

IDRiM Society in the Next Decade



IDRiM Society Strategic Plan 2030

2022

Kyoto, Japan

1. Preface

Building on over a decade of accomplishments in advancing research and practice on integrated disaster risk management, the IDRIIM Society is well positioned to meet the challenges that lie ahead. Indeed, the next decade is critical for how the world manages disaster risks. It will be characterized by unprecedented environmental and social change, as well as increased complexity across a more interconnected world that creates its own vulnerabilities, opportunities, and threats. Only an integrated approach to disaster risk management that accounts for complexity in the risks and their drivers, as well as economic and social vulnerability to the risks, can provide effective and implementable solutions to their reduction.

Recognizing that a professional society for advancing integrated disaster risk management is more critical than ever, the residing IDRIIM president, Adam Rose, appointed a committee in 2020 to prepare a strategic plan for the next IDRIIM decade. The Strategic Plan Committee (SPC) consisted of ten diverse IDRIIM members (see the below list). The SPC met regularly over 2021 to produce this strategic planning document.

The SPC decided early on that the strategic plan should address both the unprecedented challenges facing disaster researchers and practitioners as well as the needs of its membership. An anonymous survey was prepared and administered to the 170 IDRIIM members resulting in 50 responses. The survey covered topics ranging from improving the organization, articulating its core values to eliciting opinions on its future size, engagement and focus. In addition, the Committee examined its own perceptions and views of the IDRIIM Society by carrying out a Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities/Threats (SWOT) exercise. The results of the member survey can be found at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1d6OmyUF_mtF8um5ey_Bw-tStnJQjRWMAjB1uUtEfX5o/edit#responses.

The IDRIIM Strategy 2030 is based largely on the membership survey and SWOT exercise. Our aspiration is that this Strategy will position IDRIIM as a world-leading international society for advancing research and practice on integrated disaster risk management over the next decade.

Members of the IDRIIM Strategic Plan Committee

JoAnne Linnerooth-Bayer (Co-chair), IIASA, Austria

Elisabeth Krausmann (Co-chair), European Commission Joint Research Centre, Italy

Ana Maria Cruz, Kyoto University, Japan

Matthias Dorfstaetter, Freedom in Disasters, Australia

Ilan Noy, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

Norio Okada, Kwansai Gakuin University, Japan

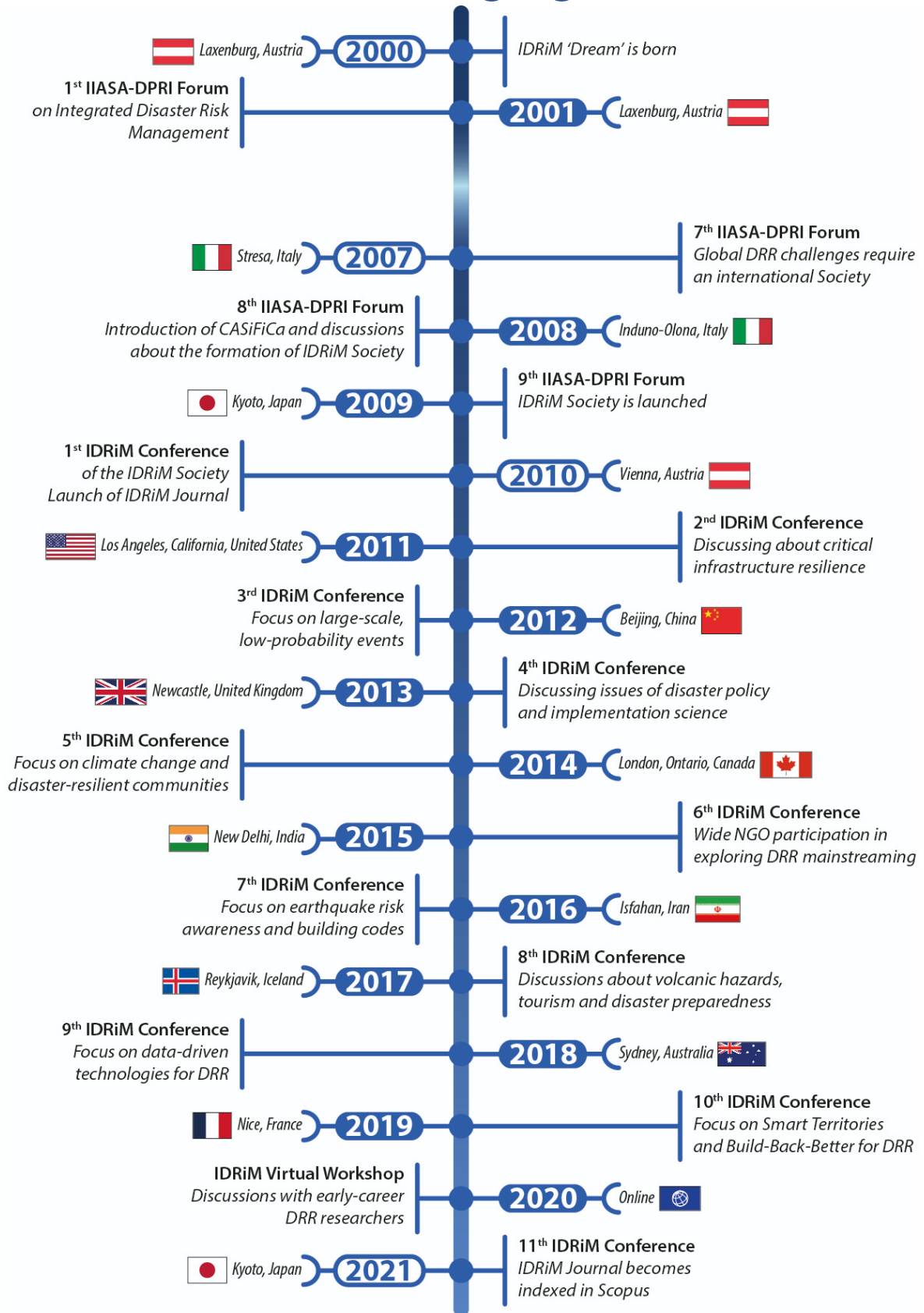
Adam Rose, University of Southern California, USA

