

Notes for WCRP IPO & JPS Meeting

Time: 12:00 - 13:00, GMT, 27 May 2020

Participants

CLiC: Gwen Hamon

SPARC: Hans Volkert

CORDEX: Irene Lake & Nilsson Lindha

CLIVAR: Jose Santos, Jing Li, Liping Yin,

Rupa Kumar Kolli

GEWEX: Peter van Oevelen

CORA: Beatriz Balino (Chair), Anke Schlünsen-Rico

JPS: Michel Rixen & Narelle van der Wel

Apologies: Mike Sparrow (JSC), Mareike Kenntner (SPARC); Seungon Hwang & Yukyung Hyun (S2S), YESS

1. **Welcome** – Jose Santos, Executive Director of the ICPO welcomed everyone to the telecon and briefly introduced the agenda.
2. **Update from CORA (5 min) + best practices for digital platforms (5 min)** – Beatriz Balino
 - Task Team for Regional activities – The TT has been extended to the end of 2020, and a Roadmap is being prepared by incorporating the new WCRP implementation strategy (elements & structures), at least trying to present recommendation on this.
 - Database for regional activities – beta version is not available yet - Got delayed! Once it is ready, the IPOs are encouraged to test the platform and provide feedback to CORA. The database will be maintained and updated regularly by CORA.
 - Best practices for digital platforms – A work document with consolidated suggestions and comments has been prepared and shared by CORA prior to the telecon (See Annex 1). We need to think about what to do with the consolidated inputs. Some initial ideas have been proposed during the telecon are:
 - Best practices and recommendations will be summarised for 1) internal communication; 2) external meetings/workshop; 3) data and document sharing.
 - Does each IPO want to have more than one platform? What are the limitations for individual IPO is facing in terms of using digital platforms? Possibility to share license & cost for using some platforms?
 - The best practices for new communication modalities could be included in the WCRP communication plan.
 - We need to increase our own knowledge on how to use new ways of communications.

Action: All IPOs need to be involved in this discussion; discussion will continue by email. This is part of the communication plan that will have to be developed as part of the WCRP Implementation Plan in the coming months. So we can target our efforts effectively, Narelle would do this as part of that process. There is no timeline for that yet, but we should have one soon as it will have to go hand in hand with the transition phase. It will be critical that all of the Offices are strongly involved. We can lead it from the Secretariat (Narelle, Gwen, etc.).
3. **Update from CLIVAR (5 min)**
 - 1) Report from ICPO, Qingdao (Jose Santos, ED of ICPO)
 - Staff in Qingdao are working normally; Panel & RF activities of CLIVAR run normally.
 - Two summer courses of CLIVAR have been postponed into 2021.
 - Next year will be very busy: 2 summer schools + multi panel workshop & meetings.
 - Jose is currently based in Ecuador and plan to come back to Qingdao sometime in August.

2) Report from ICMPO, Pune - Rupa Kumar Kolli, ED of ICMPO

- ICMPO (<https://icmpo.tropmet.res.in/>) is hosted by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM, <https://www.tropmet.res.in/>), since 2015.
- Joined in October 2019 and have been putting concerted efforts to reactivate the ICMPO, in particular the support to CLIVAR/GEWEX Monsoons Panel (MP). The panel reports to the SSGs of both CLIVAR and GEWEX. Prior to joining ICMPO, worked at WMO Secretariat for 13 years as Chief of World Climate Applications and Services Division.
- Current activities include preparing the CLIVAR Exchanges special issue on India's Monsoon Mission. An interesting aspect of this theme is to showcase how a national programme can contribute to international scientific research on the monsoons. The issue is planned to be released in November 2020 and will have a number of articles by WCRP experts around the world.
- The Seventh International Workshop on Monsoons (IWM-7), with participation of MP and the relevant WCRP projects including CLIVAR and GEWEX, is proposed to be organised in India sometime next year, covering the weather to climate timescales, led by the World Weather Research Programme. While there are uncertainties in the organizational logistics due to the COVID-19 pandemic, preparations are underway.
- Monthly telecons being held on a regular basis with MP – challenges in using GoToMeeting, and exploring new platforms.
- All IPOs are encouraged to contact ICMPO in case they have any interest in or linkages with monsoon activities, especially on the regional activities and regional climate information. MP has a strong focus on regional coordination through its regional working groups, as the monsoons essentially operate on a regional scale.

