



The Case for International Sharing of Scientific Data: A Focus on Developing Countries

An International Symposium

Roberta Balstad

Roberta Balstad is Co-chair of the Board on Research Data and Information of the National Research Council. She is also chair of the US National Committee on Scientific Data and Information (CODATA), a Trustee of the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR), and a member of the Governing Board of the National Center for Earthquake Engineering Simulation. She is Editor-in-Chief of *Weather, Climate, and Society*, a journal of the American Meteorological Society, and a Special Research Scientist at Columbia University's Center for Research on Environmental Decisions. She has also served as Director of CIESIN (Center for International Earth Science Information Network), Columbia University, and as President/CEO of the organization before it moved to Columbia.

Dr. Balstad chaired the international committee that prepared a strategic plan on data and information for the International Council of Science (ICSU) and serves on that organization's Committee on Science and Policy Research (CSPR). Her publications focus on the role of the social sciences in understanding global environmental change, data policy and scientific research, information technology in science, and the social applications of remote sensing data. She was awarded the Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota in 1974. Dr. Balstad was previously the Director of the Division of Social and Economic Sciences at the National Science Foundation and the founding Executive Director of the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA).