

Malta in MedGOOS

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University of Malta



IOI-Malta Operational Centre



Training

Research

**Common
Heritage of
Mankind**

PO-Unit



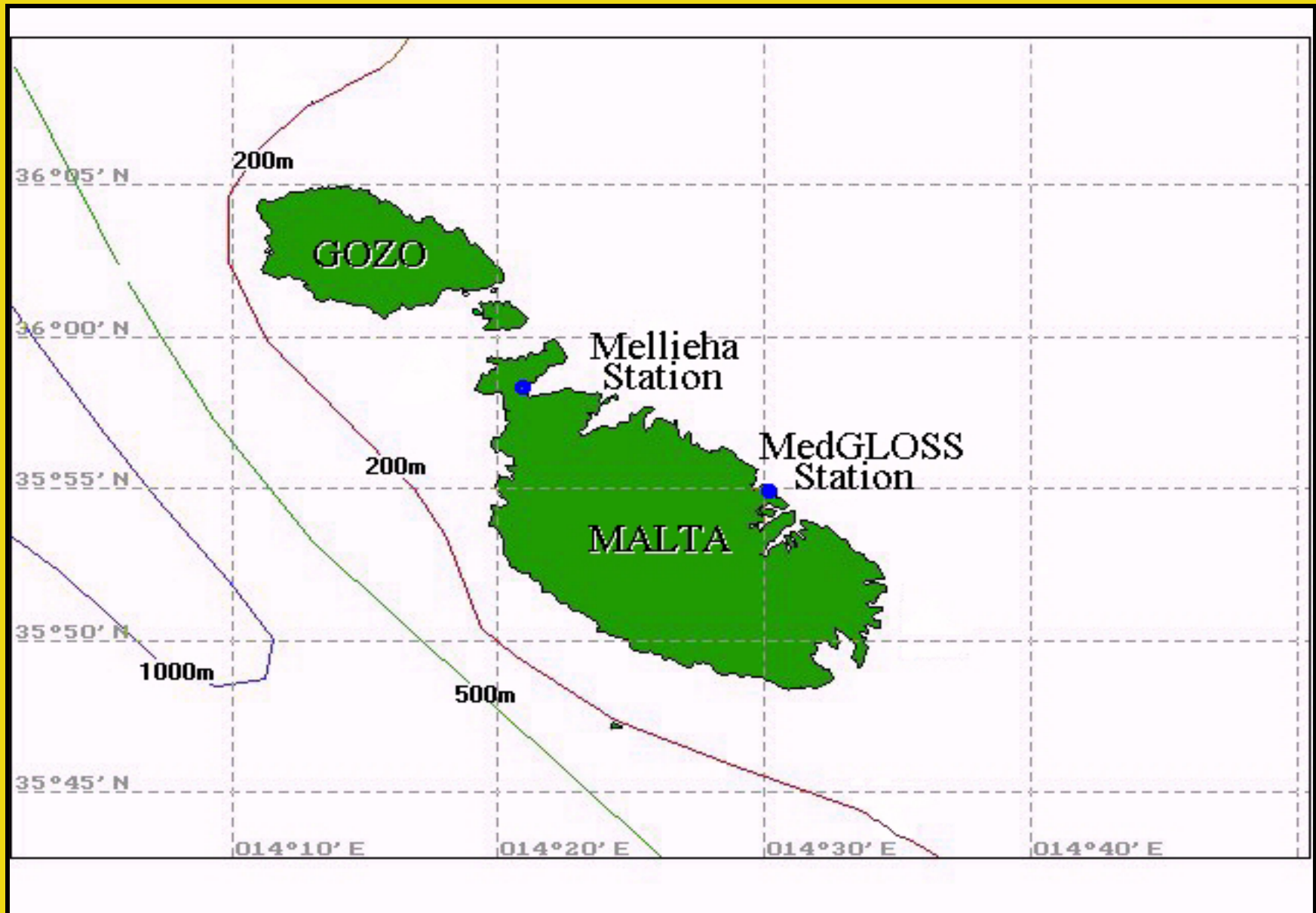
**MedGOOS
Secretariat**



