



Call for expression of interest for individual experts and organizations to participate in the INSPIRE marine pilot

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Table of contents

Table of contents	2
Acronyms	2
1. Introduction	2
2. Call for expression of interest for individual Horizon 2020 Experts	3
3. Call for expression of interest for organizations	4

Acronyms

DIKE	Data, Information and Knowledge Exchange
EC	European Commission
EEA	European Environmental Agency
EIONET	European Environment Information and Observation Network
EMODNet	European Marine Observation and Data Network
INSPIRE	Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (Directive 2007/2/EC)
ISA	Solutions for European Public Administrations
JRC	Joint Research Centre
MDI	Marine Data Infrastructure
MIG	Maintenance and Implementation Group (INSPIRE) http://inspire.ec.europa.eu/index.cfm/pageid/5160/list/migexperts
MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/EC
NCP	National Contact Point (INSPIRE) http://inspire.ec.europa.eu/index.cfm/pageid/481
NSDI	National Spatial Data Infrastructures
SDI	Spatial Data Infrastructure

1. Introduction

The Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/EC (MSFD) gives a formal reporting requirement on assessment, good environmental status, environmental targets, monitoring programmes and programme of measures that should be applied to marine (sub)-regions. MSFD article 19 includes a requirement that data used in initial assessments and stemming from monitoring programmes shall be compliant with Directive 2007/2/EC, Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (INSPIRE).

Irrespective of any specific INSPIRE-related obligations in the MSFD, the INSPIRE Directive requires Member States to share spatial information in support of environmental policies and policies or activities which may have an impact on the environment. The INSPIRE Implementing Rules legal acts address, among other aspects, metadata, network services, interoperability of spatial data sets and services, prescribing how this shall be done.

In order to facilitate the implementation of Article 19 of MSFD, the Commission, in collaboration with the European Environment Agency (EEA), and Member States representatives in MSFD working group on Data Information Knowledge Exchange (DIKE), decided to set up a pilot project to address both the MSFD and the INSPIRE requirements.

INSPIRE marine pilot	ISA - EULF	p. 3 of 5
V.1	Call for expression of interest	2014-10-03

The main trust of this pilot is to help Member States with the implementation of both Directives following a harmonised approach, taking into account other relevant maritime policies activities including the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODNet).

The pilot is included in the Commission-driven programme Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations (ISA) of DG Informatics, as part of ISA Action 2.13 European Union Location Framework¹.

The pilot will run from September 2014 for a period of 16 months. A detailed description is provided in the *Project Charter for the Marine pilot* publicly available in the CIRCABC folder of the 10th MSFD WG DIKE meeting:

<https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/bc33dff1-0f8c-467a-8382-7724c5f79d45>

The pilot is managed by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission and supported by a Steering Board consisting of the relevant Commission Services and the EEA.

The pilot requires the participation of representatives of organizations dealing with the MSFD implementation, as well as experts from INSPIRE, the EMODNet, and the EEA. This document is a call for expression of interest to participate in the work foreseen in the pilot.

This call has two aims:

1. To invite experts that are acquainted with – or have responsibilities for – MSFD-related data management and reporting obligations, to register as a Horizon 2020 expert so that they may be selected to contribute to the marine pilot under the conditions laid down for Horizon 2020 experts; and
2. To invite organizations that have a role in the MSFD data flows and reporting to express their interest to participate in the pilot, to use the required data and to make the necessary transformation(s) to be in line with INSPIRE.

2. Call for expression of interest for individual Horizon 2020 Experts

The Steering Board of the marine pilot invites individuals that are interested to do remunerated work in the context of the pilot, to register as an Expert to the Horizon 2020 database of independent experts for European Research and Innovation. Registration can only be done on-line. The link to the registration, as well as the applicable terms and conditions of fee-paid experts and model contracts, are available at:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/experts/>

Experts will be selected by the Steering Board, and contracts with selected experts covering the tasks outlined below will be drawn-up by the European Commission. The selection will be based on the CVs of the experts using the criteria provided below.

When registering or updating their information, experts are recommended to use under “**Area of expertise, Open keywords**”, a minimum of three keywords or phrases that best represent their expertise, which shall include “**MSFD-data-management**”. Also, experts are requested to send an e-mail to eulf-info@jrc.ec.europa.eu with your Horizon 2020 expert reference number and a copy of their CV from the fee-paid expert portal.

