



EMODnet



European Marine
Observation and
Data Network

EMODnet Biology

EASME/EMFF/2017/1.3.1.2/02/SI2.789013

Start date of the project: 19/04/2019 - (24 months)

EMODnet Phase III

D5.6: Data Solutions for a Changing Ocean

An online showcase of achievement and opportunity



Disclaimer

The information and views set out in this report are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of the EASME or of the European Commission. Neither the EASME, nor the European Commission, guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this study. Neither the EASME, the European Commission nor any person acting on the EASME's or on the European Commission's behalf may be held responsible for the use which may be made of the information.

Document info

Title	D5.6: Data Solutions for a Changing Ocean- An online showcase of achievement and opportunity
WP title	WP5: Uptake and outreach
Task	Task 5: coherence with efforts of regional sea conventions Task 6: interoperability with non-EU organizations
Authors	Dan Lear (MBA)
Dissemination level	Public
Submission date	16/04/2021
Deliverable due date	18/04/2021

Table of Contents

Summary.....	4
1 Introduction.....	4
2 The Workshop.....	5
Appendix 1 - Event Agenda	9

Summary

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic, this end of phase showcase event for the EMODnet Biology partnership was reorganised as an online event. The aim was to promote and engage with as wide an array of end users and key stakeholders as possible. In order to achieve this goal, two identical sessions were delivered, targeting different time zones.

Following presentations outlining the broad aims of EMODnet Biology, the data infrastructure and data rescue elements and the development of data products, the floor was opened to discussions. This open format allowed participants to question EMODnet Biology work package leaders on all elements of the data lifecycle within the project and how the FAIR principles have facilitated unprecedented access to marine life data.

Additionally, feedback was sought from participants on the future development that EMODnet Biology could take, with post-workshop questions being issued.

1 Introduction

The third phase of the biological component of the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) began in May 2017, following previously successful phases. The work continues to harmonise access to marine biological data, with special focus on areas where access to existing data is poor, and in the development of products that meet the requirements of the broad range of EMODnet stakeholders and the wider community.

