

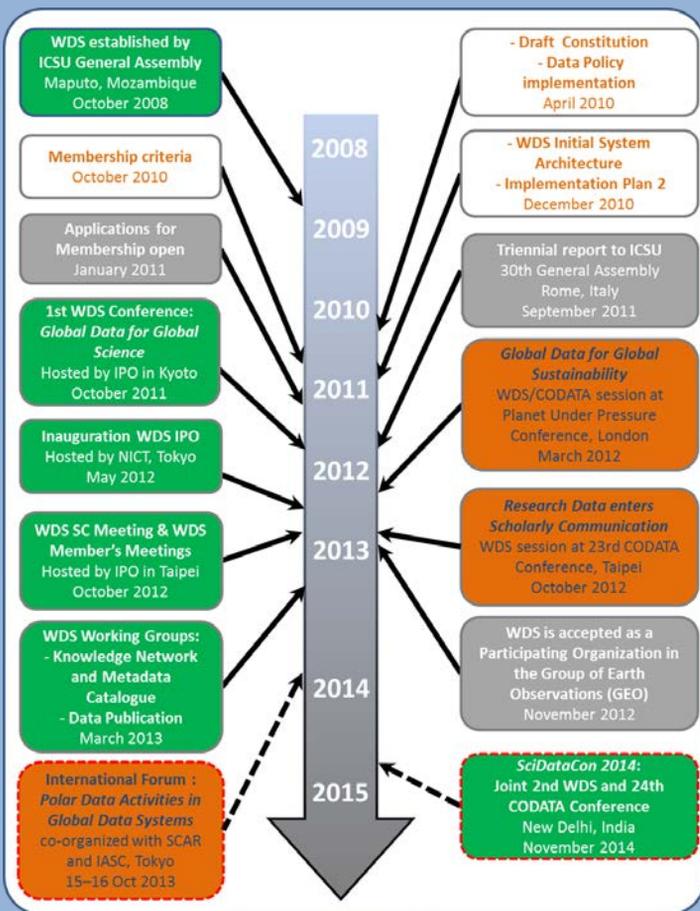
'WDS supports ICSU's mission and objectives, ensuring the long-term stewardship and provision of quality-assessed data and data services to the international science community and other stakeholders.'

SCID Report 2008



The World Data System (WDS) was created by the 29th General Assembly of the International Council for Science (ICSU) and builds on the 50-year legacy of the former ICSU World Data Centres (WDCs) and Federation of Astronomical and Geophysical data-analysis Services (FAGS).

It aims to transition from existing stand-alone services to a common globally interoperable distributed data system that incorporates emerging technologies and new scientific data activities.



ICSU-WDS is endeavouring to become a worldwide 'community of excellence' for scientific data

WDS strives to attain broad disciplinary and geographic bases and encourages the establishment of nodes in emerging countries.

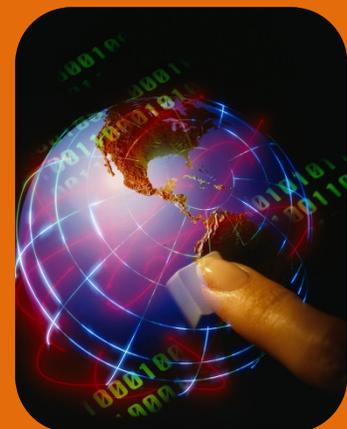
WDS Goals

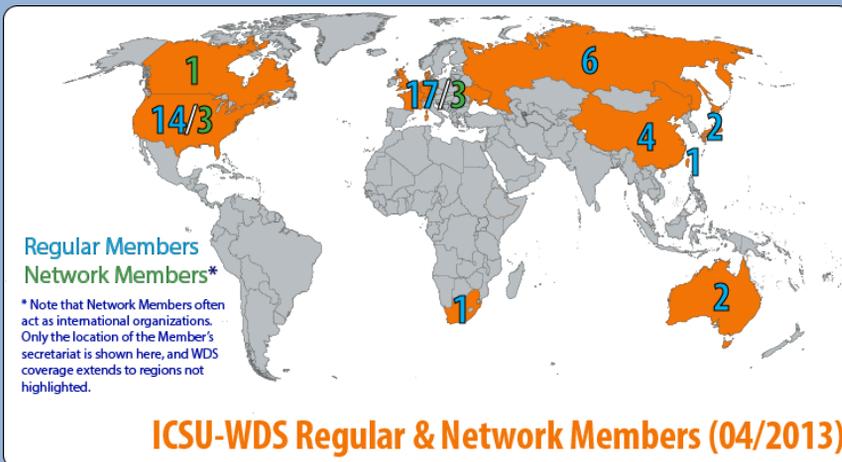
- Enable universal and equitable access to quality-assured scientific data, services, products and information
- Ensure long-term data stewardship
- Foster compliance to agreed-upon data standards and conventions
- Provide mechanisms to facilitate and improve access to data and products

WDS Scientific Committee

The WDS Scientific Committee (SC) is the governing body of ICSU-WDS. It is made up of leading scientists that cover a broad range of disciplines and geographical areas. They are actively involved with data/computer sciences and deal with large dataset issues.

WDS-SC 2012-2015: Jean-Bernard Minster (Chair), Michael Diepenbroek (Vice-chair) Francoise Genova (Vice-chair), Claudia Emerson, Kim Finney, Wim Hugo, Jane Hunter Vasily Kopylov, Guoqing Li, Ruth Neilan, Lesley Rickards, Ryosuke Shibasaki, Ariel Troisi Ex officio: Howard Moore (ICSU), Yasuhiro Murayama (NICT)





WDS Membership

Many WDCs, FAGS, and new organizations have been certified as WDS Members. Candidates are evaluated by the WDS Scientific Committee on criteria such as access to high-quality data, data stewardship, and participation in broad harmonization and interoperability efforts.

As of 25 April 2013, WDS had **68 Members** in four different categories*:

47 Regular Members—organizations dealing directly with data curation and data analysis services.

7 Network Members—umbrella organizations representing groups of data centres and/or data services.

2 Partner Members—organizations that do not deal directly with data, but contribute funding or other support to WDS.

12 Associate Members—organizations interested in the WDS endeavour, but that do not contribute direct funding or other material support.

* Regular and Network Members must go through a certification process to join WDS, whereas Partner and Associate Members are co-opted. All WDS Members are required to sign a Letter of Agreement (or a similar document) with ICSU.

Why join ICSU WDS?

- To improve your facility's local and international recognition
- To abide by and promote open data sharing principles that benefit all
- To display your commitment to data and service quality and long-term data curation
- To improve your products and performance, as well as global data management and data exchange
- To facilitate citation of your data
- To increase your disciplinary and interdisciplinary user base

International Programme Office

The WDS International Programme Office (IPO) was inaugurated in Tokyo on 9 May 2012. It is hosted by the Japanese National Institute of Information and Communications Technology. The IPO coordinates WDS operations and is responsible for implementing the decisions of the Scientific Committee, organizing the biennial WDS conference, as well as outreach and promotional activities.



Mustapha Mokrane (Executive Director), Takashi Watanabe (Senior Advisor)
Rorie Edmunds (Programme Officer), Yuko Nikaido (Administrative Officer)

For more information, please contact IPO@icsu-wds.org



ICSU

International Council for Science