



EMODnet



European Marine
Observation and
Data Network

EMODnet Thematic Lot n° 6 - Human Activities

EASME/EMFF/2016/1.3.1.2 - Lot 6/SI2.749458

Start date of the project: 03/03/2017 - (48 months)

EMODnet Phase III - Quarterly Progress Report (15)

Reporting Period: 01/10/2020 - 31/12/2020





Contents

1.Highlights in this quarter.....	4
2.Identified issues: status and actions taken	6
3.User feedback (Contact Us form, online chat & other communication means)7	
4.Meetings/events held/attended & planned	11
5.Communication assets.....	13
6.Monitoring indicators	15
7.Annex: Other documentation attached	17

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1. Highlights in this quarter

Task 1: develop a common method of access to data held in repositories

Several data sets received an update:

- Monthly first sales of fish
- Oil and gas boreholes
- Oil and gas offshore installations
- Main ports (goods, passenger and vessel traffic)
- Freshwater aquaculture: The data model has been revised, based on the data model for shellfish aquaculture, to include a relational table with harmonised information about species grown using Eurostat nomenclature for the Species Group (Carps, barbels and other cyprinids; Miscellaneous freshwater fishes; River eels; Salmons, trouts, smelts; Sturgeons, paddlefishes; Tilapias and other cichlids), the species name (commercial and scientific) and the code. Compared with the previous version this new version has not only been updated but it has also been reviewed (dataset schema and attributes values), in order to add information on production methods, production stages and purposes and to provide a more useful typology based on species grown. Data from Belgium, Estonia, France and Lithuania have been added.
- Marine finfish dataset update: Updated data from the following countries have been processed: Denmark, Greece, Finland, Ireland, UK (Scotland), Norway. New data have been collected from France and Estonia. The compilation of the different sources is undergoing as well as the re-design of the data model to implement a relational data model as described above for the freshwater data set.
- Shellfish dataset update: updated data from the following countries have been processed: DK, IE, UK (Scotland). Updated data from NW is being processed.
- Cultural heritage: new data from SHOM on wrecks is being processed: the data collected only covers French territories (including outermost regions and other ultra-marine territories). Available information on the context of the sinking and description of the wrecks has been translated (through automatic translation), year of the sinking when available has been extracted from the text and calculations of the distance to coast have been done. The last step to be carried out is to adjust the data model to EMODnet HA standards

Two entirely new data sets were added:

- Spirulina production
- Military areas (this one is not yet online, but work is completed and it is expected to go live in Q1 2021)

Task 2: construct products

- Route density maps updated to August 2020

Task 3: develop procedures for machine-to-machine connections to data and data products

It is proposed to install a Catalogue Web Service (CWS) starting with the next contract (from 3 March 2021), because the current server will be migrated to Germany.



Task 4: maintain and further develop a thematic web portal

- Live chat service was discontinued due to the legal collapse of the EU-US privacy shield
- Users' email addresses are not collected anymore, due to the end of the Brexit transition period. Our server is hosted in the UK and no personal data can be stored outside the EU. With the next contract the server will be migrated to Germany
- Apache web server logs were disabled for the same reason

Task 5: ensure the involvement of regional sea conventions

Remote meetings are being planned and they will be carried out before the end of the current contract.

Task 6: install a process to monitor performance and deal with user feedback

- 37% of user from industry.
- The Irish Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform published an interview with the EMODnet HA portal to present the data set on aquaculture: [Interviews - IATiP](#)

Task 7: operate a help desk offering support to users

As the live chat service's been discontinued, users now mainly reach out via e-mail.

Other (not directly related to any task)

The method developed to create vessel density maps is being used by the US National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.



