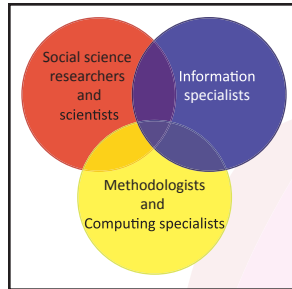IASSIST helps bridge the interests and concerns of three communities.

Social science researchers and scientists

Information specialists

Methodologists and Computing specialists

Social science researchers and scientists who are producers and users of micro and macro-level social data;

Information specialists, who preserve social data, manage facilities and provide services that promote the secondary use of social data;

Methodologists and computing specialists who advance technical methods to manipulate and analyze social data.

membership benefits

IASSIST welcomes new members and offers an array of benefits:

◊ Peer to peer support within an international network of data professionals
◊ Participation in the organization's email discussion list
◊ Opportunities to serve and lead on various committees and action groups
◊ Access to the IASSIST Membership Directory and intranet

overview

300+ members from a variety of settings

◊ Academia
◊ Government
◊ Non-profit sector
◊ Private sector

expertise and colleagues

◊ Data & reference librarians
◊ Social Science researchers
◊ Data archivists & curators
◊ Technology professionals

networking opportunities

◊ Annual conferences
◊ Active discussion list
◊ Committees & action groups
◊ Topical interest groups

IASSIST
Members Across the Globe

■ Canada
■ Europe
■ USA
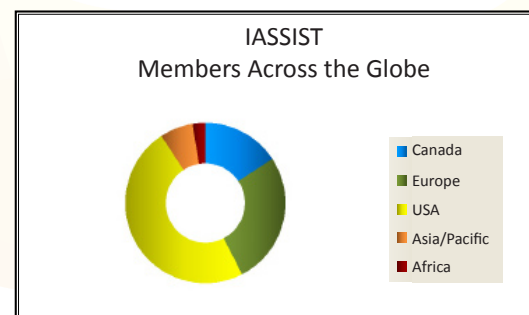■ Asia/Pacific
■ Africa

iassist

International Association for Social Science Information Service and Technology

iassist

An international organization of professionals working with information technology and data services to support research and teaching in the social sciences.

www.iassistdata.org

goals

As an organization, IASSIST strives to:

◊ Foster and promote a **network** of excellence for data service delivery

◊ Advance **infrastructure** in the social sciences

◊ Provide opportunities for collegial **exchange** of sound professional practices

strategic plan

In 2010, IASSIST adopted a Strategic Plan that called for a series of approaches to address new challenges. The focus of the plan is on the following strategic directions:

Advocacy: *For policies that increase access to data and promote responsible data curation.*

Community: *Cultivate a community that supports full data life-cycle; creation, use and preservation of data.*

Professional Development: *Provide resources to foster the development of data professionals.*

IASSIST members are working together to advocate for responsible data management and use, to build a broader community surrounding research data, and encourage the development of data professionals.

for more information

Visit the IASSIST website for more information concerning membership, conferences, and the work of the committees and action groups.

Contact us on the Web: www.iassistdata.org

annual conference

Each spring the annual conference provides data professionals a variety of opportunities to participate in discussions about data sharing, data access tools, best practices for preserving data, global resources for information, and much more. Recurring themes include statistical literacy, data management, new technologies, barriers to data sharing, metadata formats, digital repositories, data preservation, and citation.

The conference format consists of:

◊ Workshops focused on the profession, new technologies, and data access

◊ Stimulating panel, poster, and plenary sessions

◊ Networking opportunities with peers from around the world

International conference venues reflect our membership base and typically rotate to a different region each year.

fostering exchange

IASSIST encourages and supports local and national social science data centers.

As a body of information specialists, the organization promotes international exchange and the dissemination of information regarding substantive and technical developments related to social science data.

IASSIST provides a forum for the discussion of issues pertaining to preservation of digital information and the establishment and sharing of *Best Practices* in the archiving and dissemination of social science data.

the structure of iassist

Regional Secretaries provide support for activities within their designated regions. Secretaries are currently in place for:

Africa	Asia-Pacific	
Canada	Europe	United States

Current efforts are underway to increase membership from the Spanish and Portuguese speaking parts of the world.

leadership

An Administrative Committee is comprised of elected officials including the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and immediate Past President as well as Regional Secretaries and representatives from each of the regions. Chairs of standing committees and appointed officials also are on the Administrative Committee as non-voting members. The following permanent committees exist:

◊ Administrative Committee
◊ Constitutional Review Committee
◊ Professional Development Committee
◊ IASSIST Fellows Committee
◊ Membership Committee
◊ Elections Committee
◊ Communications Committee

Action groups are formed for developing solutions to specific initiatives. Interest groups develop collective knowledge about a topic relevant to members and then convey it to the broader IASSIST community.

The IASSIST Achievement Award recognizes the cumulative contributions of an individual to the organization and to the profession.