

Baltic Sea Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group (BSMSDIWG) - status report.

At its 15th Conference, the BSHC recognised the need to initiate a study of MSDI in the Baltic Sea in order to identify areas where maritime SDI implementation is underway. This includes identification of problems that can be foreseen and how the Baltic member states see the future development of MSDI in the region. Therefore, the BSHC 15th Conference established the BSMSDIWG with the task of studying MSDI in the Baltic Sea.

The Baltic Sea Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group intends to conduct the following:

- Identify and analyse the current status of individual countries' MSDI implementation
- Consider MSDI policies, e.g. e-navigation, ICZM, INSPIRE, EU Integrated Maritime Strategy, the Marine Strategy Framework and EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region
- Analyse how maritime authorities can contribute their spatial information and the necessary updates, so information can easily be collated with other information to generate a current overview of the region.
- Address how BSHC can benefit from a regional approach to MSDI in the future.
- Monitor the development of SDI with relevance for the Baltic Sea.
- To present a report to the BSHC by mid-2011. This report should include a description of the current status, recommendations on how to proceed with MSDI implementation and, if deemed necessary, an action plan with specified time schedule for future BSHC MSDI actions.

For several reasons, mostly a lack of available resources allocated to establishing the framework for a national MSDI, the work in the BSMSDIWG has been postponed until now. However, a draft MSDI questionnaire to be used among the BSHC members has been produced; see the attached draft.

The plan for the future work in the WG is to send out the revised questionnaire shortly after the BSHC 16th conference, and to arrange a workshop in 2012 with the aim of discussing the current status of MSDI implementation in the Baltic region, creating the foundation for the WG's future work, to elaborate on the future challenges, and to create a work plan for the WG in order to fulfil its TOR.

Actions required from the BSHC 16th Conference:

The Conference is invited to take note of the above and to remark on the plan for the future as well as the draft questionnaire.