

# The ICSU World Data System

Françoise Genova

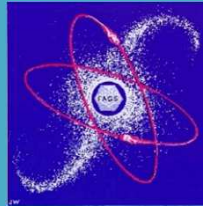
Vice-chair of the WDS Scientific Committee

*Thanks to Mustapha Mokrane (IPO Executive Director) who  
provided WDS viewgraphs*

# ICSU Track Record



PAST



World Data Centers  
Federation of Astronomical and  
Geophysical Services

PRESENT



ICSU International Scientific Unions data bodies  
ICSU National Members data bodies  
ICSU Interdisciplinary Bodies data activities

# Vision



The WDS ensures the **long-term stewardship** and provision of **quality-assessed data** and data services to the international science community and other stakeholders. The WDS incorporates new scientific data activities into a common, **globally interoperable**, distributed data system. The WDS advances interconnections between data management components for **disciplinary and multidisciplinary scientific data applications**. WDS has a broad disciplinary and geographic base and strives to become a **worldwide 'community of excellence'** for scientific data.

# WDS role



- WDS creation confirms that ICSU is willing to continue to assert a **strategic leadership role in relation to data and information**
- WDS is fully interdisciplinary, under ICSU priority of “Universality of Science”, with a starting point mainly in Earth Sciences and Astronomy
- No financial support from or to members

# WDS first steps



1. Created in October 2008 by ICSU General Assembly
2. Established Data Policy
3. Agreed on Certification criteria
4. Definition of membership types
5. Applications for Membership
6. International Programme Office (Tokyo, 2012)
7. ICSU mandate to expand membership in Social and Health Sciences (June 2012)
8. Working Groups (present)

# WDS Pillars



- ✓ Full and open access data policy
- ✓ Broad disciplinary and geographic coverage
- ✓ Trustworthiness
- ✓ Adoption of data standards/conventions

# Membership types



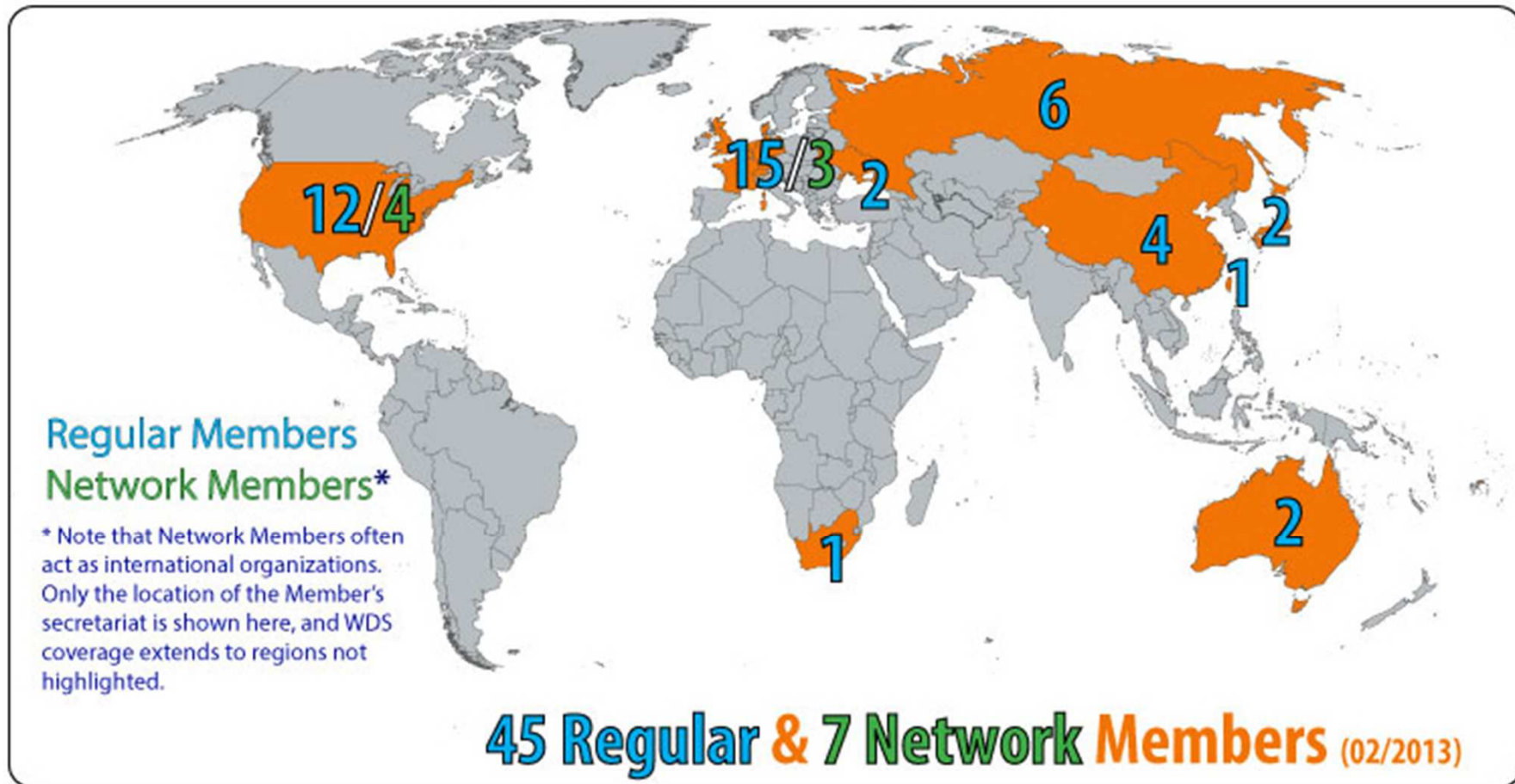
<b>Regular</b>	Data curation and data analysis services
<b>Network</b>	Groups of regular members, umbrella organizations
<b>Partner</b>	Do not deal directly with data collection, curation, and distribution, but contribute support to WDS
<b>Associate</b>	Organizations interested in the WDS endeavor

# WDS Membership



- Evaluation by the WDS Scientific Committee
- Many applications discouraged
- Several applications in progress

# WDS Membership (Feb. 2013)



**+ 2 Partner and 12 Associate Members**

# WDS Working Groups



- **Knowledge Network and Open Metadata Catalogue**

Discovering and accessing WDS members' and networks' data and services (metadata and “enriched” additional information)

- **Data Publication**

Promote and establish data publication concept among data centres, include science publishers and bibliometric service holders, and as part of scholarly publishing. Follow-up of CODATA Data Citation WG and other initiatives.

# WDS and CODATA



- WDS has an operational role : creating and maintaining a community of data practitioners, and give a “quality stamp”
- CODATA has given support to WDS in particular by hosting WDS sessions in the bi-annual CODATA international Conference (Kiyv 2008, Stellenbosch 2010, Taipei 2012)
- **Joint Conference in 2014** : *A Science-Driven Global Framework for Multidisciplinary Data Integration*

# WDS and RDA (1)



- A win-win partnership should be established
- Engagement of data practitioners is one of the keys of RDA success
- WDS membership represents a growing and diversifying community of data practitioners with a wealth of scientific data management experience
- RDA will bring complementary communities such as technologists in the “interoperability game”

# WDS and RDA (2)



## Possible paths for collaboration

- At the institutional level: reciprocal Associate Membership status
- At the practical level: co-sponsorship of some WGs, plus WDS will follow the work of other WGs of interest and encourage participation of its members
- Possible co-sponsored WGs
  - Pub/Data Citation Linking
  - Repository Audit and Certification