



The World Data System – Your partner in data collaboration

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The World Data System (ICSU-WDS) is an interdisciplinary body of the International Council of Science (ICSU) with a mission to promote international collaborations for long-term preservation and provision of quality-assessed research data and data services. WDS is a membership organization federating scientific data centers, data services and data networks across all disciplines in the natural and social sciences as well as humanities. The main goals of WDS are to promote documentation and access of data, as well as to strengthen data dissemination and its proper citation. Through its certification scheme, WDS promotes the development of trusted data repositories and the continual improvement of such facilities through maturity self-assessment and information exchange. Thus, WDS is responsible for creating a globally interoperable distributed data system that incorporates emerging technologies and multidisciplinary scientific data activities.

Today, WDS has 76 Regular and Network Members and 24 Partners and Associate Members as of October 2016. The community is actively involved by a number of activities, such as working groups, webinars and the bi-annual Members Forum. Current effort is to promote activities in the African and Asia-Oceanian region in order to expand the WDS community by recruiting new members in these regions. In order to introduce the role of WDS, we will present the WDS certification scheme, introducing some selected partner services and detail their collaboration with WDS, including commitments, advantages and challenges. If YOU want to know more about or want to join WDS, have a look at www.icsu-wds.org!