



**Meeting Concept Note and Agenda**

**LME:LEARN Data and Information Management: Working Group Meeting and Training  
Paris, France  
2 – 4 July 2019**

UNESCO Annex building, 1, Rue Miollis 75015 PARIS - Room 15 (XV)

The LME:LEARN Data and Information Management: Working Group Meeting and Training will be jointly organized by the Large Marine Ecosystem Learning Exchange and Resource Network (LME-LEARN), in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO).

LME:LEARN is a GEF-UNDP-UNESCO-IOC project designed to improve global ecosystem-based governance of Large Marine Ecosystems and their coasts by generating knowledge, building capacity, harnessing public and private partners and supporting south-to-south learning and north-to-south learning. In order to guide and support the data sharing and integration work that will result in improved availability and accessibility of consistent data and indicators on large marine ecosystems (as well as integrated coastal management and marine protected areas) in a meaningful way for use by LME:LEARN stakeholders and the wider public, the LME:LEARN project supports the Data and Information Management Working Group (DIM WG).

**Background**

Data and information play a crucial role in all phases of the policy cycle in international waters—from decision-making via implementation and monitoring, to analysis and recommendations. Data and information support an understanding and greater awareness of environmental issues, causes, sources and impacts; they function as an on-going component of the development and assessment of management policies, strategies and interventions; and they facilitate improved enforcement, decision-making and individual actions.

In order to guide and support the data and information sharing on Large Marine Ecosystems – LMEs (as well as associated integrated coastal management, marine protected areas and Marine Spatial Planning projects), for use by LME:LEARN stakeholders and the wider public, the LME:LEARN project supports the Data and Information Management Working Group (DIM WG). The DIM WG was established as an informal body to guide the process with a clear mandate to create learning exchanges on data and information management tools to be used by the LME community of practitioners. Several meetings of the DIM WG have taken place since the start of the LME:LEARN project. The expected outcome of the DIM WG includes more harmonious data and information management across LMEs, as well as improved capacity of projects to report progress and results across for example, Strategic Action Program implementation as well as SDG targets.



The LME:LEARN project has developed a training curriculum and guidance document for Data and Information Management (DIM) to be applied amongst GEF LME, ICM, MPA and MSP projects. The following documents are in preparation in support of this work:

- I. **Data and Information from The GEF Large Marine Ecosystem Portfolio - Metadata catalogue of available GEF marine project data and information.** This is a review and compilation of GEF LME project web-sites, tools and reports in relation to data and information management, as well as other key LME partners data and information web-sites.
- II. **Data and Information Management Guidelines for GEF LME Projects -To ensure sustainability of spatial and other project data and information in GEF LME projects.** These guidelines present overall recommendations for GEF LME projects to consider to ensure a more integrated and comparable approach to data and information management across the IW LME portfolio. It also will include tools and best practices from GEF LME projects and other international and regional organizations that can be applied and adapted within LME projects, and supports the implementation of the recommendations presented in the Data and Information Management Guidelines for GEF LME projects
- III. **Identifying Common LME Indicators - Towards common reporting and comparability between LMEs.** Given the common issues that the majority of the LME projects address and also the increasing need to align reporting between regions and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), this presents an overview of current indicator systems and proposes a series of common indicators that can be considered by LME's for future reporting of key targets and Strategic Action Programs (SAPs).

## Workshop Objectives

The meeting is expected to discuss the longer term strategy for DIM and to look beyond the scope of the current LME:LEARN projects. The final part of the meeting will center on a training provided by LME:LEARN partners on actual spatial data and information management tools. The DIM meeting consists of both a workshop and training sessions. Its objectives are threefold, namely:

1. To discuss the Data and Information Management Plan, in particular the recommendations and to agree on next steps towards its implementation;
2. To discuss the draft paper on common LME indicators that will allow comparison of progress in implementation of SAPs between the LMEs.
3. The final part of the meeting will center on an exchange of best practices and training provided by LME:LEARN partners on actual spatial data and information management tools.

