



Task 2.7 – Background paper on the IV Technical Workshop

MSP-MED | 4th Technical Workshop

9th of July 2021

From data to knowledge. Supporting adaptive management in MSP

Data availability and data sharing are key enabling factors with very practical outcomes that influence the whole planning process: from the initial phases to the monitoring and reviewing of the plans. Since the 2016-2017 *MSP Data study* undertaken on behalf of DG MARE, national plans in the EU have come a long way, the problem of retrieving, implement and share data has become very relevant during the plan advancements of 2021, to meet the European deadline, and more so because of the need for future plan monitoring and reviewing.

Many events have already tackled the topic in a general way; this workshop aims, therefore, at a more concrete approach, by supporting *WP 3 Data Use and Sharing* and by helping in the identification of current data weaknesses and lacks of information, in producing guidelines and paving the way to a coordinated use of data among the partners and, in a future perspective, in the Mediterranean basin.

Why is it important to tackle this topic?

It is a requirement of the ‘MSP Directive’ to take “best available data” into account when preparing maritime spatial plans. In fact, the EU Directive 2014/89/EU makes several references to this use of data:

- Art. 6, as part of minimum requirements for Member States that must “organise the use of the best available data in accordance with Article 10”

- Art. 10, “Data use and sharing” is dedicated to the type of data to be included (section 2) and specify a number of tools to be used to organize the use and sharing of data, including the tools available under INSPIRE Directive (sections 1 and 3).

The INSPIRE Directive (2007/2/EC) was conceived for the establishment of a common Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the EU and has also several references to the sharing of data:

- Art. 17, states that “each Member State shall adopt measures for the sharing of spatial data sets [...] Those measures shall enable those public authorities to gain access to spatial data sets and services, and to exchange and use those for the purposes of public tasks that may have an impact on the environment.”
- Art.18, dealing with national coordination: “Member States shall ensure that appropriate structures and mechanisms are designated for coordinating, across the different levels of government, the contributions of all those with an interest in their infrastructures for spatial information.”

Another recent European document, *The Communication from the commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European economic and social committee and the committee of the regions on a new approach for a sustainable blue economy in the EU transforming the EU’s Blue Economy for a Sustainable Future* (COM(2021) 240), presented a short overview of European data collection and sharing enablers (EMODnet, Copernicus, EUMOFA, Blueindicators) while drafting a roadmap in the field (the 2022 Ocean Observation, the 2021 Blue Economic Observatory, expansion of Copernicus marine services, creation of methodology for integration of natural capital in economic decision, investment in modelling for monitoring) and stating once more that:

“Reliable, high-quality and harmonised ocean data are the prerequisite for a sustainable transformation of the blue economy. Better knowledge of the ocean and its ecosystems, together with free access to data, will enable industry, public authorities and civil society to make informed decisions.” (p.12)

“Socio-economic data are important inputs for policy makers and for businesses, who have to make snap decisions in a rapidly evolving environment, especially in times of crisis.” (p.11)

Furthermore, an efficient way of retrieving, sharing and presenting data is not only an institutional requirement: in MSP, these are key activities that directly influence the quality of the planning actions and processes, determining the effects of the plans.

Data availability and sharing, in an adaptive management perspective, can lead to data use benefiting the entire planning process, as well as enhancing transboundary planning coordination.

What are the objectives of this fourth MSP-MED technical workshop?

This workshop will build on European and international experiences (SIMWESTMED, SUPREME, BalticSea Basemap) and will be an opportunity to share among the partners the national approaches to data identification and classification.

This is also the occasion to present and discuss with project partners and planning authorities the work carried out by the internal WP3 Data Working Group: in June, July and September 2020 three meetings took place to set a common road to the accomplishment of WP3.1. A survey was issued in the following months to assess data use approaches across national processes.

The main goal of this workshop is to exchange information on the different approaches undertaken for increasing availability and sharing of data used and generated within the national maritime planning processes of Mediterranean countries. This would help to harmonize data uses towards an adaptive management of MSP that cannot be achieved without the usage of updated data. Furthermore, data harmonization has proven to be greatly useful in the management of other basins and is therefore a desirable outcome for the Mediterranean Sea.

What should be addressed during this fourth technical workshop?

Giving the multiple aspects of data use that could be addressed, the event will be subdivided as follow: (1) greetings, (2) a round-table aimed at sharing best practices issued from past projects and national plans; (3) three sessions, aimed at sharing and discussing more in detail the national approaches to data uses, divided in three main topics: a) Acquisition of relevant data for MSP-Data Input, b) Use of data in MSP-Data Output, c) Beyond data-Towards an adaptive management; (4) Conclusions.

