



Memorandum of Understanding between ISRIC – World Soil Information and the World Data System (WDS), an International Science Council (ISC) Affiliated body

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to define the conditions under which ISRIC – World Soil Information (WDC – Soils) (hereinafter ISRIC) will join the World Data System (hereinafter WDS) as a Regular Member.

This document is not legally binding. This MOU is not a commitment of funding from ISRIC or the World Data System.

ARTICLES:

1. ISRIC – World Soil Information, founded in 1966, has been a World Data Centre since 1989. We are a service provider to the international science communities, policy communities and the private sector dealing with issues including food production, land and water management, climate change, environmental quality, social justice, land use planning, and biodiversity. We do this by providing quality-assessed soil data and interpreted soil information. We maintain a deep understanding of soil standards, soil assessment, soil analysis, soil data handling and soil mapping. The primary webpage for ISRIC can be found at <https://www.isric.org>. A diagram of the context and landscape of the data centre may be found at <https://www.isric.org/about/vision-mission>.
2. It is the intention of ISRIC to contribute to WDS, and to collaborate with its governing body, the WDS Scientific Committee (WDS-SC), in order to ensure the long-term stewardship and provision of quality-assessed data and/or data services to the international science community and other stakeholders.
3. By joining as a Regular member, ISRIC will work towards achieving the common goals and objectives of WDS as stated in the constitution. These are to:
 - a) Enable universal and equitable access to quality assured scientific data, data services, products and information
 - b) Ensure long-term data stewardship
 - c) Foster compliance to agreed-upon data standards and conventions
 - d) Provide mechanisms to facilitate and improve access to data



4. ISRIC commits to fulfil the WDS criteria for membership, including:
 - a) accepting the WDS Constitution;
 - b) complying with the WDS Bylaws including Data Sharing Principles and Membership Criteria .
5. It is recognized that some data activities at the organization may be outside the scope of WDS. If this is the case, then these should be annexed to this agreement.
6. If ISRIC, for any reason, is unable to continue its long-term commitment, then it should endeavor to find a mechanism to secure its data activities by transferring them to another WDS facility or other suitable host organization.
7. The resources required for the data activities of ISRIC are the responsibility of ISRIC. To ensure continuity, ISRIC will in good faith provide these resources through long-term stewardship of their data.
8. ISRIC, as a Regular Member of WDS, refrains from using the WDS logo and trademarks to make direct financial profit without explicit authorization from the WDS-Scientific Committee.
9. This MOU is at-will and may be modified by mutual consent of authorized officials from WDS and ISRIC. This MOU shall become effective upon signature by the authorized officials listed below and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by any one of the partners by mutual consent.
10. This agreement is to be signed between the World Data System, an ISC Affiliated body and ISRIC by the respective heads of organizations or their authorized delegates.

SIGNED

(On behalf of World Data System)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Meredith Goins".

Date: April 5, 2023

Name: Meredith Goins

Position: Executive Director

SIGNED

(On behalf of ISRIC)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "H. van den Bosch".

Date: 19-01-2023

Name: H. van den Bosch

Position: Director