



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

**NATIONAL REPORT OF CYPRUS
TO THE
MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEAS HYDROGRAPHIC
COMMISSION (MBSHC)**

MAY 2024

Table of Contents

1.	Hydrographic Office / Service	3
1.1	Cyprus National Hydrographic Committee.....	3
1.2	Hydrographic Office in Cyprus.....	3
1.2.1	Department of Lands and Surveys	3
1.2.2	Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre.....	4
2.	Surveys.....	4
2.1	General information	4
2.2	Coverage of new surveys / Future plans	5
2.3	New technologies and /or equipment.....	5
2.4	New Ships	5
2.5	Crowdsourced and satellite-derived bathymetry	5
2.6	Challenges and achievements.....	6
3.	New charts & updates.....	6
3.1	ENCs	6
3.2	ENC Distribution method	7
3.3	RNCs.....	7
3.4	INT charts	7
3.5	National paper charts.....	7
3.6	Other charts, e.g. for pleasure craft	7
3.7	Challenges and achievements.....	7
4.	New publications & updates.....	7
4.1	New Publications	7
4.2	Updated publications	8
5.	Maritime Safety Information (MSI)	8
5.1	Existing infrastructure for transmission	8
5.2	New infrastructure in accordance with GMDSS Master	9
5.3	Problems encountered.....	9
5.4	Research and development.....	9
6.	C-55.....	10
6.1	Latest update (Tables).....	10
7.	Capacity Building	10
7.1	Offer of and/or demand for Capacity Building	10
7.1.1	Offer.....	10
7.1.2	Demands	10
7.2	Training received, needed, offered	10
7.2.1	Training received	10

8.	Oceanographic activities	11
8.1	General.....	11
8.2	New equipment.....	11
8.3	Cruises / Observational Programs	12
8.3.1	R/M Meteor M197 Cruise EMS-PS 30.12.2023 – 06.02-2024	12
8.4	GEBCO/IBC's activities	13
8.5	Tide gauge network	13
8.6	New equipment.....	13
8.7	Problems Encountered	13
9.	Other Activities.....	14
9.1	Participation in IHO Working Groups	14
9.2	Meteorological data collection.....	14
9.2.1	Forecast for the Sea Area of Cyprus	14
9.2.2	Forecast for the Eastern Mediterranean (NAVTEX).....	14
9.3	Geospatial studies	15
9.4	Disaster prevention.....	15
9.5	Environmental protection	17
9.6	Aids to navigation	17
9.7	Astronomical observations.....	17
9.8	Magnetic/Gravity surveys	17
9.9	MSDI Progress	18
9.10	Legislation and other related activities	18
10.	Conclusions	19

1. Hydrographic Office / Service

In Cyprus the “hydrography stakeholders” are scattered across various departments of the government. In order to avoid duplication of work, to make full use of the existing infrastructure and for better coordination, it was decided to establish a National Hydrographic Committee.

1.1 Cyprus National Hydrographic Committee

The Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cyprus with its decision number 513/7 established Cyprus National Hydrographic Committee (**CNHC**) which deals with all hydrographic matters in the country. The CNHC is composed by the representatives of the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and from the Departments of Lands and Surveys (**DLS**), Public Works, Geological Survey, Fisheries and Marine Research, Merchant Shipping and the Cyprus Ports Authority. The CNHC is chaired by the Director of DLS. At a later stage, the Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre, the Department of Environment, the Department of Antiquities and the Cyprus Police, joined the CNHC.

1.2 Hydrographic Office in Cyprus

The responsibilities of a typical Hydrographic Office are allocated to the Department of Lands and Surveys and the Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre.

1.2.1 Department of Lands and Surveys

Although CNHC made significant progress, it became clear that the cartographic contribution of DLS should be further strengthened. On 11/07/2014, the Law concerning the organisation and conduct of hydrographic activities and issuance of nautical charts, was voted for by the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus.

The Department of Lands and Surveys, according to the legislation, is responsible to process and evaluate information and data of hydrography and nautical cartography for the purpose of:

- (a) Contributing to the safety of mariners;
- (b) Implementing, exploiting, promoting and developing sciences related to hydrography and marine cartography.

The Director of DLS is the Hydrographer of Cyprus. The DLS has a Hydrographic Unit which deals with all aspects of Hydrography and Nautical Cartography. The Hydrographic Unit operates within the Geodesy-Hydrography-Photogrammetry Branch. The DLS represents the Republic of Cyprus to the International Hydrographic Organisation and its subordinate organs.

A total of eleven employees are appointed in the Hydrographic Unit of DLS. DLS is a department with extensive knowledge and experience in land surveying, cartography, photogrammetry, GIS, geodesy, etc. Since 2006 DLS has been investing in capacity building on hydrography and nautical cartography.

DLS has bilateral agreements with the Hellenic Navy Hydrographic Service (Memorandum of Understanding) and the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (Exchange of Letters).

No official or technical visits occurred from IHO officials or HOs. The DLS represents Cyprus at the IHO, and took part at the meetings of the Assembly (A3) and the 5th Council in 2021, 6th Council in 2022 and 7th Council in 2023.