## Workshop Outputs

- ◆ Final review and approval of the Data and Information Management Plan
- ◆ Final review and approval of the Common List of LME Indicators
- ◆ DIM Training Module and report on Best Practices and Tools for LME Data and Information Management
- ◆ Report of the meeting



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**Workshop Agenda**

**Day One – Tuesday 2 July**

**WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

- 0830-0900     **Workshop Registration**
  
- 0900-0930     **Opening of the Meeting and overview of the expected objectives of the workshop**  
*Mish Hamid, IW:LEARN and LME:LEARN Project Manager;*  
*Vladimir Mamaev, UNDP Regional Technical Advisor;*  
*Julian Barbière, IOC-UNESCO Head, Marine Policy and Regional Coordination.*
  
- 0930-1000     **Tour de Table/Expectations**

**SESSION 1. LME Data and Information Management**

**Objective:** To present and discuss the core DIM documents, provide suggestions for finalization and next steps in implementation.

- 1000-1030     **Data and Information from The GEF Large Marine Ecosystem Portfolio**  
*Virginie Hart, LME:LEARN Consultant.*  
Brief analysis and main findings from the report “Data and Information from The GEF Large Marine Ecosystem Portfolio - Metadata catalogue of available GEF marine project data and information”. Followed by discussion with participants.
  
- 1030-1050     *Break*
  
- 1050-1230     **LME experiences in data and information management**  
Summary presentations from a number of LME projects (~10 minutes each) related to current experiences, successes and challenges in data and information management and reporting on indicators within their LME.
  
- 1230-1330     *Lunch*
  
- 1330-1500     **LME experiences in data and information management (continued....)**

Summary presentations from a number of LME projects (~10 minutes each) related to current experiences, successes and challenges in data and information management and reporting on indicators within their LME.

1500-1520 *Break*

1520-1730 **LME:LEARN Data and Information management plan**

*Virginie Hart, LME:LEARN Consultant.*

Summary presentation of the report “Data and Information Management Guidelines for GEF LME Projects” including good practices and tools and future implementation. Followed by discussion on the recommendations to strengthen data and information management, including challenges, the need for strengthened coordination, and alignment with SDG reporting.

**Day Two– Wednesday 3 July**

**SESSION 2. LME:LEARN, IW:LEARN and partners training on data and information management**

**Objective:** LMEs provided training and tools for data and information management from IW:LEARN partners.

0900-1000 **Identifying Common LME Indicators.**

*Virginie Hart, LME:LEARN Consultant.*

Summary presentation on the report “Identifying Common LME Indicators - Towards common reporting and comparability between LMEs”. Followed by discussion regarding the feasibility of LME reporting on a core set of indicators and recommendations for the future.

1000-1045 **LME Scorecard**

*Shannon Murphy, Conservation International.*

Presentation on the LME Scorecard as a tool to evaluate LME management effectiveness. Followed by a working session and general discussion on the indicators and criteria.

1045-1100 *Break*

1100-1200 **Next steps in populating the LME Hub**

*Andy Jeffrey and Isabel Jimenez, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).*

Presentation of current version of the LME Hub portal website (<http://www.lmehub.net/>) and overview of planned enhancements and data/content to be added during final phase. Open discussion on which data/content (from both individual LME projects and on a global level) would be most useful/appropriate, and the availability and mechanisms for accessing (and updating) these feeds.