2. Identified issues: status and actions taken

A. Priority issue(s) identified and communicated by EASME/ DG MARE/ SECRETARIAT				
Priority issue	Status (Pending/Resolved)	Action(s) taken / remaining actions planned	Date due	Date resolved
Consider adding a Catalogue Web Service (CWS) for the user.	Pending	Starting with the next contract a new webserver will be set up in Germany. It is proposed to install the CWS on the new webserver.	Q2 2021	
Disable live chat service	Solved	Disabled		26/10/2020
Stop collecting users' email addresses	Solved	Form removed	Q4 2020	06/01/2020
Disable Apache web server logs	Solved	Disabled	Q4 2020	06/01/2020

B. Issues / challenges identified by the thematic assembly group itself				
Priority issue / challenge	Status (Pending/Resolved)	Action(s) taken / remaining actions planned	Date due	Date resolved
Aquaculture: Data collection from Spain (Spain only provided WMS link to their online tool, which does not allow to integrate the data with the EMODnet dataset)	Pending	New email sent on 1/12/2020 to ask again about the possibility to obtain data in shapefile or db format. Further to this email, the Spanish authorities sent a form to request the data. The completed form was sent back on 02/12/2020. We are waiting for their approval.	Impossible to say	

3. User feedback (Contact Us form, online chat & other communication means)

Overview of user feedback and/or requests received in this quarter							
Date	Organisation	Type of user feedback (e.g. technical, case study, etc.) and short description of the feedback received	Means of contact	Response time	Status of user query: resolved/pending	Measures taken to resolve the query	Status: if not (yet) resolved/pending, explain reason why and expected timeline
09/10/2020	Individual	Technical: user couldn't download the fishing intensity data set.	Live chat	Immediate	Solved	The problem was at user level. A file was sent to solve the issue.	
11/10/2020	Individual	Technical: user couldn't view the boreholes data set in QGIS	Live chat	Immediate	Solved	Explained how to do it.	
14/10/2020	Individual	Technical: user didn't know how to retrieve coordinates of ports in QGIS	Live chat	Immediate	Solved	Explained how to do it.	
20/10/2020	Individual	Technical: user didn't know how to download the data set on protected areas	Live chat	Immediate	Solved	Sent a link.	
21/10/2020	Individual	Technical: user didn't know how to download vessel density data.	Live chat	Immediate	Solved	Explained how to do it.	



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02/10/2020	Individual	User wanted to reach out to OSPAR to obtain more information on unexploded ordnance	E-mail	Same day	Solved	Told who to contact.@"	
05/10/2020	Individual	Technical: user wanted to have Natura 2000 areas in shapefile format	E-mail	Same day	Solved	Explained that the data set is only available in file geodatabase format. Explained how to import it.	
08/10/2020	Individual	Technical: user found that the coordinates of the Poseidon pipeline, off the coast of Andalucia, were different from those reported by the Andalucia government	E-mail	Same day	Pending	Issue can't be solved easily: we use the same source (Junta de Andalucia), but the coordinates are reported differently in two different portals!	
11/10/2020	Individual	Technical: user didn't manage to download data through the 'download data in tabular format' feature	E-mail	Same day	Solved	The problem was at user level. A file was sent instead.	



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27/10/2020	Individual	User wanted to know where to download wind farm data from	E-mail	Same day	Solved	Explained how to do it from EMODnet HA	
30/10/2020	Individual	User wanted to know if route density data are available also for years before 2019	E-mail	Same day	Not solved	Explained that this data set originates from EMSA.	
05/11/2020	Individual	Technical: user noticed that data on protected areas was clearly offset and didn't match the coastline in Wales	E-mail	Same day	Solved	The issue was due to an error when updating the data set. It was immediately fixed.	
09/11/2020	Individual	Technical: user wanted to download vessel density data in tabular format	E-mail	Same day	Solved	Explained this is not possible because vessel density is a raster data set. It can be converted into a feature data set, but it's not practical to do so.	
01/12/2020	Individual	Technical: user wanted to add their algae production facility to our data set	E-mail	Same day	Solved	User was put in touch with the JRC who are curating the data set.	



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03/12/2020	Individual	Citation: user wanted to cite EMODnet in a paper	E-mail	Same day	Solved	Explained how to do it.	
03/12/2020	Individual	Technical: user wanted to download vessel density data before 2017	E-mail	Same day	Not solved	Vessel density maps are available from 2017 onwards.	
08/12/2020	Individual	Technical: user want to download EMODnet Human Activities data from EMODnet Geology by drawing a polygon.	E-mail	Same day	Solved	Explained that the Geology portal is managed by a different contractor.	