4. Update from GEWEX (5 min) - Peter van Oevelen

- The extension of GEWEX IPO for another 5 years.
- Many meetings have been postponed, and this results in a pile of meetings in 2021.

5. Update from SPARC (5 min) - Hans

- The SPARC/IGAC joint activity of [Atmospheric Composition and the Asian Monsoon \(ACAM\)](#) is currently connected with GEWEX. Connection can be established with ICMPO. Meanwhile, Dr Gufran Beig, member of SPARC SSG, is from IITM in Pune. More links with ICMPO might be promoted through him.
- Meetings have been shifted to 2021 due to COVID-19.
- 55th edition of SPARC Newsletters is being prepared and will be released by the end of July.
- The support to SPARC IPO has been secured for 2021-2023. Hans will hand over to Mareike in November due to his retirement.

6. Update from CliC (5 min) – Gwen Hamon

- Busy following up on the workshops that have been postponed, cancelled or to be organised online.
- The BEPSII meeting, a 4-day CliC co-sponsored workshop, originally planned in-person in August, will be held online
- Some meetings are postponed to 2021, and need to think about the budget accordingly.
- Revising the CliC action plan and try a mapping of CliC onto the proposed new WCRP structure including the Lighthouse Activities, especially for the MIPs after the sunset of GCs.
- Kumar: The [Arctic Climate Forum](#) (ACF) is now being organised by WMO (27-28 May 2020) online, to develop the consensus statement on the current status (winter 2019/2020 – spring 2020) and future outlook (summer 2020) of the Arctic climate on a seasonal scale. Kumar encouraged CliC to actively participate in the ACF.

Action: Gwen will follow up with Kumar and the CliC SSG to discuss potential links between the ACF and CliC.

7. Update from CORDEX (5 min) - Irene Lake

- Workshops & best practices – A repository of presentations & documents is being established. CORDEX is looking for platforms for online/offline communication to support the repository.
- Communication Strategy and Activity Plan – develop and update material for communication, enhanced communication with targeted groups, update website, more use of social media.
- CORDEX White Paper to be published shortly – see how this can be linked with WCRP implementation strategies.

8. Update from S2S (written input from Seung On Hwang)

- The first S2S AI/ML teleconf was held.
- On 27 May, ICO organized the first S2S Webinar. This Webinar includes four talks. Total 99 people participated.
- S2S ICO as a host newly begins preparing Doodle Poll and Webex remote meeting system for S2S SG/LG teleconf, AI/ML teleconf, Webinar, etc.
- Now preparing answers to the suggestions that WCRP, WRRP, and Co-chairs asked S2S ICO to enhance activities (Admin assistance, regional activity in Asia, evaluation of models, assistance to each subproject, involving in AI/ML community, training workshop, etc).

9. Update from JSC 41: JPS (10 min) - Michel Rixen & Narelle van der Wel

- The JSC-41 discussion was based on the outcomes from WCRP's Climate Science Week in San Francisco in December 2019 and the High-level Science Questions and Flagship Workshop in Hamburg in February 2020. The consultation meeting planned in Washington D.C. was cancelled due to COVID-19. Five Lighthouse Activities (LHA) were proposed by the Hamburg workshop.
- Major outcomes of the JSC-41:
 - Feedback received from WCRP communities as well as co-sponsors and other partners on the 5 Lighthouse Activities.
 - New elements and structures (yellow pillars in Detlef's presentation) were proposed. Integration and communication between the yellow pillars are to be promoted. We need to make sure to not leave behind critical elements of WCRP in the new structure. The new structure will be in place by JSC-43, but the transition will start in 2021.
 - Strong coordination between model and data/observation communities are to be strengthened.
 - Speed up the process to develop the WCRP Implementation Plan – 'to move into the house even not complete finalised'.
 - GCs will sunset in 2022.
 - Carbon footprint drew great interest during the meeting – future implementation needed.

10. Discussion on Follow up actions after JSC 41: All (15 min) - Michel Rixen & Narelle van der Wel

- Finalizing the JSC-41 report: fresh out the LHA, new structure of WCRP
- Extraordinary WCRP Family meeting in late 2020.
- Membership: to improve the gender and geographic balance

Kommentiert [L1]: Forgot to say something about CORDEX CORE and the coming CMIP6 downscalings but I can do that next time.

- Regional Consultation for WCRP Implementation Plan: look at people in and outside WCRP communities.
- The discussion on WCRP regional activities will be continued till the end of 2020, and there will be opportunity for WCRP community to be involved in the Roadmap development and consultation.

