



# Sri Lanka Navy Hydrographic Service

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## MSDI QUESTIONNAIRE FOR MEMBERS OF NORTH INDIAN OCEAN HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION

Dear NIOHC Colleagues,

Greetings from Chair, MSDIWG (NIOHC),

1. Hydrographic Offices (HOs) today compelled to develop their products for an era of digital transformation. This transformation influence the behaviour of the society and it's relation with the environment based on geospatial data. Thus, Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures (MSDI) have been assuming a role in support of making decisions for the economic growth and the policies.
2. This is one of the reasons to develop MSDI to share marine information to support the growing Blue Economy and the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through a continuous process of updating geospatial data.
3. MSDI are complex system of systems and the technology to build these systems are already available. However MSDI are not only technology, but a combination of resources; such as human resources, standards, governance, capacity building, etc. In view, the Regional Commissions of International Hydrographic Organizations have an important role to build up a MSDI awareness in their Membership to share best practices and management.
4. The IHO MSDI WG have been working in the development of an international network of MSDI experts in order to discuss and find common guidelines for HOs and best procedures. At the regional level, MSDI and Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) offers specific challenges when serving the users. Therefore, regional partners can help each other by sharing their solutions and promoting the MSDI discussion.
5. For these reasons NIOHC MSDIWG invites NIOHC members to discuss to develop a common effort through the MSDI initiative. In this WG, Sri Lanka is delighted to lead with Egypt, India, UK and USA as Members.
6. I would be grateful if you could answer to the attached questionnaire before 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022 for NIOHC's MSDIWG. Your assessment will help to identify the MSDI maturity level in the region and could be the first step to build up a MSDI initiative for the region.

Many thanks for your time.

Best regards

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Rear Admiral

Chief of Staff & Chief Hydrographer of the Sri Lanka Navy  
Chair, NIOHC MSDI Working Group.