**WISE SoE 2014**

**TCM Validation questions: monitoring stations**

In the WISE SoE 2014 data request the national reporters are asked to clarify unsolved TCM data quality questions by focusing solely on the station related issues. The existence of duplicate stations within and between the various station lists (Eionet, WFD, and ICES) is an important factor that prevents the proper use of data. The identification of such duplicates is crucial in light of improving the quality of the CSI e.g. by “creating” the correct and longer time series of data.

This is a follow-up of the exercise initiated by ETC-ICM in 2013 after the Eionet NRC coastal and marine workshop. The countries were asked to revise the Eionet stations in order to clarify potential duplicate stations among Eionet stations, and Eionet stations that coincide with WFD and/or stations in the ICES Station Dictionary (e.g. OSPAR, and HELCOM stations). A questionnaire was sent out after this meeting asking the member countries to identify potential duplication of stations as well as potential overlap between stations in different station lists e.g. WFD and/or stations in the ICES Station Dictionary (that contains OSPAR and HELCOM stations).

For those 7 countries who responded back, we have incorporated their valuable feedback in the station´s information available for this year’s validation questions. If extra feedback is still needed, we have identified it in the country´s stations file. We also kindly request the countries who have not responded to provide us with feedback on the identified potential duplicates within and between their station lists. This exercise should prove valuable to improve both the national reporting and ETC-ICM handling processes.

**Station validation questions**

ETC/ICM has prepared a set of Validation question files in order to coordinate and to help the revision of the Eionet stations to clarify potential duplicate TCM stations. All the files are found on Eionet Forum under the following folder:

http://forum.eionet.europa.eu/nrc-eionet-freshwater/library/wise-soe-reporting-2014-only-tcm/validation-questions/

In it, there is a [general folder](http://forum.eionet.europa.eu/nrc-eionet-freshwater/library/wise-soe-reporting-2014-only-tcm/validation-questions/validations-questions-general), containing these instructions together with the master file with the station lists (all Eionet stations, WFD and ICES) as well as the supporting Google Earth files. In order to ease the revision process, tables have been prepared for each EEA country and uploaded to their [country folder](http://forum.eionet.europa.eu/nrc-eionet-freshwater/library/wise-soe-reporting-2014-only-tcm/validation-questions/country-folders). Where relevant (e.g. unclear initial feedback from the country), tailored guidance is also provided. No issues have been or could be detected for countries whose folders are empty.

Please note that the CountryCode in the national tables sometimes differ from the code of the actual country. This is due to the fact that the CountryCode represents the EEZ of the country where the station is placed, which might be different from the particular country submitting the data.

The 3 last fields (columns) in this table indicate if there is a potential duplicate/overlap with other stations:

**[Eionet alias?]**

The field indicates if there is another EIONET station that might be the same (duplicates). There might be several stations with a potential overlap with this particular station. The number(s) given in this field is the RecordID of the potential duplicate station. Note that the duplicate station might have a very simple reason (but not always obvious for the data receiver) as station ID’s might in some incidence have a zero in front (e.g. 01234789) and in other incidences this zero is not reported.

**[WFD alias?]**

The field indicates if there might be an overlap with a WFD station. The number(s) given in this field is the Station\_Unique\_ID of the potential corresponding WFD station, taken from the WFD Stations official list (“[Validations questions - general/WFD Stations](http://forum.eionet.europa.eu/nrc-eionet-freshwater/library/wise-soe-reporting-2014-only-tcm/validation-questions/validations-questions-general/wfd-stations)” excel file).

**[ICES SD alias?]**

The field indicates if there might be an overlap with at station in the ICES Station Dictionary. The number(s) given in this field is the ID of the potential corresponding ICES Station Dictionary station (taken from “[Validations questions – general/ICES Stations](http://forum.eionet.europa.eu/nrc-eionet-freshwater/library/wise-soe-reporting-2014-only-tcm/validation-questions/validations-questions-general/ices-stations)” excel file).

**Suggested action:**

**Each country is asked to review the suggested linkages between Eionet stations, and between Eionet stations and WFD and/or ICES Station dictionary stations. It should be noted that the suggested station correspondence is based on a visual inspection of the spatial distribution of stations and the station names etc. There might be other or more stations that are corresponding. Please also provide information on such corresponding stations.**

**Please indicate if these suggested linkages are correct or not and any other additional linkages using the provided country´s excel stations overview and upload these to the relevant Eionet CDR folder for your country. The Google Earth files with the mapped Eionet, WFD and ICES stations provided should support this process.**

**Please contact Jørgen Nørrevang Jensen** **joergen@ices.dk** **in case any further clarifications on the data or the review process are needed.**