

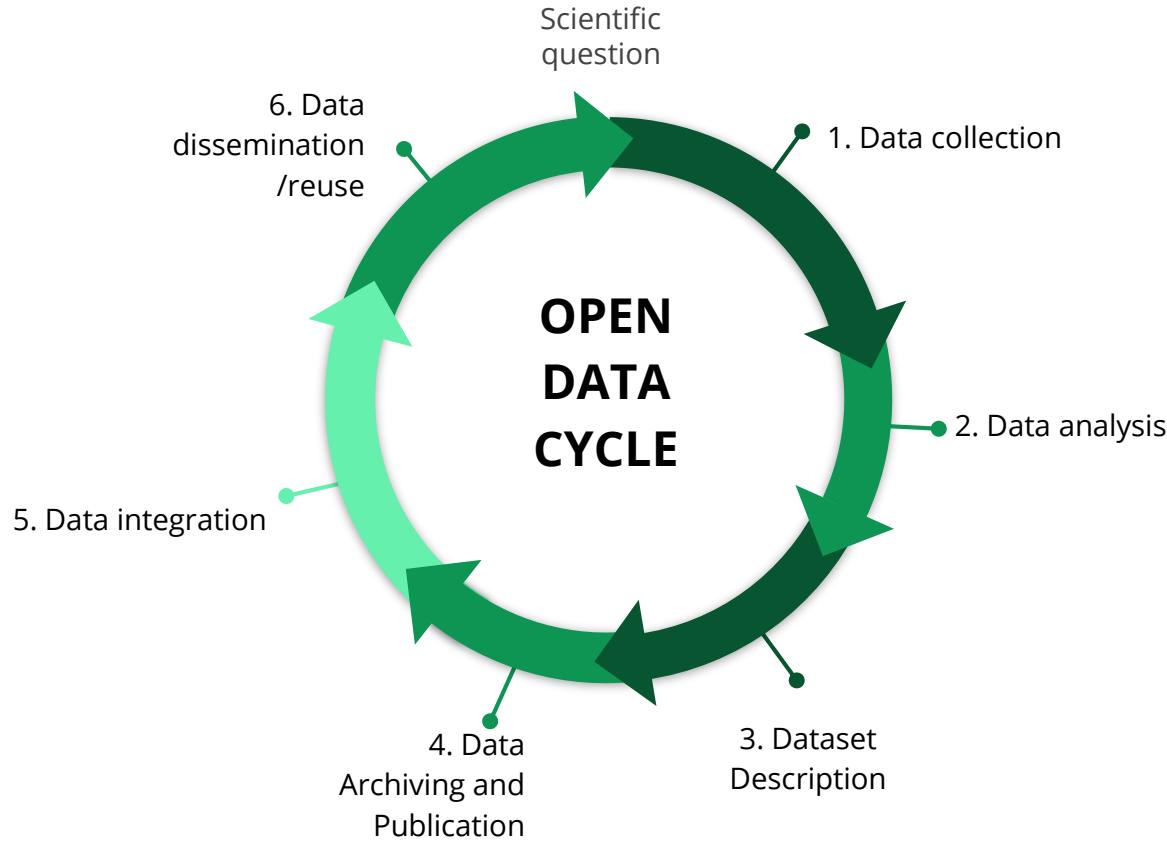
# From observations to ecosystem analysis

