



SeaDataCloud

Technical implementation of data & information reporting under the Marine Framework Strategic Directive

The TG-DATA technical group

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What does the Marine Strategy include?

- The initial assessment of the current environmental status of national marine waters and the environmental impact and socio-economic analysis of human activities in these waters
 - The determination of what Good Environmental Status (GES) means for national marine waters
 - The establishment of environmental targets and associated indicators to achieve GES by 2020
 - The establishment of a monitoring programme for the ongoing assessment and the regular update of targets
 - The development of a programme of measures designed to achieve or maintain GES by 2020
 - The process is cyclical and the second cycle starts again in 2018 .
- ➔ Environmental observations (monitoring programmes) and related data
- ➔ Economical and societal data (e.g. maritime traffic, fishery & aquaculture, tourism, ...)

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32008L0056&from=EN>

Information reporting under MFSD

- According to MFSD Article 19 (19.3), information has
 1. to be reported or to be made available by Member States to the European Commission (in accordance with Directive 2007/2/EC) and, six months later, to the European Environmental Agency
 2. to be made available to the general public
- Scientific assessments about the Environmental Status per member states, per descriptor/criteria, per marine subregions
(periodic reports to be sent)
- Data related to/processed by these Scientific assessments (e.g. maps, synthesis, ...)
(to be made available via online services)
- Observation data produced by the Monitoring Programmes
(to be made available via online services)

How to exchange information and data?

- Several working groups have been set up to standardize data exchanges :
 - 1) **WG- Data Information and Knowledge Exchange (WG-DIKE)**
which recommended guidelines for criteria and indicators reports
 - Model (structure) of the assessment documents,
this model includes links to actual data (online services)
 - XML format according to this structure
 - Tools for online typing of the report
 - Prototype of database
 - 2) **TG-Litter** (subgroup of WG-DIKE)
in charge of establishing standards about litter data
 - 3) **TG-Data** (subgroup of WG-DIKE)
in charge of establishing standards about data reports,
which are linked to the assessment documents



Role of TG-DATA

- The role of TG-DATA is to establish recommendations about services that make data available, mainly
 - Data related to / produced by scientific assessments of the GES
 - Data observed by Monitoring Programmes
- TG-Data must take into account pre-existing directives and initiatives
 - INSPIRE Directive : data models, vocabularies, data access protocols (OGC)
 - Regional Sea Conventions and related existing data exchange procedures
 - Other well established initiatives such as EMODNET (SeaDataCloud)
- TG-Data must deliver guidelines on
 - Data models (formats, ...) for making data available
 - Protocols for online services
 - Common vocabularies that provides semantic interoperability between data from different countries

Present status of TG-DATA work

- Main focus on some “case studies”
 - Chemistry and contaminants
 - Litter
 - Biology/Biodiversity

Present status of TG-DATA work

- Some difficulties are pointed out
 - The Annex III of the INSPIRE Directive, which includes Marine Environmental Data, will only enter into force in 2020
 - Even if some guidelines have been produced to implement INSPIRE for marine data (e.g. by the Marine Inspire Pilot Project) :
 - most of member states are not ready to apply them
 - Some of them has to be refined to be closer to existing practices
 - Scientific assessments and related data have been produced using existing community standards derived from Regional Sea Convention (ICES), or existing Infrastructures : EMODNET/SDC, OBIS, ...
 - Translation of data models to fully Inspire compliant will be resources consuming and will not be reachable for the next reporting round by 2018.
 - Interaction with WISE Marine?

To be continued...

- How initiatives such as EMODNET/SDC can help in this process?
 - Standards, Vocabularies, ... for some data sets (environmental data such as chemistry)
 - By providing permanent services that make data available
(for some member states that want to proceed like that)
- Next TG-DATA meeting : 9–10 November 2017, Copenhagen (EEA)