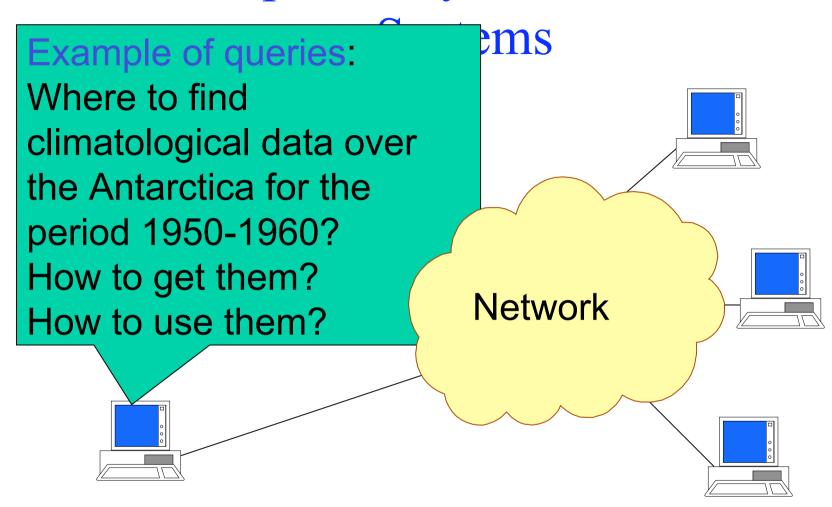
- Interoperability of Information Systems refers to the ability to share information in distributed computing environments, in particular:
 - To find and get information, when they are needed, independent of physical location.
 - To understand the discovered information, no matter what platform supports them, whether local or remote.

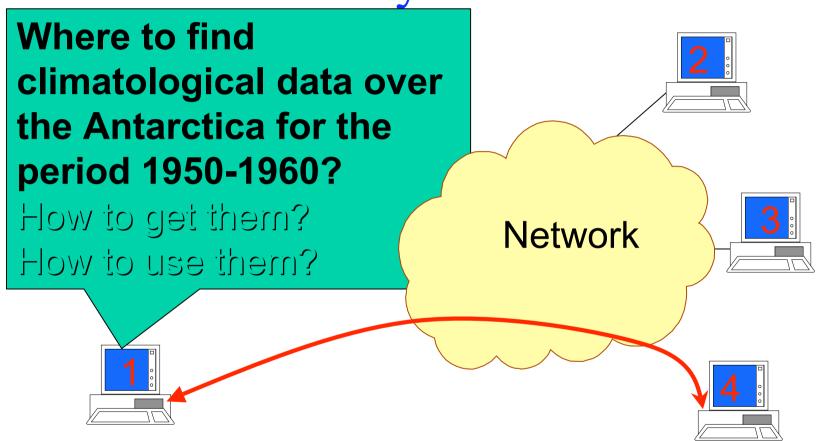
Interoperability of Information



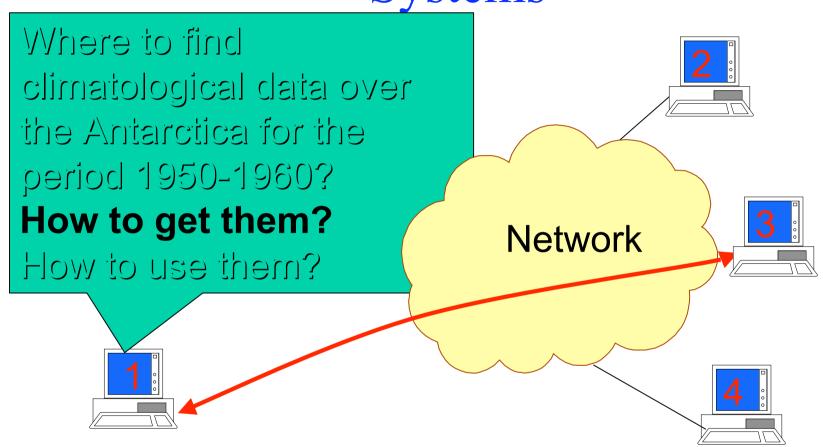
At present, the WMO Programmes do not offer appropriate response in quasi real-time to such queries

- What is available for the interoperability within the WMO Programmes:
 - Ability to transport data between centres on private networks (e.g. GTS) and through the Internet in a standard way. Examples of standards: Internet Protocol (TCP/IP), File Transfer Protocol (FTP)
 - Ability to routinely distribute data (e.g. GTS)

