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CoreTrustSeal Newsletter 09-2025

Introducing Lindsay Callaghan CoreTrustSeal Secretariat



Lindsay Callaghan is a Data Curation Specialist at the South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON), which is a long-term observation and research facility of the National Research Foundation (NRF). She is based at the uLwazi (meaning 'knowledge') node of SAEON, which has a focus on data management and the development of platforms and decision-support tools for government departments. Her work at SAEON has primarily been on the CoreTrustSeal-certified Open Data Platform (ODP), as well as on the establishment and implementation of the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment's Marine Information Management System (MIMS). Her interest in best-practice standards and

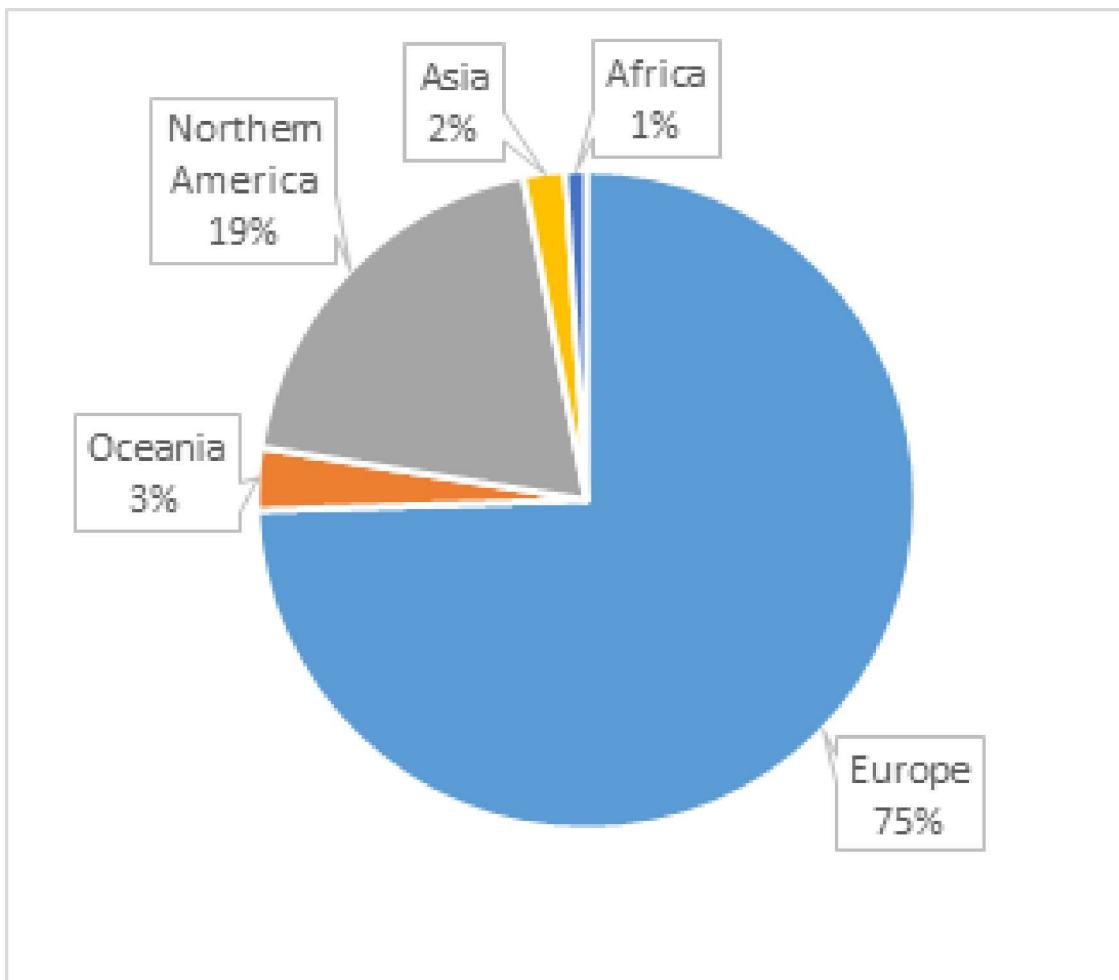
certifications led her to CoreTrustSeal, where she has served on the secretariat since 2018.

Revision of requirements for 2026-2028 continues

The CoreTrustSeal Board would like to thank its community for providing invaluable feedback during the consultation. The Board is willing to keep the requirements as stable as possible for the next period (2026-2028) and proposals for amendment were minimal. Despite this, more than one hundred responses have been received as the survey closed on August, 31st. All the regions were represented in the provenance of the respondents – with an equal proportion of representatives from CTS certified repositories and others, which demonstrates that the interest in a core level certification is wide.

The Board is currently analysing the results and comments received and will update the draft accordingly. The final version of the requirements will be published in the second half of October and enter into force in January 2026.

In the pie chart below shows the origing of the respondants to the survey.



AMT closed for NEW applications in November and December 2025

The online tool will be closed for new application in November and December 2025 to enable the update to the new 2026-2028 requirements, which will be valid from January 1st, 2026.

Applications that are submitted before that time will still be processed during these months and will be reviewed according to the 2023-2025 requirements.

Kind regards,
CoreTrustSeal Standards and Certification Board

IDW Biennial event 2025

The International Data Week (IDW 2025), one of the leading international conferences on research data, will take place in Brisbane, Australia on October 13-16, 2025. It combines the RDA Plenary Meeting, the biannual meeting of this international member organisation working to develop and support global infrastructure facilitating data sharing and reuse, with SciDataCon, the scientific conference addressing the frontiers of data in research organised by CODATA and WDS.

The CoreTrustSeal Board will attend the event and participate actively in two sessions dedicated to data repositories, trust and certification:

- “Certified Data Repositories in Asia-Pacific and Africa: towards Sustainable Science, Education, and Development” (SciDataCon, <https://scidatacon.org/event/9/contributions/64/>) on October 14th
- “Badge of (Data) Honor: Navigating Certifications and Standards” (RDA P25, https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/rda-wds-certification-digital-repositories-ig/plenary-participation/?application_id=187996) on October 16th

Registration for onsite or remote participation is still possible. More information:

<https://idw2025.org/>

Feedback and comments welcome!

Please don't hesitate to contact info@coretrustseal.org if you have feedback or suggestions for us on the tool, process, website or anything else!



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