

Regional information for Society (RifS)

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What is RfS about?

VISION

[New WCRP Core project] To understand, develop, and enhance the effective flow of relevant information among scientists, decision makers and society developing policy-relevant climate research

MISSION

- Targeted research on regional climate information
- Integrated with activities of other WCRP activities and initiatives
- Augmented through external partnerships
- Engaged with the climate services community
- Connected with stakeholder communities
- Enhanced construction, communication, and adoption of climate information by society.



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The science plan

Three overarching CHALLENGES focused on the regional / decision scale

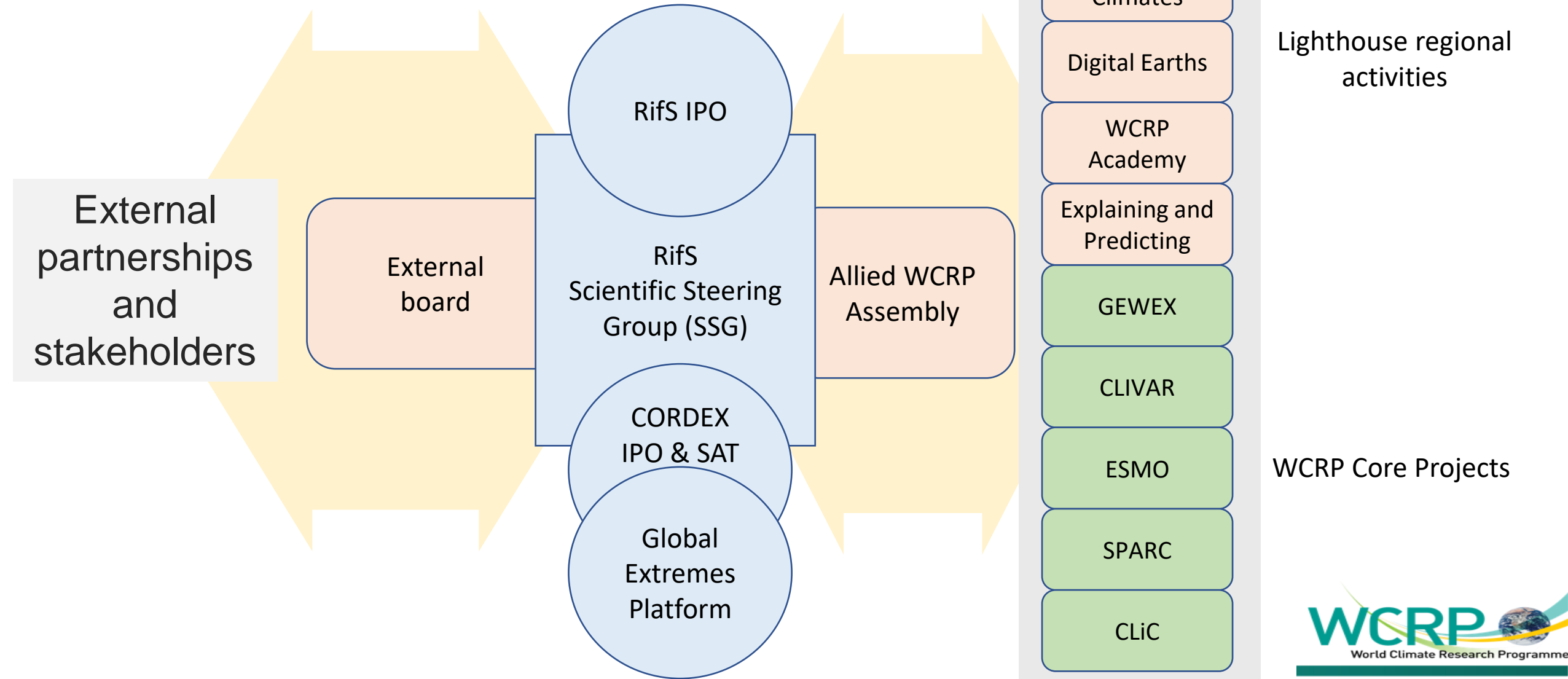
1. How to optimally identify, understand, and model the relevant climate processes and their interactions which are most critical to manage the socio-ecological risks at the decision scales within regions.
2. How to optimally integrate multiple lines of evidence from observations, understanding of physical climate processes, and data from dynamical and statistical regional and global models to inform society's climate information needs.
3. How to best undertake engagement between stakeholders and the science community in different regional contexts to maximize the information benefit for the stakeholder and ensure that the user context is integrated into the design and execution of relevant climate research.



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Current activities (2022) are focused on building conversations to establish linkages



Science Plan

Developed in a year long process of workshops with the research community ... self nominated participants!
Oceans were poorly represented, and this reflects in the science plan
The science plan is a living document intended to evolve

Four **CLUSTERS** of research activities that are **inter-related, co-dependent, overlapping**

1. Regional climate understanding for climate projections (multi-decadal)
2. Regional climate understanding for climate predictions (seasonal to decadal)
3. Weather and climate extremes
4. Communication and Societal Engagement



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WCRP Core Project: RifS

SCIENCE PLAN

A living document

Major QUESTIONS specific to each cluster's foci

Examples research questions:

- What model complexity is required to usefully represent regional climates and change?
- How to reconcile and integrate multiple lines of evidence in providing regional climate information?
- How can we best develop methods to attribute change in probability of observed extreme events?
- How can we enable improved understanding of, and advance the dialogue with stakeholders?



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2022 plans – opportunities to engage

Event	Purpose
AGU – <i>committed</i>	A RIFs sponsored session proposed and accepted ... Session title is “Pathways to Provision of more Robust Regional Information for Society” – please participate
Conversations within WCRP – <i>ongoing</i>	RIFs co-chairs are initiating conversations with, and participating in meetings to explore collaboration and mutual interests – please contact if you see potential
RIFs IPO – <i>imminent</i>	An essential resource for RIFs that we hope will soon be established
Election of RIFs SSG – <i>imminent</i>	Capacity for designing and implementing initial RIFs pilot projects and collaborations – when the call is issued please consider possible nomination ... we need sea level input
Webinar series – <i>pending</i> SSG appointment	A webinar discussion series on priority topics from the science plan – participation opportunities.
Workshop(s) – <i>mixed</i>	Plans are in development, news will be forthcoming



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CONCLUSIONS about RfS and Sea Level

RfS is about REGIONS and better integrated INFORMATION for stakeholders, policy, and decision makers based on sound science

1. There are clear points of connection around regional ocean processes and sea level that need to be better developed (e.g. coastal issues, regional modelling, or the development of stakeholder information integrated with stakeholder context)
2. RfS is in its establishment year, conversations NOW are needed
3. When the call comes out for nominations for the RfS SSG (very soon), please consider putting forward names that can be a voice on ocean/sealevel.

