

ICSU Strategic Plan 2006-2011 - What has been implemented and achieved?

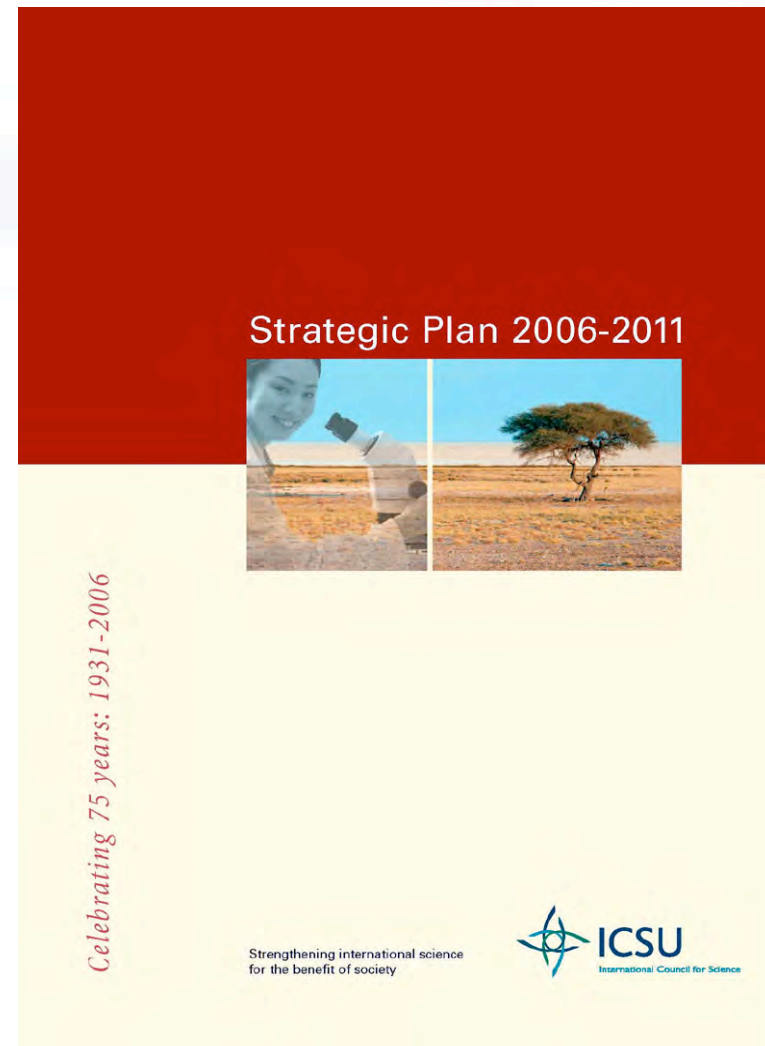
**European National ICSU Members
Berne**

26 October 2007

**Professor Thomas Rosswall
Executive Director, ICSU**

The ICSU Strategy

- An intensive 3-yr planning effort including intensive consultations with Members
- Approved in October 2005
- Mid-term review at General Assembly in October 2008



Focus of the Strategic Plan

Three inter-related themes:



1. Planning and Coordinating Research

Global Change Research Programmes

- World Climate Research Programme (WCRP with WMO and IOC) (search for new Director)
- International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) (search for new Director)
- International Human Dimensions Programme on Human Environmental Change (IHDP with ISSC and UNU) (UNU new sponsor and Strategic Plan)
- DIVERSITAS (with IUBS, IUBS and SCOPE)

