



EMODnet Thematic Lot n° 5 - Biology

3rd Bi-monthly Report

Reporting Period: 01/05/2014 – 30/06/2014

Date: 09/07/2014

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1. Highlights in this reporting period

Provide a short summary of the key achievements and/or events of interest to a wider audience within this reporting period you wish to highlight – this can be based on the indicators or any other of the reporting sections.

- *EMODnet biology participated in the second Steering Committee, and the project was presented to ICES and JRC.*
- *WP2 has created a draft webinterface with information on introduced and invasive marine species (MSFD Descriptor 2), which is currently in testing phase. The webinterface will be launched in the second half of the 2014. A second web interface for other functional trait data is under development.*
- *WP3 finalized an overview of all metadata of the datasets that will be mobilized during the project. All the data providers are now standardizing and publishing the data making it accessible through the EMODnet Biology portal*
- *WP5 created gridded dataproducts for the planctonic species *Calanus helgolandicus* and *C. finmarchicus*, in a seasonal and yearly timewindow (an animation, using a sliding timeframe approach indicates the temporal trends of the abundance of the species). Data products of the most abundant North Sea Benthic Species have been created. For the Baltic invasive species, *Marenzelleria* sp., gridded dataproducts give an estimation, of the temporal invasion of the species Some of the initial products are published in the EMODnet gallery <http://www.emodnet-biology.eu/component/photogallery/?album=4430>*
- *The methodology to create the gridded abundance maps has been tested and validated. Partners of WP5 compiled a proposal to use this methodology to create OOPS: Operational Oceanographic Products and Services, a call published by ICES. If accepted, the methodology and EMODnet products on Copepod abundance would directly feed into the ICES advisory process.*
- *An article was published in Science using data retrieved from the EMODnet Biology portal: Assemblage Time Series Reveal Biodiversity Change but Not Systematic Loss, Science 18 April 2014: Vol. 344 no. 6181 pp. 296-299, DOI: 10.1126/science.1248484.*

2. Meetings held since last report

List here the meetings held since the last bi-monthly report, if relevant add short description

[Provide information in table - Maximum 1 page]

Date	Location	Topic	Short Description
4-5 June 2014	CNR, Rome	EMODnet Steering Committee Meeting	Overview EMODnet biology activities at steering committee meeting
11 June 2014	NIOZ, Ierseke	WP5 Meeting between VLIZ and NIOZ	Discuss progress regarding WP5 (Gridded abundance products)
26 June 2014	Oostende, VLIZ	WP3	Meeting with ILVO on data transfer to EMODnet

3. Work package updates

Using the work package as a header list here the activities that occurred since the last bi-monthly report. If there was no activity to report leave the section blank.

WP1 – Project Management

- All initial payments to all partners performed, except to subcontractor IBSS
- All Consortium agreements signed
- Participation in Steering Committee meeting
- List with contact details of all EMODnet biology partners was sent to the secretariat.

WP2 – Identification and collection of species, species attributes and species indicator information

- The trait data from the pilot trait projects are being processed and formatted for upload.
- Data on marine invasive species is undergoing quality checks and formatting for upload.
- A draft version of the World Register of Introduced Species (WRIMS) has been set up and is in testing phase.
- We are setting up a semantic Wiki to manage the vocabularies on the functional trait names and definitions.

WP3 – Data access to marine biological data

- WP3 finalized an overview of all metadata of the datasets that will be mobilized during the project. All the data providers are now standardizing and publishing the data making it accessible through the EMODnet Biology portal

WP4 – Data archaeology

- Nothing to report

WP5 – Creation of gridded abundance data products

- Follow up meeting in Yerseke between NIOZ and VLIZ (11th June 2014).
- Gridded abundance products of several species are in the final stage (i.e. *Amphiura filiformis*, *Calanus finmarchus*, *Calanus helgolandicus*, *Marenzelleria* spp).
- Some of the animated products are published in a movie gallery at <http://www.emodnet-biology.eu/component/photogallery/?album=4430>

- *WP5 compiled a proposal to use this methodology to create OOPS: Operational Oceanographic Products and Services, a call published by ICES. If accepted, the methodology and EMODnet products on Copepod abundance would directly feed into the ICES advisory process.*

