



Maritime Economic Infrastructure Programme Working Group (MEIP WG)

20th May 2013

SUBJECT: Request for IHB project support to MEIP-WG – Action 15-6-1

1. Background

During the last MEIP teleconference (11th April 2013), a discussion took place regarding the excellent early work provided by industry participants, CARIS and ESRI in developing marine spatial planning solutions. These are currently in place as demonstrator models for a short period of time and both solutions provide the “proof of concept”.

2. Issue

A number of issues need to be addressed in order to take this work forward, whilst remaining cognisant of other similar initiatives, including:

- i. MS resource availability to actively engage in the MEIP work.
- ii. The MACHC has no direct available resource to take the marine spatial planning tools beyond the demonstrator stage.
- iii. Alignment with other related work streams
- iv. Where the future governance and management of the tool sits

3. Options/actions

In relation to the issues at 2 i. through 2 iv. above, a number of options/actions have been identified:

- i. MEIP to draft CL through MACHC chair to encourage MS to view the demonstrator tools and identify what resource each MS can put to this group.
- ii. MEIP group requests that the IHB provides feedback regarding the information needed in order to bid for capacity building, or some other form of funding support to “industrialise” the spatial planning tool.
- iii. MEIP chair to communicate through chairs of other related work (e.g. Antarctic GIS within HCA, MSDI-WG, C-55). MACHC chair to discuss at IRCC.
- iv. MEIP group identified that the future governance and management needs to be resolved to move this work forward. This could be:
 - a. It stays within one nation within the MACHC
 - b. It follows the chair of the group or
 - c. It sits with IHB (supported of course through MS engagement).

4. Requests and recommendations

It is requested and recommended that:

- i. IHB consider the requests at 3 ii. And 3 iv. and responds to the MEIP WG.
- ii. MEIP chair considers other action items through MACHC chair.

5. Conclusions

A lot of very productive work has already been undertaken in driving the marine spatial planning work forward. In order to be best positioned when an opportunity emerges to bid for maritime funding it is essential that a robust tool is in place to help articulate the requirements. In order to achieve this it is essential that these issues and actions are addressed.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. W. Lewis", enclosed in a light blue rectangular box.

Tim Lewis (UK – UKHO)
MEIP-WG chair