- 1200-1230: **IW:LEARN and LME:LEARN planned activities and updates**  
*Mish Hamid, IW:LEARN and Ivica Trumbic, LME:LEARN.*  
 Update on current status of LME reporting and next steps to strengthen information management and visualization on the IW:LEARN web-site. Followed by discussion and recommendations for the future.
- 1230-1330 *Lunch*
- 1330-1400 **IOC UNESCO tools for data management**  
 IODE
- 1400-1520 **Learn how to tell your stories with data and visuals - an introduction to MapX**  
*Pascal Peduzzi, UN Environment GRID-Geneva*  
 Story maps are a simple yet powerful tool to inform, engage, and inspire your audience with any story you may want to tell. Story maps are an effective way to harness the power of maps and geo-spatial visualization, bring data to life and make stories often hidden in data accessible to both the wider public or to a targeted audience including policy makers. A story map is a web application that combines a narrative, photos, and videos with interactive maps. The MapX story map engine allows users and visitors of the platform to independently build story maps without any GIS or programming skills. Story maps can cover a wide variety of subjects and tell any type of story.
- 1520-1540 *Break*
- 1540-1630 **IOC UNESCO tools for data management**  
 GOOS
- 1630-1800 **IW:LEARN Spatial Lab for sharing geospatial data and maps**  
*Debhasish Bhakta, GRID-Arendal.*  
 Training session on the IW:LEARN Spatial Lab (<http://geonode.iwlearn.org>), including the use and uploading of data. Maps are a powerful way to visualise data and information and support policy and decision making. The IW:LEARN Spatial Lab ([geonode.iwlearn.org](http://geonode.iwlearn.org)) is a multi-purpose platform to support IW project data storage and visualisation needs. The platform supports the storage and discovery of spatial data for transboundary water management and the creation of interactive, shareable maps. The platform allows IW projects to: Store spatial data collected through the project; Create metadata to help categorise the data; Access relevant regional and global data to support transboundary water management in their basin; and Communicate science to a range of stakeholders, including policy and decision makers, using interactive maps. The objective of this training session is to familiarise GEF IW project managers and technical staff with the features of the IW:LEARN Spatial Lab. On successful completion of this training session participants will: Be familiar with the IW:LEARN Spatial Lab and the benefits it provides to their projects; Upload their own project data to the IW:LEARN Spatial Lab and create relevant metadata; Visualise their project data in attractive interactive maps, by combining with relevant regional and global data and share these interactive

maps with non-technical users including policy and decision makers. The IW:LEARN team members will be available during the workshop to assist your project with its data visualisation and mapping needs.

1800-1900 Reception  
Fontenoy Building (Main UNESCO Building)

### Day Three– Thursday 4 July

#### SESSION 3. Training on data and information management

**Objective:** Presentations and training on global data management resources and tools relevant to LME's and discussion on best practices for future application in LMEs.

- 0900-1030 **Ocean Plus data, resources and cooperation with LMEs**  
*Lauren Weatherdon, UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC)*  
Presentation on WCMC's Ocean+ (<https://oceanplus.org>), data and information and discussion on establishing cooperation mechanisms in support to LMEs. This session will focus on introducing data, capacity building and information available through the evolving Ocean+ initiative ([www.oceanplus.org](http://www.oceanplus.org)), and existing and potential links to other initiatives and activities that can collectively support the LME community. The interactive session will consist of two parts: one focused on available data and needs, including consultation and discussion; and the next centred on linking these data and information to the proposed set of LME indicators, with an introduction to the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership. Through this session, there will be an opportunity to review the products and to provide input into how these products could be better adapted to meet the needs of the LME community.
- 1030-1050 *Break*
- 1050-1230 **FAO tools for data management**  
*Anton Ellenbroek, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)*  
Presentation and training on FAO Fisheries Department's comprehensive toolset to view and review spatial data. With support from H2020 projects, any region can now use services to access geospatial data from a region, and add, harmonize and analyze statistical data from e.g. fisheries. The Open Source tools can manage confidential data, and can be a cost-effective solution for local, regional, and global levels. Examples include FAO's global tuna atlas, the Global Record of Stocks and Fisheries, the SDG14.4.1 Training VRE, and Grid-Arendal's Protected Areas Impact Maps VRE (in validation stage).
- 1230-1300 **Conclusions and next steps**  
*Mish Hamid, IW:LEARN, Ivica Trumbic and Virginie Hart, LME:LEARN*  
Summary and agreed next steps in the implementation of the Data and Information Management Plan and coordination between LMEs.