EMODnet Thematic Lot n°7 – Human Activities

EASME/EMFF/2019/1.3.1.9/Lot 7/SI2.835999

Start date of the project: 03/03/2023 (24 months)

Centralisation Phase

Quarterly Progress Report (26)

Reporting Period: 01/07/2023 – 30/09/2023

Contents

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1. Highlights in this quarter

Task 1: Maintain and improve a common method of access to data held in repositories

The MSP data received an update. The attribute of the HILUCS (Hierarchical INSPIRE Land Use Classification System) were updated in accordance with the latest version released.

Lighthouses: Data is ready to be delivered but we are still waiting for written consent from ARLHS. Several messages were sent. We received a positive response about setting up a meeting but no answer to time slot propositions. We have also started to look at alternative sources (Lighthouse'r us)

Shellfish polygon: Data from Ireland and Spain were processed.

Marine finfish: the following countries were processed: Denmark, Scotland, Norway, Ireland, Malta, Cyprus

UNESCO World Heritage List: We examined the possibility to extract relevant sites from the WHL. One option would be to apply the EU definition of coastal areas: Coastal areas are local administrative units (LAUs) that are bordering or close to a coastline, *i.e* that have at least 50 % of their surface area within a distance of 10 km from the coastline. In this case, coordinates are provided as points. If we use the 10 km distance from coastline as a threshold, we can identify around 80 sites in coastal areas in the EU and 120 when including the EEA and Mediterranean countries.

Coastal tourism: Eurostat was contacted to get access to microdata (at municipality level) on nights spent by tourists in coastal areas. No answer yet. The issue also came up in the EMODnet for coastal tourism online workshop.

Fishery data: there were exchanges with DG MARE as to the possibility to make available more fishery-related data. Potentially, the fish catches data set currently available on EMODnet could be enriched with information on TACs (Total Allowable Catches, quotas, and quota uptake), but this information is either restricted or available via pdf files, and full access should be given by MARE.

Task 2: Construct products from one or more data sources that provide users with information about the distribution and quality of parameters in time and space

- Route density maps updated with data up to September 2023

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

The following data sets have received their annual update:

- Nationally designated areas
- World Database on Protected areas
- Fish catches. In this case, the data set schema was also modified: before each year (from the 1950's) was a separate field; now there a single "year" field and individual years are listed as attributes. This will facilitate data queries.
- Monthly first sales of fish

Further, an entirely new data set was made available: Regional Sea Conventions MPAs.

Other data sets (aggregate extraction and urban wastewater treatment) were updated, but these updates are not yet online.

Task 4: Contribute data, data products and content to a central portal that allows users to find, view and download data and data products

Route density maps updated to September 2023.

Task 5: Contribute content to dedicated spaces in the Central Portal

Nothing to report in the quarter.

Task 6: Ensure the involvement of Regional Sea Conventions

Nothing to report in the quarter.

Task 7: Contribute to the implementation of EU legislation and broader initiative for open dataù

Nothing to report in the quarter.

Task 8: Monitoring quality / performance and deal with user feedback

Nothing to report in the quarter.

Task 9: Maintain the existing thematic web portal for a maximum of six months from the start of the project

Nothing to report in the quarter.

Status of the Milestones and Deliverables listed in the workplan					
Milestone/Deliverable in numerical order	WP	Date due	Status (To do/ Delivered/ Delayed)	Date delivered	If Delayed: reason for delay and expected delivery date
e.g. M1: xxx	WP1	Dd/mm/yyyy	Delivered	Dd/mm/yyyy	…
e.g. D1.1: xxx	WP1	Dd/mm/yyyy	Delayed		…

EMODnet Human Activities work plan is not structured around milestones, as the project is managed as an iterative and incremental process.

2. Identified issues: status and actions taken

A. Priority issue(s) identified and communicated by CINEA/ DG MARE/ SECRETARIAT				
Priority issue	Status (Pending/ Resolved)	Action(s) taken/ remaining actions planned	Date due	Date resolved
EM-632 Provide input to the Tools & Guidlines section	Pending	This mostly involves a minor update of the method to make the vessel density maps. Most importantly, the method is being transposed to the CINEA's template, so to obtain a DOI from the EU Publication Office. Since, a version of the method (without DoI) is indeed available online, this is not being treated as a top priority		
EM-772 **Investigate how to expose vector attribute as time dimension in WMS, without suffering performance impact**	Pending	When we added an index there was no improvement in speed, but this will need further investigation. Therefore we removed the time dimension from the relevant layers. At the moment it is not critical, as on the CP Viewer we are just filtering the data by date attribute fields (Eg. Port traffic), which seems to work well		
EM-612 EMODnet Catalogue Tags & FiltersEM-532 **HA- EMODnet Catalogue Tags**	Pending	Preliminary list of tags has been created, though not yet shared on Jira. There are issues that need to be discussed with the CP team		

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

3. Communication assets

A. (Co-)Authored peer-reviewed publications in the quarter					
Date of publication	Type of publication	Full reference	ISBN	DOI	Is it open access? Yes/No
	e.g. paper; conference proceedings; book chapter; …				

B. Other/non-peer reviewed types of publications (co-)authored in the quarter					
Date of publication	Type of publication	Full reference	ISBN	DOI	Is it open access? Yes/No
					Yes

For a compressive overview of publications referring to/making use of EMODnet data and/or data products, please consult Google Scholar.

4. Monitoring indicators

Comments on the progress indicators in the indicators spreadsheet		
Progress indicator	Means of collecting figures	Comment
1. Current status and coverage of total available thematic data A) Volume and coverage of available data	*Own database*	Overall, volume doesn't increase to an appreciable extent, despite some data sets receving an update. This is normal with Human Activities data, where updates do not necessarily correspond to more data.
What is your opinion on the data coverage within EMODnet for your thematic?		Nothing new to report in this quarter.
B) Usage of data in this quarter	*Europa Analytics*	Number of downloads is pretty stable, despite the summer season when it usually plummets. Usage of web services decreases which is in line with the historical trend. Interesting, this probably signals that web services are now the preferred methods of ingesting data.
2. Current status and coverage of total number of data products A) Volume and coverage of available data products	*Own database*	Coverage increases by definition, with route density maps receiving monthly updates.
B) Usage of data products in this quarter	*Europa Analytics*	Usage decreases during the summer season, in line with the historical trend.
3. Internal and external organisations supplying/approached to supply data and data products within this quarter		Trying to approach Eurostat to obtain microdata (at the level of municipalities) on nights spent by tourists in coastal areas.
5.1 Daily number of page views of EMODnet Thematic entry page	Europa Analytics	Slightly (almost negligible) downward trend compared with the previous reporting period. This in line with the historical trend of the summer season.

| 5.2 Quarterly total number of visitors, page views, unique page views and percentage of returning visitors | Europa Analytics | Slightly downward trend, which is inline with the historical trend of the summer season. However % or returning visitors increases for the second quarter in a row, which is encouraging. |

The monitoring numbers reported as part of the progress monitoring of EMODnet performance are collected through Europa Analytics, unless reported otherwise.

5. Annex: Other documentation attached

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