Greek Argo
Ελληνική Υποδομή Αργώ

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ΕΛΚΕΘΕ

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NEWSLETTER

Four new Argo floats deployments in the framework of the Greek Argo Project

The positions of the four new floats (6901888, 6901889, 6901890 and 6903152) deployed in the Aegean Sea in July 2015.

The Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (HCMR) in collaboration with the General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT) via the co-funded by the European Union (European Regional Development Fund - ERDF) program "Greek Argo", strengthens the Greek Argo network with 4 new Argo floats deployments.

In the existing fleet of six active Argo floats in the Ionian and Aegean Sea (2 of them have been deployed in the framework of IONIO-Intereg III project), four new Argo floats in the framework of Greek Argo project are added. The first float (WMO number: 6901888) was deployed in July 3, 2015 in the Northern Aegean Sea, in the maritime region of Athos peninsula. The type of the float is NOVA OXYGEN. The floats of this kind are provided with an extra sensor for measuring dissolved oxygen in the water column.

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The next day (July 4) an Argo NOVA float (WMO number: 6901890) was deployed in the Northern Aegean, west of Mytilene Island. Later that day, on July 4, 2015, another Argo NOVA OXYGEN float (WMO number: 6903152) was released in the maritime area southwest of the Chios island in the central Aegean. On July 7, 2015 another Argo NOVA float (WMO number: 6901889) was deployed in the Cretan Sea, northwest of Heraklion's port.

The floats are set to drift freely at a depth of 350 meters, to dive every five days to a depth of 1.000 meters and then while ascending to the surface to record vertical profiles of temperature, salinity and dissolved oxygen in the water column, according to the specifications of MedArgo (Mediterranean & Black Sea Argo Centre) for the Mediterranean region and its sub-basins, taking into account its specific characteristics (small bathymetry, complex coastline, many islands etc.) and in order to ensure the greatest possible lifetime of floats.

In the official website of the project http://www.greekargo.gr/ one can find the precise geographic position, time and date of the floats, the last time they were found at the sea surface to transmit data to the ARGO data collection centers. Soon the website will be updated, so guests will be able to see the vertical temperature, salinity and dissolved oxygen vertical profiles, by simply placing the cursor on the position of each Argo float and compare the measurements with the results of hydrodynamic models for these areas.

The operational plan of the program is in full progress. The procurement of 25 ARGO floats in total will be completed by September 2015 and the design and implementation of subsequent floats deployments will be carefully carried out, so that Greek Argo floats network will prove to be an effective tool that will contribute to the continuous and effective monitoring of the Greek seas.

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