# UK- Environmental Observation Framework
## Data Initiative Status reports

**Updates (April 2013) are provided by;**

- UK Location
- JNCC
- MBA
- Envia (British Library)
- UK-EOF Environmental Observations Activity Catalogue

**Previous updates (last 12 months) supplied by;**

- NBN Gateway (January 2013)
- EA Open Data Programme (January 2013)
- DataShare & INSPIRE (January 2013)
- MEDIN (October 2012)
- NERC Science Information Strategy (October 2012)
- GoGeo, Geodoc and ShareGeo - Open UK Spatial Data Infrastructure for the HE/FE sector (July 2012)
- Eionet (June 2012)
- Eionet Air Quality Portal (June 2012)

# UK- EOF - Environmental Data Initiatives Status Report

**Initiative Name:  UK Location**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Report Date | 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013 | Web link http://data.gov.uk/location |
| Domain Lead | Tim Ashelford, Defra, UK Location Programme. | |
| Brief Description | UK Location is a UK pan-government initiative to improve the sharing and re-use of public sector location information.  Established following the publication of the UK Location Strategy, it incorporates the implementation of the strategy and the EC INSPIRE Directive. | |

| | | | Are you | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Main areas of interest | Global | N | o   Building Infrastructure | Y |
| | European | Y | o   Setting Standards | Y |
| | National | Y | o   Holding Data | N |
| | Sector | Y | o   Holding Metadata | Y |
| Links to other initiatives | | | | |
| Activities in this period | • Review of UK Location Programme underway<br>• Defra focusing on INSPIRE delivery.<br>• Defra Network DataShare now offers Web Feature Services to INSPIRE datasets.<br>• Download services also available from OS & Land & Property Services Northern Ireland.<br>• Download Services Operational Guidance on how to go about implementing a Download Service in the UK is now available<br>• INSPIRE Annex III Virtual Conference 5 Feb 2013.. Slides for those that could not make http://www.slideshare.net/andjnewman/inspire-in-the-uk-are-you-ready-for-annex-iii …<br>• Powered by INSPIRE conference, 4/5 March 2013 organised by Gov of Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany, Luxemburg and the United Kingdom. Spatial data are indispensable ingredients for decision making concerning our environment. Powered by the European INSPIRE programme, spatial data under 34 environmental themes is made digitally available for re-use. March 4 and 5 http://www.poweredbyinspire.eu/p/39/Home. | | | |
| Activities next period with key deadlines | • Continue A III engagement<br>• INSPIRE Conference 2013, June 23-27, Florence, t.co/XhSpg4MR .Call for papers<br>• Identification and discussions with potential thematic partners (organisations that could act as UK lead for an INSPIRE theme)<br>• UK INSPIRE Statistical Units and Population Distribution | | | |

# UK- EOF - Environmental Data Initiatives Status Report

**Various Nature Conservation data initiatives involving JNCC**

| Report Date | April 2013 (covering the 6 months up to this date) | Web link www.jncc.defra.gov.uk |
|---|---|---|
| Domain Lead | Dave Chambers, JNCC | |
| Brief Description | JNCC is the public body that advises the UK Government and devolved administrations on UK-wide and international nature conservation. JNCC is led by the Joint Committee, which brings together members from the nature conservation bodies for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and independent members. The company employs around 130 people based in offices in Peterborough and Aberdeen. A high proportion of our work involves collation and dissemination of evidence. | |

| | | Are you | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Main areas of interest | Global Y | o Budding Infrastructure N | |
| | European Y | o Setting Standards Y | |
| | National Y | o Holding Data Y | |
| | Sector Y (biodiversity) | o Holding Metadata Y | |
| Links to other initiatives | JNCC staff make a significant contribution to the National Biodiversity Network. We also have close links to the Marine Environmental Data and Information Network. | | |
| Activities in this period (note that this is just some brief highlights of our recent work on data/surveillance initiatives – it is far from comprehensive). | **Surveillance and reporting:** <ul><li>Data collated on the status and trends of 200 important and threatened species and habitats listed under the Habitats Directive. This is a six yearly reporting obligation under Article 17 of the Directive. Public consultation now officially launched. See Http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-6387 . This has represented a major undertaking for JNCC and the Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies.</li><li>The evidence in the Draft Article 17 report includes information collated on Nitrogen Impacts.</li><li>Further progress in getting agreed GB level surveillance plans in place for European Protected Species such as the Great Crested Newt.</li><li>Earth Observation (EO): We have recently updated the Crick Framework, which gives information on how EO techniques can be used for mapping Biodiversity Action Plan Priority and Habitats Directive Annex 1 habitats (www.jncc.defra.gov.uk/EO); details of a pilot study in Norfolk will be published shortly via the JNCC website. JNCC has also begun to explore more broadscale approaches to utilising EO in assessing change in the landscape.</li><li>We have worked with Defra's response team and partners on Chalara (ash dieback) to provide evidence</li></ul> | | |

