

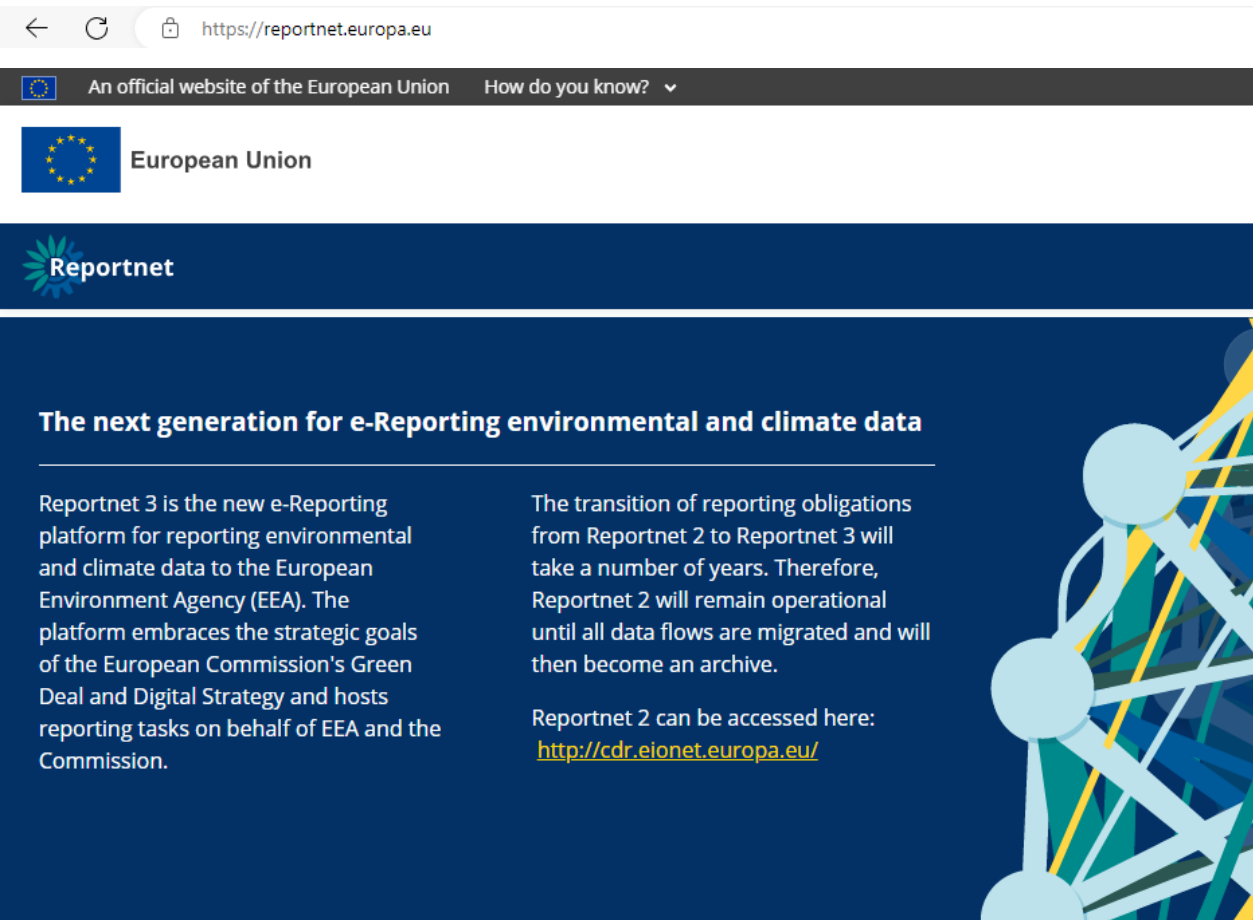
MSFD Reporting on Article 7 – Competent Authorities

Joana Costa (EEA), Daniel Alonso (EEA), Ana Diez (Bilbomática) / WG DIKE 34 / 16-10-2025

Reporting Obligation

- **MSFD Article 7 – Competent Authorities**
 - ROD: <https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/obligations/607>
 - *Member States shall provide the Commission with a list of the competent authorities designated for each marine region or subregion concerned, together with a list of their competent authorities as regards those international bodies in which they participate and which are relevant for the implementation of this Directive.*
 - Next report due: **Continuous reporting**

Reportnet 3 – Reporting platform



The screenshot shows the Reportnet 3 website homepage. At the top, there is a browser address bar with the URL <https://reportnet.europa.eu>. Below the address bar, there is a navigation bar with the text "An official website of the European Union" and a dropdown menu "How do you know?". The European Union flag and the text "European Union" are also visible. The main header features the Reportnet logo. The main content area has a dark blue background with a network diagram on the right. The text reads: "The next generation for e-Reporting environmental and climate data". Below this, there are two columns of text. The left column describes Reportnet 3 as the new e-Reporting platform for reporting environmental and climate data to the European Environment Agency (EEA). The right column discusses the transition from Reportnet 2 to Reportnet 3, stating that Reportnet 2 will remain operational until all data flows are migrated. A link is provided for accessing Reportnet 2: <http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>.

