



# CASPINFO



## Caspian Sea Environmental and Industrial Data & Information Service

A Coordination Action funded by EC under FP7 ENV program (2008-2011)

MARIS coordinates 12 partners from Caspian region + 2 partners from Europe & 2 International Organizations

To foster co-operation and strengthen data sharing between marine scientists, the oil & gas industry and the government sector in the Caspian Sea

### WHY

- TODAY, the Caspian Sea is one of the world's most important sources of oil & gas production growth – a key region for European energy security
- BUT the exploitation of oil & gas resources, the use of undersea pipelines and the increasing number of tankers to transport them, in addition to emissions and discharges of other pollutants threaten the fragile Caspian Sea ecosystem
- HOWEVER, the Caspian Sea has no legal status, so cooperation and data sharing between littoral states (Azerbaijan, Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Iran) is a key factor to create a marine observation and data infrastructure to support a sound marine and maritime policy in the Caspian Sea

### WHAT

- To initiate and maintain a Caspian Sea network of leading environmental and socio-economic research institutes, governmental departments, oil & gas industries, and international organizations
- To facilitate the access to environmental, socio-economic and industrial distributed data & information sources in order to support marine environmental management in the Caspian Sea
- To explore how to make sustainable an Internet based data & information service for the Caspian Sea

### HOW

- Establishing requirements from environmental, management and industrial point of view and definition of data & information topics and functions of the CASPINFO service
- Collecting metadata from the various data & information sources and populating meta-databases
- Designing the various components of the CASPINFO data & information service, making use of and harmonising with the SeaDataNet infrastructure, wherever possible and efficient
- Defining a sustainable operation model for the CASPINFO data & information service through the public & private partnerships realizing synergies in common themes

### KEY FACTS

- Elaborated a questionnaire to create inventory of marine datasets, projects, maps, databases
- Defined relevant data & information that should be offered through the CASPINFO service to support marine environmental management and oil & gas industry
- Defined requirements, availability and opportunities of using remote sensing data in the Caspian Sea
- Defined functional specifications of the CASPINFO service and which data & information topics will offer
- Launched initial CASPINFO web portal
- Defined conceptual design of the CASPINFO system
- Trained Caspian partners on marine data management adopting and applying the SeaDataNet standards and tools

### WORK IN PROGRESS

- Preparing metadata records of available data & information sources
- Populating directories maintained by Sea DataNet
- Developing new specific CASPINFO directories (bibliography, scientists, maps)
- Implementing user interfaces (discovery, access, viewing and security) of the CASPINFO service
- Formulating a common data policy

### WHO

- 1 Marine Information Service (MARIS), Netherlands
- 2 Sumgayit Center for Environmental Rehabilitation (ECOPARK), Azerbaijan
- 3 Centre of the Caspian Sea Problems, Institute of Geography, Azerbaijan
- 4 The Institute of Geography, Center of Earth Sciences, Kazakhstan
- 5 Caspian Environment Programme (UNDP-CEP)
- 6 State Oceanographic Institute of Roshydromet, Russian Federation
- 7 Severtsov Institute of Ecology and Evolution, Russian Federation
- 8 P.P. Shirshov Institute of Oceanology, Russian Federation
- 9 State Institution "Caspian Marine Scientific Research Center" (KaspMNIZ) Russian Federation
- 10 Institute of Environmental Geoscience, Russian Federation
- 11 Permanent Secretariat Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution, Turkey
- 12 Hellenic National Oceanographic Data Center, Greece
- 13 Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Italy
- 14 State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR), Azerbaijan
- 15 Dagestan University, Russian Federation
- 16 Moscow State University, Russian Federation
- 17 Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission – IODE, Belgium

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