



19th Meeting of the Southern African and Islands Hydrographic Commission

Report of the IHO-EU Network WG (IENWG)

France - Representative of the SAIHC at the IENWG

SAIHC19, 29-31 August 2023



IHO REMINDER

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- IENWGW brings to life the MoU signed in 2012 by the European Commission and the IHO which ensures **a continuing liaison between the 2 sides in areas of common interest**
- The IENWGW is composed of representatives from RHCs
- France represents the SAIHC and chairs the WG



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10th ANNIVERSARY OF THE IHO-EU MOU - 6 MAY 2022

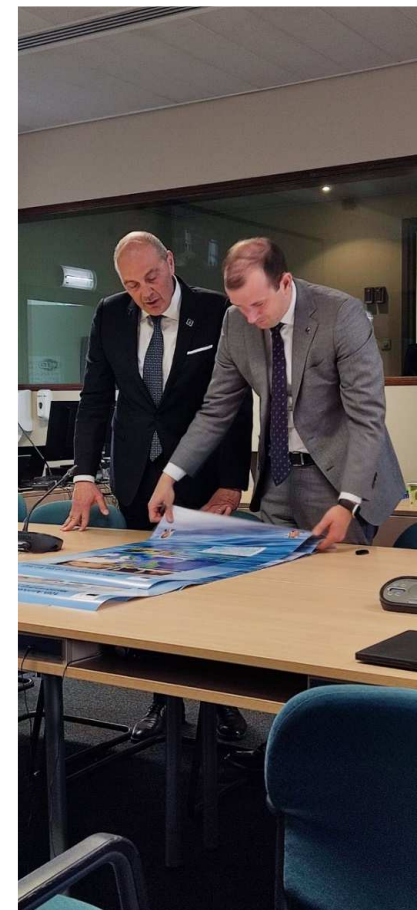
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IHO and EU value the ongoing collaboration:

- **EMODnet bathymetry** in support to GEBCO and coastal mapping in EU
- Provision of **qualified and interoperable hydrographic information and data** for Maritime Spatial Planning and Maritime Security according IHO standards, competencies and good practice
- Consideration of **hydrographic data collection** in ocean observation issues for science and infrastructure

The EU Commissioner for environment, oceans and fisheries, drew up the his vision:

- “Because leading hydrographic offices have become **data-centric service providers** [...], we are able to progress with all the Green Deal objectives [...] building a Digital Twin of the Ocean (DTO).”
- “We now need to see if **the right data are being collected** [...] **innovative technology and cooperation between different countries** could accelerate the mapping of these areas.”
- “We now need to work together to make this happen [...] in line with the United Nation’s Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. The IHO’s S-100 standardised data services form a technical basis for this cross sectoral integration of marine knowledge [...] **precise sea bed mapping is indispensable.**”





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IENWG13 MEETING - BREST, FRANCE, 23 MAY 2023

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- Organised on the occasion of the annual **European Maritime Day**
- Gathered **11 HOs and the European Commission** (DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries)
- IENWG and DG MARE discussed **new opportunities** for collaboration
- Agenda of the meeting covered also **EU policies of interest for the IHO, projects and strategy**



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1ST IENWG MEETING ON THE OCCASION OF THE EMD

International Hydrographic Organization

- Annual venue on global issues concerning the blue economy, the marine environment, the maritime security and ways of moving forward
- IENWG members attended and some participated in workshops



Joint workshop
Benefiting from Maritime Data to Drive Marine Innovation

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#EMD2023
EMD
 EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY





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IENWG WAY FORWARD – 23 MAY 2023

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- **Maritime policies:** to continue to monitor and influence the EU policies
- **Development of the S-100 hydrographic products and services:** to promote across the European Commission (blue economy, marine safety, climate change, protection of marine areas and biodiversity)
- **Capacity Building:** to promote the development of programs for the hydrographic capacity in the EU, and outside EU in particular for safe sea lines with East Asia and Africa
 - in connection with the new Project Team of the IRCC to extend CB funds
 - Belgium liaises between IENWG and the PT
- **Data collection:** to develop common acquisition campaigns of bathymetric data in the EU maritime basins



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INFORMATION SHARING ABOUT EU PROJECTS

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- First S-100 products project funded by the EU (production of S-100 products in Baltic Sea)
- Maritime Spatial Planning projects
- Common Information Sharing Environment for Maritime Security (tests with Navigational Warnings S-124)

Key points: interoperability with data
and products IHO standards
S-100 based services development





www.emodnet.eu

Started as a project, now has become a long term marine data initiative.

