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PROGRESS REPORT

**Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact
and Climate Analysis (TGICA)**

(Submitted by the Co-Chairs of the IPCC Working Groups I, II and III)

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Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA)

This report outlines major developments related to the Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA) since the last progress report, delivered for IPCC-XXXII (Busan, Korea • 11-14 October 2010). In the archive prepared for IPCC-XXXII, refer to IPCC-XXXII/Doc.14.

Co-Chair Changes

On 18 February and 13 April 2011, respectively, Drs. Richard Moss and Jose Marengo-Orsini resigned as Co-Chairs of TGICA. Their leadership, insights, and dedication made a significant difference for a wide range of issues of importance for climate change research, and it is with deep appreciation that we acknowledge their service.

The Co-Chairs of TGICA are selected by the WG Co-Chairs and the IPCC Chair. Drs. Tim Carter (Finland) and Bruce Hewitson (South Africa) have been appointed as interim TGICA Co-Chairs, for a period of two years. In addition, given that Drs. Carter and Hewitson will have limited terms of service, and that none of the candidates to succeed them as Co-Chairs possesses extensive TGICA experience, a decision was taken to appoint two “Co-Chair elects” as a mechanism for ensuring continued advancement of a strong TGICA agenda and a smooth transition to a new leadership team. Dr. Rachel Warren (UK) has been appointed as a Co-Chair elect, and the process of selecting a second Co-Chair elect is ongoing.

Progress on TGICA-16 Actions

As reported at IPCC-XXXII, a number of activities were decided at TGICA-16, and various member subgroups were tasked with pursuing these activities. At TGICA-16, a first subgroup was formed to review the Data Distribution Centre (DDC) to identify updates needed to support the AR5 and consider other issues such as criteria for deciding what data should be hosted on the DDC versus held elsewhere but linked to the DDC. Other activities of this subgroup include deciding how to represent data from CORDEX, exploration of cooperation with other data centers to establish good practices for facilitation of data use, identification of data products and tools for use in low capacity settings, and exploration of links to data on climate extremes. These activities are ongoing, and since TGICA-16, this subgroup has developed a set of “linking criteria” to guide decisions on the types of data to which the DDC should link, has compiled a list of observational datasets of climate extremes that are candidates for linking, has drafted an updated governance document for the DDC, and has discussed a plan for reorganization of the DDC website.

At TGICA-16, a second subgroup was established to review the process for preparing technical guidelines that are distributed through the DDC, with a focus on review procedures, maintaining consistency with published IPCC reports, and development of more streamlined guidance material. TGICA also reviewed draft guidelines on sea level rise scenarios and research on observed impacts of climate change and identified next steps in preparing these materials for release. Since TGICA-16, the subgroup has progressed on drafting a document describing the process of guideline development. The authors of the sea-level scenario guidelines have also developed a revision, and the revised guidelines are expected to be presented for approval by TGICA at or before TGICA-17. Guidelines for the climate impacts and adaptation community on the use of CMIP5 climate model output data are also under development.

At TGICA-16, a third subgroup was formed to identify opportunities for building capacity in the application of scenarios and projections in examination of adaptation and other response options. These activities are ongoing, including identification of capacity-building efforts related to regional downscaling of climate change scenarios.

TGICA-17

Prior to the Co-Chair developments described above, TGICA-17 was scheduled to be held April 13-15 in São José dos Campos, Brazil. In light of the necessary transition, the TGICA and Working Group Co-Chairs decided to postpone this meeting until a new Co-Chair is selected. In order to continue to move forward on activities agreed at TGICA-16, a set of teleconferences are scheduled during the original dates to discuss progress on assigned tasks.