1.2.2 Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre

Cyprus Radio Coastal Station is providing Maritime Safety Information (MSI) within the area of Cyprus Search and Rescue Region which coincides with the Nicosia FIR.

Cyprus Radio is currently operating under the command of the Joint Rescue Coordination Center in Larnaca. Cyprus Radio collects and elaborates all the relevant navigational, meteorological, SAR, and any other safety and urgent information broadcasted via NAVTEX and radio, in order to ensure the safety of navigation within its area of responsibility.

2. Surveys

2.1 General information

Waters of the Republic of Cyprus from 0-200 m have been adequately covered with various surveys conducted until 1960. With the establishment of CNHC, a resurvey program was implemented, which started in 2012. Three Hydrographic Surveys have been conducted as follows:

- 2012 with MBES
- 2014 with LiDAR
- 2018 with MBES

Data retrieved are S-44 compliant. So far, all coastal areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus, from 0 – 280 m depth, have been surveyed. A new resurvey program is being considered.



Figure 1: Areas surveyed from 0-200m depth

Waters beyond 200m depth have not been adequately surveyed. DLS collects data from various activities carried out in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Republic of Cyprus.

2.2 Coverage of new surveys / Future plans

DLS, as part of the on-going hydrographic survey program BYTHOS, intends to conduct hydrographic surveys South of Moni and Zygi areas.

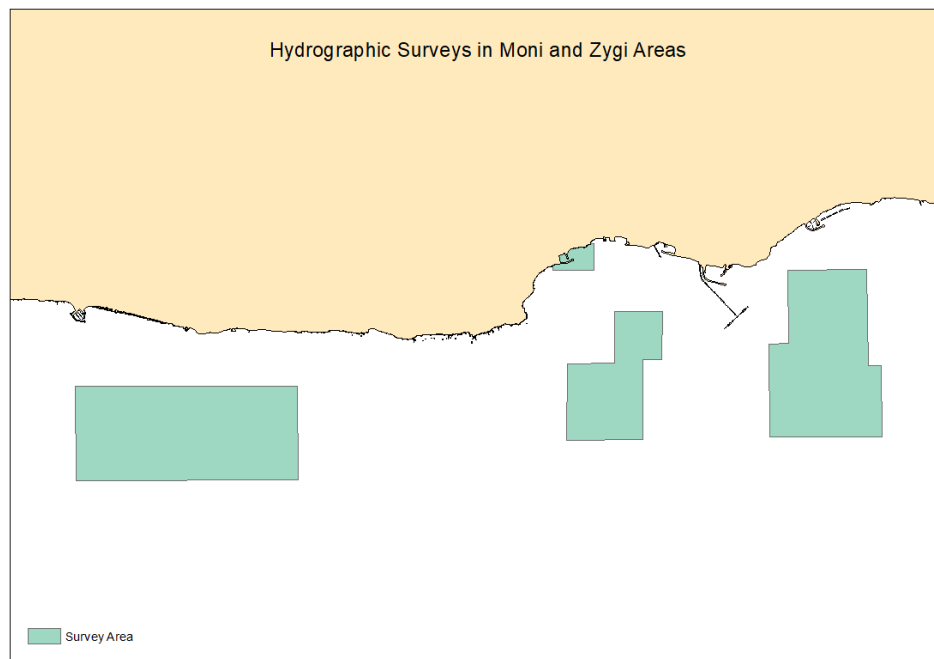


Figure 2: Areas where DLS plan to resurvey

Also, a new extended survey is expected to take place soon in deep waters (>250 m), as a result of the collaboration between DFMR and DLS, however the exact study area has not yet been defined.

2.3 New technologies and /or equipment

Nothing to report

2.4 New Ships

Nothing to report

2.5 Crowdsourced and satellite-derived bathymetry

As part of THAL-CHOR 2 Cyprus University of Technology, structured a procedure which allowed them to extract safe results on bathymetric data based on satellite imagery.

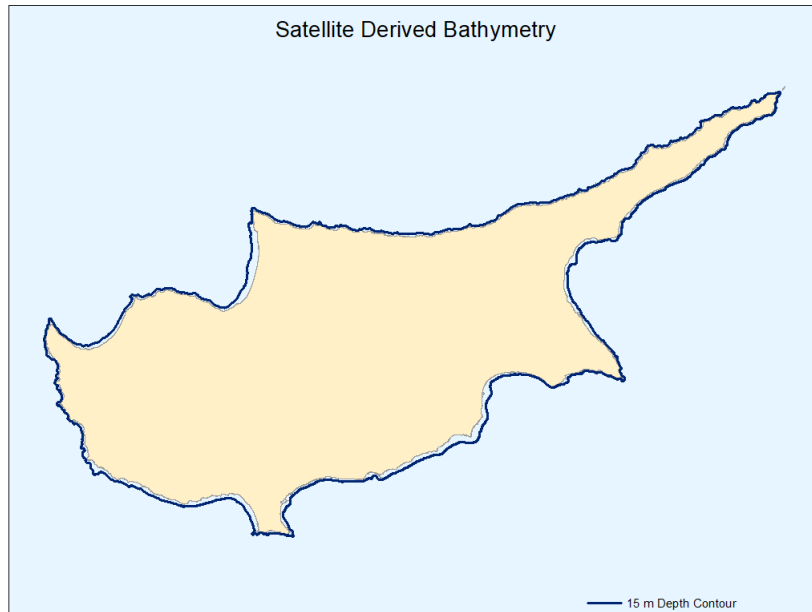


Figure 3: Area where satellite derived bathymetry has acquired

2.6 Challenges and achievements

- Lack of an established vertical datum to support hydrographic activities. The existing Vertical Reference System was established in 1930 using limited extent of sea level data, deemed not suitable for hydrographic purposes. A new Vertical Reference System is under development which shall be connected directly to sea level.
- GNSS jamming and spoofing.

3. New charts & updates

As part of the DLS and UKHO collaboration, a processing of all available surveys is performed. The main objective is the update of charts and related products.

3.1 ENC's

The Republic of Cyprus has authorised the UKHO to produce and distribute on its behalf ENC's (11 cells) and other nautical publications that cover the maritime zones of Cyprus. Any other ENC's produced by a third party, covering maritime zones of the island, and particularly the ENC's covering maritime zones of Cyprus in the north - east part of the island produced by Turkey are produced without the consent of the Republic of Cyprus, thus, illegally, and therefore may not be deemed as official.

As part of the marine infrastructures development, DLS is in discussions with the UKHO, to enhance the existing chart schema.

DLS considers the option to undertake the production and maintenance of ENC's in the future.

Band	Cells	Planned Cells
1		
2	1	
3	5	
4	4	4
5	3	
6	1	

Table 1: ENC cell production

3.2 ENC Distribution method

Nothing to report.

3.3 RNCs

Nothing to report.

3.4 INT charts

Nothing to report.

3.5 National paper charts

Nothing to report.

3.6 Other charts, e.g. for pleasure craft

Various coastal maps were prepared for use by government departments, members of the CNHC. These include maps showing Maritime Zones, maps for prevention of coastal erosion, maps for coastal management etc.

3.7 Challenges and achievements

Lack of an established vertical datum to support hydrographic activities (see paragraph 2.5)

4. New publications & updates

4.1 New Publications

Nothing to report.

4.2 Updated publications

Nothing to report.

5. Maritime Safety Information (MSI)

5.1 Existing infrastructure for transmission

Cyprus Radio Coastal Station is providing Maritime Safety Information (**MSI**) within the area of Cyprus Search and Rescue Region which coincides with the Nicosia FIR. Cyprus Radio currently is co-located and operating under the command of the Joint Rescue Coordination Center in Larnaca.

Cyprus Radio collects and elaborates all the relevant navigational, meteorological, SAR, and any other safety and urgent information broadcast via NAVTEX and radio, aiming to ensure the safety of navigation within its area of responsibility.

The NAVTEX transmissions on frequency 518 kHz are conducted according to the pre-defined prototypes and procedures determined in the NAVTEX and MSI manuals.

Cyprus radio is providing the NAVTEX service navigational warnings issued by Lebanon Hydrographic service due to the lieu of NAVTEX station in Lebanon, as well navigational warnings within Alexandria's radio (Egypt) NAVTEX service area, which is not in service at the moment. Cyprus Radio has all the distress and safety communication facilities according to the GMDSS Master Plan and is operating on a 24/7 basis. The NAVTEX transmissions on frequency 518 kHz are conducted according to the pre-defined prototypes and procedures determined in the NAVTEX and MSI manuals.

Statistics on work of the National Coordinator

Below is the consist of Navigational warnings statistics for years 2022 and 2023

Year	NAVTEX Bulletins	NAVWARS	NAVAREA III Warnings	METEO FORECAST	METEO WARNINGS	SARWARNS
2022	1248	474	16	730	37	7
2023	1266	486	2	730	39	11

Table 2 Navigational warning statistics for 2022 and 2023



Figure 4: Cyprus Radio NAVTEX Service and Coverage Area

5.2 New infrastructure in accordance with GMDSS Master

Nothing to report

5.3 Problems encountered

Turkish Hydrographic Service issued navigational warnings within the NAVTEX service area of Cyprus, without any coordination with CYPRUS RADIO, imposing in danger to mariners in the region.

5.4 Research and development

JRCC Larnaca/Cyprus Radio aiming to enhance the available maritime safety developed an interactive map accessible online, which includes the navigational warnings in force within the service area of Cyprus Radio, updated on a daily basis (<http://jrccmap.mod.gov.cy>).

