





General Comments for 6th Kovacs Colloquium

**Institute of Industrial Science
University of Tokyo**

<http://hydro.iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp>

RIHN

Taikan Oki



H2020
Hydrology
IAHS Working Group



General Comments for 6th Kovacs Colloquium

**Research Institute for
Humanity and Nature**

<http://www.chikyu.ac.jp>

IIS, U of Tokyo

Taikan Oki



Impressions of the 6th Kovacs

✓ Learned:

- how many meetings were held under IHP-V.

✓ Listened:

- many ideas/messages with very few achievements/results through IHP-V.

✓ Curious:

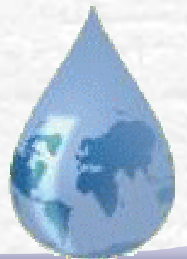
- **What is the striking new achievement(s) & result(s) that was not expected when IHP-V was planned?**

1st Question

31st session of the IHP Bureau

• "Full external evaluation of IHP-V" was proposed for 6th Kovacs Colloquium. (⇔ "Misconceptions in hydrology")
"...This evaluation would cover the different aspects of the programme:"

- administrative
- governance
- fulfillment of goals set
- impact on stakeholders
- "full scientific evaluation of IHP-V"



Terms of Reference (1)

- review of the implementation of the IHP-V Plan;
- impacts on hydrological science, including dissemination of knowledge;
- impact on water resources management practices at various scales;
- effectiveness of the governing mechanism, including the IHP Bureau, the Council and National IHP Committees;
- contributions to human and institutional capacity building;



Terms of Reference (2)

- ✦ impacts in the developing countries;
- ✦ dissemination by various means including publications, meetings, training material and sessions and the web;
- ✦ role of field offices;
- ✦ evaluation of partnerships including NGOs, IGOs, civil societies and other partners.

...however, 6th Kovacs Colloquium should have been even more boring if all these TOR were plainly checked one by one.



Lessons #1

from H2020 2nd meeting in Paris:

- We have to review at the beginning of a meeting what we discussed before.

from 6th Kovacs Colloquium:

- Even leaders of IHP-V do not look back and read previous publications for review.
- Who else would read IHP Publications?
- Review should not be just a summary of *what was done* but should examine the achievements against the *initial objective*.

What was the objective of IHP-V?

- In general, IHP-V is set out to stimulate a stronger interrelation between scientific research, application and education.
(Detailed Plan of the fifth phase of the IHP)

...←**GAP in between**→...

- Principal areas of concern:
 - the role of scales in hydrological processes;
 - vulnerability of the environment;
 - integrated water resources management;
 - education, training, and transfer of technology

Themes

- **Resource process and management studies**
 - Global hydrological and biogeochemical processes
 - Ecohydrological processes in the surficial zone
 - Groundwater resources at risk
 - Strategies for water resources management in emergency and conflicting situations
- **Regional Studies**
 - Integrated water resources management in arid and semi-arid zones
 - Humid tropics hydrology and water management
 - Integrated urban water management
- **Transfer of knowledge, information and technology**



Lessons #2

- ✓ Excellent scientific questions should be the keys for successful projects.
- ✓ Implementation should be straightforward to the objectives.
- ✓ The ultimate goal of the programme should be well defined when it starts.
- ✓ ...and the implementation of IHP-VI is still open!



Proposal for IHP

- Setting the “*target value*” quantitatively: *e.g.*
 - resume the in-situ observational network at the level of **1980**.
 - keep/reduce the number of people without safe drinking water less than **1 billion** all over the world.
 - raise research fund for water related issues **200K Euro (or annual salary of two full-professors) per young hydrologist** in each country.
 - stop the research imperialism, encourage the research projects in developing countries by themselves, and increase the number of presentations from these countries more than **40%** in the review conference of IHP-VI.



Proposal for Kovacs Colloquium

- ☞ ...in the field of science,
 - One should not quote other person's idea as if that is invented by oneself, and
 - one is not respected if always saying common sense except for in a class room.
- ☞ How about proposing a new idea for water issues avoid using these words: *resilience, sustainability, integration, coordination, cooperation, vulnerability, capacity building, overarching discussions, stakeholder participation, policy makers, IWRM, ...*



Proposal for Hydrology

- Scientific marketing may be needed:
 - Search what society demands scientists to do and make that as for the objective of the study. ← Current trend?
 - Let society want to know what scientists want to do.
 - High Reputation of hydrology among geo-sciences should be also important.
 - We have to attract young smart students into hydrological sciences for its *sustainability*.



Imagine...

2nd Question

- ☞ If there was no UNESCO-IHP V....
 - What was the achievement which could not be realized without the umbrella of IHP-V?
- ☞ If there were no comprehensive report on the IHP V...
 - ...actually there are not?
- ☞ If there was no UNESCO nor IAHS...
 - There was no hydrological sciences?
- ☞ If UNESCO or IAHS will have an ambition to be the **Integrator** of all the water-related research activities in the world...

...Let UNESCO-IHP be the everyone's business who concerns about water issues on this planet.

- **more circulation and sharing of announcement, implementation, data, achievements, and funds.**
- **Inter-programme collaboration**



Imagine...

☞ If there were no H2020 members in this 6th Kovacs colloquium...

- ...you missed 10 people in this room, and
- ...we had no chance to think about IHP.

**Thank you very much
for your invitation!**





Questions for Discussions

- What are the achievements which could not be realized without the umbrella of IHP-V?
- What are the key scientific question(s) and ultimate goal of IHP-VI?
- How can we let UNESCO-IHP be the *everyone's business* who concerns about water issues on this planet?

