

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

**THIRD PROGRESS REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD
OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2009**

**Service Contract No. "MARE/2008/03 - Lot 3 Chemistry –
SI2.531432"**

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2. CONCLUSIONS FROM THE PROGRESS MEETING FOR UR-EMODNET PREPARATORY ACTIONS

During the progress meeting for ur-EMODNET preparatory actions, held in Brussels the 24th of November 2009, presentations of the work progress were given by the five EMODNET Lots coordinators (for Hydrography MARIS, for Geology BGS, for Chemistry OGS, for Biology VLIZ, for Broad Scale Habitats JNCC). As an introduction, MARE, giving an overview of the Marine Data underuse situation, presented the Background on Marine Knowledge. The synthesis highlighted some main issues:

- difficulty to access to data;
- data access restrictions;
- costs of data;
- coherence;
- data quality.

Priority actions suggested by EC to obtain better Marine infrastructures are:

- interoperability;
- to reduce the data and infrastructures fragmentation (highlighted as one of the elements of costs increasing) building a large and strong European net.

The EMODNET project with its role of data collection and assembling is considered one of the steps to face this situation.

According to the project proposal, the EMODNET Chemical lot will adopt SeaDataNet V1 infrastructure as technical solution for metadata (CDI) and for the data flow. This means:

- SDN Standards for data and metadata;
- CDI mechanism to access data with data policy;
- ODV format for data exchange;
- SDN Security Services for users registrations, and SDN Delivery Services for data access and downloading;
- DIVA software tool (Data-Interpolating Variational Analysis) to produce gridded data from raw data. Error maps reflect the accuracy of the observations and their distribution, used for the assessment.

The metadata flow will use the XML standard adopted in SeaDataNet. Measured data will be transferred by NODCs in SDN ODV format (and as much as possible complemented by the CDI metadata entries) to the regional data pool for each of the 3 separate regions (NERI for Greater North Sea, MHI for the Black Sea, HCMR for the Mediterranean spots). CDI entries will be produced and managed by NODCs, using metadata information from the original data providers.

SeaDataNet will be a key element to ensure interoperability and harmonization between the EMODNET pilots, as data and products compatibility.

The objective of the first months of activities was to obtain a clear knowledge of the data distribution in the different countries for the parameters of interest. In fact, some countries encountered difficulties mainly related to data release (negotiation). Some of them, having two separated ministry for environment and research, will need to build an efficient net of contacts with the data originators. A fundamental help on this is the cooperation with EEA (official introduction letter) and Marine Conventions (OSPAR, HELCOM and BSC).

At the meeting was presented the situation of the data harvesting for three regional pools of the Chemical lot:

Greater North Sea

- A detailed list of ICES/OSPAR stations and measurements was produced and action is started to complete it with additional data;
- VLIZ, Belgium is preparing CDI records for 9 + 15 monitoring stations (Belgian Continental shelf + Scheldt Estuary) and configuring download manager;
- RBINS-MUMM, Belgium expanded the inventory fields by giving more information on the data to comply with the Emodnet commitments (parameter selection).