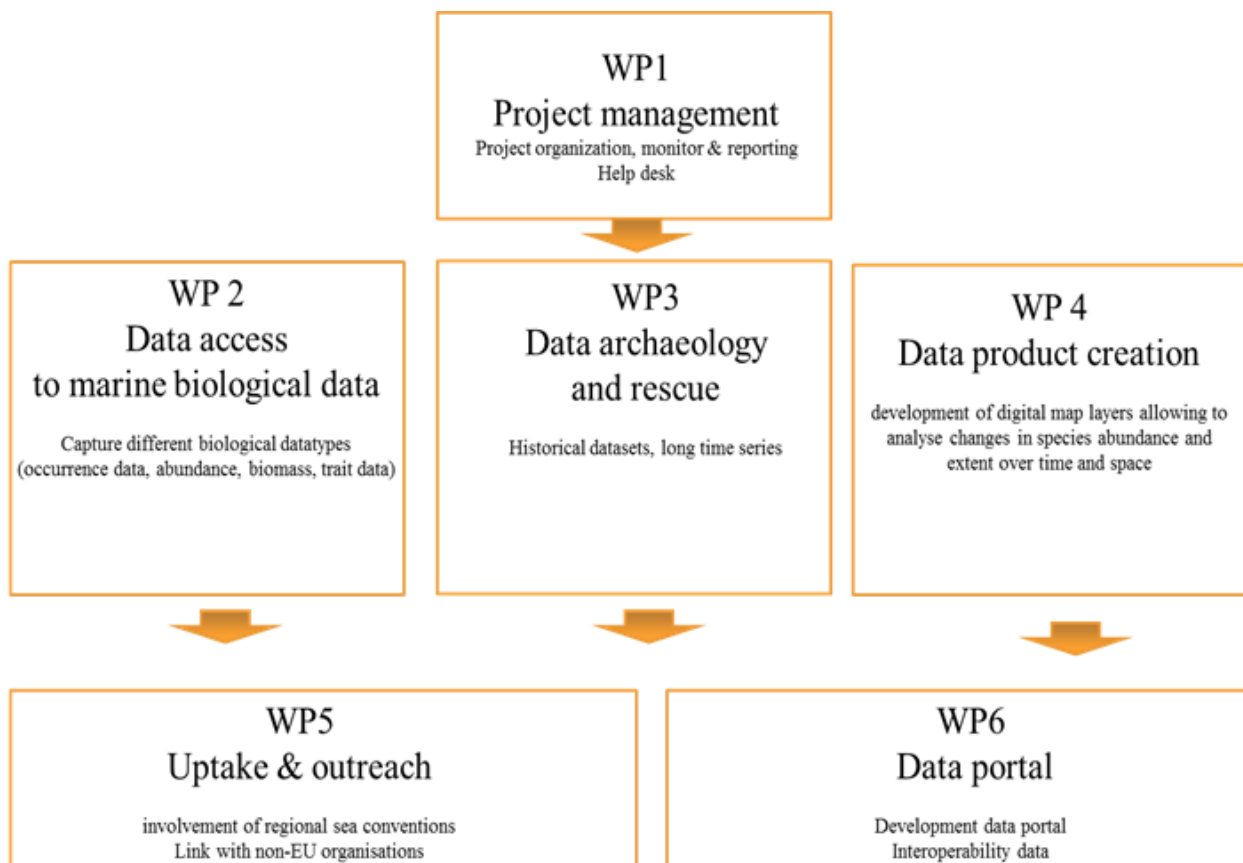


Figure 1. The EMODnet Biology Phase 3 Work Package Structure.

Work package 5 of EMODnet Biology has been established to ensure the highest level of utility of those products created with Work Package 4 and the underlying data resources accessible through Work Package 6. By liaison with key stakeholders and users of marine biological data across Europe and globally, we will ensure that the

data products fit the operational requirements essential for the management of Europe’s marine waters and ensure interoperability with transatlantic and global initiatives.

The final deliverable (D5.6) of Work Package 5 within this phase of EMODnet was the coordination and delivery of an “End user showcase event”. The aim of this event was to take stock of current progress, assess the relevance of achievements to date and gain feedback on how to align future work with stakeholder requirements.

2 The Workshop

Originally scheduled as an in-person event the meeting took place virtually which added the benefit of wider potential participation. Recognising these additional benefits the decision was made to run 2 identical sessions to capture participation from different time zones.

Using the Event Brite platform to coordinate participant engagement and promotion across a range of groups and sectors resulted in over 80 colleagues joining the event from across Europe and North America, including representation from the academic, industrial and regulatory sectors, and all the European Regional Sea Conventions.

Following discussions within the EMODnet Biology team it was agreed that presentations would cover the range of activities represented within the project, covering the entire data lifecycle. Given the increased breadth of participation it was also felt important to present a general overview as a significant percentage of attendees had not previously participated in an EMODnet Biology event.

In order to reduce the risks associated with live online presentations and to ensure a consistent message to both sessions, the presentations were pre-recorded and are available via the page <https://www.emodnet-biology.eu/workshops>.