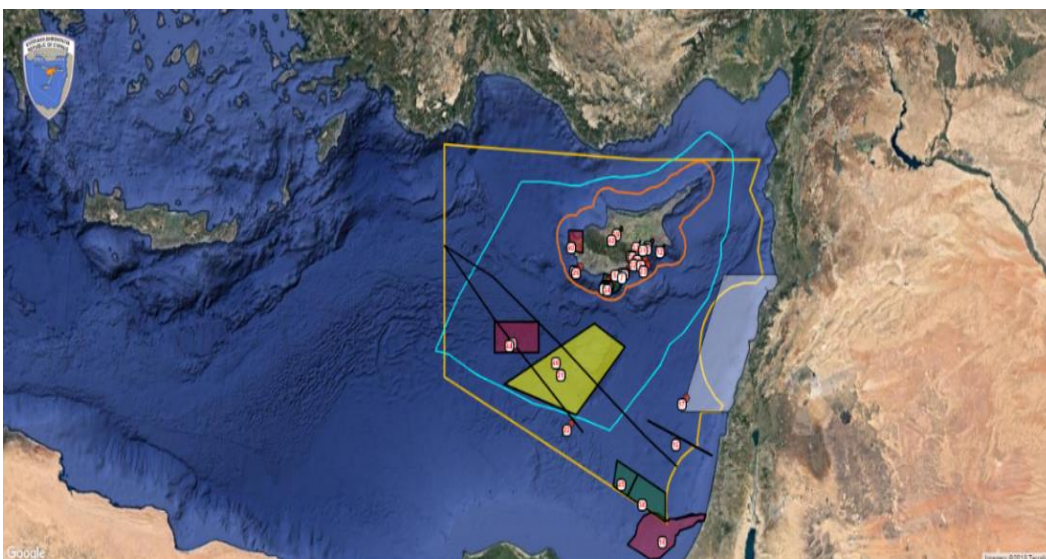


Figure 5: Navigational warnings in force

6. C-55

6.1 Latest update (Tables)

Last updates have been sent electronically through IHO online form.

7. Capacity Building

7.1 Offer of and/or demand for Capacity Building

7.1.1 Offer

At this stage it is not possible to offer a program for Capacity Building.

7.1.2 Demands

DLS needs training on the S-100.

7.2 Training received, needed, offered

7.2.1 Training received

Cyprus during 2021 – 2024 has received the following training through the IHO Capacity Building, provided by the UKHO:

A/A	Year	Title of Program / Project / Course	Participants
1	2021	Understanding ENCs	1
2	2021	Compiling for Navigational Safety	1
3	2021	Introduction to S-57	1

Table 3 Trainings provided by UKHO

Cyprus during 2021 – 2024 has participated in the self-paced courses of the IHO e-learning centre:

A/A	Year	Title of Program / Project / Course	Participants
1	2023	Fundamentals of Hydrographic Survey	2
2	2023	Fundamentals of MSDI	3
3	2023	Fundamentals of Chart Production	3

Table 4 Participations in IHO e-learning centre courses

Cyprus has received an internship through Joint Canada-IHO Project, Empowering Women in Hydrography NOAA (USA) At- Sea Experience.

8. Oceanographic activities

8.1 General

Oceanographic Activities are carried out by several institutions and universities in Cyprus after receiving a permit from the Marine Scientific Research Committee (**MSRC**). The data are shared among all related parties.

8.2 New equipment

Two Ocean Data Acquisition System (ODAS) were installed by the Cyprus Marine and Maritime Institute (CMMI) in Amathounta and in Agia Napa.

A small coastal ODAS that measures Turbidity (NTU), Conductivity ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$), Salinity (psu), Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L), Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L), Water temperature (C), pH (pH), Pressure (psi), Depth (m), and Air temperature (C).

A large research ODAS that is equipped with a Dissolved Oxygen sensor, a Fluorometer sensor, a pH sensor, a Conductivity-Temperature-Depth sensor, a Nutrient sensor, an Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler, a Hydrophone, and a Meteorological station with a Pyranometer.

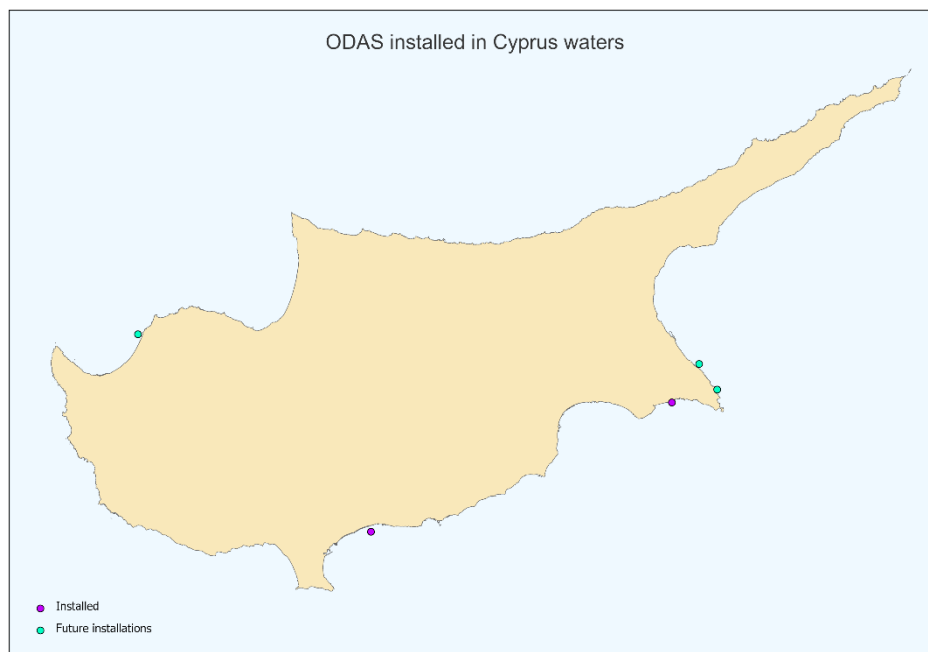


Figure 6: ODAS installed in Cyprus waters

8.3 Cruises / Observational Programs

8.3.1 R/M Meteor M197 Cruise EMS-PS 30.12.2023 – 06.02-2024

Participating Institutions

- GEOMAR - Helmholtz-Zentrum für Ozeanforschung Kiel, Germany
- University of Haifa, Israel
- IOLR - Institute for Oceanographic and Limnology Research, Israel
- Xiamen University, China
- CMMI - Cyprus Marine and Maritime Institute
- Marine Biological Laboratory, USA