7 themes of Marine Data (bathymetry, geology, habitats, chemistry, biology, physics, human activities)

Coastal areas will remain a major interest axis

Key point: interoperability between EMODnet and the IHO standards



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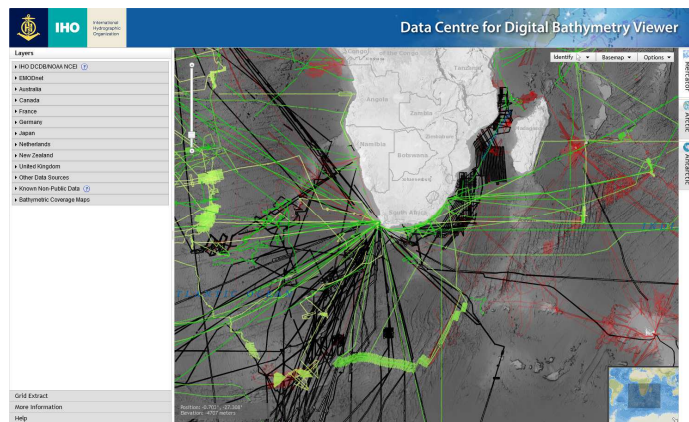
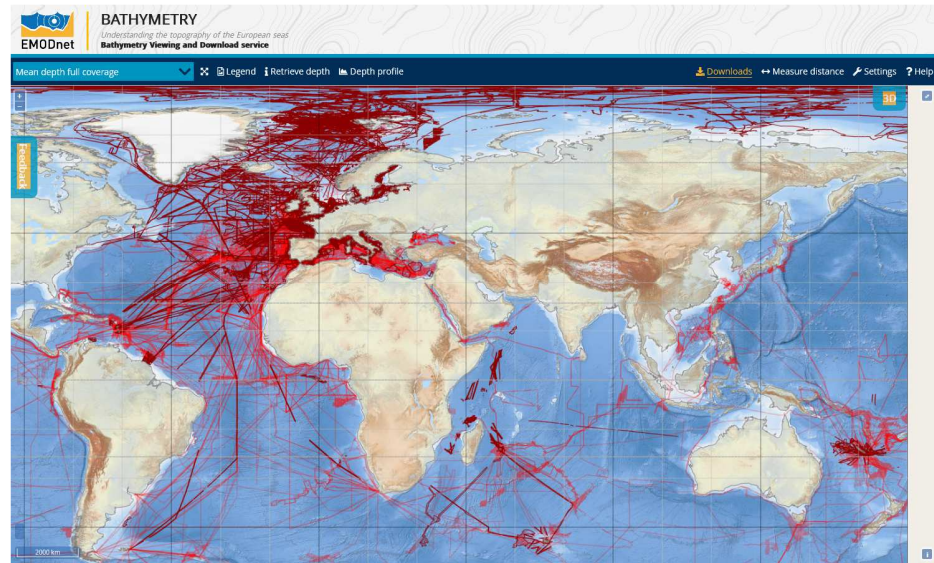
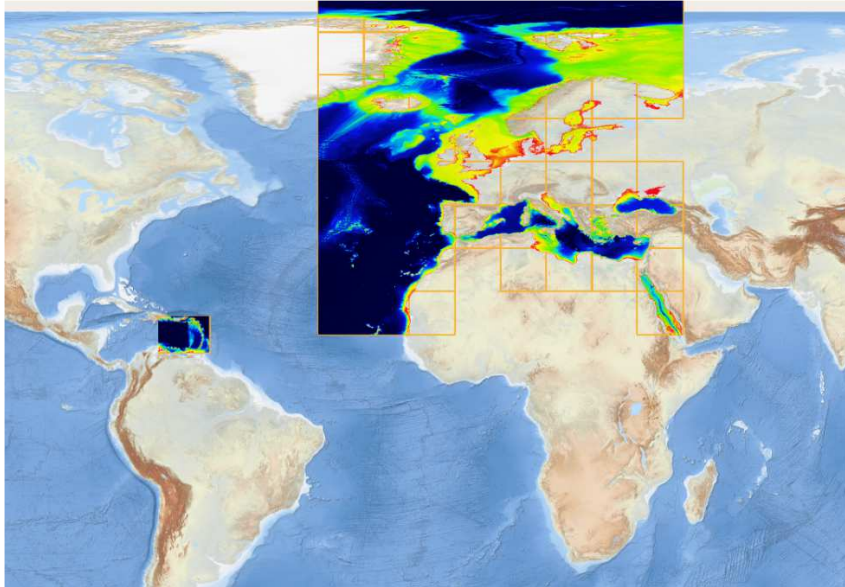


BATHYMETRY

Understanding the topography of the European seas

Bathymetry Viewing and Download service

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- 33000 DTM tiles downloaded yearly by a large range of users
- 15 European HOs and more than 26 research institutes involved
- World Base Layer (EBWBL) service: a worldwide coverage with GEBCO and EMODnet Bathymetry data
- Source data held by the data provider, who decide how to provide its dataset to the final user



IHO PROPOSALS

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- To take note of the report, in particular:
 - the review of the strategy and the way forward for the IENWG
 - the new development of the IENWG in support to Capacity Building in connection with IRCC developments on extending CB funds