1) *Guest institutional overview*

Guest institutions can give an overview of current European tools and approaches (EMODnet, TEG on MSP data, the INSPIRE Directive and the relative achieved general compliance) and present processes where data has already been employed in the full planning process, hence happening in countries where plans have already entered the monitoring and reviewing phase. The main experiences would be the Baltic one (HELCOM) which resulted in the Basemap tool, and the Scottish, national one.

The HELCOM Basemap tool (<https://basemaps.helcom.fi/>) is an interesting example of interactive tool presenting both input and output data in an entire basin, involving transboundary cooperation. This might also be of inspiration for an international Mediterranean platform.

Scotland has fully implemented a national maritime plan and reviewed it in 2018. The Scottish online tool (<https://marinescotland.atkinsgeospatial.com/nmpi/>) is therefore a rather complete example of a technical tool that can support planners and stakeholders, having both input and output data layers. The sharing of the Scottish experience can represent a best practice for countries at earlier stages of plan development.

Questions for guest institutions:

EMODnet:

- Overview and brief description of all the services provided by EMODnet, supporting MSP processes.
- How can EMODnet support adaptive management and continuous monitoring of maritime plans?
- How does EMODnet work for the harmonization of data in a uniform way between different bodies and national approaches?
- How is EMODnet's work reflected in the planning and management of the marine and coastal areas? (How is the data being transferred into knowledge?)

HELCOM:

- How were data input and output dealt with, in planning the Baltic (taking into account national but especially transnational levels, e.g. sharing data among EU and Non-EU countries) and resulting in the Basemap tool?
- How was data shared with and presented to stakeholders and the public, with which results/feedback?

-How do data and Basemap enable monitoring and adaptive management in the Baltic?

Scottish National Authority:

-How data was collected, gathered and processed to inform plan making (decision, consultation...): environmental data, socio-economic data, administrative data (which are not the easiest to collect actually).

-How was data shared with and presented to stakeholders and the public?

What were/are the feedbacks

-How were data input and output dealt with in creating the online tool?

-How does this national approach enable monitoring and adaptive management?

How was data collected from other institutions? (i.e., data flows) which were the main challenges while doing that?

2) Three round tables on key topics

This matter can be tackled from three main sub-issues.

Each sub-topic will be introduced by the MSPMED Data Group presenting the project's efforts in that regard.

The objective of the sessions is to enable national authorities and partners to share on national approaches

- a. *Acquisition of relevant data for MSP-Data Input*
- b. *Use of data in MSP-Data Output* (sharing, exchange, interoperability)
- c. *Beyond data-Towards an adaptive management: Translating data into information and knowledge through monitoring evaluation, as well as in public awareness building*

Question for national authorities/partners on national approaches:

- a. Acquisition of data for MSP-Data Input:

- Have national programmes of data collection and standards for data harmonization been established specifically to support MSP?
- Where does the data come from in each MSP national plan?
- Are sources of data pre-existing (secondary) or are they derived from direct MSP-based research?
- What are the prospects for a transboundary dimension?
- How to deal with data coming from economic stakeholders (produced by professional organisations)?
- Are programmes collecting data from the public or involving the public, in place (e.g., citizen science)?

b. Use of data in MSP-Output Data (sharing, exchange, interoperability)

- What is the stage of national initiatives and tools for sharing and using the data (e.g. national portals)? What is the final objective of the tool? What is the degree of sharing (i.e., visualization, download, processing)?
- How did they take into consideration international standards and European directives? Will the data portal be translated into other languages?
- How can data be translated or presented in a way that can be useful to stakeholders and the public? Is the information addressed in order to be easy to understand? Will feedback be collected to foster a bottom-up approach?

c. Beyond data-Towards an adaptive management: Translating data into information and knowledge through monitoring and public awareness

- Is there a specific strategy to inform the public, beyond spatial data and technical reports?
- How will data be implemented into monitoring and review of plans at national level?
- How will the plans' data be presented to the public? Will feedback be collected to foster a bottom-up approach?