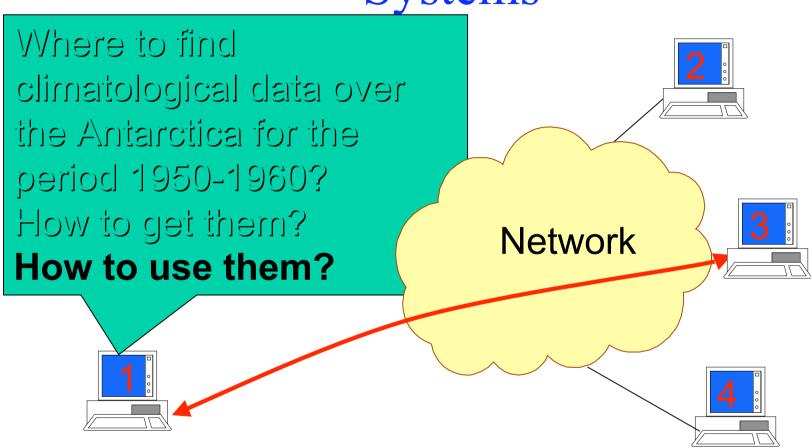
- What is needed as a first priority to ensure the interoperability within the WMO Programmes
 - Ability to describe the data in a standard way needed for the discovery, the retrieval and the usage of the data
 - Solution: development of a WMO Profile of the ISO 19100 series of standards for defining, describing and managing geographic information, starting with the development of the WMO Core Profile of the ISO Metadata Standard



Solution: access the catalogue of metadata of 4 providing discovery information for WMO data



Solution: select a data set from the information received from 4, for example select data from 3 and get them



Solution: extract information on how to use the data from the metadata available in 3

- The Technical Commissions were invited to designate focal points to further develop the WMO Metadata Standard: CAeM, CAS and JCOMM designated focal points.
- The Inter-Commission Co-ordination Group on the FWIS will co-ordinate the further development and implementation of the WMO Metadata Standard for the WMO Programmes.

- The further application of ISO 19100 series of standards would increase the interoperability within WMO Programmes:
 - Ability to represent data in a compatible form
 - Ability to query and manipulate data in a common database distributed over different platforms

- The application of ISO 19100 series of standards increases the interoperability of WIS with other information systems, for example:
 - Ability to share data with other scientific programmes
 - Ability for the NMHSs to share data with their users

- The WIS should be developed in association with other initiatives promoting the interoperability of systems in the area of geophysical and environmental sciences, and should contribute to their implementation.
- Examples of initiatives :
 - DMAC in the USA
 - INSPIRE in the European Union
 - GEOSS

Design

- Based on the ISO 19100 series of geographic information standards
 - ISO standard 19115 Metadata
 - ISO standard 19110 Methodology for feature cataloguing
 - ISO standard 19106 Profiles
 - A WMO core Profile
 - Extensions specific to each WMO Programme

- Experts teams
 - Former CBS Expert Team on Integrated Data Management
 - Inter-Programme Expert Team on Metadata
 Implementation (IPET-MI) established by
 CBS-XIII
 - Include focal points designated by WMO
 Technical Commissions and Programmes

- The Inter-Programme Expert Team on Metadata Implementation (IPET-MI) should:
 - Pursue the development of the metadata standard to be used in the WMO information system (WIS) as a WMO core profile within the context of the ISO 19115 geographic information standard, and contribute to and interact with ISO as appropriate, including creating a core feature catalogue in compliance with ISO 19110;
 - Develop WMO Metadata standard extensions specific to the WWW
 Programme, and promote development of extensions specific to other
 WMO Programmes in liaison with respective Technical Commissions;
 - Further study the use of related ISO metadata standards, especially the ISO 19100 series, for the development of the WIS;
 - Coordinate the development of reference XML Metadata templates and reference implementation;
 - Develop guidance for the implementation and use of operational information catalogues

- CBS-XIII endorsed the "formal draft version 1.0" of the WMO Core Profile against which WMO Programmes would perform formal testing
- Documents are available from http://www.wmo.int/web/www/WDM/Metadata/documents.html
- Meeting of the IPET-MI and Workshop on Metadata tentatively in Beijing from 26 to 30 September 2005
- WMO participates in ISO work for the development of the WMO Metadata Standard