The data flow generating FAIR data

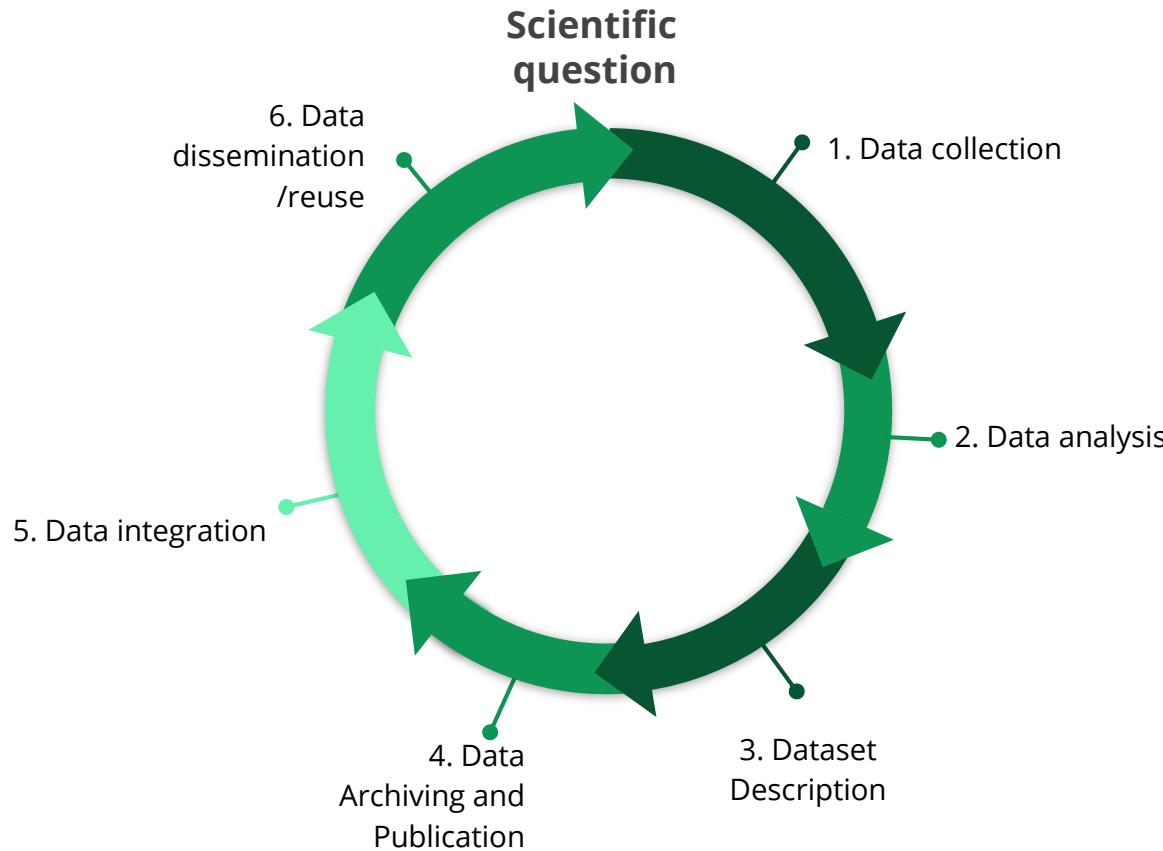
Lennert Schepers



# VLIZ Data management cycle



# VLIZ Data management cycle

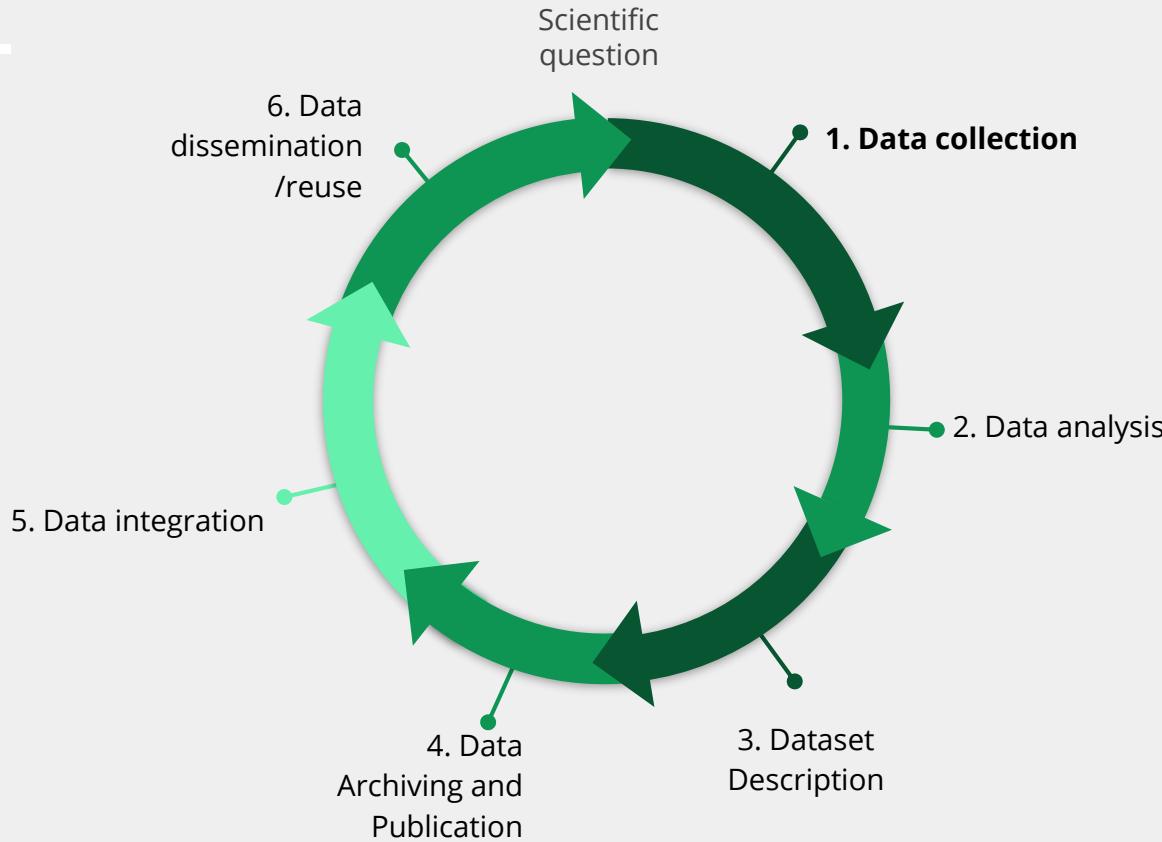




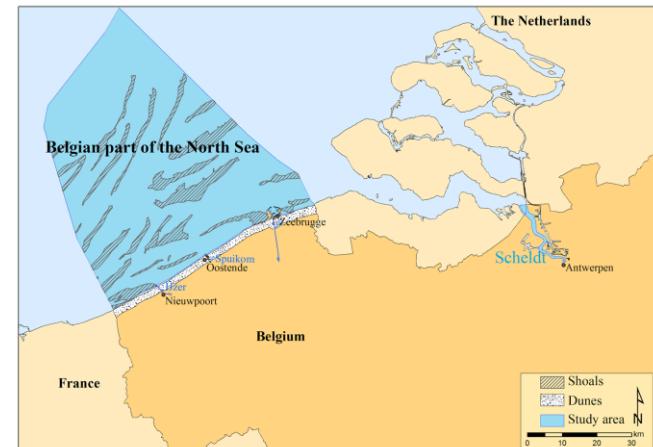
*Calanoida*



# 1. Data collection

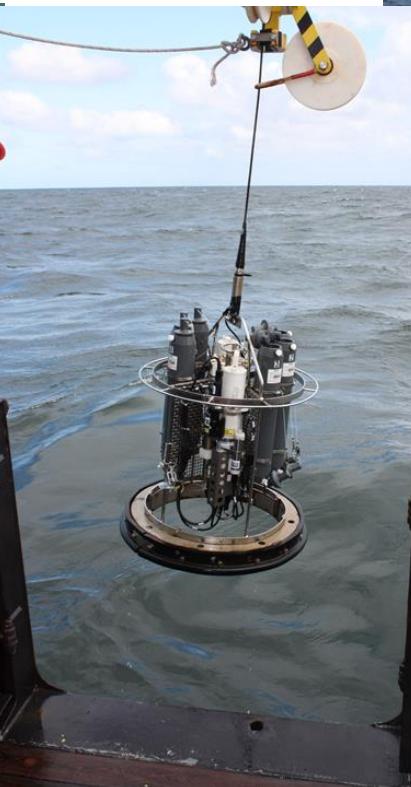


# RV Simon Stevin

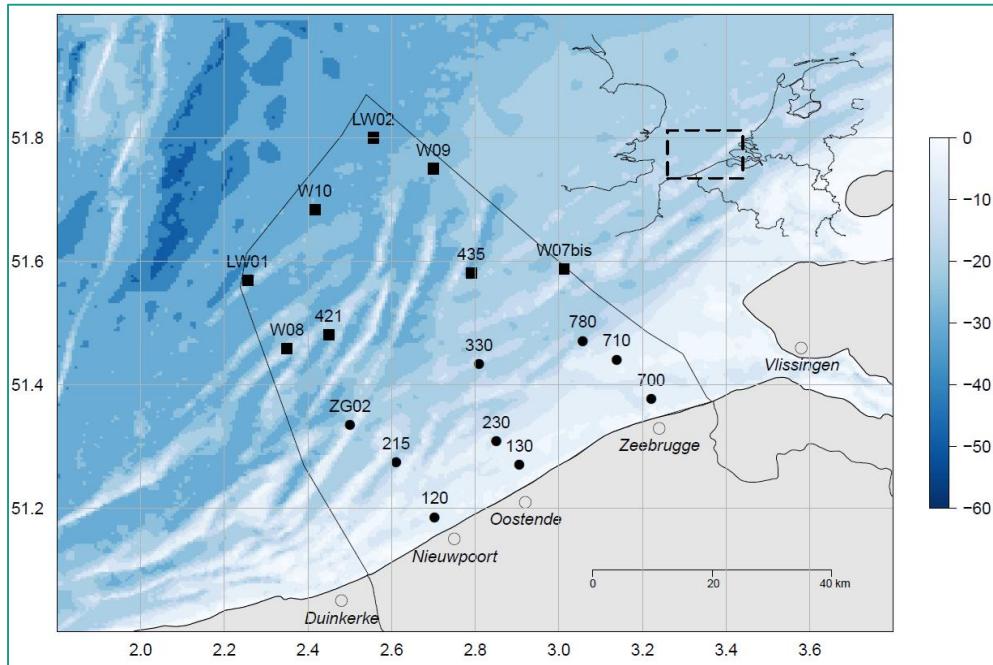


# 1. Data collection

---



# Long term sampling stations



## Monthly sampling campaigns

Nieuwpoort: 120 – 215 – ZG02

Oostende: 130 – 230 – 330

Zeebrugge: 700 – 710 - 780

## Seasonal sampling campaigns

Additional stations: 421 - W08 - LW01 - W10 - LW02 - W09 - 435 - W07bis

# QA: Standard Operating Procedure

**LifeWatch Sampling Surveys**  
Zooplankton sampling, preservation and processing protocol

**LifeWatch**  
Belgium

**Phytoplankton sampling**

- Take the blue 50L barrel (blue with orange band)
- Clean the 55µm Apstein net carefully
- Collect bucket samples, at the side of the boat
- At 50L stop collecting and lift out the net
- Clean the net from the outside to collect more water
- Pour the contents of the net into a 20L bucket
- Put the sample in the fridge at 4°C
- Don't forget to label! "VLIZ", "fyto", date

**Macrobenthos sampling**

**Prepare CTD**

- Prepare acclimation in tank
- Once the tank is full, take a sample from the water

**A) Pigments: Important: use white filter at max. size**

- Connect siphon pump to filter unit, place it in the water
- Fill cup with known amount of collected sand
- Note total volume of filtered water in each cup
- Once the filter runs dry, flush sides of cup dry
- Remove filter, fold and dry filter on paper to remove excess water
- Label filter with sample ID and collected at VLIZ 2014/12/16, 100 m, 500m, China
- Wrap tape around the label to ensure it stays
- Store in 24°C and clean all used equipment

**B) Nutrients: Filter about 200ml seawater with 0.2 µm filter**

- Connect siphon pump to filter unit and filter
- When the filter runs dry, flush sides of cup dry
- Store at 24°C and clean the Ehrenmeye jar

**C) Suspended matter:**

- Fill a 1 liter container for SPM determination
- In the papers supplied with the VMM box, fill a 1 liter container with seawater
- The crew will handle the Van Veen grab.
- If the grab hits the bottom, register start and end time
- No water or sediment may be lost! Make sure the Van Veen arrives here.
- If the Van Veen grab is at the surface, take a small sampling port in the Van Veen grab (last 10 cm)
- The crew opens the grab.
- Rinse the inside of the grab with water, all water must be removed.
- Collect sediment into the bucket. Make sure it figure.
- Seal the Sterilites filter using a sticky tac, e.g.
- Label your filters as follows: "VLIZ", "Date", "50 m", entire filter in a plastic 200ml recipient. Mail
- To protect the label from running please use Solotape or Tesa tape.
- For short storage < 20°C freezers can be used. Samples can be stored in sealed bag (airtight)

**eDNA**

- Carefully open Niskin bottles at the bottom, and once Niskin bottles are on deck, fill them 1/2
- Label with "bottom/surface", eDNA, date, id

**On board**

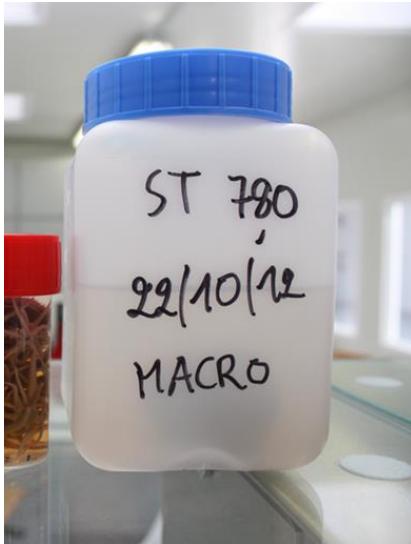
	On board	On land	Partner laboratory
<b>Macrobenthos</b>	room temperature, 4% formaldehyde	200ml flask with formaldehyde, storage room	Bioarchive VLIZ
<b>Zooplankton</b>	room temperature, 4% formaldehyde	200ml flask with formaldehyde, storage room	Bioarchive VLIZ

**Protocol to use the WP2 net**

- Tell the crew to haul the WP2 net. Ask them to install the flowmeter in order to know the volume of water that passed the net. Note this flow on the excel report file. Register in MIDAS when the WP2 net is hauled up.
- Once the WP2 net is up, make sure to rinse the outside of the net so all material is certainly in the red flask on the bottom.
- take the red flask on the bottom and try to lose as many water as possible. Pour this material in a 1L flask.
- Rinse the flask very thoroughly with soda water and add it to the recipient
- Add formalol to a 4% end concentration! Do this shortly after collecting since zooplankton will predate each other within the recipient.
- In the lab, after fixation, formalol will be replaced by 70% ethanol.

