

Questionnaire on marine monitoring activities in the Mediterranean

A survey for

MAMA - The Mediterranean network to Assess and upgrade the Monitoring and forecasting Activity in the region



in cooperation with



EDIOS - The European Directory of the Initial Ocean-observing System



Questionnaire prepared by the MedGOOS Secretariat, IOI-Malta Operational Centre, University of Malta

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MAMA - The Mediterranean network to Assess and upgrade Monitoring and forecasting Activity in the region is an ongoing thematic network funded under the EC Programme Energy, Environment and Sustainable Development within the 5th Framework Programme. With a consortium made up of focal institutions from all the Mediterranean countries, MAMA is staging a concerted effort between countries in the region to put in place the institutional linkages and regional platform to promote the establishment of an ocean observing and forecasting system in the region. MAMA focuses on the trans-national pooling of scientific and technological resources in the basin, through the sharing of experiences and the transfer of expertise, to bring capacities in operational oceanography at comparable levels, and provide an integrated effort towards the planning and design of the initial ocean observing and forecasting system in the Mediterranean. Furthermore, MAMA is interacting with all stakeholders and relevant organisations, working in the whole basin to trigger local awareness on the benefits of operational oceanography and ocean forecasting with dissemination of results and demonstration products, and building momentum towards long term commitments by governments. Within this effort MAMA is pioneering the implementation of GOOS by an unprecedented endeavour and novel approach that will put the region at the forefront of operational oceanography.

MAMA is structured into several workpackages. The general objective of Workpackage 1 (MAMA-NOW) is the stocktaking and identification in the Mediterranean of the current regional and national capabilities in the routine monitoring, assessment and forecasting of the state of the ocean and coastal areas. This survey is being conducted as one component activity of this workpackage and is intended to collect information and to establish an inventory on operational ocean/coastal monitoring activities in the region. The information required in this survey will provide the basis for an assessment of:

- the present capabilities of research institutions in the different countries in operational oceanography
- availability of technological infrastructures and equipment
- human resources and funding potential
- applications and product needs.

The inventory is considered to be an essential step in the identification of the existing systems that can feasibly be networked to operate in near-real-time, and constitutes the basis for the design of a cost-effective observing system in the Mediterranean. The questionnaire is structured in four sections:

- A. Entry form signature
- B. National requirements for the monitoring of the marine environment
- C. Description and practices of the marine monitoring activities
- D. Maintenance practice

This questionnaire is being conducted in close cooperation with EDIOS – the European Directory of the Initial Ocean-observing System. EDIOS is an EU-funded project under the Vth Framework Programme (Environment and Sustainable Development) and is an initiative of EuroGOOS (European Global Ocean Observing System). It aims to build a searchable marine Directory of the ocean observing, measuring, and monitoring systems operating in Europe. With the inputs from the MAMA WP1 inventory the Directory will be extended to cover the Mediterranean region. The MAMA/EDIOS initiative constitutes a prerequisite for the full implementation of a Euro-Mediterranean ocean observing system by allowing for the first time an analysis of the continuously available data for operational models, and hence the ability to optimise the development and maintenance of instruments, and the design of sampling strategy. The collected information will enable the identification of the gaps in the monitoring systems in the region and in the capacity to measure, model and forecast the ecosystem.

The user-friendly visual interface to be developed in GOOS will ensure the multipurpose use of the Directory allowing a large variety of users from different sectors to perform individual searches through the Directory without being experts on data base use.