16th Meeting of the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission
Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures Working Group
MINUTES

1st May 2024 – 21:00GMT

Attendees (12):

David Arnold (DA)	Assistant Director, Georegulation Delivery	Geoscience Australia
Graham Campton (GC)	Assistant Director Maritime Data Access	Australian Hydrographic Office
David Crossman (DC)	Managing Director Australasia	IIC Technologies Limited
Matthew Ellis (ME)	Senior Geospatial Advisor	Geoscience Australia
Neal Evans (NE)	Operations Analyst and Marine Data Manager	AusSeabed – Geoscience Australia
Belen Jimenez Baron (BJ)	Data Manager	Seabed2030 – SaWPaC Regional Center
Anna Meissner (AM)	Senior Marine Geospatial Data Specialist	Land Information New Zealand
Mafoa Penisoni (MP)	Assistant Geologist	Ministry of Land and Natural Resources, Kingdom of Tonga
Palu Soqoiwasa (PS)	Nautical Cartographer	Fiji Hydrographic Office
Ueakeia Tofinga (UT)	Spatial Data Analyst	Ministry of Information, Communication and Transport Development, Kiribati
Dan Miners (DM)	Geographic Technical Lead	UK Hydrographic Office
Vice Chair Vacant		
Chair Helen Phillips (HP)	Data Governance & Production Engineering Group Manager	UK Hydrographic Office

Apologies (2):

Stuart Caie (SC)	Principal Geospatial Specialist	Land Information New Zealand
Caitlin Johnson (CJ)	Nautical Cartographic Analyst	National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Review and agreement of minutes and actions arising	HP opened the meeting. Minutes from the 15th meeting of the SWPHC MSDI WG accepted as true and correct. HP welcomed new members Ueakeia Tofinga and Matthew Ellis.
Feedback from presentations to SWPHC21 and IHO MSDI WG	HP gave feedback on presentations and reports submitted to SWPHC21 in Fiji and IHO MSDI WG15 in Indonesia. Reports were well received by the wider SWPHC and MSDI WG participants and have been shared on the relevant IHO web pages for both groups. There was lots of interest in the activities of the SWPHC MSDI WG over the past year. SWPHC Report here – SWPHC21 - MSDI WG Report IHO MSDI WG Report here - MSDIWG15 - SWPHC MSDI WG Report

	SWPHC2 I Feedback
	– SWPHC in Fiji – Meeting of the SWPHC MSDI WG allowed some members to attend who may not always be able to join online. Also encouraged new members to join the working group more permanently.
	– Suggestions from wider SWPHC community on actions that the working group could take forward in the workplan for the coming year.
	HP invited discussion from WG members
	– AM – Does the working group intend to have a roadmap for the coming year and what deliverables do we want to achieve as a working group?
	– HP provided more information on the SWPHC workplan which defines the actions for the working group. First major items on the workplan resulted in the production of the data sharing document and the IGIF implementation guidance.
	– SWPHC is now working on an updated workplan, including the theory of change diagram. Some actions from this workplan may define the plan for the working group. The working group can also put forward suggestions for the workplan which can be raised with the SWPHC coordination committee.
Review and discussion of SWPHC Theory of Change and effect on the SWPHC MSDI WG Workplan	SWPHC have developed a new approach to defining the workplan for the commission using the "Theory of Change" model. HP shared the SWPHC Theory of Change diagram with the working group – SWPHC21_Theory_of_Change_WP-SWPHC_IHO_Goals_Bow-tie.pdf
	HP highlighted some items of the diagram which affect MSDI and may affect the activities of the working group, items listed on the Theory of Change diagram that received comments from the working group are as follows:
	IHO Target to Build a Portal to support and promote regional and international cooperation in marine spatial data infrastructure
	– HP highlighted that this target has been challenged at IHO and may not be something that the working group can influence.
	– BJ suggested a similar activity has been worked on in the MACHC region and could ask someone from that project team to present to us if this would be useful.
	In the MACHC region a common portal was considered beneficial to members, but would this translate to the SWPHC region?
	– AM raised that combined portals have been of interest to the NZ MGI Working Group in New Zealand. Prototype has been developed to bring together many organisations data holdings. Would be interesting to hear of any case studies from other countries or organisations.
	– DA has also been adopting a similar MSDI structure for Australia providing open access to publicly accessible source data. Was the concern around the IHO data portal regarding the 'aggregating' of other portals or 'hosting' the data portal via the IHO. HP expanded that main concerns were around hosting a central database by IHO, data permissions, and other considerations needed to be investigating and thought through properly. How could the working group help contribute to this goal?
	– NE provided insight from AusSeabed and agreed with comments that hosting a central portal is too complicated and problematic, but an aggregated portal to show other data holdings provided by organisations would be a useful tool for discoverability of data. AusSeabed Portal hosts a small amount of their own data, but also displays data from other organisations as an aggregation tool. Creating an

underlying portal may not be difficult, but it may be tricky to encourage people to participate in the aggregated portal that is created.

