



Towards an operational use of the GMES Marine Core Services in Germany - The national research project *DeMarine-Environment*

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The Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) initiative of the European Commission (EC) and the European Space Agency (ESA) aims at providing an independent and secure access to global Earth observation information for Europe. To support institutional actors in decision-making, tools combining information and data from space-borne, air-borne and in-situ observation systems, as well as numerical models, are being developed. The services are divided into Core and Downstream Services. The first providing standardized multi-purpose information, the latter serving specific national, regional, or local information needs.

In the marine sector, a lot of effort has already been put into the development of operational oceanographic services. Germany is a member of the regional GOOS networks NOOS (North West European Shelf Operational Oceanographic System) and BOOS (Baltic Operational Oceanographic System), which have been working on the development and harmonization of operational oceanographic services for the NW-European shelf and the Baltic Sea for many years. German institutions have further taken part in several ESA (PolarView, MarCoast) and EU projects (PAPA, ECOOP), which now - in combination with the outcome of the EU project MERSEA - form the basis for the FP7 project MyOcean. To achieve the goal of centralized and harmonized pan-European operational oceanographic services (Marine Core Services), German organizations will contribute to MyOcean in the fields of modeling, data management and service quality monitoring.

Here we present an overview on past, current, and future German activities in operational provision and use of GMES services. A special focus is set on the national research project *DeMarine-Environment*. Considering the needs and requirements of German users, this project aims at optimization and development of methods for regional products of water quality, oil spill alert and drift forecast, Wadden Sea monitoring and data assimilation.