| | of impacts on biodiversity. http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/chalara |
|---|---|
| | • We have developed, in collaboration with CEH, methods for generating trend information from NBN data and also modelling species distributions. |
| | • There has been a significant new release of the Biodiversity Planning and Reporting System software. http://ukbars.defra.gov.uk/ |
| | **Protected Areas:** |
| | • JNCC has provided formal advice to Defra prior to the start of the public consultation on Marine Conservation Zones, which recommends 31 sites to be designated in 2013. |
| | • We have updated the Common Database on Designated Areas produced and submitted to the European Environment Agency. |
| | • Natura 2000 information transferred to the revised EU data structure. |
| Activities next period with key deadlines | • Improvements to metadata management and data cataloguing, especially for marine survey data. |
| | • Final submission of the UK Report under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive, and Article 12 of the Birds Directive. |
| | • Completion of the first phase of the development of a database to manage official UK information relating to Marine Protected Areas and all Natura 2000 sites. |
| | • Further work on establishing protocols for collating information on protected areas, using INSPIRE services as far as possible. |
| Issues and risks | JNCC are currently subject to a Triennial Review. http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/about/with/ndpb-review/ but this should be completed by the summer. This review is linked to the current reviews of Natural England and the Environment Agency. |
| Requests on Others | The scope of the EOF catalogue redevelopment and data management protocols must be carefully considered to ensure that costs do not outweigh the benefits. |

# UK- EOF - Environmental Data Initiatives Status Report

**Initiative Name: MBA**

| Report Date | 21/01/2013 | www.mba.ac.uk |
|---|---|---|
| Domain Lead | Becky Seeley, Marine Biological Association | |
| Brief Description | Learned Society and Research Institute. Established in 1884. | |

| | | | Are you | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Main areas of interest | Global | Y | ○ Budding Infrastructure | Y |
| | European | Y | ○ Setting Standards | Y |
| | National | Y | ○ Holding Data | Y |
| | Sector | Y | ○ Holding Metadata | Y |
| Links to other initiatives | NBN, MEDIN, NERC, , UKMMAS (HBDSEG), MCCIP, Western Channel Observatory, GBIF, OBIS, WoRMS, MECN, EMBOS, UKIMON | | | |
| Activities in this period | Run MEDIN DAC for biodiversity data, provide MEDIN metadata helpdesk and support function, archive datasets from Large range of organisations, serve as Marine Node for NBN.<br><br>Provided data from long-term time series to initiatives as described. The MBA via MECN has also undertaken large-scale analyses of biological time series data and published the results in scientific literature and in reports to Defra. | | | |
| Activities next period with key deadlines | Time-series review to be undertaken by MBA hosted MECN and workshop on benthic time-series being organised. | | | |
| Issues and risks | Continuation funding | | | |
| Requests on Others | | | | |

# UK- EOF - Environmental Data Initiatives Status Report

**Initiative Name: Envia**

| Report Date | 5/4/2013 | Web link http://www.envia.bl.uk:8080/xmlui/ |
|---|---|---|
| Domain Lead | Johanna Kieniewicz, The British Library | |
| Brief Description | Envia is a new resource being developed by The British Library to federate access to environmental information, both within a British Library repository, as well as elsewhere on the web. It is a tool through which researchers will be able to discover government reports, journal articles, PhD these and datasets. Central to the concept of Envia is the notion that environmental information discovery should be as easy and seamless as possible. Thus, Envia is designed to be searchable through multiple entry points, with search boxes embedded in a British Library website, partner websites, and users' browsers. Through these, environmental science researchers and practitioners will be able to directly access content located either within the Envia repository or hosted on external websites. Envia has an initial focus on information related to flooding. Envia is funded and developed by The British Library and is being delivered in partnership with Living With Environmental Change. | |

