

Task Team on Regional Activities Telecon 25 October 2019, 13:00-14:40 UTC

MINUTES

Participants: Bill Gutowski & Silvina Solman (CORDEX), Clare Goodess (WGRC), Xuebin Zhang (GC Extremes), Krishnan Raghavan & Ken Takahashi (JSC), Narelle van der Wel (JPS), Wiebke Schubotz, Jiwon Kim & Beatriz Balino (CORA)

Apologies: Jens H. Christensen & Paco Roblas-Reyes (JSC), Irene Lake & Stefan Sobolowski (CORDEX), Lisa Alexander, Gabi Hegerl & Sonia Seneviratne (GC Extremes), Peter van Oevelen (GEWEX), Boram Li (JPS)

Gutowski chaired the meeting. There were no comments to the agenda.

A. CO-CHAIRING OF THE TASK TEAM

Clare Goodess, WGRC accepted the co-chairship of the TT, although she pointed out she has not yet been able to discuss with her WGRC co-chair Bruce Hewitson. Gutowski noted that Hewitson is very busy with the IPCC process and probably will not have time to dedicate to the TT until early next year. Solman pointed out that it is important to resolve this issue now, as the TT has a clear and pressing timeline so there is no time to wait. Gutowski then thanked Goodess for coming on board the TT and looks forward to her contribution to the implementation plan for a new structure of WCRP as this is an opportunity to draw on lessons learned from the WGRC. Regarding Hewitson, he would be in cc in all communication of the TT until further notice.

Action TT co-chair: *Hewitson to be in cc in all future communications of the TT until further notice.*

B. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TT'S TERMS OF REFERENCE – SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION POINTS

B1. ToR1: Consultations & recommendations

- The TT must deliver an initial report to the JSC by the end of November.
- The TT will perform two consultations: one to the WCRP community and another to the stakeholders, with focus on climate services. The stakeholders should provide guidance to WCRP on research priorities on regional climate and information. It will also be an advantage to understand how they work and what their views are on what WCRP can do for them.
- The TT was prompted to decide on which climate service organisations to approach and which people to consult. GFCS was mentioned several times.
 - The TT was informed that the organisation of GFCS is in flux, as the WMO Congress 18 dissolved the Intergovernmental Board on Climate Services this June and decided that the new Climate

Coordination Panel (CCP) will be the oversight and implementation mechanism of the GFCS, but remains to be established (note: probably operative in February 2020).

- It was pointed out that the appropriate entry point to climate services organisations was an issue the WGRC faced previously as they struggled to have practical outcomes from engaging GFCS. The TT shall take advantage of Goodess' previous participation on a number of Commission of Climatology (CCI) teams linked to climate services. These groups are looking to WCRP to bring the research aspect to their activities.
- Important to not be limited to climate projections/climate change, but to include sub-seasonal to decadal time scales. The WMO/CCI structures are useful in this respect as they work across all timescales.
- There was consensus on being realistic on what can be achieved by November and to be selective regarding which stakeholders to contact. It was agreed to start with Filipe Lucio at the WMO Secretariat (ex-director of the GFCS), preferably through telecons. CORA and Goodess volunteered to start an iterative process on: "*How can WCRP climate science be responsive to the climate services community and how can this community shape WCRP climate science?*". The consultation with other stakeholders such as meteorological services (via relevant regional structures), individual consultants or climate services will come later.
- The upcoming meeting of the Climate Services Partnership (ICCS-6) 11-13 February 2020 in Pune, India can provide a great opportunity to meet climate services organisations. Even though there is much potential in that event the TT must concentrate on the task ahead with the first deadline in November. At the end of the call (unfortunately many participants had left at that point already), Krishnan Raghavan volunteered to be the WCRP representative at this meeting if input from WCRP is desired. CORA will help with provision of ppt slides, etc. if needed.

Actions ToR1

CORA contact Filipe Lucio at WMO secretariat regarding the stakeholder consultation ASAP. Decide on additional contacts if time permits with guidance from Clare. CORA to perform a stocktake of existing links between WCRP and climate services.

NOTE: Comments and suggestions relating to this agenda item were sent by/after the telecon and they are shown at the end of the minutes.

