SOOP Report for 2012   **Italy**

a.	Programme description:			
Line	**Agency**	**Sampling programme and target mode (if applicable)**		**No. of ships**
MX01	ENEA	Mediterranean Operational Oceanography Network		1
MX02	ENEA	Mediterranean Operational Oceanography Network		2
MX04	ENEA	Mediterranean Operational Oceanography Network		4
XXXX	ENEA/IIM	Mediterranean Operational Oceanography Network		1

b.	Data management	
Agency	**No. of JJVV messages on the GTS in 2012**	**Location of delayed-mode data**
ENEA		*http://moon.santateresa.enea.it/moong/home.htm*

c.   Major challenges and difficulties:

Difficulties are related to the lack of ad hoc funding for the maintenance of the tracks.
As a consequence, the frequency rate of transects have been reduced and the sampling distance has been increased.

In practice, the MOON ships of opportunity programme has moved from a near real-time data delivery service for the Mediterranean Forecasting System to a GOOS programme providing data for the assessment of the climate variability.

d.   Research / development / testing:

May 2012: test XBT vs. CTD
Part of XBT provided by AOML NOAA. raw data inserted in GTS by AOML NOAA.

e.   Other comments:

The data collection is part of the Mediterranean Operational Oceanography Network (MOON). Originally the regional SOOP started in September 1999 in the framework of the European Commission project Mediterranean Forecasting System / Pilot Project. The main objective of the program is the support to Mediterranean Operational Oceanography Network (MOON).

In 2012, ENEA was able to manage:
- four cruises on track MX04, ships LA SUPERBA(3) and EXCELSIOR(1)
- two cruises on track MX02, ship EXCELLENT
- one cruise on track MX01, ship JOLLY GRIGIO

Italian Navy Hydrographic Institute provided few XBT profiles from the ship AMM. MAGNAGHI

The NOAA is providing the XBT probes for the monitoring of the western Mediterranean and influence on Atlantic thermal conditions. This contribution allow to maintain the important MX01 track crossing the Strait of Gibraltar