# 1. Data collection - result

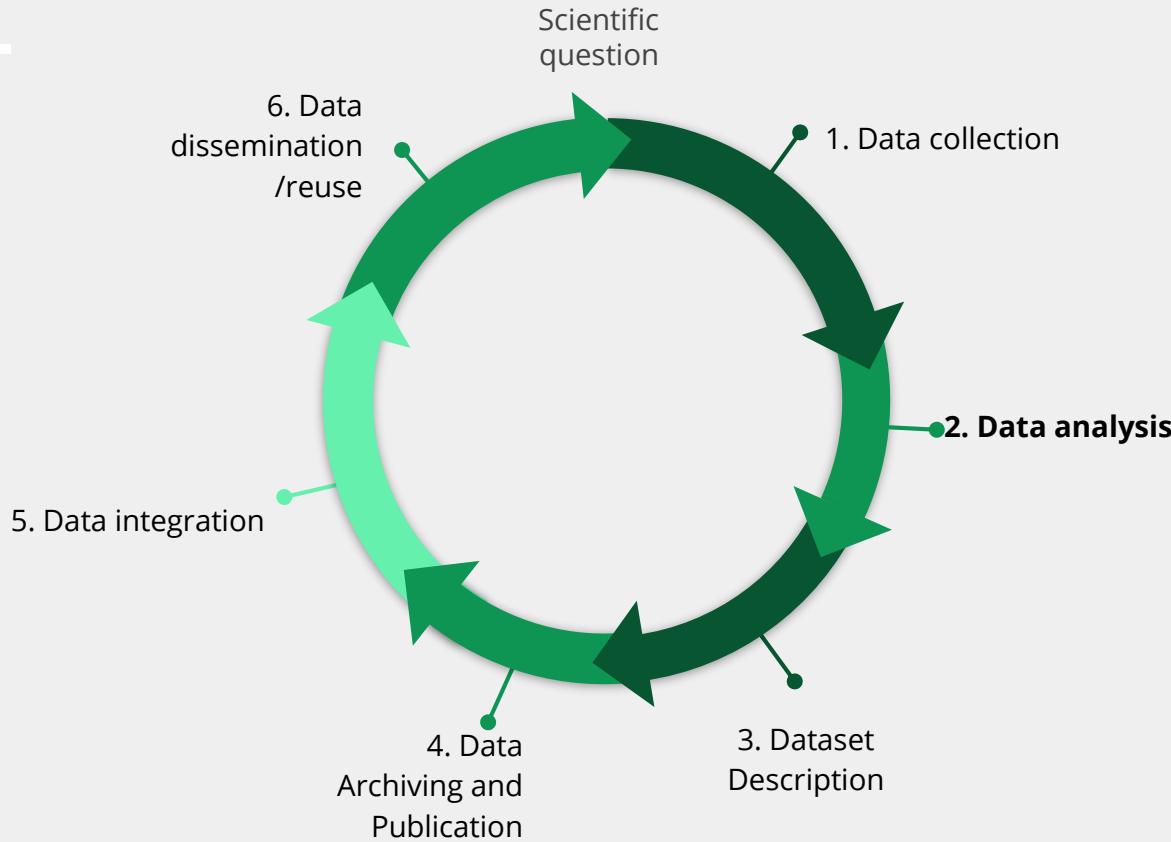
---



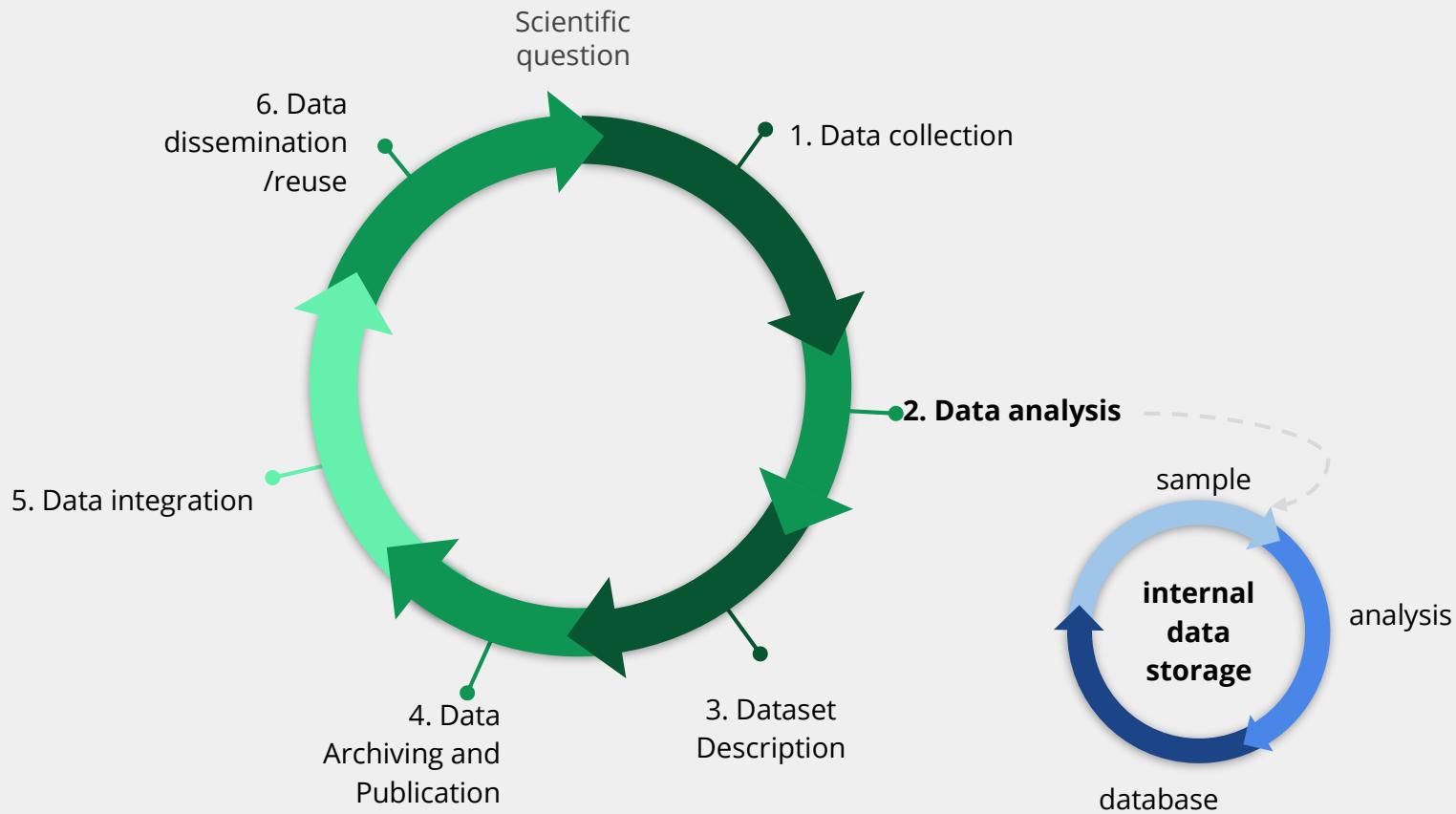
Result:

- sample taken according to well-defined protocol
- Water quality parameters in database

## 2. Data analysis

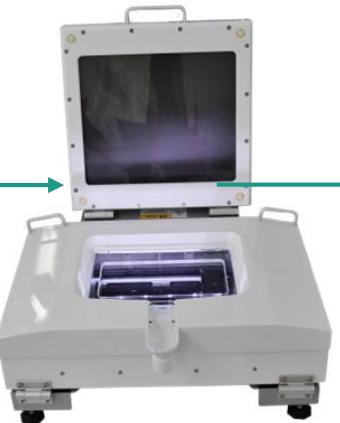
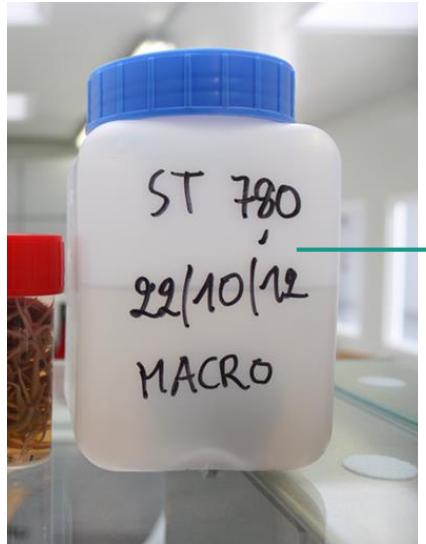
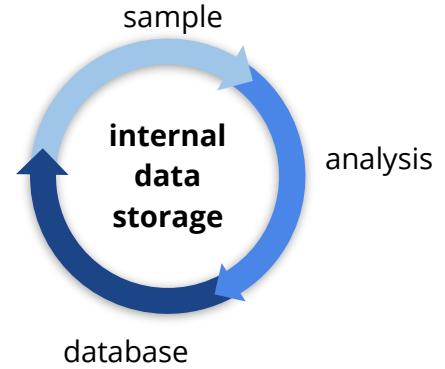


