

# ICoRSA

## Introduction to the consortium and its goals



Dr Gordon Dalton  
(chair)

# History

- ICoRSA = International Consortium of Research Staff Associations
- Started 2012
- Unofficially inaugurated ESOF 2012-Dublin (European Science Open Forum)
- Registered as a company limited by guarantee, in Nov 2013.

# Who does ICoRSA represent

- Early stage researchers, post-docs to senior researchers. (not PhD candidates)
- Contract and permanent
- Academic and industry

# 18 Participants



- **10 National research staff associations**
  - **Europe:** Ireland, UK, France, Spain, Portugal, Austria
  - USA, Canada,
  - South Africa, Australia.
- **3 International research associations**
  - WAYS
  - WFSW
- **2 Research Centres RSA**
  - EMBL
  - Max Plank (to be confirmed)
- **1 research career development association**
  - Vitae UK

# Directors Committee



- **IRSA** - Gordon Dalton
- **Vitae** - Ellen Pearce
- **UKRSA/NPA** - David Finger
- **NSF** - David Proctor
- **NPA** - Mahadeo Sukhai
- **SARSA** - Andrew Dellis
- **ANICT Portugal** - Miguel Jorge
- **WAYS** – Carlos Acevedo-Rocha
- **CAPS** - Silvia Viches

# Vision + Mission

## Vision

- ICORSA envisions a global community of internationally networked researchers, where researchers establish a collective voice to influence international policy, so as to enhance research outcomes and to ensure that researchers' contributions are recognised and fairly rewarded through sustainable careers.

## Mission

- ICORSA seeks to enhance research outcomes through the development of researcher communities worldwide, inform international research policy, and build a shared repository of effective and fair researcher working practices.

# General vision + aims

- Communication between national RSA
- Share best practice:
  - RSA
  - Research careers
- Voice for researchers on international committees on research policy, terms conditions.
- Ambassadors to developing countries: Asia, Africa, S America.

# Who will ICoRSA interact with

- To provide a “voice” for researchers internationally on policy.
- To be invited to provide input on policy decisions by
  - EU commission – Bologna process
  - European Science Foundation ESF
  - ENRC + MO Forum on research careers
  - UNESCO
  - ETUCE/ HERSC



# ICoRSA Influencing Policy

- UNESCO survey: An internal ICoRSA participant survey on attitudes to the 1974 UNESCO recommendation on researcher careers.
- Joint letter to the EU commission in January 2013, protesting against the proposed cuts in research budget for Horizon 2020.
- Position statement on HR excellence in Research Award in Europe.

# Conferences participated in 2013/ 2014

- **2013 Nov:** Voice of Researchers (VOR), Brussels
- **2013 Nov:** Lithuanian presidency meeting on research careers.
- **2013 Nov:** UKRSA & VITAE annual forum - Birmingham
- **2013 Nov:** World Science Forum, UNESCO - Rio de Janeiro
  
- **2014 Feb:** European commission meeting on research careers
- **2014 Jun:** European Science Open Forum - Copenhagen
- **2014 Nov:** Caps AGM Canada
- **2014 Nov:** VITAE annual researcher forum – Bristol
- **2014 Nov:** Science 2.0 workshop- Brussels
- **2014 Nov:** Education employers conference - London
- **2014 Dec:** European Network on Research careers – Brussels
- **2014 Dec:** Eu Comission workshop on pensions - RESAVER

# Significant achievements in 2014

1. ICoRSA website - [www.icorsa.org](http://www.icorsa.org)
2. Media: Twitter and Facebook
3. Membership: individual membership
4. MoU with Eurodoc
5. Consortium partnership projects
  1. Horizon 2020 funding in Europe
    1. Research on Gender issues for researchers
    2. Mobility
    3. Career development

