

IRGC International Conference 2013

FROM CRISIS MANAGEMENT TO RISK GOVERNANCE

9 - 11 January 2013, Beijing, China

The conference will promote evidence-based risk governance in a broad context, in particular among key Chinese leaders and institutions. On this occasion, the launch of Center for Risk Governance in the School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University ("IRGC China") will be announced.

The events are jointly organised and sponsored by the Ministry of Science and Technology, P.R. China, the Counsellors' Office to the State Council, Tsinghua University, and the International Risk Governance Council. It is hosted by the School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University.

Recognising the value of risk governance to avoid crises, international renowned experts in risk perception, communication and management have been invited to present advanced concepts and tools for risk governance. The aim of the partners in this event is to engage in collaborative work on the development of instruments and recommendations for risk governance, including regulatory frameworks and public-private partnerships.

IRGC and its international network partners have developed evidence-based approaches to dealing with risks that are complex, or about which knowledge is incomplete or ambiguous. Many of these risks are systemic and transboundary or even global, which requires collective action. Effective risk assessment and management strategies can be developed for this purpose.

AUDIENCE

- Academics and representatives of public and private sector organisations interested in sharing knowledge about risk and risk governance are invited to attend the general conference on 9 January.
- Specific workshops are organised on 10 and 11 January. Experts in these topics are invited to participate and engage in collaborative work for the improvement of effective strategies and policies for dealing with risk.

VENUE :
School of Public Policy and Management
Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

Please visit www.ircg.org
or contact conference@ircg.org

PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

WEDNESDAY 9 JANUARY

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE “FROM CRISIS MANAGEMENT TO RISK GOVERNANCE”

14:00-15:00

CEREMONY FOR THE FOUNDATION OF IRGC CHINA

CHAIR: Yanhua LIU Counsellor, The Counsellor's Office of the State Council, the People's Republic of China; Member of the IRGC Board of Foundation

→ **OPENING REMARKS**

- **Weizhong WANG** Vice-minister, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the People's Republic of China
- **Ning FANG** Vice-chairman, the Counsellors' Office of the State Council, the People's Republic of China
- **Philippe GILLET** Vice-president of EPFL, Switzerland; Chairman of IRGC Board of Foundation
- **Bruno MOOR** Head of Division, International Cooperation in Research and Innovation, State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation, Switzerland
- **Representative** from Tsinghua University

→ **PRESENTATION OF IRGC ACADEMIC NETWORK-CHINA CENTER**

- **Lan XUE** Tsinghua University

→ **REMARKS FROM THE IRGC ACADEMIC NETWORK**

- **Marie-Valentine FLORIN** IRGC
- **Granger MORGAN** Carnegie Mellon University
- **V.S ARUNACHALAM** Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy, India
- **Manuel HEITOR** IRGC Portugal
- **Kenneth OYE** Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- **Ortwin RENN** University of Stuttgart

15:30-18:00

INVESTING IN THE CREATION OF AN APPROPRIATE RISK CULTURE FOR RISK AWARENESS, ASSESSMENT, PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT, TO AVOID CRISES.

CHAIR: Philippe GILLET Vice-president of EPFL, Switzerland; Chairman of IRGC Board of Foundation

→ **SCIENCE AND POLICY FOR RISK GOVERNANCE**

- **Jose-Mariano GAGO** IRGC Portugal
- **Lan XUE** Tsinghua University
- **Granger MORGAN** Carnegie Mellon University
- **Peijun SHI** Beijing Normal University

→ **IMPLEMENTING RISK GOVERNANCE**

- **He WANG** PICC Property and Casualty Company
- **Robert WIEST** Swiss Re China
- **Margareta WAHLSTROM** UNISDR

THURSDAY 10 JANUARY

PARALLEL WORKSHOPS, UPON INVITATION

08:30 - 12:15

WORKSHOP 1

RISK PERCEPTION AND RISK CULTURE

Discussion on risk perception and risk culture. Gathering existing knowledge and identifying gaps in the understanding of risk perception. Risk profile and risk culture as fundamental elements for building improved risk governance policies and practices.

