



**Preparatory Actions for European Marine Observation and Data
Network**

**SEVENTH PROGRESS REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD
AUGUST 2010 – SEPTEMBER 2010**

**Service Contract No. “MARE/2008/03 - Lot 1 Hydrography –
SI2.531515”**

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1. INTRODUCTION

EMODNET (European Marine Observation and Data Network) is a contribution to the EU Integrated Maritime Policy. Currently there are 6 Lots (pilots) under development. This progress report nr 7 gives an overview of the activities undertaken for the Hydrography Lot during the months August 2010 and September 2010.

The EMODNET Hydrography pilot has officially started 29th May 2009, and the first important contractual milestone has been 29th May 2010. From that date onwards the prototype EMODNET Hydrographic portal has been operational and serving out a number of hydrographic data products and metadata, describing the background data sets, that were used for the making of the data products. The data products can also be used as data layers by the European Atlas of the Seas and the European broad-scale seabed habitat mapping project.

2. PROGRESS REPORT AND ACTIONS

A concise report of activities, progress and further actions is given below.

- **Project group meeting**

Preparations have been undertaken for the next meeting of the EMODNET Hydrography – Seabed Mapping Projectgroup. This will take place at 20th – 21st October 2010 in Villefranche sur Mer, France. It will be held to discuss the progress and further planning of the EMODNET Hydrography project and the EMODNET Seabed Mapping project. The first day of the meeting will be joined by representatives of CIESM to explore synergy options with the CIESM's MediMap project, that has been on-going for many years and in which many Mediterranean institutes work on a voluntary basis to compile and publish a series of synthesis maps of the Mediterranean. The aim is to achieve a cooperation whereby CIESM might open new doors to additional survey data and whereby CIESM might be interested to contribute to the EMODNET project in the field of scientific validation of the EMODNET digital bathymetry.

- **Contractual arrangements**

MARIS has prepared and submitted the 6th Bimonthly Progress report for the period June 2010 – July 2010. This report has been accepted by the EU. Moreover MARIS has transferred to all partners their shares of the 1st annual payment.

- **Website updating**

MARIS has updated several sections of the EMODNET Hydrography portal at <http://www.emodnet-hydrography.eu> to reflect the recent extension of the EMODNET Hydrography project with the EMODNET Seabed Mapping project and the establishment of associate partners. Also the 1st Annual Progress report has been included in the public portal in the 'Pilot approach' chapter so that really interested users can download it in PDF format.

- **EMODNET Hydrography Portal – Product Viewing Service**

ATLIS has done a thorough check of the DTM and came across a number of small errors. Some DTM points were missing in the global DTM for the areas of GSI and NOC because of differences (GSI has applied resolution of 0,005 arc minute; NOCS has 0,0041; the agreed resolution was: 0,00416667). This is solved by ATLIS by regriding to make an even grid and secure data values for all DTM points. During this effort ATLIS also takes care that for all data of the HO's of Germany, Denmark, Netherlands and Belgium statistical values are calculated and included for all their provided data. During regeneration downloading of products was not possible for some period, which has been indicated to users by a pop-up.

Action: ATLIS will continue to improve and extend the functionality of the viewing service in the second year.

- **DTM metadata format and service**

IEO has been busy with preparing DTM references for each of the 8 regional DTM's that it has supplied, following the adopted CAMIOON format for composite data products.

Action: ATLIS and MARIS will explore how the DTM metadata info and service can be integrated into the functionality of the viewing service next to the CDI metadata for original survey data.

Action: IFREMER will prepare a short guideline how partners can use the CAMIOON online editor for completing relevant references.

Action: Partners will study the provided example and prepare references for used composite data products.

- **CDI Metadata**

CNR-ISMAR has produced CDI records for the Tyrrhenian Sea surveys. These CDI records have been loaded into the operational CDI metadata discovery and data access service. ISMAR has configured the 'Interim solution' as data provider.

