

EMODnet Black Sea Checkpoint First Data Adequacy Report

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The aim of the first Data Adequacy Report (DAR) of the EMODnet Black Sea Checkpoint project is to assess the basin scale monitoring systems on the basis of input data sets for 11 prescribed Challenges. The first step in this process involved the definition of a “Data Adequacy Framework”, which was derived from the ISO 9004:2009 standards. Data Adequacy is essentially defined as the fitness for use of the monitoring data required by the Challenges. The CheckPoint adequacy relates to both the requirements as well as the needs of the Challenges and was developed considering the ISO 9001 Quality Management System. The quality assessment is subdivided into two major “territories”: “appropriateness” and “availability”. In the first DAR only the “availability” indicators are explored and analyzed. The second step in the analysis is to set up a metadata database containing standardized information about the input datasets potentially usable by the Challenges to generate their products. The metadata database is at the back-end of an INSPIRE Web and GIS platform, known as Sextant, and uses the SeaDataNet common vocabulary to identify the categories of characteristics needed by the Challenges and to analyze the statistics of indicators. The DAR contains the first assessment of the Black Sea monitoring system on the basis of the analysis of the availability indicators across all Challenges for the 452 input data sets and the 40 characteristic categories. The 8 availability indicators are classified based upon a three value range color system: “red” meaning “not adequate”, “yellow” “partly adequate” and “green” “fully adequate”. The analysis shows that for most of the indicators half are “not adequate” and the other half are “adequate”. The single most negative score is for the “INSPIRE catalogue service” indicator, which is generally not adequate. Furthermore, the “Pricing” indicator is split in half between “not well documented pricing policy” and “open and free data policy”. In summary, however, the majority of the scores for the availability indicators are positive, meaning that most of the data sets to be used by the Challenges are “adequate” in the terms of how they are made available to the Challenges. Twelve characteristic categories score “not adequate” or “partly adequate”. This might already indicate a gap in the basin scale monitoring for the specified characteristics, at least from the point of view of adequacy in terms of availability. Finally the EMODnet Thematic Portals and the Copernicus Marine Environment Service (CMEMS) have been evaluated in terms of availability indicators. Results show that with a few exceptions the scores are “totally adequate”. In conclusion, it is worth mentioning that the Black Sea Checkpoint service, based upon the metadata database and the GIS web portal, is coordinated with the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Checkpoint so that the availability indicator analysis will be carried out in the same way in the three basins. This will allow users to differentiate in a near future between the data adequacy of the three basin-scale monitoring systems.