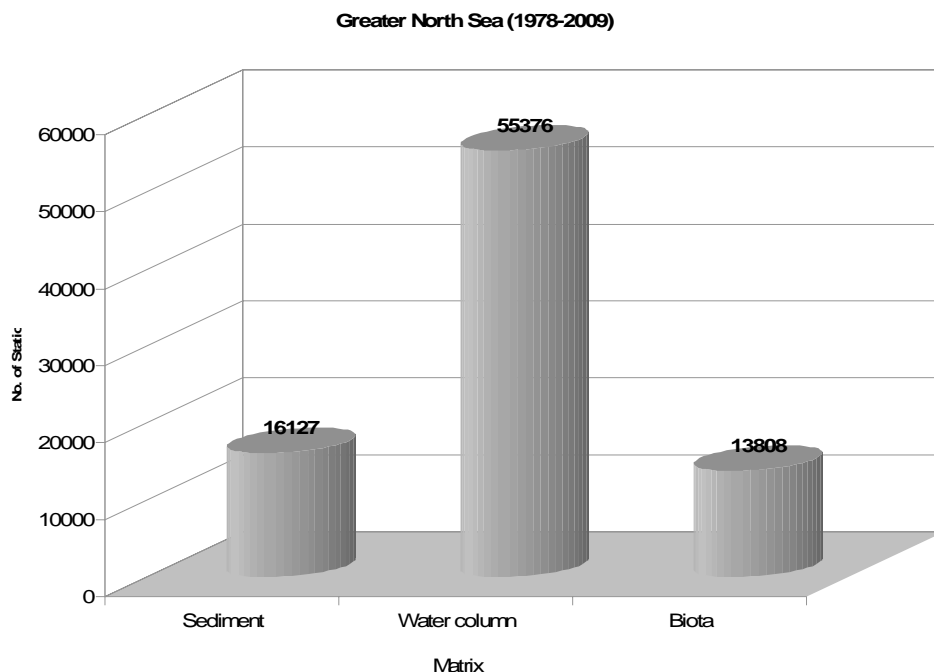


Fig. 1: Simple overview of the number of stations per matrix in the Greater North Sea

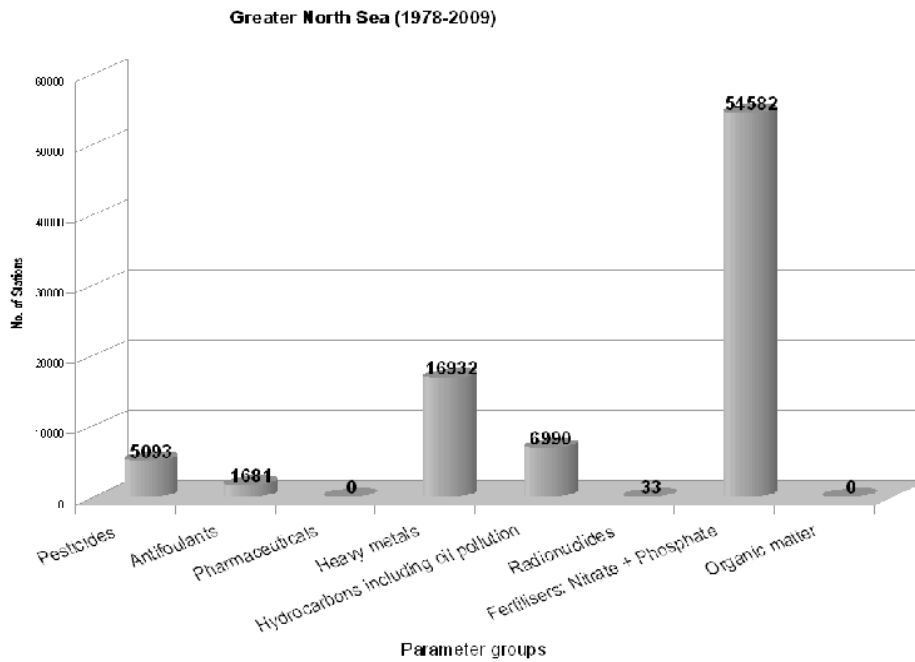


Fig. 2: Simple overview of the number of stations per parameter group in the Greater North Sea