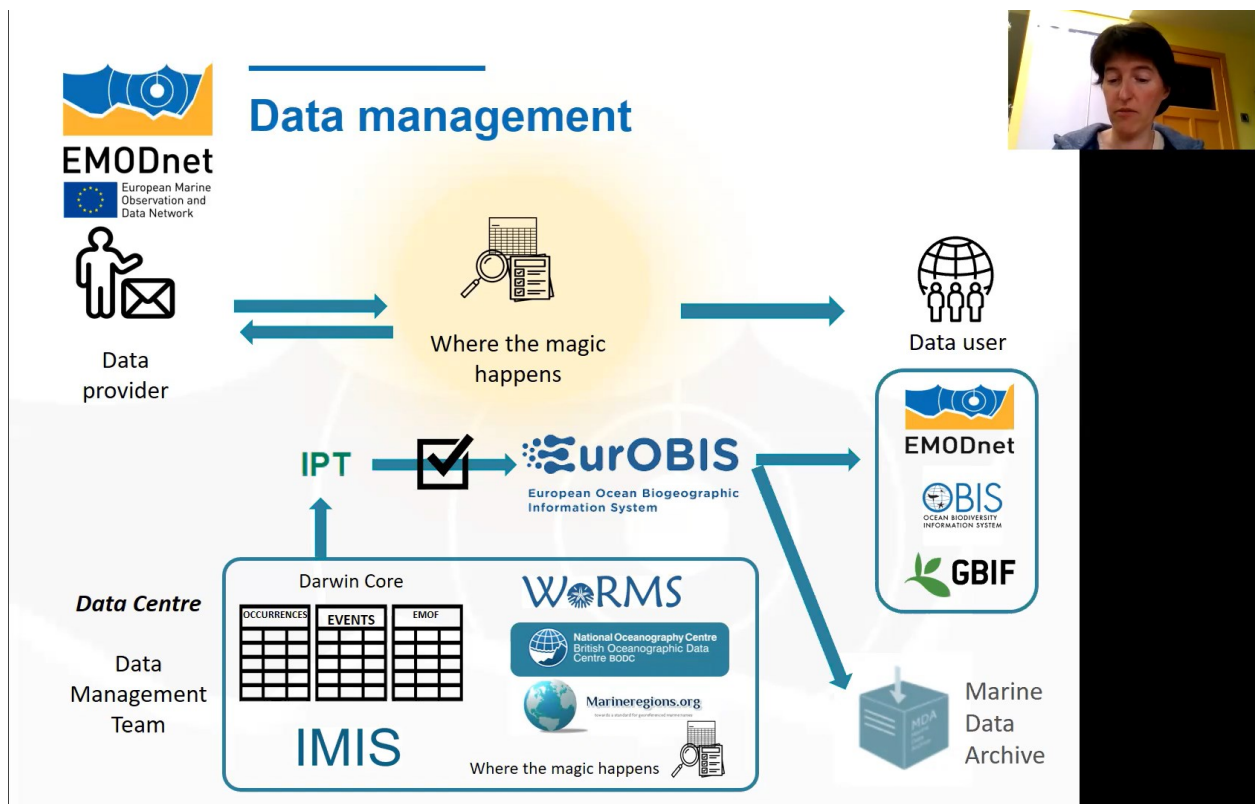


Figure 2. EMODnet Data Management presentation screengrab

EMODnet Biology Work Package leaders provided brief fifteen-minute presentations covering the main issues and highlighting the achievements to date. The Data Access and Data Archeology work packages (WP2 & 3) provided a joint presentation to illustrate the similarities but key, challenging difficulties between the two elements.

