EMODnet MedSea Checkpoint Newsletter n. 2

EMODnet MedSea Portal

http://www.emodnet-mediterranean.eu/
The Mediterranean checkpoint has delivered its first official assessment report: the Literature Survey for the Mediterranean Sea.

The Literature Survey tries to answer the following questions:
- is there an overview of data appropriateness and availability?
- can any statement of fitness for purpose be made?

In order to progress toward an assessment of the ‘fitness for purpose’ the approach was to select a number of applications in the Literature and determine how easy is to access and use the data needed for these applications and how fit for purpose the data were. In general it was found that, for characteristics similar to the one requested by the Challenges, the ‘appropriateness’ is most of the times related to: 1) ‘Time extent and resolution’, 2) ‘Spatial resolution and extent’ of the characteristics. For ‘availability’ instead we found that there is a large difference between environmental matrices where characteristics are defined and that in general for ‘marine and fresh waters’ the data availability is high while for seabed and biology/biota the availability is medium to low since most data sets have restricted access.

This Literature Survey defined: 1) the methodology to classify input data for the Challenges and 2) the assessment criteria to be used to determine the basin-scale monitoring system adequacy. Furthermore, the Literature Survey showed that it is indeed possible to have an overview of the type of data and data sources required for the Challenges in the Mediterranean Sea and that appropriate fitness for purpose criteria can be defined. For some of the characteristics required by the Challenges fitness for purpose has been initially evaluated and this experience will be transferred to the first Data Adequacy Report.

If you would like to discover more on the Literature Survey, you can access the following link on the Maritime Forum page: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/maritimeforum/node/3646.
1st Oil Platform Leak Bulletin

A first OPL Bulletin request has been received on the 28th July 2014. The bulletins were produced using different oil spill models (MEDSLIK-II and MEDSLIK) and different meteo-oceanographic data within 24 hours from the request (https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/maritimeforum/node/3668).

The request:

The drillship “Magna Belgica” in the wider area of ‘Caliph prospect’ off the coast of Libya encountered a technical failure. A fire and crude oil leak began immediately. The spill was contained within a duration of 5 hours with total of 50 tons crude oil loss at sea surface.

After initial repairs the vessel set sail for inspection in Naples. Reaching the strait of Messina around 06:15 CET this morning, the drillship experienced engine and rudder failure leading to a collision with a cargo ship. The drillship was heavily damaged and lost a total load of 2000 tons of diesel fuel oil by 10:20 CET.

The method:

Currents, sea surface temperature, waves and wind forecasts are updated every day. They come from different models and have different time resolution, spatial resolution and forecast temporal horizon (days of prediction in the future).

The bulletins were produced using different oil spill models (MEDSLIK-II and MEDSLIK) and different meteo-oceanographic data.

Some results for the Messina Strait simulations:

Some results for the Caliph Prospect simulations:
News from the Website

The MedSea checkpoint website is continuously updated with new information as soon as produced by project partner.

The website is now interconnected with the EMODnet central portal (http://www.emodnet.eu/) and with the Maritime Forum (https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/maritimeforum/)

In February 2015, a new version of the website will be released offering two major functionalities to:
1. Ingest, update and look after the checkpoint information defined during the literature survey task
2. Navigate within all this information, showing either synthetic or detailed information as reported in the literature survey document.

From this release, the website content can be continuously updated, taking onboard any new checkpoint information produced by challenges or DAR activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capacity / release</th>
<th>Alpha (February 2015)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project information</td>
<td>• Updated and articulated with other web portals (central, forum, GIS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissemination of LS outcomes (first checkpoint activity)</td>
<td>• Inventory of literature • Pdf report • Interactive access &amp; search functionality to a few raw information &amp; synthesis indicators</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upstream data &amp; data search (different way to look for, with new search criteria: presentation of variables, geographical coverage, vertical coverage, temporal resolution and coverage, nature of coverage ...and access to checkpoint information related to this upstream monitoring)</td>
<td>• Based on ISO checkpoint information (quality metadata, template 2) and state indicators (TBD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Challenge data products</td>
<td>• Web page giving access (ie referenced and short description)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissemination of DAR outcomes</td>
<td>• Pdf report</td>
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1st Annual MedSea checkpoint Meeting

The 1st Annual project meeting took place in Bologna from 5th to 7th November 2014. All the partners and some subcontractors participated to the meeting. Also a member of the experts Panel and the EMODnet Physics and Chemistry lots coordinators joined the meeting giving the opportunity to better understand accessibility and availability of data from EMODnet Thematic Portals.

The meeting has been devoted to the identification of the Checkpoint GIS developments, structure, activity protocols, the definition of the first Data Adequacy Report structure, as well as the definition of indicators, Working Groups and reference people from Challenges for the Checkpoint GIS. The meeting has represented a chance to point out ‘difficult data sets’, i.e. in the process for fishery AIS data some actions are already in place.

Best image from the Mediterranean Sea the past six months

From: https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/6th-continent-photobook-on-mediterranean-culture