GSI has made a number of test CDI records that have been validated by MARIS and it has made progress with the installation and configuration of the SeaDataNet Download Manager software to achieve connectivity with the CDI metadata discovery and data access service for automatic processing of data requests.

NOC has been exploring options and most probably will cooperate with BODC, that already is an established SeaDataNet node, to index and give access to its multibeam surveys.

Action: It is strived that all data providers produce CDI records for the survey data that they have contributed and explore how to connect to the CDI service.

- **Progress of data gathering and processing for the Mediterranean region**

Several actions are underway for identifying and retrieving additional data sets to improve the geographical coverage and to make the metadata and the quality statistics per grid cell more complete.

Negotiations are well underway between MARIS and the RIMA department of OGS that has multibeam surveys for the Ionian Sea. Most probably OGS-RIMA will become an associate partner and a subcontract will be establish to cover the extra activities for preparing CDI records and the DTM for the given area following the EMODNET specifications.

Action: IEO will contact again its data suppliers in a new attempt to get CDI metadata on the underlying surveys and where possible, access to these surveys themselves, also to improve the Quality statistics. IEO should explain the EMODNET Hydrography philosophy and demonstrate the portal to convince its suppliers.

Action: ISMAR will explore whether the project can get access to surveys along the Italian coast (ongoing project), eastern Sardinia, Northern Sicily and Ionian Sea (University of Trieste?) and will write a short report on this search.

Action: SHOM will contact the Italian HO for possible contributions.

Action: MARIS will contact SACLANT (NATO) for possible contributions.

Action: IFREMER will seek to retrieve data sets from French harbours and Regional Equipment Services of the State. Also there are possibly new surveys from a cooperation of IFREMER with Italy for Sardinia and Corsica (to be confirmed). Furthermore a few old multibeam surveys of J. Charcot will be reprocessed for better data.

Action: IFREMER will contact IBCM (eg for Russian data off Lybian coast), Tunisia, where there exist a few multibeam surveys, and CIESM for a possible cooperation.

Action: IFREMER will seek to deliver an updated version of the EMODNET Mediterranean DTM to ATLAS for inclusion in the Hydrography portal in December 2010, using additional data sets.

- **Progress of data gathering and processing for the Greater North Sea, Channel and Celtic sea**

MARIS has a meeting planned with the Netherlands Hydrographic Office to give a presentation about the EMODNET Hydrography project and to discuss the delivery of CDI records for their surveys in the North Sea.

NOC has been in further contact with the UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO) to get access to the multibeam surveys and/or DTM for the bathymetry and their associated CDI metadata in the UK sector. NOC recently spoke to UKHO which did not see any problem with EMODNET having the xyz files along with metadata and polygons for the individual surveys. But UKHO requires approval from MCA who coordinated and paid for the work. MCA and UKHO are hoping to have some interim data release terms in place soon. However, large projects such as EMODNET are advised to wait until they have their final data release policy in place (could still be a couple of weeks).

Action : ATLAS to undertake further efforts to the HO's to get improved metadata for these DTM's adopting the CAMIOON format, more quality information and where possible, to gather CDI records for underlying surveys.

Action: NOC to continue pursuing availability of the UKHO data and metadata for the EMODNET Hydrography project and to report on negotiation progress.

- **GEBCO exchange and tuning**

The EMODNET Hydrography project has been presented at its start at the GEBCO Science Day and it was agreed to keep each other informed and to seek synergy in the field of metadata, vocabularies and data formats. The 2010 GEBCO Science Day meeting has been held in Callao, Peru from 11-18 September 2010 and it has been arranged that the 1st year progress of EMODNET Hydrography has been presented by T. Pharaon, the GEBCO chairman. It has been reported that the presentation has been well received and that GEBCO is interested in a closer cooperation, which might include adoption of the CDI metadata formats and supporting tools.

Action: IFREMER and SHOM to secure a follow-up with GEBCO.