

# International Coordination of Space Weather activities & WMO metadata standards

Jesse Andries  
IHDEA meeting  
13 October 2023

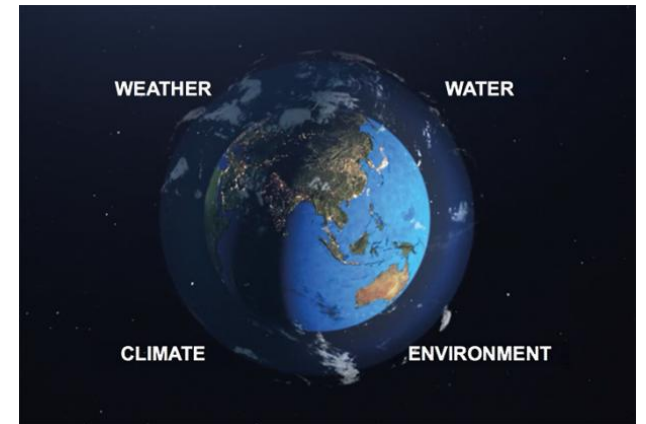


WORLD  
METEOROLOGICAL  
ORGANIZATION



# World Meteorological Organization

- Founded as International Meteorological Organization (IMO) in 1873
- Established in 1950 as World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- UN specialized agency and UN authoritative voice for weather, climate, water and environmental services, since 1951
- 193 Member States
- Represented by Directors of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs)