The research cruise M197 with the RV METEOR sailed January 6th 2024 to February 6th 2024 from Limassol (Republic of Cyprus) to Catania (Italy), with a focus on investigating the seawater and sediment biogeochemistry in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. The two specific foci of the research cruise were to (i) investigate the physical, chemical, and biological factors regulating the productivity and sinking carbon flux in this region, and (ii) investigate natural and human induced changes in the region over the last few thousand years. On the research cruise, 30 stations were occupied. Seawaters were collected from the surface to the seafloor to measure chemical properties of the seawater, including major and trace nutrients, the carbonate system, microplastics, and the microbial communities inhabiting the water column. The types and abundance of zooplankton were determined via various nets and two camera systems. The deposition flux and chemistry of aerosols was also assessed. Sediment cores were collected to determine nutrient fluxes into the overlying water column as well as investigate past environmental conditions. This research will provide an important advance in the network of factors that regulate the chemistry and biology of this system and inform ocean biogeochemical models of this region to make more realistic predictions of climate change induced impacts. CMMI's aim on this cruise was to further unveil the vertical profile of microplastics on the eastern sector of the Mediterranean Sea. Seawater and sediment samples were collected for quantification and characterization of microplastics.



Figure 7: Vessel Meteor which was used for the cruise

8.4 GEBCO/IBC's activities

Nothing to report

8.5 Tide gauge network

In 2017, DLS established a new Tide Gauge Network named PYTHEAS, not only to support the tsunami warning system, but also to establish a Vertical Reference system and to support hydrographic activities. For this reason, DLS is collaborating with the Cyprus University of Technology and the COC. Pytheas is fully operational and consists of 5 stations, of which four are under the DLS jurisdiction (Paralimni, Larnaka, Pafos, and Pamos) and one under the CUT (Lemesos). Stations are positioned approximately 40km apart. The tide gauge in Lemesos broadcasts its sea level measurements to IOC (UNESCO Sea Level Station Monitoring Facility) since July 2023.

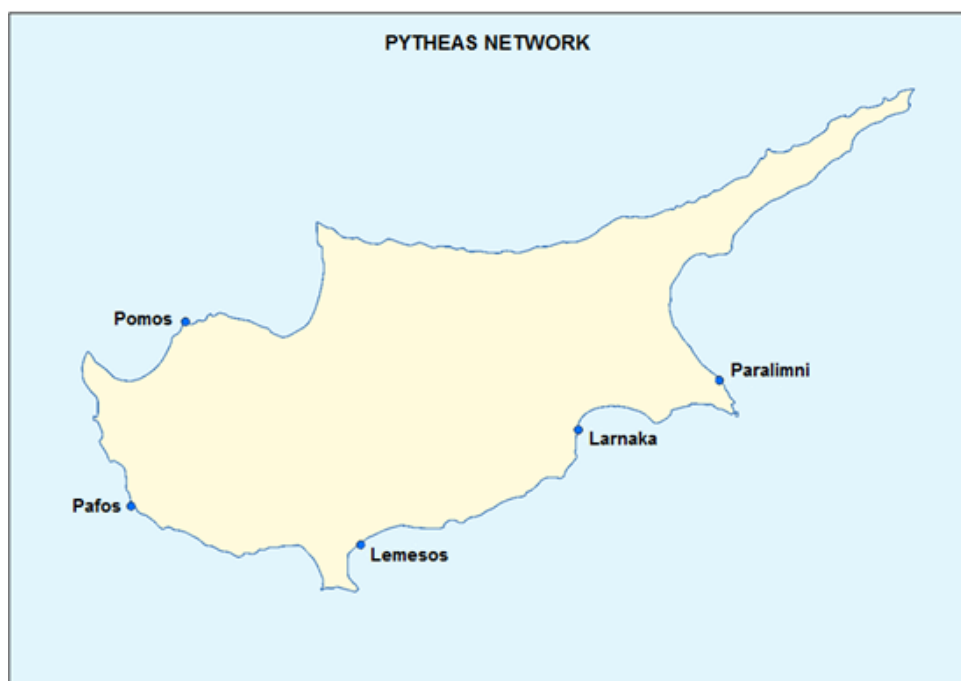


Figure 8: PYTHEAS network locations

8.6 New equipment

Nothing to report

8.7 Problems Encountered

DLS suffered a cyber-attack in 2023, which caused connectivity issues, that have already been resolved.