Action: Presentation will be shared ASAP to all. This is being prepared by Detlef and Helen.

11. AOB and Schedule of next call

The next JPS and IPOs telecon will be organised at the end of June. CORDEX volunteered to chair the next telecon.

Annex 1: WCRP Experiences with digital communication platforms

A compilation by Beatriz Balino and Anke Schluesen-Rico, CORA office, May 27, 2020

Platform	max. participants	Requirements	Advantages	Disadvantages	Other comments
Skype	Few participants	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quick and easy set up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unstable Not appropriate for large nr of participants 	
Slack	?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can exchange files and add plug-in, add different groups, channels, and threads Chat for topics instead of emails Good for short discussions, can also upload documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsiveness has not been much higher than e-mail The platform seems a bit hard to understand It doesn't seem to work in China 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainly used for internal chat communication To receive messages about new comments you need to turn on notifications.
Zoom	10,000 (webinar)	Password to access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very good for videoconferencing: smooth video and slide sharing Allows people to send files using the chat box Allows to back up the chat in text format by clicking a single button Allow for break-out groups Functions: recording, raise hand & chat, whiteboard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is limited only within 40 min Must wait for the organizer to start the meeting and grant access to individuals Security is a serious concern. Some institutions and countries have restricted its use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Software has recently paused its service to users from mainland China Currently bans the individual to upgrade their account in China Webinars are possible if Add-on are bought
Microsoft Teams	?	All participants must have a Microsoft account (free to set up)	Seems to work very well, at least by administration	Only recently launched, and there may not be many users familiar with its working.	Free for personal use; business price plans are available. Has a steep learning curve as the set-up is a bit involved. WMO Secretariat is increasingly using it for its meetings.
GoToMeeting	?	Registration via PayPal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interactive panellists parallel working groups/rooms whiteboarding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes people have difficulty to connect in. If the organizer gets disconnected, say for technical reasons, the meeting room will be automatically closed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good experience for videoconferencing Relatively few issues Frequently-used

Platform	max. participants	Requirements	Advantages	Disadvantages	Other comments
BlueJeans	?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very good for videoconferencing and seminars • Functions: recording, raise hand & chat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connectivity/stability change rapidly • Expensive licence? 	
BigBlueButton	?		Open source		
Join.Me	?				Some experience primarily for some website development
Monday.com (formerly "dapulse")	?	Participants have to sign up	More a tracking/collaborative tool	Registration fee	
Webex	?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OK for meetings, have shaped up a bit lately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer quality not good with > 10 participants 	
SendBird	?				Some user had a bad experience since he could not speak and only type text via its software
Google Meet (formerly Google Hangout)	?	Google access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fast start, participants can start talking without waiting for the organiser to start the meeting • Easy to set up, and can work on the fly for low number of participants • Can be linked to Google Calendar; attachment can be sent through Google Calendar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not friendly for those without google access (e.g. China) • No recording function 	Personal use
Tencent Meeting	200	User needs a verification code sent to mobile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very good connection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The requirement may be difficult for the users outside China 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In China, most of the small/big meetings use it

Platform	max. participants	Requirements	Advantages	Disadvantages	Other comments
Meetu	Max 50		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Videoconferences, works well for meetings • Functions: comments & share screen • Meetingsmax 50 participants without Add-ons 		
GlobalMeet	?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used it only once; seems to work well 		

Trello

We have been using Trello to share documents. It is easy to use and has a good structure. An advantage is that you can see who has updated the documents and when. Doesn't work for Chinese partners.

Google Drive

We use Google doc to share documents within CORDEX. It works well when more than a few persons are supposed to revise a document and give comments. A good thing is that everyone can be active in the document at the same time which means that the others can see what you are writing immediately. You can also choose to have different 'rights' for those invited to a folder/document. Doesn't work for Chinese partners.

Alfresco

Alfresco is used at SMHI for sharing files. You can see the workflow, but one weakness is that it isn't possible for more than one person to be active in the document at the same time. You also need to download a doc the first time you edit and make sure the right icon is on for saving on-line. The file structure and search functions are a bit 'tedious'.

DropBox

Also works fine for sharing documents at least but people seem to move away from it, not sure why. Doesn't work for Chinese partners.

OneDrive (Microsoft)

An advantage with this is that it seamlessly works with all the Microsoft Office applications (including online in-browser editing), and offers 1 TB storage on a minimal subscription. Also can be seamlessly integrated with the Windows devices and mobile devices.