WP6 – Technical update EMODnet biological portal & link with other portals

- *A detailed technical and functional analysis of the EMODnet Biology dataportal have been performed. The new version of the dataportal aims to become more user friendly and more performant, with additional functional tools to filter, select, download and map the data. There will be more distinction between the data selection and download tool, and the mapping tool which will be used more for visualizing and presenting the data. We will now start the development.*
- *We discussed with the EMODnet Secretariat the user-feedback obtained through a survey. Based on this feedback we identified 10 actions to improve the portal. Some of the actions will be implemented during summer, some actions are considered as part of the version 2.0 of the portal.*

4. Specific challenges or difficulties encountered during the reporting period

Please list specific problems you have encountered during this period, including related to technical and data provision issues

Communication with IBSS is difficult. So far the partner did not claimed its prefinancing.

5. User Feedback

List any useful feedback you received on your portal, your activities or those of other EMODnet projects/activities. Also provide any suggestions you have received for EMODnet case studies and/or future products/activities/events.

[Provide information in table - attach the documentation/full user feedback to the report]

Date	Name	Organization	Type of user feedback (e.g. technical, case study etc)	Response time to address user request
06/2014		IOPAN	Request information about options to provide data to EMODnet biology	Communication ongoing
06/2014		ICES	Request from ICES to provide gridded abundance data products based on monitoring data from the CPR dataset as Operational Oceanographic Products (OOP) to ICES	Under consideration by ICES
9/5/2014		BONUS	Request to consider possible collaboration with EMODnet Biology	Ongoing

6. Outreach and communication activities

Please list all the relevant communications activities or products you have developed/executed during this period (including presentations, lectures, trainings, demonstrations and development of communication materials such as brochures, videos, etc.). Relevant scientific and/or popular articles you know have been published using/referring to EMODnet should be reported under indicator 11 in Section 7.

[Provide information in table - Maximum 1 page]

Date	Media	Title	Short description and/or link to the activity
09 May 2014	Presentation	EMODnet biology and the central portal	Presentation given at meeting with EMODnet Secretariat and BONUS, presenting the activities of EMODnet Biology
13 May 2014	Presentation	Capturing fossil information in the Aphia database	Presentation given in framework of a WoRMS related workshop, the EMODnet activities on species traits were explained, including how the WoRMS editor community could contribute to the documentation of species traits through the planned traits portal.
26 May 2014	Presentation	Alien Species @ VLIZ	Presentation on all VLIZ activities related to alien species, including the activities of EMODnet WP2, where the documentation of alien species is part of the species traits activities. Data products of WP5 were briefly mentioned to show the possibilities of these products
26-28 May 2014	Presentation	title of presentation/contribution Activities EMODnet and EMODnet Biology	Slot on EMODnet and EMODnet Biology at yearly DIG (Data and Information Group) Meeting. Explore opportunities to organize EMODnet Biology Year three meeting back to back with ICES Annual Science conference (2015).
3 June 2014	Presentation	QC, SDM and data products.	Short overview of WP5 data products at LifeWatch Technical workshop. High quality species observation data (OBIS QC), species distribution modeling pipeline and expected applications and data products.
14-20 June 2014	Presentation and exercise	EMODnet Biology introduction and exercise	Presentation and exercise on marine biological data given in joint session with ICES datacentre at the JERICO summerschool 2014



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7. Updates on Progress Indicators

Using the indicator as a header list the metrics collated and the time interval. If there was no activity to report leave the section under the indicator header blank.

Indicator 1 - Volume of data made available through the portal

In May-June 2014, 22 new datasets have been made available through EMODnet Biology including a total of 527071 new records.

[Inventaire National du Patrimoine Naturel : Données Benthos du...](#)

This is a **new** entry with 8,760 records

[Inventaire National du Patrimoine Naturel : Données des campagnes de...](#)

This is a **new** entry with 16,568 records

[Inventaire National du Patrimoine Naturel : Observations d'hippocampes...](#)

This is a **new** entry with 190 records

[RAVON \(NL\) - Fish observations extracted from Hoek \(1888\) and Hoek...](#)

This is a **new** entry with 1,287 records

[RAVON \(NL\) - Fish observations extracted from Redeke \(1907\)](#)

This is a **new** entry with 1,654 records

[Colección de Fauna Marina del Centro Oceanográfico de Málaga...](#)

