

22nd MEETING OF THE IHO
MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEAS HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION
MBSHC22
VTC (28-29 May 2021)

Report of the IHO-EU network working group (IENWG)

Submitted by:	Greece
Related Documents:	MoU signed on 23 rd April 2012 between IHO and EC /
Related Projects:	/

Chair:	Pierre-Yves Dupuy, France
Vice-Chair:	/
Secretary:	Corine Lochet, France
Members:	ARHC, represented by Denmark BSHC, represented by Sweden EAthC, represented by France MACHC, represented by France MBSHC, represented by Greece NHC, represented by Norway NSHC, represented by Germany SAIHC, represented by France
Associate member:	Italy
Observers:	IHO Secretariat

During NIOHC18 in April 2018 it was decided that NIOHC will no longer be represented at IENWG meetings.

Since the plenary meeting of February 2018, all EU/EEA HOs receive all documents and invitations to participate to the meetings of IENWG.

In Dec 2020 Pierre-Yves Dupuy (France) was elected as chair of the IENWG in replacement of Laurent Louvart (France).

Meetings Held During Reporting Period

IENWG 10 - Paris Saint-Mandé, France, 14-15 January 2020

IENWG 11 - VTC Event, 2-3 December 2020 originally planned to be held in Dublin, Ireland, the same dates, back to back with “20 years of Seabed Mapping” led by Infomar.

Work Programme

During the reporting period, the activities have mainly concerned:

1. “Coastal Mapping” project (<https://www.emodnet.eu/en/coastal-mapping>)

A consortium, led by Shom (FR) with 19 partners from 15 countries, conducted a study, from June 2015 to June 2018, financed by the European Commission, to identify the existing high resolution bathymetric data and the gaps along the EU coastal areas. A proposal of a future Joint European Mapping Programme has been prepared and has been presented to the EU Commission.

Three axes were proposed:

- Axis 1: Set up coordinated programmes for data acquisition at maritime basin scale
- Axis 2: Seize opportunities for bathymetric data acquisition in the framework of the EU operational programmes and funds, and ensure that those data are standardised and capitalized
- Axis 3: Promote good practices to produce bathymetric data from multiple sources, standardised for re-use by all coastal stakeholders to support maritime policies.

This project is now achieved since 3 years, BUT Gaël Morvan, from Shom, will present the different axis of recommendations during the next EMODNET event in June.

The objective will be to remember that these axes are fully actual and that we suggest taking it into account during the new EU programming period 2021-2027.

2. EOOS (<http://www.eoos-ocean.eu/>)

To develop these axes, the IENWG participated to the coordination of the strategy for EOOS¹ (European Ocean Observation System) and gave inputs to introduce the hydrography in this project of European strategy for acquisition and management of marine data. EOOS is a proposition of new way of acquisition and work with marine data, initially proposed by EUROGOOS and EU Marine board. Actually, the project is adopted by a lot of organizations like Copernicus, EMODNET, Offices of the EU Commission (DG MARE, DG GROW, DG CLIMATE, DG RESEARCH and INNOVATION), by EU Parliamentarians, and commissioners.

The IENWG introduced too, the need for more standardization, shared requirement with all the communities involved in the EOOS strategy.

Indeed, the different communities of marine data users and producers agree on the need to take better account of the quality and the interoperability of data for its re-use in the maritime policies like planning, coastal and maritime climate change risks, development of sustainable blue economy.

To valorize the expertise of the HOs, the CSB Guidance (B-12) will be distributed widely within the European scientific community and to the industrials likely to collect bathymetric data for their own needs.

The crowdsourcing is not only "citizen affair", but a multiple sourcing challenge, including (and interesting even in the first place) the *scientific community* and the companies dealing with maritime economy.

Within its participation to EOOS instances (Forum in March 2018, Conference in November 2018), the WG followed the preparation of the next Research Programme “Horizon 2020-30”. Recently was promulgated the relative Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 which establishes Horizon Europe - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation for the duration of the MFF 2021-2027, sets out the rules for participation and dissemination concerning indirect actions under the Programme and determines the framework governing Union support for R&I activities for the same duration.. IENWG could propose inputs on

¹ The need for an end-to-end integrated and sustained European Ocean Observing System (EOOS) has been expressed by the oceanographic and scientific community during the development of the Integrated Maritime Policy in 2007. In 2016 EuroGOOS and European Marine Board convened an expert panel acting as EOOS Steering Group.

several items, among those in the MoU, in order to help the European Commission to include hydrographic aspects in calls for proposals.

EOOS is actually developing its program of coordination and federation of the different platforms to a better synergy and comprehension of the ocean and coastal areas.

