

## Concept of the Kyoto 2020 Commitment- Call for Participating Parties

The concept note of the Kyoto 2020 Commitment for Global Promotion of understanding and reducing landslide disaster risk was presented at the High-Level Panel Discussion held on 30 May 2017. It was agreed at the conclusion of the round table discussion which took place on 31 May 2017 as a follow-up to the High-Level Panel Discussion. The basic concept of the Kyoto 2020 Commitment is to create a long-term, wider and stronger framework for the global landslide risk reduction network. The call for participating parties into the Kyoto 2020 Commitment was also endorsed as part of the concept. The timeline for the Kyoto 2020 Commitment process is shown in Fig. 1.

As indicated in Fig. 1, the first presentation and examination of the concept were carried out at the WLF4 in Ljubljana, Slovenia and the process of the follow-up is now being pursued. The next milestone in the process will occur at the meeting of the first group of parties which will be held at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris on 29 November to 1 December 2017. At that meeting, the outline of the Kyoto 2020 Commitment will be produced. The third step is to establish a draft of the Kyoto Commitment to be implemented at the beginning of November 2018 at the venue of WLF5, the Kyoto International Conference Hall, Kyoto, Japan. A fourth milestone date will be November 2019 at the ICL-IPL meeting at UNESCO, Headquarters, Paris. The fifth and the final step will be the agreement of the Kyoto 2020 Commitment and signatures by all participating parties during the Fifth World Landslide Forum at the Kyoto International Conference in Kyoto, Japan.

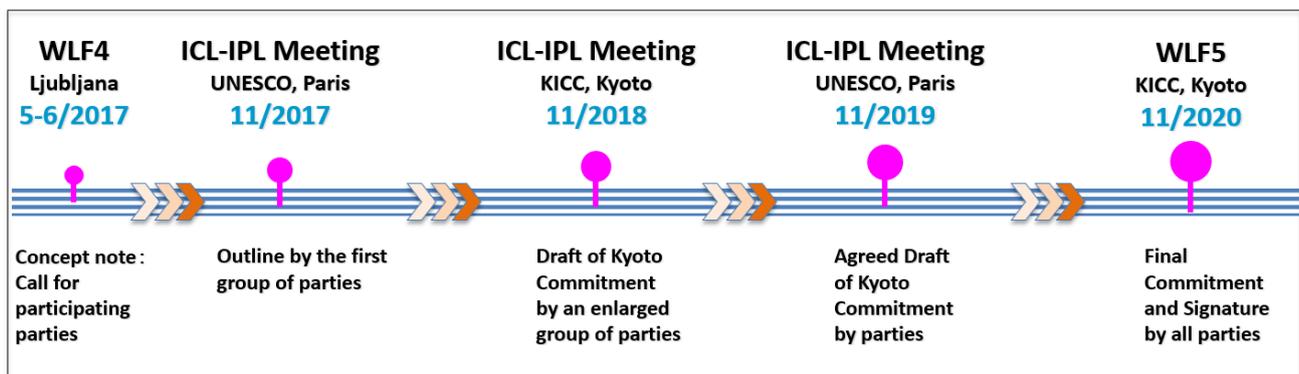


Fig.1 Timeline for the Kyoto 2020 Commitment Process

With the adoption of the ISDR-ICL Sendai Partnerships (SP) 2015-2025, the ICL community has achieved a major step in reaching a framework for Landslide Disaster Risk Reduction. The implementation of the SP has been recognized at the WLF4. The Ljubljana Declaration acknowledges progress made in this implementation. It also recognizes the process initiated to prepare for the WLF5. A concept for a mechanism to be put in place at WLF5, the concept of “Kyoto 2020 commitment for global promotion of understanding and reducing landslide disaster risk”, was approved during the WLF4. Building on this step, work is currently under way to develop the text of the Kyoto 2020 commitment which, until considered and approved at WLF5 in November 2020, will be a living document, or a work in progress.

The current concept note of the Kyoto 2020 Commitment is shown as follows:

### Concept Note (30 June 2017)

#### **Kyoto 2020 commitment for global promotion of understanding and reducing landslide disaster risk** *To the ISDR-ICL Sendai Partnerships 2015-2025, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the 2030 Agenda-Sustainable Development Goals*

Landslide disasters are caused by exposure to hazardous motions of soil and rock that threaten vulnerable human settlements in mountains, cities, along river banks, coasts, and islands. An increase in the frequency and/or magnitude of heavy rainfall, and shifts in the location and periodicity of this rainfall due to changing climate may significantly intensify the risk of landslides in some landslide prone areas.

