



**Agreement for the data ownership and usage
of the project ‘Quantification of Erosion/Sedimentation patterns to Trace the natural
versus anthropogenic sediment dynamics (QUEST4D)’**

8 JUNI 2007 – FINAL VERSION

1. All data gathered during the course of the project are owned by the Belgian State represented by the Belgian Science Policy with the exception of the “excluding elements” mentioned in art. 5.5 of the contract.
2. All field data and accompanying meta-data (descriptive information like method of sampling and analysis of the sample) collected during the QUEST4D project will be gathered at the Belgian Marine Data Centre (BMDC).
3. The BMDC will perform standard quality checks and integrate the different datasets in the QUEST4D database.
4. The QUEST4D database can be consulted online by the project partners and other users in the course of the project according to the Science for Sustainable Development (SSD) programme data policy rules (annex III to the contract):
 - ✓ Each person consulting the database must be registered and receives a personal username and password;
 - ✓ The author of the dataset has free access to her/his data;
 - ✓ The promotor and the partners of the QUEST4D project have free access to the data of all partners only for use within the frame of QUEST4D;
 - ✓ The follow-up committee has free access to the data of all partners only for evaluation within the frame of QUEST4D;
 - ✓ Each other person can only access one or more datasets in the database after written approval of the author(s) of the dataset(s);
 - ✓ The embargo for the data is 24 months after the contractual date of the transfer of the dataset to the BMDC;
 - ✓ The existence of a dataset is not under embargo;
 - ✓ Use of the data is permitted for scientific research but any publication making use of these data has to make explicit reference to their Author, the Belgian Science Policy and to the source;
 - ✓ Publication of the data in any electronic form is only allowed after prior explicit agreement with the Belgian Science Policy, the Author of the data, and with the BMDC;
 - ✓ Direct or indirect commercial use of the data is only allowed after prior explicit agreement with the Belgian Science Policy, the Author of the data and with the BMDC;
 - ✓ The BMDC monitors the online actions on the database to backtrack possible mis-usage of the data.
5. Besides data collected during the project, other datasets needed for QUEST4D can be delivered to the BMDC for storage in the project database to facilitate data analysis by the project partners. For those data the data ownership and data usage rules are defined by the BMDC in collaboration with the original data-originator.
6. The BMDC assures the long-term archival of the datasets.