10 Years Experiences of the CODATA Task Group on PASTDC

Chuang Liu Institute of Geographical Sciences and Natural Resources, CAS

After two years discussions of the CODATA Working Group of Preservation of and Access to Scientific and Technical Data in Developing Countries (PASTDC), the Task Group on PASTDC was approved by CODATA General Assembly to be established in 2002. Based on the strategic plan of CODATA and ICSU, the PASTDC focused its efforts on reducing the digital divide during the last ten year. Three kinds of actions were implemented, they are: (1) countries series of international workshops on scientific data and information policies and strategy were held in Beijing (2003, 2004), Shanghai (2008, 2010), Xining-Lhasa (Qinghai-Tibet) (2012) China; Pretoria (2001, 2007), South African; San Paolo (2007), Brazil; Havana (2009), Cuba; Ulaanbaatar (2009, 2011) Mongolia; (2) training workshop in developing countries, Ulaanbaatar Mongolia (2009), North Korea training program in Beijing (2011); and (3) Recommendation to decision makers within the framework of IGF (Panel at IGF, 2009, 2010, 2011), and UN GAID (2007). All of these activities are greatly beneficial to these developing countries in improving the national scientific data policies and strategies. Besides, capacity building in scientific data management in these countries had been enhanced because the training trainers program, and more yang scientists participated the PASTDC actions, one country from developing countries jointed CODATA as the national member, two of the task group members were awarded the CODATA Prize (2008, 2010). The most of the achievements during the last ten years are the joint efforts that the PASTDC worked closely with IAP (International Academy Panel), UN GAID (Global Alliance for Enhancing Access to and Application of Scientific Data in Developing Countries Project), APN (Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Studies), SCA (Science Council of Asia), NRF (National Research Foundation, South Africa), NSF (National Science Foundation of USA), CAS (Chinese Academy of Sciences), MOST (Ministry of Science and Technology of China), NNSFC (National Natural Science Foundation of China), and CAST (Chinese Association for Science and Technology).

Keywords: Task Group on PASTDC, Developing Countires, Digital Divide, Policy and Strategy, Capacity Building