



Australian Academy of Science

Ian Potter House, Gordon Street, Canberra 2601

NATIONAL COMMITTEES FOR SCIENCE National Committee for Earth System Science

2012 BUSINESS PLAN or WORK PLAN Including TIMELINES for up to 5 years

It is anticipated that this Plan would provide information on:

1. Aims of this National Committee

- Foster the development and the strengthening of a coherent body of Earth Systems Science research in Australia and its engagement with the national and international research and education communities, decision makers and the general public.
- Act as the National Committee responsible for liaison with for the IGBP, for the WCRP, and for SCOR.
- Encourage strong participation by Australian scientists in Earth System Science activities of the ICSU unions through their subsidiary bodies and other relevant bodies such as UN-linked bodies.
- Liaise with and contribute to all appropriate national and international bodies and societies as needed.
- Facilitate and sponsor ESS activities in Australia such as workshops, lectures and educational information.
- Inform international bodies of Australian ESS activities, opinions and plans.

2. Strategies to allow these aims to be achieved.

- Convene strategic discussion and planning activities in Earth system science as a whole
- Lead strategic development of targeted areas of ESS.
- Contribute input to scientific enquiries and reviews on which ESS has a bearing.
- Promote and sponsor workshops on ESS topics.
- Foster improved community and political understanding of the issues that ESS addresses.
- Attend national and international meetings and congresses to keep abreast of developments and promote earth systems science



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perspectives and exchange information and views with overseas earth systems science leaders and scientists.

3. Plan of work/activities for up to 5 years including timelines

For 2012:

- The primary activity is to progress the promotion and implementation of the Recommendations of Strategic plan, (*To live within Earth's limits: An Australian plan to develop a science of the whole Earth system*). Fully implementing the Recommendations will take 5-10 years. We will continue widespread distribution of the plan document, synthesis of the First Australian Earth System Outlook Conference (Dec 2010), developing links and liaison with the other Australian learned academies, run a Second Australian Earth System Outlook Conference in association with other Academies as far as possible, and continue seeking how to fund someone to serve as the initial person to form an Office for Earth System Science. The NCESS website will be significantly upgraded, including development of a website for the Outlook conferences. Committee and Subcommittee planning meetings will be required. Delegates, Executive committee members of IGBP, WCRP, SCOR and SCAR will be invited to attend NCESS meetings.
- On the international front the Chair will represent the AAS at the ICSU Open Science Meeting *Planet Under Pressure* Conference in London, March 2012. A delegate will be supported to attend and be a lead convener at the SCAR Open Science Conference on "Stratospheric-tropospheric exchange and Atmospheric Chemistry at the Tropopause", July 2012, Portland Oregon. The next SCOR General Meetings will be held in Oct 22-26, 2012 Halifax, Canada. This should be attended by one or more of the Australian delegates to SCOR.
- NCESS members should attend and report back on relevant national meetings.

For the following years (2013-2016):

- Follow-up promotion of the ESS Strategic Plan and its Recommendations will be engaged in, with associated travel and accommodation requirements. This should involve establishing the small beginnings (part time) of an Australian Office for EES, the first job for which would be the improvement and maintenance of an ESS website as one means to foster an ESS community.
- We propose to hold an Australian ESS Outlook Conference biennially (ie 2014, 2016).
- Starting in 2012 we plan to use the Outlook Conferences to promote and initiate the ideas of an Australian Association for Earth System Science and continue consideration of an Australian Journal for Earth System Science in the context of the emerging use of paperless web-based journals.



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- We propose to convene or co-sponsor an average of one additional workshop per annum.

4. Proposed budget details (Please use the attached spreadsheet)

Note each National Committee is allocated:

- \$3,000 per annum to support committee meetings.
- Up to \$2,500 each for up to three approved voting delegates, upon presentation of a report and receipts/invoices, for attendance at the triennial/quadrennial General Assembly meetings of the corresponding International Union.

Progress against these identified Work Plan activities will be reported on in the Chairs' annual reports to the Academy. Work Plans for 2011 can be viewed at www.science.org.au/natcoms

Note: This plan will be published on the National Committee page of the Academy of Science website www.science.org.au/natcoms.