



Sixth SRA World Congress on Risk

Requests for Proposals

January 2021

Purpose: This document includes guidelines for interested parties to submit applications for the 6th World Congress on Risk. Completed applications will be reviewed by the SRA Council as well as the SRA Council Congress Committee. One submission will be selected.

About SRA World Congress: SRA has now hosted six World Congresses. The World Congress was originally conceived of as a series intended to advance scientific partnerships among government and professional organizations interested in risk.

SRA has hosted meetings in Brussels, Belgium (2003), Guadalajara, Mexico (2008), Sydney, Australia (2012), Singapore (2015), and Cape Town, South Africa (2019). In general, ~300-400 attend the World Congress, which were envisioned to occur every 3-5 years.

Mission: What seems constant throughout the World Congresses is an effort to (1) stimulate dialogue and learning on risk issues of worldwide interest, (2) share insights about analytic methods and decision processes used in different regions of the world, (3) demonstrate and disseminate advances in risk assessment and management, (4) improve regulatory practices and risk governance based on interdisciplinary risk research and evaluation of practical experiences, and (5) build bridges between professional organizations and individuals worldwide to facilitate education and to transfer science-based risk management practices across key user networks.

World Congress (WC) Organization: The organization of the selected World Congress shall include: Two Overall Chairs, a Local Organizing Committee and Chair, a Program Committee and Chair, and a Finance Committee and Chair. Proposals must only include the names of two individuals, including the person who shall perform the functions of a Local Organizing Chair (additional supporting staff may be recruited after the selection process is concluded). It is the responsibility of one or both Overall Chairs to regularly convene with SRA's Council Congress Committee, provide and archive critical documents, ensure planning and financial targets are met, and communicate any challenges or problems in a timely manner. Descriptions of the other Committees are noted in the attached document.

Instructions for Submitters: Parties interested in operating the 6th World Congress (tentatively Summer 2023) should complete an application and submit by 3 May, 2021. A decision regarding the selection of the winning application shall be determined by 30 June, 2021. For any questions, please contact the SRA Congress Committee Chair (Ben Trump, benjamin.d.trump@usace.army.mil).

Information regarding the preparation of the submission packet is described below.

Theme:

The recommended theme for the next World Congress is Risk, Governance, Institutions, and Justice. However, SRA Council encourages proposed themes specific to unique opportunities in host countries.



Submissions should reflect how this theme, or your proposed theme, will be integrated into their proposed program, selection of plenary speakers, special events and workshops, etc.

Evaluation: The evaluation of World Congress proposals will be conducted against three core criteria: financial preparedness, a compelling program, and a location that provides strategic and scholarly benefits to both SRA and the host country and region.

Formatting: Proposals should be concise (no more than five pages single-space), Type 12, Times New Roman. The following sections should be completed for SRA Council review. A google submission form is available here: <https://forms.gle/U8CEabS9WmFpdCt9A>

Section	Description
Abstract	300-word description (maximum) detailing core details of the proposed World Congress (i.e., organizing committee, location, and ability to promote cost-savings, cost-sharing, or amplified attendance at the specific meeting site).
Location and Institution	A description of the proposed siting of the future World Congress. Details regarding possible institutional or organizational partnerships will be carefully evaluated. Specific considerations shall include: (a) strategic and scholarly benefit; and (b) concerns related to safety and practicality for travelers attending the conference.
Organizing Committee	Names, affiliations, and 150-word description (maximum) of each member of the organizing committee (including an individual able to perform the functions of a Local Organizing Committee Chair – see below for details).
Local Organizing Committee	A brief discussion regarding the meeting site, making appropriate accommodations for the event as well as recommended hotels for participants, and making connections with local governments and organizations to facilitate increased world Congress attendance and possible cost-sharing opportunities. A Local Organizing Committee Chair (but not full Committee) is REQUIRED upon application submission. NOTE: While it is expected the Local Organizing Committee Chair will develop plans for hosting and lodging, all contracts must be approved by the Secretariat.



<p>Program Description</p>	<p>A brief discussion on fielding and organizing abstracts into coherent and high-quality sessions consistent with the overall World Congress theme. This includes organizational considerations (e.g., the type of oral/poster presentations to be included, criteria for the selection of plenary speakers, etc). Connection to the proposed theme should be included in this section.</p>
<p>Committed and Likely Sponsors</p>	<p>A brief discussion on the financial plan and potential cost-savings/cost-sharing to be had for the given World Congress proposal. An essential component of successful proposals will include a clear description of how the proposed team can leverage relations and opportunities with local hosts (e.g., local universities or scientific organizations) to limit the cost-burden of the meeting while increasing its likely attendance pool. This should include information regarding (a) grants to be pursued in conventional routes (e.g., the US National Science Foundation), (b) an estimate of costs required for the local host institution, including hotels, meeting sites, etc., and, (c) planning and capacity to provide financial support to cover travel from individuals of lower income countries, students, and others at the committee’s discretion.</p>
<p>CVs</p>	<p>2-Page CVs of the two individuals submitting the proposal. Particular emphasis should highlight the individual’s prior experience with conference or workshop organization (does not count to page limits).</p>

Anticipated or Mandatory Duties of World Congress Organizers:

- The World Congress organizers shall meet with the SRA Council Congress Committee, at minimum, on a quarterly basis. More frequent meetings may be called by either party. The SRA Council World Congress Committee shall be consulted on all major planning decisions.
- The World Congress organizers shall retain all written records and meeting notes.
- The World Congress organizers shall provide timely updates of developments in the World Congress, including proposed contracts, budgetary changes or expenditures, and other major developments.



- The World Congress organizers shall actively seek potential partnerships and engagement with local host institutions. The World Congress organizers retain the responsibility to seek cost-sharing opportunities and improve World Congress attendance.
- The World Congress organizers shall abide by SRA's expectations for ethics and conduct in all in-person and virtual meetings and communication.
- The World Congress organizers shall identify interested SRA members to assist with World Congress development and execution.
- The World Congress organizers shall identify mechanisms to incentivize participation by students, young professionals, and participants from developing countries.

Limitations of World Congress Organizers:

- The World Congress organizers shall not assign or seal contracts that commit SRA to any financial obligation. Though it is expected that the World Congress organizers shall identify vendors and develop the meeting's overall structure and vision, the SRA Secretariat must review and sign all contracts. The World Congress organizers must present the SRA Secretariat with such contracts in a timely manner.

Information about Recent World Congresses:

Cape Town, South Africa (2019) – 294 Attendees

Co-Chairs: James Lambert, Mary Gulumian

Program Chair: Igor Linkov

Local Organizing Chair: Aleksandar Jovanovic

Finance Chair: Shital Thekdi

Singapore (2015) – 233 Attendees

Co-Chairs: Ortwin Renn, Jukka Takala

Program Chair: Igor Linkov

Local Organizing Chair: Michael Riediker

Finance Chair: Robin Cantor

Sydney, Australia (2012) - 350 Attendees

Co-Chairs: Alison Cullen, Daniela Leonte, Jonathan Wiener