

10 Years of Increasing Access to Marine Data

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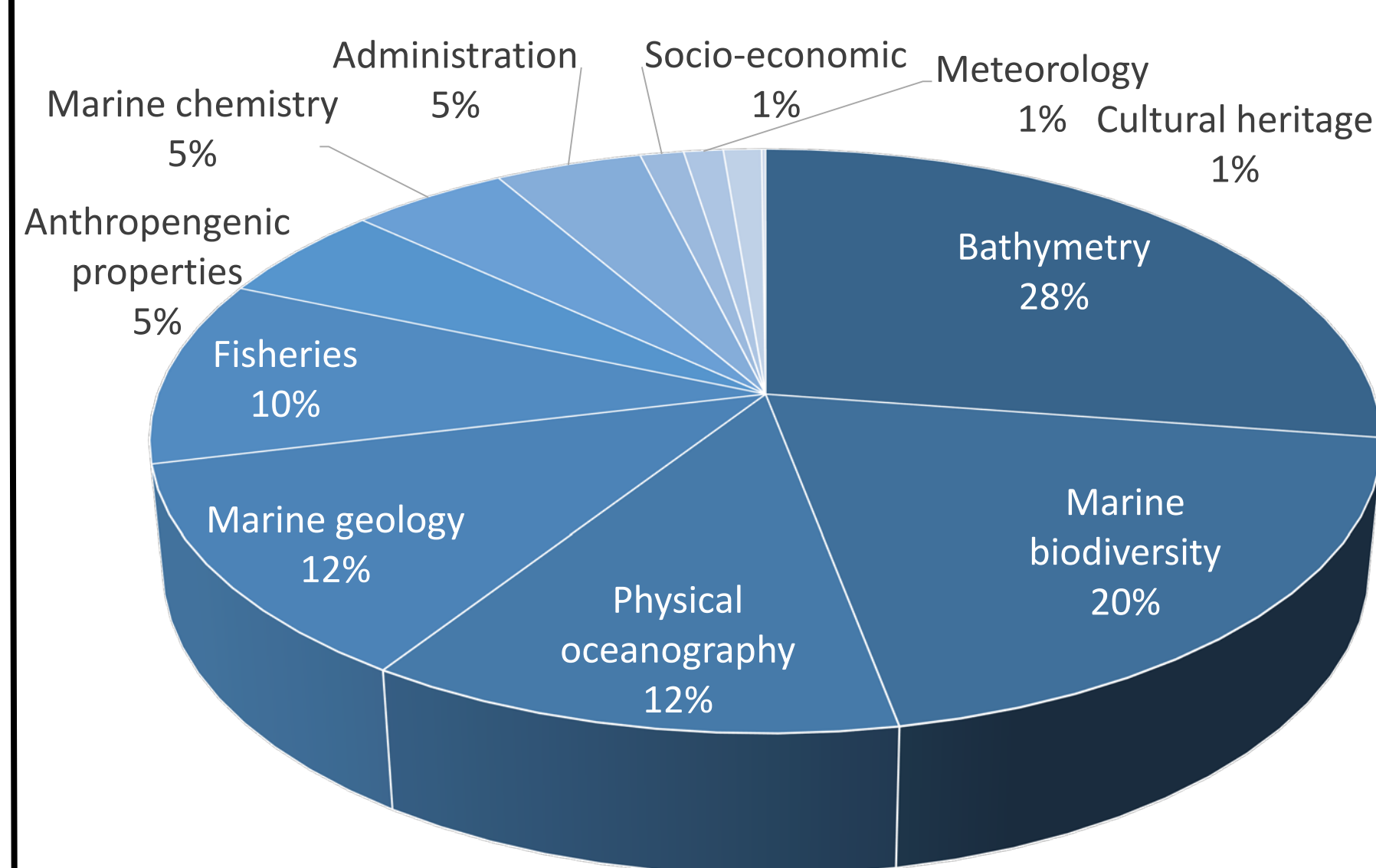
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Introduction

Marine science and marine management decisions are underpinned by good quality data. Marine data are assets that can be reused many times and are collected by a plethora of organisations in multiple sectors including academic, environmental monitoring and commercial. For the past 10 years the Marine Environmental Data and Information Network (MEDIN) has been working with both public and private organisations to make it easier to share UK marine data and to ensure that data are well documented and securely archived. By promoting good practice, providing standards and an effective data portal, MEDIN has significantly improved access to UK marine data.

