

ILTER SCIENCE COMMITTEE, 18 August 2006, Gobabeb

Chair – Patrick Bourgeron

Vice-chair – Francisco Barbosa

Will meet in year one 4 times or as needed

Will draft charter and goals

Charter:

General responsibilities:

ILTER Goal 3 – delivery of science to stakeholders

ILTER Goal 1 – strategic collaboration with other international science organizations

Identify and coordinate ILTER research

Assessment of key issues

Development of new theories built on LTER

Note: Recognize the needs for Database of ILTER resources – sites, people, publications but not sure who will take care of that; will link with IM

Note: will need to consider Ex-officio participation from IM

Responsibilities and activities of the committee:

Review progress of committee

Procedures for identifying common research

ID common research areas

Form an advisory council

Organize meetings/conferences

Developing a common research agenda – produce document

Conduct demonstration projects

Capacity building (education; training - lower priority)

Development of common research agenda:

Criteria: needs to be based on clear conceptual framework such as MEA; use the strengths of the ILTER (large scale/long term)

Agreed on the 5 areas in the SP

Must promote collaborative research internally and externally

Action: Patrick and Francisco will create a sub group (research agenda group) that will produce outline and draft by the end of November for broad diffusion and reiterative review

Year 1 target: agree on conceptual framework

Broad structure and contents for research agenda
Engage key collaborators
Action plan for the delivery of the agenda

ILTER Conferences

End of year 1, general meeting to present conceptual framework at China AGM

End of year 2/3: major ILTER topic meeting presenting global level results

Actions: end of November: framework for conference to be provided by research agenda subgroup through the preliminary outline/draft

Establish conference planning committee: Yu, Chimpamba, Kim (Eun-shik), Shidong?, and Ling-ling (who will provide a link to research agenda group)

Conference planning committee will produce outline of conference program based on subgroup agenda (by January 2007)

Priority projects

Short term research products

Agreed that water and biodiversity are key themes

Agreed on 3 network-wide short-term project areas:

1. hurricanes on forests/Steve Hamburg will investigate funding and LTER sites
2. biodiversity and resilience of ecosystem services: subgroup led by Patrick, with initially Manuel Maass/Terry Parr/Elli Groner/Tim O'connor – subgroup will seek NSF funding through the research network (CRN) program. PSB will call program officer about NSF willingness to entertain such a project
3. assessment of main trends, drivers and threats to biodiversity across ILTER sites – Terry (meta analysis)

Other:

Africa: Assessment of water in catchment context based on the DPSIR framework--will require funding (Africa)

EAP: Typhoon/hurricanes, decomposition, forest management, biodiversity, urban ecology, water. The first three are short-term

Required databases:

LTER sites and characteristics

Ongoing collaborations

Experts and expertise

These databases will enable LTER researchers to develop new project areas.

Action: discuss with IM Group