→ **CO-CHAIRS:**

- **Ortwin RENN** University of Stuttgart
- **Xiaofei XIE** Peking University

08:30 - 12:15

WORKSHOP 2

INNOVATION AND ADAPTIVE GOVERNANCE IN BIOTECHNOLOGY

Discussion on the location, pace and diffusion of technological innovation and how it is affected by the management of associated risks.

→ **CO-CHAIRS:**

- **Kenneth OYE** Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- **Manuel HEITOR** IST Portugal

14:00 - 17:45

WORKSHOP 3

FOOD SAFETY GOVERNANCE

Science-based knowledge for improved food safety governance. Approaches for involving scientists, public authorities, the private sector as well as individuals are needed in the assessment of risk, in the selection of management options, in decision-making and implementation, and in the overall communication of risks.

→ **CO-CHAIRS:**

- **Chengyu ZHAN** China University of Political Science and Law
- **Marie-Valentine FLORIN** IRGC

14:00 - 17:45

WORKSHOP 4

NATIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT AND COUNTRY RISK MANAGEMENT

Methods and international experience for all-hazards national risk assessment and whole-of-government risk management at the country level. How to improve the management of threats that affect a country's territory or citizens?

→ **CO-CHAIRS:**

- **Donald JOHNSTON** former Chairman of the IRGC Board of Foundation
- **Hui DING** Beijing Academy of Science and Technology

COMMITTEES

FRIDAY 11 JANUARY

PLENARY SESSION, UPON INVITATION

08:30 - 12:15
PLENARY SESSION

**COMMON THEMES FOR
RISK GOVERNANCE**

Presentation and discussion of state-of-the-art concepts and methods for risk governance that can be applied in various sectors and risk issues, including risk communication, risk-based regulation, stakeholder participation and adaptive governance.

→ **CO-CHAIRS:**

- **Granger MORGAN**, Carnegie Mellon University
- **Lan XUE**, Tsinghua University

REGISTRATION

Participation is free of charge.

→ **FOR THE CONFERENCE ON 9 JANUARY:**

Register here www.conftool.pro/irgc2013

→ **FOR THE WORKSHOPS ON 10 AND 11 JANUARY:**

Experts who are interested in participating are requested to write an email to jianhua.xu@pku.edu.cn and naima.amarouche@irgc.org indicating their expertise, motivation or link to the topic. Space is limited

ACCOMMODATION

Recommendation will be provided upon request.

CONTACTS

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ORGANISING COMMITTEE

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Jianhua XU, Peking University
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Rongfang WANG

**Counsellor's Office
of the State Council**

Feng XU

IRGC

Marie-Valentine FLORIN
Naima AMAROUCHE

Swissnex China

Pascal MARMIER
Kai KOTTENSTEDE

STEERING COMMITTEE

Yanhua LIU Counsellor, The Counsellors' Office of the State Council, P.R. China; Member of the IRGC Board of Foundation (Chair)

Jose Mariano GAGO Professor IST, President, Laboratory for Particle Physics, Portugal; IRGC Portugal; Member of the IRGC Board of Foundation; Former Minister for Science, Technology and Higher Education, Portugal

Philippe GILLET Provost and Vice-president of EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland; Chairman of the IRGC Board of Foundation

Granger MORGAN Professor and Head, Department of Engineering and Public Policy, Carnegie Mellon University, USA; Chairman of the IRGC Scientific and Technical Council

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

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Lan XUE Professor and Dean, School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University; Member of the IRGC Scientific and Technical Council (Co-Chair)

V.S. ARUNACHALAM Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy, India; Member of the IRGC Scientific and Technical Council

Hui DING President, Beijing Academy of Science and Technology

Baruch FISCHHOFF Howard Heinz University Professor, Social and Decision Sciences and Engineering and Public Policy, Carnegie Mellon University

Keith FLORIG Associate Research Scholar, University of Florida

Xiguang LI Professor and Dean, International Center for Communication, Tsinghua University

Peng LIU Associate Professor, School of Public Administration, Renmin University of China