Maria Camila Suarez Paba, National Unit for Disaster Risk Management, Colombia

Hirokazu Tatano, Kyoto University, Japan

Dimitrios Tzioutzios, Kyoto University, Japan

2. Selected IDRIIM Society Highlights since 2000



3. IDRiM Society's Vision and Mission

3.1. IDRiM Vision

The IDRiM Society strives to be:

An inclusive, international community for advancing integrated disaster risk management at all scales through high-quality interdisciplinary research, policy design, and implementation science

The vision conveys IDRiM's identity and the contributions it intends to make in the future. Having been a formal professional society for a dozen years, we can build on our accomplishments and traditions but also chart a new course to address pressing needs and pursue new opportunities.

Our vision statement was formulated, in great part, on the basis of feedback received from a survey of IDRiM members. It bridges the gap between past and future. It also balances the need for a succinct statement but also one that conveys all of the elements of a vision to be undertaken by a leading professional organization.

The IDRiM vision statement places a strong emphasis on research, since that is our core endeavor. At the same time, it acknowledges that many of our members actively engaged in research are not doing so just for its own sake but for the betterment of society, as connoted by the term *integrated disaster risk management* in our name. The vision statement emphasizes that we are interested in the policy relevance of our work. It also acknowledges that we have been and want to continue to be leaders in making a science out of policy implementation. These three aspects—*research, policy, and implementation*—bring together our entire membership for an overall common purpose.

The Society looks forward to making this vision a reality and thereby making this a safer and more sustainable world.

3.2. IDRiM Mission

Our Society's first and foremost mission is to promote high-quality research on integrated disaster risk management. IDRiM is and will continue to be an international society devoted to sharing knowledge for the promotion of integrated disaster risk management. We remain committed towards this goal by carrying on and improving our ongoing activities of organising annual conferences, publishing the IDRiM Journal, the IDRiM Book Series and the regular newsletters, maintaining communication channels via online social media and organising networking events, among others. In this pursuit, our Society remains devoted to upholding high scientific standards for the disaster risk

management research featured through our academic events and publications. In addition, we make a conscious effort to support setting professional standards for integrated science and implementation on disaster risk management, and improve the overall scientific quality of disaster risk management research that responds to the needs of all stakeholders.

As our Society's commitment to integrated disaster risk management suggests, we place great emphasis on inter- and trans-disciplinarity. In this vein, the encouragement of implementation science for disaster risk reduction holds great pertinence. We champion policy-relevant and applied research between the private sectors, governments and academia, and promote research for community-based disaster risk reduction approaches and for policy-making. Looking forward, we aim at fostering the participation of more practitioners and members from diverse disciplines, with the direction of encouraging all-hazard and integrated approaches to disaster risk management.

