

Finalising the Baltic Motorways of the Sea (FAMOS)

Project outline

Goal

The FAMOS project aims at improving safety of navigation in the Baltic Sea by increasing hydrographic survey efficiency. This will enable the participating countries to map the remaining areas of interest for commercial shipping in the Baltic Sea according to the BSHC/HELCOM harmonized re-survey plan.

FAMOS provides a platform to coordinate the national efforts of the participating countries, which are needed to streamline the production chain from hydrographic field measurements to up-to-date, reliable nautical charts or ENC's being available for the end user on a vessel's bridge.

Co-financing from the EU Connecting Europe Facility (Transport), the successor of the TEN-T programme, will make it possible to achieve the ambitious BSHC/HELCOM goal in time and embed FAMOS in the EU Motorways of the Sea priority project. We expect the co-financing rate to be 30% for the surveying activity.

The FAMOS project is planned to cover the time period 2014 to 2020.

Activities

FAMOS will comprise four activities:

1. *Hydrographic survey*
Surveying according to the BSHC/HELCOM re-survey plan. This activity will account for ca. 80% of the project budget.
2. *Harmonising vertical datum*
Gravity measurements during hydrographic surveys in order to improve regional geoid and EVRS chart datum realization
3. *Equipment to increase survey efficiency*
Improving surveying equipment in order to reach BSHC/HELCOM plan goals
4. *Data workflow efficiency*
Improvement of production chain from sounding to chart.

Please refer to the annex for a more detailed list of project activities.

Participating organizations

- Hydrographic offices
 - Swedish Maritime Administration (lead partner)
 - Finnish Transport Agency (lead activity 1)
 - Estonian Maritime Administration (lead activity 3)
 - Maritime Administration of Latvia
 - Danish Geodata Agency (final decision to be taken until BSHC19)
- Participants activity 2
 - German Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (participating only in activity 2)
 - German Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy

- GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences
- Lantmäteriet / Swedish Land Survey
- Finnish Geodetic Institute
- Danish Technical University Space Institute (decision pending)

Status of work

SMA leads the process to secure EU co-financing and developing a FAMOS project proposal. The “FAMOS application” project started 2014-01-01 and will continue until submitting the FAMOS project proposal to the EU, probably in the end of 2014.

A call for proposals for multi-annual Motorways of the Sea projects is expected to open in September 2014, with submission deadline towards the end of 2014. In preparation for the call, the FAMOS project has been going through an intensive planning phase since January 2014. This includes:

- Planning the project activities in detail
- Developing a project proposal for the CEF Transport program
- Defining an organizational structure for FAMOS
- Developing a detailed project budget

Several planning meetings have been held, both for the entire project and for its activities. Writing the proposal has started (using the former TEN-T templates, as there are no templates for the new CEF program yet). Most of the organizational structure of the project is defined (see above for participating organizations and their roles). Budget work is ongoing parallel with activity planning. The total budget is estimated to be on the order of 60 MEUR, including EU co-financing. Most of the budget will go into the surveying activity, and a large part of this into the Swedish Cat I/II areas.

As the entire year 2014 will be eligible for co-financing under this multi-annual Motorways of the Sea call, presently ongoing surveying work is already part of FAMOS. Nevertheless, the Commission will probably not finally decide about co-financing FAMOS before the beginning of 2015. When the FAMOS project is approved, it will retroactively start 2014-01-01.

Future work

The following deliverables are due at the proposal submission deadline (probably end of 2014):

- Complete project proposal following the CEF funding program templates
- Partnership Agreement to be signed between all participating organizations
- Draft project plan for the FAMOS project 2014-2020

Detailed planning of project activities and budget will continue throughout the summer and autumn. Proposal writing will become more intense.

We are planning to have FAMOS endorsed as a Flagship Project within the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (Priority Area Safety and Security).

The NHC 58th Conference is requested to

- Take note of this report