- AM asked NE if there was any guidance on cost of implementation of an aggregated portal.

- NE commented that the AusSeabed portal is built on open software and standards so the cost of implementation isn't too high but do not have to pay for ongoing licensing. There is some cost to hosting the infrastructure and ongoing IT support required to keep it operational.

- HP will feedback comments to the SPWHC workplan committee.

Agree a value proposition which promotes value of hydrography:

- HP commented that the working group has completed some work on this previously, is there any value in doing more work on this target?

- BJ asked whether it would be worth writing an article for a publication in International Hydrographic Review or other publication?

- General consensus to work on promoting the document in other fora as it will keep the work discoverable for longer.

IGIF Implementation Activity

- Is this something that would benefit the region? Is it worth the working group focussing more on this task?

- AM – Could be valuable and would like to raise idea with NZ MGI Working Group, what kind of work could be done to support this activity?

- HP – Videos produced should be really useful, but is there anything else the working group could do and does it add value for the commission members to complete these maturity assessments and implement IGIF-H.

- HP & BJ – Shared concerns about whether maturity assessment is beneficial for the region? It is a useful tool for some organisations, but may not be useful for everyone? Would it be useful to develop a questionnaire to ask wider community whether WG activities are useful so far, what else could we work on. To ask for feedback we need to explain what we are doing in an easily understandable written method.

- AM – Were there any use cases of organisations that have completed similar activities, what were the benefits, what were the challenges, was the overall outcome valuable?

- BJ – Would be interesting to ask what this working group could do to support organisations, is there any benefit to this task being centralised by the working group? What can we do to support and not hinder the task for organisations?

HP invited other comments from members, are there any other activities that this working group could work on to contribute to the SWPHC workplan?

- BJ raised that there is a similar working group in the region led by Vaipo Mataora and some tasks and activities may overlap. It would be beneficial to identify where our activities overlap. Engage with the Pacific Geospatial and Surveying Council to find out where we overlap and how we might be able to work together.

- HP had comments from the Pacific Geospatial and Surveying Council and with Andrick Lal from SPC to engage with them on how we can collaborate with others in the region.

	- Goal to share resources, reduce duplication of effort and collaborate on tasks of mutual interest. - CJ provided comments outside of the working group meeting that it would be beneficial for the working group to consider workplan activities that related to partnerships and engaging with regional partners. MSDI principles include standardising data for non-traditional uses which is something that the working group could usefully support. HP concluded discussion with information that the SWPHC Workplan meeting will be held in the next few weeks and feedback on the workplan meeting would be provided to members. Encouraged working group members to think about how we promote the work of the working group and encourage feedback from wider community.
Nominations and election of vice chair	HP confirmed that members could put themselves forward for Vice Chair and did not have to be part of an IHO member state organisation. BP has expressed an interest in becoming Vice Chair at previous meetings, this has been confirmed as within IHO WG guidelines and the SWPHC if BP is still interested in the role. With that in mind HP invited working group members to volunteer for the vice chair role or put forward nominations for vice chair. AM nominated Belen if they are still willing to be vice chair. This nomination was accepted by Belen Jimenez Baron and seconded by NE. Belen Jimenez Baron agreed to take on the role of Vice Chair of the SWPHC MSDI working group.
AOB	• AM Shared that the New Zealand MGI Working Group would be holding their 6th meeting tomorrow (3rd May 2024) celebrating their 5th year since being established. Invited members to join online if they wish.
Date of next meeting	Proposed date of 25th/26th June 2024

OPEN ACTION REGISTER

Meeting Date	Action Description	Action Lead	Action Status
17-Nov-21	To investigate local policies wrt indigenous data governance and sovereignty.	All	Ongoing
21-Feb-23	Update ToR and IHO SWPHC MSDI WG Webpage with these elections and to reflect the new members	DM	Ongoing

TEMPORARY ACTION REGISTER

Record of temporary actions raised which are not considered significant enough to record in the Action Register. These actions are considered minor items which will be recorded in these minutes for reference, but will not be carried over for review at future working group meetings.