IDRiM's efforts to enhance its existing activities and introduce new ones go hand in hand with our Society's dedication to maintaining an approachable and people-centered atmosphere as a community. Particular focus in this mission is given to building bridges through promoting connections between early-, mid- and senior-career members and among researchers and practitioners. Looking ahead towards the next decade and taking into account the voices of our membership, we are committed to leading and building upon the established legacy of inclusion and diversity of IDRiM. We are dedicated to maintaining a society open to all with accessible entry to new members. Additionally, we intend to attract new members from the current underrepresented groups, for example based on gender or financial status, and actively involve them within our Society. Our Society has been growing and evolving as an organisation during these past 13 years. We will continue to expand as a professional academic society, aiming at enhancing our international presence with particular consideration in attracting more members from developing countries.

Finally, in order to ensure the relevance of its pursuit, it is imperative that IDRiM addresses through its activities the pressing demands of the 'anthropocene' era in which we currently live. In this context, it becomes clear that our Society views integrated disaster risk management as a concept that concerns not only localized or national threats but encompasses more broadly evolving, systemic, existential and global risks. Hence, we are devoted to promoting research and implementation efforts, such as investigating enablers for transformative governance and for harnessing technologies, data and knowledge for systemic risk reduction.

4. IDReM: More Important than Ever

The International Society for Integrated Disaster Risk Management (IDReM) was launched in October 2009 at the 9th IASA-DPRI Conference on Integrated Disaster Risk Management in Kyoto, Japan, with the participation of over 100 international experts, practitioners, and individuals from more than 20 different countries working in the disaster risk management (DRM) field. The launch of the IDReM Society marked a decade of efforts to bring together researchers from different disciplines, such as engineering, natural sciences, economics, mathematics, sociology, psychology and education, to tackle pressing problems regarding disaster risks in the world.

In 2030 the IDReM Society will celebrate 21 years since its establishment. Launching this Strategy will allow the Society to commence a multi-annual Action Plan working toward achieving our shared vision.

While it is true that the number of people killed and injured by disasters has dramatically declined in the past century in industrialized countries, the number of disasters everywhere and economic losses continue to increase, as does the number of victims in developing countries. In many ways, it may seem that disaster risk reduction (DRR) efforts have failed; however, it is likely these outcomes would have been worse without the progress to date.

Several studies have estimated that the benefits of DRR outweigh the costs. While it is difficult to measure the benefits of DRR because we cannot know what disasters were avoided, we do know that a well-prepared area will fare better than one that is unprepared when hit with similar hazardous events.

Nonetheless, recent disasters – note especially the Covid-19 pandemic – have shown that impacts can cross borders producing ripple effects that can be felt around the globe. At the same time, disaster risks are dramatically shifting with changing climate, land use, agricultural intensification, biodiversity loss, urbanization, industrialization and other drivers of hazard and exposure. Major UN agreements (Sendai, Paris and the SDGs) have generated widespread appreciation of existential risk and system collapse that threaten the very future of humanity. It is becoming thus more and more urgent to move beyond our conventional focus on hazards to encompass systemic, compound and existential risks, and to tackle DRM in an integrated, comprehensive and equitable way at all scales from the local to the global. Integrated Disaster Risk Management (IDReM) needs to be re-imagined to address today's complex worldwide risk landscape.

5. IDRiM Values for Enabling Change

IDRiM relies on its core values as a reference to support its organization and culture, and to serve as a guide for all its activities. Based on the member survey, the IDRiM Society's core values are (in no special order) as follows:

- **Excellence:** We are committed to the highest standards in research, policy advice and implementation based on sound science and robust evidence collected with rigorous inter- and trans-disciplinary protocols and practices.
- **Practicality and Relevance:** We are committed to encouraging research practices that bridge science, policy and implementation in all IDRiM functions and applications (e.g., conference, journal, social media, book series).
- **Diversity and Inclusivity:** We are dedicated to including a wide diversity of voices as well as from disadvantaged or minority groups, to be represented in all the activities of the society and the formulation of research and policy for DRM.
- **Integrity, Transparency, and Accountability:** We are committed to scientific and professional integrity and to ensuring that all decisions taken by IDRiM management (administration, committees, board) are responsive to our membership and our stakeholders.
- **Equity:** We are devoted to having both research and policy implementation aim to increase equity, or fairness, in disaster risk management benefits and improvement opportunities.
- **Accessibility and Openness:** We are committed to a professional society culture that is friendly, respectful, and approachable to all.