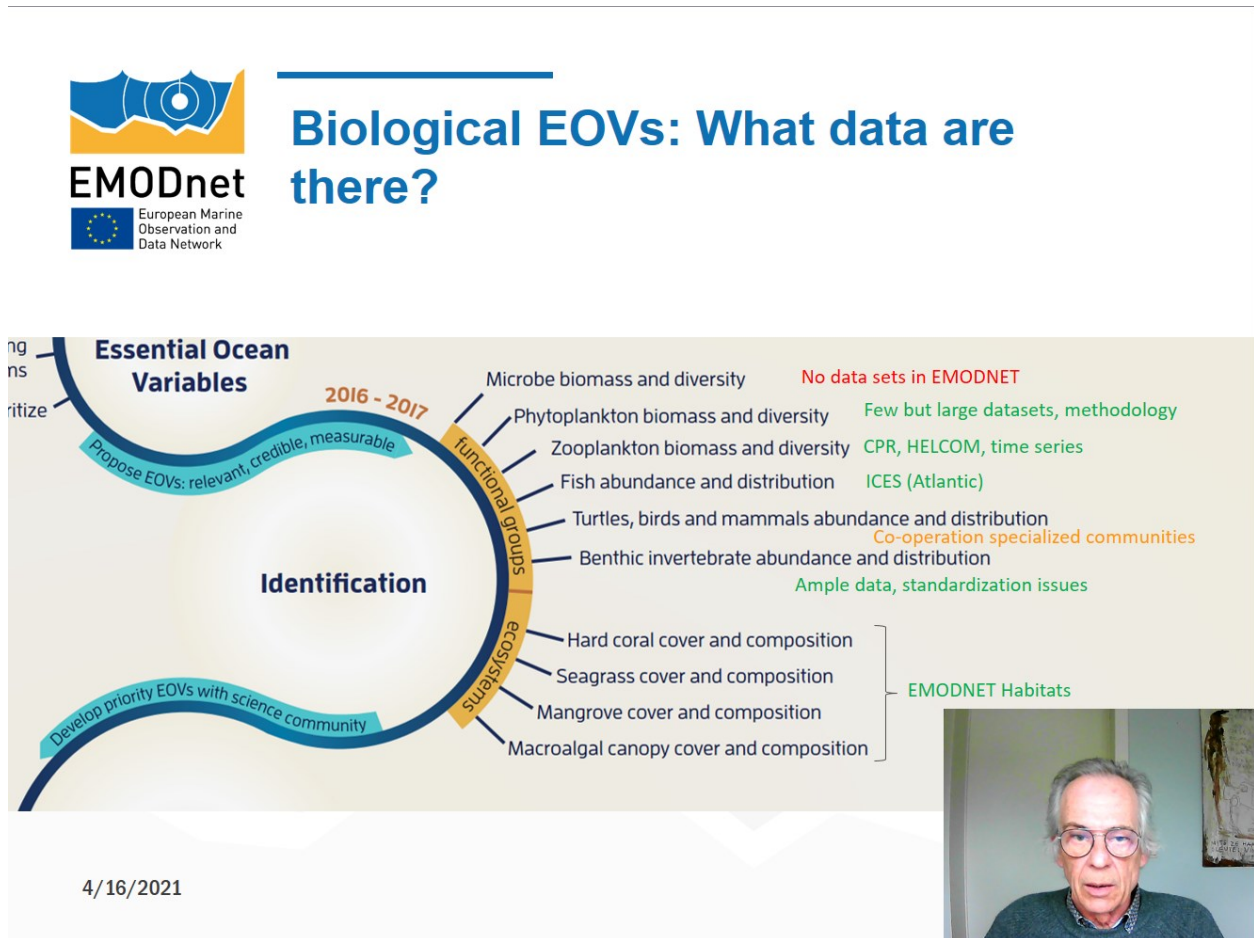


Figure 3. EMODnet Biology Data Products and the links to Essential Ocean Variables

Within the Data Products presentation, attention was also paid to the plans for the next phase of development and posed key questions to the participants to facilitate the next part of the meeting, an open, free-form question and answer session.

However many of these key, apparently simple questions necessitate a complex architecture. It is one of the aims of EMODnet BIology to facilitate the answers to the questions, removing the burden on end users and undertaking much of the "heavy lifting" associated with data aggregation and standardisation.

