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 - (24 months)

EMODnet Phase III – Quarterly Progress Report (5)

Reporting Period: 16/04/2018 – 15/07/2018

Contents

Disclaimer

1 Highlights during the reporting period

- **Task 1: Develop a common method of access to data held in repositories**:
    - o Aquaculture: (i) enlargement of the aquaculture dataset to freshwater aquaculture. 11 Member States covered, among which landlocked countries; (ii) Data update on marine aquaculture (IE, EL, CY, NO); (iii) Contacts established with national authorities and/or scientific bodies in countries with no information on aquaculture sites location (FR, PT, HR, Mediterranean and Black Sea bordering countries); (iv) Investigation on the feasibility of integrating a dataset on algae production sites (ongoing discussion with the authorities of the Brittany Region in France and with the JRC); (v) Collection and pre-processing of new datasets for shellfish aquaculture (Poland), based on concession registers (polygons delimiting rearing/harvesting areas); (vi) Investigation on new datasets and data products concerning mariculture: sanitary areas, suitable areas (regarding physical and biological conditions), planned areas (national development plans...), % of coverage of the different coastal areas.
    - o Cultural heritage: (i) collection and pre-processing of new datasets on wrecks and underwater archaeology in the Mediterranean; (ii) Identification and contacts with new data sources in different Sea Basins (Baltic, Black Sea, Atlantic....); (iii) Research on alternative sources for lighthouses (more accurate and providing metadata) and negotiations for data purchase; (iv) Negotiation with private sources for purchase of datasets on wrecks: price and conditions/restrictions for dissemination; (v) Investigation on the availability at EU level of data on protected areas aiming at preserving archaeological sites; (vi) Search of new datasets concerning different artefacts of heritage value (piers, forts, ports, etc.).
    - o Other updates: update of the main ports dataset, update of the state of bathing waters dataset, update of the protected areas dataset, update of the fish catches dataset, update of the maritime boundaries dataset, updated of the dumped munitions dataset, collection of data for the MSP dataset creation of a dataset on waste in ports. Apart from fish catches, all these updates are not yet available online.
- **Task 2: Construct products from one or more data sources that provide users with information about the distribution of parameters in time and space**: the AIS data for the vessel density maps have been further cleaned to remove some errors (wrong MMSI numbers, wrong positions, etc.) and imported into a geodatabase. The final method for processing the data has been agreed during a meeting with the JRC. A script is being developed to make all the necessary calculations. Further data from an external provider will be purchased to increase granularity when breaking down the data into ship types.
- **Task 3: Develop procedures for machine-to-machine connections to data and data products**: nothing to report
    - o **Task 4: Develop a web portal allowing users to find, visualise and download data**: Go-live of site with new design using elements from the visual guidelines. New site includes the ability to collect e-mail address and comments from users who download data (within GDPR compliance) so we may contact them about use cases.
- **Task 5: Ensure the involvement of regional sea conventions**: a letter has been signed by the EU Commission to facilitate contacts and exchange of data with the Black Sea Commission.
- **Task 6: Facilitate interoperability with data distributed by non-EU organisations**: nothing to report.
- **Task 7: Install a process to monitor performance and deal with user feedback**: nothing to report
- **Task 8: Operate a help desk offering support to users**: the number of requests via live chat has increased, indicating increasing use of EMODnet Human Activities
- **Events**: EMODnet Human Activities was presented at the EU Maritime Day in Burgas (31 May - 1 June) and at the EMODnet Italy Day in Trieste (8 June), at the VI International Symposium on Marine Sciences in Vigo (20-22 June), at the 4th Geo Blue Planet Symposium in Toulouse (4-6 July). Work on density maps presented at the "Maritime Big Data Workshop" organised by the CMRE of the NATO in La Spezia on 9-10 May.

