

Baltic Sea Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group (BSMSDIWG) - status report.

At its 15th Conference, the BSHC recognised the need to initiate a study of MSDI in the Baltic Sea in order to identify areas where maritime SDI implementation is underway. This includes identification of problems that can be foreseen and how the Baltic member states see the future development of MSDI in the region.

Therefore, the BSHC 15th Conference established the BSMSDIWG with the task of studying MSDI in the Baltic Sea.

A two-day Baltic MSDI workshop was held in Copenhagen on September 11-12, 2012.

The first day of the workshop was intended to be a general presentation of the key elements of SDI, MSDI and INSPIRE. (See appendix A for the detailed schedule).

The second day of the workshop was intended to focus on the current status of individual countries' MSDI and INSPIRE implementation. This assists the working group members to address how BSHC can benefit from a regional approach to MSDI in the future. Each participating country had the opportunity to give a short presentation on its national MSDI and INSPIRE implementation. To use during the workshop, we prepared a short questionnaire. The results were discussed during the meeting.

Future initiatives

The most important issues and challenges for future development of MSDI (from national and regional perspective) are considered to be:

- Lack of awareness of MSDI's importance (and its linkages to INSPIRE) among potential MSDI stakeholders
- Lack of geo-related competence among potential users of an MSDI
- Determining what stakeholders there are for MSDI and assessing their requirements related to MSDI
- Producing adequate governance and agreements for MSDI development
- Lack of funding and human resources necessary for qualified MSDI development
- Finding consensus about which data should be fundamental to MSDI
- Organising and streamlining data sources between the contributors to an MSDI
- Lack of a clear strategy
- Ensuring existing initiatives aren't duplicated
- Where to get started?!

The Baltic region hydrographic offices can address these issues and challenges by:

- Fully supporting and prioritising the MSDI working group
 - Scheduling regular meetings on an annual basis in the working group, plus an annual teleconference
- Willingness to share experiences and insights among MS
 - Possibly through a sharepoint or community network through which expertise can be shared
 - As a means to make MSDI development more efficient and cost-effective
- To address MSDI development challenges piecemeal
- To assess the MSDI best practice among the BSHC member states
- To conduct a pilot project for various MSDI elements – for example, a metadatabase
- To support the use of open source solutions wherever possible, to support and encourage sharing across agencies, countries and regions

The WG will:

- Thinking big, starting small: For the next MSDI meeting, focusing on metadata?
- Creating a conceptual model and definition of MSDI for the region
- Investigating the possibility for establishing a BSHC metadatabase based on open-source, INSPIRE-compliant and ISO-compliant technology
 - Reviewing existing metadata catalogues and possibly adjusting to marine-related requirements
 - Identifying relevant data that could be integrated into MSDI
- Starting an MSDI user group among the MS

Next meeting

A teleconference will be planned for the weeks subsequent to the BSHC meeting.

The next meeting will be held in mid-2013. Latvia will investigate the possibility for holding the meeting at the premises of their Hydrographic Office.

There was general consensus that the S-100 requirements for metadata should be compared to the requirements under the INSPIRE directive at the next meeting.

Conclusions and Recommended Actions

At the 17th BSHC Conference Denmark will give a status report including a presentation of the of MSDI implementation in the Baltic region, the future challenges, and a work plan for the WG in order to fulfil its TOR.

Actions for the BSHC 17th Conference:

The BSHC 17th Conference is requested to endorse this Report and to take appropriate actions.

Appendix A

Workshop Schedule BSHC MSDIWG

Day one: September 11, 2012

Theme	Time	Subject	Responsible
Welcome	1100 - 1110	Welcome, introduction of participants and practical information	Host/Chair
Status	1110 - 1125	Introductions to the MSDI workshop – what is the aim of the workshop and the meeting, and what do we want to achieve?	KMS – Suzanne
	1125 - 1225	SDI and INSPIRE a general approach	KMS – Ulla
Lunch	1230 - 1315		
Presentations	1315 - 1345	What are metadata and data?	KMS – Andrew
	1345 - 1415	A technical approach to MSDI/SDI, what are the challenges?	KMS – Andrew
	1415 - 1445	MSDI and the need for a governance model	KMS – Suzanne
Break	1445 - 1500		
Presentations	1500 - 1530	The MSDI work of IHO (IHO MSDIWG)	IHO MSDI chair
	1530 - 1600	MSDI Business case	DevoTeam
	1600 - 1630	Experience from the BLAST project	KMS – Pelle
Status and how to proceed	1630 - 1645	Summing up the challenges for the future	KMS - all
	1645 - 1700	Evaluation and preparations for the second day	KMS - all

Appendix B

Agenda BSHC MSDIWG

Day two: September 12, 2012

Theme	Time	Subject	Responsible
Welcome	0900 - 0920	Welcome, introduction of participants and practical information	Host/chair
Status	0920 - 1020	Terms of reference for the BSHC MSDI WG (see below)	Chair
		Setting goals for this meeting's results	All
Break	1020 - 1035		
Presentations	1035 - 1230	National presentation from members on status on SDI, MSDI and INSPIRE	All
		The questionnaire	KMS - All
Lunch	1230 - 1315		
Status and how to proceed	1315 - 1500	Identifying the Baltic region's challenges for the future related to national and regional MSDI	All
		How to proceed	All
		Status report to BSHC	Chair
Break	1500 - 1515		
Next meeting	1515 - 1555	Next meeting	All
		Evaluation	All
		Any other business	All
Closing	1600	Closing of the workshop	Chair