Yongfang LIU Professor, School of Psychology and Cognitive Science, East China Normal University

Manuel HEITOR Professor, Instituto Superior Técnico, Technical University of Lisbon; Member of the IRGC Scientific and Technical Council

Michael OBORNE Director, Las Casas Institute, Oxford University

Kenneth OYE Associate Professor of Political Science and Engineering Systems, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Member of the IRGC Scientific and Technical Council

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Ortwin RENN Professor of Environmental Sociology, University of Stuttgart; Member of the IRGC Scientific and Technical Council

Peijun SHI Professor, Academy of Disaster Reduction and Emergency Management, Beijing Normal University

Xiaofei XIE Professor, Department of Psychology, Peking University

Chengyu ZHAN Associate Professor, School of Political Science and Public Management, China University of Political Science and Law

Kaibin ZHONG Associate Professor, National Institute of Emergency Management, Chinese Academy of Governance

ABOUT

TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

www.sppm.tsinghua.edu.cn

The mission of the School of Public Policy and Management of Tsinghua University is to provide academic and professional training programmes in public management and to pursue academic excellence and practical application in public policy and management research.

The school's long-term objective is to be recognised as a world-class public administration institution that actively engages in teaching, research, training, and consulting.

TSINGHUA SPPM-CENTER FOR RISK GOVERNANCE

www.irgc.org/ircg-china

The mission of IRGC China is aligned with IRGC's objective. It aims to support the improvement of risk governance at both local and global levels. Specifically, IRGC China has been launched to:

- Facilitate risk-related research in China, e.g., to understand how individuals and institutions perceive risks and make risk decisions in the Chinese socio-economic and cultural context.
- Help policy makers improve the quality of decision-making regarding risks, by providing policy and research recommendations and by developing training programmes for civil servants.
- Strengthen international collaboration in holding high-level workshops and forums, and developing collaborative activities.
- Accompany reforms in China's public administration as needed and promote analytic-deliberative risk-based management processes.

IRGC PARTNERS AND SPONSORS



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER
State Secretariat for Education,
Research and Innovation SERI

中华人民共和国科学技术部
Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China

中华人民共和国国务院参事室
Counsellor's Office of the State Council of the People's Republic of China

Swiss Re



OLIVER WYMAN



IRGC INTERNATIONAL RISK GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

www.irgc.org

- Based in Lausanne, at EPFL (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Lausanne) with network partners in Asia, North America and the European Union, IRGC is an independent foundation, a leader in identifying and exploring emerging systemic risks for which governance deficits exist, and in providing recommendations for how to correct them.
- IRGC works to improve the understanding and management of the risks and opportunities facing global society, providing insight on systemic issues that have an impact on human health, safety, the environment, the economy and society at large.
- Operating as a science-based think tank, IRGC influences decision-making in the public and private sectors by building bridges between the latest advances in scientific understanding and current policy issues.
- IRGC meets its objectives by facilitating international collaborative research projects, disseminating results through authoritative publications and organising conferences and roundtables that focus on specific risk issues and their governance.

IRGC NETWORK

IRGC's network is extensive; it includes technical and policy experts in universities, government institutes and corporations from around the world. IRGC convenes these leaders on a regular basis to stimulate debate and advance the science and practice of risk governance.

IRGC PRIORITIES

- **Champion ignored, neglected and emerging issues:** IRGC explores issues that require multi-disciplinary expertise or that others are unwilling or unable to address, such as on gradually evolving risks with potentially catastrophic outcomes or on adaptive regulation of synthetic biology developments.
- **Enable scientific and technological developments:** To benefit society, successful innovation is a careful mix of key regulatory factors, R&D and economic incentives, as well as communication and public acceptability.
- **Help organisations better anticipate and respond to risks:** IRGC pursues the on-going development of methods for understanding how risks emerge and develop, and how to remedy risk governance deficits.
- **Mobilise the creation of coherent risk governance cultures:** In a globalised world, most systemic risks require collective action. Risks may emerge anywhere and can quickly spread, putting far-removed organisations and populations in danger. Investments are needed to create effective cultures for appropriate risk taking.