

Data Initiatives in Africa—Opportunities and Challenges for Research and Sustainable Development

Venue: Observatoire des Sciences de l'Univers de Grenoble (OSUG), University of Grenoble Alpes, Grenoble, France

Date: 12–13 April 2017

The World Data System (WDS: www.icsu-wds.org) in collaboration with *the Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD: www.ird.fr)*, the *Observatoire des Sciences de l'Univers de Grenoble (OSUG : www.osug.fr)*, and with support from the Group on Earth Observations (GEO: www.earthobservations.org) will be hosting a 2-day exploratory meeting on 12–13 April 2017 hosted at the OSUG in Grenoble.

WDS is an interdisciplinary body of the International Council for Science (ICSU) responsible for creating an international network of trusted data services to support international science.

WDS supports ICSU's vision of scientific excellence by promoting long-term stewardship of, and universal and equitable access to, quality-assured scientific data and data services, products, and information across a range of disciplines in the natural and social sciences, and the humanities. WDS has also the objective to sustain and support existing and new data initiatives, services and repositories and to encourage the development of new ones.

The goals of this meeting are two-fold: firstly, to provide WDS with an opportunity to learn about the many data initiatives in Africa—including those led by IRD—and to understand the associated opportunities and challenges, and secondly to discuss how WDS can support these initiatives for example with the certification of data repositories and data networks.

The proposed meeting structure will allow participants to present the initiatives in which they are involved (oral and poster), and learn about the work of WDS. Most of the time will be spent in open discussion about ways to move forward together.

A draft agenda and a provisional list of participants are available below.

Agenda (final version)

Wednesday 12 April

08.30–09.00	Arrival and registration	
09.00–09.05	Welcome by the Director of OSUG	<i>Michel Dietrich</i>
09.05–09.10	Welcome from Institut de Recherche pour le Développement	<i>Jacqueline Signorini</i>
09.10–09.15	Welcome by GEO	<i>Andiswa Mlisa</i>
09.15–09.20	Trusted Data Services for Global and Sustainable Science	<i>Sandy Harrison</i>
09.20–10.30	ICSU World Data System in context:	
	1. Global and African Data Landscape	<i>Wim Hugo</i>
	2. WDS Membership and functions	<i>Mustapha Mokrane</i>
	3. Core Trustworthy Data Repositories Certification	<i>Ingrid Dillo</i>
10.30–11.00	Coffee break	
11.00–12.30	Presentations of African Data Initiatives I (10 min + 5 min questions each)	
	1. AMMA-CATCH : African Monsoon Multidisciplinary Analysis - Coupling the Tropical Atmosphere and the Hydrological Cycle	<i>Sylvie Galle</i>
	2. WASCAL : West African Science Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use	<i>Belko Diallo</i>
	3. Harnessing the data evolution and the technological breakthroughs in agricultural research in Kenya	<i>Boniface Akuku</i>
	4. African Open Science Platform	<i>Susan Veldsman</i>
	5. Southern Africa Science Service Centre for Climate Change and Adaptive Land-use (SASSCAL)	<i>Joerg Helmschrot (remotely)</i>
12.30–13.30	Lunch break	
13.30–15:00	Presentations of African Data Initiatives II (10 min + 5 min questions each)	
	1. Group on Earth Observations: AfrigeOSS	<i>Andiswa Mlisa</i>
	2. Building a Sustainable Open Metadata Repository in African Universities: UI-NADA –University of Ibadan, Data Archive	<i>Olayide Emmanuel</i>
	3. Presentation of the Tensift Observatory	<i>Jamal Ezzahar</i>
	4. Coastal Waters Programme (MARC): Observation and Measurements for Sustainable Management Tools	<i>Issa Sakho</i>
	5. Institute of Geological and Mining Research	<i>Henriette Massussi</i>
15.00–15:30	Lightning talks (5 min + 2 min questions each)	
	1. NASA / SERVIR - West Africa	<i>Alex de Sherbinin</i>
	2. West Africa Biodiversity and Climate Change Program (WA BiCC)	<i>Kenan Mogultay</i>

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| 3. | Applying generic Cirad research data life cycle to specific domains: Geospatial data and challenges to integrate geospatial with other domain-specific datasets (socio economic). | <i>Pascal Bonnet</i> |
| 4. | West African Observatory on small mammals as indicator of environmental changes (ObsMiCE) | <i>Ambroise Dalecky</i> |
| 5. | An overview of the H3Africa data archive | <i>Ziyaad Parker</i> |
| 15.30–16.00 | Coffee break | |
| 16.00–17.30 | Discussion on practical issues facing data initiatives in Africa | <i>A. Mlisa, I. Dillo, W. Hugo</i> |
| 18.30 | Social Event at the Grenoble Town Hall
(See Practical Arrangements) | |

Thursday 13 April

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| 09.00–10.30 | Breakout Sessions: Participants will be randomly assigned to breakout groups and asked to discuss the Core Trustworthy Data Repositories requirements in more detail and identify solutions to the practical obstacles discussed on Day 1.