## 2. Data analysis



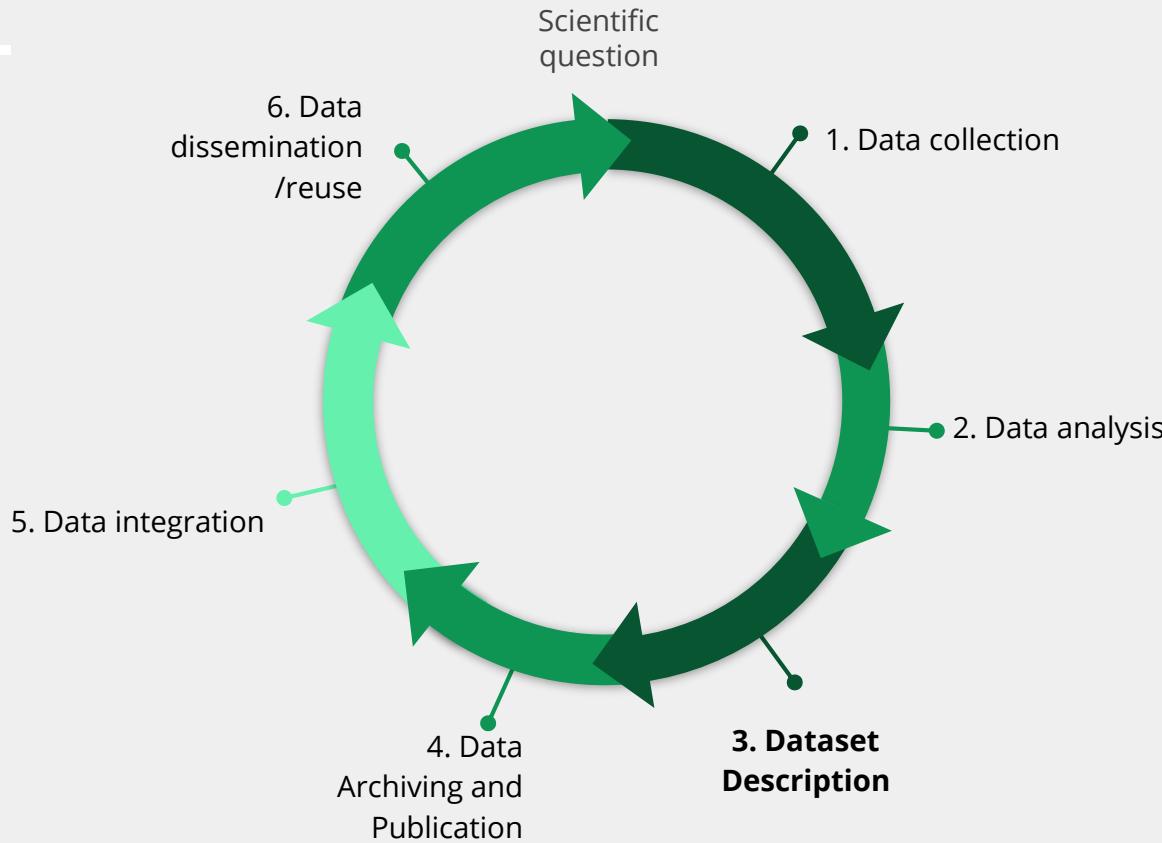
## 2. Data analysis

From sample to image to observation



ID	FieldNumber	Mean_Density_per_m2	FieldDescription	EventID	SamplingProtocol	Latitude	Longitude	Depth	ScientificName	New_Density_per_m2
1A	FeefDense	0.0000	Average of the depth (m) taken in a 10x10m2 (per 1 m2) or square meter of the bottom during trawling and/or trawl fishing.						Ereone fissa	3.30
1A	FeefDense	0.0000	Average of the depth (m) taken in a 10x10m2 (per 1 m2) or square meter of the bottom during trawling and/or trawl fishing.					Thysanopoda	0.00	
17	FeefDense	0.0000	Average of the depth (m) taken in a 10x10m2 (per 1 m2) or square meter of the bottom during trawling and/or trawl fishing.					Nephropsnorvegicus	6.700	
17	FeefDense	0.0000	Average of the depth (m) taken in a 10x10m2 (per 1 m2) or square meter of the bottom during trawling and/or trawl fishing.					Soleichthys	0.00	
2	2.30281	51.3006	Station 0720	VanUverghab	5	0.0000	0.0000	Pygocentrus	3.300	
2	2.30281	51.3006	Station 0720	VanUverghab	5	0.0000	0.0000	Thysanopoda	36.700	
2	2.30281	51.3006	Station 0720	VanUverghab	5	0.0000	0.0000	Hemerocoetes	223.300	
2	2.30281	51.3006	Station 0720	VanUverghab	5	0.0000	0.0000	Modicusnudus	4.700	
2	2.30281	51.3006	Station 0720	VanUverghab	5	0.0000	0.0000	Concholepas	20.000	
2	2.30281	51.3006	Station 0720	VanUverghab	5	0.0000	0.0000	Macrourus	3.000	
2	2.30281	51.3006	Station 0720	VanUverghab	5	0.0000	0.0000	Macrourus	3.000	
2	2.30281	51.3006	Station 0720	VanUverghab	5	0.0000	0.0000	Abraabla	8.700	
2	2.30281	51.3006	Station 0720	VanUverghab	5	0.0000	0.0000	Dendrodoa	9.700	
2	2.30281	51.3006	Station 0720	VanUverghab	5	0.0000	0.0000	Ligiaeximia	3.30	
3	3.30222	51.3005	Station 0757	VanUverghab	8	0.0000	0.0000	Ereone longissima	3.30	
3	3.30222	51.3005	Station 0757	VanUverghab	8	0.0000	0.0000	Nephropsnorvegicus	60.000	
3	3.30222	51.3005	Station 0757	VanUverghab	8	0.0000	0.0000	Soleichthys	4.700	
3	3.30222	51.3005	Station 0757	VanUverghab	8	0.0000	0.0000	Speculicola	6.700	

### 3. Dataset description



# 3. Data set description

## FAIR - Findable IMIS

Publications | Institutes | Persons | Datasets | Projects |

19 records found with search conditions : Title = 'lifewatch'

Expand all

Collapse all

- ETN data: fish acoustic receiver network, [more](#)
  - LifeWatch observatory - Permanent acoustic receiver network in the Belgian Part of the North Sea
  - LifeWatch observatory - Permanent acoustic receiver network in the Western Scheldt, Array 2: Bet
  - LifeWatch observatory - Permanent acoustic receiver network in the Western Scheldt, Array 1: Bet
- **BVTool:** LifeWatch computational tool for marine Biological Valuation Mapping, [more](#)
- LifeWatch observatory data: CTD temperature and salinity measurements in the Belgian Part of the N
- LifeWatch observatory data: GPS tracking network for large birds, [more](#)
- LifeWatch observatory data: buoy data, [more](#)
- LifeWatch observatory data: fish acoustic receiver network, [more](#)
  - LifeWatch observatory - Acoustic telemetry range-test dataset, performed in the C-Power wind farm
  - LifeWatch observatory - Permanent acoustic receiver network in the Belgian Part of the North Sea
  - LifeWatch observatory - Permanent acoustic receiver network in the Western Scheldt, Array 2: Bet
  - LifeWatch observatory - Permanent acoustic receiver network in the Western Scheldt, Array 1: Bet
  - LifeWatch observatory - Temporarily acoustic receiver network for range testing, performed in the C
- LifeWatch observatory data: genetic data in the Belgian Part of the North Sea, [more](#)
- LifeWatch observatory data: long term collections of macrobenthos in the Belgian Part of the North Se
- LifeWatch observatory data: nutrient, pigment, suspended matter and secchi measurements in the Bel
- LifeWatch observatory data: passive acoustic network (CPOD) for Cetacean detection, [more](#)
- LifeWatch observatory data: phytoplankton observations by imaging flow cytometry (CytoSense) in the
- LifeWatch observatory data: phytoplankton observations by imaging flow cytometry (FlowCam) in the
- LifeWatch observatory data: reference collection of unique observations in the Belgian Part of the N
- LifeWatch observatory data: sensor network for bat detection, [more](#)
- LifeWatch observatory data: zooplankton observations in the Belgian Part of the North Sea, [more](#)

### LifeWatch observatory data: zooplankton observations in the Belgian Part of the North Sea

#### Citable as data publication

Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ), Belgium (2019): LifeWatch observatory data: zooplankton observations in the Belgian Part of the North Sea. <https://doi.org/10.14284/329>

 [Download Data](#)

#### Previous versions (2) [view](#)

Contact: [data@vliz.be](mailto:data@vliz.be)

Availability:  This dataset is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](#).

#### Special collections:

AssemblePlus

EMBRC

Belgian marine datasets

IMIS themes

Belgian marine, coastal & estuarine areas

Lifewatch acknowledged

Diversiteit soorten

LifeWatch Observatory

Diversiteit soorten: Plankton

#### Description

In the framework of the Lifewatch marine observatory a number of fixed stations on the Belgian Part of the North Sea (BPNS) are visited on a monthly or seasonal basis using the RV Simon Stevin. A grid of nine stations covers the coastal zone and are sampled monthly. Eight additional stations, located further at sea, are sampled on a seasonal basis. This dataset contains zooplankton observations in the Belgian Part of the North Sea (BPNS) since 2012.

#### Scope

Themes: Biology > Zooplankton

Keywords: Marine, Zooplankton, ANE, Belgium, Belgian Continental Shelf (BCS)

#### Geographical coverage

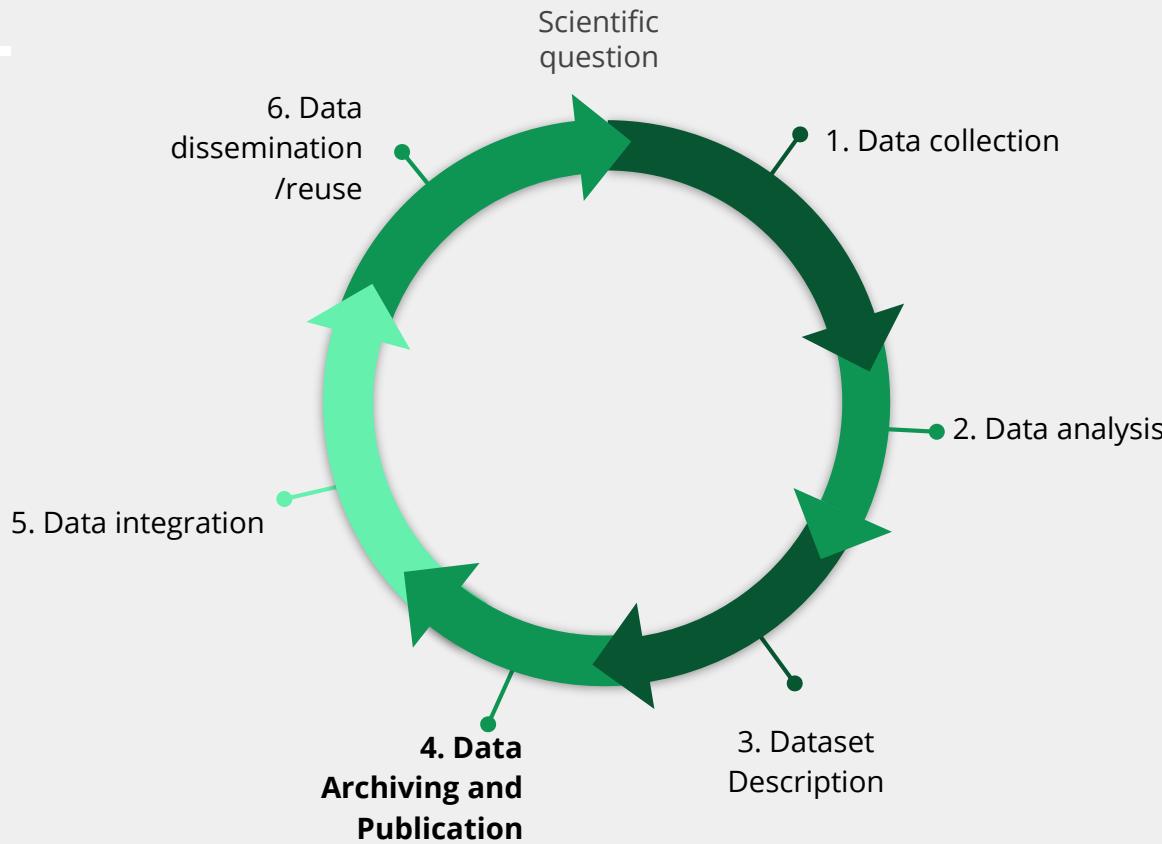
ANE, Belgium, Belgian Continental Shelf (BCS) Stations [Marine Regions]