The complex architecture required to address a 'simple' question

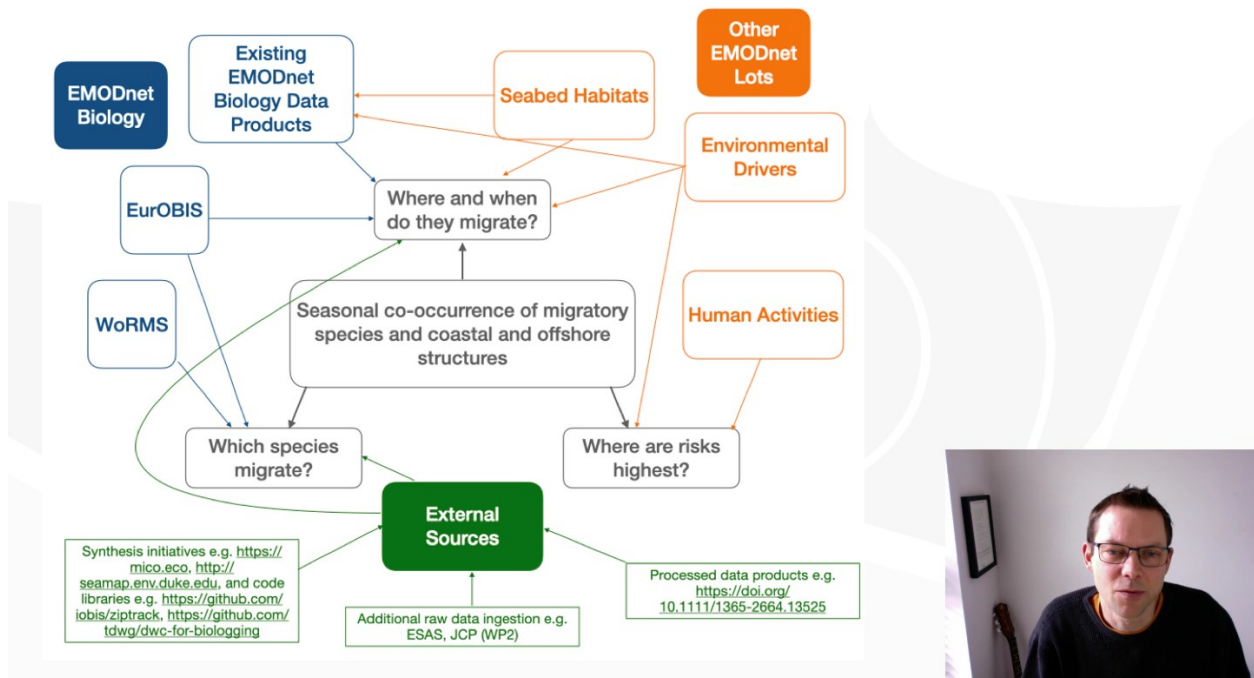


Figure 4. Complex solutions to 'simple' questions

Following the presentations, the meeting was opened to a free-form question and answer session. Active and positive engagement was received from all participants, with questions ranging from practical examples of how users can better interact with EMODnet Biology resources, to more strategic aspects including the relationships between EMODnet Biology, the other EMODnet thematic lots and the wider data landscape at the national, European and global scales.

The importance of EMODnet Biology in the provision of high quality, standardised marine biological data was highlighted by a number of participants, and support for the approach that the EMODnet Biology team has adopted was received.

It was recognised that there is scope for greater interaction and interoperability between the EMODnet thematic lots, and it is only possible to answer the "simple" questions if this interactivity is enabled. Upcoming infrastructure improvements and the work plan for the next phase of EMODnet Biology will address this current limitation.

The meeting was closed with thanks to all participants and presenters and with enthusiasm for the next phase and the recognition that regular engagement with key stakeholders is key to the ongoing success of EMODnet Biology. The broadening of engagement strategies to escape the risk of an 'echo chamber' of stakeholders is addressed in the next phase with the adoption of a quadruple-helix approach.

