

## **for the Popularization of the Virtual Data Exploitation Centre (vDEC) in West Africa**

The enormous resources committed by the EU and other relevant partners in the design and development of the Virtual Data Exploitation Centre (vDEC) can only be justified if there is a greater use of this resources by Academics, Researchers and Scientists across the globe, particularly from the developing countries. The focus of this work is to determine the extent of the involvement of the academics, researchers and Scientists from West Africa with the vDEC and to determine how the utilization of the resources can be expanded to benefit Academics, Researchers and Scientists in the region engaged in research and development activities relevant to the CTBT. Engaging other relevant stakeholders in the use of the IMS data and IDC products of the CTBTO has the immense potential to speed up the universalization of the CTBT and its eventual entry-into-force.

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**Track Classification:** 1. The Earth as a complex system