The EU strategic orientations are clearly turned to the building of a numerical twin of earth, twin of the ocean. This can be described as sort of a double the ocean, to help us to better understand its evolution and test the consequences of the public policies proposed to try to mitigate the climate change.

It's not a dream, it's on the track for the next 10 years.

The secret of the success of such a project will be qualified and interoperable data! The HOs, all around the world will have a role to play in this new paradigm.

3. EMODNet (<http://www.emodnet.eu/>)

EMODnet started as a project, not as a permanent infrastructure and has become a long term marine data initiative. The EMODnet data infrastructure has been built in three major phases. After completing its vision targets by 2020, EMODnet is now fully operational and further developed in its fourth phase. Available data are used to create and make available multi-resolution maps of all Europe's seas and oceans, spanning all seven disciplinary themes. Building on the EMODnet Bathymetry portal developed during Phase I (2009-2013) & Phase 2 (2013-2017). During Phase 3 with the release of a new DTM at approximately 100m grid resolution, the DTM was further improved with more surveys and improved tools taking benefit of redundant information when existing.

In 2020 EMODnet Bathymetry has also produced and released a first edition of its World Base Layer (EBWBL) service, which is only made available as OGC WMTS service. This World Base Layer provides a gridded representation of worldwide bathymetric and topographic coverage adapted for a better representation of seabed morphological features.

Improvements of the data flow and interactions between data providers and full integration will also be part of EMODnet Bathymetry's consortium activities. Satellite Derived Bathymetry (SDB) data will be included to cover gaps in survey coverage, as well as data from Lidar Bathymetry where available. Coastal areas will remain a major interest axis.

The interoperability between EMODNET and the IHO standards is a key point for European HOs.

EMODnet's 10th anniversary was celebrated with a webinar organized on 22 September 2020 with achievements over the past decade with showcases and testimonials from data providers, users and partners.

Next EMODnet Open Conference will take place 14 - 18 June 2021 fully online.

(See also <http://portal.emodnet-bathymetry.eu/>)

4. Maritime spatial planning: MSP

Due to the importance of data produced by HOs for maritime spatial planning which is becoming a major topic of interest in Europe (MSP Directive 2014/89/EU), IENWG has obtained a position of observer in the European Commission EC Member State Expert sub-group on Maritime Spatial Planning. Some Hydrographic Offices² are involved in EU projects to develop relations among neighboring countries for the implementation of the MSP Directive.

The first lesson learned is the necessity to develop the coordination between the EU member states for the production and diffusion of interoperable data useful for MSP.

At this date, all the EU countries had to send their plans to the EU commission (deadline on March 2021). A special work is doing by the DGMARE and inside some EU projects as MSP-MED, to transform these plans in layers added in the Human Activities portal of EMODNET.

² FR, NO, NE, GE, IR, ES

5. European Re-use of public sector information Directive

The Open Data Directive (European Directive 2019/1024 of 20 June 2019 on open data and the re-use of public sector information), formerly known as PSI Directive, has been promulgated. A list of generic categories of high value datasets, including "Geospatial" and "Earth observation and environment", which will have to be distributed freely and without charge, has been adopted. If the implementation act retain nautical charts this would have serious consequences for some hydrographic services, as they draw a significant part of their resources from the sale of charts.

A common understanding of the Directive was developed between European HOs but the main question remains the List of High Values Datasets.

An Implementing Regulation will define the list of specific high value data sets held by public sector bodies and public undertakings among the documents to which the Directive applies. The Implementing Regulation is expected to be adopted in 2021.

We are waiting the adoption of the HVD in next June.

6. Miscellaneous

Progress on IRCC Action Items

/

Problems Encountered

Covid-19 pandemic prevented the realization and participation from the part of the WG in scheduled events.

Any Other Items of Note

/

Justification and Impacts

/

Action Required of MBSHC

The MBSHC is invited to note the report and the work programme.

List of Actions of IHO-EU network WG

Version 2 Dec 2021 (IENWG11)