| Main areas of interest | Global | Y | Are you | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | o Budding Infrastructure | Y |
| | European | Y | o Setting Standards | N |
| | National | Y | o Holding Data | N |
| | Sector | Y | o Holding Metadata | Y |

| Links to other initiatives | |
|---|---|
| Activities in this period | • EnviLOD project with the University of Sheffield and HR Wallingford exploring the potential of Linked Open Data to environmental science<br>• Jan 25 dissemination workshop for EnviLOD project<br>• February 2013 first steering group meeting<br>• Testing workflows, adding content streams, user interface work |
| Activities next period with key deadlines | • 19th April 2013 launch of Envia Beta<br>• Adding additional content streams<br>• Acquiring and processing initial feedback on Envia |
| Issues and risks | |
| Requests on Others | • Recruit users within your organisations for the Beta test<br>• Feed back to us! |

# UK- EOF - Environmental Data Initiatives Status Report

**Initiative Name UK-EOF Environmental Observations Activity Catalogue**

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|---|---|---|
| Report Date | April 2013 | Web link<br>http://www.ukeof.org.uk/catalogue/default.aspx |
| Domain Lead | Amber Vater, UK-EOF | |
| Brief Description | The UK-EOF catalogue aims to provide a definitive list of UK funded observation activities/programmes and link to their data. Established in 2009, the UK-EOF catalogue holds metadata for over 1200 observation activities and programmes describing 'who, what, where and why' the observations are being undertaken. The catalogue has been used to provide evidence for the UK-EOF funders and wider community including analysis for a sustainable funding debate hosted by Sir John Beddington, an assessment of Defra family activities and a review of biodiversity investments in the UK. | |

| Main areas of interest | | Are you | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Global N | o  Budding Infrastructure | N |
| | European N | o  Setting Standards | N |
| | National Y | o  Holding Data | N |
| | Sector Y | o  Holding Metadata | Y |

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|---|---|
| Links to other initiatives | LWEC Envirobase; UKDMOS; data.gov.uk |
| Activities in this period | Development of a new database schema to align the UK-EOF catalogue with the INSPIRE EF data model.<br>Stage 1 is underway;<br>• Gap analysis against current EOF schema and INSPIRE EF data Model. The analysis will include what is missing for EF compliance as well as additional fields that EOF require (e.g. financial information) that are not part of the EF schema.<br>• Transform the EOF schema to the new EF data model (with UK-EOF extensions). |
| Activities next period with key deadlines | • Update content that is missing from the current EOF records as well as additional content required to meet INSPIRE EF requirements e.g. spatial information will need be sourced.<br>• Identification of controlled lists and vocabularies. |
| Issues and risks | • The INSPIRE Environmental Monitoring Facilities (EF) data specification is not yet finalised and is subject to change.<br>• Catalogue content update is reliant on timely input from the observation activity owners. |
| Requests on Others | **Major providers of data to the catalogue to attend a workshop currently being planned for May 2013. Including representatives from; EA, Met Office, Fera, UKDMOS, SEWeb, NERC, NE, others? Contact Amber for information if you think you should be involved on behalf of your organisation.** |

# UK- EOF - Environmental Data Initiatives Status Report

**Initiative Name NBN Gateway**

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|---|---|---|
| Report Date | Jan 2013 | Web link www.nbn.org.uk<br>www.data.nbn.org.uk |
| Domain Lead | Paula Lightfoot, Data Access Officer, NBN Trust | |
| Brief Description | The National Biodiversity Network is a partnership involving many of the UK's wildlife conservation organisations, the government and country agencies, environmental agencies, local records centres and voluntary groups.  These organisations collect and use biodiversity data and are committed to making this information widely available. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) supports specific projects to develop the NBN further.<br>The NBN Gateway is the tool developed by the NBN Trust and its partners for communicating and sharing biodiversity data via the internet.  In January 2013 there were over 80 million species records from over 140 data providers available through the Gateway.  The Gateway also gives access to geographic information (e.g. designated site boundaries) and habitat data.  The NBN had its 10 year anniversary in 2010 and published a strategy for its development over the next 10 years. | |

| Main areas of interest | | Are you |
|---|---|---|
| | Global             Y<br>The NBN Gateway is the UK node of GBIF | o   Budding Infrastructure    Y |
| | European           Y | o   Setting Standards        Y |
| | National           Y | o   Holding Data             Y<br>*Sharing data on behalf of the organisations which hold the data* |
| | Sector             Y<br>Biodiversity data from the public sector, private sector and NGOs | o   Holding Metadata         Y |

