

IISD Experimental Lakes Area Data Sharing Agreement

Background

IISD Experimental Lakes Area (IISD-ELA) produces a large amount of data. Generally, those data are analyzed by IISD-ELA staff, but we are happy to provide data to other researchers to support their activities. Researchers requesting the use of data generated by the IISD-ELA must acknowledge agreement to the terms and conditions outlined below. The purpose of the terms and conditions are:

- 1) To protect data collected by IISD-ELA staff, students, and affiliated researchers to allow sufficient time for publication of results relating to their efforts (for a limited duration, typically 2 years after collection).
- 2) To advise researchers using data, or intending to use data, of any duplication of effort.
- 3) To ensure that we (IISD-ELA) benefit intellectually from our research and monitoring efforts. While not required, we encourage data users to include IISD-ELA researchers as co-authors on manuscripts using our data.
- 4) To ensure that we catch potential mistakes by outside users unfamiliar with IISD-ELA systems (for example, experimental manipulations and external drivers (such as forest fires) may affect results and interpretation).
- 5) To maintain a catalogue of requests and data usage to facilitate our reporting obligations and ensure continued funding of our organization.

Intended Use of Data

The researcher agrees that they shall use the data generated by IISD-ELA for the sole purpose outlined in the data request. If the researcher (or any member of the project team with access to the data) intends to use the data in a different manner than outlined, a new data request form must be submitted to indicate the intended modification.

Non-Transferability

The researcher may transfer data provided by IISD-ELA to other individuals involved in the project outlined in the data request (e.g., students, co-investigators). However, the researcher agrees to take on the responsibility of ensuring that no project member transfers IISD-ELA data in any form to another party under any circumstances. IISD-ELA recommends keeping a copy of this Agreement stored with any data provided to the researcher. Other parties must submit independent data requests to IISD-ELA directly.

IISD-ELA recognizes that many journals now require authors to place raw data used within scientific manuscripts within a data repository. However, the researcher must contact IISD-ELA if they will need to submit IISD-ELA data to a data repository and this will be negotiated in a separate agreement. We encourage authors to discuss this issue with IISD-ELA early in the process to avoid delays and complications at the time of publishing.

Publication and Acknowledgment

The researcher agrees to acknowledge IISD-ELA in all oral and written presentations, disclosures, and publications resulting from the use of IISD-ELA data. Researchers are asked to apply the normal standards of scientific etiquette when publishing results of previously unpublished data and where substantial input of ideas and/or data warrant co-authorship. A PDF copy of any publication using IISD-ELA data must be emailed to IISD-ELA for their records and reporting.

Statement of Intent

The researcher agrees to provide information on their stated intent, that is: contact information for the principal investigator, project title, description of requested data, and a description of the intended use of the data. This information should be suitable, as written, for public dissemination. Submission of a completed IISD-ELA data request webform is sufficient to meet this requirement (there is no need to submit additional documentation).

Privacy

We do not remit, sell, or trade data requester information. The information you provide will be used as an internal record of your agreement to this agreement, and to contact you regarding your data request. General information (excluding addresses and emails) will be used for reporting to our Research Advisory Board and project funders, to ensure our continued operation. Read more about IISD-ELA's privacy policy on our website (<https://www.iisd.org/privacy-policy>).

Acceptance of IISD-ELA datasets 'As Is' and No Indemnification

The researcher agrees that there is no representation, warranty, condition, or promise, statutory or otherwise, as to the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or veracity of the data provided by IISD-ELA. IISD-ELA is not responsible for any indemnification regarding any loss, claim, damage, or liability that may result from the use of these data.

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