- Professional network
- Specialist data centres
- UK marine data hub
- Marine data standards

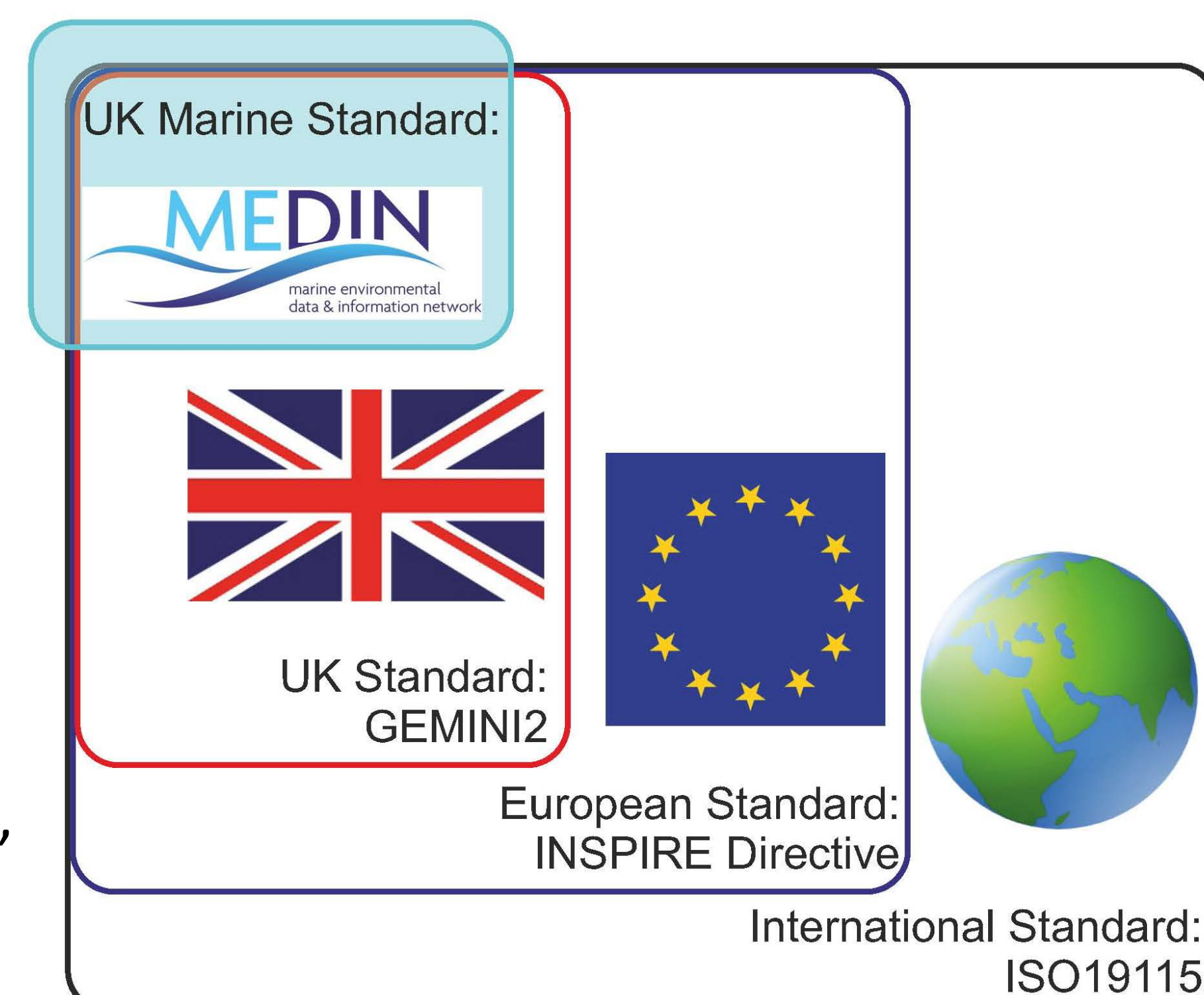


Over 14,000 marine datasets

With an intuitive design and layout, using up to date technology, the MEDIN portal provides a single point of access to thousands of marine datasets, collected by over **400 different UK organisations**, ranging from academic institutions to the commercial sector.

Making data consistently re-usable

MEDIN Data Guidelines provide a list of information to collect with data to secure future re-usability. Using the **MEDIN Discovery Metadata Standard** ensures marine data from different organisations or sectors are described in a consistent way. MEDIN standards and guidelines comply with relevant UK, European and International standards.



MEDIN accredited Data Archive Centres

A network of **7 accredited Data Archive Centres (DACs)** ensure the long-term curation of a wide range of marine data. Different data types go to different DACs. For example, United Kingdom Hydrographic Office holds bathymetric data and the Met Office holds marine meteorological data. DACs go through a rigorous accreditation process.



The role of MEDIN for marine research

MEDIN continues to work closely with both the private and public sectors to facilitate access to new data. The redeveloped MEDIN portal matches user needs and can support marine environmental research. Academic data archived within MEDIN DACs are now easy to find by policy makers and commercial organisations, simplifying the pathway to achieving economic and societal impact from marine scientific research.

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