

# EMODnet Jamboree 21/10/2015

## Cross Cutting Topic 4

# Marine Data and Information Systems

---

*Disclaimer: The recommendations, comments and views expressed in this informal report are the views of the participants of the cross-cutting sessions and do not necessarily reflect the views of the EMODnet Secretariat, EMODnet partners nor the European Commission.*

---

**Location:** De Grote Post Oostende – Meeting Room Klas (Floor 1A)

**Time:** From 18:00 till 20:00 on Wednesday 21/10/2015

**Moderator:** Glenn Nolan (EuroGOOS)

There are currently a wide range of marine data and information systems running or being developed offering a wide range of services, access to data and delivery of processed information and products. It is often confusing both to external users of these systems as well as for those involved how these systems are developing and how they relate to each other. For this reason, this session provided an overview of some of the major international and European marine data and information systems in various stages of development to discuss complementarities and synergies.

#### **Presentations:**

- Introduction by Jan-Bart Calewaert (EMODnet Secretariat)
- OBIS/IODE/GOOS Biology-Ecosystems (Ward Appeltans, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission-Ocean Biogeographic Information System, IOC-OBIS)
- Copernicus Marine Environmental Monitoring Service CMEMS (Michelle Fabardines, Mercator Ocean, France)
- European Atlas of the Seas (Vittorio Barale, Joint Research Centre)
- MSFD Competence Centre (Vittorio Barale, Joint Research Centre)
- SeaDataNet (Dick Schaap, MARIS)

#### **Open Discussion**

Presentations were followed by an open discussion with the audience focusing on following 3 starting questions:

- 1) Which complementarities and synergies could be identified and should be better explored among these and with the EMODnet developments?
- 2) Are there areas of duplication where better cooperation would be beneficial and allow for more efficient use of resources?
- 3) How to improve the collaboration and communication between these various initiatives.



### Summary of the session discussion:

- By bringing together representatives of some of the major European systems in the same room at the same time for the first time, the session made a unique attempt to establish a continued dialogue to better coordinate the various marine data initiatives in Europe;
- While there are many initiatives ongoing each with specific objectives, there is a general willingness to cooperate among those represented.
- Some of the initiatives already collaborate very well at the operational level and are intrinsically linked for example by using the same source data: e.g. EMODnet Physics uses data from the EuroGOOS ROOSes which are also at the basis of the CMEMS in situ TAC; EMODnet Human Activities makes available data which are also displayed by JRC's Atlas of the European Seas.
- When presenting the scope and remit of each system, it is important to highlight not only the goals of the system in terms of provided services and coverage of parameters, information and products but also to explicitly indicate what the limitations are, i.e. what is not (yet) developed and what falls outside the scope of the system.
- OBIS and JRC are less visible in the ocean science community than SeaDataNet, EMODnet or CMEMS and more could be done to promote interaction with them.
- Marine data and information providers need to do more to actually engage users and ensure the search and delivery system are fit for purpose. All too often, systems are developed without
- Data and information system developers need to strengthen collaborations at the operational level to create a common understanding, avoid duplication of efforts and to develop synergies, but this needs to be underpinned by a joint roadmap agreed by the responsible coordinating and funding bodies at the European Commission level to set out the strategic framework.
- European actors involved in marine data sharing infrastructures need to take their responsibility to ensure that the technology and knowledge progress made in Europe also flows to developing regions around the world.