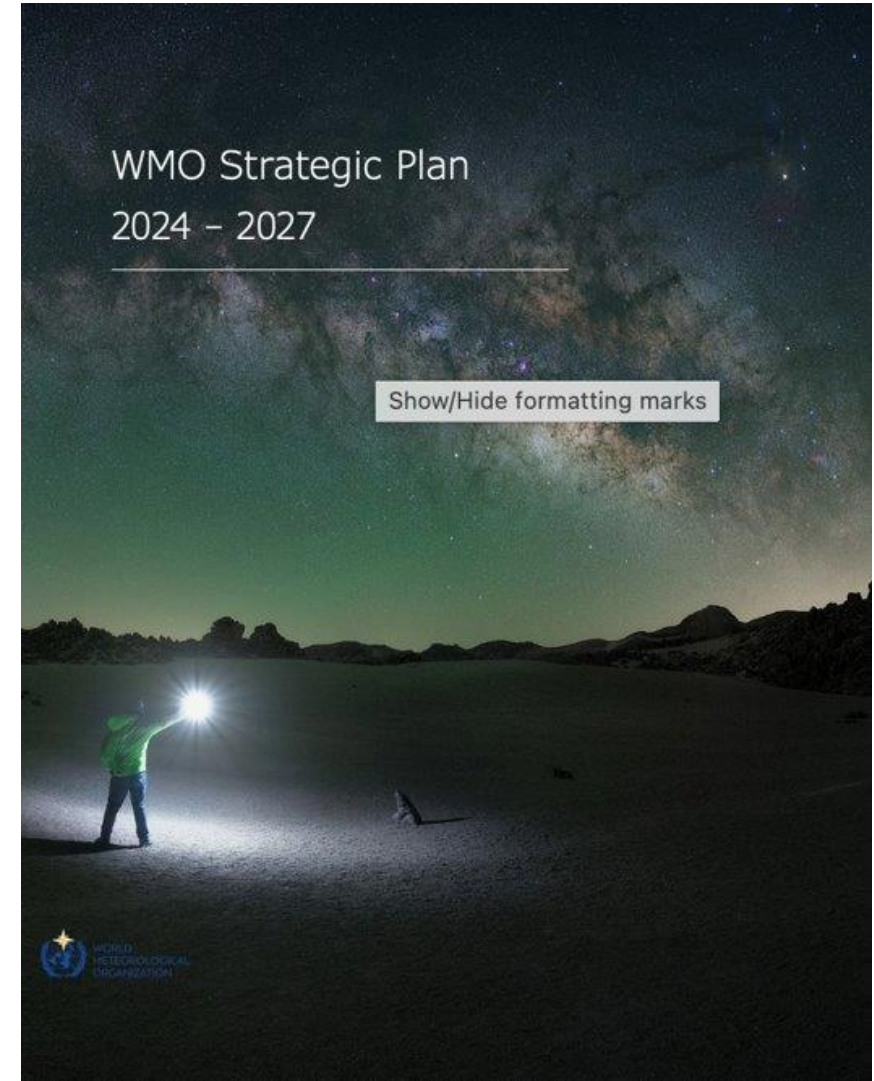
# WMO Strategic plan 2024-2030

## Our Vision

By 2030, we see a world where all nations, especially the most vulnerable, are more resilient to the socioeconomic consequences of **extreme weather, climate, water and other environmental** events; and underpin their sustainable development through the best possible services, whether over land, at sea or in the air.

## Our Mission

Our Mission is outlined under Article 2 of the WMO Convention as to **facilitate worldwide cooperation** on monitoring and predicting changes in **weather, climate, water and other environmental** conditions through the exchange of data, information and services, standardization, application, research and training.



# WMO and Space Weather

- May 2007, the 15th World Meteorological Congress requested WMO Space Programme office “to consider activities in the area of Space Weather”
- 2009, WMO Space Programme office reports to the 16th Executive Council regarding “the Potential role of WMO in Space Weather”
- Since then, slowly but steadily, presence of Space Weather increased in WMO activities, technical rules and regulations and guidance material e.g.:
  - Since 2012 the WMO Rolling Review of (observing) Requirements does contain Space Weather observables, feeding into Gap analyses (used by e.g. CGMS)
  - Cataloguing of hazardous events (together with UN-DRR) contains Space Weather hazards, also to be included in the Global Multi Hazard Alert System
- Subsequent Technical Commissions: ICTSW (2015-2019) – IPT-SWeISS (2019-2023) - ET-SWx (2022-present)

# UNCOPUOS EG on Space Weather

- United Nations Committee for the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
  - Expert Group on Space Weather
  - after conducting a number of surveys to all Member States and with all relevant International Organisations
  - presented its final report at the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee 59th session in 2022
  - “towards improved international coordination for space weather services” ([A/AC.105/C.1/L.401](#))

# 6 Recommendations

- R1: Mechanisms to improve Global coordination
  - R2: Mechanisms to improve Global information sharing
  - R3: Improved Space Agency Mission coordination
  - R4: Support Transition and Implementation
  - R5 & R6: Multilateral Cooperation
- 
- In general: increase coordinated collaboration, building on and optimising existing and ongoing efforts within the community, minimising duplication of effort.

# R1: UNCOPUOS Letter 1 July 2022

- To:
  - International Space Environment Service (ISES)
  - World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)
  - Committee on Space Research (COSPAR)
- requesting COSPAR, ISES & WMO **lead efforts** to improve the global coordination of space weather activities **in consultation and collaboration** with other relevant actors and international organizations, including COPUOS.
- And that **member States** that are also members of, or are represented at, COSPAR, ISES or WMO **engage with those organizations** to encourage a response to COPUOS outlining the efforts they will undertake towards the goal of establishing a potential path forward to improve global coordination and collaboration.



