

Baltic Sea Bathymetry Database WG (BSBDWG) Status Report 2011-09-07

General conditions and funding

The establishment of BSBDWG was a result of discussions and decision at BSHC 14. As a background the Swedish HO has a task funded by the Swedish government to, in cooperation with authorities concerned and within the IHO framework, deliver an action plan aiming at the creation of a harmonised bathymetry model for the Baltic Sea.

The planned activities of BSBDWG with some extensions were then included in the application for an EU TEN-T project named MonaLisa (Motorways & Electronic Navigation by Intelligence at Sea). This application has been successful resulting in a considerably improved situation regarding funding of the activities. The project period for MonaLisa extends until the end of 2013.

Progress report

In its role of chairing the BSBDWG Sweden recognises that progress has been slow and that Sweden has had difficulties in allocating the necessary resources to get the activities started. This situation has to change quickly and the efforts from Sweden have to be more concentrated in order to produce the intended results within the project time frame.

Activities so far:

A report on society demands for bathymetry

In cooperation with Stockholm University, department of Geological Sciences, a questionnaire has been distributed to actors in Sweden with interest in bathymetry. The processing and analysis of all the questionnaire answers has resulted in a report named “A harmonized depth model of the Baltic Sea – Analysis of demands and required specifications”. The report is included in the document list for BSHC 16 and a presentation is planned at the conference.

Creation of a sample dataset with heterogeneous density

As a follow up activity to report above a substantial dataset has been compiled and elaborated in cooperation with Stockholm University. The Swedish HO has delivered a 20 m grid covering large parts of EEZ around northern Gotland and westwards to Swedish mainland. Within territorial waters only depth data available in official charts has been extracted thus avoiding the issue of secrecy at this point in time.

The goals of this initial dataset project are to study gridding and visualisation of various density data and to demonstrate the potentials of usage. A demonstration will be given at BSHC 16.

An evaluation and testing of Inspire specifications

Within the framework of a national geodata cluster a project testing the Inspire data specifications for annex II and annex III is ongoing. This in response to a call for test activities issued by the European Commission (EC) and the results will be ready in October 2011 and will serve as input to the final versions of Inspire data specifications.

The Swedish HO takes part in the testing of the theme “Elevation” in annex II which covers both land elevation and bathymetry. We are testing our ability to deliver data according to specifications and the expected result is a report of a gap analysis. The testing is planned to include also a “cross shoreline” test data set with elevation from the National Land Survey and bathymetry from SHO. This will also highlight the issue of common vertical reference level.

The results and findings of this activity will be reported to the BSBDWG in October-November.

First BSBDWG meeting in October 2011

A BSBDWG letter nr 2 was distributed in June 2011 and announced a physical work group meeting in Norrköping, Sweden, in October 2011. An invitation is distributed and meeting dates are October 11-12.

The BSHC 16th Conference is invited to:

- Take note of the report and act as considered appropriate.
- Note that the time frame of the BSBDWG should extend at least to the end of 2013 thus aligning with MonaLisa project period.
- Note the attached list of WG members and revise if necessary. We especially invite Latvia and Lithuania to join and nominate WG members.

List of participants
BSHC Working Group
"Baltic Sea Bathymetry Database"
(BSBDWG)

2010-09-14

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