SWEDISH MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
Hydrographic Office

Administrator, Telephone
Hans Öiås, +46 10 478 4718

BSBDWG REPORT

Date
2012-08-30

17th BSHC Conference
18-21 September 2012
Helsinki, Finland

BSBDWG Report to the BSHC 17th Conference

The Baltic Sea Bathymetry Database Working Group was started in 2010 based on an initiative from Sweden. The Swedish Maritime Administration had then received directions from the government to *"... together with other Swedish Administrations, within the frame of amongst others IHO, work for an increased standardisation of different types of maritime data and build a strategy on how a general bathymetrical model over the Baltic Sea can be created together with the other Baltic states...."*

SMA also included this work in the EU funded project MonaLisa for the years 2011-2013 wich gave us an increased funding that also provides the means to actually create a working model and means for presentation and distribution of it.

1. Status of the work of BSBDWG

Mr Hans Öiås has during the last year been acting as the Chair of the WG.
The present appointed members are as follows:

Country	Name
Denmark	Christoph Schreyer
Estonia	Peeter Väling
Finland	Juha Tiihonen
Germany	Jűrgen Monk
Latvia	Normunds Duksis
Lithuania	Viktoras Liulys
Poland	Marcin Banaszak
Russia	Ekaterina Kozar
Sweden	Hans Öiås Ralf Lindgren

Due to high workload within SMA the work has been going quite slow until Q2 2012, but have now picked up some speed.

The first meeting held in October 2011 (Russia, Lithuania and Denmark not attending) gave us some first inputs from the participating countries that has been used as a starting base.

A questionnaire regarding the availability of data was sent to all participating countries in the beginning of 2012 and the replies have been brought together in one table that is amended to this report. The result indicates that it is possible to create a 500m bathymetrical model, although depending on formal clearance in some countries.

A second meeting was held in Helsinki June 2012 (Lithuania and Denmark not attending) was a fruitful meeting where some problems was discussed and solved. Amongst other things the meeting agreed that it was ok for SMA to put up a demo portal/test environment in Sweden and that we for the future should seek approval of a BSHC URL and to have the portal under that name www.bshc.(com, net, org)/bathymetry or similar name construction.

Manning of the project has been consisting of three part time consultants and one person on halftime from SMA.

At SMA we have built up a workstation capable of handling large area modelling and have received sample data from several of the BSHC member states.

2. Results of the work.

During the work it has been proved that creation of a bathymetry model based on sometimes sparse data will need data also from neighbouring areas included in the computation in order to minimize borderline effects between separately calculated areas.

Different methods of Gridding inhomogeneous data has been tested and we also follow the work developed at the Stockholm University that amongst others are used for creation of the GEBCO models.

3. Present workplan.

Test the latest enhanced gridding method from Stockholm University.

Purchase and Install a service platform and a reliable storage server capable of handling heavy load.

Make formal requests for data, metadata and the right to use it for public access in a BSHC bathymetry model and if allowed also distribution of the provided raw data. Links to Inspire driven WMS services can also be handled.

Continue with testing and to create a first homogenous bathymetric model in 500m resolution for beta testing.

4. Actions for the BSHC17th Conference.

The BSHC 17th Conference is requested to:

1. Note this report
2. Consent that a BSHC Bathymetrical portal is localized at SMA in Norrköping, Sweden.
3. Consent that data provided from each country is stored by SMA and used for computation of a homogenous Baltic bathymetry model.
4. Consent to the creation of a homogenous bathymetrical model with 500m resolution for public use.