# What ICoRSA wants from you

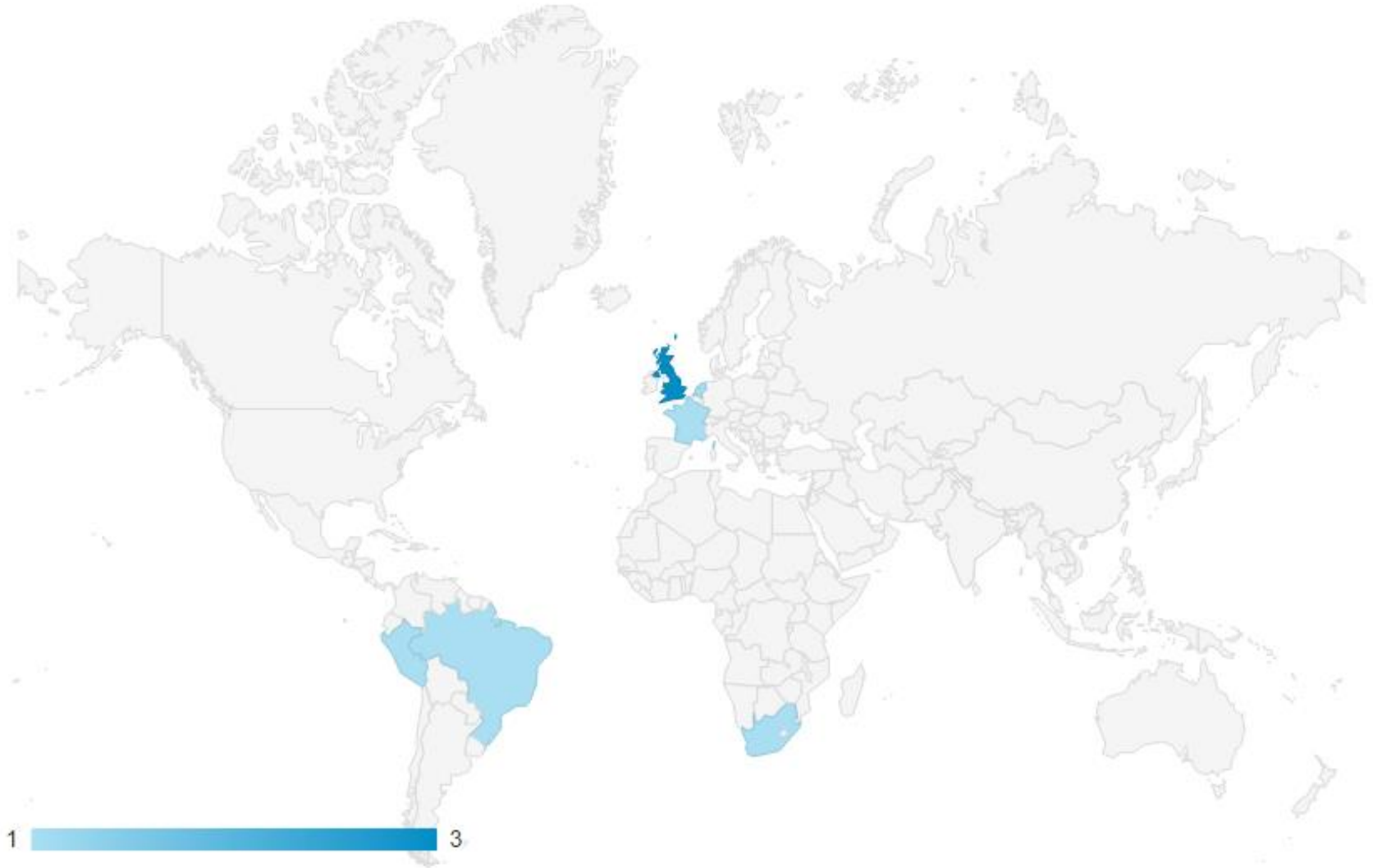
1. Volunteers interested in international issues
  1. *White papers*
  2. *Attending events*
  3. *Media / twitter*
2. Volunteer to form committees and work groups
3. Be the experts on the H2020 projects.
4. Donate in the form of an annual membership

# Opportunities that ICoRSA provides

1. Volunteering to assist researchers internationally
2. Influencing policy on research careers internationally
3. Networking with your peers and international policy makers.
4. Be ambassadors for research!