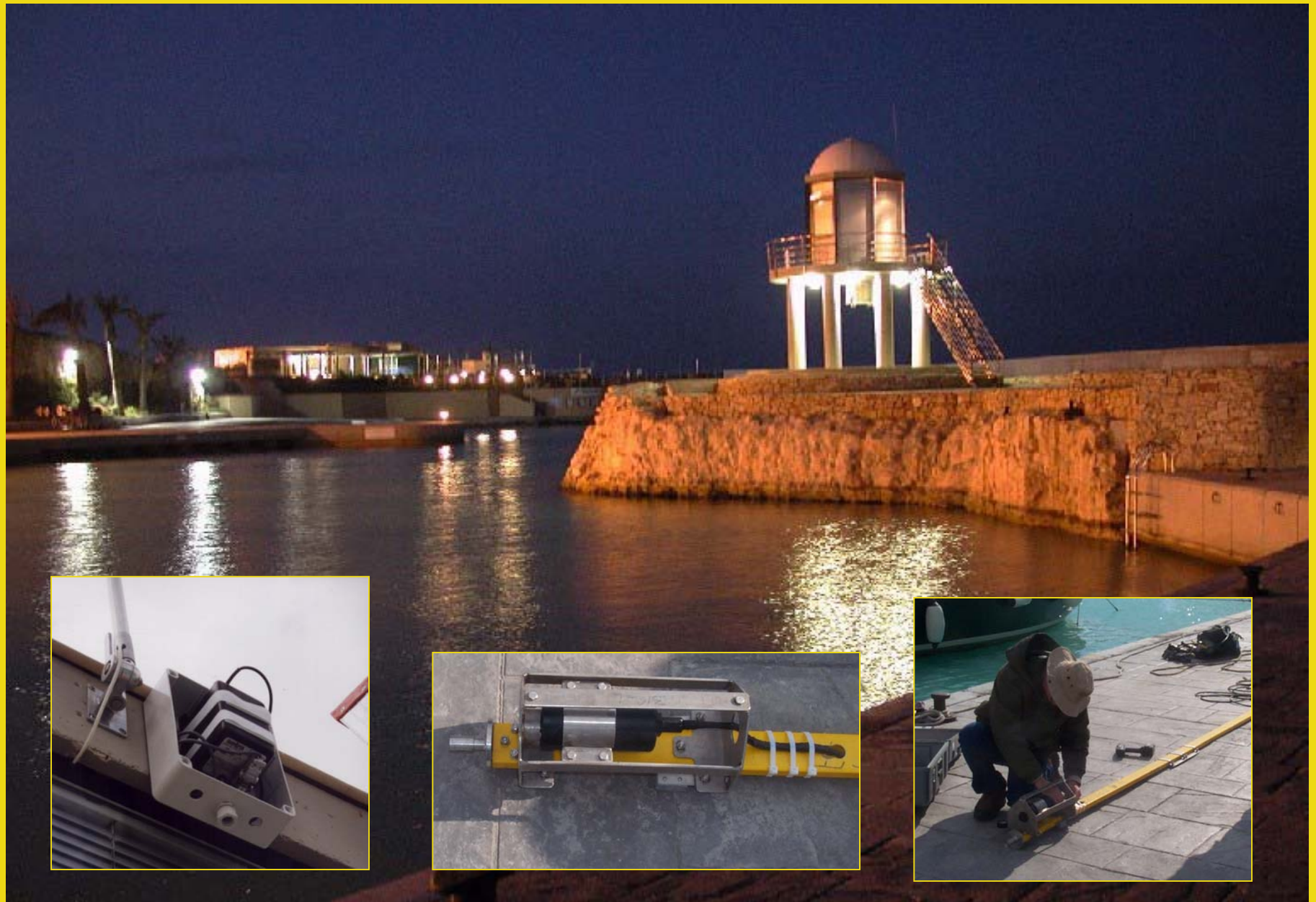
The Physical Oceanography Unit



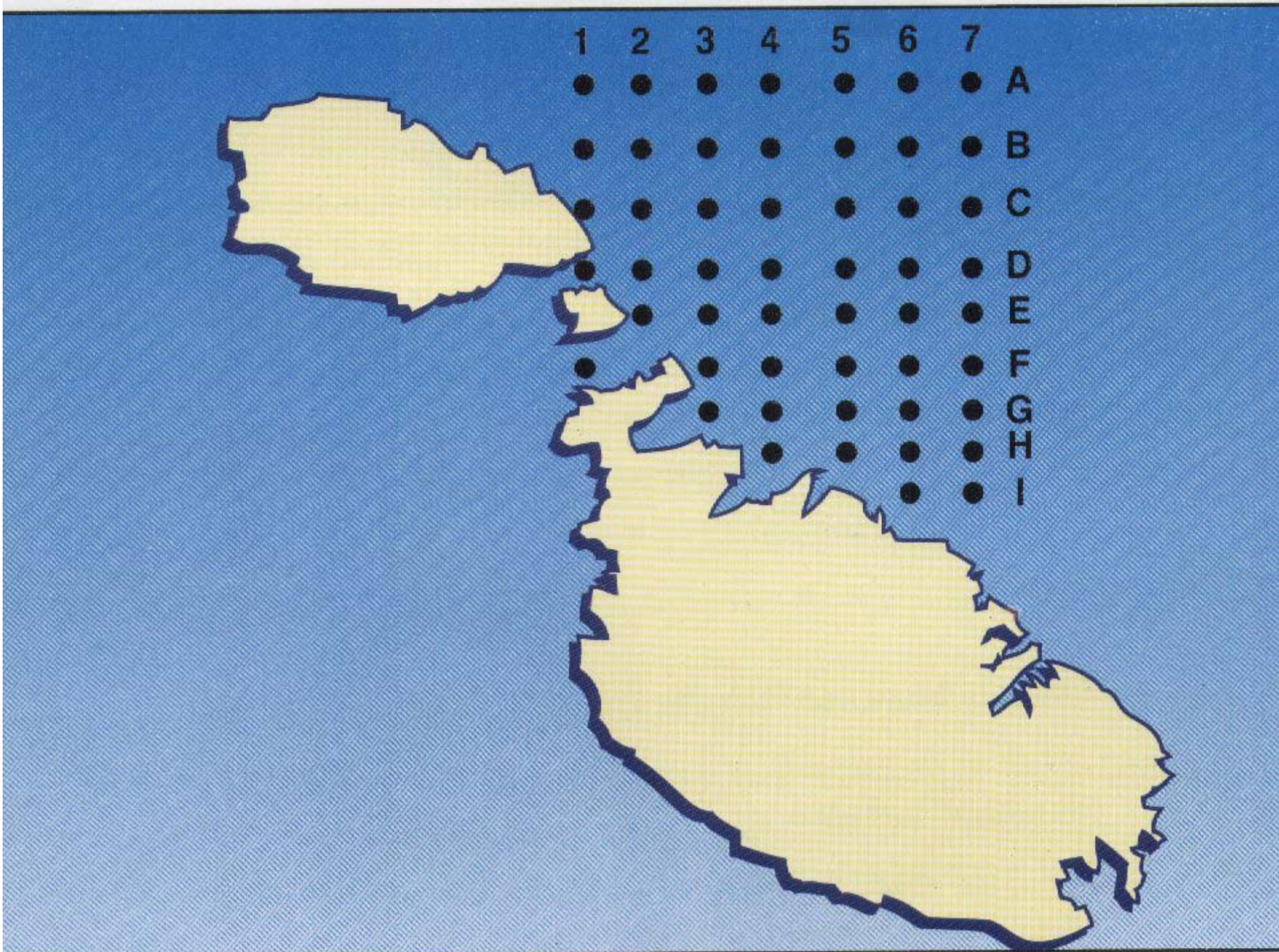
- **research in coastal meteorology, hydrography and physical oceanography**
- **gathers, processes, analysis and manages high quality ocean observations including permanent monitoring systems**
- **national oceanographic data archaeology centre**
- **collaborates with international research institutions**
- **provides services and technical assistance to public/private entities**