#### Temporal coverage

From 24 July 2012 on [In Progress]

<http://www.vliz.be/imis?module=dataset&dasid=4687>

# 4. Data Archiving and Publication



# 4. Archiving: Marine Data Archive

---

## Marine Data Archive



Intro

Archive

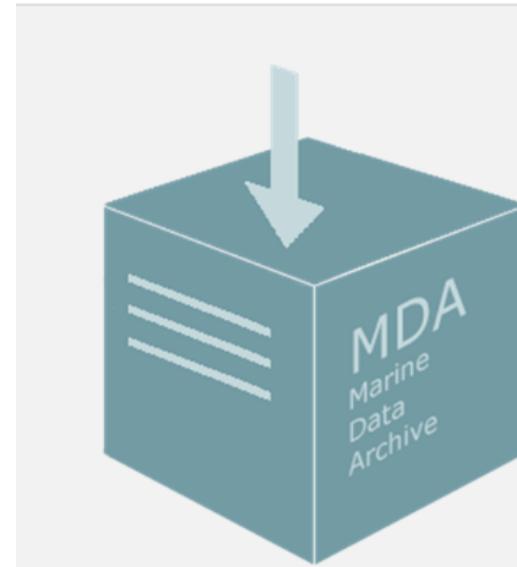
Manual

Policy

Register

Contact

FAQ



MDA... a secure, online system to **archive data files** in a well-documented manner.

[Log in](#)



<https://marinedataarchive.org>

# Data publication

FAIR - Accessible

## LifeWatch observatory data: zooplankton observations in the Belgian Part of the North Sea

Citable as data publication

Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ), Belgium (2019): LifeWatch observatory data: zooplankton observations in the Belgian Part of the North Sea.  
<https://doi.org/10.14284/329>

 Download Data

Previous versions (2) view

Contact: [data@vliz.be](mailto:data@vliz.be)

Availability:  This dataset is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](#).

### Special collections:

AssemblePlus

EMBRRC

Belgian marine datasets

IMIS themes

Belgian marine, coastal & estuarine areas

Lifewatch acknowledged

Diversiteit soorten

LifeWatch Observatory

Diversiteit soorten: Plankton

### Description

In the framework of the Lifewatch marine observatory a number of fixed stations on the Belgian Part of the North Sea (BPNS) are visited on a monthly or seasonal basis using the RV Simon Stevin. A grid of nine stations covers the coastal zone and are sampled monthly. Eight additional stations, located further at sea, are sampled on a seasonal basis. This dataset contains zooplankton observations in the Belgian Part of the North Sea (BPNS) since 2012.

### Scope

Themes: Biology > Zooplankton

Keywords: Marine, Zooplankton, ANE, Belgium, Belgian Continental Shelf (BCS)

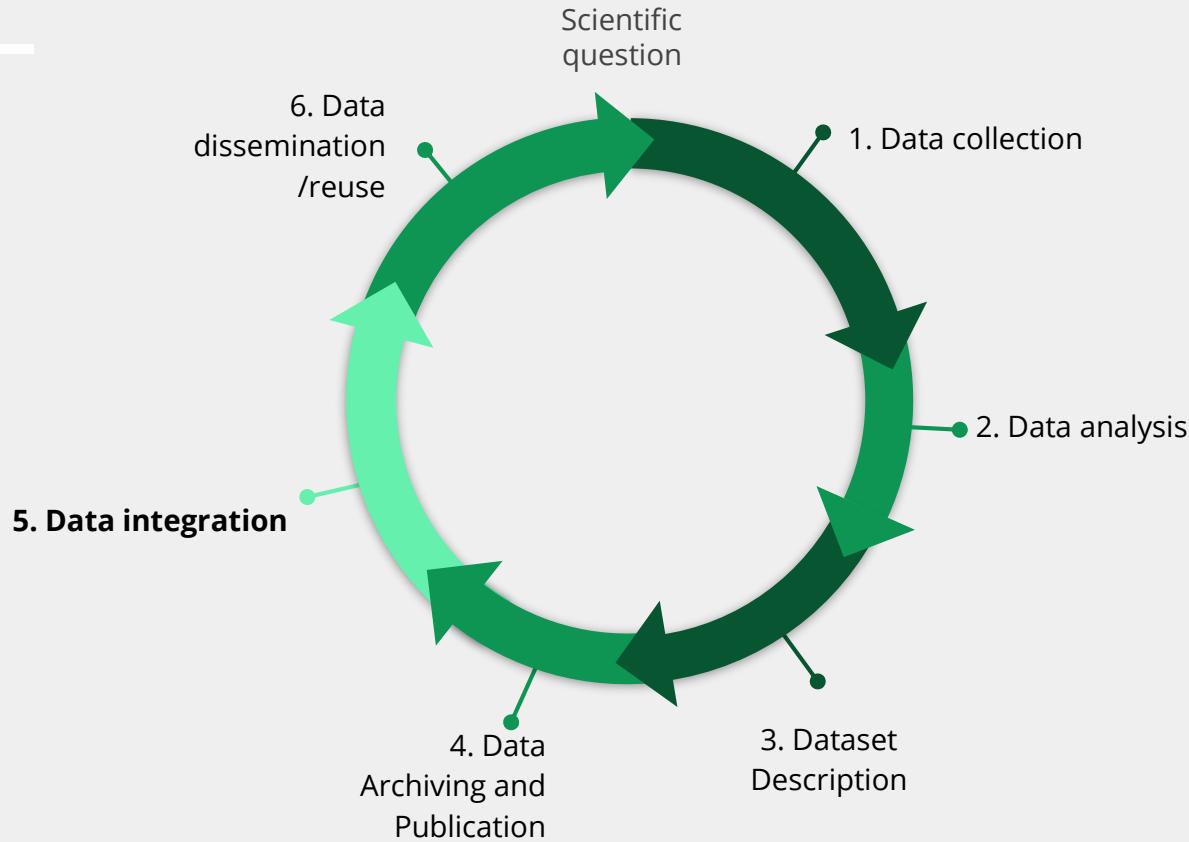
### Geographical coverage

ANE, Belgium, Belgian Continental Shelf (BCS) [Stations](#) [Marine Regions]

