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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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Framework Programme (2002-2006)		
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<b>PU</b>	Public	X
<b>PP</b>	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
<b>RE</b>	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
<b>CO</b>	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/MARBEF 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**

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The lecturers for this course were:

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- Sarah Faulwetter (Institute of Marine Biology and Genetics, Greece),  
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- Keith Cooper (CEFAS, UK), [k.m.cooper@cefasc.co.uk](mailto: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.

