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Report on Activities for BOOS 2011

Contact

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BOOS members and change in membership

Germany – BSH, IOW;
Lithuania – CMR;
Denmark – DMI, DAMSA, NERI;
Estonia – MSI;
Finland – FMI, SYKE;
Poland – IOPAS, UG, MIG;
Latvia – LHA, UL;
Sweden – SMHI;
Russia – NWRAHEM.

Associated Members:

Russia – RSHU;
Germany – HZG (GKSS);
Lithuania – KU.

New member of BOOS: Institute of Meteorology and Water Management (IMWM, Poland); MoU signed in May 2011

Objectives of BOOS

- improve and further establish services to meet the requirements of environmental and maritime user groups
- co-ordinate, improve and harmonise observation and information systems
- increase the quality of and harmonise user-oriented operational products
- decrease the production costs of public products and services by sharing the workload
- co-operate with HELCOM and other relevant bodies with the aim to avoid duplication of work and to maximise mutual assistance
- identify new customers for operational oceanographic products
- further develop the market for operational oceanographic products
- develop BOOS pursuant to the GOOS Principles
- provide high quality data and long time series required to advance the scientific understanding of the Baltic Sea.
- provide data and forecasts to protect the marine environment, conserve biodiversity, and monitor climate change and variability.

The scope of co-operative activities extends to areas such as

- Observations
- Data (and product) management
- Research
- Product development

- Production
- Education & Training

Main achievements during the last year

- BOOS AM updated and adopted the BOOS Vision 2015
- BOOS Brochure finalised and published
- Discussions to merge BOOS and HIROMB consortia started
- Consolidated the BSH Cmode code to one common model version called HBM with contribution from BSH, DMI, SMHI and FMI.
- Pre-operational tests with NEMO have been started in the Baltic Sea area in some member institutes
- BOOS Data Portal is developed further
- Data from a new Ferrybox system installed in the Baltic as a co-operation between SMHI and SYKE available via BOOS data exchange system.
- Data from a profiling buoy system in the Gulf of Finland operate by MSI available via BOOS data exchange system

Plan for next year

- Implementation of BOOS Vision 2015, work to improve GMES MCS for the Baltic Sea area
- Further development of NRT observations – new Ferrybox line St. Petersburg-Helsinki, new moorings with profilers, new wave buoy in the Gulf of Finland, tests of profiling drifters etc
- Development of BOOS information system – BOOS web site / data presentation / news / newsletter etc
- Elaboration of BOOS position in relation to ECOMF / future of EuroGOOS

Relation to major projects

BOOS members are participating in a number of international projects to develop operational oceanographic services in the Baltic Sea area, among them devoted to both core services and downstream services. Some projects and funding sources are as it follows: FP7 projects MyOcean and future MyOcean2, Jerico, SeaDataNet2, Aquamar, CoBios, PROTOOL, Eurofleets etc; ESA funded projects Marcoast2 and PolarView; Interreg projects EfficienSea, BalticSeaNow.info, SNOOP, GES-REG.

Some of listed projects are related to development of operational oceanographic contribution to implementation of EU Directives, such as Marine Strategy Framework Directive and to implementation of the HELCOM's Baltic Sea Action Plan.

BOOS members contribute to EMODNET and participate in several ongoing BONUS+ projects, such as EcoSupport, BalticWay etc.

Challenges and problems

The main challenges and problems are related to:

Available resources – major part of funding is coming from national budgets, development of the system is depending on different levels of resources available in countries or on the funding from EU projects;

Harmonisation of the management systems of operational oceanographic data is still an issue.