<http://www.vliz.be/imis?module=dataset&dasid=4687>

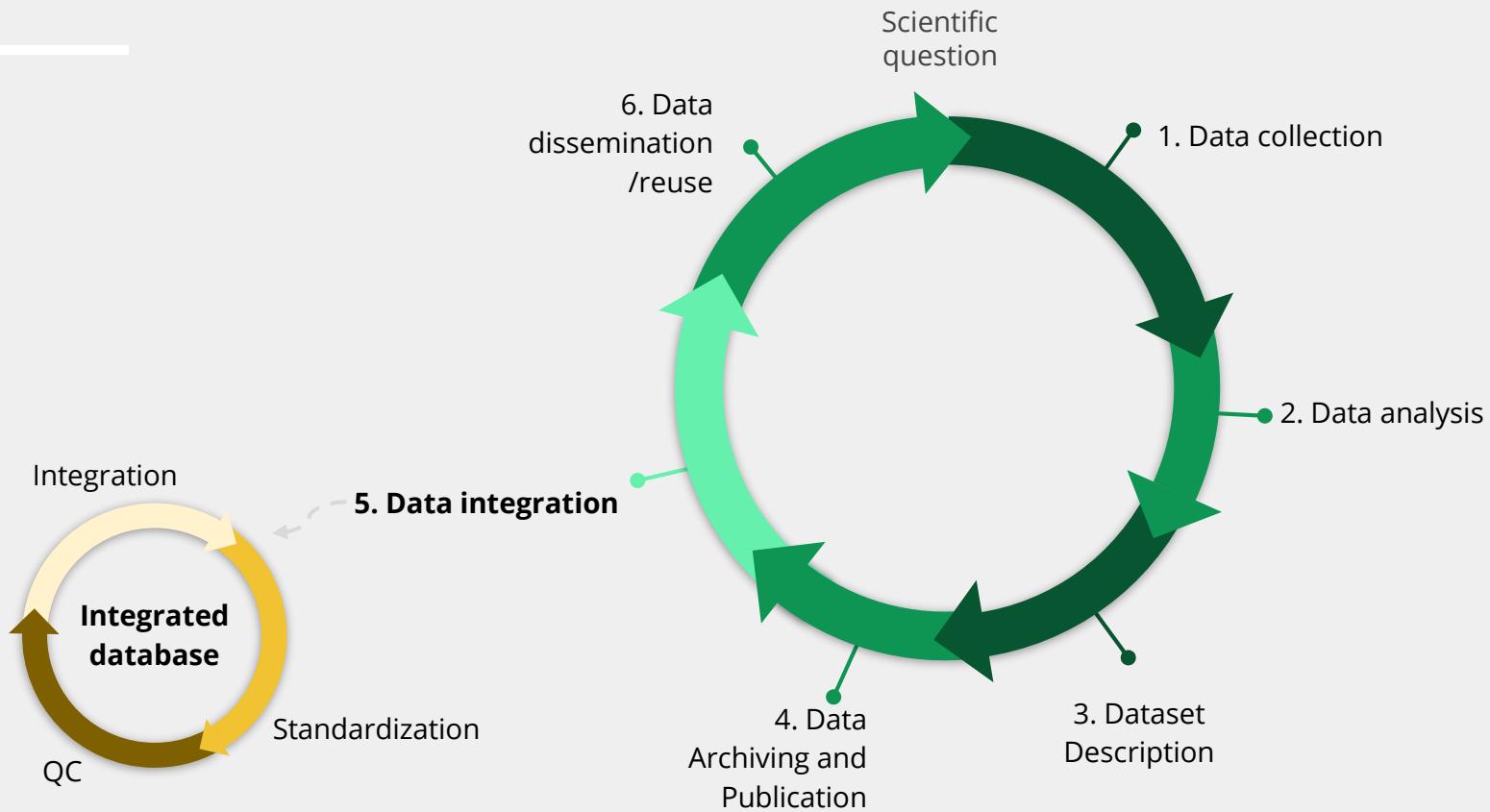
<https://doi.org/10.14284/394>

# 5. Data Integration



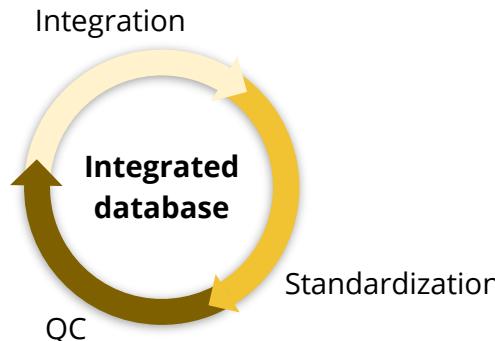
# 5. Data Integration

VLIZ Data management cycle



# 5. Data Integration

---



Integrated marine biological database:

- EurOBIS

LifeWatch Species Information Backbone:

- EurOBIS
- World Register of Marine Species
- Marine Regions



# Data standardisation

---

Taxonomic quality control

Dataset	Scientific names	After tax. check
1	<i>Calanus fimarchicus</i>	
2	<i>Calanus finmarchicus</i>	<i>Calanus finmarchicus</i>
3	<i>Calanus elegans</i>	
4	<i>Cetochilus finmarchicus</i>	

*Calanus finmarchicus*



urn:lsid:marinespecies.org:taxname:104466



# Data standardisation

---

## Controlled vocabularies

L
<b>Biomass</b>
0.0911392405
0.000721519
0.0005063291
0.053164557
0.003
0.0835443038
0.0015949367
0.0016075949
0.0000126582
0.0000253165
0.0002531646
0.0005696203



Biomass?

- Dry weight?
- Ash-free?
- Wet weight?
- Units?

Conceptid (12)	Preflabel
ODRYBM01	Dry weight biomass (in assayed sample) of biological entity specified elsewhere
OWETBM01	Wet weight biomass (in assayed sample) of biological entity specified elsewhere
SDBIOL03	Ash-free dry weight biomass of biological entity specified elsewhere per unit area of the bed
SDBIOL04	Wet weight biomass of biological entity specified elsewhere per unit volume of the water body
SDBIOL05	Wet weight biomass of biological entity specified elsewhere per unit area of the bed
SDBIOL07	Ash-free dry weight biomass of biological entity specified elsewhere per unit volume of the water body
SDBIOL08	Dry weight biomass of biological entity specified elsewhere per unit area of the bed
SDBIOL09	Dry weight biomass of biological entity specified elsewhere per unit volume of the water body

<http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P01/current/ODRYBM01/>

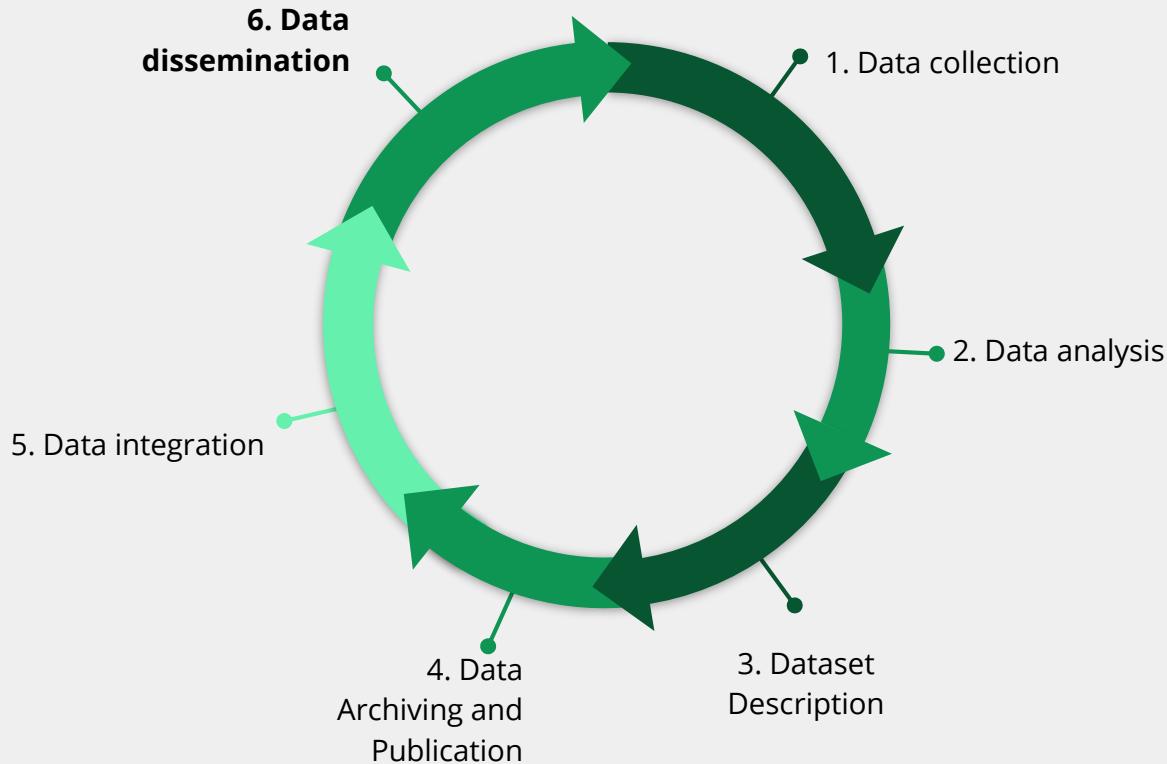
# 5. Data Integration

---

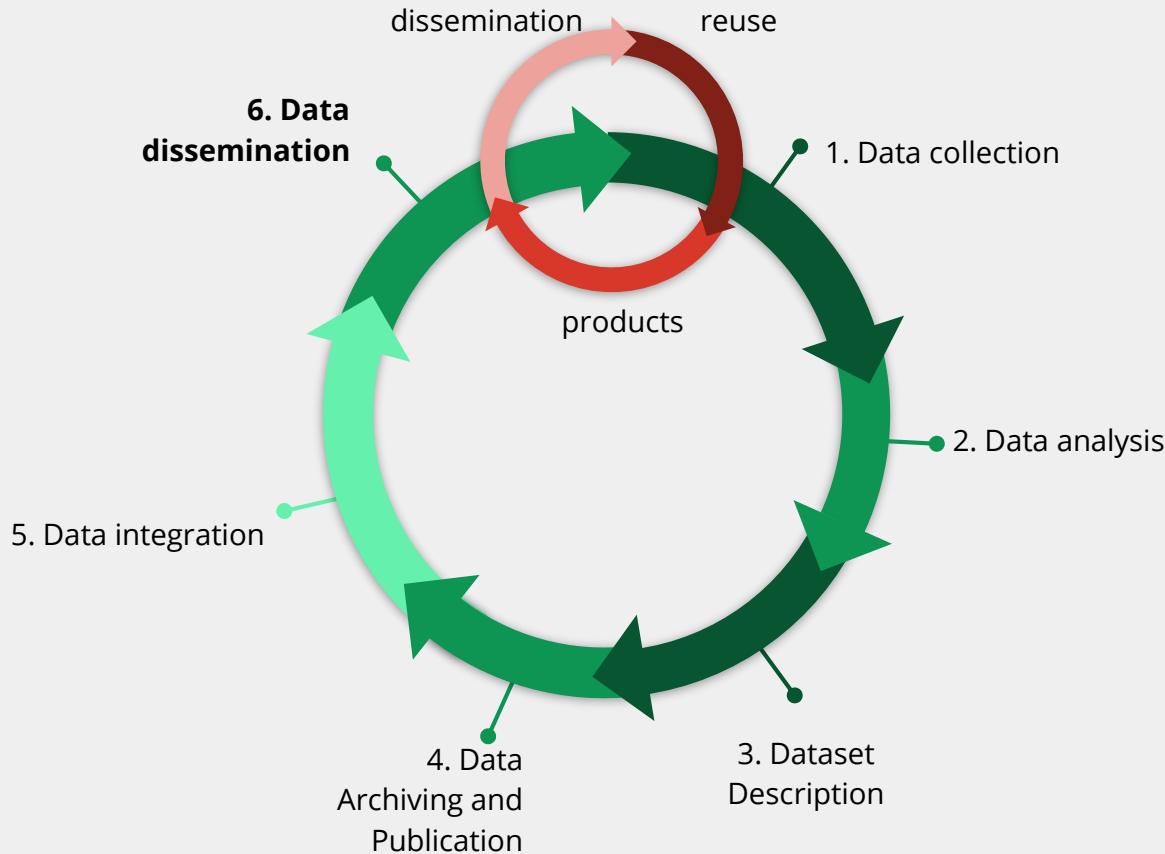
FAIR - Findable - Accessible - Interoperable - Reusable



