

IAF EARTH OBSERVATION SYMPOSIUM (B1)
International Cooperation in Earth Observation Missions (1)

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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING
PROTOCOLS: SPECIAL ATTENTION TO TROPICAL REGIONS.

Abstract

The present work propounds the application of a global – sustainable and harmonized - marine policy for all sea regions. Such approach would help countries to align around the same environmental and spatial data principles towards the aim of a common idea of good environmental status, and an effective and sustainable allocation of maritime infrastructures. The ecological diversity of tropical regions has its own particular features, which will be highlighted in this document. Also the importance of the role of Directive 2008/56/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 2008 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of marine environmental policy (Marine Strategy Framework Directive) will center the discussion within this work and we will foresee its application to tropical regions. As a concluding remark, any harmonized measure requires an open access to spatial data. The Open Geospatial Consortium's Marine Domain Working Group, in cooperation with the IHO's Marine SDI Working Group, released the "OGC Report: Development of Spatial Data Infrastructures for Marine Data Management – OGC Marine SDI Concept Development Study". Open Access, Data Sharing, and Interoperability in the area of Spatial Data Infrastructure from a European Perspective but globally is the key to achieve a harmonized and global environmental effect if a common international spatial environmental strategy is assembled.