

The Global Promotion Committee of The International Programme on Landslides (IPL)

27 July 2009

To Leaders of World Centres of Excellence on Landslide Risk Reduction (WCoE)

Request for Annual Report

Dear Leaders of WCoEs,

At the First World Landslide Forum in Tokyo in 2008, your institution was honored by its selection as a World Centre of Excellence on Landslide Risk Reduction. A declaration was made at the Tokyo Forum calling for strengthening the ties between the International Programme on Landslides (IPL) and the United Nations—International Strategy on Disaster Reduction (UN-ISDR). In this regard, the International Consortium on Landslides hopes that all WCoEs will work towards forming an international network. By forming this network these important institutions will better achieve their goal of reducing landslide risk through the sharing of ideas, staff and expertise.

To promote IPL and WCoE, a new IPL and WCoE Network Committee was proposed at the 2009 Steering Committee of ICL at FAO, Rome, Italy on 19-20 May 2009. The establishment of Committee was approved by Mr. Salvano Briceno (Chairperson of IPL-GPC and Director of UN-ISDR) and Mr. Badaoui Rouhban (Deputy Chairperson of IPL-GPC and Director for Disaster Reduction of UNESCO) as well as two members of IPL-GPC (Paolo Canuti, President of ICL and Kyoji Sassa, Director of the IPL World Centre) on 15-16 June 2009 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Committee members are

Coordinator: Oddvar Kjekstad (Centre for Geohazards, Norway, Oddvar.Kjekstad@ngi.no)
Assistant Coordinator: Peter Lyttle (U.S. Geological Survey, USA, plyttle@usgs.gov)
Members: Vit Vilimek (Faculty of Science, Charles University, Czech Republic, vilimek@natur.cuni.cz)
Thomas Hofer (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Thomas.Hofer@fao.org)

The IPL and WCoE Network Committee requests that each World Centre of Excellence submit a report by 10 October 2009 that summarizes activities that you have undertaken since your election and activities that you plan to accomplish in the near future. Remember that when you applied for WCoE status, you made a commitment to "support IPL intellectually, practically and financially by either joining ICL or contributing to IPL-GPC and the promotion of landslide research and risk reduction on a regional and/or global scale in a mutually beneficial manner". If you have developed or strengthened ties with other WCoEs, please emphasize that in your report. Any activities that you are engaged in to promote landslide risk reduction is particularly welcome.

- This first annual report should use the form provided below and be electronically submitted to the IPL and WCoE Network Committee by sending it to: ipl-wcoe@iclhq.org
- The Committee encourages each WCoE to consider proposing a new IPL project related to those
 activities you listed in your original application to become a WCoE. The call for New IPL Projects was
 already sent to all BOR members, but is attached below for your convenience.

A report of the First World Landslide Forum will be published in the Preface of Landslides Vol.6, No.3 in September 2009 including the list of the name of all WCOEs. I plan to publish articles in Vol. 6, No. 4 (December 2009) written by **the leader of each WCoE** that briefly summarizes the activities undertaken since your selection in Tokyo. Each WCoE organization will be invited to write 1-3 pages with full color photos and full color figures. The article is published in the category of ICL/IPL Activities. While there is no previous example of this type of article, I attach as a possible example an article of the ICL/IPL activities by Christian Manhart (Division of Cultural Heritage UNESCO) in Vol.1, No.4.

Anyone who is able to submit an article by 10 September 2009 through the Electronic Editing System of *Landslides*, Editorial Manager, http://www.editorialmanager.com/lasl/ will have that article appear in No.4 of Vol.6 in December 2009. If your article is submitted after this date, it will be published in later issues in 2010.

The IPL and WCoE Network Committee strongly encourages you all to submit your annual report by 10 October 2009 and also to contribute an article to inform a wide range of readers of *Landslides* by 10 September 2009 or even earlier.

With best regards,

Kyoji SASSA

Director of IPL World Centre Editor-in-Chief of *Landslides*

P.S. Previous ICL letters are seen in the ICL WEB: http://iclhq.org/

Attached:

- 1) WCoE Annual Report Form
- 2) Example of an article of ICL-IPL Activities
- 3) Form for new IPL project proposals

Note:

There is no review for ICL-IPL activities. Please check all aspects of article before submission. The total number of pages for WCoE is planned to be around 10 -20 pages in Vol.6, No.4.