- Reportnet 3 Help Pages: <https://help.reportnet.europa.eu/>

Dataflow status

**View by obligation
dataflow status and
download reported data**

**View by country dataflow
status and download
reported data**

MSFD Article 7 Dataflow in Reportnet 3

Reportnet 3 > [Dataflows](#) Joana Costa

Reporting dataflows (18) Business dataflows (0) Citizen science dataflows (0) Reference dataflows (0)

| Name | Description | Legal instrument | Obligation | Obligation id |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Role: Marked Deleted NO | Status | Pinned | Delivery date range | Creation date range |

Filter **Reset**

Filtered: 17 | Total: 18 dataflows

Grid view

Role: **LEAD REPORTER**

Creation date: **2025-10-03**
Delivery date: **2025-10-20**

(TEST DATAFLOW v3) MSFD Article 7 - Competent Authorities (Big Data)

Test dataflow for MSFD Article 7

Legal instrument: **Marine Strategy Framework Directive**

Obligation: **MSFD report on Marine Region or Subregion competent authority or authorities**

Dataflow status: **OPEN**

MSFD Article 7 data content

| Field name | Description | Type of Information |
|--------------------------|---|---------------------|
| MSCACode* | A unique EU code for the Competent Authority (CA), created by taking the two-letter ISO Country code followed by the Member State unique identification code (up to 42 characters in total) – e.g. DKMSCA1. | Required |
| CompetentAuthorityName | Official name of the CA in English. | Required |
| CompetentAuthorityNameNL | Official name of the CA in national language. | Optional |
| Acronym | Acronym for the CA (if it exists). | Optional |
| Street | Street address of CA. | Required |
| City | City address of CA in English. | Required |
| CityNL | Name of city (head office of the CA) in national language. | Optional |
| Postcode | Postcode of CA. | Required |
| Country | Country of CA in English. | Required |

* *MSCACode* is the international code which shall follow a specific structure – a QC rule was implemented with the required syntax.

