Agenda

3rd Annual RIfS Scientific Steering Group Meeting

Calders Hotel and Conference Centre, Cape Town, South Africa and online

RIfS
Regional Information for Society

At a glance:

Day 1 — Setting the stage, reporting

Day 2 — Reporting, connections to other groups, and planning

Day 3 — Strategic planning: new activities, policies, and publications

Day 4 — Next steps, timeline for the coming year, budget, and loose ends

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Descriptions of roles:

Chair — This person is responsible for facilitating the session. They make sure that:

1. We keep to the agenda agreed upon. If someone veers off-topic, gently remind them of the agenda. Check-in with the group to see if they want to flag this to come back to, or arrive at a new agreement about the use of time.
2. Everyone has a chance to speak. Make space for those who haven't been speaking as much, asking if they'd like to provide input before calling on more regular contributors. Don't forget to call on online participants.
3. We keep to time. Keep an eye on the clock, and remind people how much time we have left. Encourage the group to move on to the next topic before time runs out.

The chair should not be one of the people who will be speaking to a major agenda item, but someone separate.

Rapporteur — This person is responsible for taking notes in a shared document, and producing a half-page summary of the session and its outcomes to inform the meeting report. Given this responsibility, they have first priority to ask questions, in particular to clarify the record.

Overview (detailed descriptions on following pages)

Note this is indicative, and the specific times/dates may change depending on participants' availability.

Monday (Sept 15)	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday (closed)	Friday
9am Welcome from co-chairs 9:10am IPO update 9:30am Personal/professional updates 10:30 Report-back from Africa Strategic Workshop [Bruce]	Activity updates part 3: 9am Africa Task Team and CLARE collaboration [Bruce, Naomi] 10am ANDEX collaboration [Silvina, Paul, Eleonora, Naomi]	9am RIfS: Where we are now. Overview of RIfS activities existing, in development, and their timelines. 9:45 Gaps in coordination where RIfS could develop an activity.	9am Report-back: Timeline to 2027 Science Plan 9:30am Overview of 2026-27 outlook: – Emerging calendar of activities across RIfS – Webinar series?	Optional Field Trip
10:45-11:15am break	10:45-11:15am break	10:45-11:15am break	10:45-11:15am break	
11:15am continue report-back from Africa workshop, and discuss Activity updates, part 1: 11:45 am CORDEX Discussion 12:30pm status of community workshop planning Discussion	11:15pm My Climate Risk [Ted] 12:00pm Safe Landing Climates [Gabi] 12:45 APARC (TBC)	11:15pm regional workshops 12:00 regional sea level and coastal impacts [Kevin] 12:45pm Global South Inclusion Task Team [Anna, Bruce, Eleonora]	11:15pm Publication planning: Define distinct paper scopes. Lead author teams huddle to work on outlines. Set plans for accountability towards regular progress. (continue into lunch)	
1-2pm lunch	1-2pm lunch	1-2pm lunch (with Academy SSG)	1-2pm lunch	
2pm Group photo 2:15pm Climate Literacy [Dragana, Jemima, Bruce] — what can a RIfS intervention look like? Break out group exercise Formalizing literacy in RIfS structure?	02:00pm Cross-cutting discussion on gathering information from the community. Connection to "Mapping Barriers and Challenges" planning. [Lincoln, Eleonora]	2pm Test case for activity policy [Bruce] 2:15pm Working Session: Breaking into groups to work on three topics: 1. Governance rules update 2. New activity & endorsement policy 3. Timeline to 2027 Science Plan	SSG business: 2pm budget discussions -spending coming up -fundraising strategy -developing procedures	Co-chairs + IPO huddle to summarize next steps.
3:45-4:15pm break	3:45-4:15pm break	3:45-4:15pm break	3:45-4:15pm break	
Activity updates part 2: 4:15pm Robust Information Working Group [Douglas]	Activity updates part 4: 4:15pm Responsible Data Use Task Team [L.P.] 5pm GEP [Xuebin]	Report-back from working session. Discuss and agree next steps. 4:15pm ToR report-back 4:45pm New activity and endorsement report-back	Leave open for whatever we ran out of time for, or emergent priorities.	

