# GLIDE Initiative

# Draft for discussion

# Terms of Reference for GLIDE Steering Committee

Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) proposed in 2001 the Global IDEntifier (GLIDE), a globally common Unique ID code for disasters. The concept of GLIDE was promoted by CRED, OCHA, ReliefWeb, UNISDR (now UNDRR), UNDP, WMO, IFRC, OFDA-USAID, FAO, La Red, World Bank and since then GLIDE operation has been supported by these organizations as well as DRR and humanitarian communities. In the meantime there has been significant progress in disaster information management and its technologies, resulting in enhanced disaster data management.

Over the past few years, several stakeholders have been strongly suggesting that opening the Governance of the GLIDE system through a mechanism such as a Steering Committee will broaden the vision of the evolution of the initiative and at the same time will enhance the ownership of the GLIDE numbers and its application by external institutions.

14 May 2019, ADRC organized a GLIDE Stakeholder Meeting held on the sides of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, at the premises of IDMC in Geneva, Switzerland. Participant stakeholders were invited from long-time and new GLIDE partner organizations.

This meeting aimed to share the latest situations of the GLIDE system and various information schemes to discuss the way forward of disaster data collaboration and the strengthening of the initiative. Participants agreed that the first step to improve the GLIDE number initiative itself is to give active stakeholders and contributors a more visible role in determining the future, content and evolution of the initiative.

One of the main outcomes of this Stakeholders meeting was the strong endorsement of the motion to create of a Steering Committee with specific structure and functions, and with meetings of different types and periodicity, along with a recommendation of current stakeholders that will be invited by ADRC to be part of the first Steering Committee, recommendations that are detailed below in this Terms of Reference (TOR).

* **Initial Composition of GLIDE Steering Committee**

The Steering Committee was proposed to be formed by a subset of the following institutions, which have contributed during the lifetime of the GLIDE:

* + - UNOCHA
    - Tohoku University
    - UNDRR
    - UNDP
    - IDMC
    - WMO
    - PDC
    - JRC
    - UNOSAT
    - CRED/EMDAT
    - IFRC

ADRC will invite these institutions to become part of the Steering Committee (SC) with all the privileges and responsibilities it will entail, as per the content of this TOR.

* **Structure of GLIDE Steering Committee**

It is proposed that the Steering Committee will be composed of:

* **A Chair Institution:** An institution whose representatives will strive to support the initiative, and who will be able to convene meetings of different types of the SC, and maintain active communications with the rest of the members of the SC. For the first Steering Committee meeting the Chair institution will be ADRC. The Chair institution will in the future liaise directly with ADRC in regards to practical matters such as funding, technical matters and others as necessary.
* **A Secretariat:** The Secretariat of the SC will be responsible for documenting the decisions, discussions and activities of the SC, receiving information from Rapporteurs of meetings and specific activities and disseminating them among SC members and in general with GLIDE stakeholders.
* **Members of the SC**: representatives of the Institutions, who will participate in meetings, provide inputs in discussions, and volunteer for different activities and functions proposed in these Terms of Reference and as result of the SC decisions.
* **Observers:** SC Members will be allowed and encourage other institutions interested in supported the GLIDE to attend SC meetings. Observers will be able to speak in SC meetings but will have no vote in decisions.
* **Subcommittees:** The SC will be able to set up smaller groups that would be in charge of specific functions, such as the definition of hazards, or defining indicators. Each subcommittee, in turn will have a Chair and a Rapporteur.
* **Meetings of GLIDE Steering Committee**
* **In Person Meetings**: It is proposed that the Steering Committee will meet in person, once every two years at the minimum, ideally once a year. In order to lower costs and ensure high participation, ADRC and the Chair of the SC will look into the possibility of conducting these meetings associate to major events where most of the SC institutions will anyway attend, such as the Global Platform for DRR, the Bosai Forum or others, as side meetings in, of back to back to these events.
* **Virtual Meetings:** Most of the meetings of the SC and its subcommittees will be carried out virtually, using tools like Skype or WebEx, accommodating the various time zones of SC Members as much as possible.

[DOES ADRC have a Webex facility? Video conferencing facilities?]

* **Functions of GLIDE Steering Committee**

The Stakeholders group discussed the following functions to be the Steering Committee responsibility:

* + - **Direct the evolution and Future of the GLIDE:** The SC will consult and make decisions that would have an impact on the initiative, including proposing additions and changes on current functionality of the site, partnerships, other initiatives to connect with, inter alia.
    - **Modify itself:**  The SC will be able to modify Structure, composition, functions and other aspects of the Steering Committee that are considered or lacking in this current TOR. In particular, the SC will accept other institutions that aspire to be SC Members.
    - **Assignment of responsibilities:** The SC will consult and allow the assignment and rotation of functions and responsibilities to those who volunteer for them, such as those in this Terms of Reference, other functions emanating from the decisions of the Committee, or extra supporting functions such as the curation of crowd-source data, and the periodic review of the overall quality of the GLIDE.
    - **Defining the Policy regarding Participating institutions:** The SC will consider, as an initial way to promote and broaden the usage, how to facilitate the enrolment of additional Participating institutions, defining what types of participating institutions, the process of how to become one and to obtain more privileges, the level of audit and curation of their information, etc.
    - **SOP’s: for GLIDE:** The SC will recommend, review and approve Standard Operating Procedures for GLIDE operations, especially those related to curation of data, audits, quality control, etc.
    - **Classification of hazards:**  The SC will review the current list of hazards and codes and suggest a wider list of hazards that should match the set that has been stated in the Sendai Framework, including human-made hazards, technological hazards, biological and environmental hazards. The SC will make an effort to align this list with the Technical Guidance Notes issued by UNDRR.
    - **Thresholds:** The SC will discuss if a threshold of minimum damage should be adopted to set a lower limit for small disasters, and to determine, if so desired, what those thresholds should be.
    - **Privacy of indicators of damage:** The SC should reconsider the current policy of disclosure of Indicators of loss and damage, allowing or not the move of the GLIDE towards becoming also a disaster database that could make the GLIDE database more useful for policy and DRR analysis.
    - **Indicators:** independent of the decision made about the previous point, the SC should also recommend or not the expansion of the current set of indicators of loss and damage to also match better the Sendai Framework Targets A-D indicators. A recommendation should also be issued in regards to possible disaggregation such as gender or age. Indicators such as mortality, injured, housing and infrastructure damage and economic losses for advanced analysis, and to help countries to obtain the indicators needed to report to Sendai Framework and SDG’s monitoring systems.

ADRC, the SC, and stakeholders are encouraged to present the initiative in DRR/DRM forums, especially when those initiatives are contributing and/or interlinked with the GLIDE.