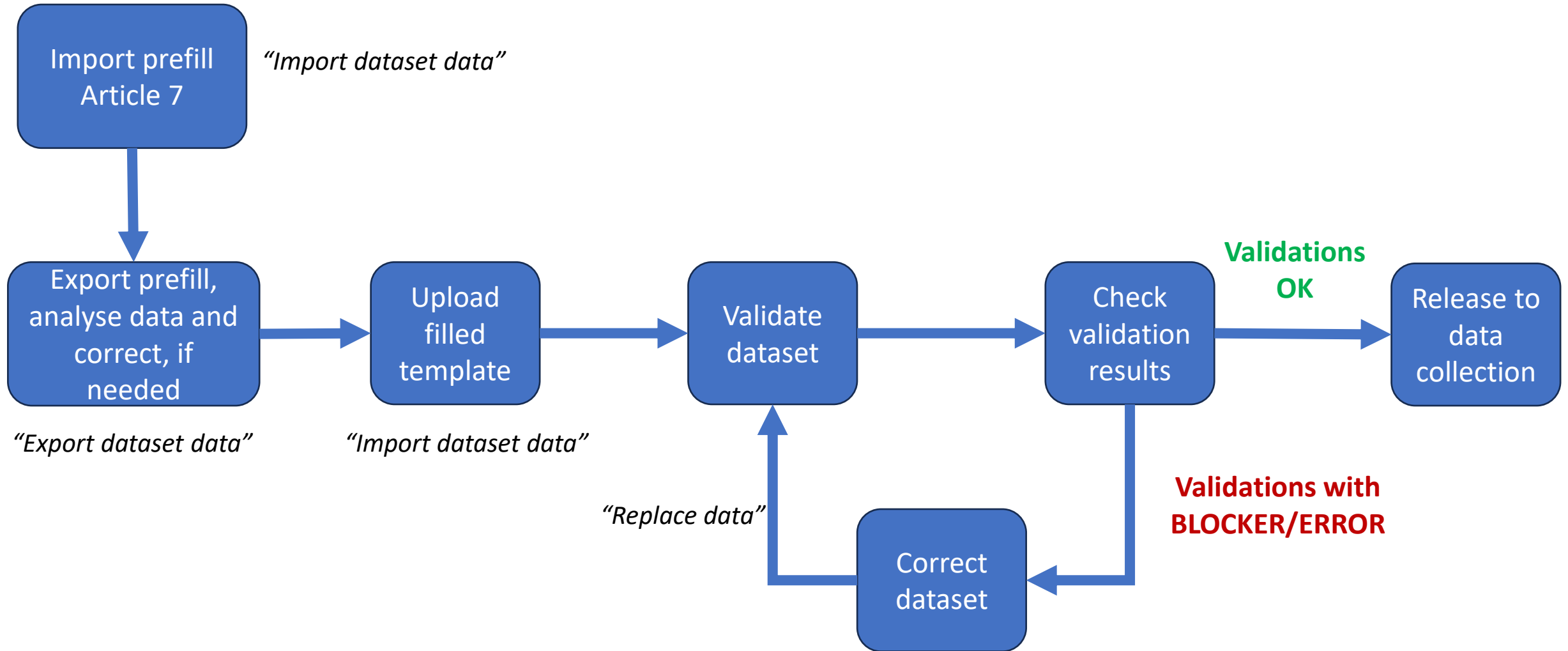
MSFD Article 7 data content

| Field name | Description | Type of Information |
|----------------------|--|---------------------|
| URL | Website address of the CA. | Required |
| LegalStatus | Summary text of the legal status of each CA. This should include a brief description of the legal status of the competent authority, or authorities. | Required |
| Reference | Hyperlink (or reference) to statute, founding treaty or equivalent legal document. | Required |
| Responsibilities | Summary text of the institutional responsibilities of the CA with a brief description of the legal and administrative responsibilities of the competent authority or authorities and of its role in relation to the marine waters concerned. Where several CA are designated, state clearly the particular responsibility of each, such as their geographical remit and/or responsibilities for particular aspects of the Directive. | Required |
| Membership | Summary text of the institutional membership, when the competent authority or authorities acts as a coordinating body for other component authorities, a list of these is required together with a summary of the institutional relationships established in order to ensure coordination. | Required |
| RegionalCoordination | Summary text for regional or sub-regional coordination with a summary of the mechanisms established in order to ensure coordination between Member States whose marine waters fall within the same marine region or sub-region. | Required |

MSFD Article 7 data content

- Possible to report multiple competent authorities – one per row
- Field “Auth_CD”, optional field that corresponded to a unique national code for the competent authority, was removed from the data model.
- Note on data in MSFD database:
 - The guidance (from 1st cycle) for Article 7 field population **has not been consistently followed** across Member States
 - **Inconsistencies** remain in how Article 7 fields are populated
 - Further efforts are required to **ensure uniform application** of the Article 7 data field guidance among all Member States
- New Reportnet 3 dataflow:
 - ✓ **MS are required to confirm or correct the data**, and release updated list of competent authorities.
 - ✓ Re-delivering the data will **ensure consistency and harmonisation**, as Reportnet 3 applies automatic quality control rules and enables structured technical feedback.
 - ✓ An EEA **step-by-step manual** with guidelines and procedure on how to report Article 7 data is being developed and will be available before the end of 2025.

Procedure to confirm or correct MSFD Article 7 data



Prefilling Article 7

TEST Article 7 (TEST DATAFLOW v3) MSFD Article 7 - Competent Authorities - Portugal (Big Data)

Import dataset data | Export dataset data | Delete dataset data | Validate | Show validations | QC rules | Dashboards | Manage copies | Refresh | Enable editing

ZIP (.csv for each table)

Custom file imports

Import Excel (.xlsx,xls)

Other custom imports

Prefilling

table data | Delete table data | Show/Hide columns | Validation filter | Restore prefilled data | Filter by value

| CompetentAuthorityName | CompetentAuthorityNameNL | Acronym | Street | City | CityNL | Country |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------|--------|------|--------|---------|
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------|--------|------|--------|---------|

Dataflow Help Documentation in CDR

EIONET
Central Data Repository

You are here: [Eionet](#) » [CDR](#) » [General Help](#) » [MSFD](#)

Navigation

- » [Search by obligation](#)
- » [Search XML files](#)
- » [Search for feedback](#)
- » [Global worklist](#)
- » [Notifications](#)
- » [Help](#)

Account Services

I have

- » [lost my password](#)

Page updated on January 8th 2020

Marine Strategy Framework Directive reporting resources

Support files for the reporting on the MSFD Competent Authorities

Helpdesk

All enquiries can be directed to msfd.helpdesk@eionet.europa.eu

Guidance documents

The following documents have been developed as guides for the reporting process for the MSFD Competent Authorities.

- [Article 7 - Competent Authorities user guide](#)
- [WG DIKE 33 How to Report](#)
- [Article 7 QCs](#)

Schemas (deprecated)

Schemas based on Reporting Guidance (to be used for generation of the XML to be submitted to CDR):

Updated on 05.09.2014

- [MSFDCA_1p0.xsd](#)

Access Database (deprecated)

This is the Access database you can use to report on MSFD Competent Authorities:

- [Access Database \(Microsoft Access 2007\)](#)

Conversion tools (deprecated)

- [Conversion tool from Access Database to XML](#)

Last modified 2025/12/12. | [Legal notice](#)

Available in:

MSFD Article 7

<https://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/help/msfd/MSFD%20Competent%20Authorities>





Questions and further support:

MSFD Helpdesk msfd.helpdesk@eionet.europa.eu

→Email subject, please insert: **Article 7 – Subject**

Requests procedure:

1. Automated response (notifies message has been received)
2. Answer by MSFD Helpdesk Team
 - a) Simple or IT related requests – Bilbomática
 - b) Thematic requests – data steward (consult expert in EEA/DG ENV if needed)





Thank you

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