

World Centres of Excellence on Landslide Risk Reduction

The World Centres of Excellence on Landslide Risk Reduction were established by the 2006 Tokyo Action Plan; the Global Promotion Committee (GPC) of the International Programme on Landslides (IPL) will identify at the World Landslide Forum organized every 3 years within eligible organizations, such as universities, institutes, NGOs, government ministries and local governments, contributing to “Risk Reduction for Landslides and Related Earth System Disasters”. An independent Panel of Experts, set up by the Global Promotion Committee of International Programme on Landslides (IPL-GPC), endorses the WCoEs. Twelve World Centres of Excellence (WCoEs) 2008-2011 were identified at the First World Landslide Forum in November 2008 at UNU in Tokyo, Japan. Fifteen WCoEs for 2011-2014 were identified at the Second World Landslide Forum in October 2011 at FAO, Rome, Italy. Fifteen WCoEs for 2014-2017 were identified at the Third World Landslide Forum in June 2014 at Beijing, China. Certificates of WCoEs were awarded from Ms Irina Bokova, UNESCO-DG to each leader of WCoE in Beijing.

Objectives of WCoE:

To strengthen the International Programme on Landslides (IPL) and IPL Global Promotion Committee;

To create “A Global Network of entities contributing to landslide risk reduction”;

To implement the ISDR-ICL Sendai Partnerships 2015-2025 for global promotion of understanding and reducing landslide disaster risk; and

To improve the global recognition of “Landslide Risk Reduction” and its social-economic relevance, and entities contributing to this field.

Criteria for WCoE Candidates:

Governmental and non-governmental entities such as universities, agencies, and other institutions, and their subsidiary entities (faculties, departments, centres, divisions or others) which meet the following two conditions:

- Contributing to “Landslide Disaster Risk Reduction”; and
- Willing to support IPL intellectually, practically and financially by either joining ICL or/and contributing to IPL-GPC and promote "landslide research and disaster risk reduction" on a regional and/or global scale in a mutually beneficial manner.

Guidelines for WCoE:

- 1) Candidates of WCoEs must submit the application form to the Secretariat of the IPL Global Promotion Committee.
- 2) Candidates will be evaluated from their achievements and current activities (scientific, technical and educational capacity, training courses, publications, dissemination of knowledge and information) and planned activities contributing to IPL.
- 3) WCoEs will be identified at every World Landslide Forum (held every 3 years). The status as a WCoE will be given for 3 years until the next Forum.
- 4) Each WCoE must submit an annual activity report each year and also report its activities in *Landslides*: Journal of International Consortium on Landslides or/and World Landslide Forum.
- 5) The status as a WCoE may be extended for another 3 years in the same topics or in a revised topics by the IPL Global Promotion Committee based on the activities carried out as a WCoE.

Procedure of Identification of WCoEs

- 1) The application form from an eligible entity will be submitted to the Secretariat of the IPL-GPC (IPL World Centre) by 1 August 2016.
- 2) Preliminary screening of received applications will be conducted according to the Criteria by the

- secretariat of IPL World Centre. Feasible application will be passed to the in-depth evaluation.
- 3) Candidates of WCoEs passing to the in-depth evaluation will be invited to orally present their proposals on 15-18 November 2016 in the 12th IPL Global Promotion Committee at the UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France. Revision of application may be advised by the committee to avoid duplication of activities with other proposals or to improve the proposals when necessary.
 - 4) Final application forms will be evaluated by the technical evaluation committee of the IPL World Centre.
 - 5) Summarizing all evaluation values, appropriate candidates will be selected, and a list of recommendations will be submitted to the Independent Panel of Experts.
 - 6) The Independent Panel of Experts will review the recommendation, and endorse appropriate WCoEs.
 - 7) The Endorsement of WCoEs by the Independent Panel of Experts will be reported to the IPL Global Promotion Committee. WCoEs endorsed by the Panel must be approved by voting of more than half participating members of the IPL Global Promotion Committee.
 - 8) WCoE 2017-2020 will be announced on 30 May 2017 at the World Landslide Forum 4 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Certificates will be awarded from Dr. Robert Glasser*, Special Representatives of Secretary-General for Disaster Reduction, United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) to each leader of WCoE. (* To be confirmed)

List of 15 World Centres of Excellence on Landslide Risk Reduction 2014-2017

No.	Title	Leader	Country, Institution
1	Formation Mechanism Research, Disaster Warning and Universal Education of Cold Regions Landslide	Wei Shan	Research Center of Cold Regions Landslide, China
2	Scientific Research for Mitigation, Preparedness and Risk Assessment of Landslides	Wang Min	China Geological Survey, China
3	Scientific Research for Landslide Risk Analysis, Modeling, Mitigation and Education	Liang-Jenq Leu	Department of Civil Engineering, National Taiwan University, China, Taiwan
4	Landslide Risk Reduction in the Adriatic-Balkan Region through the Regional Cooperation	Željko Arbanas, Snježana Mihalić Arbanas	Croatian Landslide Group, Croatia
5	Landslide Risk Assessment and Development Guidelines for Effective Risk Reduction	Josef Stemberk	Institute of Rock Structure and Mechanics Czech Academy of Sciences & Charles University, Faculty of Science, Czech Republic
6	Development of Community-based and Most Adaptive Technology for Landslide Risk Reduction	Dwikorita Karnawati	Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
7	Advanced Technologies for LandSlides (ATLaS)	Nicola Casagli	Department of Earth Science, University of Florence, Italy

No.	Title	Leader	Country, Institution
8	Emergency Response Support System for Large-scale Landslide Disasters	Satoshi Tsuchiya	The Japan Landslide Society (JLS), Japan
9	Risk Identification and Land-use Planning for Disaster Mitigation of Landslides	Hiroshi Fukuoka	Niigata University, Institute for Natural Hazards and Disaster Recovery, Japan
10	Implementation of National Slope Master Plan	Che Hassandi Abdullah	Slopes Engineering Branch, Public Works Department of Malaysia, Malaysia
11	Building Human Capacities and Expertise in Landslide Disaster Risk Managements	Ogbonnaya Igwe	Department of Geology, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria
12	International Summer School on Rockslides and Related Phenomena in the Kokomeran River Valley, Tien Shan, Kyrgyzstan	Alexander Strom	Geodynamics Research Center – branch of JSC “Hydroproject Institute” & Institute of Seismology of National Academy of Sciences of Kyrgyz Republic
13	Mechanisms of Landslides and Creep in Over-consolidated Clays and Flysch	Ana Petkovšek	University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering (UL FGG), Ljubljana, Slovenia
14	Developing Model Policy Frameworks, Standards and Guidelines	Nihal Rupasinghe A A Virajh Dias	Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau, Colombo, Sri Lanka
15	Promoting Knowledge, Innovations and Institutions with South-South focus through a Regional network of Landslide Risk Reduction in Changing Climate Scenario in Asia	N.S.M.I. Arambepola	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), Thailand