

ToRs/RoPs for the "Baltic Sea Bathymetry Database WG (BSBD-WG)"

1. Objective

The Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission (BSHC) recognizes the need to study and develop the possibility to establish a common set or database of bathymetric data for the Baltic Sea Area.

At the 14th Conference in Copenhagen 2009 it was decided to establish a working group for this purpose and the first ToR was proposed. The ToR was later accepted by BSHC15 in 2010.

2. Authority

The BSBDWG is a subsidiary of the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission (BSHC). The work and results of the group is subject to BSHC monitoring and approval.

3. Terms of reference

The BSBD-WG shall:

- Study issues related to the access of high density bathymetric data for the entire Baltic Sea area.
- Identify and study the possible differences of existing regulations concerning depth data in the Member states.
- Develop proposals for specification of common harmonized datasets including a common application schema for bathymetry.
- Support the development of the GEBCO and EMODNET Bathymetry initiatives.
- Maintain a structured data storage, view and download services including metadata, in line with the Inspire directive.
- At least one homogenous dataset, based on the delivered datasets from the MS is to be provided in at least 500m resolution. Smaller high resolution datasets may be made available locally where the provided data so allows.
- Provide applicable OGC services from the common datasets.
- Develop proposals for the further steps to develop the database and its services.
- Share experiences and knowledge regarding tools for data dissemination to the public such as, but not limited to, OGC tools and map viewers.

4. Rules of Procedures

- All BSHC Members and Associate Members are strongly encouraged to participate in the WG.
- The BSBD-WG may invite other participants to join its work.
- The WG shall be chaired by one of the Member States elected at the BSHC Conference.
- Decisions shall generally be made by consensus. If votes are required all members (including associate and other members) have one vote.
- The WG shall conduct its work mainly by correspondence and e-mail is the preferred method of communication.
- WG meetings shall be arranged once a year, or when found appropriate for the progression of the work. Meetings may be held as VTC meetings or in person.
- The WG shall make reports on status and findings to the annual BSHC Conferences.