2 Challenges encountered during the reporting period

Main challenge	Measures taken
Mariculture data updates/enlargement	Regular contacts with administrations and scientific bodies
Freshwater dataset harmonisation	Definition of a list of main species representative of the different forms of freshwater aquaculture (intensive / extensive, tanks / ponds)
Improvement of lighthouses dataset	Negotiation for data purchase with two sources
Enlargement of wrecks dataset	Negotiation with a private data provider on the feasibility of extracting wrecks of heritage value and conditions for dissemination (non downloadable)
Problem with the visualisation of diacritics in the "state of bathing waters dataset"	The original file downloaded from the EEA does not correctly show diacritics, most likely due to wrong encoding. A request for the original file has been filed to apply the correct encoding, so far to no avail. Data will be published as they are.

3 User Feedback

Date	Organisation	Type of user feedback (e.g. technical, case study, etc.)	Response time
31/05	N-SEA	Technical: problem with downloading data	Instant (live chat)
31/05	DLR	Restrictions to use of data	Instant (e-mail)
13/06	ISMAR	Technical: problem with downloading data	Instant (live chat)
19/06	Private person	Technical: problem with downloading data	Instant (live chat)
26/06	ISMAR	Request for a spatial layer – Marine traffic density map 2015 - which is published on the EU Atlas (it was explained that HA Portal is not a partner of the EU Atlas and that the traffic density map will be available on the HA Portal in the coming months)	Instant (live chat)
27/06	Private person	Question about the possibility to select a specific area and have all the human activities information related to that area (it was explained that this feature will be introduced in the coming months)	Instant (live chat)
28/06	WindWISDEM	Question about the possibility to see latitude and longitude for the turbines in a wind farm from the map (it was answered that we haven't yet implemented this feature, but it's in the pipeline. For the moment, you have to download our data and open it with a GIS software and explained that we don't have latitude and longitude of turbines, only of farms. Farms are represented as polygons in some countries and as point in some others, this depending on the data source providing the data)	Instant (live chat)

4 Meetings held/attended since last report

Date	Type event (meeting, training (workshop), etc.)	Attended (A) / Organised (O)	Short description and main results (# participants, agreements made, etc.)
18-19 April 2018	Internal partners' meeting	O	Participants: Cogea, ANDI, AZTI, CETMAR Eurofish, Lovell Johns Discussion on what have been done so far, what kind of problems have been encountered and what are the next steps. In particular: • Approach to compile the MSP dataset. It was agreed that when a first version of the dataset is ready, it will be submitted to the MSEG on MSP for review (even if we don't need their approval). • New features of the map (e.g. the possibility of drawing a rectangle and download all records related to the features within it, the possibility of zooming in in a certain area by simply drawing a rectangle, the possibility of setting layers transparency) – introduction to be evaluated based on costs and benefits analysis • User survey • It was agreed that as a follow-up to the work done with Regional Sea Conventions, partners will draft a list of actions that they will be responsible for implementing
5 July 2018	Meeting with the JRC	O	The purpose of the meeting was to define the final method to create the vessel density maps.
SUM of O			**2**
SUM of A			**0**

5 Outreach and communication activities

Date	Communication action/material	Short description (of the material, title, …) and/or link to the activity	Main results (# participants, # views, # press clippings, etc.)
17/4	Blog	*Who watches over our limited small pelagics resources? EMODnet knows! http://www.emodnet-humanactivities.eu/blog/?p=604*	# of views: 27
1/5	Blog	*EMODnet Human Activities behind the scenes: find out what's next! http://www.emodnet-humanactivities.eu/blog/?p=613*	#of views: 48
9-10/5	Participation in a workshop	*Work on vessel density map presented at a workshop organised by the CMRE of the NATO in La Spezia*	N/A
31/5-10/6	Participation in event	*EMODnet Human Activities had a stand at the EU Maritime Day in Burgas*	N/A
7/6	Blog	*Marine Spatial Planning is calling: Europe will be ready for 2021 http://www.emodnet-humanactivities.eu/blog/?p=753*	# of views: 44
8/6	Organisation of event	*EMODnet Human Activities presented at the EMODnet Italy Day in Trieste*	N/A
20-22/6	Poster	EMODnet and its human activities portal was presented at the ISMS (VI International Symposium on Marine Sciences) 2018 in Vigo (http://isms.gal/) Thematic area: Governance of the oceans, conservation and management of geological and living resources	N/A
1/7	Article in the Eurofish Magazine 3	An article about the EMODnet HA partners meeting in Pasaia, Spain including the potential new datasets to be developed. https://issuu.com/eurofish/docs/eurofish_magazine_3_2018	about 6000 readers.
3/7	Blog	*Liquid vs. dry bulk goods – which one prevails? http://www.emodnet-humanactivities.eu/blog/?p=763*	#of views: 15
4-6/7	Poster	EMODnet and its human activities portal was presented at the 4th Geo Blue Planet Symposium in Toulouse (https://symposium.geoblueplanet.org/) Thematic area: Ocean and Coastal Information in Support of Blue Growth	N/A
SUM …			**Total # of views: 134**

