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MarBEF



Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functioning

EU Network of Excellence

Sustainable development, global change and ecosystems

D-7-CSP-4.3 Report on training course “Biodiversity data management”, Ostende

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PU	Public	X
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

Flanders Marine Institute

UNESCO/IOC Project Office for IODE

Technical Report



Technical report

IODE/MARBEP Biodiversity Data

Management Training Course

19-23 March 2007

Ostend, Belgium

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1. INTRODUCTION

Data management has been identified, amongst others during the 'Colour of Ocean Data Symposium' (Brussels, 2002), as a gap in the curricula of many academic institutions. To try and fill this gap, this course on data management was proposed jointly by the IOC Project Office for IODE (Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO Project Office for International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange Committee) and VLIZ (Flanders Marine Institute).

The course was specific for biodiversity data management, going into details on specific data needs for taxonomy and geography. The course was a combination of lectures and hands-on activities. The final sessions were devoted to development of a pilot application, and reporting and analysis based on this application.

Being a joint IODE/MarBEF training course, the participants to the course were not only from EU countries. IODE-sponsored participants were invited from non-EU countries, both from developing countries and from Eastern Europe.

Relation with MarBEF objectives

- Proper management of biodiversity data enhances data exchange.
- Some of the topics of the course assist scientists in making data available to MarBEF, through ERMS and EurOBIS.
- The course was an opportunity for young researchers to meet, and to discuss joint activities.

2. VENUE

The workshop was held at the IOC Project Office for IODE in Ostend, Belgium (<http://www.iode.org>), from 19-23 March, 2007. Locally, the meeting was hosted by Dr. Vladymyrov, with assistance from the Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ; <http://www.vliz.be/>) and financial support from the MARBEF project and the government of Flanders.

3. PARTICIPANTS

The course was attended by 16 participants. The participants list is given below:

Participants list

Mr. Alain BLAIR

South Africa

Email: ablair@csir.co.za

Mr. Julio BOHORQUEZ NARANJO

Colombia

Email: sinam@invemar.org.co

Mr. Anthony CLEMENTS

United Kingdom

Email: ancl@sahfos.ac.uk

Mr. Keith COOPER

Benthic Ecologist

United Kingdom

Email: k.m.cooper@cefas.co.uk

Ms. Sarah FAULWETTER

P.O. Box 2214, 71003 Heraklion

Greece

Tel: +302810337753

Email: sarifa@her.hcmr.gr

Dr. Samina KIDWAI

Principal Scientific Officer

Pakistan

Tel: 9221-9251172-78

Fax: 9221-9251179

Email: skidwaipk@gmail.com

Mr. Eric MARTIAL

Mauritius

Email: emartial@mio.intnet.mu

Ms. Maria PÖLLUPÜÜ

Estonia

Tel: +372 6718972

Email: maria.pollupuu@ut.ee

Ms. Ethugalage SAMARAWEERA

Sri Lanka

Email: visakha_ek@yahoo.com

Mr. Ukkrit SATAPOOMIN

Marine biologist

P.O. Box 60, Phuket 83000, Thailand

Thailand

Tel: 66 76 391036

Fax: 66 76 391127

Email: ukkrit@yahoo.com

Mr. Milijan SSKO

Researcher

Slovenia

Email: sisko@nib.si

Mr. Darren STEVENS

IT Manager

United Kingdom

Tel: +44 1752633208

Fax: +44 1752600015

Email: dpst@sahfos.ac.uk

Dr. Cornelia WARNEKE-CREMER

Arbeitsgruppe Frau Prof. A Brandt

Germany
Tel: +49 40428385645
Fax: +49 40428383937

Email: cornelia.warneke-cremer@uni-hamburg.de

Tom WEBB
United Kingdom
Email: tjw504@york.ac.uk

Castries
Saint Lucia
Tel: (758) 468 4139/4138/4145
Fax: + (758) 452 3853
Email: sarita_williams@hotmail.com

Ms. Sarita WILLIAMS-PETER
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and
Fisheries
Pointe Seraphine

Ms. Anastasija ZAIKO
Lithuania
Email: nastiusha@takas.lt

The lecturers for this course were:

- Edward Vanden Berghe (Flanders Marine Institute, Belgium)
- Sarah Faulwetter (Institute of Marine Biology and Genetics, Greece),
sarifa@her.hcmr.gr
- Thomas Webb (UK), tjw504@york.ac.uk
- Keith Cooper (CEFAS, UK), k.m.cooper@cefasc.co.uk.

4. COURSE OVERVIEW

The course contained the following items:

- Objectives
- Data management
- Biodiversity data management
- Access
- Taxonomy
- Representing taxonomy – hierarchy, synonymy, classification
- Participants
- OBIS (background: DiGIR)
- IODE

All course materials (documents, presentations) were distributed on CD-ROM for the participants.