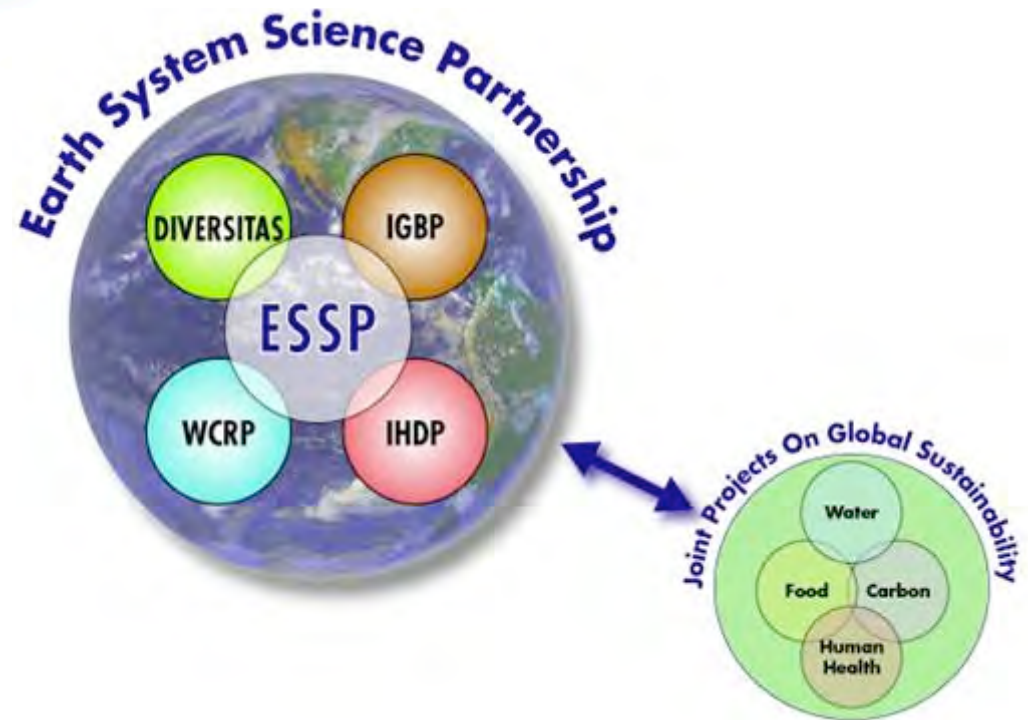
Earth System Science Partnership (ESSP)



The components are:

- Four Joint Projects
- One Integrated Regional Study (MAIRS)
- START for capacity building

As of 2007, ICSU appoints four members (incl. Chair) of the ESSP Scientific Committee



ICSU Reviews

- IHDP in 2005
- ESSP in 2007-2008 (Chair Louise Fresco)
- IGBP and WCRP in 2007-2008 (Chairs Sir John Lawton and James D. Baker)
- DIVERSITAS in 2009
- SCOPE in 2007 (independent consultant)

Research, Monitoring, Assessment and Policy



- Global Environmental Change Research
- Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS); ICSU was co-chairing the S&T Committee; 4th Ministerial Summit
- Integrated Assessments: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA), AgAssessment, Biodiversity (IMoSEB), Global Energy Assessment
- UN Conventions on Climate Change, Biodiversity and Desertification

IPY 2007-2008



**An intensive burst of internationally coordinated,
interdisciplinary,
scientific research and observations focussed on the
Earth's Polar regions**

