

# Status report of the Arctic Regional Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures Working Group (ARMSDIWG)

14th Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission meeting, 3-5 September 2024, Tromsø, Norway



### ARMSDIWG workshops 23/24

- 23 October 2023
- 18 January 2024
- 4 April 2024
- 13 June 2024

**Attendees:** Hydrographic Offices of Canada, Denmark, Finland, Norway, and the USA



Geodatastyrelsen Side 2



Key proposals and engagements

# Proposal to discontinue MSDI Checklist

#### **Background**

- Action Point ARHC-A16 2023: Revision and utilization of the MSDI Aggregated Data Service Checklist
- Alignment with IHO Strategic Plan Target 2.1:

   "Build a portal to support and promote regional and international cooperation in marine spatial data."

#### **Purpose of the Checklist**

- The checklist aimed to "identify and assess the statuses of individual MS MSDI implementation and operationalization."
- It was intended to allow ARMSDIWG to track the status of fulfilling Arctic MSDI-related data web service requests identified by ARHC and enable a federated approach to MSDI in the Arctic.



## Rationale for discontinuation

#### **Unclear purpose**

- The checklist's stated goal of assessing data availability has proven to be irrelevant because there have been no specific requests from member countries for Arctic MSDI-related data web services
- The datasets listed are in general already managed and shared through other initiatives or is not freely available, making the checklist redundant or irrelevant.

#### More valuable alternatives

- The IGIF framework offers a more comprehensive and effective methodology for assessing the current status of MSDI.
- IGIF enables a broader analysis, identifying gaps and strengths, and providing actionable insights for improvement.

#### Resource allocation

- Maintaining the checklist diverts valuable resources from more impactful projects.
- By reallocating these resources, ARMSDIWG can focus on higher priority initiatives that offer greater benefits, such as enhanced collaboration with Arctic SDI and integration of marine data into the Arctic SDI Geoportal.

**Decision:** Group consensus to discontinue the checklist and reallocate resources to more impactful projects.

# **Engagement with Arctic SDI**

#### **Collaboration with Arctic SDI**

- Invited to contribute to developing Arctic Council Data Policy
- Providing marine datasets to Arctic SDI Geoportal

#### **Future actions**

- Continued collaboration and data integration
- Participation in policy development meetings

#### **Arctic Spatial Data Infrastructure (Arctic SDI)**

- Collaborative Initiative: Part of the Arctic Council, involving National Mapping Agencies from Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and the USA.
- **Mission**: Share and integrate geospatial data to support Arctic sustainable development and environmental protection.
- **Key Objectives**: Standardize data, improve accessibility, promote collaboration, advance technology, and support sustainability.
- Support for Arctic Council Working Groups: Enhances the efforts of working groups such as ACAP, AMAP, CAFF, EPPR, PAME, and SDWG.
- Benefits: Enhances decision-making, fosters international cooperation, supports sustainable development, and environmental protection.

## New Proposal for MSDI Evaluation

#### **Objective**

 Conduct a comprehensive cross-national analysis of MSDI status among ARMSDIWG member states using IGIF-Hydro

#### **Key benefits**

- Identify gaps and strengths: Provides a clear picture of current MSDI capabilities and areas needing improvement
- Align with best practices: Ensures Arctic MSDI adheres to global standards, promoting sustainable development and environmental protection
- Enhance interoperability: Facilitates better data sharing and decision-making across member states

#### **Implementation**

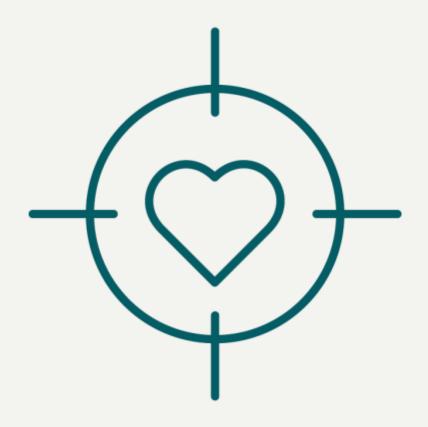
- Led by Canada with support from ARMSDIWG members
- Utilizes the IGIF-Hydro framework to guide evaluation and improvement efforts



# Future Work and Initiatives

## Key initiatives

- Enhanced collaboration with Arctic SDI
- Evaluation of MSDI using IGIF framework
- Development of communication strategies
- Continuing adoption of relevant technical standards in the member states
- Regular workshops and meetings with focus on specific knowledge sharing



## Invited Actions from ARHC

#### **ARHC Members are Invited to**

- Take note of the report
- Approve the proposal to discontinue MSDI Checklist
- Support collaboration with Arctic SDI
- Endorse IGIF Framework evaluation
- Take appropriate action as necessary

