

# Data Acceptance Policy for Data from Permanent Seismological Networks<sup>1</sup>

Policy Version 3.5

Approved by BoD on 15 April 2020

## Synopsis

IRIS Data Services (DS) operates a major, internationally utilized seismological data management center (DMC). The data holdings come from both NSF-funded seismic networks and from other sources. The contributions that non-NSF data sources make to the DMC are significant in volume and value to the U.S. and global scientific and educational communities. IRIS's DS resources are limited and acceptance guidelines for new data sources are necessary to maintain a high level of service and to sustain management of data already in the archive. This policy provides guidance as to the types, volumes and sources of data that should be accepted.

## Considerations

There are several factors that will be considered in determining whether or not the DMC will accept new data sources for management at the IRIS DMC. These include:

- the value of the data to the scientific community;
- the data volume being considered; and
- the overall cost to the DMC to manage these data along with the availability of funds to support the new data sets or data types under consideration.

## Types of Data that will be Accepted

IRIS DS may accept any type of data from permanent seismological networks. Along with seismological data these networks may record strain, wind speed and direction, infrasonic data, hydroacoustic data, and related state-of-health data to name a few examples. The established relationship between existing data contributors and IRIS is taken into account when determining what data sets are managed by IRIS. For seismological networks that already contribute data to IRIS, IRIS will continue to accept contributions of a similar nature. However, when new types of data generated by those networks are offered, this policy provides guidance.

IRIS will actively work with network operators to find funding opportunities in addition to the current NSF funding to offset the costs of managing data from seismic networks.

## Volumes of Data that will be Accepted

Data with volumes less than ten terabytes per year may be accepted without additional financial support at the discretion of the IRIS Director of Data Services.

For data that would exceed the ten terabyte per year volume threshold, the Data Services Standing Committee (DSSC) will be consulted and the DSSC will make a recommendation

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<sup>1</sup> This document will be reviewed annually at spring meeting of the IRIS Data Services Standing Committee. Any substantive changes to the policy recommended by the DSSC must be approved by the IRIS Board of Directors. Current versions of this and other policies can be found at <http://www.iris.edu/hq/programs/ds/#policies>.

regarding the acceptance of the data set for management at the IRIS DMC. The DSSC recommendation may include the need to have new funds identified to support the data from the new network or the new data type before the DMC begins receiving the data.

## **Data Contributed from Organizations in the Developing World**

Data from permanent seismological stations distributed around the globe are a valuable resource for global seismology and contributions from these stations are encouraged. Because financial capacities present severe constraints for some seismological networks in the developing world, the following guidelines are intended to boost their contributions:

- The IRIS DMC will generally accept data contributions from the developing world at no cost to the network operator. IRIS will accept data from networks with up to 100 stations at the discretion of the IRIS Director of Data Services provided the network signs a Data Provider Agreement.
- For networks larger than 100 stations, acceptance requires approval by the DSSC.
- If appropriate funds are available, the telemetry needs of networks in developing countries may be supported at the discretion of the IRIS Director of Data Services.

## **Procedures**

1. The network manager and the IRIS Director of Data Services must sign DS's standard Data Provider Agreement form, which outlines the responsibilities for each partner and details the services provided by DS.
2. Prior to submitting data, complete and valid metadata describing all data to be contributed must be provided to the DMC as described in the Data Provider Agreement.
3. Waveform data must be made available in the format specified by DS and as described in the Data Provider Agreement.