

Session 2 Report

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IMDIS 2013



Session 2: Marine Environmental Databases: Infrastructures and Data Access Systems

- **Abstracts:**
 - **46 total selected**
 - **18 oral**
 - **28 posters**



Marine Environmental Databases: Infrastructures and Data Access Systems

Emergent theme:

CONNECTING OUR ISLANDS

of resources from different disciplines
to connect people to data

WHAT are we connecting?

- resources, standards and environmental data to reference datasets, data in different formats and from different disciplines, and ultimately connecting the users to the data
- In situ data with remote sensing data



WHAT are we connecting?

- across boundaries, disciplines (including some projects that are integrating social science and natural science data)
- sectors: commercial, public authorities and research data

OBSERVATION:

- Need to support machine to machine connectivity is driving many changes






HOW are we connecting?

- Adapt and adopt
 - standards, technologies, processes and approaches proven in previous projects
- Strategic use of standards (e.g. OGC, ISO, W3C) and controlled vocabularies
- Building and using tools (e.g. CSR/CDI, ODV, NVS)
 - Cruise Summary Report/Common Data Index (to locate and describe data)
 - Ocean Data View (to view data)
 - NERC Vocabulary Server (to discover and interpret data)



HOW are we connecting?

- SeaDataNet and Geo-Seas   
- INSPIRE and EMODnet compliance
- Negotiating frameworks for sharing data, information and knowledge
- Modifying data access and delivery systems by listening to user/community feedback
- Support for popular export formats
 - netCDF, ODV, XML



HOW are we connecting?

- because of the diversity of users and their requirements, systems must be easy to use and provide access to reliable data and information



WHY are we connecting?

- To connect users with
 - data
 - homogeneous results
 - federated data sets
- data from different projects, regional and national systems to extend geographic and disciplinary coverage



WHY are we connecting?

- to provide unified access to data by building on existing infrastructure to enable users/clients to discover, view, and download data
- increase in data volume and data availability has lead to increased demand for new services (e.g. integrated data products, support for mutlidimensional analysis and additional data visualization)



CHALLENGES

- heterogeneity of data types, formats, sampling coverage (time/space), and users/use cases
- QC is difficult for some data types because of insufficient historical data
- providing data to coordinating projects and directives in a sustainable way



Wisdom from IMDIS 2013

- But for all the automations and innovations ... good data management practices remain the basic prerequisites for an efficient data discover and access system.
(after Che-Bohnenstengel and Nast, 2013)
- You don't have to suffer to do good data management. (after Monk, 1969)