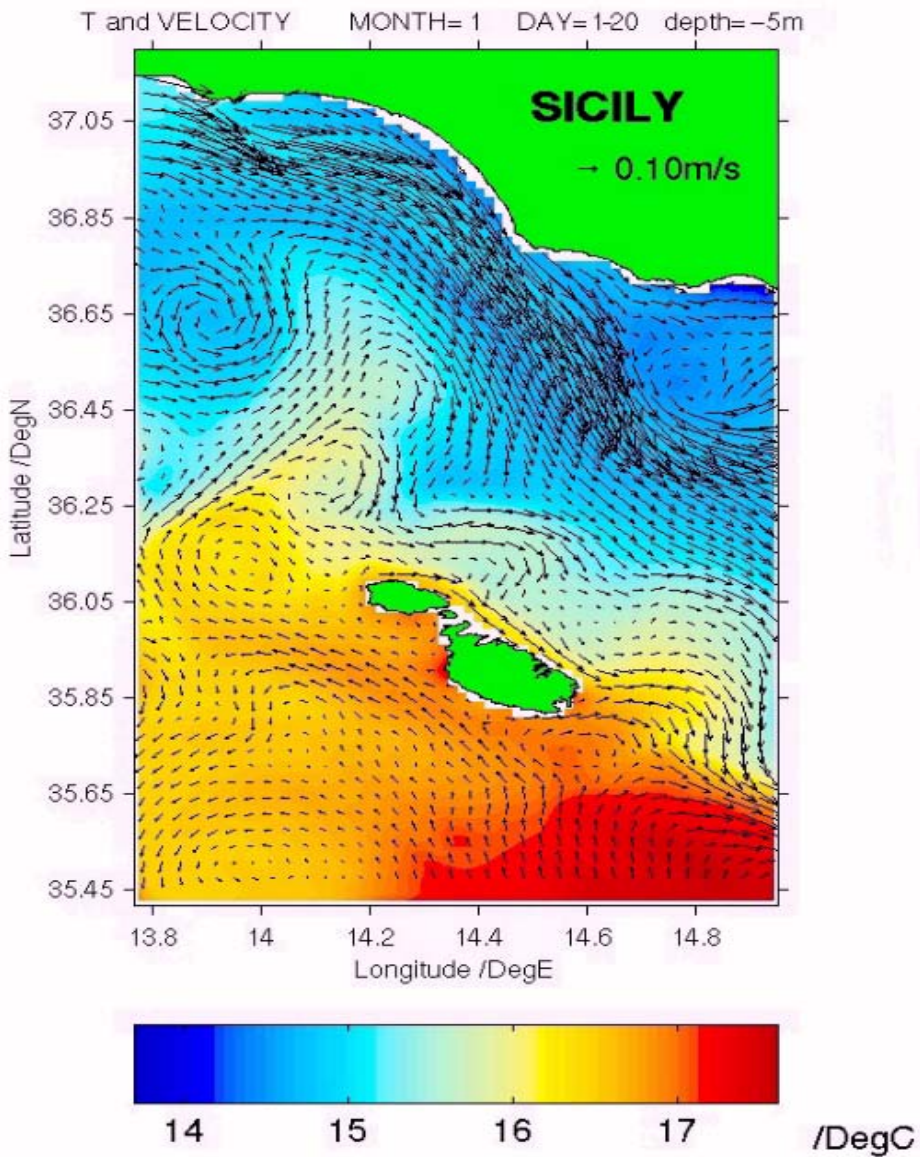


Sea level stations maintained by the PO-Unit



The MedGLOSS station at Portomaso





ROSARIO-1

**Malta Shelf
Model**

**Implemented
within MFSP**



- launch MedGOOS
- inform the Mediterranean countries about GOOS
- identify and discuss capacity building needs and priorities for developing MedGOOS

**GOOS Capacity Building Workshop
for the Mediterranean
Valletta, Malta
(November 1997)**

ENVIRONMENT

Environment Directorate and the Planning Authority under one Ministry

National Commission for Sustainable Development

International Agreements

party to: - **Air pollution; - Biodiversity; Climate Change; - Desertification; - Endangered species; Hazardous Wastes; - Law of the Sea; - Marine dumping; - Nuclear Test Ban; - Ozone Layer Protection; - Ship Pollution; Wetlands**

signed but not ratified: **Climate Change - Kyoto Protocol**

MARINE RESEARCH AND OBSERVATIONS IN MALTA

University of Malta

- Dept. of Biology; - PO-Unit;- Dept. of Chemistry

FIS - Insular Coastal Ocean Dynamics

Coastal Management Company

Malta Centre on Fisheries Science

Malta Maritime Authority

Ministry for Health

Ministry for Home Affairs and the Environment

OUTLINE OF THE MALTESE ECONOMY (1)

Main focus of economy

- foreign trade;
- manufacturing (electronics;textiles);
- tourism;
- financial services

Major resources

- limestone;
- favourable geographic position;
- productive labour force

Major limitations

- produces only approx. 20% of its food needs;
- freshwater supplies;
- no domestic energy sources;

OUTLINE OF THE MALTESE ECONOMY (2)

Current trends

- privatizing state-controlled firms; - liberalizing markets; - candidate to membership in the EU

GDP

- real growth rate @ 3.4%;
- purchasing power parity \$14,300 per capita;
- composition by sector: agriculture 2.8%; industry 25.5%; services 71.7%

Main industries

- tourism; electronics; - ship building and repair;
- construction; - food and beverages; - textiles;
- footwear; - clothing; - tobacco; - fish-farming

IMPORTANCE OF THE MARINE SECTOR IN THE MALTESE ECONOMY

Coastline

- Malta 196.8 Km; Gozo 56 Km (2/3 inaccessible)
- numerous bays provide good harbours or recreation
- slow erosion, salt water intrusion in aquifer, general degradation

Main marine economic activities

- transshipment;
- ship and boat building and repair;
- shipping and port industries;
- fisheries; - yacht services



Main potential

- commercial exploitation of the continental shelf for oil

BENEFITS FROM IMPLEMENTING A MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AND FORECASTING SYSTEM IN MALTA

Improving weather forecasts

Search and rescue

Maritime transport

Tourism

Cable laying

Algal blooms

Fisheries

Aquaculture

Oil spills