Members are encouraged to inform WG when these actions are completed, but they should not be recorded in the Completed Action Register.

Meeting Date	Action Description	Action Lead	Action Status

COMPLETED ACTION REGISTER

Meeting Date	Action Description	Action Lead	Action Status
04-Feb-21	Should inform the "Pacific Geospatial Survey and Council" and "Geoscience Australia" of our existence and purpose ensuring that we work together.	Rachel and Paul	Completed
04-Feb-21	Sharing best practice, ideas and progress. Paul proposed using a Data Maturity Model so we could take a structured approach to our progress and Paul took an ACTION to investigate whether IHO had something we could use	Paul	Completed
04-Feb-21	Share the minutes and report that would be submitted to SWPHC18 with the members of the SWPHC MSDIWG. The IHO MSDI WG was taking place on 17 & 18 March, Helen to an ACTION to report that the SWPHC MSDI WG had been established.	Helen	Completed
04-Feb-21	Agreed that a SWP regional SDI Portal list would be beneficial. Create a template for population	Helen	Closed. Agree to defer to the IHO Portal list
04-Feb-21	Review the IHO list of SDI portals	All	Closed
18-Aug-21	WG secretariat to amend standing WG agenda to include a 15min slot for industry communique.	Helen	Completed
18-Aug-21	Invite IIC Technologies to brief at the next WG meeting.	Helen	Completed
18-Aug-21	Invite a member of IGIF-H to brief this WG at the next convenient opportunity.	Rachel	Closed, see below
18-Aug-21	To clarify with IHO MSDI as to what qualifies as a MSDI portal, noting the mix of current resources on the list (websites, portals, downloads).	Helen	Closed, expired.

18-Aug-21	To coordinate an appropriate list of national MSDI's with AUS participants.	Paul	Completed
18-Aug-21	For ALL members to consider how this WG can support IGIF-H	All	Closed
17-Nov-21	To invite John Nyberg or Pearlyn Pang to speak to the WG on IGIF-H	Rachel	Completed
2-Feb-22	WG to consider improved Target and SPI's for Goal 2 and submit to SPI WG via Stuart Caie (NZ).	All	Close. Advice from SWPHC Council.
2-Feb-22	To investigate hosting a MS Teams space to share WG material	HP	Complete
25-May-22	Ask Adam Greenland for a reference to LINZ's Data Value Proposition.	HP	Complete
25-May-22	Establish MS Teams space for the WG members to upload and share examples of Data Value Propositions and MS Data Policies.	HP/All	Completed
10-Aug-22	Provide a stakeholder map of data sharing related forums	SC	Close
10-Aug-22	Coordinate a workshop on 25 Aug 2022 to finalise review of DVP.	HP	Complete
19-Oct-22	To write a few sentences about the SWPHC MSDI working group for information at the OSGeo PGC.	JS/PB	Complete
19-Oct-22	Review DVP document for grammatical consistency, any additional propositions, applicability to UN sustainability goals, and content of "data release" section.	All	DUE 4 Nov 2022 Complete
14-Dec-22	JS to review and provide feedback on IHO Portal list and DVP document from SHOM perspective	JS (SHOM)	Completed
14-Dec-22	Confirm with GA members as to the possible ambiguity of two DVP entries, and if they could be merged into one	PS	Completed
14-Dec-22	Confirm with IHO secretariat for permissions to use IHO logos on final product.	PS	Completed
09-Jun-23	WG Agreed to share Data Value Proposition with Andy Cootes to use in Paper with caveat that WG is cited. HP to confirm with Andy.	HP	Completed
26-Apr-2023	Discuss with UKHO Comms team whether article on DVP could be published on UKHO LinkedIn Channel	HP	Completed

26-Apr-2023	Develop presentation to present at SaWPaC Seabed 2030 Meeting in July.	PS to present. All to support.	Completed
26-Apr-2023	Investigate options to share video recordings of meetings and presentation content.	DM	Completed
17-Nov-21	To invite some (as of yet) non-participating members into this WG.	All	Closed – Moved to ToR
21-Feb-2023	Explore IGIF strategic pathways and present back to the group.	All	Completed
10-Aug-22	WG to share any Open Data Policies	All	Closed
26-Apr-2023	Look for opportunities to add to the communication plan for the Data Value Proposition.	All	Closed – Moved to ToR