**Accessing the Datasets**

The Data Management Platform (DMP) is accessible at sowfia.hidromod.com. Access is free to any registered users, allowing visualization of the datasets for each location. The DMP consists of four main components:

- A ‘Projects’ tab, that includes wave energy projects that have conducted prototype testing in real sea conditions
- A ‘Test Sites’ tab, provides similar information on the characteristics of wave energy test sites in Europe
- A ‘Data Filter’ tab, where the general description of environmental monitoring data, carried out at each test site, is available for selection and filtering
- A ‘Data Viewer’ tab, which provides a GIS user interface for visualizing and downloading data.

Want to discover more? Detailed information on data availability and monitoring can be found in deliverable D3.3 Interim Report on WP3 available for download from the SOWFIA website.

Keep up to date with the SOWFIA project by joining the SOWFIA network on [www.sowfia.eu](http://www.sowfia.eu).

Register for the SOWFIA NETWORK now and we will provide you with login details to access the DMP.
Introduction

The wave energy industry faces technical challenges before proving itself as a reliable energy source at commercial scale. Coupled with this is a complex regulatory and administrative framework that is not fully reflective of the needs of the ocean energy industry. From a regulatory perspective, developers are often required to comply with the provisions of the EU Environmental Impact Assessment Directive, which requires significant amounts of environmental data to support informed decision-making and future management.

To assist the decision-making process, interactive tools are being developed, such as the Data Management Platform (DMP) designed by the SOWFIA Project. The core of the DMP is composed of environmental and socio-economic datasets collected at six EU test centres: AMETS in Ireland, BIMEP in Spain, Lysekil in Sweden, Ocean Plug in Portugal, SEMREV in France and the Wave Hub in the United Kingdom.

Data Management Platform

The Data Management Platform is a tool designed to present Impact Assessment (IA) information in a format suitable for a non-technical audience. The DMP integrates datasets from the six different sites, providing scientifically robust data on the potential environmental effects of wave energy devices to support consenting and licensing processes.

Data Availability and types of data

The DMP provides monitoring information on two main categories of receptors:
- Physical receptors
- Biological Receptors

Datasets, including time series data, shapefiles, text files and relevant reports, are continuously being uploaded to the DMP. Specifically users can find:
- Time series of wave data, enabling sea-state conditions at each centre to be determined.
- Shapefiles on marine mammals and sea birds, often species protected under the EU birds and habitats directives.
- Shapefiles on benthic organisms to evaluate changes on benthic ecosystems
- Documents generated from the EIA process and other relevant reports e.g. fish monitoring, reef effects etc.

In order to support decision making, data needs to be easy to understand and scientifically robust. Refined data products have been developed taking into account existing legal requirements and in consultation with stakeholder groups and regulatory authorities. These products can then be used in the public consultation phase of the development planning process.