Programme

Programme	
09:30	<p>Introduction and greetings (5 min each):</p> <p>MSPMED: <i>Pierpaolo Campostrini</i> (CORILA)</p> <p>DG MARE: <i>Céline Frank</i></p> <p>MSP Platform and TEG on MSP data: <i>Andrej Abramic, Clement Dupont</i></p>
09:50	<p>Presentations by guest institutions (15 min each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EMODnet (<i>Jose Santiago</i>) - HELCOM (<i>Joni Kaitaranta</i>) - A national example: Scotland (<i>Drew Milne & Bruce Buchanan</i>)
10:35	Virtual Coffee Break
11:00	<p>Introduction by the MSPMED Data Working Group (<i>Alessandro Sarretta-CNR</i>) 15min</p> <p>3 Sessions on separate sub-topics (Plenary, average 45 min each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Acquisition of data for MSP-Data Input</i> 5min (max) presentation of each national approach (30min total) Discussion (15 min) Proposed facilitator: <i>Alessandro Saretta</i> (CNR) Proposed rapporteurs: <i>Federico Fabbri, Folco Soffietti</i> (IUAV) - <i>Use of data in MSP-Data Output</i> (sharing, exchange, interoperability) 6 min (max) presentation of each national approach (36 min total) Discussion (15 min) Proposed facilitator: <i>Cristina Cervera</i> (IEO) Proposed rapporteurs: <i>Federico Fabbri, Camille Assali</i> (IUAV-OFB) - <i>Beyond data-Towards an adaptive management: Translating data into information and knowledge through monitoring and public awareness</i> 5 min (max) presentation of each national approach (30min total) Discussion (15 min) Proposed facilitator: <i>Armelle Sommier</i> (Shom) Proposed rapporteurs: <i>Camille Assali, Federico Fabbri</i> (OFB-IUAV)

13:00	Debriefing and conclusions
--------------	----------------------------

Proposed order of presentation per country in part 2

Italy, Spain, France, Greece, Slovenia and Malta

Participants

MSP-MED Partners	
<i>CORILA -IUAV-CNR</i>	<i>Pierpaolo Campostrini, Daniele Brigolin, Federico Fabbri, Fabio Carella, Folco Soffiatti, Hadi El Hage, Alessandro Sarretta, Amedeo Fadini</i>
<i>PA</i>	<i>Michelle Borg, Alexia Vella</i>
<i>Shom</i>	<i>Armelle Sommier, Dominique Carval, Clara Zimmer</i>
<i>OFB</i>	<i>Neil Alloncle, Camille Assali</i>
<i>RRC Koper</i>	<i>Slavko Mezek</i>
<i>UTH</i>	<i>Evangelos Asprogerakas, Panos Manetos, Harry Coccossis</i>
<i>YPEN</i>	<i>Efi Stefani</i>
<i>IEO</i>	<i>Cristina Cervera Núñez</i>
MSP Competent Authorities	
<i>Ministry of Transports and Infrastructures (Italy)</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Ministry for the Sea (France)</i>	<i>Maïté Verdol</i>
<i>MSP Technical Committee (Malta)</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Ministry of Environment and Energy (Greece)</i>	<i>Foteini Stefani, Elena Lalou, Evgenia Lagiou</i>
<i>Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge – DG for the coasts and the sea (Spain)</i>	<i>Sagrario Arrieta Algarra (TBD)</i>
Other Institutions	
<i>European Commission – DG MARE</i>	<i>Céline Frank</i>
<i>MSP Platform</i>	<i>Andrej Abramic</i>

<i>TEG on MSP data</i>	<i>Clement Dupont</i>
<i>Emodnet</i>	<i>Jose Santiago</i>
<i>HELCOM</i>	<i>Joni Kaitaranta</i>
<i>Scottish Government, Marine Planning Unit</i>	<i>Drew Milne, Bruce Buchanan</i>
<i>Ifremer</i>	<i>Antoine Huguet</i>
<i>MITERD</i>	<i>Aurora Mesa Fraile</i>

Essential references used for this background paper

[MSP Data Study: Evaluation of data and knowledge gaps to implement MSP, 2017](#)

[A Guide to evaluating marine spatial plans, IOC-UNESCO, 2014](#)

[Directive 2014/89/EU establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning](#)

[Directive 2007/2/EC establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the EC \(INSPIRE\)](#)

[SUPREME, Analysis of Data, Portal, Tools and Methods supporting MSP process](#)

[The Communication from the commission to the European Parliament \[...\] for a sustainable blue economy in the EU, COM/2021/240 final](#)

<https://basemaps.helcom.fi/>

<https://blueindicators.ec.europa.eu/>

<https://www.eumofa.eu/>