

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**WDS ENDORSES DORA DECLARATION ON RESEARCH ASSESSMENT**

**World Data System, 2 May, 2024** – The World Data System ([WDS](#)) announces the Scientific Committee has approved endorsement of the Declaration on Research Assessment ([DORA](#)), an initiative designed to improve the ways scholarly research is assessed. DORA, published in 2013, understands the pressing need to improve practices in research assessment and recommends the need for using journal-based metrics to obtain funding. The statement also expresses the need to assess research on its own merits rather than the journal that is it published in.

“WDS’s endorsement of DORA is a way to highlight the importance of advocating for diverse inputs in research assessment practices,” said Meredith Goins, Executive Director of the WDS International Program Office. “In an effort to advocate for the importance of data repositories and other scientific infrastructure’s contribution to the scientific enterprise, WDS SC’s endorsement of improving assessment practices can be more inclusive.”

WDS will continue to support proper research assessment practices along with the other signatories. The commitment to quality research should resonate with our members and partners. Groups across all scientific disciplines within WDS are encouraged to share their support by adding their signature to the Declaration and notifying WDS when they sign so they can be highlighted appropriately.

DORA is closing in on 25,000 signatures and endorsements from almost 200 U.S. based organizations. This announcement is one of the many commitments WDS has made to engage with researchers, research organizations and repositories to further develop quality research and data.

**About the World Data System**

The World Data System (WDS) is an affiliated body of the International Science Council (ISC), the oldest and largest scientific organization in the world, and has the mission to enhance the capabilities, impact and sustainability of their member repositories and data services by creating trusted communities of scientific data repositories, strengthening the scientific enterprise throughout the entire lifecycle of data to create first-class data that feeds first-class research output and by advocating for accessible data and transparent and reproducible science.

WDS’s International Program Office is hosted by the University of Tennessee’s Oak Ridge Innovation Institute and is located on the campus of Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, United States.

WDS’s International Technology Office is hosted by Oceans Network Canada and is located on the campus of University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

**-End-**

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