Developments in mountains and coastal areas, including construction of roads and railways, expansion of urban areas, and deforestation due to population growth and movement increase exposure to the hazards of landslides. Landslide disaster risk reduction is a globally important objective in all countries/regions where people living in mountains and slopes are exposed to landslides.

The International Consortium on Landslides (ICL) proposed the Sendai Partnerships 2015-2025 for Global Promotion of Understanding and Reducing Landslide Disaster Risk in the Working Session “Underlying Risk Factors” during the 3rd World Conference on Disaster

Risk Reduction (WCDRR) in Sendai, Japan. The Sendai Partnerships was adopted and signed by 17 United Nations, international and national stakeholders. Joint efforts thereafter have been made and resulted in the edition and publication of the open access full color book “ISDR-ICL Sendai Partnerships 2015-2025”, Vol.1 of the Fourth World Landslide Forum, the edition of “Landslide Dynamics: ISDR-ICL Landslide Interactive Teaching Tools”, as well as the enhanced publication of the bimonthly full-color journal Landslides: Journal of the International Consortium on Landslides.

The landslide risk to human settlements in mountainous and coastal areas due to landslide motion and landslide-induced tsunamis in many countries will likely continue to rise even after the latter-half period of the Sendai Partnerships 2015-2025. In September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda including Goal 11 to Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. As a voluntary commitment to the 2030 Agenda and to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, participants in the Fourth World Landslide Forum considered and further endorsed the first outline of the Kyoto 2020 Commitment as a stable global framework to mobilize in the medium and long term a global alliance which will accelerate and incentivize action for landslide disaster risk reduction.

The High-Level panel discussion on “Strengthening Intergovernmental Network and the International Programme on Landslides (IPL) for “ISDR-ICL SENDAI PARTNERSHIPS 2015-2025 for global promotion of understanding and reducing landslide disaster risk” was organized during the Fourth World Landslide Forum in Ljubljana on 30 May 2017.

The panelists were from the signatory organizations of Sendai Partnerships (ICL, UNESCO, WMO, FAO, UNU, ICSU, WFEO, IUGS, IUGG, Cabinet Office of Japan, Italian Civil Protection, Global Risk Forum, Davos) and new signatory organizations (the Indonesian National Agency for Disaster Management, Ministry of Defence, Republic of Slovenia, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Vietnam, IRDR Science Committee, EuroGeoSurveys) as well as experts in this field.

The outcome of this High-Level panel discussion was reviewed by the Round Table Discussion to promote the Sendai Partnerships and the participants approved the 2017 Ljubljana Declaration on Landslide Risk Reduction. The Declaration endorsed the plan for the organization of the Fifth World Landslide Forum in Kyoto, Japan in November 2020 and the preparation of the Kyoto 2020 Commitment of a global alliance which aims, in the medium and long term, to accelerate and incentivize action for landslide disaster risk reduction to 2025, 2030 and beyond.

The Kyoto 2020 Commitment is expected to reaffirm the following resolution of the Sendai Partnerships, acknowledging that:

- ✓ *Landslide disasters are caused by exposure to hazardous motions of soil and rock that threaten vulnerable human settlements in mountains, cities, coasts, and islands.*
- ✓ *Climate change will intensify the risk of landslides in some landslide prone areas through an increase in the frequency and/or magnitude of heavy rainfall, and shifts in the location and periodicity of heavy rainfall.*
- ✓ *Developments in mountains and coastal areas, including construction of roads and railways and expansion of urban areas due to population shifts, increase exposure to hazards of landslides.*
- ✓ *Although they are not frequent, strong earthquakes have potential to trigger rapid and long runout landslides and liquefaction. Earthquake-induced coastal or submarine large-scale landslides or megaslides (with depths on the order of hundreds of meters to one thousand meters) in the ocean floor can trigger large tsunami waves. These hazardous motions of soil and water impacting on exposed and vulnerable population can result into very damaging effects.*
- ✓ *The combined effects of triggering factors, including rainfall, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions, can lead to greater impacts through disastrous landslides such as lahars, debris flows, rock falls, and megaslides.*
- ✓ *Understanding landslide disaster risk requires a multi-hazard approach and a focus on social and institutional vulnerability. The study of social and institutional as well as physical vulnerability is needed to assess the extent and magnitude of landslide disasters and to guide formulation of effective policy responses.*
- ✓ *Human intervention can make a greater impact on exposure and vulnerability through, among other factors, land use and urban planning, building codes, risk assessments, early warning systems, legal and policy development, integrated research, insurance, and, above all, substantive educational and awareness-raising efforts by relevant stakeholders.*
- ✓ *The understanding of landslide disaster risk, including risk identification, vulnerability assessment, time prediction, and disaster assessment, using the most up-to-date and advanced knowledge, is a challenging task. The effectiveness of landslide disaster risk reduction measures depends on scientific and technological developments for understanding disaster risk (natural hazards or events and social vulnerability), political “buy-in”, and on increased public awareness and education.*
- ✓ *At a higher level, social and financial investment is vital for understanding and reducing landslide disaster risk, in particular social and institutional vulnerability through coordination of policies, planning, research, capacity development, and the production of publications and tools that are accessible, available free of charge and are easy to use for everyone in both developing and developed countries.*