1 March 2007 to 1 March 2009

**IPY is a Programme of ICSU
and WMO**



Scientific visibility



18 July 2007



NRC, Ottawa

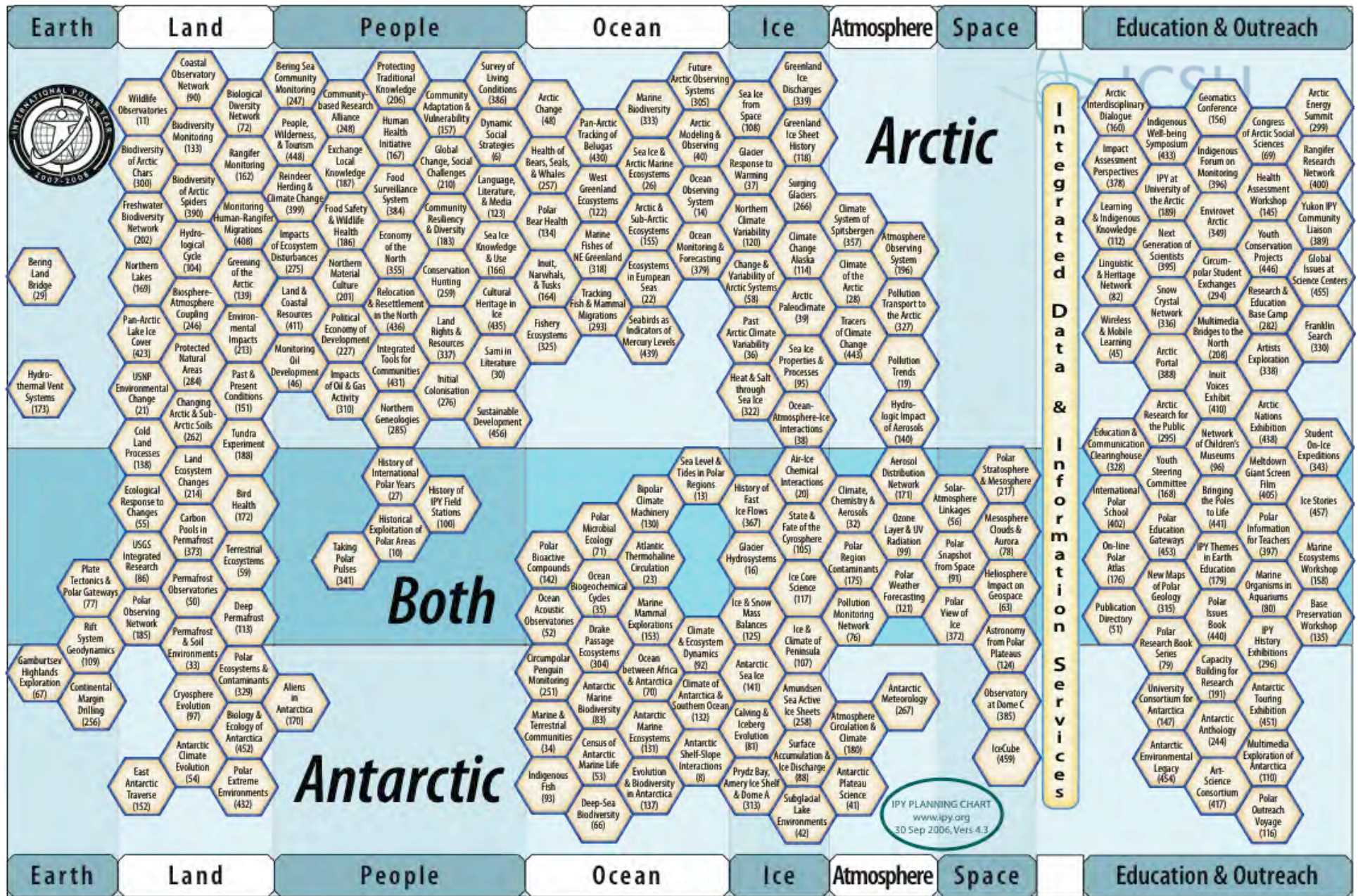
IPY – Public Visibility



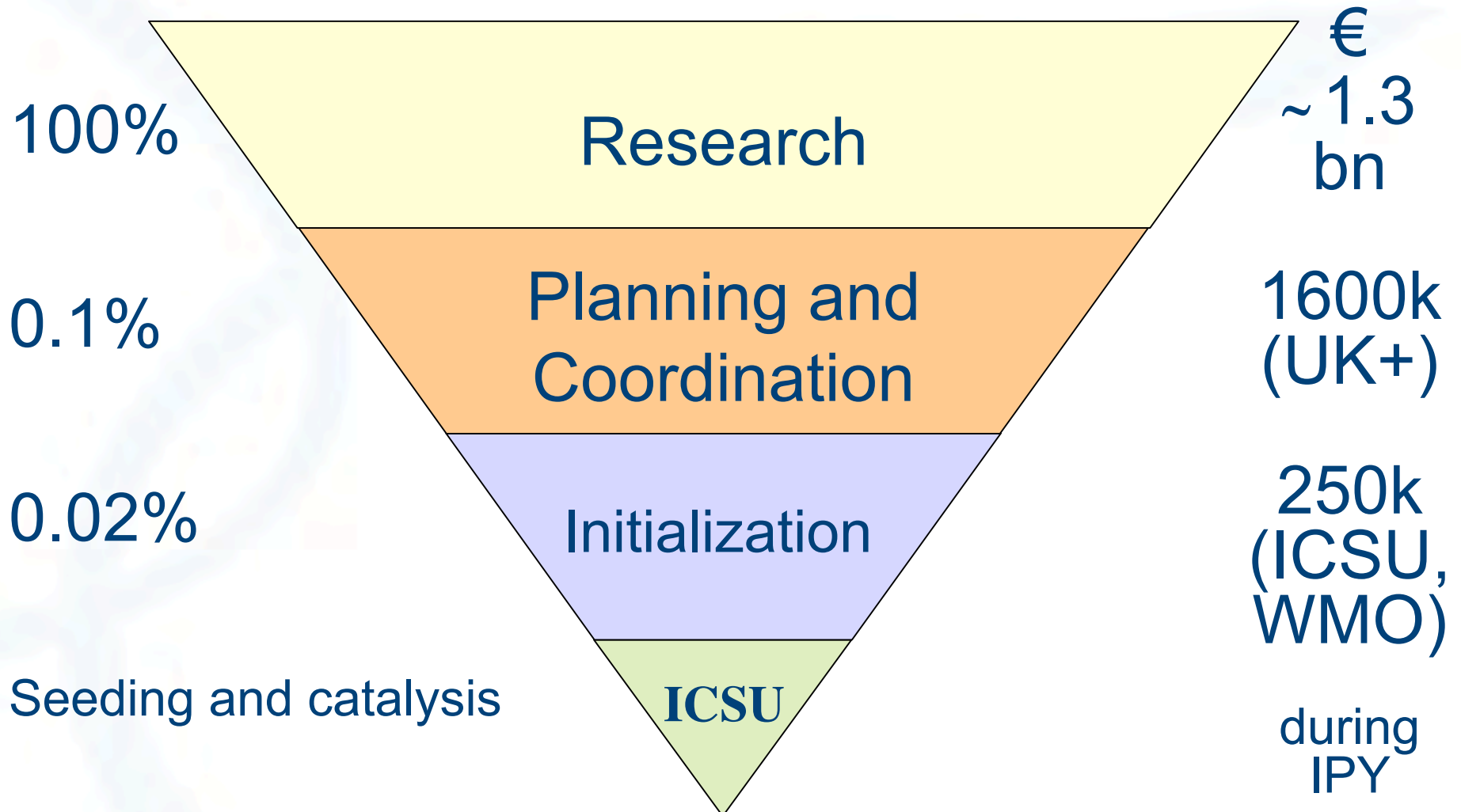
18 July 2007

NRC, Ottawa

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Financing IPY 2007-2008



Hazards and Disasters

- Identified in the planning process for the Strategic Plan (2003-2004)
- Tsunami, Katrina, Kashmir earthquake, Philippine landslide (2004-2005)
- UN Disaster Conference, Hyogo (2005)
- ICSU General Assembly (Oct., 2005) decides this to be a priority topic
- Draft Group Report for review April 2006

Objective

To undertake coordinated, international, multi-disciplinary research leading to more effective global societal responses to the risks associated with natural and human-induced hazards. Special emphasis on the need for social sciences.

Proposed Core Projects

Core Project 1: Characterizing hazards, vulnerability and risk

Core Project 2: Effective decision making in complex and changing risk contexts

Core Project 3: Reducing risk through knowledge-based actions.

Cross-cutting and Regional

Cross-cutting themes:

- Capacity building
- Case studies and demonstration projects

Priority area for the ICSU Regional Offices in:

- Africa
- Asia and the Pacific
- Latin America and the Caribbean

Hazards and Disasters

- Consultation Meeting 29 October 2007
- Final report for review early 2007
- Final Planning Group meeting 18-19 March 2008
- CSPR and ICSU EB April-May
- Final decision at General Assembly (October 2008)
- Interim Planning Office in Canada

ICSU and Human Health

- Involvement of health community identified as major failure in ICSU report to WSSD
- Unions initiative at ICSU GA in 2002
- ESSP programme on Global Change and Human Health
- ICSU Scoping Group has proposed a programme on urban health with a systems analysis approach
- Draft for review by Members

Science for Sustainable Development



- Efforts to link global change and development research (ESSP review)
- ICSU sponsored Resilience Alliance Conference (April 2008)
- Planning Group to define lacks in scientific understanding based on the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment with UNESCO and UNU; possible proposal for new programme. Draft for review early 2008.
- Political follow-up to MA implementation

Strengthening Social Sciences



- ICSU General Assembly Resolution 2005
- Dialogue with the International Social Science Council (ISSC)
- Ensure involvement of social scientists in ICSU Review and Planning Groups
- Discussed by CSPR and EB.
- Consultations with members based on draft discussions papers to CSPR
- Report to the GA next October

2. Science and Policy

- ICSU responsible for the input from the international science community to the UN Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD)
- UNESCO and ICSU follow-up to the World Conference on Science (also ICSU and the UNESCO Science Review)
- Preparations for the Fourth Global Observation Summit (November 2007)
- UN Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Participation in planning for World Climate Conference III (2009)

ISPRES



International Science Panel on Renewable Energies

- Established by ICSU, the Intl Council of Academies of Engineering and Tech. Sciences (CAETS) and Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21) in 2006 funded by Germany
- **Goals:** to compile and examine information on current R&D activities and strategies for future R&D activities, and to identify gaps, needs, and future priorities.
- Report to the General Assembly

3. Universality of Science

- The Principle of Universality of Science
 - Committee on Freedom and Responsibility in Science
- Access to Data and Information
- Reaching out to all countries:
 - Access to Data and Information
 - Capacity Building; science education review delayed
 - Regional Offices

Freedom and Responsibilities (CFRS)

Communication, outreach and dialogues

- Revised 'blue book'
- Open Forum and Emerging Diseases workshop in Taipei
- Letters to scientific journals on specific topics

Policy issues (workshops planned)

- Science and 4th generation (chronic) armed conflicts
- Public-private interface
- Science and the media

Specific cases

- Libyan health workers (letter to UNESCO and statement to Members)
- Iraqi scientists (letter to Nature)
- Proposed UK boycott of Israel (letter to Nature)
- USA and Cuba (under discussion)
- Palestinian scientists and Israel (under discussion)

An *ad hoc* strategic committee (SCID)

- To guide and oversee the reform of the WDC system and FAGS;
- To liaise with CODATA in the development of its strategic plan;
- To advise CSPR on any other actions that might be appropriate for ICSU in order to facilitate a coordinated global approach to scientific data and information.

Inputs to SCID

- FAGS 'white paper' on future of the services
- WDC Directors Conference and future vision
- CODATA draft Strategic Plan

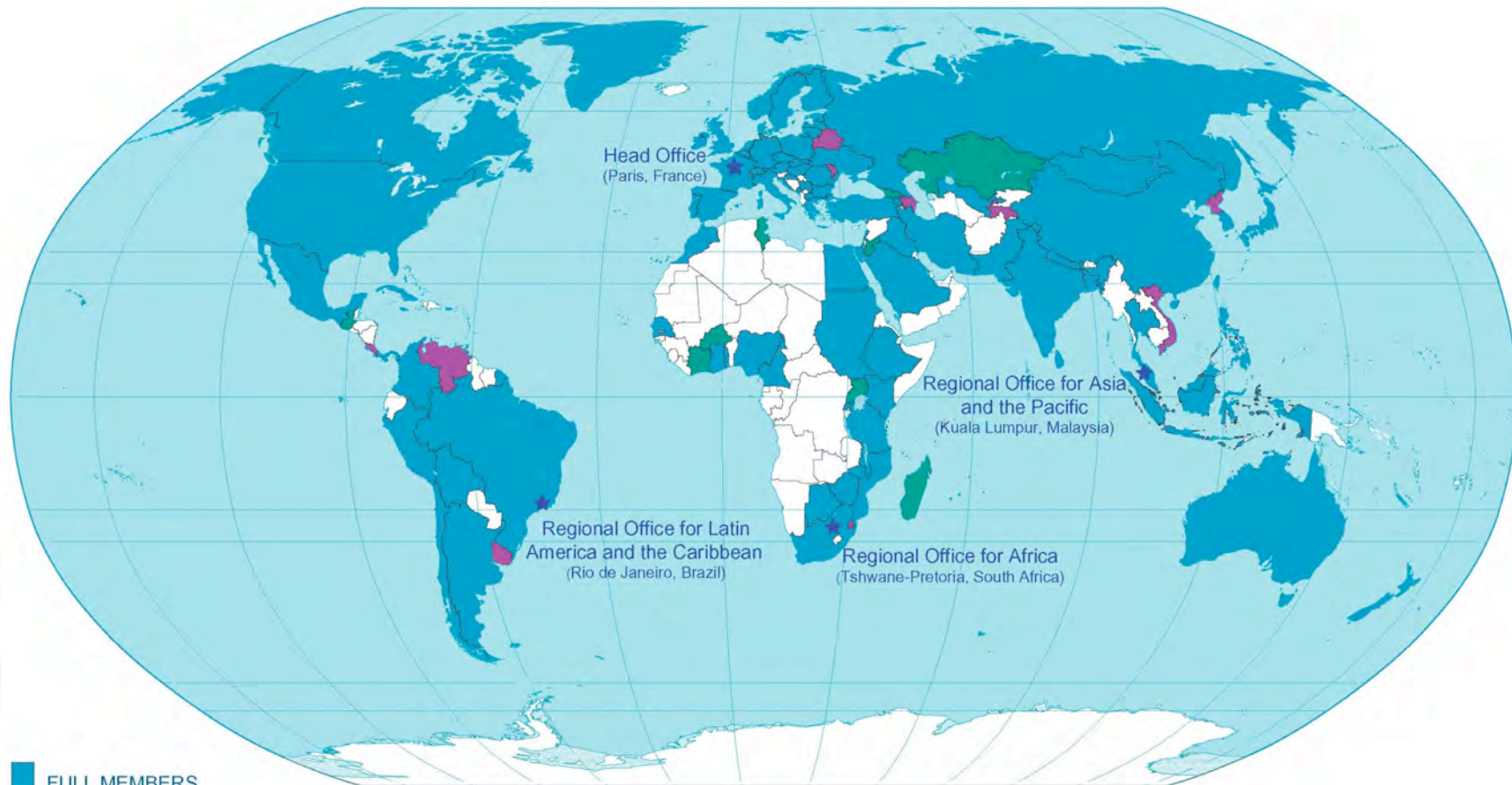
And at a later stage:

- Consultation with members on draft report

Timetable

March, 2007	WDC Panel meets
April	FAGS Council meets
May	WDC Directors meet, Bremen
July	1 st SCID meeting
September	interim report to CSPR
November	2 nd SCID meet
Feb., 2008	report to CSPR
March	3 rd SCID meet
October	report to General Assembly

ICSU Regional Offices



- FULL MEMBERS
- ASSOCIATES
- OBSERVERS

26/10/2006

ICSU Regional Offices

- Africa: Science plans for four priority topics (hazards, energy, health and global change)
- Asia & Pacific (Planning Groups for hazards, MA follow-up and energy)
- Latin America & Caribbean (Planning Groups for energy, hazards, biodiversity and mathematics teaching)
- Arab Region: Consultation meeting 2008

Final Remarks

- Through the Strategic Plan, ICSU is well positioned to be the necessary hub for international and multidisciplinary research
- Through the Union Members, ICSU has platforms for disciplinary international collaboration
- Through the National Members ICSU links to the national scientific research communities

Final Remarks

- ICSU is successful as it can reach out to the best scientists world wide
- Thus, the scientific credibility of its plans is a major component in its success
- Regional dimensions are increasingly important
- Strategic partnerships are essential
- Implementation is on track

ICSU



Strengthening International Science for the Benefit of Society

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