

7th Telecon of the Task Team on Regional Activities

2 July 2020, 14:00-15:00 UTC

Chair: Daniela

Participants: Daniela Jacob, Silvina Solman, Clare Goodess, Bill Gutowski, Mike Sparrow, Narelle van der Wel, Xuebin Zhang, Jens Hesselbjerg Christensen, Irène Lake, Lindha Nilsson, Francisco Doblaseres, Stefan Sobolowski, Sonia Seneviratne, Krishna Raghavan, Lisa Alexander, Peter van Oevelen, Paul Bowyer, Anke Schlüsen-Rico

Apologies: Gwenaëlle Hamon, Bruce Hewitson

Agenda

- 1.- Email from Detlef and Helen about the way forward
- 2.- What does the new structure of homes and LAs mean for RA?
- 3.- Do we want to have a leading role in structuring and filling in content?
- 4.- How to organise the roadmap process?

Main points

1. A clear procedure on who chairs the meeting is needed

- We should have a list at least for the next 3 or 4 meetings that we will hold.
- The next meeting on 14 July is quite important. Therefore, we should know ahead who is leading that meeting. Silvina volunteered for leading it.
- By email, we will try to fix a list for the next meetings over summer, so until the end of the year it will be clear who is leading the meeting. Anke/CORA will take care of this list.

2. Two emails from Detlef and Helène

- One was about the way forward to the LAs and the other one addressed to Silvina, Clare, Bruce and Daniela where they would like to start a discussion with them on the ideas of creating a new home for regional climate information for society. Detlef and Helène want the co-chairs have talked with them before next meeting on 14 July.
- Besides the development of a roadmap for regional activities, we have to find out how to position regional activities within the current WCRP restructuring, also in terms of what kind of leads would we like to propose, do we want a kind of regional climate activity scientist's consultation? We can rely on what has been discussed in the last couple of years and what we have presented at the JSC session.
- There was already a discussion on trying to bridge the regional activities through the different homes, finding a kind of clusters. For capacity development, we can share many experiences. The next step would be how to proceed in the discussion with the

communities. We need some regional consultation, apparently this is what Detlef and Helen would like to discuss with us.

- Relating to the LAs we have to push forward a series of regionally based consultations to insure an effective engagement and communication with our community and partners of the WCRP implementation plan. We have recently stated that the LH *My Climate Risk* would be the one where we feel mostly connected. Detlef and Helen will soon distribute further information on the contact persons of the LH Task Teams.

3. We need to structure the process - where and how to position regional activities within the new WCRP?

- It could be a process like the *CORDEX experiment design* where the TTRA draft a Google doc to collect comments on this issue. With CORA we could develop a matrix of topics to find out the natural contact points in the area of numerous regional activities, could be measuring data analysis, could be CORDEX downscaling etc.
- There is the idea of the homes and the strategic plan focuses on the 4th objective which is "bridging to society". Should we have the topic like the regional information for society in one home or should we build a home for regional activities? We need both: We need to reach out to the community; however, regional activities are crosscutting.
- It would be good to include in this task team experts that stream our activities, acknowledges on the one hand, and communicate us the social needs and interests on the other.
- Since the WCRP is part of the WMO, we should connect with the boundary organization within the WMO that provides climate services. There is a great need trying to get social scientists involved even though it might be difficult to contact with the relevant parts of WMO's climate services. We have to outline how we would differ from Future Earth on this.

The new Director in the Services Department has just been appointed: Mr Johan Stander (South Africa)

- However, there are different topics, which are not of everyone's interest, especially if we discuss "bridging to society" with stakeholders, WMO, climate services and others. Therefore, it might be better to go for "topic specific meetings" with an agenda and a clear focus in which we invite externals.
- One way to move forward on that is taking some regions as sort of a pilot studies. South America is an example that most of the WCRP's activities are already in. The other one would be Asia but there are plenty of other regions, too. So the question is if we want to assess regional activities everywhere at same time or focus on a few regions to figure out how to best do this?

4. Let's pick up the concept of the different legs

- In the regional activities, we are going to act as a bridge to regional climate information for society including the service aspect but we also have to link the sciences between regions.
- We could structure the discussion along the 3 legs that we had developed in October 2016. The 3 legs have a scientific and a more applied part in it. For the applied ones, we could bring in stakeholders. Within those 3 workshops we could address the topic of capacity development, in addition we need the discussion about how is this best placed within the new WCRP structure. Should it be in one or in two homes, are they across-homes, in LH's, across LH's or in working groups? This would also inform the roadmap for the TTRA along which we would go. We can divide workshops with internal scientific activities and others for more extended discussions. That way, we can make a proposal on how to interact with the community on all these issues for the next 2 years.

Quintessence

We come to a kind of working structure for our discussions. One of our internal tasks would be to connect the 3 legs to the 4 sciences objectives and to the new requirements in the restructured WCRP.

Having our home for regional activities might lose connection to others. So we are more or less stretched through all homes.

We have to work out a plan for a 3hrs zoom with a few targeted questions with external experts for the 3 legs and coming up with some pilot studies, up to 3 realized cases which we would like to analyse. We have a large inventory which we can share and develop from it 2 or 3 cases.

This could be a kind of structure that will help us to get engaged with more people from the community. At least until next spring/summer we certainly will meet through online platforms.

It is important to reach out to activities - like the recent workshop discussing information for regions - and to make sure that we bring all active groups together and have a dialogue with the communities on more regional scientific discussions but also in the way how we can fulfil societal demands.

The objective of our discussions is to come up with a white paper on the "new regional science", a compilation on what we see is the way forward for the next 10-15 years.

ToDos

- Anke/CORA will take care of this list for the next meetings so as until the end of the year it will be clear who is leading the meeting.
- Jointly with CORA we will develop a matrix of topics to find out the natural contact points in the area of numerous regional activities.
- Narelle will reach out to Valentina to get 1-2 people from the YESS community attending the 14 July meeting.

Literature Proposal

Regarding “Science of Regional Climate Change” Krishna shares his recent publication, an open access book:

"Assessment of Climate Change over the Indian Region - A Report of the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India"

The book (pdf) is freely downloadable from the link <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-981-15-4327-2>