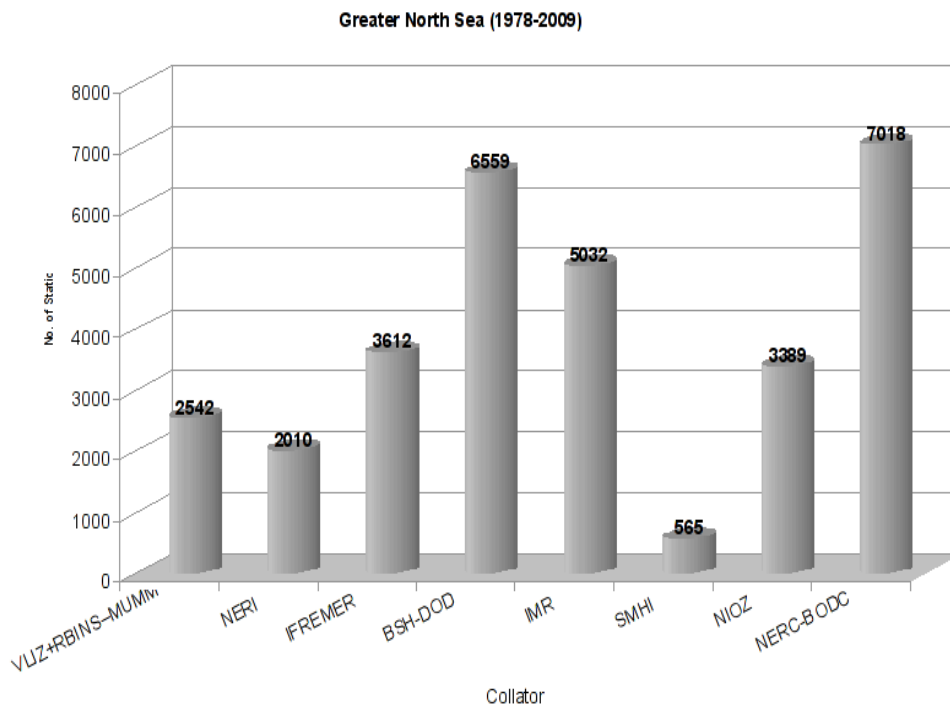


Fig. 3: Simple overview of the number of stations per partner collator in the Greater North Sea

Black Sea

- NIMRD, Romania sent a list of 2.619 stations available in ODV format according to SDN and NIMRD data policy;
- RIHMI, Obninsk, RF sent the list of stations available (pollutant);
- TSU, Georgia sent the list of new stations available.

