Update on the WSS Report 2010 Dissemination

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Strengthening the social sciences to help solve global problems

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Introduction

- Ten years after publishing a first World Social Science Report UNESCO asked ISSC to produce a global review of how social science is produced, disseminated and used.
- The Report was launched in June 2010 in UNESCO. It focuses on Knowledge Divides.
- The Report identified 8 divides which limit the accumulation, transmission and use of knowledge. These divides prevent the social sciences from contributing necessary solutions to urgent global problems.
- The Report was presented at the General Assembly in Nagoya in November 2010.
Translation

• The Report was published in English by UNESCO Publishing in June 2010.

• It was translated into French (by ISSC).
  
  *It is co-published with and distributed by the Editions du Croquant (Europe and America) and CODESRIA (in Africa).*

• It was translated into Spanish by the Consejo Mexicano de Ciencias Sociales.
  
  *It is distributed by the Mexican Foro Consultivo Científico y Tecnológico.*

• It was translated into Chinese by the Chinese Higher Education Press. *No confirmation that it was published.*

• The summary of the Report was published in English, French, Spanish, Chinese, Russian and Arabic.
Dissemination

The Report was presented and discussed in a wide range of events, notably in:

– Word Science Forum on the *Changing Landscape of Science* organized by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest, 2011
– meetings organised by ISSC members and partners
– social science congresses
– various national research councils or science academies
– meetings organised by universities with foundations and/or development aid agencies
– with/within international organisations
Impact: how to measure it?

- Number of times it is downloaded
- Number of sales: *relevance when the report is on the web?*
- Number of citations: *is it relevant for grey literature?*
- Variety of dissemination activities not well recorded: conferences, research seminars, teaching materials, interviews, availability on academic platforms. *A survey has just been undertaken*
- Application of the Report’s recommendations and relevance after several years. *It takes more time to assess.*

*Tracking activities of the team and different authors is time and resource consuming.*
Impact

Read by expected audiences
• The English version was downloaded 57,355 times from the UNESCO website (July 2010 – August 2013)
• 20 ISSC members have established a link to the Report on their own websites
• No information available on downloads from other sites

Contributed to national debates
• Issues and recommendations have been highly debated in the various events
• Several of these will continue to be debated for years

Increased funding for ISSC activities
• Facilitated fundraising for WSS Report 2013
• Was the reference for OECD deciding to publish WSS Report 2013

Influenced priorities
• Visions and practices of capacities
The report can be downloaded

- [www.worldsocialscience.org](http://www.worldsocialscience.org)