



MINUTES



Steering Committee Meeting ALKEKONGE - PNRF-234-A I-1/07

Date: 4-5 November 2010
Place: Institute of Oceanology PAS, Poland, Sopot, Powstancow Warszawy 55
Participants: As per the attached attendance list

Scientific issues

The leaders of each tasks – both from the Polish and the Norwegian partner institutions – gave a short presentation on the present status of the work. No major problems were reported other than already indicated in the previous PIR. These are namely problems with mooring and acoustic buoy recovery (IO PAS), with GPS loggers (UG & NPI) and delay in zooplankton samples analysis (NPI). The risk concerning these events were assessed, their influence on the project realization were discussed and potential remedies were proposed. Since these problems are of operational character, typical for the research in the Arctic, backup measurements were already implemented during the summer season. Therefore they will have no influence on the project goals and objectives. Further scientific plan was discussed as well as data analysis and integration and the cooperation in scientific papers preparation.

Administration issues

Joanna Piwowarczyk (IO PAS Project Secretary) introduced briefly the current status of the project extension. The leading institution was unofficially informed that the project was granted the requested 6 month extension, but no formal confirmation has been received. The additional extension till the end of September 2011 was also considered. The project intended to organize the special Arctic-related session during high profile international conference, but none of the events suggested was appropriate. Among others *World Conference on Marine Biodiversity* in Aberdeen was suggested. The final decision was postponed till other options are investigated by the Project Coordinator. It should also be clarified with the Fund Operator if it is possible to organize such a session after the project is finished as long as the session is formally included in the conference program.

More detailed information on equipment recovery was provided. Haakon Hop (NPI) informed that there is the NPI spring cruise (April – May 2011) and it might be possible to search for both lost apparatus. NPI has already hired two additional technicians to proceed with the zooplankton analysis and some samples will also be subcontracted. It was also noted that special explanation on the loggers-related activities should be prepared. It should include the detailed description of the research planned and performed with the use of the loggers, their innovative character and technical problems. This explanation should also contain the risk assessment report and the



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possible remedies, if any at this stage. Haakon Hop (NPI) suggested that the loggers producer should be contacted and should deliver the statement about the technical failures during the second field campaign (summer 2010). Lech Stempniewicz (UG) was appointed responsible for the latter two tasks.

Katarzyna Blachowiak-Samolyk (IO PAS) introduced the workshop for young scientists that will be co-organized by the ALKEKONGE project during the *Arctic Frontiers* conference in January 2011. Two ALKEKONGE scientists – Katarzyna Blachowiak-Samolyk (IO PAS) and Stig Falk-Petersen (NPI) – will act as the teachers during the workshop and it is planned that at least three ALKEKONGE PhD students will attend the meeting.

Open access data base and data management within the project was again discussed. It was decided to create the internal data base for the project purposes. Basing on that, meta data base will be established. It was suggested that the meta data base information should be delivered in the internationally recognized standards and submitted (and advertised) on the SeaDataNet portal. However both Haakon Hop (NPI) and Lech Stempniewicz (UG) noted that these standards might be difficult to follow for their institutions. There is no central data base at UG all and in case of NPI the issue must be further investigated. Haakon Hop (NPI) will check with the IT department what kind of standards are used internally and if they can easily meet the SeaDataNet requirements. If that is not possible, Marcin Wichorowski (IO PAS) will develop the format for ALKEKONGE meta data base. The proposal will be sent to the partners for further consultations.

Project indicators were presented and discussed. They are being performed as scheduled and in many cases the project has already delivered more than planned and required. Publishing strategy was also revised. It was decided to publish a special edition of 'Oceanologia' to fulfill ALKEKONGE overall objectives. Lech Stempniewicz (UG), Katarzyna Blachowiak-Samolyk (IO PAS) and Joanna Szczucka (IO PAS) were made responsible for these indicators. It was also decided that task leaders should submit the proposals for joint publications for both the special issue and regular publishing plans.