Day 1: Monday September 15th

Session 1 *Chair*: Eleonora *Rapporteur*: Anne	9am Welcome from co-chairs Perspective on the past year. Logistical information for the week. 9:10am IPO update Staffing, resources, ... 9:30am Personal/professional updates To get to know each other better, everyone shares one or two highlights from the last year, very briefly. 10:30am Report-back from Africa Strategic Workshop [Bruce] Highlights, next steps, lessons learned.
Break	10:45-11:15am
Session 2 *Chair*: Jemimah *Rapporteur*: Tim	11:15am continue report-back from Africa workshop, and discuss lessons learned Activity updates, part 1: 11:45 am CORDEX 20min presentation Discussion 12:30 Status of community workshop planning [Readings: Draft concept note Community workshop
Lunch	1-2pm
Session 3 *Chair*: Dragana *Rapporteur*: Tim	2:00pm Group photo 02:15 Climate Literacy [Dragana, Jemima, Bruce] — What can a RIfS intervention look like? Facilitated, interactive discussion. Break-out group exercise using the webinar approach but informed by webinar outcomes
Break	3:45-4:15pm
Session 4 *Chair*: Bruce *Rapporteur*: LP	Activity updates part 2: 4:15pm Robust Information Working Group 30min presentation: History, structure, composition, and plans. Discussion

Day 2 - Tuesday September 16th

Session 1 *Chair*: Jemimah *Rapporteur*: Kevin	Activity updates part 3: 9am Africa Task Team and CLARE collaboration [Bruce, Naomi] 20min presentation Discussion 10am ANDEX collaboration [Silvina, Paul, Eleonora, Naomi] 20min presentation Discussion
Break	10:45-11:15am
Session 2 *Chair*: LP *Rapporteur*: Julie	Potential Links with Other WCRP Activities Presentation followed by discussion 11:15pm My Climate Risk 12:00pm Safe Landing Climates 12:45 APARC (To be confirmed)

Lunch	1-2pm
Session 3 *Chair*: Lincoln, Eleonora *Rapporteur*: Naomi	2:00pm “Mapping Barriers and Challenges” Lincoln and Eleonora will guide a facilitated activity with the SSG to inform planning. Cross-cutting discussion on gathering information from the community.
Break	3:45-4:15pm
Session 4 *Chair*: Alessandro *Rapporteur*: Lincoln	Activity updates part 4: 4:15pm Responsible Data Use Task Team [L.P.] 20min presentation Discussion 5pm GEP 20min presentation Discussion
	Group dinner

Day 3 — Wednesday, Sept 17th

Session 1 *Chair*: Naomi *Rapporteur*: Alessandro	9am RIfS: Where we are now Overview of RIfS activities existing, in development, and their timelines [Naomi] 9:45 Gaps in coordination where RIfS could develop an activity. Interactive activity with stickies and/or miro board [IPO]
Break	10:45-11:15am
Session 2 *Chair*: Julie *Rapporteur*: Dragana	11:15am Regional workshops 12:00 regional sea level and coastal impacts [Kevin, Wendy] Brief context-setting presentations from Kevin and Wendy Discussion Agree on our take-aways to bring to side discussions at pan-CLIVAR meeting 12:45pm Global South Inclusion Task Team [Anna, Bruce, Eleonora]
Lunch	1-2pm
Session 3 *Chairs*: Kevin, Rongkun *Rapporteur*: L-P	New activities 2pm Test case for activity policy [Bruce] 2:15pm Working Session: Breaking into groups to work on three topics: • Governance rules update • New activity & endorsement policy • Timeline to 2027 Science Plan
Break	3:45-4:15pm
Session 4 *Chair*: Wendy *Rapporteur*: Rongkun	Report-back from working session. Discuss and agree next step 4:15pm ToR report-back 4:45pm New activity and endorsement report-back

Day 4 — Thursday, Sept 18th

Session 1 *Chair*: Silvina *Rapporteur*: Tim	9am Report-back on Timeline to 2027 Science Plan 9:30am Overview of 2026 outlook: [Naomi] Emerging calendar of activities across RIfS Webinar series?
Break	10:45-11:15am
Session 2 *Chair*: Eleonora *Rapporteur*: Jemimah	11:15pm Publication planning: Define distinct paper scopes. Lead author teams huddle to work on outlines. Set plans for accountability towards regular progress. (continue into lunch)
Lunch	1-2pm
Session 3 *Chair*: Kevin *Rapporteur*: Wendy	SSG business [closed session] 2:00pm budget discussion part 1: big picture • Overview of funds available (and recent + anticipated spending) [Naomi] • fundraising [Bruce] • developing procedures [Silvina] 3:15pm budget discussion part 2: nitty-gritty of right now • Review activity proposals • Decide provisional 2026 budget: make some time-sensitive allocations now, and other provisional allocations tbc. Prioritize providing certainty for activities that need to start planning ASAP. • Decide when/how to make final decisions
Break	3:45-4:15pm
Session 4 *Chair*: Naomi *Rapporteur*: Anne	SSG business [closed session] Continue budget discussion if needed. Any other loose ends, or emergent priorities.

Day 5 — Friday, September 19th

Morning	Possible optional field trip
Afternoon	Co-chairs and IPO huddle to summarize outcomes and next steps