

- Held our first virtual 'General Assembly' (essentially, our SSG meeting) between May 30 and June 2, 2022
- Consisted of 5 two-hour sessions
  - One plenary, followed by two sessions in each of two 'hemispheric' breakout groups
- The hub concept seems to be working out very well; doing our science "as if people mattered" is a unifying theme
- Planning another GA in October/November (annually is too infrequent)
- See draft meeting report
Future plans – Next steps

- Consolidation and maturation of the existing regional hubs, and development of interactions between them
  - Hub-driven webinar series, both inward- and outward-facing

- Identification of opportunities to share or develop training materials between the hubs, and strengthen linkages with the WCRP Academy

- Exploration of potential additional hubs in parts of the world that are underrepresented within WCRP
  - Could start as branches of existing hubs

- Initiation of a working group with RIfS (and potentially other partners) on epistemological issues in climate risk, involving philosophers of science, and including how to navigate across the 'rational-social dichotomy'
Future plans – Connections

- In line with the focus of MCR on bottom-up activities, anchored primarily in the hubs, we expect most of the connections with international partners (both within WCRP, and externally) to occur there, within a particular context.
  - The people leading those activities are best placed to identify the relevant partners, and the discussions can then be concrete rather than abstract.
  - Many members of MCR are also engaged in WCRP core projects, so are well placed to make connections with them, where they make sense.

- The goals of MCR have much in common with those of RIfS, but the modalities are different, and MCR needs to have strong connections with all parts of WCRP.

- Both EPESC and SLC also address climate risk, but at larger spatial scales (continental to global); the most important word in My Climate Risk is ‘My’.
Emerging issues

✓ Challenges of building *capability* in a sustainable way, especially in fragile or underfunded institutions
  ✓ Community-led activities tend to be dominated by the powerful
  ✓ Can WCRP or its partners help in this respect?

✓ Building trusted *relationships* takes a long time and is not compatible with the project cycle of funding
  ✓ Ultimately, it's all about people

✓ **Metrics of success** in science tend to encourage competitive and extractive/exploitive practices
  ✓ Trust and openness are not always compatible

✓ The *WCRP Open Science Conference* in Kigali will be an opportunity for MCR, but we will need a lot of funding if we are to be fully engaged

**World Climate Research Programme**

[Logos and links to associated organizations]