B2. ToR2: Work plan for the next two years

The TT agreed to postpone the start of this task to after the AGU fall meeting, as the TT must first have the results from the consultations and then figure out the structure and elements to be recommended to the JSC. The work plan will be prepared in the period Jan-April 2020 and presented at the JSC-41 in May 2020

Action ToR2: *The process towards developing a concrete workplan for the coming two years is postponed until after the AGU fall meeting*

B3. ToR3: Structures and elements for the WCRP IP on priorities on climate information for regions

CORA suggested to use the “Framework for WCRP Regional Activities” from the scoping workshop in Hamburg in 2016 - endorsed at JSC-38 (2017) - as the basis for the TT’s recommendation on the elements and structures needed for WCRP to implement their priorities on climate information for regions.

There was consensus for this, but pointed out that this (along with other relevant documentations such as the FOCI framework and outcomes from the Distillation workshop in Santander in 2014) need to be reviewed and adapted to the current WCRP status and strategic plan.

CORA has put together a strawman report for the JSC report in November, this is available in google docs. CORA will revise this draft strawman to take into account the discussions herein as well as the WCRP IP and will then invite the TT to contribute to it.

Action ToR3

CORA revises the strawman report in Google docs and invites TT’s members to contribute to it.

CORA and Goodess to review the Framework for WCRP Regional Activities, the concept of FoCI and other relevant documentation and make recommendations to the TT before the next telecon.

The above documents need to be considered by the TT members before the next telecon, otherwise a discussion on future structures/elements will not be possible.

C. TOWNHALLS AT WCRP SCIENCE WEEK, AGU FALL MEETING

The question is how the TT would engage with the Townhalls and the Union Session. Gutowski will convey the suggested questions to all conveners of the Townhalls, as they are pertinent to the four of them. However, there are differing signals from Pavel and Detlef so we must find out what actually is expected from the TT. Van der Wel was asked to consult with the CSW organisers to find out what direction these are taking.

Here is the reply received after the meeting from the JSC lead:

“We want results from the Task Team to bring us forward in our entire planning. Their input will be definitely used in the workshop on the future WCRP elements (March/April 2020). I doubt that their input will be essential for the first workshop on future science questions. Their input is definitely not essential for the AGU week. If there are results available and useful, we will use them. But no need for them [the TT] to get engaged with the town halls etc.”

Actions WCRP Science Week

Description and conveners are listed in google docs.

Eventually Gutowski to convey the suggested questions to the Townhall on Objective "Bridging Science with Society" to the other three townhalls, as the questions might be relevant to those as well.

D. CORE PROJECT INITIATIVE: ROLE OF CORA

Gutowski informed the meeting that the initiative has not yet developed beyond a telecon. The problem is that there has not been a clear leadership. Balino noted that, whomever is appointed leader, CORA is willing to provide assistance to him/her. Gutowski suggested to contact Neil Harris (SPARC) on this regard.

Action CP initiative: Balino to contact Harris (SPARC) about the leadership of the CP initiative.

E. Any Other Business

CORA informed the TT that it is processing the input from a survey conducted in the summer among all WCRP bodies. The survey asked, how CORA could improve coordination among regional activities. The input provides some very concrete activities CORA is asked to help with. CORA will produce a report to be distributed to the TT (will be put in the google document).

Action AoB: CORA to provide the TT with a summary report on the results of CORA's WCRP Survey.

Next Telecon is scheduled to **Wednesday Nov, 13th at 14:00 UTC/GMT**

ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES -WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED BY/AFTER THE TELECON

Irene Lake, CORDEX IPO by email on Oct 25

Comment to the first question: «What type of climate science and information is of relevance/use for climate services and policy-making?»

Here I think it's important with close cooperation/discussion with the providers of the climate services and the policy-makers which is maybe implied later on in the document. Maybe we can also have more organized representation at events such as ICCS and others. As an example, we have in a proposal to the GCF (proposal by SMHI as the proposer for a Long-Term Agreement with them needs to be a legal entity) suggested climate festivals in different regions as a way to exchange knowledge and information etc.

For the bullet (i) (of ToR3) don't forget what is already ongoing and partly finished (by ICTP and GERICS) in the CORDEX CORE simulations.

For the bullet (ii) (of ToR3) it was also suggested in the Regional doc from late 2016 that FOI could at least partly be channeled through the CORDEX FPSs.

Ken Takahashi by email on October 26

Dear all,

Since we are considering interviewing only a couple of people with respect to linking science to climate services at the regional/national level, I propose that one of these is Dr. Celeste Saulo. She can provide input from various perspectives of value to our purpose: she is a scientist, director of a National Meteorological Service, focal point of the Societal and Economical Research Applications group in the WWRP SSC, president of the developing WMO Climate Coordination Panel (that will coordinate GFCS), and vicepresident of WMO.

Cheers Ken