



The International Programme on Landslides (IPL)
Global Promotion Committee



12 May 2008

To whom it may concern,

RE: Call for Application for the World Centres of Excellence (WCoE) on Landslide Risk Reduction

The 2006 Tokyo Action Plan proposed the creation of World Centres of Excellence on Landslide Risk Reduction as follows: “The Global Promotion Committee (GPC) of the International Programme on Landslides (IPL) will identify and promote World Centres of Excellence (WCoEs) every 3 years within eligible organizations, such as universities, institutes, NGOs, government ministries and local governments, contributing to “Risk Reduction for Landslides and Related Earth System Disasters”. Linkages to WCoEs at the national level will be used to promote cooperation with the ICL and dissemination of knowledge and information. An independent Panel of Experts, set up by the Global Promotion Committee of International Programme on Landslides (IPL-GPC), may be appointed to endorse the WCoEs. The establishment of WCoE was decided at the first session of IPL Global Promotion committee in January 2007, and further examined and endorsed in the second session of the IPL Global Promotion Committee held at UNU on 21 January 2008.

Objectives of WCoE:

To strengthen the International Programme on Landslides (IPL) and IPL Global Promotion Committee;

To create “A Global Network of entities contributing to landslide risk reduction”; and

To improve the global recognition of “Landslide Risk Reduction” and its social-economic relevance, and entities contributing to this field.

Criteria for WCoE Candidates:

Governmental and non-governmental entities such as universities, agencies, and other institutions, and their subsidiary entities (faculties, departments, centres, divisions or others) which meet the following two conditions:

- Contributing to “Risk Reduction for Landslides and Related Earth System Disasters”; and
- Willing to support IPL intellectually, practically and financially by either joining ICL or contributing to IPL-GPC and promote "landslide research and risk reduction" on a regional and/or global scale in a mutually beneficial manner.

Guidelines for WCoE:

- 1) Candidates of WCoEs must submit the application form to the Secretariat of the IPL Global Promotion Committee .
- 2) The number of identified WCoE in 2008 is to be decided depending on applications received.
General idea is a sufficient number (order of ten) to create “A Global Network of entities contributing on landslide risk reduction”.
- 3) Candidates will be evaluated from their achievements and current activities (scientific, technical and educational capacity, training courses, publications, dissemination of knowledge and information) and planned activities contributing to IPL.
- 4) WCoEs will be identified at every World Landslide Forum (held every 3 years). The status as a WCoE will be given for 3 years until the next Forum.
- 5) Each WCoE must submit an annual activity report each year.
- 6) The status as a WCoE may be extended for another 3 years by the IPL Global Promotion Committee based on the activities carried out as a WCoE.

Application

Those who are willing to contribute to IPL as WCoE are invited to fill the attached application form and to submit it before 12 September 2008 to the Secretariat of the IPL Global Promotion Committee as below.

The Secretariat of the IPL Global Promotion Committee
UNITWIN Headquarter Building
Kyoto University Uji Campus, Uji, Kyoto 611-0011, Japan
Tel: +81 – 774 – 384834, Fax: +81 – 774 – 384019
wlf@iclhq.org, <http://iclhq.org>

On behalf of the many international organizations of the IPL Global Promotion Committee we look forward to hearing from you.



Salvano Briceño,
Chairperson of the IPL Global Promotion
Committee
Director of the UN Secretariat of the
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction



Kyoji Sassa,
Deputy Chairperson of the IPL Global
Promotion Committee
President of the International Consortium on
Landslides

Attached: Application Form and Bulletin of the First World Landslide Forum