6. Strengths, Capabilities and Challenges

The SWOT exercise carried out by the SPC revealed the diverse and rich set of strengths and capabilities of the Society, which will serve as a solid basis for implementing the IDRiM strategy. It also revealed challenges that have motivated the strategic changes necessary for IDRiM to address the increasing risk landscape and serve the interests of its members.

Strengths and Capabilities

- **Strong history of promoting integrated DRM and implementation science:**
 - IDRiM is a recognized pioneer in promoting the concept of integrated disaster risk management and implementation science in disaster risk reduction;
 - IDRiM remains one of the most important platforms to exchange academic achievements and knowledge related to integrated disaster risk management and implementation science since 2009;
 - The Society attracts a comprehensive community of researchers to tackle pressing problems regarding disaster risks worldwide;
 - The success of IDRiM's annual conference can be seen in the large number of countries that have acted as host. The journal is also a keystone in promoting knowledge exchange among researchers and practitioners;
 - IDRiM has a long history of strengthening research communities that aim at exploring integrated disaster risk management and implementation science.
- **Engagement of researchers, practitioners, and policymakers:**
 - The IDRiM conferences and the IDRiM Journal serve as platforms for high-quality research;
 - Beyond the conferences and journal, IDRiM provides a platform, e.g., seminars, lectures and café talks, to exchange opinions and address pressing issues in DRM among researchers, practitioners and policymakers;
 - A strong focus of the Society is the involvement of students and early-career researchers in IDRiM's activities, e.g., young scientist sessions at annual conferences;
 - IDRiM provides an informal, friendly and approachable atmosphere for senior, mid-career and young researchers;
 - IDRiM provides a niche for presenting inter- and trans-disciplinary research;
 - The Society is supported by dedicated students, academics, practitioners, executive officers and many other groups that to a large extent volunteer their time.

Challenges

- Adapting to external threats, such as climate change and pandemics, that will require transformations in conferences and other core IDRiM activities;
- Improving visibility of the Society and promoting high-quality policy-relevant research;

- Improving the reach, scope and reputation of the IDReM Journal, IDReM Book Series and other publications;
- Encouraging participation of all relevant disciplines, including especially the human, social, and health sciences;
- Improving gender and nationality balance;
- Networking and cooperating with similar professional organizations;
- Securing the needed financing to overcome IDReM's challenges where needed, such as supporting the Secretariat, and enhancing communications.

7. Delivering on our Vision

Our goal for the next decade is for the IDRIIM Society to be positioned as a world-leading international society for integrated disaster risk management. The IDRIIM Society will work hard so that there is a sense of connectedness across the international community for advancing integrated disaster risk research, policy, and implementation science across the globe. IDRIIM will be an inclusive Society that brings together members from a wide range of disciplines relevant to DRR, such as climate change mitigation/adaptation and sustainable development. Implementation science will continue to be key to the Society, and will seek to promote collaborative efforts with private and public sector organizations to develop and implement DRM solutions at different spatial scales (i.e., local, national, regional, international). Networks, partnerships and collaboration structures should be built on cutting-edge technological solutions in a community-centered manner that allow real-time collaboration when certain parts of the globe face disasters and are in need of knowledge support.

7.1. Strategic Objectives

Based on the aforementioned analysis of the SPC and taking into account input from the membership, 10 Strategic Objectives were formulated to delineate the direction of the IDRIIM Society for the following decade towards going forward and accomplishing our Mission. The list is presented henceforth:

- ***Establish the IDRIIM Society as a leading global hub for integrated disaster risk management;***
- ***Seek to maintain and expand membership;***
- ***Increase IDRIIM's finances;***
- ***Expand the scope and breadth of the IDRIIM annual conference so that it becomes a major global event for integrated disaster research and practice;***
- ***Stimulate high-quality research, research integration and implementation;***
- ***Continue to provide a forum and opportunities for researchers, and foster their involvement and initiative;***
- ***Promote diversity and inclusivity;***
- ***Promote the development and application of implementation science research and case studies;***
- ***Advance the provision of risk-based evidence for policy at the local, regional, national, and international levels;***
- ***Continue to disseminate and to provide easy access to IDRIIM and implementation science research and solutions.***

7.2. Strategic Plan Implementation

The IDRiM Society has so far relied on voluntary efforts of its membership for its administration and operation; and in part supported financially by Kyoto University, which has allowed the members to enjoy low membership fees.

For the implementation of the strategic plan, the Society will work with existing committees, and new committees as required to develop plans and timelines to ensure that the objectives are met (one possibility is a 5-yearly benchmark exercise).