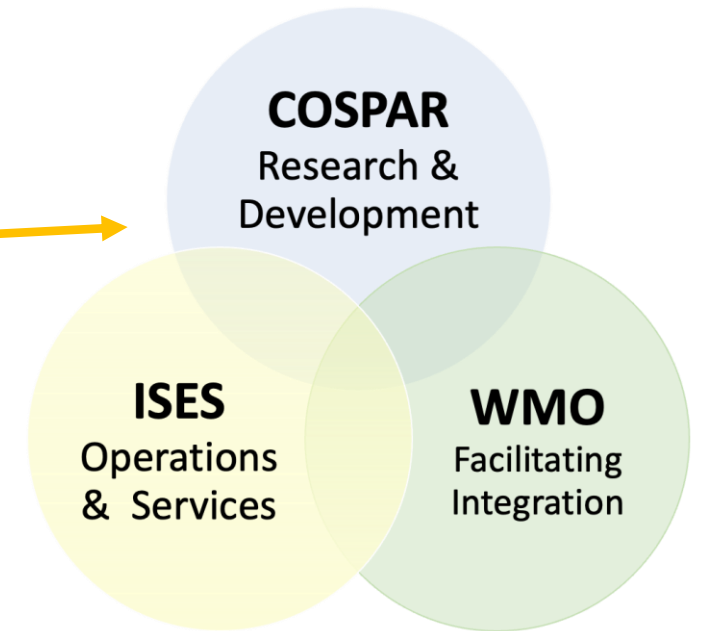
# Response

- Coimbra 'Brainstorm' with 2 representatives from each organisation
  - For each organisation: overview, members, primary focus, strengths, deliverables, etc
  - High-level basis where each organisation could potentially lead efforts, with others contributing
  - Draft 'Coimbra Declaration'
  - Initial discussion around 'pilot-projects' - actions to demo benefit of COSPAR-ISES-WMO working together
  - Future regular meetings, future pathway



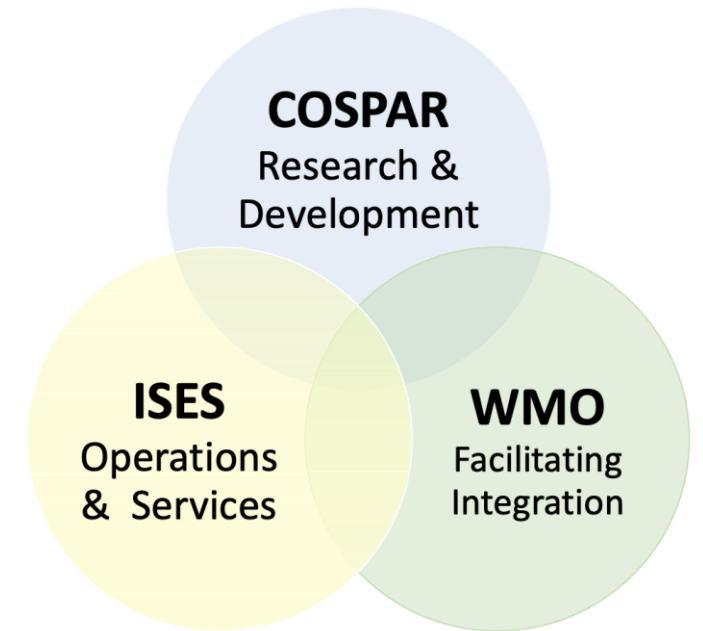
# Coimbra declaration

- To respond positively to UNCOPUOS, to take a leadership role, **as equal partners**, in delivering improved coordination of SWx
- To proceed **in collaboration with others** - with the three leading in distinct domains & to define overarching activities where there's overlap (e.g. R2O2R transitions, Capacity building, Collaboration for a global warning system)
- To add **cross-membership** between the three organisations on the relevant committees/groups - to facilitate improved info flow (e.g. WMO & ISES representatives at COSPAR PSW)



# Coimbra declaration

- To work towards formalising partnership e.g. an ‘MoU’
- To define pilot-projects for collaborative activities
- To meet regularly (every 6 months + virtual meetings + meetings with broader community) - towards improved coordination, on-going activities, action plans
- To report back to UNCOPUOS, Feb ‘23, formal statement at STSC 60th Session
- To organise an [International SWx Coordination Forum](#) to engage with other international organisations in the coordination efforts