# 6. Data dissemination



# 6. Data dissemination

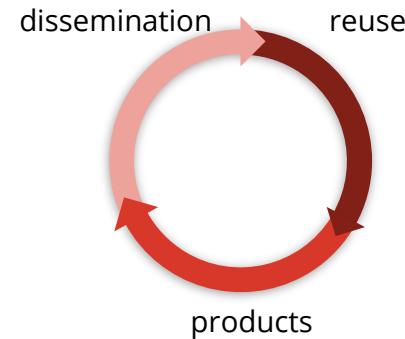


## 6. Data dissemination

---

**FAIR** - Findable - Accessible - Interoperable - Reusable

- LifeWatch Data Explorers
- Kustportaal
- Data paper
- EMODnet Biology



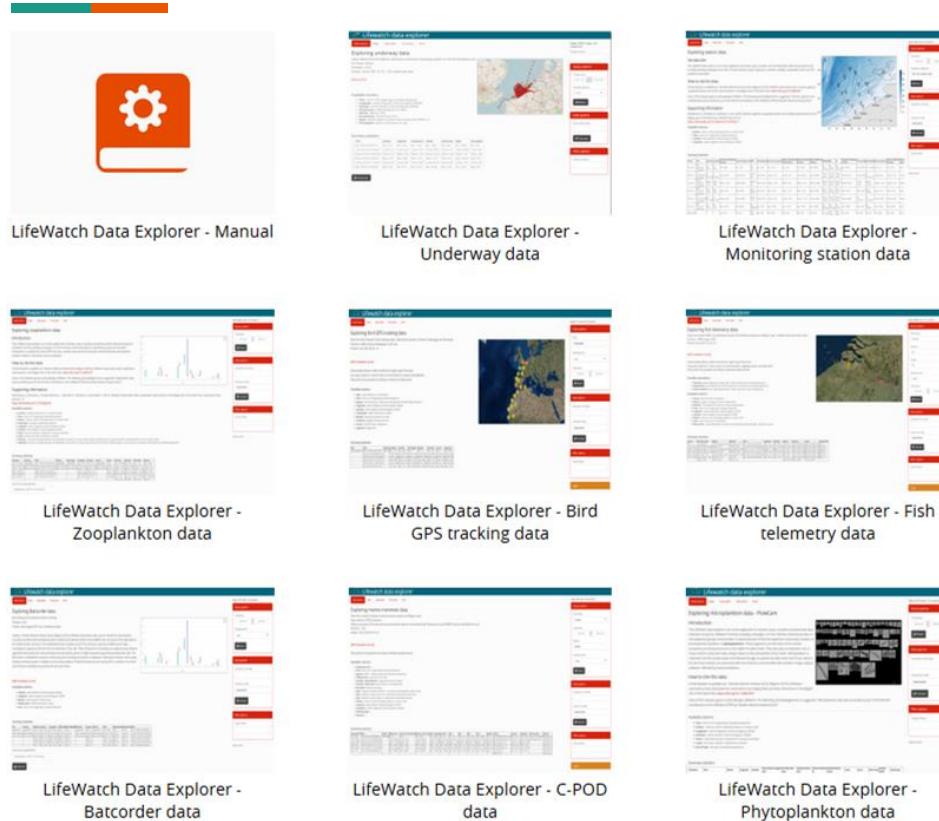
# 6. Data dissemination: data explorer



Interactive viewer to visualize the data

[http://rshiny.lifewatch.be/  
zooSCAN-data/](http://rshiny.lifewatch.be/zooSCAN-data/)

# 6. Data dissemination: data explorer



The image displays a 3x3 grid of screenshots from the LifeWatch Data Explorer website. Each screenshot shows a different type of marine data:

- LifeWatch Data Explorer - Manual:** An orange icon of a book with a gear.
- LifeWatch Data Explorer - Underway data:** A map showing a red location marker over a coastal area, with a table of data below.
- LifeWatch Data Explorer - Monitoring station data:** A map showing a red location marker over a coastal area, with a large table of data below.
- LifeWatch Data Explorer - Zooplankton data:** A detailed data page with a histogram and a table.
- LifeWatch Data Explorer - Bird GPS tracking data:** A map showing a bird's flight path with a red marker.
- LifeWatch Data Explorer - Fish telemetry data:** A map showing a fish's movement path with a red marker.
- LifeWatch Data Explorer - Batcorder data:** A data page with a histogram and a table.
- LifeWatch Data Explorer - C-POD data:** A data page with a histogram and a table.
- LifeWatch Data Explorer - Phytoplankton data:** A data page with a histogram and a table.

<http://lifewatch.be/en/lifewatch-data-explorer>

# 6. Data dissemination: data portals

The screenshot displays the KUSTPORTAAL data portal, featuring a top navigation bar with links for HOME, THEMA'S, STATISCHE KAARTEN, DYNAMISCHE KAARTEN, OPEN DATA, and OVER KUSTPORTAAL. A language switcher (NL/EN) is also present. The main content area includes a header with a logo and the word "KUSTPORTAAL". On the left, there's a sidebar titled "PLANKTON" with descriptive text about plankton and zooplankton. The central part of the page shows a map of the Belgian coast and parts of France, with numerous yellow circular markers indicating plankton sampling locations. A modal window titled "Kaartgegevens" is open, showing the background layer set to "OpenStreetMap" and two active layers: "Zooplankton (Belgisch deel van...)" and "Belgisch deel van de Noordzee". It also includes a "Disable all layers" button and a "Voeg nieuwe laag toe" button.

Home

PLANKTON

Zooplankton is een belangrijke mariene voedingsbron voor de stroming vandaan. Fytoplankton, cyanobacteriën en bestanddelen van protozoa, ma...

Plankton is vaak de belangrijkste voedingsbron voor de stroming vandaan. Fytoplankton, cyanobacteriën en bestanddelen van protozoa, ma...

Het plankton kan ook een belangrijke voedingsbron voor de stroming vandaan. Fytoplankton, cyanobacteriën en bestanddelen van protozoa, ma...

Ginderdeuren (2013). Daar fytoplankton de belangrijkste voedselbron is van zooplankton, kan een wijziging in de

KUSTPORTAAL

NL EN

HOME THEMA'S STATISCHE KAARTEN DYNAMISCHE KAARTEN OPEN DATA

KUSTPORTAAL

Achtergrondlaag OpenStreetMap

Actieve lagen (2)

Zooplankton (Belgisch deel van...)

Belgisch deel van de Noordzee

Disable all layers

Voeg nieuwe laag toe + Bewaar kaart

Voordelta

Wolcheren Middelburg Zeeland Zuid-Beveland

Vlissingen

Bonc des Flandres

Speciale beschermingszone

Dunkerque

Nieuwpoort

Torhout

Diksmuide

Brugge

Blankenberge

Bredene

De Haan

Knokke-Heist

Maldegem

Assenede

Zelzate

Evergem

Aalter

Gent

Tielt

http://kustportaal.be/nl/plankton

# 6. Data dissemination: data papers

---

The screenshot shows a data paper from the Geoscience Data Journal. The header features the journal's name and the Royal Meteorological Society logo. Below the header, the paper is identified as a 'DATA PAPER' with 'Open Access' and various license icons (CC, person, bar chart). The title is 'LifeWatch observatory data: Zooplankton observations in the Belgian part of the North Sea'. The authors listed are Jonas Mortelmans, Jolien Goossens, Luz Amadei Martínez, Klaas Deneudt, André Cattrijse, and Francisco Hernandez. The paper was first published on 10 April 2019 with the DOI <https://doi.org/10.1002/gdj3.68>.

Data paper: much more than data!

- Detailed description of whole workflow, from sample to data integration
- How to access the data
- ...

<https://doi.org/10.1002/gdj3.68>

# 6. Data dissemination: EMODnet Biology

The screenshot shows the EMODnet Biology website. At the top, there's a header with the EMODnet logo, a search bar, and links for 'CONTACT US' and 'SUBMIT DATA'. Below the header is a navigation bar with links for 'ABOUT', 'DATA & DATA PRODUCT ACCESS', 'ATLAS OF MARINE LIFE', 'NEWS & EVENTS', 'TERMS & CONDITIONS', 'GET INVOLVED!', and 'HELPDESK'. The main content area is titled 'Data Catalog' and shows a record for 'LifeWatch observatory data: zooplankton observations in the Belgian Part of the North Sea'. It includes a 'Download Data' button, a 'Citable as data publication' section (Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ), Belgium (2020)), and a 'Previous versions (3) view' link. On the right, there are sections for 'Access data' (with icons for EMODnet location and EMODnet plus) and 'Archived data' (with an IPT logo).