4. Meetings/events held/attended & planned

A. Meetings/events organised and attended					
Date	Location	Type event (internal or external meeting, training/workshop)	Indicate if a ppt was given (yes/no + short description)	Meeting attended (A) / organised (O)	Short description and main results (# participants, agreements made, etc.)
9-10 October 2020	WEBEX meeting	EMODnet Steering Committee meeting	Yes: overview of the most significant updates	A	
29 October 2020	WEBEX Meeting	Workshop	No	A	Subgroup 2- Harmonization of Terminology and Nomenclature for MSP Output Data Workshop
14 December 2020	Online	Workshop	No	A	Online participation workshop on maritime space management (https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/costas/temas/proteccion-medio-marino/ordenacion-del-espacio-maritimo/default.aspx)
SUM				O	Total # of meetings organised = 0
SUM				A	Total # of meetings attended = 3



B. Meetings/events planned in the future				
Date	Location	Type event (meeting, training (workshop), etc.)	Meeting to be attended (A) / organised (O)	Short description and main expected outcomes

5. Communication assets

A. Communication products

Date	Communication material	Short description (of the material, title, ...) of the asset	Main results	Name of event at which material was disseminated (if applicable)
9/12/20	Video	The IATiP (Irish Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform) asked AND-International to participate in a series of short interviews	A short video that includes a presentation of EMODNet HA and the aquaculture dataset in particular	IATip website: Interviews - IATiP

B. Planned communication products

Date	Communication material	Short description (of the material, title, ...) and/or link to the asset	Main results expected
January 2021	Blog post	Interview with the JRC to present the new data set on spirulina production	Increase awareness and attract new users

List of known publications using EMODnet data or data products

Date	Type and name of journal, conference, ...	Publication title including DOI (if known)	Author(s)	Organisation(s)
07/2020 (not previously listed)	Project report	PORTODIMARE: Spatial conflicts among human activities as well as with conservation priority areas in Western Greek waters	Maria Kikeri, Dimitrios Politikos, Stefanos Kavadas and Vassiliki Vassilopoulou, Stefano Menegon, Elisabetta Manea, Erika Porporato	HCMR, CORILA
20/10/2020	Scientific paper: Science of the Total Environment, Volume 740	The effects of COVID-19 induced lockdown measures on maritime settings of a coastal region	Depellegrin, Bastianini, Fadini, Menegon	University of Exeter (UK) CNR (Italy)

6. Monitoring indicators

Comments on the progress indicators in the excel template		
Progress indicator	Means of collecting figures	Comment
1. Current status and coverage of total available thematic data A) Volume and coverage of available data	Matomo/ other (Please state which monitoring tool was used to collate the information in each case)	Overall volume of data increased, as many data sets (highlighted in yellow) received an update Sea-basin aggregate figures cannot be calculated for EMODnet Human Activities, which mostly has discrete data.
B) Usage of data in this quarter		As expected, overall there were more downloads in the last quarter than in the previous one. This effect is largely due to the fact that Q3 coincides with the holiday season
2. Current status and coverage of total number of data products A) Volume and coverage of available data products		Vessel density did not increase as next update is due in 2021. Route density is updated every month, so there's a constant increase in volume 100% of EU sea basin are covered by the two data products.
B) Usage of data products in this quarter		Upward trend in Q4 compared with Q3. Q3 coincides with the holiday season.
3. Organisations supplying/approached to supply data and data products within this quarter		Nothing to report
4. Online 'Web' interfaces to access or view data		Nothing to report
5. Statistics on information volunteered through download forms		Users from industry still at nearly 40%
6. Published use cases		Nothing to report
8.1. Technical monitoring		Header and footer will be made compliant



Comments on the progress indicators in the excel template		
Progress indicator	Means of collecting figures	Comment
8.2. Portal user-friendliness (Visual harmonization score)		As above
9. Visibility & Analytics for web pages		Difficult to explain
10. Visibility & Analytics for web sections		Difficult to explain
11. Average visit duration for web pages		Difficult to explain

The monitoring numbers reported as part of the progress monitoring of EMODnet performance are collected through Matomo. In some cases, numbers from other monitoring systems may also be reported (e.g. Awstats, Google Analytics), and if so, must be reported in the table above. Each system uses different technical approaches and therefore has its strengths and shortcomings. Therefore, results are indicative and care should be taken when interpreting absolute numbers or comparing results from different tools. It is often more sensible to consider trends over time collected by the same monitoring tool.



7. Annex: Other documentation attached

[List in Annex if you wish to provide any additional information.]