

## Marine waters used in Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) - INTERNAL - version 2.0, Oct. 2022

This is the second release of a dataset showing the spatial extent of the EU marine waters used for implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD, 2008/56/EC), based on data submitted by the Member States to the European Commission. The MSFD applies to all marine waters of EU Member States, which in Article 3 are defined as follows:

(a) waters, the seabed and subsoil on the seaward side of the baseline from which the extent of territorial waters is measured extending to the outmost reach of the area where a Member State has and/or exercises jurisdictional rights, in accordance with the UNCLOS, with the exception of waters adjacent to the countries and territories mentioned in Annex II to the Treaty and the French Overseas Departments and Collectivities; and

(b) coastal waters as defined by Directive 2000/60/EC, their seabed and their subsoil, in so far as particular aspects of the environmental status of the marine environment are not already addressed through that Directive or other Community legislation.

### Simple

Date (Creation)	2022-04-19				
Date (Publication)	2022-10-19				
Edition	02.00				
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Point of contact	Organisation name	Individual name	Electronic mail address	Website	Role
	European Environment Agency		sdi@eea.europa.eu	<a href="http://www.eea.europa.eu">http://www.eea.europa.eu</a>	Point of contact
	European Commission				Owner

### Point of contact

No information provided.

### Point of contact

No information provided.

Maintenance and update frequency	As needed				
<a href="#">GEMET - INSPIRE themes, version 1.0</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Area management/restriction/regulation zones and reporting units</a></li> </ul>				
Keywords					
Keywords					
GEMET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sea</li> <li>Europe</li> <li>marine environment</li> <li>Marine Strategy Framework Directive</li> </ul>				
Continents, countries, sea regions of the world.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mediterranean Sea</li> <li>Northeast Atlantic Ocean (40W)</li> <li>Baltic Sea</li> </ul>				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black Sea</li> </ul>
<b>Spatial scope</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• European</li> </ul>
<b>EEA topics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>
<b>Access constraints</b>	Other restrictions
<b>Other constraints</b>	The map should not be understood as representing international marine borders. To this end, the following disclaimer should always accompany the map: "This map serves as a working tool only and shall not be considered as an official or legally-binding map representing marine borders in accordance with international laws. This map shall be used without prejudice to the agreements that will be concluded between Member States or between Member States and non-EU states in respect of their marine borders.".
<b>Other constraints</b>	<a href="#">public access limited according to Article 13(1)(a) of the INSPIRE Directive</a>
<b>Use constraints</b>	Other restrictions
<b>Other constraints</b>	This dataset contains information restricted by the data providers and cannot be made public or re-distributed freely.
<b>Aggregate Datasetidentifier</b>	6d365112-5c0a-409e-bd45-68197fe3b2e8
<b>Association Type</b>	revision of
<b>Aggregate Datasetidentifier</b>	7ce1666b-fcdc-4cf3-91f0-96b58ad14e99
<b>Association Type</b>	Cross reference
<b>Aggregate Datasetidentifier</b>	d1cddb75-fd90-4dc3-a17a-8c051406bf51
<b>Association Type</b>	Cross reference
<b>Spatial representation type</b>	Vector
<b>Denominator</b>	100000
<b>Language of dataset</b>	English
<b>Topic category</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>

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Begin date	2018-10-16
End date	2024-10-15
Coordinate reference system identifier	<a href="#">EPSG:3035</a>
Distribution format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SHP ( )</li> <li>GDB ( )</li> </ul>

### OnLine resource

No information provided.

### OnLine resource

No information provided.

### OnLine resource

No information provided.

Hierarchy level	Dataset
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### Conformance result

Date (Publication)	2010-12-08
Explanation	See the referenced specification

Statement	<p>This dataset is a compilation of the data on delimitation of marine waters that Member States reported (in shapefile ‘SHP’ format) to the European Commission as part of their implementation of the MSFD. The dataset is split by EU Member States and by type ("water-column and seabed" areas and "seabed only" areas). It includes the EU 27 Member States plus the United Kingdom (as MSFD reporting remained an obligation for the UK until 31 December 2021).</p> <p>Member States reported single or multiple areas to represent their marine waters; where multiple areas were reported (as Marine Reporting Units for assessment reporting) these are aggregated to represent the total extent of the Member State’s marine waters for this dataset.</p> <p>The "water-column and seabed" areas indicate the areas where the Member State which has reported them implements the MSFD both in the water-column and the seabed and subsoil. This typically includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Coastal Waters, as defined under the Water Framework Directive;</li> <li>b. Territorial Waters, out to 12 NM (nautical miles) from the coastline excepting for the UK (Gibraltar) (3 NM) and Greece (6 NM), and</li> <li>c. Exclusive Economic Zones, or other designations, out to the median line with adjacent countries or to coastline to 200 NM for some Atlantic Member States.</li> </ul>
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The "seabed only" areas represent continental shelf areas where the Member State which has reported them implements the MSFD only on the seabed and subsoil and which lie beyond where it implements the MSFD in the water column.

The "seabed only" areas extend beyond the 6 NM limit of the Territorial Waters (Greece and the 200 NM limit of the Exclusive Economic Zones (Ireland, Portugal, United Kingdom).

Compared to the first release (May 2020) of this Marine waters dataset this second version has the following notable differences in marine waters type:

- entire reported area by Malta is now considered as "Water-column and seabed".

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The boundaries of marine waters are those reported by Member States for the purposes of implementing the MSFD. There may be overlaps and gaps in the boundaries of adjacent Member States. This may be due to differing jurisdictional claims by the Member States concerned or may be more technical in nature (e.g., non-coincident boundaries of GIS shapefiles). Possible overlaps and gaps between the boundaries of Member State's marine waters and neighbouring non-EU states are unknown.

## Metadata

File identifier	6c21fbb1-803d-4579-bc40-c45b04b5feea <a href="#">XML</a>		
Metadata language	English		
Character set	UTF8		
Hierarchy level	Dataset		
Date stamp	2023-08-11T08:09:37.58Z		
Metadata standard name	ISO 19115/19139		
Metadata standard version	1.0		
Metadata author	Organisation name	Individual name	Electronic mail address Website Role
	European Environment Agency		sdi@eea.europa.eu Point of contact

## Overviews

### Provided by