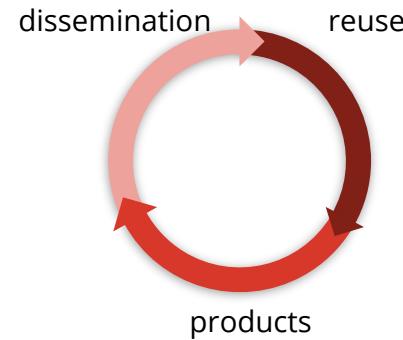
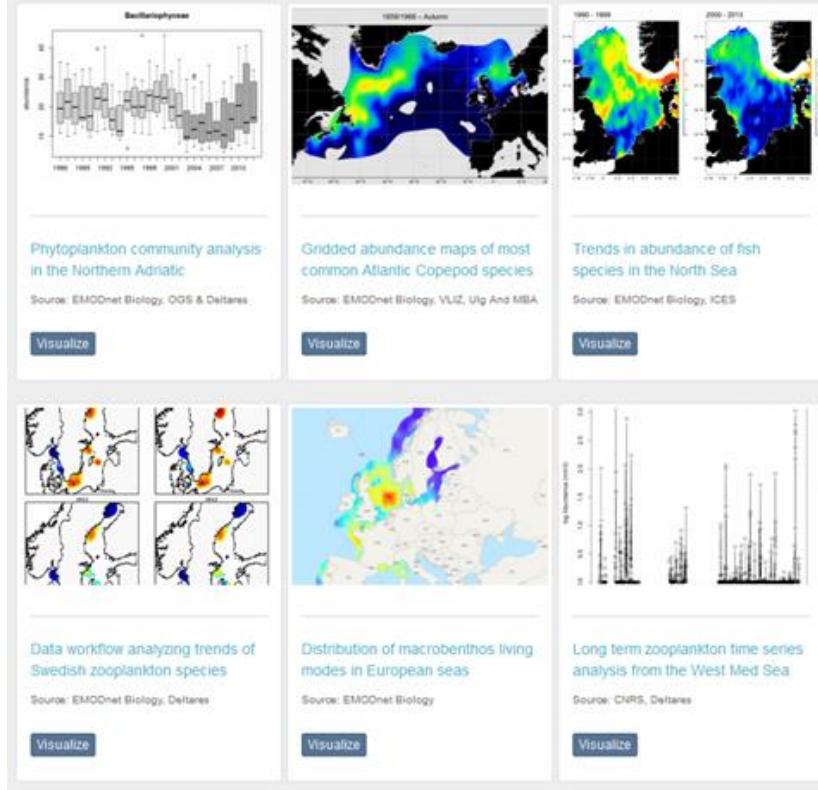
Portal on EurOBIS database

- Download toolbox
- Viewer
- Webservices

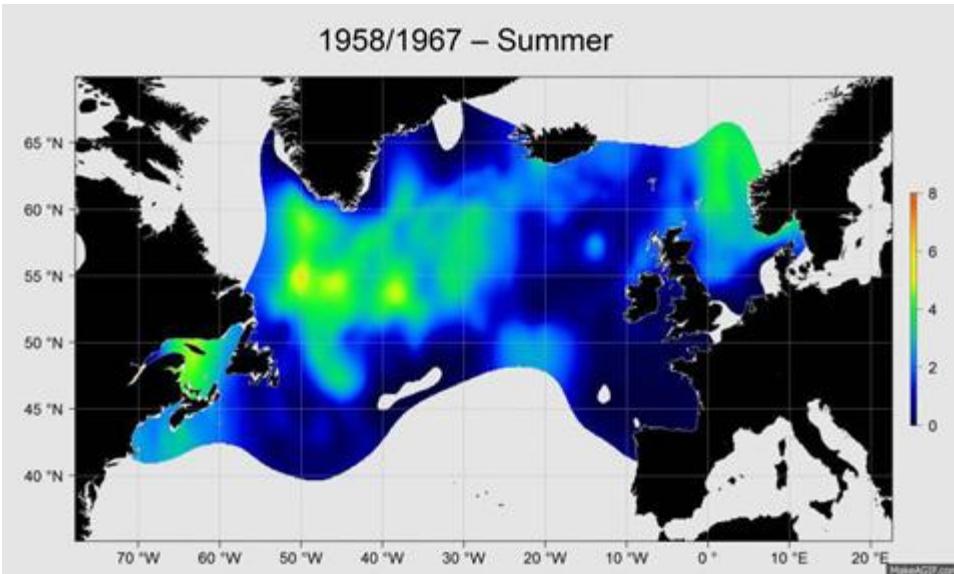
Ensures data flow to EurOBIS

[www.emodnet-biology.eu](http://www.emodnet-biology.eu)

# 8. Data reuse: from data to data products



# 8. Data reuse: from data to data products



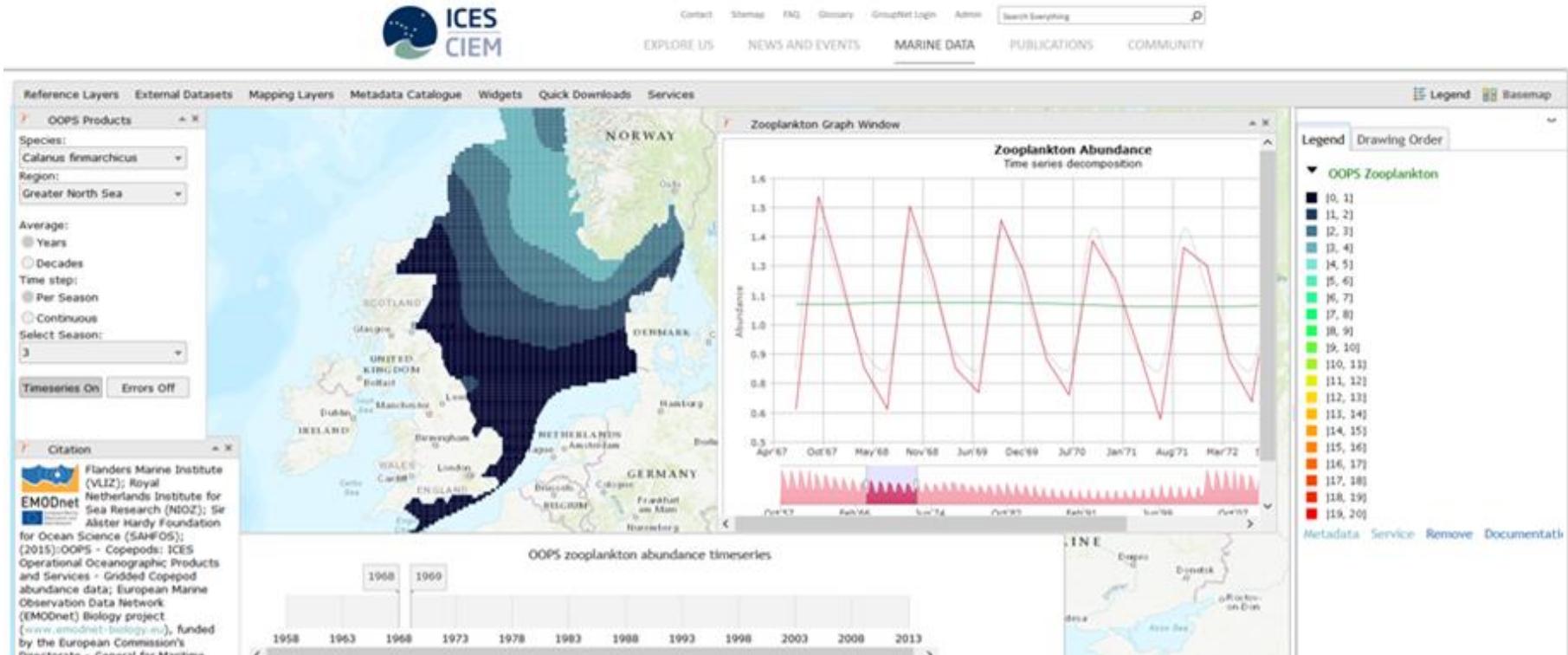
*Calanus finmarchicus*



BIOLOGY

Dive into data on Europe's marine life

# 8. Data reuse: from data to data products

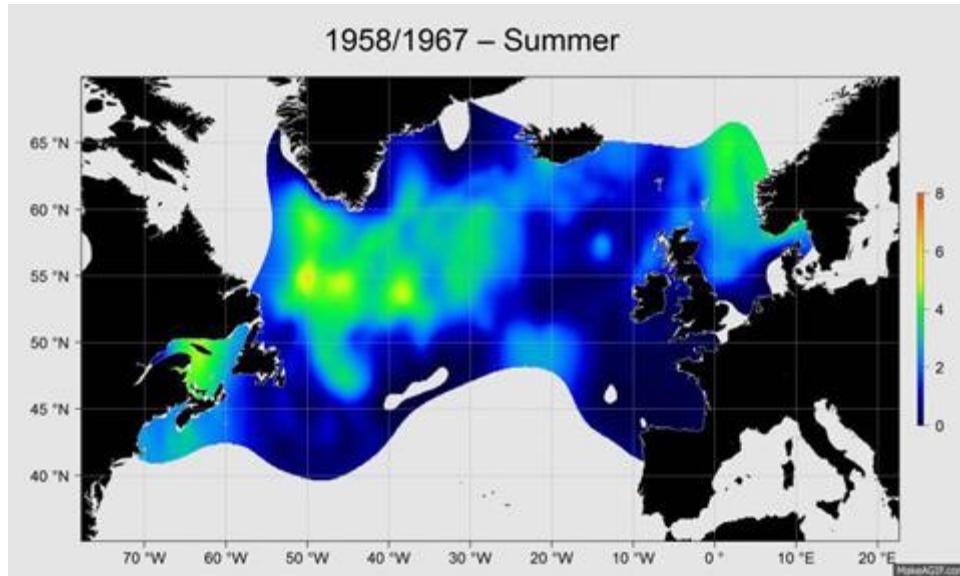


ICES' Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (OOPS)

<http://gis.ices.dk/sf/index.html?widget=oops-z>

## 8. Data reuse: from data to data products

---



**Blue-Cloud**  
Piloting innovative services for Marine Research & the Blue Economy



**EUROPEAN OPEN  
SCIENCE CLOUD**



Thank you