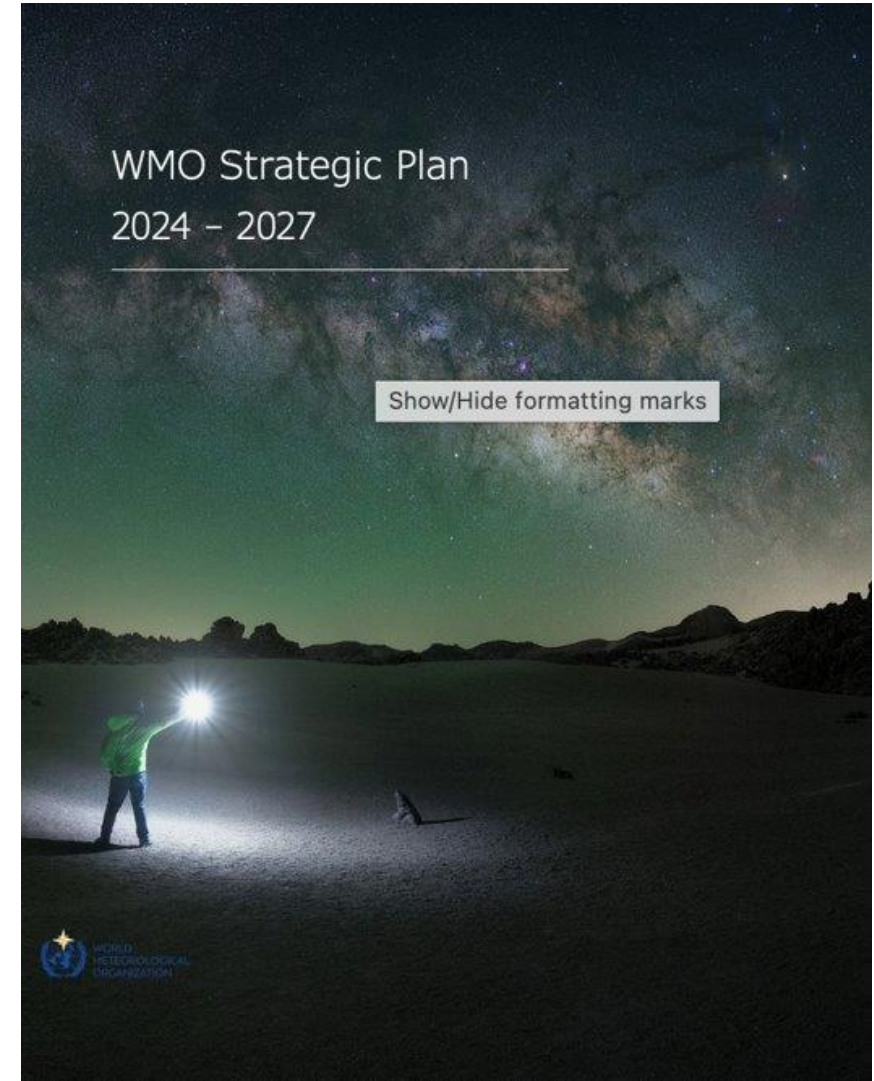
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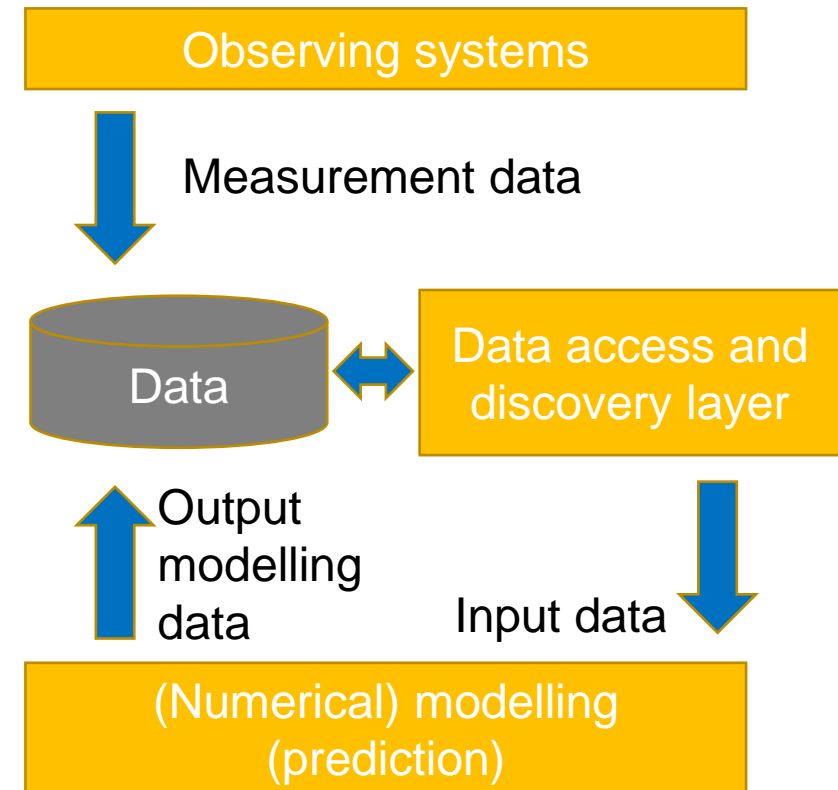