9. Other Activities

9.1 Participation in IHO Working Groups

Cyprus radio personnel participated in the draft working groups of the IHO's Committee on the Dissemination of Navigational Safety Information (WWNWS) from 28 February -02 March and from 22 to 24 May 2023 and for 2024 between 12 and 14 March 2024.

9.2 Meteorological data collection

9.2.1 Forecast for the Sea Area of Cyprus

The Sea Area routine forecast (and amendments thereof), as well as relevant Coastal waters warnings, are provided by Larnaca Forecasting Office. They cover the sea region around the island and 8 Km seawards. Forecasts issued consist of a concise statement of the expected weather, visibility, wind, sea state conditions and any warnings, at a certain area during the forecasting period.

Routine sea area forecasts are issued 4 times a day (that is they are updated every 6 hours, unless an amendment is required earlier) in both Greek and English and have a 24-hour period of validity.

Coastal Waters warnings give (in plain language) concise information of the wind, or other phenomena (such as thunderstorms, fog etc.) which could adversely affect boats/ships, naval activities or mariners' safety.

All aforementioned information complies with WMO document - No 471, Guide to Marine Meteorological Services.

The recipients of routine forecasts as well as Coastal Waters warnings are, marine customers, organizations, as well as relevant governmental authorities responsible for marine activities and safety. They are also uploaded to DoM's website(https://www.dom.org.cy/FORECAST/index_gr.html).

9.2.2 Forecast for the Eastern Mediterranean (NAVTEX)

The weather forecasts for NAVTEX (and amendments thereof), as well as relevant Marine Gale warnings, are provided by Larnaca Forecasting Office. They cover the sea region in four NAVTEX areas, namely SOUTHEAST KRITIKO, DELTA, CRUSADE and TAURUS (shown in figure 9 below) which are registered in WMO No 9 Volume D, Information for shipping. Forecasts issued consist of a concise statement of the expected weather, visibility, wind, sea state conditions and any warnings, at a certain area during the forecasting period.

Routine NAVTEX forecasts are issued 2 times a day (that is they are updated every 12 hours, unless an amendment is required earlier) in English and have a 24-hour period of validity.

NAVTEX warnings are issued (in plain language) for gales and storms and also contain detailed information about the temporal and spatial state of sea.

All aforementioned information complies with WMO document - No 9, Volume D Information for shipping and WMO document - No 471, Guide to Marine Meteorological Services.

The NAVTEX routine forecasts (including Marine Gale warnings) are sent to Cyprus Radio (a radiotelephone maritime service) by email for further dissemination. They are also uploaded to the WMO

Website <http://weather.gmdss.org/> through the Aeronautical Fixed Telecommunication Network (AFTN) and to the Department of Meteorology website. Other recipients are, marine customers and organizations.

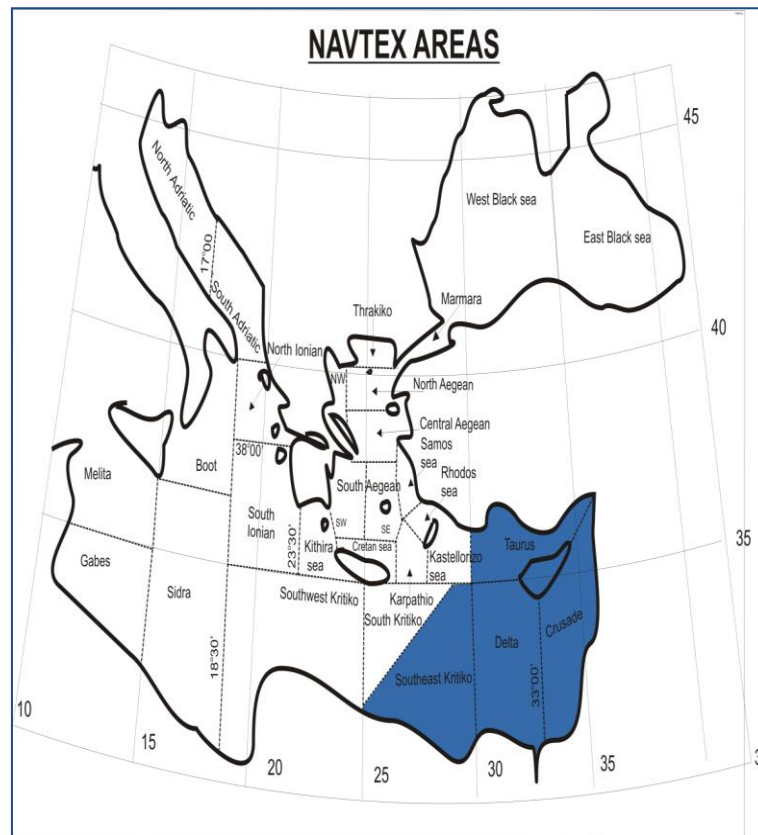


Figure 9: Areas under meteorological watch by Larnaka Forecasting Office (coloured in blue)