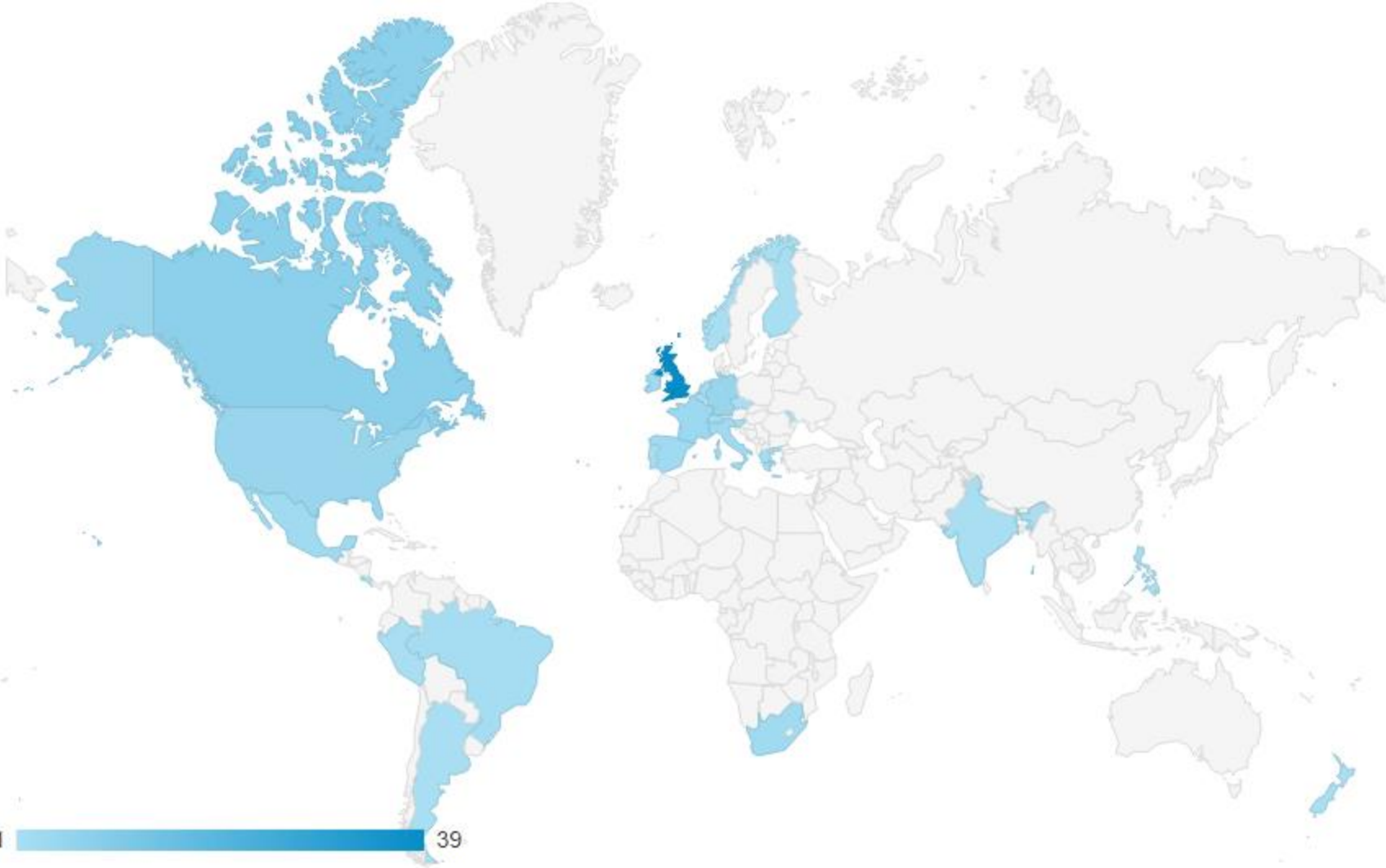
## Evolution of website traffic

Geo-location of the visitors On Sep 16th



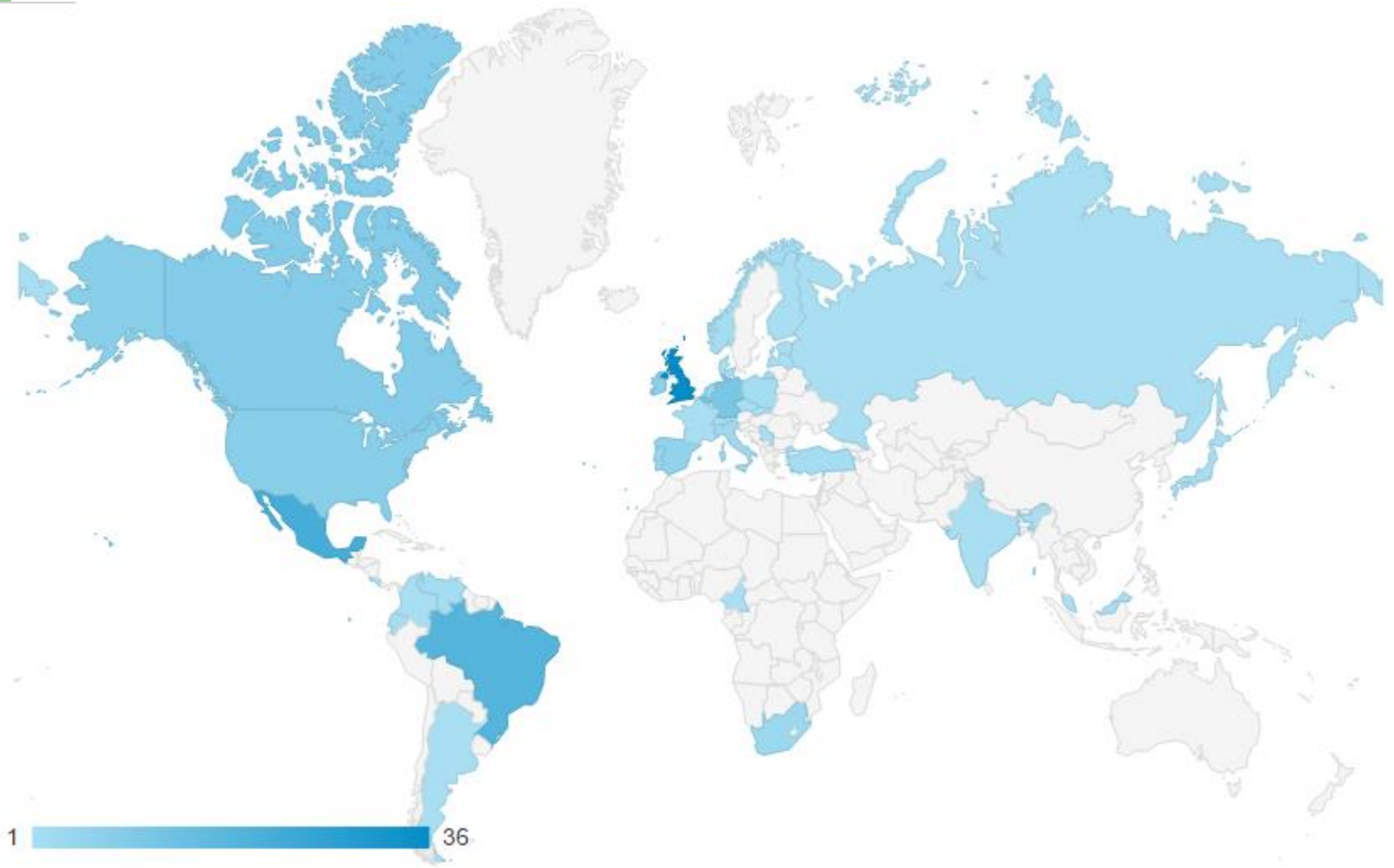
Legend: Intensity of colour represents how many visits from the same country the website h

Geo-location of the visitors On Sep 24th



Legend: Intensity of colour represents how many visits from the same country the website had

## Geo-location of the visitors On Oct23<sup>rd</sup>



Legend: Intensity of colour represents how many visits from the same country the website had



**Facebook page: ICo\_RSA**

**Twitter: @ICoRSA\_News**

**LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/groups/ICoRSA-8120391>**

# Thank you

## ICoRSA



**International Consortium of Research Staff Associations**



# Discussion questions

## Benefits

- a. Can ICoRSA strengthen UKRSA?
- b. Does UKRSA have a voice in Europe, or internationally?
- c. Can UKRSA benefit from learning from Best Practice, or worst practice from other countries?
- d. Can Involvement in ICoRSA benefit a researcher career?
  - i. Gordon experience
  - ii. David experience
- e. Can ICoRSA provide career opportunities? Or is that already serviced.
- f. Would UKRSA want to participate in international surveys?

# Discussion questions

## Membership of ICoRSA

### Options

- a. Volunteers: non pay membership
- b. Donations: annual donation

# Discussion questions

- Contact

What contact preferred

- i. Newsletters
- ii. Facebook/ Twitter