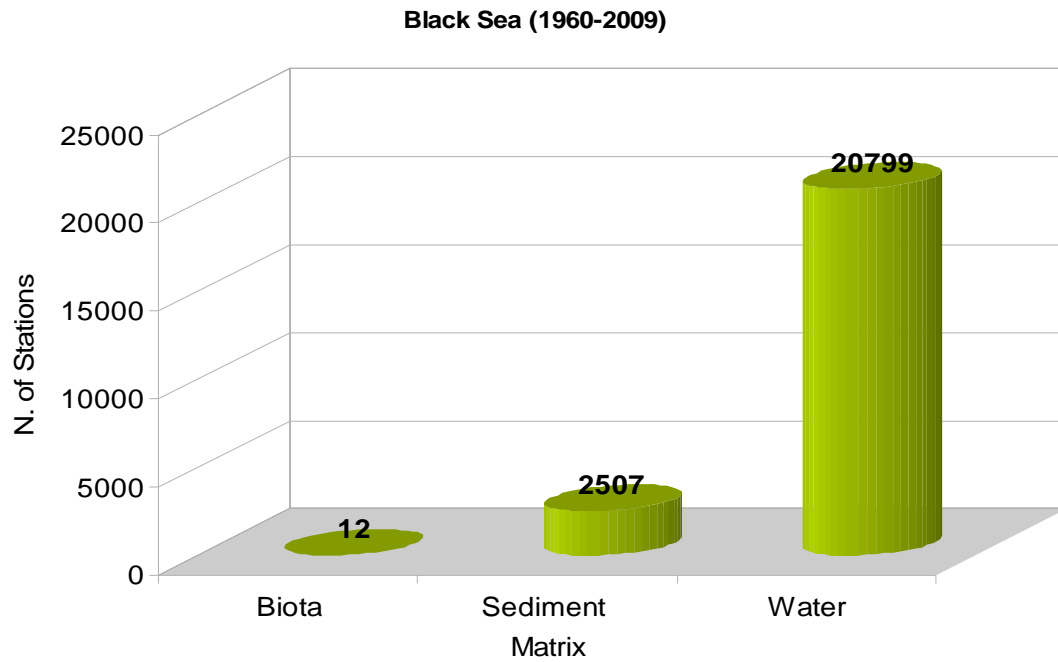


Fig. 4: Simple overview of the number of stations per matrix in the Black Sea

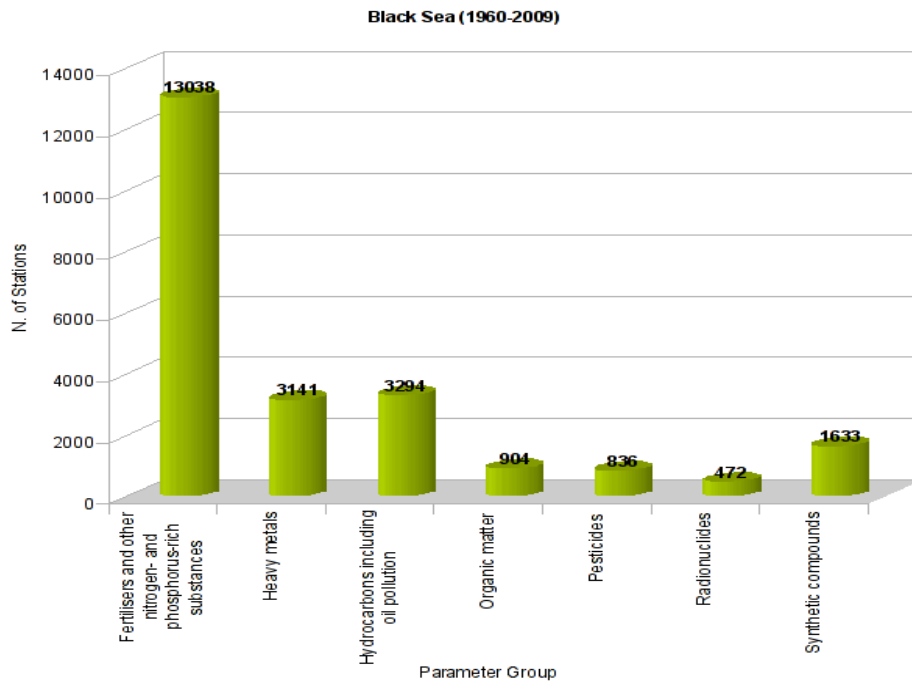


Fig. 5: Simple overview of the number of stations per parameter group in the Black Sea

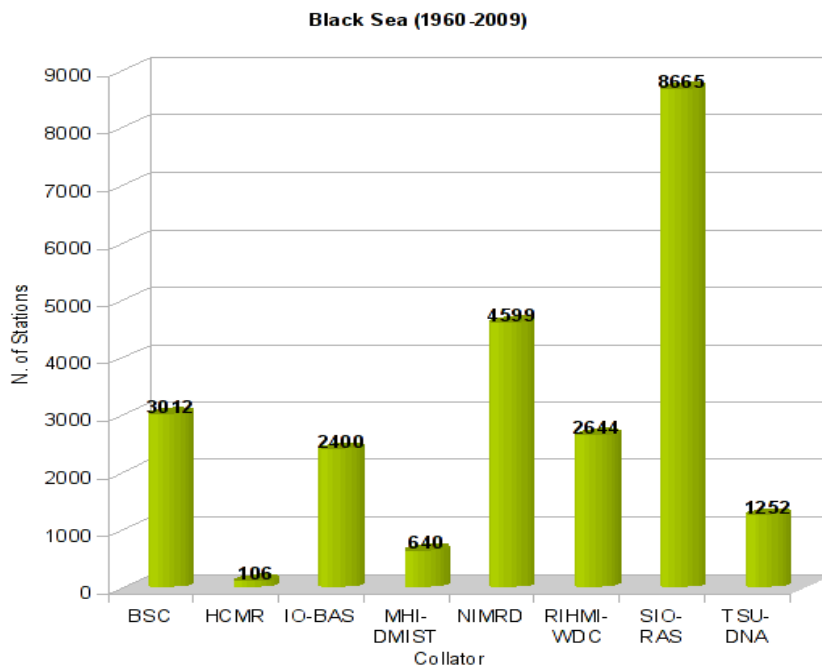


Fig. 6: Simple overview of the number of stations per partner collator in the Black Sea

Mediterranean spots

- Number of measurements of the Data Inventory are replaced by stations made available (as CDI records and ODV data files).

