World Data System Scientific Committee (WDS-SC)  
Teleconference #23

Teleconference #23 was held on Thursday, 16 April 2015 at 13:00 UTC

Summary:
Action Items from 12th WDS-SC Meeting
- SC members were asked to look at the list of Action Items from WDS-SC#12—especially those Items for which they are the lead—and to send any comments or changes to the WDS International Programme Office (WDS-IPO).
- A reorganized and condensed version of the Action Items will be distributed to the SC as a working document.

WDS Data Sharing Principles
- All comments and suggestions that came up during the 12th WDS-SC Meeting have been consolidated and placed into a table to highlight the key points and revisions. The comments and suggestions—as well as some initial proposals for definitions and explanations—are yet to be incorporated into the document, but a more comprehensive iteration will be circulated to the SC in the coming weeks. The final version of the Principles—including a review by external stakeholders—will be completed before the term of the current SC ends.

Membership Applications Update
- An Expression of Interest was approved from Data Archiving and Networked Services for WDS Regular membership.
- Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center and UNAVCO, Inc. were accredited as WDS Regular Members.
- The SC agreed on Reviewers to assess the WDS Regular Member application of Land Processes Distributed Active Archive Center.

WDS Working Groups
a. WDS at the Research Data Alliance (RDA) Fifth Plenary
- WDS hosted a number of Breakout Sessions for the RDA–WDS Publishing Data Interest and Working Groups (IGs and WGs). All of these Groups are progressing well with their work and are planning to have their deliverables ready for the Sixth RDA Plenary (23-25 September 2015; Paris). The Data Seal of Approval (DSA)–WDS Certification WG also had a Breakout Session and was involved in that of the Certification IG, and both of these were well attended. The Certification WG is planning to have its deliverables by the Sixth Plenary too.

b. Certification
- The WG had a teleconference immediately prior to Telecon#23 in order to follow up on the RDA Plenary. The Breakout Session was considered successful, and the WG is making progress on its deliverables, but there is still more to do.
- An issue yet to be addressed is how to blur the distinction between repositories and services for DSA, and WDS needs to work on that.

c. Knowledge Network (KN) and Metadata Catalogue (MC)
- A meeting took place during the RDA Plenary with the Japanese researchers who are assisting with realizing the operational KN. Next steps for the WG are to: (1) meet with Online Computer Library Center, Inc. to obtain more details on their physical knowledge network implementation, and (2) refine the specification for the work that the Japanese researchers will undertake.
- The MC has been put on hold for now since time cannot be dedicated to it. Progress will hopefully continue before the end of May.

d. Interaction with DataCite
- WDS will be represented at the DataCite General Assembly (23–24 April; London) to try and take forward a number of points it wishes to discuss. There probably will not be time in the formal agenda for the required discussion, but the important people will be at the meeting and have been contacted about having one or more side discussions to see if progress can be made.
SciDataCon 2016

• A concept note has been drafted by WDS, the Committee on Data for Science and Technology, and RDA for the ‘International Data Week’ (IDW)—a large-scale event that places SciDataCon 2016 back-to-back with the Eighth RDA Plenary. It will most likely be held in North America, and the organizations are now exploring possibilities for a location. The SC was invited to provide feedback on the concept note and to (self-) nominate candidates for the Conference Programme Committee.

• The provisional agenda for IDW contains two days for SciDataCon 2016, a joint Conference Day, and then two days for the Eighth RDA Plenary. The model for the joint Conference Day is still being discussed, but it will attempt to engage with stakeholders and showcase what the organizations working together can offer them.

IRDR DATA Project Reports

• The Data Committee of the Integrated Research on Disaster Risk programme has asked for feedback from the SC and WDS Members on two project reports harmonizing disaster risk data: there are currently disagreements between the different classifications, and a standard does not exist for information exchange between institutions.

SCOSTEP–WDS VarSITI Workshop + Polar Data Forum 2

• Detailed information about the SCOSTEP–WDS VarSITI Workshop—including about accommodation, abstract submission, and registration—has been posted on the Workshop website. The next step is to select invited speakers and decide on whose travel costs will be supported by the limited available funding.

• The SC was requested to comment on the (draft) First Circular of the Second Polar Data Forum, which will be hosted in Canada and is being led by the Polar Data Catalogue. WDS is recognised as one of the main hosts of the Forum, and a number of WDS Members are also involved in its organization. Everything is going smoothly thus far, the Organizing Committee is working well, and several funding proposals are being finalized for travel support.

Any Other Business

• UNAVCO, Inc. will host a three-day geodetic metadata planning workshop in the week of 7 August. Support is sought from the SC and IPO to make sure that the geodetic community understands the importance of metadata and implements them in its various data centres. The SC will be kept apprised on the workshop, which is at the point of putting together the agenda and trying to get the appropriate people to participate.