Geophysical Research Abstracts
Vol. 14, EGU2012-6811-1, 2012
EGU General Assembly 2012

Aegean Sea Level Network: Eastern Mediterranean Altimeter Calibration Network - eMACnet

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We present an update on the status and results from the eastern Mediterranean Altimeter Calibration network—eMACnet. eMACnet is the result of collaborative efforts in the Aegean area since 2001. Originally we started with one permanent absolute calibration facility (Gavdos), to which we later added a second site at Kasteli, Crete, Greece, in 2003. Both of these sites were established in collaboration with a local team from the Tech. Univ. of Crete. Since 2008 our team expanded to include the Nat. Tech. Univ. of Athens (NTUA). The extended network, in addition to its application in the calibration and validation of altimetry missions, it also provides valuable information on the tectonics of the area and allows us to use the tide gauge data for sea level monitoring and in certain locations, even for tsunami warning purposes. We eventually intend to provide all of our observations in near real-time to the European Tsunami Warning System (ETWS). At present, KASTELI in western Crete is delivering 1-minute sampled data every 15 minutes via EUMETCAST, its data made available on GTS. Four more tide gauges are in operation at the sites of PALEKASTRO, eastern Crete (with CGRS), MANI-KARAVOSTASI, in southern Peloponnese, EMPORIO, in southern Chios, and THASOS, in northern Aegean. An additional system along with a CGRS receiver is planned for deployment at KYMI, north of Athens on the island of Evia, followed by one on northern mainland Greece (Nea Skioni). This Aegean-wide network samples at the moment the following OSTM tracks, some of them in more than one location: 18, 33, 94, 109, and 185. We will present status of the project and results from the expanded network based on the latest release of GDRs, and our plans for supporting the future altimeter missions of JASON-3, JASON-CS and SWOT.