

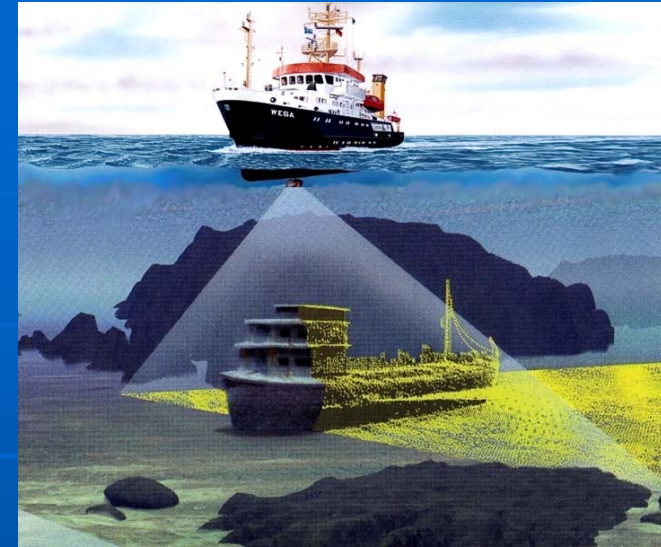


# Working Together Across Borders and Regions - in the Hydrographic Domain

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# Hydrography :

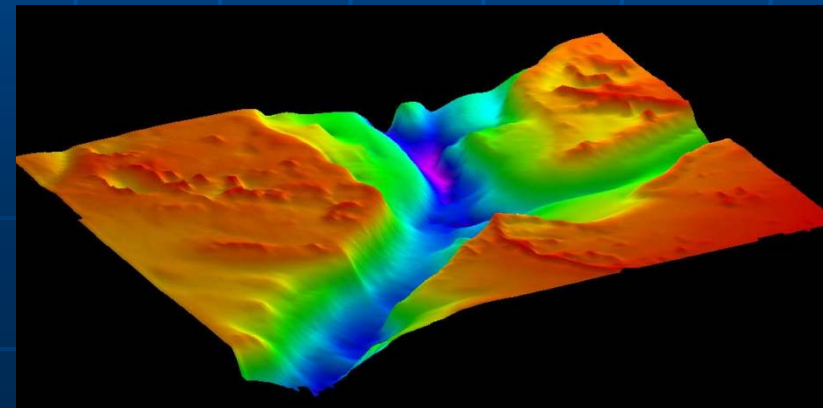
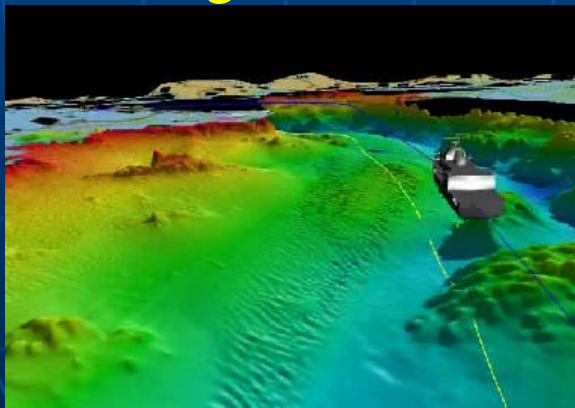
Surveying and charting  
(mapping) the world's seas,  
oceans and navigable waters



*... measuring the depth of the sea*

*... defining the shape of the seafloor*

*... locating seafloor hazards*



So, what are the drivers for successful cooperation and coordination in hydrography ?

- *Many (most?) maritime geodata users travel the seas and operate cross its man-made borders ...*

→ Most need the same information

→ Many are obliged to use the same systems and to use official geodata sources

→ dialogue and mutual cooperation

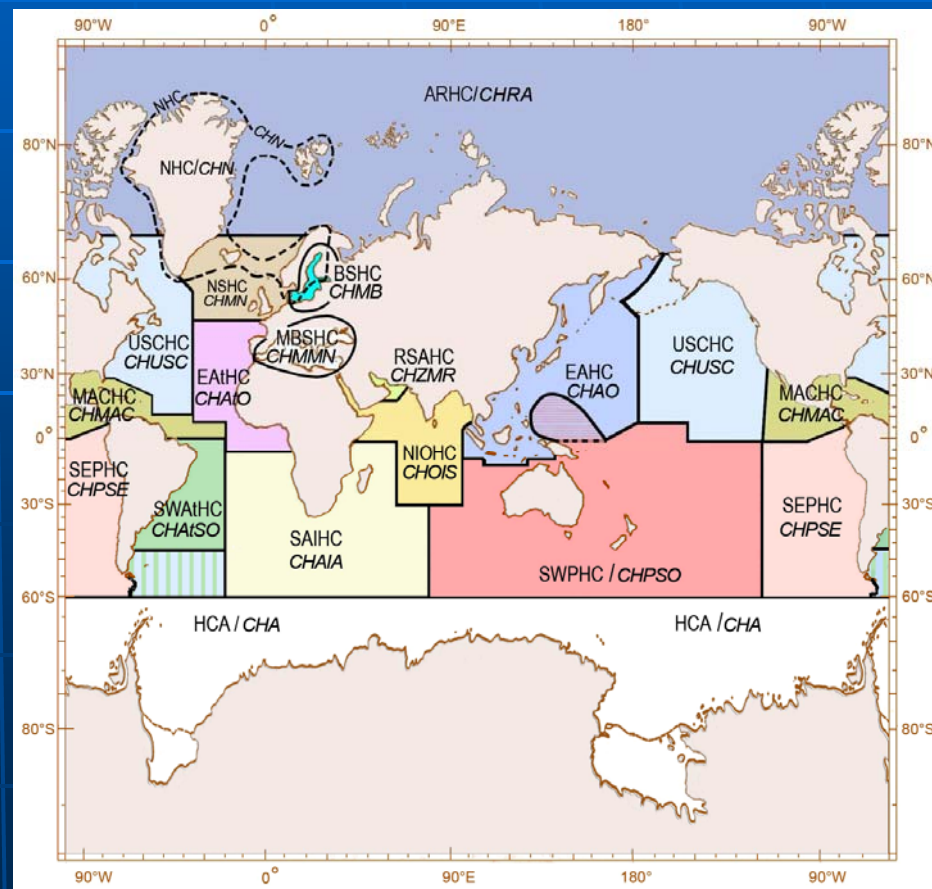
→ interoperable data exchange standards

→ capacity building, training, education



# Cooperation and Coordination in the IHO

- Dialogue and mutual cooperation
  - IHO – established 1921
  - 82 Member States
- 16 Regional Hydrographic Commissions



## Cooperation and Coordination in the IHO

- Encourages Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures - MSDI
- Establishment of national hydrographic priorities committees
- Promotes inter-organizational cooperation and support
  - *measure once, pay once, use many times*



# Cooperation and Coordination in the IHO

- **Establishment of common data exchange standards**
  - Universal implementation of IHO standards and guidelines
- **Active capacity building programmes**
  - minimum level of capability in every coastal State
  - established baselines



# Working together across borders and regions -

## The Obstacles :

- limited inter-disciplinary recognition, contact or collaboration
  - *sea blindness*





# Working together across borders and regions -

## The Obstacles :

- inflexible attitudes

- “ ... *our data is special - and only we know how to use it properly* ”

- “ ... *digital bathymetry is a defence asset – so access is denied* ”

- “ ... *I must protect copyright (=income?) and my government’s exposure to liability...* ”





# Working together across borders and regions -

## The Obstacles :

- lack of public awareness
- lack of high level government support
- hydrography is not sexy
- it doesn't win elections !