Core Trustworthy Data Repositories requirements | |
| 10.30–11.00 | Coffee break | |
| 11.00–13.00 | Plenary discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration and synergies between existing African initiatives • How can WDS support current data initiatives in Africa? | <i>Arona Diedhiou</i>

<i>Sandy Harrison</i> |
| 13.00–14.30 | Lunch break / Poster viewing | |
| 14.30–16.00 | Wrap-up:
Practical and actionable steps for moving forward | <i>Mustapha Mokrane</i> |
| 16.00– | Meeting adjourns | |

Posters

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| 1. | Geospatial Data Initiatives in Ghana | <i>Foster Kwame Mensah</i> |
| 2. | Coastal Waters Programme (MARC): Observation and Measurements for Sustainable Management Tools | <i>Issa Sakho</i> |
| 3. | NASA / SERVIR - West Africa | <i>Emil Cherrington</i> |
| 4. | WASCAL : West African Science Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use | <i>Belko Diallo</i> |
| 5. | H3Africa Data Archive | <i>Ziyaad Parker</i> |

List of Participants (provisional)

Name	Affiliation	Country
Boniface, Akuku	Kenya Agricultural Research	Kenya
Bonnet, Pascal (day 1 only)	CIRAD – Environnements et sociétés	France
Chambodut, Aude	International Service of Geomagnetic Indices [ISGI] and Ecole et Observatoire des Sciences de la Terre, CNRS	France
de Sherbinin, Alexander	CIESIN, Columbia University	USA
Bamba Diagne, Cheikh Ahmadou	The Institute of Economic Affairs	Gambia/Senegal
Brasseur, Pierre	IRD-IGE (Institute of Environmental Geosciences)	France
Dalecky, Ambroise	IRD	France
Diallo, Belko Abdoul Aziz	WASCAL	Burkina Faso
Diedhiou, Arona	IRD-LTHE	France and Côte d'Ivoire
Dietrich, Michel	OSUG	France
Dieye, Amadou Moctar	Centre de Suivi Ecologique	Senegal
Dillo, Ingrid	DANS	Netherlands
Edmunds, Rorie	ICSU World Data System	Japan, United Kingdom
Emmanuel, Olayide Olawale	Centre for Sustainable Development (CESDEV), University of Ibadan	Nigeria
Ezzahar, Jamal	IRD: LMI-TREMA and Université Cadi Ayyad	Morocco
Faustman, Elaine	University of Washington	USA
Galle, Sylvie	IRD-LTHE	France
Gärtner-Roer, Isabelle	World Glacier Monitoring Service, University of Zurich	Switzerland

Harrison, Sandy	Centre for Past Climate Change and School of Archaeology, Geography and Environmental Science (SAGES), University of Reading	United Kingdom
Helmschrot, Joerg (Remotely)	SASSCAL Regional Secretariat	Namibia
Hodson, Simon	ICSU CODATA: Committee on Data for Science and Technology	France
Hugo, Wim	South African Environmental Observatory Network (SAEON)	South Africa
Ingrid, Dillo	Data Archiving and Networked Service (DANS)	The Netherlands
Iyemori, Toshihiko	World Data Centre WDC for Geomagnetism, Kyoto	Japan
Lesemeur, Julien	Université Grenoble Alpes	France
Massussi, Henriette	Centre de Recherches hydrologiques, Institut de Recherches Géologiques et Minières	Cameroun
Mlisa, Andiswa	GEO: Group on Earth Observations	Switzerland
Mogultay, Kenan	West Africa Biodiversity and Climate Change Program (WA BiCC)	Accra, Ghana
Mokrane, Mustapha	ICSU World Data System	Japan, France
Sakho, Issa	Thiès University	Senegal
Selematsela, Daisy	National Research Foundation and World Data Centre for Biodiversity and Human Health	South Africa
Signorini, Jacqueline	Institut de Recherche pour le Développement	France
Smith, Christina	The Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf) and African Open Science Platform	South Africa
Szantoi, Zoltan	Joint Research Centre, European Commission	Italy
Tolmasquim, Alfredo	The Observatory of Tomorrow	Brazil
Veldsman, Susan	The Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf) and African Open Science Platform	South Africa
Watanabe, Takashi	ICSU World Data System	Japan