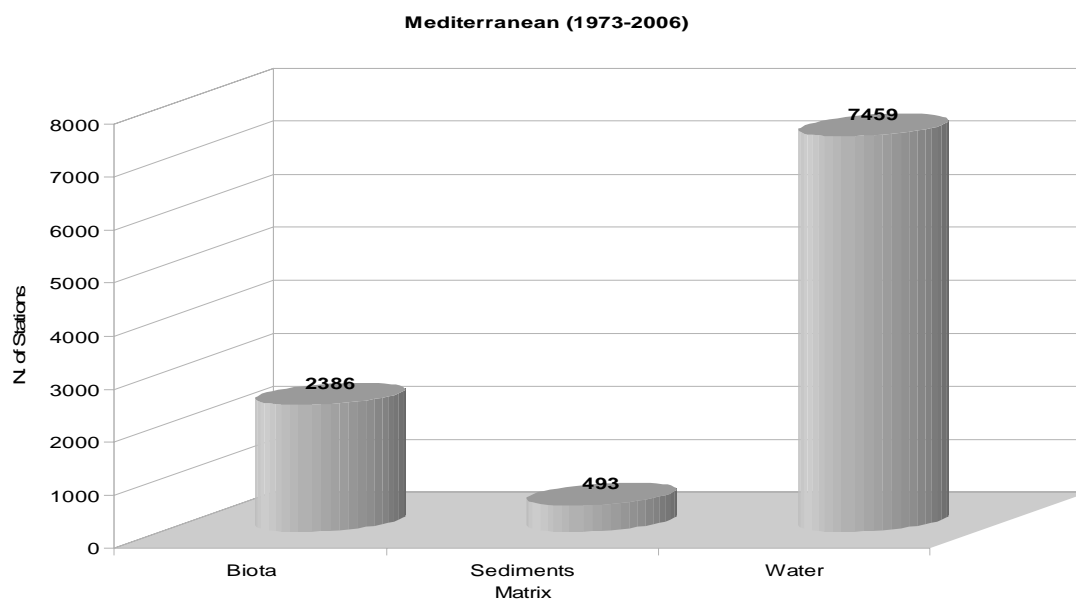


Fig. 7: Simple overview of the number of stations per matrix in the Mediterranean Sea

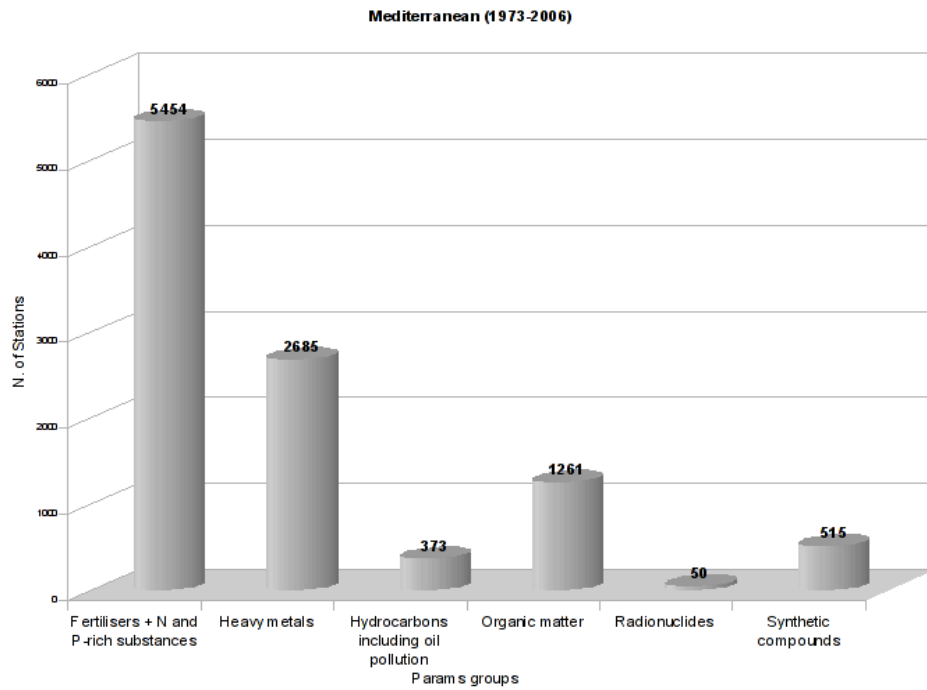


Fig. 8: Simple overview of the number of stations per parameter group in the Mediterranean Sea