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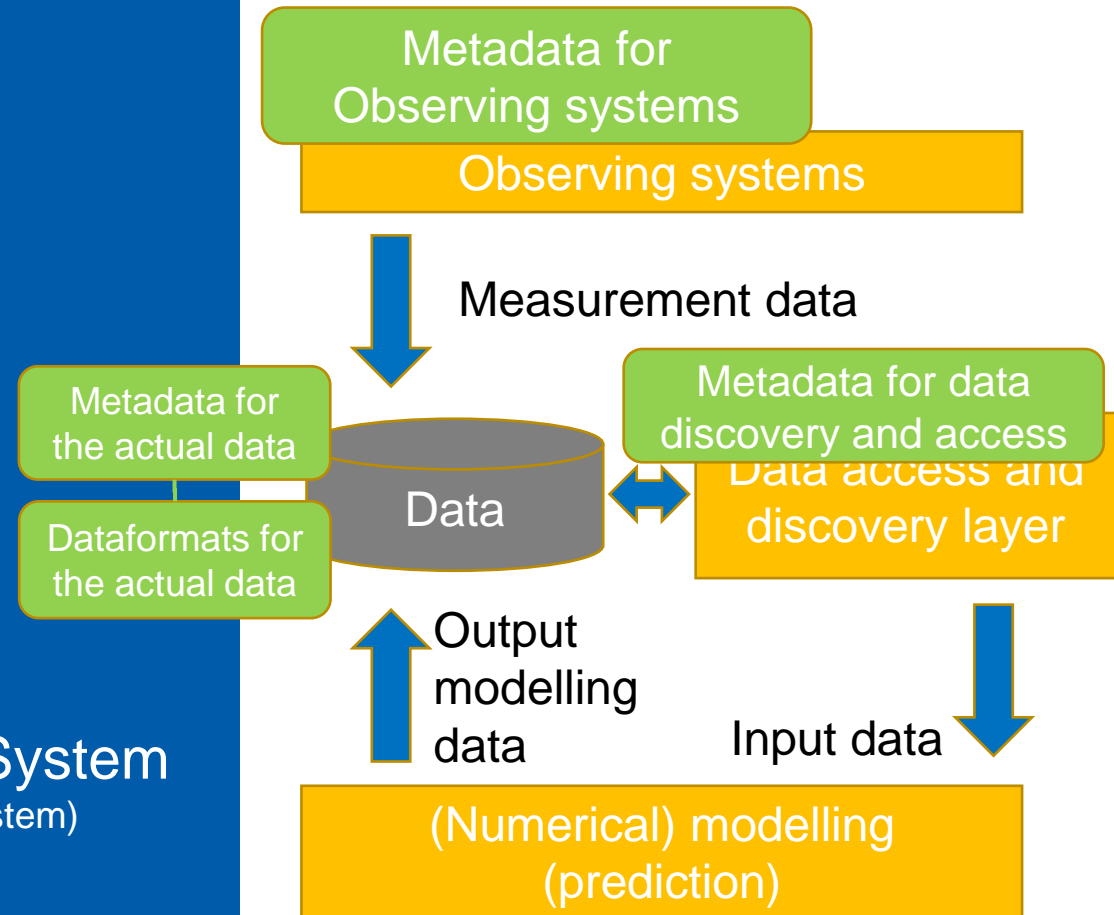
# WMO Infrastructure

