



NEWSLETTER

New floats deployments from Greek Argo operational team in the framework of the Greek Argo Project



The positions of the two floats (6901882 and 6901883) deployed in the Ionian Sea in November 2013 and March 2014 and the four new ones (6901884, 6901885, 6901886 and 6901887) released at sea in October and November 2014.

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 framework of the Greek Argo project, four new Argo floats are added in the existing fleet of the two active Argo floats that were deployed in the Ionian Sea in November 2013 and March 2014 in the framework of the IONIO-Intereg III project. The first float that was deployed is an Argo NOVA. The deployment took place in 7th of October of 2014 in the North Aegean Sea, in the maritime region of Athos



Peninsula. The next day, October 8, dumped at sea the second float type ARGO NOVA in the northwestern part of the Cretan Sea. A month later, on November 12, 2014, dumped at sea the third float of the infrastructure in the sea area east of Hydra in the central Aegean. The particular type is float ARGO NOVA OXYGEN and is provided with a sensor for measuring dissolved oxygen in water. It is the second float oxygen sensor deployed in the Greek seas, allowing the scientists to study the dynamics of the ecosystem of the region. The next day, on November 13, 2014 dumped at sea the fourth float type ARGO NOVA, who was released in the sea area of Pylos, on the southwestern Peloponnese.

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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