



Report of the MDIP DAC Working Group: December 2006 - January 2007 - Jon Parr/Lesley Rickards

<i>Working Group Members</i>	
Juan Brown, BODC (Pilot DAC)	Kevin O'Carroll, DTi
James Dargie, CCW	Jon Parr, MBA (Co-chair, pilot DAC)
Colin Graham, BGS (Pilot DAC)	Lesley Rickards, MEDAG (Co-chair)
Peter Kershaw, CEFAS	Nigel Sutton/Peter Wright, UKHO (Pilot DAC)
Susan MacLeay, EA	Steve Wilkinson, JNCC
Andrew Newton, FRS	

The main activities of the DAC Working Group over the last few months have been:

1. Pilot DACs (BGS, BODC, DASSH, UKHO) working with the interoperability WG, NERC DataGrid and Edina on the discovery metadata portal.

MDIP Project Manager and Interoperability Working Group to report on this activity.

2. Accreditation of the DACs

The completed Annex 1 forms from the DACs requirements document has been passed to Dave Cotton, Steve Wilkinson and Kevin O'Carroll for comments. The pilot DACs taking part are BGS, BODC, DASSH and UKHO. Dave has provided some detailed comments and a useful comparison table from the input provided by the DACs. His overall view is that more information (and evidence) is required from the DACs as the responses are quite general in places. The best response has been from BGS, which provides links to supporting documents. Once input from Steve and Kevin has been received, the DACs will be requested to add more detail. We need to provide feedback soon (say within a week of the co-chairs meeting) and ask the DACs to respond, say by the middle (end?) of March).

3. Identifying gaps in the DAC coverage and taking steps to resolve this

A workshop to investigate how fisheries data and information could best be managed in the MDIP framework and assess the need for a Fisheries DAC is scheduled for 8 February. A verbal update of the outcome will be given to the co-chairs meeting. Workshop attendees are the DAC WG co-chairs, MDIP Project Manager and representatives from CEFAS, FRS and AFB (Northern Ireland).

Future tasks

1. Completion of pilot Discovery portal

2. Finalise accreditation of pilot DACs and publish information in a more user-friendly harmonised way on the MDIP web-site

3. Hold a DAC WG workshop to discuss:

- a. "Gaps" in the DAC system
- b. Data flows – discussion on role of DACS in ensuring data flow for MDIP users
- c. Other DAC relevant issues

The workshop will engage all members of the DAC WG; it should be preceded by some e-mail discussion.



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