- **WIGOS:**  
WMO Integrated Global Observing System
- **WIS:**  
WMO Information System  
WIS 2.0 (being rolled out) is no longer an actual data transport platform (data are pushed) but a discovery and notification platform (notifications are pushed but data is pulled). The regular internet is used as data transport mechanism with the platform additionally offering a cache for part of the data.
- **WIPPS:**  
WMO Information Processing and Prediction System  
(formerly known as GDPFS Global Data Processing and Forecasting System)



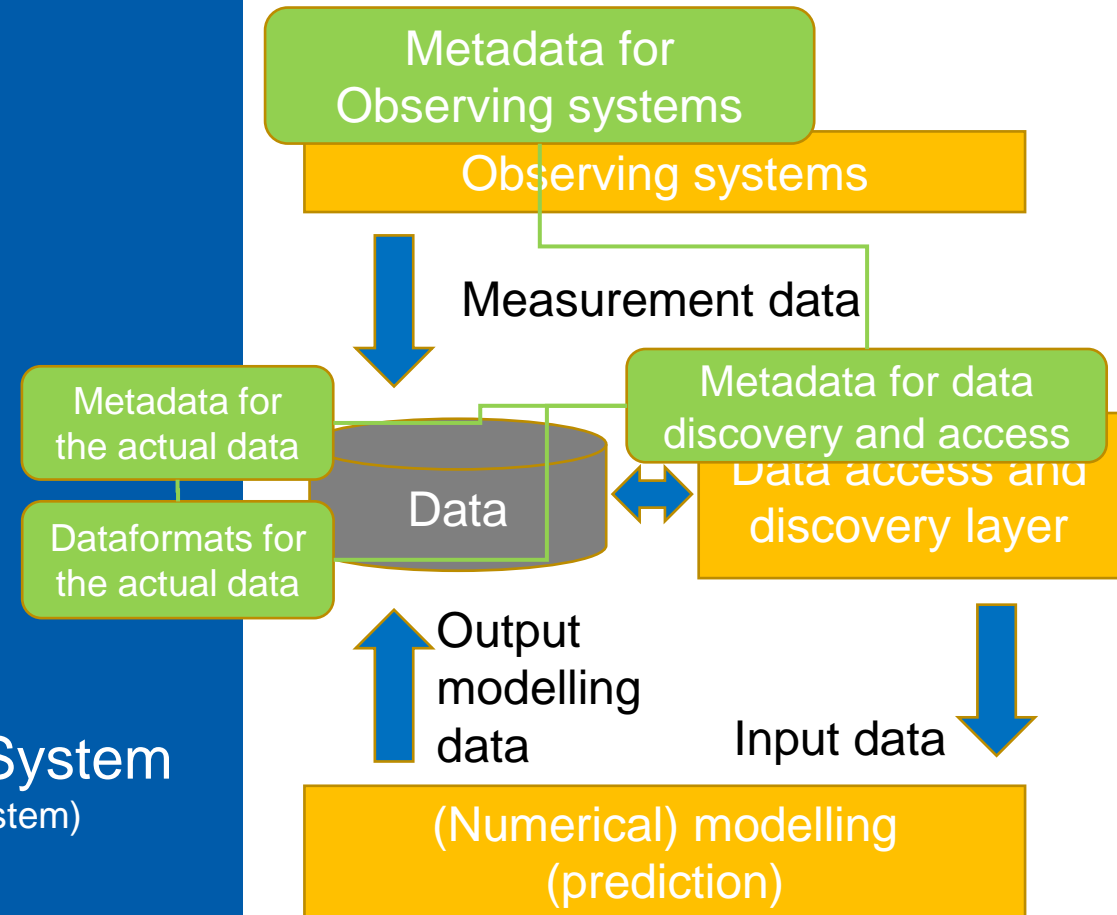
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Metadata for Observables