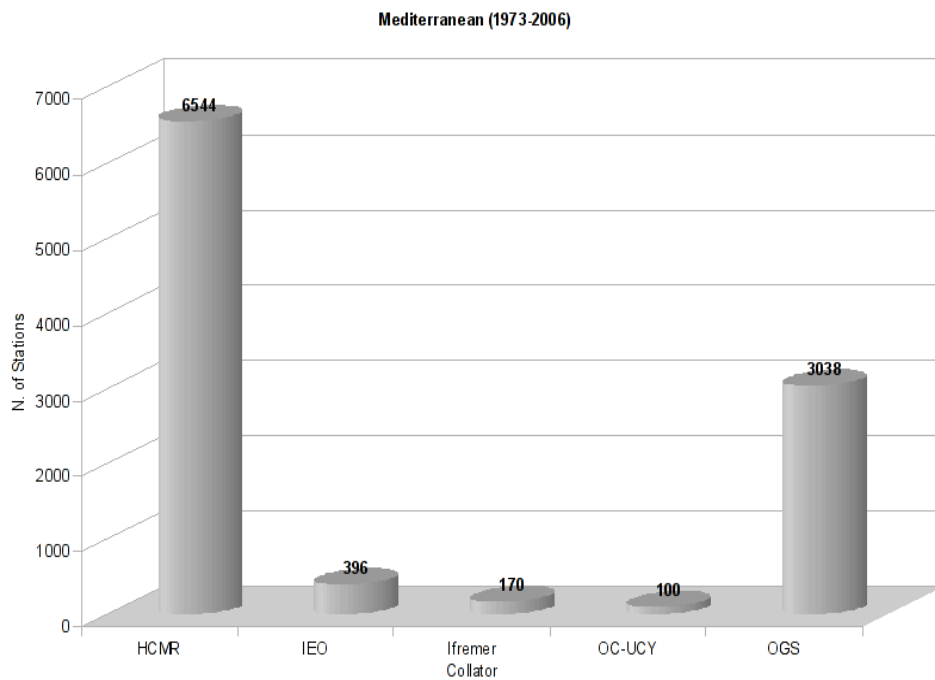
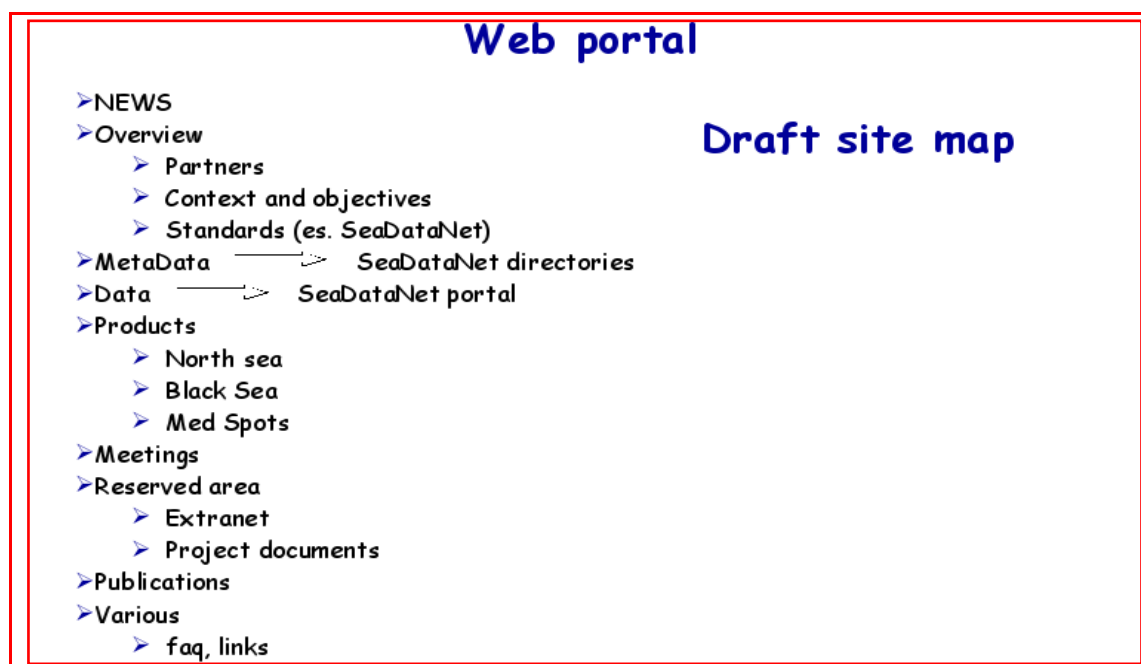


Fig. 9: Simple overview of the number of stations per partner collator in the Mediterranean Sea

About the EMODNET Chemical portal, the following draft site map was presented:



As decided to the SDN Technical Task Team meeting, the portal will provide references to original data sets and their originators for each data product. That will be realized by an integration of the SeaDataNet CDI V1 query and shopping system (by MARIS). The data requests can be performed via the CDI V1 transaction system with downloading from the NODCs. However in some cases the datasets might not reside or be managed by the NODCs; for those cases an alternative requesting function will be added to the CDI V1 shopping mechanism, so that requests for datasets can be forwarded to external data holders (non-NODCs). The final domain name for EMODNET Chemical portal will be

<http://www.emodnet-chemistry.eu/>