EMODnet Black Sea Checkpoint Products

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The aim 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 was the definition of a "Data Adequacy Framework", which was derived from the ISO 9004:2009 standards. The second step in the analysis was to set up a metadatabase containing standardized information about the input datasets potentially usable by the Challenges to produce their products. The metadatabase 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. More than 500 input data sets have been identified and used to produce 59 products in 11 prescribed Challenges which are mainly presented in GIS Shape files and excel tables. Desired products specifications and products description metadata together with upstream data sets metadata are loaded into Sextant for future statistical analysis. Preliminary analysis shows that for at least 13 products the input data will not be enough to produce products with relevant quality. Next step will be to assess the 'Appropriateness' in addition to 'Availability' of the monitoring data sets used to produce the Challenge outputs. In conclusion, it is worth mentioning that the Black Sea Checkpoint service, based upon the metadatabase and the GIS web portal, is coordinated with the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Checkpoint so that the availability and appropriateness indicators 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.