

REsilience and PReparedness to tropical cyclones across Southern Africa (REPRESA)

Advisory Committee

Terms of Reference (ToR)

Project lead institutions: Global Change Institute, University of the Witwatersrand; University of Bristol; Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM)
Countries of focus: Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique
PI's: Prof. Francois Engelbrecht, Wits Global Change Institute (GCI), South Africa; Dr. Luis Artur, Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM), Mozambique; Prof. Elizabeth Kendon, University of Bristol, UK.
Affiliation: University of Bristol, WITS
Funder: FCDO-IDRC
Start date: 01/06/2023
End date: 30/11/2026

Introduction

REPRESA aims to build resilience to Tropical Cyclones impacts in Southern Africa and Madagascar (SA&M) most vulnerable communities, through improved EWS and longer term adaptation and resilience building. The cross-disciplinary team intend to investigate and understand anticipation, early warning and adaptation as components of complex adaptive systems across SA&M.

The project shall facilitate the creation of a multi-disciplinary Advisory Committee that shall be comprised of persons nominated by **REPRESA leadership team**.

This Advisory Committee's mandate will be to support, advise, question and challenge the project's work in relation to the project objectives, periodically, over the course of the Project. REPRESA shall in turn seek to address the questions, concerns and recommendations of said Advisory Committee in meeting the project objectives.

This document details the terms of reference for the organisation and delivery of the REPRESA Advisory Committee.

Committee Aim

The purpose of the REPRESA Advisory Committee is to provide some external academic advisory guidance to the project. It is anticipated that the advisory committee can be established from senior figures within the research community who can provide an external perspective on the project's strategic goals and activities. The advisory group members are expected to support the project's aims and strategy.

Committee Name

"REPRESA **Advisory Committee**"

Any change to this name and format must be agreed by the consortium in advance of launching the group.

Structure and Themes

The Advisory Committee will convene **once per year** and with the expected output of summarising confidential minutes of discussion around points set and agreed by **REPRESA leadership team** along with a set of recommendations for future work. The meetings will also be an opportunity for the collaborators to share vital information with the advisory panel.

Members of the committee will be considered and selected by **REPRESA leadership team** from the lead institutions who retain overall oversight of board membership. There is no specific limit on the term for advisory committee members but their membership will be reviewed on an annual basis by considering the project's needs, balance of advisory group membership (i.e EDI and skills), and engagement of the members with the project.

The membership is recommended (but not required) to be in the region of 3-5 members. This is to ensure productive round table discussion.

The role of the committee

The Advisory Committee will provide critical, but friendly, oversight and advice to the researchers across the span of the project. It has been established by REPRESA to:

- a. Offer comment and advice on the overall conduct and progress of the research.
- b. Offer comment and advice on the research questions, methods, findings and outputs.
- c. Exchanging ideas and information while ensuring the confidentiality of the research and any other information shared within the meetings.
- d. The chairperson of the committee will report back to the 3 principal investigators.

Membership

Membership will include:

- a. Members of HEI or organisations with an interest in climate change, early warning systems, humanitarian aid, community-based, civil society and disaster risk reduction.
- b. Academics with research and educational interests in the topics being investigated for the project.
- c. It is anticipated that membership of the Advisory Committee will last for the duration of the research project.

Meetings

- a. The committee will meet three times over the course of the project for 2 hours per meeting.
- b. Meetings will be held online.
- c. Papers will be circulated 1 week prior to the agreed meeting date.