

## Session scope, and hosting ICSU-WDS International Program Office in Japan

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Data in Earth, planetary and space sciences is growing in size explosively, is becoming heterogeneous in nature, and is requiring multidisciplinary interactions to related scientific fields and more general society. As the importance of the data is increasingly stressed, further efforts to use and publish such data in various ways are expected for communications with general society. Database or data center works in individual institutes have become more active; at the same time discussions to make interdisciplinary cooperation or fusion between databases, organizations, and data systems are strongly required. While international unions, programmes, and bodies such as IUGG, IPY, IRDR, WMO, UNESCO, etc., have been launching their own data activities and/or are showing the interest in data issues separately, they are now discussing or approaching collaboration with related activities. A new programme, ICSU World Data System (WDS), was launched in 2008, where one of the most important goals is to realize "system of data systems". In November 2010 ICSU decided to establish its international programme office (IPO) in Japan. This session welcomes reports and discussions on domestic and international data activities, and development of system of data systems and key technologies for international data sciences and data systems, as well as it fosters and facilitates various exchanges and mutual understanding between multidisciplinary science data activities/programmes/institutes; also this session welcomes discussions on activities and communities in Japan and how they can interact with ICSU-WDS and other related activities to aim at the shared interests and goals.

Keywords: data system, multidisciplinary science data, interoperability, Science Council of Japan, WDS, International Council of Science