Meeting	Number	Title	Action	Responsible	Status	Update/ status
IENWG4 18-19/01/16	A4.7	EU/EC SDI related issues	Make sure that UN/GGIM, GEOSS, Copernicus, Eurogoos... are aware of EMODNET and do not develop databases already in the scope of EMODNET, and are aware of the HO marine data needs.	EMODNET project team and all EU HO s	Permanent	CL47 - Establishment of the UN-GGIM working group on marine geospatial information (MGIWG). Necessity of veil of the activities of this WG. NL HO veil permitted to introduce the needs of the HOs in the UN/GGIM questionnaire on Core data Theme « Elevation »
IENWG4 18-19/01/16	A4.11	MSP expert group	Participation and representation of EU HOs	Chair and/or the HO of the organisator's member State	Permanent	
IENWG4 18-19/01/16	A4.12	MSP calls	Consider participation to call for proposals on MSP (regional approach). Inform partners on who is the point of contact	ALL EU HO's	Permanent	New interest from IHO, on line with IOC/UNESCO ; questionnaire from IHO-MSDI WG on MSP
IENWG4 18-19/01/16	A4.13	MSP calls	Promote the use of S-100 framework and intention to meet INSPIRE in the proposals that will be prepared in response to the MSP calls	ALL EU HO's	Permanent	Done by the Shom in the last answer of a Mediterranean call for Safety of navigation ; Med Osmosis project Intereg MED. (S 123 124 125) Ongoing
IENWG4 18-19/01/16	A4.14	Archives	Share information on volume of archives that could be processed in a project to be proposed to Europe (DG-Climate change DG- education and culture). Liaise with IENWG to raise concern on that subject among European SH	ALL EU HO's	Permanent	
IENWG5 13-14 Oct	A5.2	Standards	Coastal mapping project to recommend in its conclusions that Europe promotes IHO S-44 and S-100 standards in European calls and further development of EMODNET including data acquisition	ALL EU HO's	Permanent	
IENWG5 13-14 Oct	A5.7	Outreach EC DGs	Strive to have POC of other DGs (not just DG-MARE)	Chair helped by ALL EU HO's	Permanent	The participation to the EOOS construction help to promote HO's activities with eu commission services

Meeting	Number	Title	Action	Responsible	Status	Update/ status
IENWG 7 6-7 - Feb 2018	A7.3		Updated active plenary members list	Chair and all	Permanent	
IENWG-8 27 - Feb 2018		IENWG organisation	Update the list of full members	Chair	Permanent	
IENWG-8 27 - Feb 2018		MSP	To task MSDI WG to include MSP in MSDI working plan	GERMANY interested IENWG Members (DENMARK, FR, NORWAY ...)	linked with MSP Expert group activities	In course with MSDI WG, DG MARE MSP AND EMODNET UNITS
IENWG-8 27 - Feb 2018		EMODNET	EMODNET project to liaise with IHO	FR interested IENWG Members (GERMANY, NORWAY ...)	next HSSC	Liaise with HSSC to exchange on technical matters S100WG (S102 multipurpose profile) DQWG anything for EMODNET ?
IENWG-8 27 - Feb 2018		DATA RESCUE	Historical Data Rescue	Portugal, France, SPAIN, ITALY, IRELAND	Permanent	Link TWCWG through HSSC Management of project out of IENWG
IENWG-8 27 - Feb 2018		COASTAL MAPPING	Coastal Mapping Follow-up Built mutualised maritim data acquisition plan per bassin	Resp. Maritim Bassin GERMANY (NSHC) DENMARK (ARTIC) FR (EATHC) ITALY (MBSHC)	Permanent	Cross areas of interest with UE Strategy for Axis 1 (EOOS ...) and with ESIF opportunities with CPMR tools for Axis 2 Liaise with CSBWG for Axis 3 (Crowdsourced bathymetry) Proposition of project of diffusion of CSB report to the EOOS partners for appropriation of good practices for acquisition of bathymetric data
IENWG-10 14-15 Jan 2020		COASTAL MAPPING	Coastal Mapping Follow-up	Chair and voluntary HO's in their countries	2020-2021	Proposition of diffusion of CSB report to the EOOS partners for appropriation of good practices for acquisition of bathymetric data

Meeting	Number	Title	Action	Responsible	Status	Update/ status
IENWG-10 14-15 Jan 2020		PSI Directive	Sharing of information about the ongoing process to veil the evolution of the high value datasets for the marine charts		2020-2021	
IENWG-10 14-15 Jan 2020		EU Maritime Day 2021	Participation of members of IENWG	NL HO	Annual	Postponed due to COVID19. Maritime Day in Den Helder, The Netherlands, 20-21 May 2021.
IENWG-10 14-15 Jan 2020		DG MARE participation to the MSP expert group		National HO/CHAIR	Permanent	EU Maritime Day 2020 cancelled.
IENWG-10 14-15 Jan 2020		Participation to INSPIRE Conf 2020 2021	Croatia 12-15 May 20	Fr, PT, GE, NO, and more will be represented	Annual	Postponed due to COVID19. Croatia 07-09 September 2021.
IENWG-11 2-3 Dec 2020		EU consultation on ocean observation - sharing responsibility	Chair to consult the European HOs for views/opinions including the relevance of a common reply, in addition to national replies.	CHAIR with ALL EU HO's		
IENWG-11 2-3 Dec 2020		Directive on open data and re-use of public sector information	To remain in close liaison with the national representatives involved in the drafting of the PSI directive	All		