A short-term 'Coordination Committee for the Strategic Plan Implementation' will be formed specifically to examine and review the contents of this Strategic Plan with respect to its implementation. The President and this Coordination Committee, together with the Secretariat, will make a call for volunteers to join existing and new committees as needed with the aim of working together for the allocation of tasks and the implementation of the strategic plan.

Below are the 10 Strategic Objectives (presented in section 7.1) with suggested, indicative actions on how to work towards our Vision. Considering the goals and the suggested actions, more concrete tasks are expected to be formulated by the respective committees in due time for the implementation of the strategic plan.

- **Establish the IDRiM Society as a leading global hub for integrated disaster risk management**
 - Promote the IDRiM Society through publications, meetings and other outreach activities;
 - Maintain good relations with international organizations (e.g., promotion of the IDRiM Society and its activities on Prevention Web);
 - Reach out to other similar societies/institutions, including global (e.g., GADRI) and regional DRR research initiatives or alliances (e.g., UKADR, SAADRI) for collaboration to jointly host conferences or other events and share information of interest.
- **Seek to maintain and expand membership**
 - In consideration of the survey results (64% of members selected '*IDRiM expands its current membership (170) somewhat (up to a maximum of 500) and seeks ways to broaden its current activities and services*', and 21% of members indicated '*IDRiM remains a small and familiar professional Society*'). The Society seeks to:
 - continue the discounted membership fee as an incentive for new members who register for the conference;
 - increase the informal networking possibilities for new members to get acquainted;
 - explore the creation of country or regional branches.

- **Increase IDReM's finances**
 - Find ways to maintain low membership fees;
 - Develop a plan for increasing IDReM finances and help oversee its implementation.

- **Expand the scope and breadth of the IDReM annual conference so that it becomes a major global event for integrated disaster research and practice**
 - Increase participation by co-sponsoring with similar societies/institutions (see above);
 - Promote the participation of practitioners and policy makers;
 - Increase breadth of conference topics to include new and pressing areas of inquiry, especially major global risk issues (e.g., biodiversity, pandemics, financial);
 - Increase participation from female, and early-career scientists/practitioners, as well as from developing countries;
 - Prepare and execute a plan for regional conferences as well as virtual and hybrid events.

- **Stimulate high-quality research, research integration and research implementation**
 - Improve the Journal's visibility and level of submissions by promoting special issues, ensuring fast review and publication (online first);
 - Update the members of the IDReM Journal editorial board (noting need for increased diversity) with the condition that they review at least 3 papers a year;
 - Publish criteria for the Awards selection, publish an open call for nominees for the awards, with a note that we especially encourage the nomination of outstanding female and early-career researchers and practitioners.

- **Continue to provide a forum and opportunities for researchers, and foster their involvement and initiative**
 - Provide opportunities for early-career researchers to contribute to IDReM (as one possibility, an open access portal for young researchers);
 - Find ways to increase the visibility of members seeking career opportunities and research partners;
 - Continue with low membership fees for early-career researchers;
 - Expand on-line webinars and meetings organized by early-career researchers/practitioners;
 - Consider an easy access portal for member interaction, especially for expressing views on the future of IDReM and its activities.

- **Promote diversity and inclusivity**
 - Prepare and execute a plan to increase diversity of IDReM membership with a special focus on participation of under-represented groups (e.g., women, social scientists, and developing country researchers/practitioners).

- ***Promote the development and application of implementation science research and case studies***
 - Establish an IDRIIM implementation science promotion committee or working group to promote initiatives such as the CASiFiCa platform;
 - Dedicate a plenary session at conferences to implementation science;
 - Make a biannual call for implementation science case studies and showcase them through workshops or webinars during the year;
 - Establish a section in the IDRIIM Journal dedicated to implementation science research, conceptualization and case studies;
 - Encourage volunteers to prepare a White Paper on Implementation Science that will define its scope/applicability, differentiate it from similar concepts in the policy science literature, review the relevant literature and discuss its importance for IDRIIM.

- ***Advance the provision of risk-based evidence for policy at the local, regional, national, and international levels***
 - Provide webinars and other interactive events that emphasize the importance of risk-based evidence for assessing policy options (to form the basis of policy advocacy);
 - Highlight the role of risk-based assessments in forming policy options in the IDRIIM newsletter and the Society's website.

- ***Continue to disseminate and to provide easy access to IDRIIM and implementation science research and solutions***
 - Continue the dissemination through the IDRIIM Journal, IDRIIM Book Series, Newsletter, News Bulletin, and Social Media;
 - Expand the dissemination, if needed, by identifying other publication and communication channels.