

**Network for National Integrated Assessment Modelling Activities**  
**Summary of informal meeting for those present at IIASA on 29 November 2007**

Present: Helen ApSimon (UK) [h.apsimon@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:h.apsimon@imperial.ac.uk)  
Padraig Foley (Ireland) [Padraig.Foley@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:Padraig.Foley@agriculture.gov.ie)  
Jan Aben (Netherlands) [jan.aben@mnp.nl](mailto:jan.aben@mnp.nl)  
Kaarle Kupiainen (Finland) [kaarle.kupiainen@ymparisto.fi](mailto:kaarle.kupiainen@ymparisto.fi)  
Martin Forsius (Finland) [martin.forsius@ymparisto.fi](mailto:martin.forsius@ymparisto.fi)  
Stefan Åström (Sweden) [stefan.astrom@ivl.se](mailto:stefan.astrom@ivl.se)  
Julio Lumbreras (Spain) [jlumbreras@etsii.upm.es](mailto:jlumbreras@etsii.upm.es)  
Salim Belyazid (Sweden) [salim.belyazid@ivl.se](mailto:salim.belyazid@ivl.se)  
Tim Oxley (UK) [t.oxley@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:t.oxley@imperial.ac.uk)  
Tiziano Pignatelli (Italy) [pignatelli@casaccia.enea.it](mailto:pignatelli@casaccia.enea.it)  
Markus Amann (IIASA) [amann@iiasa.ac.at](mailto:amann@iiasa.ac.at)  
Rob Maas (Netherlands) [rob.maas@mnp.nl](mailto:rob.maas@mnp.nl)  
Wolfgang Schöpp (IIASA) [schoepp@iiasa.ac.at](mailto:schoepp@iiasa.ac.at)  
Ingrar Junden (Sweden) [ingrar.junden@naturvardsverket.se](mailto:ingrar.junden@naturvardsverket.se)

Germany, Portugal and Poland had also expressed interest in participation in the proposed network, making a total of 10 countries so far as well as close linking to CIAM and IIASA. It was agreed to invite Canada to join too, and enquire whether Belgium is undertaking IAM. A negative response had come from Russia saying they can not contribute to IAM modelling at this stage. If any other countries are working on IAM at a national level they will also be welcome to join.

**Action: Kaarle Kupiainen to send Belgian contact to Helen ApSimon, who should then contact Belgium as well as the Canadian contact provided by Tiziano**

Background

Helen ApSimon outlined how the idea of a network of national IAM activities had been suggested at the Saltsjobaden workshop. She and Stefan Astrom had followed this up, contacting those they were aware of in different countries, and requesting 1-2 pages on each national programme as an initial step towards knowing what each other is doing, and contacts for those involved. Responses collected from Sweden, UK, Italy, Netherlands and Ireland were circulated at the meeting, and others present agreed to provide similar outlines. Helen should chase up the remaining countries to contribute.

**Action: Those countries who have not yet provided a summary of their IAM activities to e.mail them asap to Helen, who should also chase up other countries not present.**

Aims and Terms of reference

The network will be an activity under TFIAM, and at the request of Rob Maas Helen had drawn up some draft terms of reference setting out the aims of the network:-

- i) to encourage collaboration between national activities and with IIASA in integrated assessment modelling
- ii) to provide a forum for discussion of common problems, and exchange of data and experience in various aspects of model development and implementation
- iii) to facilitate communication with the GAINS modelling team at IIASA and encourage coordination in effective interaction with the CIAM
- iv) to enhance development of integrated assessment modelling complementing the work of IIASA, and providing additional contributions to the work of the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling

The terms of reference had been circulated for comment, revised, and recirculated in the form presented to the meeting. Being generally accepted they will now be forwarded to Matti Johansson to pass on as appropriate in the UN ECE .

**Action: H ApS**

#### Communication within the network: website etc

It is very important to establish good communications within the network. Stefan reported that IVL (Sweden) have shown possible interest in constructing and maintaining a 'National IAM Activities' website. There was general agreement that people would use such a web site, where for example, the summary of each country's IAM activities currently being assembled should be placed, together with activities of the network.

The website should ideally provide a simple discussion forum, links to country activities web sites, and the ability to search by country or keyword. An FTP site would help facilitate the uploading of reports etc. to the website in preference to emailing everything to a single contact.

**Action: Stefan to follow up and report back on the possible hosting of the website by IVL (prior to the EC4MACS meeting -see below).**

Meanwhile email can be used both to notify activities, and circulate enquiries that others in the network may be able to help with. A central circulation list should be based upon the main contacts for each country & IIASA, with these main contacts asked to pass on to others as appropriate.

#### Meetings/activities

Further discussion on challenges and opportunities for the network included contributing to the revision of the Gothenburg protocol, collaboration in addressing common issues, and interaction with the EC4MACS programme (bringing together development of GAINS with other European scale modelling with PRIMES on energy projections, the TREMOVE model for transport, and the CAPRI model for agricultural projections). Markus suggested that, in view of the increasing complexity and breadth of the GAINS model development, it would be helpful if the network could identify common priorities in their interaction with the GAINS modelling and IIASA. National issues can help to highlight the importance of different topics.

Two meetings were agreed:-

#### 1) Meeting in conjunction with EC4MACS<sup>1</sup> meeting to be held in UK early March 2008

Markus suggested a meeting between national IAM modellers and IIASA in conjunction with the forthcoming EC4MACS meeting in the UK. This provides an opportunity for national IAM modellers to come together, and also to raise questions with the PRIMES, TREMOVE and CAPRI modelling teams as well as IIASA. The national IAM modellers and IIASA will have a special day before the meeting of partners in EC4MACS on which they can outline their research programmes and indicate issues they are facing in their national scale modelling activities. Discussion of the latter can then be fed into a joint meeting with EC4MACS on the next day. Details of this meeting will be circulated as soon as the date and location are fixed.

**Action: Markus to inform Helen and Stefan on date and location. Helen to draw up and distribute a notice of the meeting in consultation with Markus.**

---

<sup>1</sup> European Consortium of Air Pollution and Climate Strategies – see [www.ec4macs.eu/home/index.html](http://www.ec4macs.eu/home/index.html)

2) Task Force on Integrated Assessment Meeting, TFIAM, in Madrid 7-9 May 2008

The first day of TFIAM, 7 May, will be focused on national IAM activities, concentrating on the technical aspects of the relation between national and European IAM. National groups are invited to present papers giving an overview of their activities, and illustrative results focused on the following questions:-

- Do European and national IAM lead to different policy recommendations?
- What are the limitations of European modelling for national policy making?
- What is the value added of national modelling?
- How can we link European and national scale modelling more effectively?

It is hoped that as many as possible of the national IAM activities will be represented and will contribute. They should indicate their intention to come to Helen ApSimon, together with a title and a brief abstract.

**Action: All- send titles and abstracts for presentations at TFIAM to Helen ApSimon, who will liaise with Rob Maas**

Other future activities

It is hoped that the network can also foster new joint activities, and encourage generation of reports on joint work and production of peer reviewed papers together.

There was also some discussion about further possible workshops on specific topics. These could bring together those working on a selected topic or problem, and be hosted by one of the IAM groups involved. Some of those present expressed interest in organizing such workshops.

**Action All: send ideas and offers to organize such workshops to Helen ApSimon or Stefan Astrom.**

Funding

Some national IAM members had raised questions about funding. Rob Maas suggested that there might be possibilities for setting up a COST action, or from ESF. However it will be necessary to get the network established as widely as possible first.