9.3 Geospatial studies

In 2018, the Cyprus University of Technology Laboratory of Geodesy (**CUT**) has received a 1M EUR grant by the European Union Regional Fund and the Republic of Cyprus, to establish a Strategic Research Infrastructure Unit, abbreviated CyCLOPS, to monitor geohazards within Cyprus and within the South-eastern Mediterranean region. Specifically, a network of 6 co-located IGS-compliant GPS/GNSS permanent reference stations, weather stations, tiltmeters and novel InSAR Corner Reflectors have been deployed throughout Cyprus to enhance preparedness and prevention. The initial focus is shed on earthquakes and landslides. CyCLOPS is the ITRF/ETRF densification of Cyprus and will serve as the backbone for the augmentation of the national geodetic infrastructure. In this context, CyCLOPS has performed an initial estimation of precise coordinates and velocities for PYTHEAS stations. In 2024, the CyCLOPS unit received an additional funding of 700K EUR from EURF and the Republic of Cyprus to extend the existing infrastructure and develop the Cyprus Ground Motion System, aka CyGMS. CyGMS will be a platform that will visualize precise deformation products at the national level. Moreover, CyCLOPS will assist PYTHEAS in geoid determination tasks for the government-controlled areas of Cyprus and the definition of the new National Vertical Datum.

9.4 Disaster prevention

The Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cyprus, with its decision number 81.717 (25/11/2016), established the composition of the Cyprus National Committee – Tsunami Warning System (CNCTWS) which was later modified with the decisions 1795/2018 (09/10/2018) and 94.211 (11/01/2023).

The CNCTWS is comprised of: the Geological Survey Department, Civil Defence, Department of Lands and Surveys as members and Oceanographic Center of the University of Cyprus, Cyprus University of Technology, Cyprus Marine Maritime Institute as observers.

The mandate of the Committee is to:

- Represent the Republic of Cyprus at the NEAMTWS of IOC.
- Exchange of seismic and geophysical data and cooperate with Tsunami Service Providers within the framework of bilateral agreements.
- Prepare action plan for the response to a tsunami, evaluate existing action plans.

This committee is chaired by the Geological Survey Department and operates under the supervision of the Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment. The CNCTWS has defined, so far, the focal points for the various working groups that operate under NEAMTWS. Furthermore, the CNCTWS has submitted locations from Cyprus coast as tsunami forecast points for the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System in the North-Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas (NEAMTWS). In addition, the CNCTWS has subscribed to tsunami alert services from the following accredited Tsunami Service Providers (TSPs):

- NOA (Institute of Geodynamics, National Observatory of Athens, Greece),
- INGV (Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia, Italy),
- KOERI (Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute, Turkey).

In Zygi, an Inexpensive Device for Sea Level Measurement (IDSL) is operated by the Cyprus Marine and Maritime Institute (CMMI) as part of the initiative between the IOC and UNESCO, to support the North East Atlantic and Mediterranean Tsunami Warning System. Additionally, within the framework of the Coastwave project, another IDSL has been installed at Larnaca Marina and is also operated by CMMI.

The data is available at <https://www.ioc-sealevelmonitoring.org/>



Figure 10: IDSL devices in Zygi and Larnaca Marina

Cyprus is participating in the "Coast-WAVE" program, which aims to enhance the resilience of coastal communities in the North-East Atlantic and Mediterranean region against tsunamis and sea-level-related hazards. The program will last until the end of June 2024. Its main goal is to establish an integrated warning system for tsunami risks in the coastal areas of **Larnaca Municipality** and develop specific action plans for immediate evacuation of vulnerable areas. The Geological Survey Department coordinates the program, with the contribution of the entities of the CNCTWS and Universities (UoC, CUT, University of Frederick). UNESCO - IOC supervises the program.

9.5 Environmental protection

The Republic of Cyprus, on March 2019, has approved a revised version of National Contingency Plan for oil pollution combatting (NCP), which is published on DFMR's website on the following link:

<http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/dfmr/dfmr.nsf/All/EFC47876B89A5BB5422583E500414E9E>

Moreover, after the trilateral agreement signed on May 2018 between Cyprus, Greece and Israel, Cyprus has undertaken the initiative to develop a sub-regional contingency plan for oil pollution combatting in cooperation with Israel and Greece, under REMPEC's guidance and assistance. Both the agreement and the plan have been approved and ratified by all parties.

In the case of an oil spill emergency, the Department of Fisheries and Marine Research (DFMR) of Cyprus, acts as the national combat agency mobilizing its trained manpower and national airborne and waterborne resources. Potential risk scenarios raising the level of oil spill incidents at tier II and III, the NCP is activated and DFMR, in collaboration with the Deputy Ministry of Shipping, request the assistance from third parties including EMSA through CECIS, REMPEC, private stakeholders and signatory parties of subregional agreements.

Periodically, DFMR conducts table top exercises and exercises on field, primarily to assess its operational preparedness and response competency as well as the level of subregional cooperation.

The Department of Environment (DENV) is supervising and coordinating through the Waste Law of 2011 (N.185(I)/2011), specifically for the management of liquid and solid oily waste and residues arising from the oil response and recovery operations. The DENV also participates in the National Environmental and Scientific Advisory Committee of the NCP.