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/isa/actions/02-interoperability-architecture/2-13action_en.htm

INSPIRE marine pilot	ISA - EULF	p. 4 of 5
V.1	Call for expression of interest	2014-10-03

Tasks

The tasks of the experts may include:

- providing reference material relevant for MSFD and marine data flows, data management, and reporting;
- identifying obstacles for data sharing and express requirements for spatial (GIS) aspects of MSFD data;
- contribute to and reviewing of mapping MSFD implementing requirements to INSPIRE;
- reviewing of proposals for common data models and guidelines in line with INSPIRE;
- participating in any of the Work packages as described in the Marine Pilot Charter;
- participating in two workshops of two days, one in late 2014 and one in March 2015 to discuss the proposed solutions;
- participating in the testing of proposed solutions with participating organizations;
- promoting the agreed solutions nationally; and
- advising the Steering Board on matters related to MSFD data management in relation to INSPIRE.

Timeframe of work

The Call for expression of interest for individual experts is launched in October 2014 and will be open for the duration of the pilot. The Commission will select experts starting from November 2014.

Each expert will work for a maximum of 30 days over a period of 9 months, with peaks expected in November 2014 and March 2015.

Required skills / selection criteria

Selected experts shall have excellent demonstrated knowledge and experience of thematic and data management aspects of the MSFD and the related reporting. A good understanding of spatial data handling (GIS) is required. Knowledge of INSPIRE is an advantage.

Good command of English is required.

3. Call for expression of interest for organizations

Members from the MSFD Working Group DIKE are invited to nominate the name and contact points of the organization(s) from their Member States that will participate in the Marine pilot. These organizations are expected to play a role at national level in the implementation of the MSFD and, with that, of INSPIRE.

Nominated organizations will be asked to collaborate in-kind with the following:

- provide reference material relevant for MSFD and marine data flows, data management, and reporting, and express requirements for spatial (GIS) aspects of MSFD data;
- provide (and use) data samples, and metadata for use, for the requirements analysis and the testing;
- review key results of the Work packages as described in the Marine Pilot Charter, including proposals for common data models and guidelines in line with INSPIRE;

INSPIRE marine pilot	ISA - EULF	p. 5 of 5
V.1	Call for expression of interest	2014-10-03

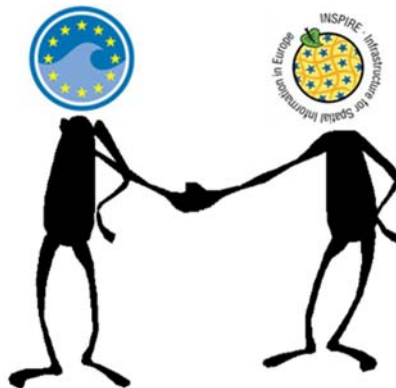
- liaise with their INSPIRE National Contact Points (NCPs) or Maintenance and Implementation Group (MIG) members to determine how the MSFD-related data will be included in the national INSPIRE infrastructure based on the common guidelines;
- participating in the testing of proposed solutions with other participating organizations;
- participate in a two-day workshop for a training on the proposed solutions;
- promoting the agreed solutions nationally; and
- advising the Steering Board on matters related to MSFD data management in relation to INSPIRE.

Why should organizations participate?

During the execution of the pilot, working methods and guidelines will be developed that may be adopted as a common practices in MSFD implementation process. Technical decisions, best practices, and re-usable software components to be in line with INSPIRE will be based on the experiences from the MS's involved in the pilot, then tested and applied at operational level. Being involved in the pilot will allow organizations to build-up their know-how and to guaranty that developments are taking into consideration the existing spatial data infrastructure (SDI) at National level. Having neighbouring countries involved, allows addressing cross-border issues.

Participating organisations will have interactions with other project participants through the technical project meetings, workshops and training modules where they will obtain guidance and technical support related to INSPIRE. This will include:

- capacity building and training related to the INSPIRE provided to the community that is involved in the MSFD implementation;
- guidance and technical support in implementation of the MSFD Article 19 for selected data flows;
- guidance and technical support to community involved in the MSFD for implementation of the INSPIRE directive and improved sharing the data related to the marine environment;
- identification of reusable components regarding reporting for the other environmental legislation that refers to the marine environment;
- clarification of the role and potential of EMODNet in relation to MSFD and INSPIRE.



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