

Ireland National Report 2014

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1. The status of implementation (major achievements and problems in 2014)

- floats deployed and their performance

2 floats were deployed in 2014 as part of a transatlantic cruise; they failed to transmit any data however. This year there was a focus on securing funding for new Argo floats and implementing a longer term strategy on optimising our contribution to the programme and ensuring the on-going availability of floats. The Marine Institute set up a Single Supplier Framework Agreement with SWALE Technologies for a four year period for the supply of Apex Argo floats. The Marine Institute purchased 6 floats in December 2014 with a view to an initial deployment in early 2015.

- technical problems encountered and solved

The two floats deployed in 2014 failed to transmit any data.

- status of contributions to Argo data management (including status of pressure corrections, technical files, etc)

Carried out by BODC for us.

- status of delayed mode quality control process

Carried out by BODC for us.

2. Present level of and future prospects for national funding for Argo including a summary of the level of human resources devoted to Argo.

In 2014, Ireland made a strategic commitment to build national oceanographic capacity. The National Development Plan funded the purchase of Argo floats amongst other oceanographic equipment. Ireland is now a member of the Euro Argo ERIC (legal consortium) and has committed to a contribution of €10k per annum to the central coordinating office.

3. Summary of deployment plans (level of commitment, areas of float Deployment, low or high resolution profiles) and other commitments to Argo (data management) for the upcoming year and beyond where possible.

It is proposed to deploy 2 Argo floats in the North Atlantic in April 2015 as part of a Transatlantic Oceanographic Survey being undertaken by NUI Galway.

4. Summary of national research and operational uses of Argo data as well as contributions to Argo Regional Centers. Please also include any links to national program Argo web pages to update links on the AST and AIC websites.

Argo data are generally used to validate ROMS models in the Oceanographic Services section of the Marine Institute. A new robust model validation regime is beginning in 2015.

<http://www.marine.ie/Home/site-area/data-services/marine-forecasts/ocean-forecasts>

5. Issues that your country wishes to be considered and resolved by the Argo Steering Team regarding the international operation of Argo. These might include tasks performed by the AIC, the coordination of activities at an international level and the performance of the Argo data system. If you have specific comments, please include them in your national report.

N/A as can be dealt with through Euro-Argo office.

6. To continue improving the number of CTD cruise data being added to the reference database by Argo PIs, it is requested that you include the number and location of CTD cruise data uploaded by PIs within your country to the CCHDO website in the past year. These cruises could be used for Argo calibration purposes only or could be cruises that are open to the public as well.

No CTD data are uploaded to the CCHDO website. However, all underway CTD data from the National Research Vessels are uploaded to the ICES Oceanographic data portal annually:

<http://ocean.ices.dk/HydChem/HydChem.aspx?plot=yes>

7. Keeping the Argo bibliography (<http://www.argo.ucsd.edu/Bibliography.html>) up to date and accurate is an important part of the Argo website. This document helps demonstrate the value of Argo and can possibly help countries when applying for continued Argo funding. We are almost to 1000 papers published using Argo data! So, please include a list of all papers published by scientists within your country in the past year using Argo data, including non-English publications.

No peer reviewed articles were published in 2014.

8. I am also attaching a spreadsheet of the commitments table which I updated on January 17,2013 using the AIC website. Almost 100% of estimated floats were actually deployed (881 estimated vs 854 Argo only deployed).

2 floats were deployed in 2014, but they failed to transmit any data. Two floats will be deployed in early 2015.