

**Science for a Sustainable Development (SSD)
IDOD follow-up committee meeting
23 January 2009**

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Subject

Reference

In reply to

cc

Enclosures

List of participants

- David COX – Belgian Science Policy
- Bruno DANIS – Scar-Marbin network
- Kevin RUDDICK – MUMM (AMORE III)
- Toon VERWAEST – Flanders Hydraulics Research (CLIMAR, QUEST4D)
- Michiel CLAESSENS – Ghent University/LET (INRAM)
- Marian WILLEKENS – Ghent University/Maritime Institute (CLIMAR)
- Annelies GOFFIN – VLIZ (INRAM)
- Klaas DENEUDT – VLIZ (WESTBANKS)
- Véronique ROUSSEAU – ULB/ESA (AMORE III)
- David GILLAN – ULB/BIOMAR (MICROMET)
- Vera VAN LANCKER – MUMM (QUEST4D)
- Serge SCORY – BMDC
- Mia DEVOLDER – BMDC
- Catherine BORREMANS – BMDC

Apologised

- Hendrik SEGERS – Belgian Biodiversity Platform
- Renaat DE SUTTER – ECOLAS (CLIMAR)
- Marc DE BATIST – Ghent University/RCMG (QUEST4D)
- Philippe DUBOIS – ULB/BIOMAR (MICROMET)
- Koen SABBE – Ghent University/LPAE (MICROMET)
- Filip VOLCKAERT – KUL/ADS (WESTBANKS)
- Christiane LANCELOT – ULB/ESA (AMOREIII)

Meeting

S. Scory opened the meeting reminding the purpose of a « follow-up committee » instead of a « users committee ». The role of the follow-up committee is : (1) to comment on the current IDOD system ; (2) to advise on the evolution of the IDOD system ; (3) to suggest possible paths for valorisation.

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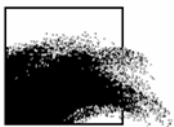
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S. Scory gave a presentation on the BMDC, the main database « IDOD » and the current developments linked to the database :

- OURS : the software to link the sample events to the meta-information recorded automatically on board the Belgica,
- « large » data files : storage and indexing of measurement profiles,
- SeaDataNet : the European consortium of marine data centres,
- connection to MUMM's LIMS (« Laboratory Information Management System »).

The following topics were addressed by the participants during the presentation :

1. B. Danis suggested to warn users when datasets are updated in the IDOD database.
2. B. Danis suggested to develop the possibility to enter data on the samples themselves (and not only on the sampling events) in OURS. It would be useful to follow all the samples handling (e.g. number of samples taken, samples treatment, samples conservation).
3. Questions were asked about the need of a registration to have access to the IDOD database and the way the access is given (manually). S. Scory explained that it is a direct consequence of the data policy agreed with the data providers.
4. V. Van Lancker asked whether pictures are also kept in the database. S. Scory answered positively, in case of scientific pictures that characterize samples.
5. V. Rousseau asked for clarification on who has to provide data to the BMDC. The need to have an agreement between every data provider and the BMDC has been stressed (i.e. even outside the frame of SSD).
6. D. Gillan suggested data providers to be warned when other IDOD data were generated at the same time that their own data. This is interesting for them to extend their data processing and, so, to improve their studies.
7. B. Danis suggested to develop analysis and visualisation tools (important in terms of communication to researchers and to a broader public).
8. B. Danis suggested : (1) to organize « brainstorming » workshops on the data ; (2) to publish studies based on.
9. B. Danis suggested to analyse gaps in samples (time line, spatial analyses). S. Scory informed the committee that the BMDC will soon start an action to retrieve the data that were collected in the Belgian waters by foreign research vessels.
10. T. Verwaest suggested to inform users about updates and novelties in the database. Maps showing the spatial distribution of data available in IDOD could be, for instance, regularly published on the website.
11. D. Gillan asked to give access to the data of a project to all the project partners without embargo. In this way the IDOD database could be used

as a platform by which all the project partners may have access to all the data generated during the project. NB : this is already the case when the BMDC is aware of all the people working on the project.

12. B. Danis recalled that data published in the database must be citable : the BMDC should publish the name of the data originator (the researcher(s) who generated the data) and propose an « acknowledgement sentence » giving the name of the person who provided the data and mentioning the access by the BMDC website.
13. The BMDC should provide a reference time schedule for the processing of datasets.

During the second part of the presentation, the status of the different SSD projects with regards to data generation and submission to BMDC was checked with each partner.

The next follow-up committee meeting will take place during Fall 2009. In the meanwhile a user survey, on which the committee will have to agree, will be set up.