IRDR
Integrated Research on Disaster Risk

The 2011 Beijing Declaration on Integrated Research on Disaster Risk

The 300+ participants at the inaugural Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) Conference organized by IRDR and the China Association of Science and Technology (CAST) and held in Beijing, China from 31 October to 2 November 2011, acknowledge that to address disaster events requires a more strategic integrated approach of all scientists and engineers with policy makers, the insurance industry and the mass media to make disaster risk reduction a reality. The impacts of disasters triggered by natural hazards continue to grow and reduce the capacity for countries of the World to move towards sustainable development.

The Conference provided a platform from which to launch trans-disciplinary, multi-sectorial alliances for the advancement of disaster risk research. Individual Conference events facilitated information sharing and knowledge transfer between researchers, practitioners and policy makers.

The 2011 Beijing Declaration on IRDR:

recognizing the IRDR Science Plan and the outcomes of this Conference and the valuable contributions made by participants; and

being fully aware of the international policy guidance provided by the *Hyogo Framework for Action (2005-2015): Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters*, and other major policy and technical initiatives;

calls for commitments to:

1. RESEARCH: Promote and advance research on natural, social, engineering and technology aspects of disaster risk in an integrated environment and enhance team efforts in hazard and disaster risk research, building on existing research networks and initiatives, and integrating various stakeholder needs at all levels
2. INTEGRATION: Ensure that disaster risk research programmes and policies are integrated across disciplines, and contribute to enhancing policy-making and capacity building for reducing risk in the face of natural hazards
3. GLOBAL STANDARDS: Develop and coordinate globally standardized open source information, disaster loss data, event documentation and analysis procedures, guidelines and frameworks for integrated and effective disaster risk management
4. AWARENESS RAISING: Raise awareness of decision-makers and the public by promoting effective, integrated, demand-driven, evidence-based disaster risk initiatives and increased advocacy
5. EDUCATION: Promote a holistic approach in natural hazards and disasters risk education and training by promoting integration of risk into various curricula
6. INCREASE FUNDING: Motivate funding sources (public, private, humanitarian, development, scientific, etc.) to allocate priority funding to address the urgent need for applied integrated research on disaster risks
7. AND specifically for the:
    - Promotion of Forensic Investigations of Disasters (FORIN) by scientists, politicians and decision makers for a sound integrated disaster risk reduction through the development of a series of case studies with partners.
    - Advancement of better integration of social sciences into disaster risk research, especially with regard to decision-making leading to Risk Interpretation to Action (RIA) research projects.
    - A concise analysis of existing and applied methodologies of disaster data collection and impact assessment leading to standardized and transparent data collaboration under the Disaster Impact and Loss Assessment Data (DATA) project.
    - Establishment of an Assessment of Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (AIRDR), a first systematic and critical global assessment of research on disaster risks.
    - Enhanced and focused interaction between scientists, politicians and policy-makers, by introducing as project's input the search of success by political actors.
    - Contributions to the dissemination and implementation of recommendations stemming from the IPCC's Special Report on Managing the Risk of Extreme Events (SREX), and the preparation of the 2013 UN Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction.