

DELIVERABLE

D5.5 Validation of pre-operational access phase to selected DSS datasets and products

Work package	ackage D5.5 Validation of pre-operational access phase to selected DSS datasets and products	
Lead	CSIC, UU	
DeFelipe, Irene, CSIC Carbonell, Ramon, CSIC Ivandic, Monika, Uppsala University Roland, Roberts, Uppsala University		
Reviewers	-	
Approval	Management Board	
Status	Status Final	
Dissemination level	Public	
Delivery deadline	30.04.2020	
Submission date	27.04.2020	
Intranet path DOCUMENTS/DELIVERABLES/ SERA_D5.5_pre-operational access phase selected DSS.pdf		



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Summary

This deliverable is written within the framework of the project "Seismology and Earthquake Engineering Research Infrastructure Alliance for Europe – SERA" (Project no: 730900), funded by the Horizon2020, INFRAIA-01-2016-2017 Programme.

This deliverable aims to present the pre-operational access phase to DSS data and data products and a successful prototype of an e-infrastructure for sharing open data, the Institute of Earth Sciences Jaume Almera (ICTJA-CSIC) dataset. It regards for the importance of sharing seismic data, data products and facilities following the FAIR principles. Thus, the ICTJA-CSIC dataset is a multidisciplinary e-infrastructure comprising Solid Earth Science data and data products.

1 Introduction

During the last decades, a large amount of scientific data has been produced by the earthquake engineering and seismology research infrastructures in Europe. Nowadays in Europe, there are mainly two organizations regarding for storing this kind of data, namely ORFEUS¹ (Observatories and Research Facilities for European Seismology) for seismological waveform data and EMSC² (European Mediterranean Seismological Centre) for earthquake source parameters. In addition to this, the ESFRI³ (European Strategic Forum for Research Infrastructures) initiative and the EPOS⁴ project (European Plate Observing System), provided a larger framework for the integration of all Solid Earth Science data into a single European e-infrastructure.

Despite all the effort carried out by these European organizations, there is still a need to increase the interaction between the earthquake engineering and seismology communities. Special interest is set on the integration of the most important data e-infrastructures and related informatics services in Europe. An efficient use of the resources and know-how sharing data along with the added value of bringing together the data sources and data exchange services of the two communities, will be a step forward in the provision of tools and knowledge for the benefit of researchers and industry users. Such e-tools are an emerging trend to manage and share results following the FAIR principles of findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable data.

Among the different projects providing access to data, stands out SERA⁵. Its aim is to reduce the risk posed by natural and anthropogenic earthquakes based on innovative research and development projects. SERA will significantly improve the access to data, services and research infrastructures and will spread the scientific knowledge of earthquake engineering and seismology by making research data more accessible. The availability and accessibility of these data, therefore, is of foremost importance for the society, including scientists, decision-makers and finally, the general public. Figure 1 shows the organizational structure of SERA, where a coordinator is responsible of the management board, communications, the SERA office and the General Assembly. The Management board delegates in the work package leaders the join research activities, data access and networking. Among all the work packages, the WP5 comprises a networking for Deep Seismic Sounding (DSS) data and products. This work package will therefore create a database including DSS data acquired in the EU since the late 70's.

¹ https://www.orfeus-eu.org/

² https://www.emsc-csem.org/#2

³ https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/european-research-infrastructures/esfri_en

⁴ https://www.epos-ip.org/

⁵ http://www.sera-eu.org/en/home/

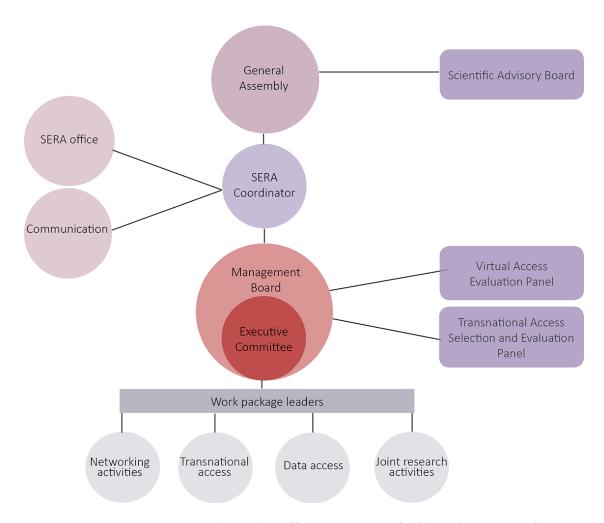


Figure 1: organization structure of SERA (http://www.sera-eu.org/en/about/organisation/).

Controlled source seismic data acquisition experiments have produced a vast amount of DSS data since its development in the early 1950 (e.g., Mooney et al., 2002). The huge amount of DSS data generated provides a valuable information on the structure and nature of the crust and lithosphere, which constitutes a fundamental and robust basis for research within Solid Earth Science. These datasets are unique and constitute the output of an enormous and very expensive scientific effort. Their uniqueness and recognized value evidences the need for their preservation, for this reason the EU is promoting science open access by means of networks, infrastructures and international projects. In addition, scientists are gaining awareness of the importance of sharing the raw data and products open access for future research as well as to reuse old and legacy data. Furthermore, the new developments in processing and achievements in imaging technologies generates new possibilities for these old datasets.

In this deliverable we present the open access e-infrastructure of the Institute of Earth Sciences Jaume Almera (ICTJA6) of DSS data and data products. In Spain, the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) hosts an online platform, DIGITAL.CSIC7, where scientific data are accessible for the general public (Bernal, 2011; DeFelipe et al., 2019c). Thus, our dataset is the result of a close collaboration with the repository DIGITAL.CSIC. This dataset is available in https://digital.csic.es/handle/10261/101879, following the principles of SERA of open science data and it is organized ensuring an

⁶ www.ictja-csic.es

⁷ https://digital.csic.es/

intercommunication between different departments and research institutions and promoting networking activities.

2 Operational access phase for DSS dataset

A successful e-infrastructure to access DSS datasets and products aims to achieve all the principles of FAIR data: findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable (Figure 2). The first step in (re)using the data is to find them by means of a globally unique and persistent identifier, such as DOI or handle. Once the users find the data, they need to know how to access the data, possibly including an authentication, and ideally by direct download from the e-infrastructure. Data also needs to be integrated with related data in order to be interoperable with applications or workflows of processing raw data. Finally, the last goal of FAIR is to promote the reuse of the data. For that purpose, data has to be accompanied with metadata, a well-described file that allow to replicate data.

In order to reach all these principles a pre-operation phase in accessing the DSS data needs to be accomplished.

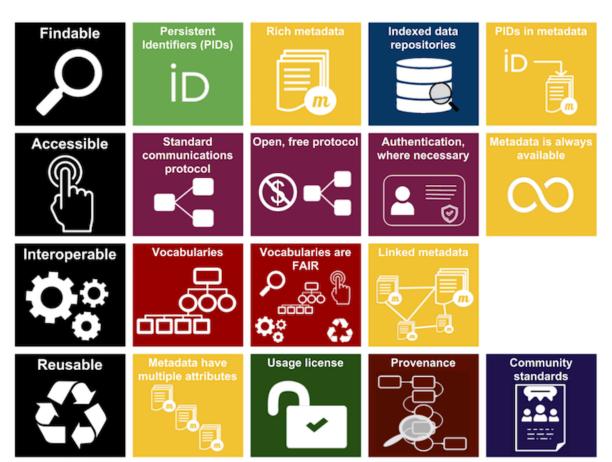


Figure 2: FAIR data principles.8

⁸ https://findwise.com/blog/data-that-really-saves-lives-and-possibly-your-organisation/

2.1.1 Preparatory phase and networking

The success of a pre-operational access phase to selected DSS datasets and products depends on several factors at different levels. It ranges from individual scientists and reseach groups, to national institutions and international organizations. The effort and work done so far in the framework of SERA, includes an important part of dissemination of national and international mandates in open data as well as promoting informational talks, newsletters and workshops. The following actions are requiered in order to guarantee the current and future access to DSS datasets and products:

- Provide information about the national and international mandates for open data, thus raising awareness of scientists in sharing their research data.
- Promote data management plans at the beginning of a new research project, as a part of the project proposal.
- Encouraging networking between multidisciplinary and international research groups.
- Collaboration between industry and academia to have a mutual benefit.
- Peer-review publications of databases in specific journals.
- A fluent communication between scientists and the responsible of the information resources for research.
- To introduce and spread the concepts of FAIR data and open science into the society at different levels:
 - o Local: sharing information of the different research groups through the research institutes websites⁹, twitter account¹⁰, and informational talks (Bernal, 2019).
 - o National: meetings such as *Bibliotecas y Archivos del CSIC por la Ciencia Abierta*¹¹, contributions to Earth Sciences conferences such as *Congreso Geológico de España 2020*¹² and internal informational journals such as the *CSIC Abierto*¹³.
 - o International: attendance to scientific meetings, workshops, and networking activities (Carbonell et al., 2020; DeFelipe et al., 2019a, b, c, 2020) to have these concepts more and more present in the scientific community.

2.1.2 Current state of the DSS datasets

Following the FAIR principles, data have to be accompanied with a detail information file, namely the metadata. These files have to provide the necessary information for new scientists to reprocess or reuse them. An example of metadata is that of the DIGITAL.CSIC repository in coordination with EPOS. The files accompanying the DSS are:

- README.txt (annex I): a text file summarizing the general information regarding the dataset. This document specifies the list of authors, title, license, citation, abstract, referring articles and a list of the attached files.
- Metadata as an excel file (annex II): the metadata consists of two type of information:
 - Common metadata: this section comprises the title; publication date; DOI; licences and rights; authors with their affiliations, their role in the project and their ORCID; a contact person; abstract and methods description; spatial and temporal coverage of the data; related publications; and funding references.
 - O Specific metadata: this part of the metadata regards for the type of processing of the DSS data (raw, field or processed), data type (seismic active or passive), data

⁹ http://www.ictja.csic.es/

¹⁰ https://twitter.com/ictja_csic?lang=en

¹¹ http://jornadas.bibliotecas.csic.es/node/4

¹² https://sge-congreso.net/

¹³ http://hdl.handle.net/10261/190962

provenance (digital or analogue acquisition), the data file format (normally SEGY), processed method (reflection or refraction), the receiver type and the source type.

- Description of the attached files (annex III): an additional brief description of all the data that has been uploaded.
- According to the type of data uploaded, additional information can be included. These files will regard for location maps, geometry of the acquisition and other type of images or documents.

3 Current state of the ICTJA-CSIC database

Following the national and international mandates of open access data, the FAIR principles (Figure 2) and the awareness of the scientific community in the importance of open data, scientists of the ICTJA-CSIC are making a constant effort to update its database.

During its 50 years' history, the ICTJA-CSIC has generated numerous data not only in the field of geophysics but also in mineral geochemistry, volcanology, satellite imaging, etc. It has resulted in a successful prototype of seismic data repository in collaboration with DIGITAL.CSIC (https://digital.csic.es/handle/10261/101879, last access March 2020). This dataset has been increased especially since the last two years, thanks to the effort of different national and international entities/infrastructures and the increased awareness of scientists in sharing its data.

The type of data included in this dataset comprise active seismic reflection profiles both of normal incidence and wide angle carried out in the Iberian Peninsula since the 90's. The data covers a wide range of geographical and geological settings, sampling both the Variscan and Alpine orogens offshore (Atlantic Iberian Margin, Bay of Biscay, Valencia Trough...) and onshore (Iberian Massif, Cantabrian Mountains, Betic Cordillera...). Our dataset also covers different scales, regarding for continental and crustal scale experiments to local and shallower experiments in the Iberian Peninsula. Finally, our dataset includes both 2D and 3D experiments. It is a large and rich database resulted from a huge and expensive effort of different scientific groups during decades that needs to be preserved for future studies and promoting re-interpretations. Therefore, this dataset strives to make easily available old data but also to set the basis for future data management of new acquired seismic data.

The breakthrough of this dataset can be envisaged based on the statistics of total visits and downloads. Figure 3 shows two statistics plots generated by the DIGITAL.CSIC options and e-facilities for the ICTJA-CSIC dataset. The statistics based on the total number of visits and downloads show the increased interest in the research carried out in the ICTJA-CSIC. The number of visits has been significantly increased since the first months of 2018 onwards. The tendency presents frequent high excursions with several peaks in visitor numbers (Figure 3a). With respect to the total downloads (Figure 3b), an outstanding increase is observed since October 2019. This month correspond to an active period in the DIGITAL.CSIC repository, when several projects were uploaded. These statistics suggest that the scientific community is responding positively to the increase of the number of datasets, evidencing the importance of sharing seismic raw data to move the scientific community forward.

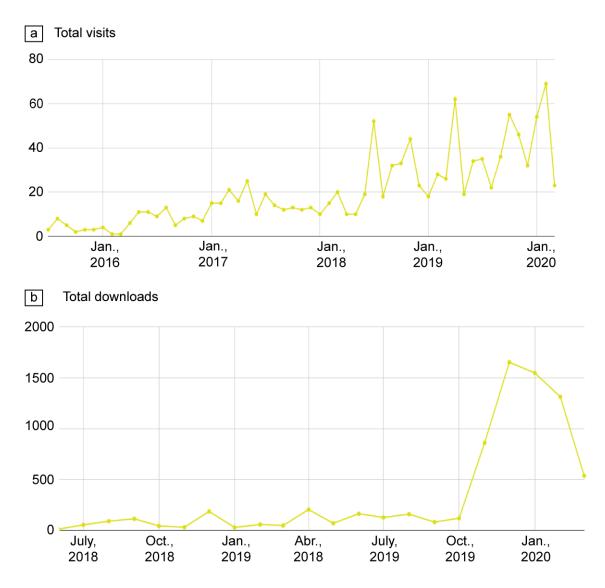


Figure 3: a) total visits to the ICTJA-CSIC dataset, and b) total downloads of data from the same dataset (https://digital.csic.es/handle/10261/101879, last access March 2020).

Our repository provides additional facilities of data mining. Not only it comprises the amount of visits and downloads of any of the projects included in the whole dataset, but also through geographical region, country and city. A summary of this statistical data by region is presented in Figure 4 and Tables 1 and 2 (data for March 2020).

Surprisingly, the regions with more visits to the ICTJA-CSIC dataset are USA and Canada, with a total of 362 visits representing a 52.1%. It is followed by European users that represents the 41.9% (Figure 4a and Table 1). Regarding the total downloads (Figure 4b and Table 2), again, USA and Canada lead the statistics with a total of 749 downloads and representing a 52.3% of the total. It is followed by users in Europe (26.8%) and in the third place stands Chinese users, representing the 17.1%.

These data are being constantly updated but they depict the interest of international users in our DSS datasets, proving the effective data management plan and the fruitful dissemination activities carried out so far. It also managed to achieve the FAIR principles, being data findable and accessible for users around the world.

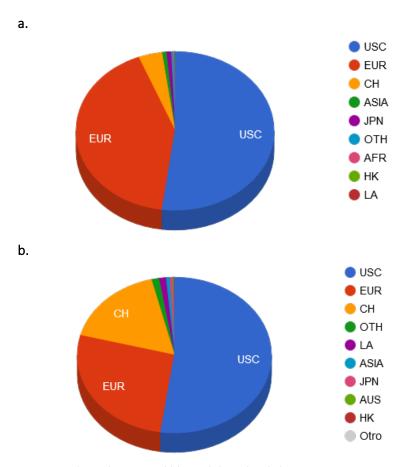


Figure 4: a) total visits and b) total downloads by region. USC: USA and Canada, EUR: Europe, CH: China, OTH: others or not defined, LA: Latinamerica, ASIA: Asia, JPN: Japan, South Korea and Taiwan, AUS: Autralia and New Zeeland, HK: Hong Kong, AFR: Africa (https://digital.csic.es/handle/10261/101879, last access March 2020).

Table 1: total visits by continent (https://digital.csic.es/handle/10261/101879, last access March 2020).

CONTINENT	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE %
USA & CANADA	362	52.1
EUROPE	291	41.9
CHINA	27	3.9
ASIA	5	0.7
JAPAN, S KOREA, TAIWAN	5	0.7
OTHERS	2	0.3
AFRICA	1	0.1
HONG KONG	1	0.1
LATINAMERICA	1	0.1
TOTAL	695	

Table 2: total downloads by continent (https://digital.csic.es/handle/10261/101879, last access March 2020).

CONTINENT	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE %
USA & CANADA	749	52.3
EUROPE	384	26.8
CHINA	245	17.1
OTHERS	18	1.3
LATINAMERICA	16	1.1
ASIA	9	0.6
JAPAN, S KOREA, TAIWAN	7	0.5
HONG KONG	2	0.1
AUTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND	2	0.1
AFRICA	1	
TOTAL	1433	

4 Conclusions

Due to the increase in the volume of DSS data generated, a data management plan is indispensable in order to have data freely available to download for the scientific community, industry and the general public. A successful prototype is presented here, the ICTJA-CSIC database which aims to share new and old seismic data following the FAIR principles of data management: findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable.

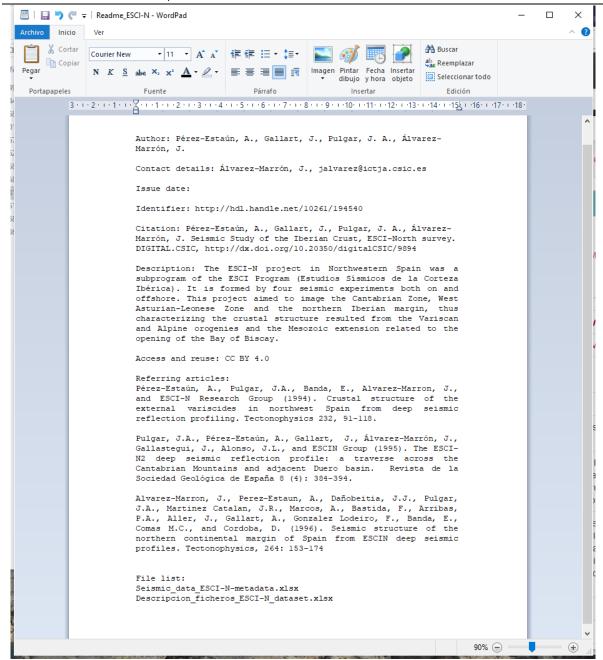
Our database consists of active seismic reflection experiments carried out since the 90's in the Iberian Peninsula. The data were acquired onshore and offshore and at different scales, from continental/crustal scale sampling the Variscan and Alpine orogens, to local/exploration scale in different geographical and geological settings.

According to the statistics, our dataset is being used more and more by users all around the world. Interestingly, our database is being visited mainly by users from USA and Canada, followed by European users and being China the third country in number of downloads of any of all the projects included in the ICTJA-CSIC dataset.

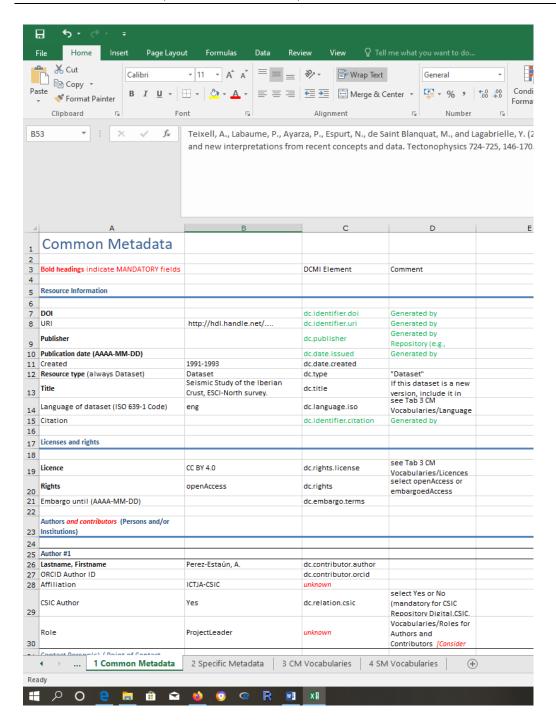
Although this dataset is achieving the national and international mandates for open data, there is still a lot of work needed to promote open access databases through the Solid Earth Sciences community and specifically, the seismic community. Thus, we are currently working on promoting new international collaborations, disseminate the results of this project and constantly updating our database.

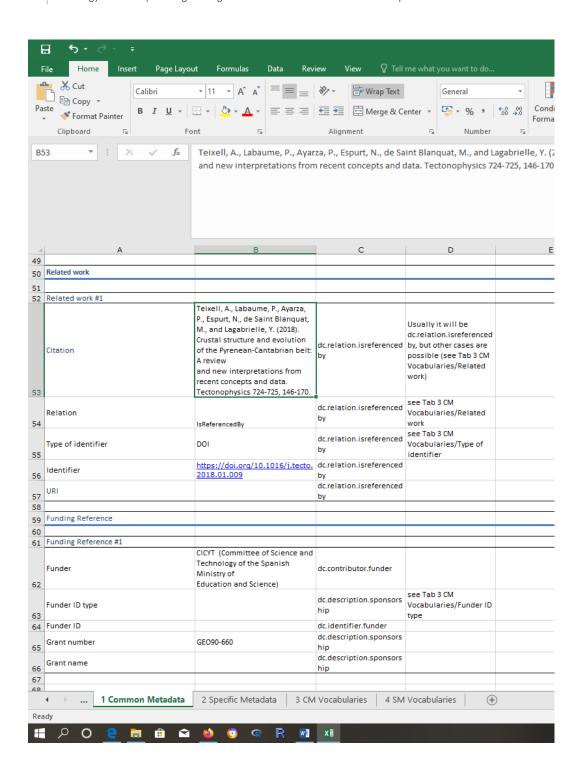
5 Appendices

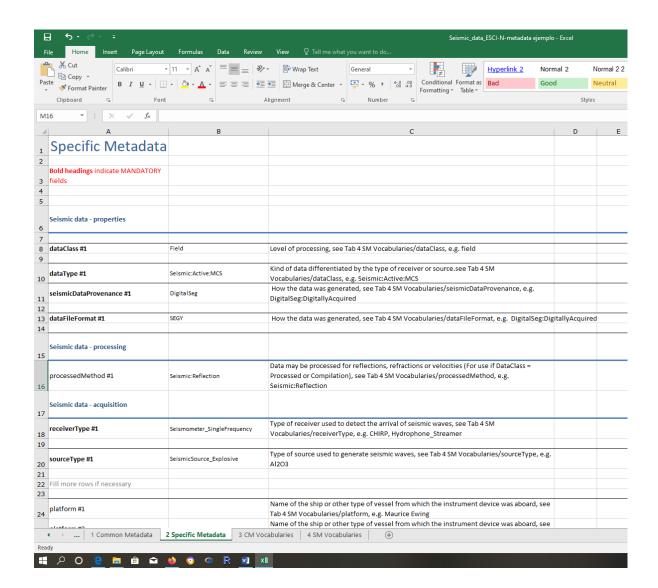
Annex I: README.txt example of the ESCI-N dataset.



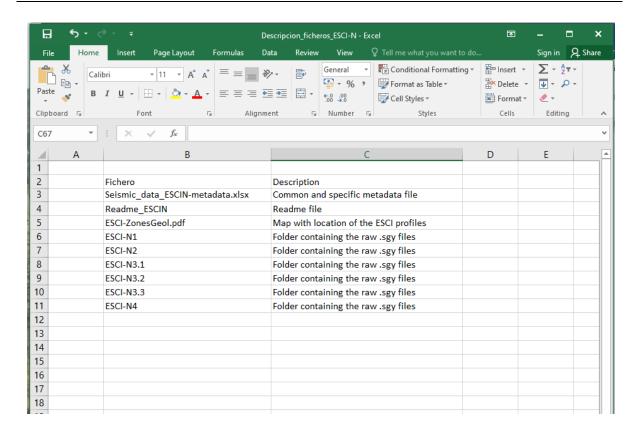
Annex II: common and specific metadata example of the ESCI-N dataset.







Annex III: description of the metadata for the ESCI-N dataset.



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Contact

Project lead ETH Zürich

Project coordinator Prof. Dr. Domenico Giardini

Project manager Dr. Kauzar Saleh

Project office ETH Department of Earth Sciences

Sonneggstrasse 5, NO H-floor, CH-8092 Zürich

sera_office@erdw.ethz.ch

+41 44 632 9690

Project website www.sera-eu.org

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