



International Sustainable Development Research Society

By-Charter

I. Name and Location

The International Sustainable Development Research Society (ISDRS) is registered as a non-profit organization in Norway at the Brønnøysundregistere under number 912294218 on 11-09-2013. This By-Charter was formally approved by the membership SS/MM/2020.

II. Membership, Followers and Annual Fees

ISDRS membership is open to both individuals and institutions who have paid a fee for a current year. Discounted fees are offered for individuals and institutions from non-high income counties (according to World Bank definitions) and to students. In addition, honorary members and followers enjoy some of the benefits of membership.

a. Individual Members

Individuals members: enjoy the privileges of membership for 12 months from the receipt of their annual dues. Members are eligible to participate in voting as soon as their fee is processed. However, a prerequisite for board membership is to be in at least the second consecutive year of paid individual membership. The fees for members are set by the ISDRS Board and published on the website. The payment of multiple annual fees at once can be offered with



reductions. The number of years payable at once and the level of discount are also determined by the Board.

Fees may be paid directly through the ISDRS website, or as part of the annual conference fee.

b. Institutional Members

Institutional membership is open to all types of organizations. The fee structure is determined by the Board and published thereafter on the ISDRS-website. The institution nominates individuals (up to a number dependent on the fee level selected) who register directly with ISDRS through the website. These persons then enjoy the same rights of individual members (i.e., access to members only area of the website; immediate voting rights; eligibility to stand for election to the board from the second year of membership). Institutions nominate a representative to oversee the renewal of the institutional membership and to identify to ISDRS the other individuals who will benefit from the membership.

c. Followers

“Followers” are individuals who are associated with the ISDRS community, but who do not pay membership fees. Therefore, whilst they can participate in the social media networking activities of ISDRS, including receiving the newsletter, they can neither vote nor stand for election to the Board. Followers can become members at any time by paying the appropriate fee.



III Board and Topic Group Leaders

In addition to preparing calls for papers for conferences, and chairing sessions at conferences, topic group leaders are required to contribute regular reviews of their area to the society communications (like a newsletter). It is recognized that circumstances may not permit Board members to attend every conference, but they should not agree to the role unless it is their intention to attend on a regular basis.

IV Committees

The ISDRS has three statutory committees which are:

- a) Election Committee
- b) Audit Committee
- c) Best Paper Award Committee

Further Committees can be constituted by the Board on an ad-hoc basis.

a) Election Committee

In its annual meetings, the Board constitutes an Election Committee consisting of two or three members of the Board including the Executive Secretary as chair. The Election Committee ensures that eligible members are invited to stand for nomination to the Board, prepares a proposal to the board aiming at a balanced selection of nominees, reflecting the diversity of ambitions under IV-A., considering the required size of the Board and formally required executive functions. At present there is a requirement for the Treasurer to be based in Norway. The Board, after considering the advice of the Election Committee, determines the final slate of nominees eligible for election by the members. The election is held by means of an online balloting process overseen by the Election Committee after the annual conference and in time for the term of office to begin at the start of the



following calendar year. The successful nominees are the two (or more in case of vacancy) individuals receiving the most votes cast. The Board resolves any substantiated irregularities in this process definitively during a (physical or virtual) Board meeting.

b) Audit Committee

The Audit Committee annually reviews the financial report of the ISDRS. The Board Assistant and Treasurer provide access to all information required for the execution of this task. The Audit Committee is formed of two or three Members, who are not Board members. The Board invites members to nominate themselves for two to three years for this. If there are more nominees than available places, Members can elect the Audit Committee members by online balloting.

c) Best Paper Award Committee

The committee comprises a combination of both Board members and Members. Under the direction of a Chair appointed by the Board (who does not have to be a Board member), the committee play a role in the generation of nominations and selection of shortlisted papers for the annual best paper award. The awards process is drafted by the chair and subject to approval by the Board. This does not necessarily involve a vote.

V. Assistant to the Board

Subject to the approval of the Board, the President and Vice President can jointly appoint someone to provide support to the Board, primarily to support the Executive and Committee functions. This is primarily a technical position (e.g., related to maintaining the ISDRS website and serving as network administrator); additional responsibilities may be included as considered suitable by the board.

VI. Amendments to the By-Charter



The rules for the amendment of the By-Charter are provided in the Charter.