IREB Communities – Vision and Regulations

1. Preface

IREB supports the creation of IREB communities worldwide. This document governs vision, organization, activities and governance rules related to the creation and operation of local or thematic IREB Communities.

2. Vision of IREB Communities

IREB may grant organizations active in the field of Requirements Engineering the status of an IREB Community. The goal is to strengthen ties between IREB and local or theme-focused organizations that share the vision of IREB:

• Promote Requirements Engineering awareness and practices in industry,
• Create, maintain and disseminate an internationally accepted, high-quality certification scheme for Requirements Engineering professionals.

IREB Communities may have their own vision and goals, provided that these do not collide with the vision and goals of IREB.

3. Organization of IREB Communities

IREB Communities are legally independent of IREB.

An organization can be granted the status of an IREB Community only if the organization

• Has a purpose clearly related to Requirements Engineering,
• Shares the vision of IREB (see the preamble of the IREB Articles of Association),
• Has a good reputation,
• Is neither affiliated to nor collaborates with an organization which IREB considers to be a competitor,
• Is a non-profit organization,
• Fully complies with the laws and regulations of the country where it is registered and/or has its basis of operations.

An organization holding the status of an IREB community is entitled to add the phrase “An IREB Community” as a suffix or subtitle to its name. It also has permission to use the IREB Community logo under the following conditions:

• The logo must be used as provided by IREB; it must not be modified or made a part of another logo,
• When the logo is used in electronic form, it must be linked to the IREB communities page of the IREB website www.ireb.org.
4. Concrete Activities

Concrete activities of IREB Communities may, for example, include

- Organizing Requirements Engineering conferences, forums, summits and workshops in their region or topic, respectively;
- Providing thought leadership in the area of Requirements Engineering in their region or topic, respectively;
- Supporting local IREB certified training providers and IREB certified examination bodies.

5. Funding

5.1 Funding Sources

- IREB Communities must be self-financed. Sources of funding may be, for example, support by
  - Local training providers,
  - Local Examination providers,
  - Local Enterprises.
- A newly established IREB Community may apply for seed funding from IREB to cover its initial operating costs.

5.2 Funding of Marketing Activities

An IREB Community may at any time apply to IREB GmbH for funding of marketing activities that promote IREB and/or the IREB CPRE®.

6. Governance

6.1 Duration, Exclusivity and Renewal

The status of an IREB Community is granted for a period of three years. Upon request, IREB may grant an organization exclusivity as an IREB Community in a geographic region or topic.

The status of an IREB Community can be renewed upon request. To secure uninterrupted status, renewal requests must be received by IREB at least three months before the status expires.
6.2 Approval

The setup of a new IREB Community shall be approved by both the IREB Executive Committee and IREB Council.

The prospective IREB Community needs to provide the following documents:

- Profile of the applying organization (legal status, vision and goals, officers, financial situation, membership, etc.), including proof of non-profit status,
- Vision of the organization as an IREB Community,
- Roadmap of establishment and development of the IREB Community,
- Bylaws of the applying organization,
- Self-declaration about sharing the IREB vision, reputation of the applying organization, non-collaboration with IREB competitors, and adherence to IREB quality standards and Code of Ethics,
- If seed funding is requested: amount and duration of seed funding and a budget for how to spend the funding.

6.3 Reporting and Auditing

Every IREB Community has to provide an annual report to IREB.

If an IREB Community has received seed funding from IREB, it also has to provide a financial report which documents the spending of seed funding.

IREB has the right to audit an IREB Community with respect to the accuracy and correctness of its annual and financial report.

If such an audit uncovers misuse of IREB funding, the IREB community is obliged to pay the misused funds back to IREB.

6.4 Disqualification

When an IREB Community

- Works in a way which violates the IREB quality standards or Code of Ethics, or
- Promotes organizations which IREB considers to be competitors, or
- Receives unfavorable auditing results, indicating, for example, misuse of funding or violation of internationally accepted accounting practices,

IREB has the right to withdraw the status of IREB Community. Depending on the severity of the case, IREB will first issue a warning and hear the violating community or withdraw the status with immediate effect.
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