This is a **new** entry with 453 records

[SEAPOP NINA](#)

This is a **new** entry with 282,975 records

[Zoological Museum Amsterdam, University of Amsterdam \(NL\) – Benthos...](#)

This is a **new** entry with 29,691 records

[Naturalis National Natural History Museum \(NL\) – Invertebrate...](#)

This is a **new** entry with 939 records

[Marine species distributions in Irish coastal waters](#)

This is a **new** entry with 31,232 records

[**Irish Marine Turtle Database**](#)

This is a new entry with 1,016 records

[**Rare marine fishes taken in Irish waters from 1786 to 2008**](#)

This is a new entry with 1,134 records

[**NPWS Seal Database**](#)

This is a new entry with 1,210 records

[**ESAS cetacean sightings from 1980 to 2003**](#)

This is a new entry with 3,045 records

[**Colección de referencia de otolitos, Instituto de Ciencias del...**](#)

This is a new entry with 2,874 records

[**Tauchen und Meer 02**](#)

This is a new entry with 21 records

[**Tauchen und Meer**](#)

This is a new entry with 24 records

[**Porpoises \(NRM\)**](#)

This is a new entry with 371 records

[**Colección de Crustáceos Decápodos y Estomatópodos del Centro...**](#)

This is a new entry with 370 records

[**Wildbook for Whale Sharks**](#)

This is a new entry with 3,607 records

[**Marine Sightings & Miscellaneous species records from Natural...**](#)

This is a new entry with 9 records

[**Marine data from Natural Resources Wales \(NRW\) Technical Support...**](#)

This is a new entry with 139,641 records

GIS layer with the monitoring data of macrozoobenthos, fish and birds in the Voordelta was added to the EMODnet portal through GeoServer.

Indicator 2 - Organisations supplying each type of data based on (formal) sharing agreements and broken down into country and organisation type (e.g. government, industry, science).

Insitutie	Type	Country	Number
Musee Histoire Naturel	Science	France	3
Ravon	Science	NL	2
Malaga	Science	Spain	2
NINA	Science	Norway	1
Univ Amserdam	Science	NL	1
Naturalis	Science	NL	1
National Biodiversity datacenter	Science	Ireland	5
ICM	Science	Spain	1
GEOTAG	Science	Germany	2
Swedish Museum	Science	Sweden	1
NBN	Science	UK	2
MINECO	Science	Spain	1

Indicator 4 - Volume of each type of data and of each data product downloaded from the portal

- 52 data requests from data portal between 01/05/2014 and 30/06/2014

Indicator 5 - Organisations that have downloaded each data type

- This indicator is still under analysis.

Indicator 6 - Using user statistics to determine the main pages utilised and to identify preferred user navigations routes

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
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Jan 2014	1,954	3,065	61,361	103,080	1.74 GB
Feb 2014	1,693	2,920	54,864	95,482	1.81 GB
Mar 2014	1,432	2,699	48,654	71,811	1.89 GB
Apr 2014	1,429	2,618	23,283	32,717	1016.41 MB
May 2014	1.137	2.195	19.325	31.280	1.02 GB
June 2014	1.000	1.906	9.382	20.607	1.05 GB

Indicator 7 List of what the downloaded data has been used for (divided into categories e.g. Government planning, pollution assessment and (commercial) environmental assessment, etc.)

Research categories

- Convert to GML
- Data collection for marine project, looking at viability of underwater cable
- For biodiversity data visualization test
- Jerico Summerschool
- Joint Monitoring Program
- Marine project data collection
- Marine research project
- Master thesis
- PhD
- Practice using R
- Research
- Teaching
- Teaching & research
- Undocumented

Evaluation categories

- Evaluation of data
- Testing

Indicator 11 - EMODnet visibility and citations (academic journals, scientific press, mainstream media, websites)

- *A structured follow-up of this indicator is still under analysis.*
- *At least one publication can be listed for this bi-monthly report:*
 - *Dornelas, M.; Gotelli, N.J.; McGill, B.; Shimadzu, H.; Moyes, F.; Sievers, C.; Magurran, A.E. (2014). Assemblage time series reveal biodiversity change but not systematic loss. Science (Wash.) 344: 296-299. hdl.handle.net/10.1126/science.1248484*