



44 boulevard de Dunkerque - CS 90009
13572 Marseille cedex 02 - FRANCE
+33 (0) 4 91 99 95 51
Fax +33 (0) 4 91 99 92 19
president-directeurgeneral@ird.fr

Marseille, October 15th, 2018

European Centre for Medium-Range
Weather Forecasts
Shinfield Park
Reading RG2 9AX
United Kingdom
Attn : Dr Peter Bauer,
ExtremeEarth CSA proposal
coordinator

Endorsement letter to the Flagship candidate project ExtremeEarth
(coordinated support action proposal)

Our Ref. : PDG-DISCO-2018-447

On behalf of IRD, I am very pleased to provide my endorsement to the ExtremeEarth FET Flagship Project.

ExtremeEarth addresses the specific need for new technologies and approaches for high-resolution modelling and simulation, including the necessary data integration, that enable an in-depth understanding of the earth, natural hazards and climate change. It aims at the integration of High-Performance Computing as well as the real-time analysis of pervasive environmental data. The project is a most timely initiative that will contribute amongst others to improving extreme events preparedness, mitigation and response.

The IRD (French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development), an internationally recognized multidisciplinary organization working primarily in partnership with Mediterranean and inter-tropical countries, is deeply involved in the international agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals and aims at providing scientific progress on the impact of global changes in the intertropical and the Mediterranean regions.

For this reason, IRD supports, together with French and regional institutions, several major environmental observatories which provide a unique dataset on the evolution of physical, biological and even social parameters in the intertropical and Mediterranean areas. These data will provide important constraints for modelling and mitigating extreme events.

IRD is also deeply involved in the study of increasing extreme natural phenomena related to climate change such as floods, droughts, wind storms, glacier melting, sea-level rise and the modelling of the increasing impact of extreme events including earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis on growing megacities and vulnerable population and countries.

The ExtremeEarth project will offer a great opportunity to enhance our research capabilities and will favour project partnerships between European countries and Mediterranean and inter-tropical countries. As Chairman and Executive Director, I will facilitate the involvement of our scientists in this initiative.

The IRD endorsement of the ExtremeEarth Flagship candidate project implies that IRD supports the scientific, technological and programmatic objectives of ExtremeEarth. This endorsement does not at this point include any legal or financial commitments toward the ExtremeEarth project, beyond its contribution to the CSA proposal.



Jean-Paul MOATTI
Chairman and Executive Director