



International Seismological Centre (ISC): Mission and Status

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The International Seismological Centre (ISC) is a non-governmental, non-profit making organization supported by 55 research and operational institutions around the world and charged with production of the ISC Bulletin – the definitive summary of world seismicity based on seismic reports from over 120 institutions. Jointly with World Data Center for Seismology (Denver), the ISC runs the International Seismic Station Registry (IR). The ISC provides a number of additional services available from its web-site including the depositary of the IASPEI Reference Event list (GT), EHB & ISS data collections.

The ISC has a substantial development programme that ensures that the ISC data remain an important requirement for geophysical research. This programme includes bringing the ISC edited Bulletin schedule to approximately 15-18 months behind real-time as well continuing collection of preliminary reports from networks days and weeks after event occurrence to make the automatic preliminary ISC Bulletin as comprehensive as possible before the final data become available to the ISC. We have improved the way the ISC computes its hypocentres and magnitudes and we also aim to attempt taking some useful measurements from waveforms widely available on-line to improve the accuracy of the ISC Bulletin. We are planning to re-produce the entire ISC Bulletin (1960-2010) by re-computing the ISC hypocenters and magnitudes using ak135 velocity model, identifying and filling the gaps in data, correcting known errors and introducing essential additional bulletin data from research experiments and temporary deployments. The ISC is also taking a leading role in compiling the GEM Instrumental Seismic Catalogue (1900-2009).