A network for long-term and large-scale multidisciplinary data collection in the Western Mediterranean Marine Region: the importance of investigating new in-field technologies to improve data capture
Long-term multidisciplinary collaborations are nowadays needed to achieve the ecosystem based approach required by ecology studies and legislative framework.

A multidisciplinary approach for collecting integrated data on different taxa and potential pressures is experimented in the Mediterranean Marine Region....
The sampled transects and the seasons of surveys:

1700 NM of transborder sampling transects are regularly monitored using ferries as platforms of observation for dedicated surveys:

- 41% year-round
- 59% from beginning of June to the end of September
- 2-8 surveys per month

Around 140,400 NM on effort since 2007
MED Monitoring Network @Jan 2014

Timing of monitoring
- Yearly round

All routes: from 2 to 8 surveys per month

Legend:
- Red: Yearly round
- Green: Not currently active

Scale:
- 140 Nautical Miles
- 300 Kilometers
The partnership:

At date, more than 20 organizations are directly involved in the network:

- Universities,
- Research bodies,
- NGOs, MPAs,
- 4 Ferry companies
Partners involved through protocol definition, data analysis, students:

Supporting partners:

Supporting companies:

MED Monitoring Network @Jan 2014

Legend
- Summer monitoring (June - Sept)
- Yearly round monitoring
- Not currently active

- Baty (-200m: -1.000m)
- Baty (0: -200m)

Supporting companies:
- corsica ferries
- sardinia ferries
- GIS IN ECOLOGY
- GRIMALDI LINES
- ITALIAN NAVY
- BRITISH NAVY
- GAS NATURAL Fenosa
- Mattelenergi
Agreement ISPRA 2012-2015

Formal involvement of partners

Protocol for data collection - data storing ISPRA 2012-2015

The more partners, the more detailed...

Practical students’ manual
The type of data collected:

Dedicated observers systematically collect data on Cetaceans, Marine birds, Sea turtles, Marine traffic and Marine litter.

Main protocol established for Cetaceans and Marine traffic, two developing protocols for Marine litter and Sea turtles in order to assure consistency on the data collected.
Collected data on:

- Cetacean, marine traffic

All routes (occasional): Marine turtle, Mola mola, T. thynnus.

[Map of the Mediterranean Sea with various locations and symbols indicating data collection areas.]
The long path of data:

In-field data collection

In-field data storing

computer data storing and DB
The long path of bias...

In-field data collection

Angle

Distance

In-field data storing

0° - 135°

270°

90° - 135°

The long path of validation...

Distance

Angle

In-field data storing

computer data storing and DB
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Suggestions?