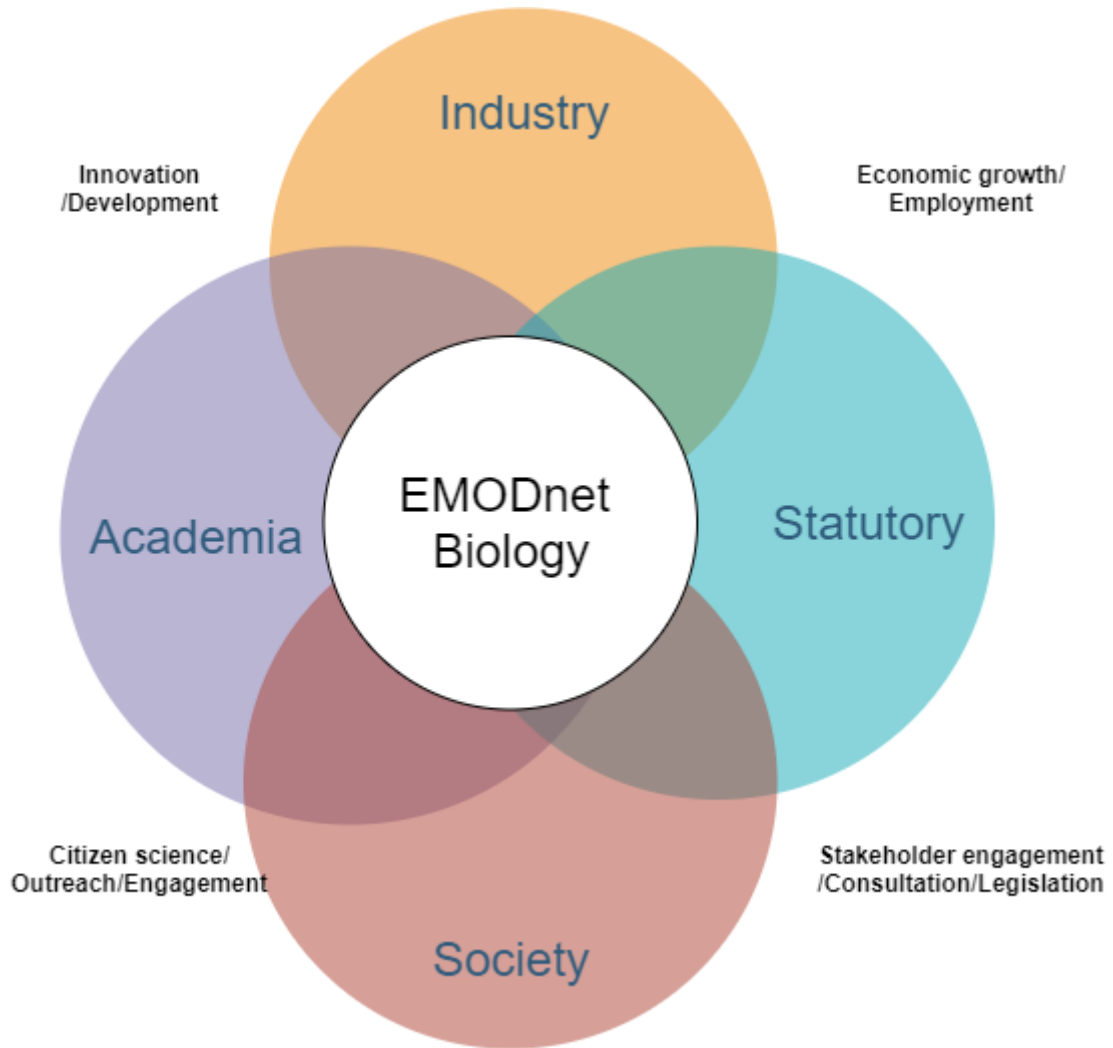


Figure 5. The Quadruple Helix of EMODnet Biology Engagement

Working within the context of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, the next phase of EMODnet Biology is well positioned to continue to deliver open access to standardised and quality assured marine biological data, embracing the FAIR principles and providing the tools and products to support a healthy and biologically diverse marine environment.

Appendix 1 - Event Agenda

Data Solutions for a Changing Ocean- An online showcase of achievement and opportunity

Wednesday 24th March 2021

Over the last 12 years EMODnet Biology has championed the aggregation, management and publication of open marine biological data and the development of exemplar data products.

As we embark on the next phase of development, this event will showcase the achievements to date and provide an opportunity to influence the development activities over the next few years. We're looking forward to contributions from our wide range of stakeholders, especially on how we can provide better targeted products and services.

If you are unable to attend, but want to be involved, please submit your questions or comments to bio@emodnet.eu and we will answer them in the session. All the presentations and Question and Answer sessions will be made available after the event.

Session times:

10:00 - 12:00 Central European Time

And

17:00 - 19:00 Central European Time

The presentations will be repeated in both time slots to ensure the widest possible participation from different time zones.

Agenda

Introduction to EMODnet Biology (10')

Data Archaeology and Curation (15')

Data Product Development (15')

Break (15')

QA with the EMODnet Biology Team (50')

Closing Remarks (10')