



Press Release

Marine Social and Economic Data Project 2012

26 January 2012

Robust and current data is needed urgently in the marine environment where policy makers are dealing with a number of new legislative requirements such as the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the development of Marine Spatial Plans and the designation of new Marine Protected Areas.

In response to this, EMU Limited in collaboration with the Marine Biological Association (MBA) and the Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML) have been commissioned to conduct a review of marine social and economic data and tools. The project is steered by the Marine Environmental Data & Information Network (MEDIN), the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), Marine Scotland, Defra and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC).

The study has three main aims:

1. To compile a catalogue of marine social and economic data sources;
2. To review assessment and appraisal tools that could be used to apply such data to decision-making; and
3. To review current data management arrangements for marine social and economic data.

The specific marine social and economic data themes to be included in the study are:

- Data on financial value or economic activity associated with uses of the sea such as Turnover, GVA, employment;
- Data on the economics of supply chains (i.e. for wind farms, fisheries) and income distribution;
- Data on the geographic location of use and non-use values of activity and infrastructure – both coastal and marine;
- Data relating to the characteristics of coastal and linked marine communities: employment, demographics, business base, health and wellbeing data including access to recreational and leisure facilities, wealth / deprivation indices, quality of life indicators; and
- Data for input to ecosystem services models such as services provided by ecosystem types, value of services and changes in wellbeing values.

The project is due to be completed on the 16th March. Over the coming weeks the study team will be contacting relevant organisations such as national and regional data providers, non-governmental organisations and universities to fill knowledge gaps regarding the tools and data available.

However, if you would like to get in touch with the project team directly, please contact:

Justine Saunders EMU Limited 01489 860050 justine.saunders@emulimited.com	Mike Osborne Oceanwise 07714 799900 mike.osborne@oceanwise.eu
---	---