Relevant scientific and/or popular publications (scientific papers, book chapters, conference papers, …) you published or of which you know they have been published using/referring to EMODnet data or data products during this reporting period must also be reported here.

Table: List of known publications using EMODnet data or data products.

Date	Name of journal, conference, …	Publication title	Authors	Organisation(s)

6 Annex: Other documentation attached

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

- Poster presented at the ISMS (VI International Symposium on Marine Sciences) 2018 in Vigo

EMODnet and its Human Activities portal: Access to marine geo-referenced information

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INTRODUCTION

Concerning ocean governance, a joint agenda for the future of our oceans was set in 2016. One of the 50 actions that were proposed for safe, secure, clean and sustainably managed oceans, refers to the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet), since the study and management of seas heavily relies on the availability of information.

In fact, several organisations (e.g.: ICES, OSPAR, HELCOM, MEDPOL Convention) have made notable efforts to collect large-scale datasets. However, differences in the accessibility and the quality of these datasets makes it extremely difficult to conduct large-scale assessments.
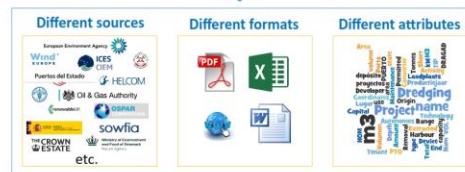
In this context, the Human Activities portal of the EMODnet, an initiative from the European Commission, aims to facilitate access to existing marine data on different human activities carried out in EU waters.
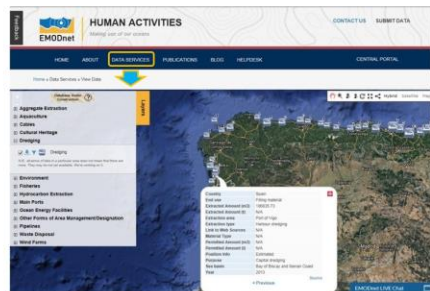
WHAT WE DO

WHAT WE OFFER

Take advantage of our free geo-referenced and harmonised information on human activities!

http://www.emodnet-humanactivities.eu/view-data.php

The Human Activities portal provides available and harmonised data for all European seas, and includes **geo-referenced information** and additional attributes, when such information is provided.

All this information is **of public access** and free of any restrictions to ensure their use from a multitude of stakeholders (policy makers, researchers, students, spatial planners, etc.).

The EMODnet Human Activities portal aims to contribute to **the improvement of marine human activities information quality and availability,** and to extend its spatial coverage.

All this information can indeed be **relevant for several purposes** such as management of sectorial activities, marine spatial planning, socio-economic and environmental risk assessment, legislation implementation and compliance (especially the European Marine Strategy Framework Directive), etc.

Do you want to contribute data to EMODnet?

EMODnet Data Ingestion portal makes it easy.

Based on the principle of **'collect once and use many times'**, it is developed to facilitate and streamline the process where marine data from whatever source is delivered on a voluntary basis for safekeeping and further distribution through EMODnet.

Stay tuned   www.emodnet.eu   @EMODnet

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7 New monitoring indicators

Please consult and fill in the designated excel template.