Metadata for the actual data

Dataformats for the actual data

Metadata for Observing systems

Observing systems

Measurement data

Data

Metadata for data discovery and access

Data access and discovery layer

Output modelling data

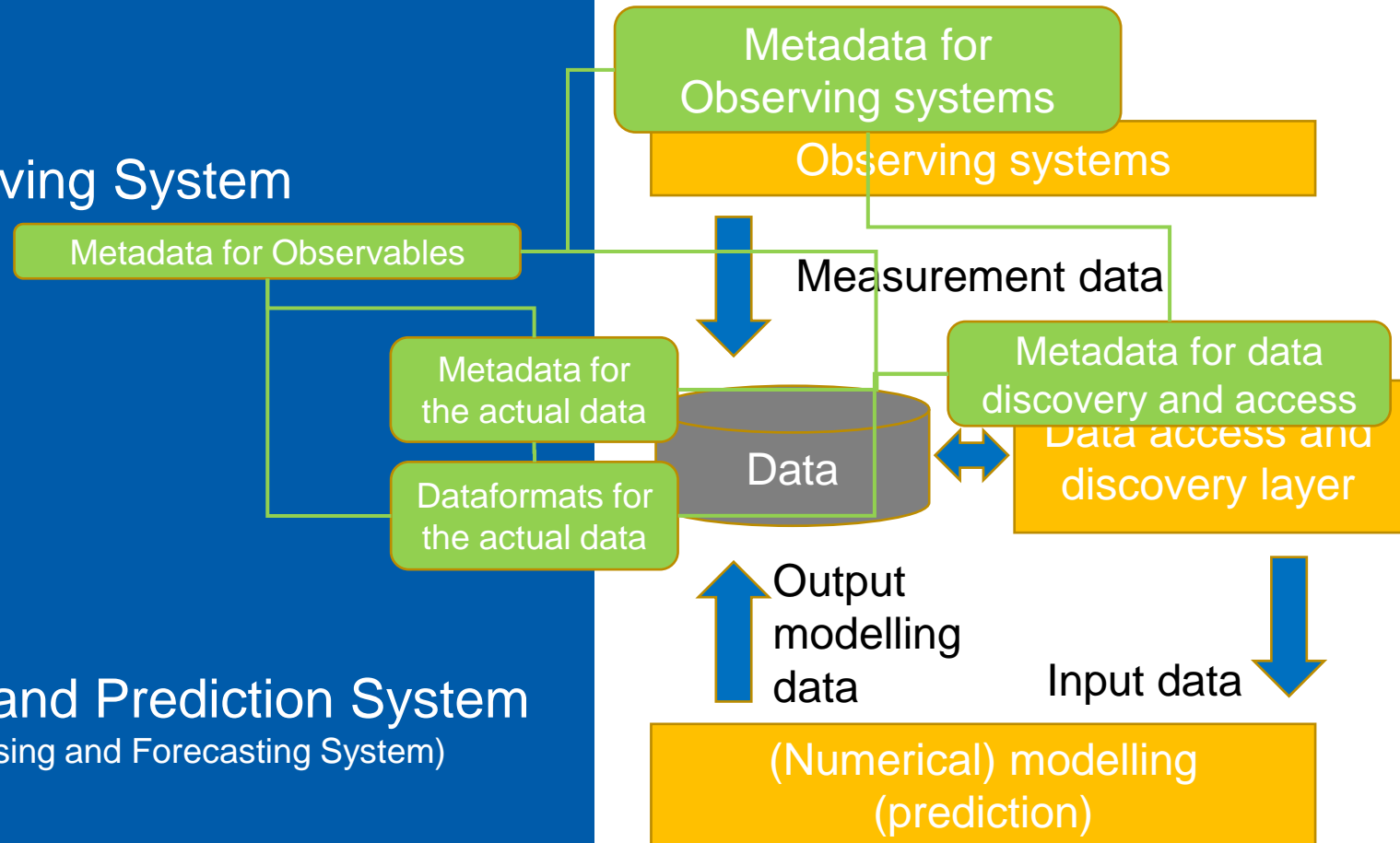
(Numerical) modelling (prediction)

Input data



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# Thoughts

- Even when there are good reasons to maintain different systems in parallel some consistency in metadata standards would be beneficial.
- Coverage of Space Weather and heliophysical metadata in WMO metadata standards is still limited but needs to occur and work for that is ongoing:
  - We better make sure we avoid inconsistencies between WMO metadata and other systems and metadata-models to the extent possible
  - The ability and need for consistency may vary across the areas or system components indicated in the graph
  - Integration in WMO systems could be simplified by identifying in which areas or system components consistency is needed and where not.

# Thank you



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[wmo.int](http://wmo.int)