*We agree on the following initial fields of cooperation in research and capacity building, coupled with social and financial investment:*

- ✓ *Development of people-centered early warning technology for landslides with increased precision and reliable prediction both in time and location, especially in a changing climate context.*
- ✓ *Development of hazard and vulnerability mapping, vulnerability and risk assessment with increased precision, and reliability as part of multi-hazard risk identification and management.*
- ✓ *Development of improved technologies for monitoring, testing, analyzing, simulating, and effective early warning for landslides.*
- ✓ *Development of international teaching tools that are always updated and may be used free of charge by national and local leaders and practitioners, in developed and developing countries through the Sendai Partnerships 2015-2025.*
- ✓ *Open communication with society through integrated research, capacity building, knowledge transfer, awareness-raising, training, and educational activities to enable societies to develop effective policies and strategies for reducing landslide disaster risk, to strengthen their capacities for preventing hazards to develop into major disasters, and to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of relief programs.*
- ✓ *Development of new initiatives to study research frontiers in understanding landslide disaster risk, such as the effect of climate change on large-scale landslides and debris flows, the effective prediction of localized rainfall to provide earlier warning and evacuation especially in developing countries, the mechanism and dynamics of submarine landslides during earthquakes that may cause or enhance tsunamis, and geotechnical studies of catastrophic megaslides for prediction and hazard assessment.*

Further to the above resolution, the Kyoto 2020 Commitment also agrees that the following activities are carried out in order to develop a wider and long-term global alliance for landslide risk reduction:

- ✓ Kyoto 2020 Commitment integrates the ISDR-ICL Sendai Partnerships signatory organizations, ICL members and ICL supporters.
  - ✓ ICL associates defined in Ljubljana 2017 and other international, national governmental, and non-governmental organizations, municipalities, local communities and private sectors are invited to take action for landslide disaster risk reduction and contribute to “the Kyoto 2020 Commitment”.
  - ✓ Landslide experts must gain trust and confidence from the local authorities and the communities facing the risk of landslides in order to duly communicate the risk and urge local actions to reduce the risk, thus good dialogue at local levels is indispensable throughout the activities of Kyoto 2020 Commitment.
  - ✓ Emphasis will be put on sharing real experiences of good scientific communication by landslide experts with local authorities and communities that lead to preventive action on the ground.
  - ✓ The progress and achievements made by the parties of the Commitment in the category of ICL/IPL activities will be published in the monthly\* full-color Journal "Landslides" (\* plan to shift from bimonthly to monthly before 2020).
  - ✓ All parties of the Kyoto 2020 Commitment have the right to submit and publish news and reports of their activities in this monthly full color journal. All parties will receive the print copy and digital access rights (tokens) to all issues of journal (2002-present) as the common platform.
  - ✓ The Triannual Conference "World Landslide Forum" will be organized and the progress of Kyoto 2020 Commitment will be reported upon therein.
  - ✓ To promote cooperation between policy makers and landslide scientists and engineers, national government authorities working on landslide risk reduction, a joint round table discussion between ICL members and the high-level Ministerial members will be organized at each Forum.
  - ✓ Community safeguard policy for the countries/areas which are affected by rain-induced rapid and long-travel landslides, earthquake-induced megaslides and coastal and submarine landslides will be examined in specific sessions in the Forum.
  - ✓ The Kyoto 2020 Commitment parties will further publish Landslide Dynamics-Landslide Interactive Teaching Tools (LITT) as a core activity for public education at each Forum as was the case concerning two volumes of text of LITT which were edited and published including PPT for lessons and PDF for reference in 2017, on the occasion of WLF4.
  - ✓ The Kyoto 2020 Commitment will organize a Research, Administrative and Strategic Review Conference between the Forums at UNESCO, UNISDR, IRDR, as well as at the biennial Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
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