| Activities in this period | • The NBN Conference was held at the Royal Society in November 2012 and attended by around 180 delegates - more information. This included the launch of the UK-EOF funded report on Citizen Science.<br><br>• The iRecord system for online recording and centralised verification was launched in July 2012. www.brc.ac.uk/iRecord.<br><br>• Verification rules from NBN Record Cleaner were integrated into iRecord in August 2012 – more information.<br><br>• 9 datasets from iRecord have already been made fully publicly available via the NBN Gateway, some within a week of being made, clearly demonstrating the efficiency of data flow.<br><br>• Data from the NBN Gateway was used in Defra's *Chalara fraxinea* control plan (ash dieback) – more information.<br><br>• Data from the NBN Gateway was used by JNCC for reporting under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive in 2012.<br><br>• Version 5 of the NBN Gateway was released in January 2013, with |
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| | new functionality to be rolled out in stages during 2013. |
| | • In addition to being represented on the Scottish Biodiversity Information Forum (SBIF) Steering Group, the NBN Trust is chairing two SBIF working groups on data sharing/data flow and commercial data use – first meeting held December 2012 |
| Activities next period with key deadlines | • Rollout of new functionality of NBN Gateway v.5, including new interfaces for managing access to data and for downloading data. |
| | • Development of new REST web services to facilitate use of data from the NBN |
| | • Development of an online recording portal for ecological consultants in consultation with IEEM |
| | • Event in March 2013 to promote the NBN, particularly focussing on new audiences. |
| Issues and risks | Reduction in funding of the infrastructure that supports biological recording.  The results of this are becoming increasingly evident. Latest potential casualty – Millport (NBN data provider) |
| | Different models and strategies for coordinating and funding of biological recording effort in England, Scotland, Wales and N. Ireland. |
| | Triennial reviews of non-departmental public bodies. |
| Requests on others | |

# UK- EOF - Environmental Data Initiatives Status Report

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|---|---|---|
| **Initiative Name: Environment Agency Open Data Programme** | | |
| Report Date | 14<sup>th</sup> January 2012 | Web link: http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/ |
| Domain Lead | Stefan Carlyle, Environment Agency | |
| Brief Description | Environment Agency (EA) has contributed metadata for publication on data.gov.uk.  All of the new datasets will be published in an open, standardised format so that they can be freely re-used by third parties under terms similar to the Open Government Licence.<br>DataShare is EA's leading edge data download service.  It has been developed for the last 2 years to provide almost 800 partner organisations.  It is also being used to help deliver a shared solution to meet the INSPIRE Directive's obligations for the Defra Network.<br>EA wants as wide a use of the data as practicable and encourage development of new products using EA data.  An example of our seeking new ways to promote growth in the use of our data is the recent introduction of a 3-month free product development licence.<br>The direction of travel for the Environment Agency is towards implementation of the Transparency Principles and towards the Tim Berners-Lee 5 star rating for access to and use of Environment Agency data.  Our pilot studies on linked data using Bathing Water Data will deliver 5 star services.<br>EA vision is for data from different systems, tools and places will be much easier to link together and derive knowledge from, and our data will be more standardised and much easier to reuse. | |

| | | Are you |
|---|---|---|
| Main areas of interest | Global Y/ ~~N~~ | o   Budding Infrastructure Y/ ~~N~~ |
| | European Y/ ~~N~~ | o   Setting Standards Y/ ~~N~~ |
| | National Y/ ~~N~~ | o   Holding Data Y/~~N~~ |
| | Sector Y/ ~~N~~ | o   Holding Metadata Y/~~N~~ |
| Links to other initiatives | • INSPIRE/UK Location Strategy<br>• Transparency/Data.gov.uk<br>• Open Data Strategy<br>• ESSP | |
| Activities in this period | **Title: Data.gov.uk User Survey**<br>The second annual UK Location/Cabinet Office Data.gov.uk User Survey is now complete and the responses are being analysed.<br><br>**DataShare**<br>EA has finalised a Collaborative Agreement with Defra to cover the use of our DataShare service for the Defra Network. This formalises the arrangements EA has already put in place, the | |

services EA offers, and the responsibilities of Defra Network Bodies.
Contact: Chris Jarvis

**Title:   Inspire Directive**
EA now publishes data as a 'Web Feature Service' which allows our users to incorporate and use our data in their GIS systems without having to download a copy of it. EA is one of the few UK bodies who have delivered this capability in time to meet the INSPIRE deadline.
**Contact**: Chris Jarvis

**Title:   Data Standards**
We are working toward publishing the first release of the Data Standards Compendium. This will provide a list of data standards for use in the Environment Agency. Implementing these standards will help will support data quality improvements as well as our ability to share and integrate our data. Data standards are one of the key areas to help us manage, and have confidence in, our DMMI estate.
**Contact**: Susie MacLeay D&I national lead: data standards

**Title: Central Modelling Platform**
The Central Modelling Platform went live on 17th October and is currently being rolled out to users across the organisation, including FCRM, Air Quality and Water Quality (marine and freshwater). Currently we've got about 500 users.
Contact: Helen James

**WISE State of the Environment (SoE) Reporting**
We have successfully loaded the WISE SoE data on to the central data repository (CDR).  This was the first time that the biology data has been submitted directly to the CDR.
Contact: Debbie Bamford (7-21-2137 / 07771387967)

**Harmonised Monitoring Scheme report to Defra**
We have successfully delivered the HMS report to Defra, including results from Scotland.
Contact: Abby Lane (7 12 4303 / 07795317775)

**ECN Reporting**
The annual Freshwater Chemistry and Flow Data return has been successfully submitted to the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology to use for their Environmental Change Network reporting.
Contact: Nikki Terrett 07788304964

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|---|---|
| Activities next period with key deadlines | • Preparations for separation of EA Wales from EA England<br>• Easimap Replacement<br>• Deployment of WIY Farm Yard web service |
| Issues and risks | • Separation of EA Wales from EA England may cause delays due to medium term reallocation of resources to setting up SB Wales. |
| Requests on Others | N/A |

## UK- EOF - Environmental Data Initiatives Status Report

**Initiative Name: Environment Agency DataShare & INSPIRE**

| Report Date | Jan 2013 | Web link http://www.geostore.com/environment-agency/ |
|---|---|---|
| Domain Lead | Miles Gabriel, GIS Ltd & EA | |
| Brief Description | **What is it?** DataShare is Defra Network's data download and live feed portal.<br><br>**What does it do?** DataShare supports Defra Network bodies' fulfilment of their INSPIRE Directive obligations, as well as other obligations such as those under FoI, EIR, RoPSI. It provides cost effective and efficient access to spatial datasets to members of the public, internal staff, contractors and our professional partners.<br><br>**How does it do this?** Datasets downloaded via DataShare are pre-cut to users' operational (or user defined) areas and are made available in a range of common data formats (ESRI shapefile, MapInfo MID/MIF and TAB, DXF, DWG, JPEG, JPEG2000, ECW, GeoTiff, etc). Users can also access data as a WMS (Web Map Service) or Web Feature Service (WFS) that allows you to link directly to the data from your GIS software without the need to download the data.<br><br>**The story so far?** DataShare has been online since July 2009 offering nearly 240 Defra Network and 3rd party data layers and is rapidly growing in registered users and order numbers:<br>• over 4,600 registered users<br>• ~40,000 unique data orders made (up to 2,500/month)<br>• peak ordering of 1,003 in a single day<br>• 65% orders by Local Authorities<br>• 95% of all orders are downloaded<br>• since enabling DataShare for our contractors offline contractor licensing has reduced by > 35%. | |

| Main areas of interest | | | Are you | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Global | N | o  Budding Infrastructure | Y |
| | European | N | o  Setting Standards | N |
| | National | Y | o  Holding Data | Y |
| | Sector Y | | o  Holding Metadata | Y |

| Links to other initiatives | data.gov.uk, INSPIRE, open data. |
|---|---|
| Activities in this period | 1.  DataShare has gone live with recent enhancements to support Defra Network compliance of the INSPIRE Directive Download Service obligations, including:<br>   •  solution provision for British Waterways, Defra, English Heritage, Environment Agency, Forestry Commission, |

| | |
|---|---|
| | Natural England and the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office, <br><br> • provision of 60 Defra Network data layers via direct access INSPIRE compliant WFS (Web Feature Service) 2.0.0.  This allows public users to select the data layers they require and copy the URL into their GIS software (this includes freeware options) for instant access to live data, see DataShare's WFS Environmental OpenData page, <br><br> • significant increase (to 79) in the number of DN data layers available via direct download in a choice of data formats (inc. GML, shape, tab), see DataShare's Download OpenData page, <br><br> • ability to evaluate (visualise) data layers via data.gov.uk Defra Network metadata records. <br><br> 2. Enhancement of DataShare to enable use by Natural England to provide data to their contractors and partners. <br> 3. Expansion of the service to a wider range of users (inc. members of the public, Central Government, Rivers Trusts, etc). |
| Activities next period with key deadlines | The following updates are being considered: <br><br> • continued increase in the number of datasets available via the site (particularly for Natural England users), <br><br> • plans to investigate the feasibility of enabling EA users to access NE data direct, and vice versa, <br><br> • potential geodatabase 10 and support, <br><br> • RSS feed for data updates, <br><br> • user feedback tools, <br><br> • removal of some Forestry Commission data and UKHO data. |
| Issues and risks | Risks and issues are being managed via a Data Publishers Technical Working Group and Defra Network INSPIRE Compliance Board. |
| Requests on Others | None |

# UK- EOF - Environmental Data Initiatives Status Report

**Initiative Name MEDIN**

| Report Date | 25/09/2012 | Web link<br>http://www.oceannet.org/ |
|---|---|---|
| Domain Lead<br>(name, organisation) | Dave Cotton | |

| Brief Description | The Marine Environmental Data and Information Network (MEDIN) promotes sharing of, and improved access to, UK marine data. It is an open partnership and our partners are both public and private sector.<br><br>MEDIN aims to provide:<br>• secure long-term management of marine datasets by setting up a network of Data Archive Centres (DACs)<br>• improved access to authoritative marine data held in this network, through a central discovery metadata portal<br>• an agreed set of common standards for metadata, data format and content maintained and supported by partners<br>• guidelines, contractual clauses and software tools to support standards and best practice data management |
|---|---|

| Main areas of interest | | | Are you | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Global | N | o  Budding Infrastructure Network of Data Archive Centres (DACs) for themed data i.e. for oceanography, for benthic flora, fauna and habitat data etc | Y |
| | European | N | o  Setting Standards INSPIRE compliant MEDIN metadata discovery standard | Y |
| | National | Y | o  Holding Data MEDIN accredited DACs hold data | Y |
| | Sector<br>Marine | Y | o  Holding Metadata Available through an online portal http://portal.oceannet.org/search/full | Y |

| Links to other initiatives | http://www.dassh.ac.uk<br>http://www.bgs.ac.uk/GeoIndex/offshore.htm<br>https://www.bodc.ac.uk/data/online_delivery/nodb/search/<br>http://www.ukho.gov.uk/Pages/Home.aspx<br>http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/science/MSInteractive<br>http://www.nafc.ac.uk/SSMEI.aspx<br>http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/<br>http://www.oasis.ac.uk/<br>http://www.marinealsf-navigator.org.uk/ |
|---|---|

| Activities in this period | • Three new DACs have been accredited by MEDIN. These are Met Office, FishDAC and Historic Environment DAC making a total of seven MEDIN DACs<br>• Revision of the MEDIN metadata standard (currently on version 2.3.7).<br>• 14 data guidelines documents now available<br>• UKDMOS has undergone updates and now includes additional search function to look for datasets relevant to |
|---|---|

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|---|---|
| | the Marine Strategy Framework Directive<br>• 3662 records of marine data sets currently in the Portal<br>• Improvements to Portal functionality to improve user experience |
| Activities next period with key deadlines | • Increase the content of the Portal<br>• Increase the usage of the portal<br>• Consolidate the DAC network / increase the transfer and flow of data<br>• Maintain good communication & linkage across relevant initiatives.<br>• Articulate the role of MEDIN within UK, European and other international data initiatives<br>• Establish widespread adoption of standards for metadata and data.<br>• Coordinate and provide access to reference data.<br>• Assess MEDIN performance against user expectations and needs |
| Issues and risks | An operational framework for improving the management of and access to marine data is now in place, with standards to underpin it. The success of the framework in delivering improvements depends upon members of the marine community adopting the standards and making use of the framework<br>Current funding arrangements run to 2014. Early preparations are underway to put together a business plan for 2014-2017 to support the case for continued sponsorship. |
| Requests on Others | Collaboration with members who hold marine data |

# UK- EOF - Environmental Data Initiatives Status Report

**Initiative Name NERC Science Information Strategy**

| Report Date | October 2012 | Web link |
|---|---|---|
| Domain Lead (name, organisation) | Mike Brown | |
| Brief Description | The NERC Science Information Strategy (SIS) has been created to provide the framework for NERC to work more closely and effectively with its scientific communities, both internal and external, in delivering data and information management services. | |

| Main areas of interest | | | Are you | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Global | Y | o Budding Infrastructure | | Y |
| | European | Y | o Setting Standards | | Y |
| | National | Y | o Holding Data | | Y |
| | Sector | Y | o Holding Metadata | | Y |

| Links to other initiatives | MEDIN NBN JRC Alter-Net ILTER, etc |
|---|---|
| Activities in this period | Quality check and update of Discovery metadata in NERC portal Implementation of a new standards compliant infrastructure for NERC portal and NERC Data centres, including map viewer and increased semantic search capability Implement a federated vocabulary service across NERC Data centres (SPARQL) Pilot Project to demonstrate linked data approach between CEH, BODC and BGS |
| Activities next period with key deadlines | Delivery of new NERC portal (April 2013) All records in NERC portal quality reviewed and corrected as necessary April 2013) Linked data proof of concept (June 2013) |
| Issues and risks | NERC Data Centres under review |
| Requests on Others | |

# UK-EOF Environmental Data Initiatives Status Report

**Initiative Name: GoGeo, Geodoc and ShareGeo Open UK Spatial Data Infrastructure for the HE/FE sector**

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|---|---|
| Report Date 20-7-2012 | Web links:  **http://www.gogeo.ac.uk**<br>**http://www.sharegeo.ac.uk** |
| Domain Lead | EDINA, The University of Edinburgh |
| Brief Description | **GoGeo**<br>GoGeo is a JISC-funded service which enables users to discover data, geospatial services and resources, learn about geospatial metadata and create and publish standards-compliant geospatial metadata on GoGeo portal.<br><br>GoGeo provides a search interface which allows users to find metadata records published on the GoGeo catalogue as well as records published on numerous national geospatial catalogues across the UK and the EU. Search functionality includes keywords, map-based searching and place-name searching.  GoGeo users can also find other related resources such as books, training courses, learning materials, news, events, organisations, journals and software.<br><br>GoGeo also hosts Geodoc, an online geospatial metadata creation tool. Geodoc enables spatial data providers to create, publish and export their metadata to a variety of standards-compliant schemas including ISO 19115, INSPIRE, UK GEMINI 2.1, FGDC, Data Documentation Initiative (DDI) and Dublin Core.<br><br>GoGeo, Geodoc and ShareGeo Open comprise the critical components of the UK Spatial Data Infrastructure. Together, these resources support data sharing and management across UK Higher and Further Education, and ensures that the UK HE/FE sector can engage with the UK Location Programme and the INSPIRE Directive.<br>**ShareGeo Open**<br>ShareGeo Open provides UK HEFE with an infrastructure for sharing and reusing derived geospatial data. The DSpace repository meets the needs of those searching for open geospatial data by offering search by geography as well as by keyword.  It also offers an enhanced deposit process by automatically extracting the geographic extent of the dataset being deposited.<br><br>ShareGeo Open, GoGeo and Geodoc comprise the critical components of the UK Spatial Data Infrastructure. Together, these resources support data sharing and management across UK Higher and Further Education, and ensures that the UK HE/FE sector can engage with the UK Location Programme and the INSPIRE Directive. |

| Main areas of interest | Global **Y** | Are you ○ Budding Infrastructure   **Y**   GoGeo Portal and ShareGeo Open |
|---|---|---|
| | European **Y** | ○ Setting Standards **Y**   UK Academic Geospatial Metadata Application Profile (UK AGMAP 2.1) |
| | National **Y** | ○ Holding Data   **Y**   ShareGeo Open |
| | Sector **Y** | ○ Holding Metadata **Y**   GoGeo Portal |

| | |
|---|---|
| Links to other initiatives | Harvesting metadata from data.gov.uk, Scottish SDI and EU INSPIRE portals. Engaged with the UK Location Programme and Scottish Government. |
| Activities in this period | • performance enhancements for GoGeo metadata search engine;<br>• more geographical resources added to GoGeo |
| Activities next period with key deadlines | • further enhancements to GoGeo portal to offer users more functionality for the geographical resource content;<br>• enhance performance of search engine for metadata harvesting to expand the number of UK and international portals which can be harvested;<br>• conduct geospatial metadata workshops and engage further with UK academia to encourage metadata creation and spatial data deposit;<br>• add more resources to GoGeo;<br>• quality control review of metadata records submitted to GoGeo for publication. |
| Issues and risks | Continuation of JISC funding for service. |
| Requests on Others | Unknown |

| UK- EOF - Environmental Data Initiatives Status Report | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Initiative Name** | **Eionet** | |
| Report Date | June 2012 | Web link http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/eionet-connects |
| Domain Lead | Christine Holleran, Defra | |
| Brief Description | Increasing efficiency and effectiveness of UK network of NFP and NRCs (National Focal Point and National Reference Centres)<br><br>See web link above for an overview of the Eionet and roles of NFPs, NRCs and others. Whilst supplying the EEA with required data, the UK network is not as connected and influential as it could be, nor is it making full use of EEA resources. The NFP team are leading an initiative to increase efficiency and effectiveness. | |

| Main areas of interest | | Are you |
|---|---|---|
| | Global ~~Y~~/ N | o  Building Infrastructure   ~~Y~~/ N |
| | European Y/ ~~N~~ | o  Setting Standards   ~~Y~~/ N |
| | National Y/ ~~N~~ | o  Holding Data   Y/N |
| | Sector Y/ ~~N~~ | o  Holding Metadata   Y/N |

| Links to other initiatives | Many, via links with EEA. |
|---|---|
| Activities in this period | Two NFP/NRC meetings held (February & May) themselves aiding in forming a community and also identifying actions to make improvements.<br><br>NFP/Eionet meeting 6/7 June – papers received far too late to allow sensible consultation – this point to be made strongly to EEA. |
| Activities next period with key deadlines | Briefing of new UK EEA management board member, involvement at next NRC meeting, consideration of MB papers with full consultation to allow MB member to participate fully at November meeting. |
| Issues and risks | Insufficient resourcing in NFP team – funding for additional post agreed but as yet unfilled. |
| Requests on Others | Continued support from others until vacant post filled – supplied and ongoing. |

# UK- EOF - Environmental Data Initiatives Status Report

**Initiative Name:  EIONET Air Quality Portal**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Report Date | Thursday, 07 June 2012 | Web link http://www.eionet.europa.eu/aqportal/intro |
| Domain Lead | Tony Bush, AEA (on behalf of Defra and ETC/ACM) | |
| Brief Description | Reporting and exchange of information on ambient air quality levels to the European Environment Agency using INSPIRE data specifications & encoding formats. Supports European Directives 2008/50/EC and 2011/850/EC. | |

| Main areas of interest | Global ~~Y~~/ **N** | Are you |
|---|---|---|
| | | o   Budding Infrastructure   **Y**/~~N~~ |
| | European **Y**/~~N~~ | o   Setting Standards   **Y**/~~N~~ |
| | National **Y**/~~N~~ | o   Holding Data   **Y**/~~N~~ |
| | Sector **Y**/ N | o   Holding Metadata   **Y**/~~N~~ |
| Links to other initiatives | http://www.eionet.europa.eu/aqportal/intro http://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/interactive-map http://acm.eionet.europa.eu/workplan http://www.gmes.info/pages-principales/projects/macc-ii-atmosphere/ | |
| Activities in this period | • Testing & modification of application schema for reporting • Development of UK systems for data publishing using the application schema • Development of EEA resources for data mangement • Engagement with pilot countries on support needs • Development of domain specific guidance documenation | |
| Activities next period with key deadlines | As above. Pilot group workshop, Oct 2012. | |
| Issues and risks | • Timetable for implementation mis-aligned with INSPIRE Annex III data specifications drafting. • INSPIRE data specs & supporting standards documentation intractable for domain experts • Technology hurdle in publishing data as XML | |
| Requests on Others | | |

| | sharing.  The NBN Trust has accepted a place on the SBIF Steering Group. |
|---|---|
| | • The 75 millionth record was uploaded onto the NBN Gateway and this milestone was announced on the website. http://www.nbn.org.uk/News/Latest-news/75-million!.aspx |
| Activities next period with key deadlines | • The iRecord online recording system will be publicly launched by September 2012. <br><br> • The NBN Gateway will have a database upgrade and a new system of data access controls by October 2012. |
| Issues and risks | Reduction in funding of the infrastructure that supports biological recording.  The results of this are becoming increasingly evident. <br><br> Different models and strategies for coordinating and funding of biological recording effort in England, Scotland, Wales and N. Ireland. |
| Requests on UK-EOF | |