9.6 Aids to navigation

Cyprus Ports Authority is the competent authority for Navigational Aids. Its role is to ensure the efficient operation of the navigational aids and to oversee the compliance of the relevant regulations and provisions in force, hence enhancing the safety of navigation within the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus. The CPA has appointed a coordinator for navigational aids and has recently acquired a patrol vessel. The patrol vessel is used for on-site visits to check the operating conditions of navigational aids.

9.7 Astronomical observations

Nothing to report

9.8 Magnetic/Gravity surveys

Nothing to report

9.9 MSDI Progress

The Department of Lands and Surveys continues the development of the National Land and Hydrographic Data Base. Various online services, including data downloading services, are available in DLS-Portal (<http://portal.dls.moi.gov.cy>).

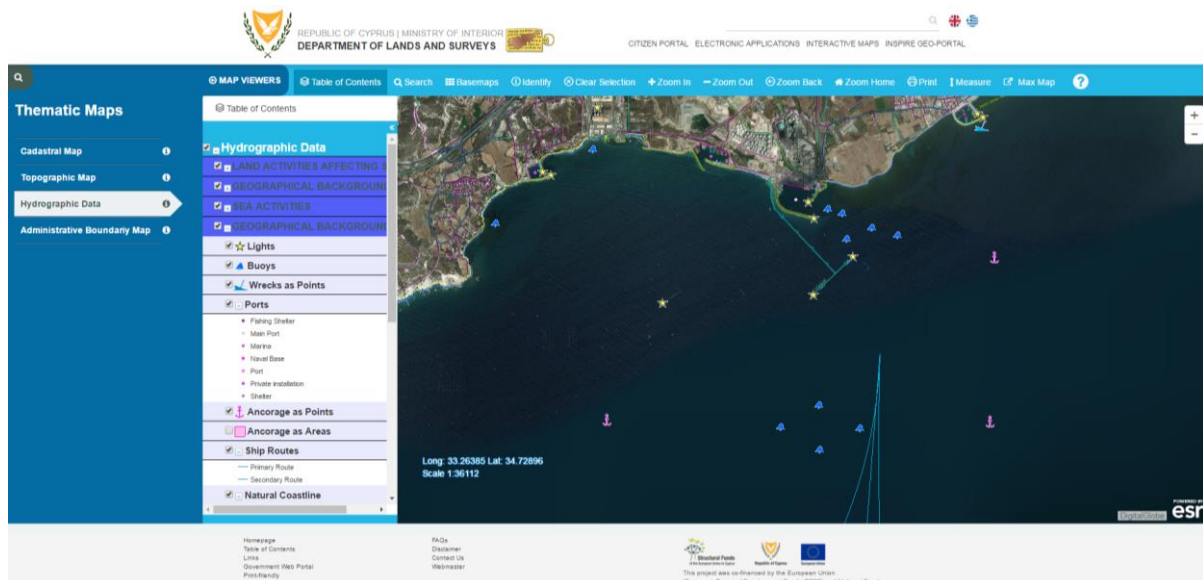


Figure 11: DLS Portal

9.10 Legislation and other related activities

List of Laws and Regulations of the Republic of Cyprus in relation to its maritime zones (non- exhaustive):

- The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Ratification) Law of 1988 (No. 203 of 1988)

Territorial Sea:

- Territorial Sea Law (N. 45 of 1964), as amended in 2014
- Law concerning the regulation of innocent passage through the territorial waters (28(I)/2011)

Contiguous Zone:

- Law for the provision of the proclamation of the Contiguous Zone (63(I)/2004)

Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf:

- Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf Law (64(I)/2004), as amended in 2014

Regulations issued in accordance with the Law 64(I)/2004:

- Marine Scientific Research Regulations of 2014
- Submarine Cables Regulations of 2014
- Submarine Pipelines Regulations of 2014
- Safety Zones Regulations of 2024

Other laws applying in the maritime areas

- Organisation and Execution of Hydrographic Activities and Publication of Nautical Charts Law of 2014 (N.96(I)/2014)

- Geological Surveys Law of 2013 (N.140(I)/2013)
- Antiquities Law, Cap. 31 (as amended in 2014)
- Maritime Spatial Planning Law of 2017 (N. 144(I)/2017)
- other European Union legislative acts

There is a National Working Group (WG) responsible for the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) chaired by the Department of Environment and one responsible for Maritime Spatial Planning chaired by the Shipping Deputy Ministry.

10. Conclusions

Cyprus is heading towards Blue Growth and this can be achieved through investment in the development of Hydrographic Services, promoting the safety of navigation. The CNHC has established a mechanism to further develop hydrography in Cyprus. Through collaboration it was managed to acquire its first survey vessel, which will help enhancing data coverage.

All data retrieved by members of CNHC is collected, stored and maintained by the DLS, thus creating the appropriate conditions to take on a substantial and active cartographic role. Throughout the work cycle issues emerge, which are acknowledged, thoroughly considered and efforts are made for their resolution.

All CNHC bodies are collaborating, not only with other governmental departments, but also with other countries and organisations. These collaborations are significant for exchanging experience and knowledge. Capacity Building funds offer means for further development.

The pandemic limited our operations and forced us to prioritize our obligations. Even though this issue is still in effect, we intend on making significant efforts to achieve our goals.