



## **Marine Data Management within the EMODNet Chemistry project: data aggregation, quality control and products preparation.**

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The European Commission in response to the EU Green Paper for an integrated maritime policy has initiated the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) to improve Europe's marine data infrastructure, increase the availability of high quality data and assemble them under a common framework. In 2009, six service contracts were launched by DG-MARE for creating the pilot components of the network and setting up thematic web portals covering selected marine basins. In 2012, a second call was opened by DG-MARE to continue the further expand the pilot portals in terms of geographical coverage and range of products and concluded in seven service contracts for: bathymetry, geology, physical habitats, chemistry, biology, physics and human activities. Supporting activities are also foreseen to examine how the portals meet the needs of users from industry, public authorities and scientists, to identify data gaps and arguments why these gaps should be filled in future monitoring.

The second EMODNet Chemistry proposal has been prepared and submitted by the SeaDataNet consortium which is the leading data management network in Europe, covering all sea basins in European waters with data input from almost all coastal states. It is the same consortium that had been awarded the first call for the preparatory actions and has been extended with new partners. EMODnet Chemistry ([www.emodnet-chemistry.eu/](http://www.emodnet-chemistry.eu/)) is focusing on measurement data for groups of chemical variables in water, sediments and biota with relevance to the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. Five regional groups corresponding to the five MSFD regions are performing quality control and aggregation on the data gathered from many distributed data providers of the SeaDataNet infrastructure in order to generate regional harmonized, aggregated and validated data sets for selected groups of chemicals variables. Then these data sets are used to prepare interpolated maps of chemical variables per region over time and graphics of station time series. Quality control and quality assurance guidelines have been created and followed by all regional groups in order to ensure that the data and their derived products are of uniform quality and reliability.

The Hellenic National Oceanographic Data Centre (HNODC) is the Regional Coordinator for the Mediterranean Sea products preparation. During the first one and a half year of the project, almost 90000 chemical datasets covering the four Mediterranean MSFD regions were harvested, processed, quality controlled, validated and analyzed. In this presentation, the work carried out by HNODC and the first data products will be described.