National perspective on ocean observing systems implementation in the Netherlands Antilles & Aruba

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Main requirements for marine data

- Operational forecasting of marine conditions in coastal areas and harbors.
- Collaboration with operational tsunami warning in the region.
- Monitoring sea level rise
Identified gaps

- Current only one government owned marine instrument (Stilling well) operational; not managed by MDNA&A. Other instruments privately owned.
- No monitoring stations on the other islands.
- MDNA&A personnel not sufficiently equipped in monitoring marine conditions.
- No calibration facilities, instruments assumed to be accurate.
- Marine data currently managed by harbor office and not in realtime available to the MDNA&A.
Addressing the Gaps:

Collaboration between MDNA&A, UHSLC and UPR to install a new monitoring station on Curaçao. Furthermore collaboration between harbor office personnel (CPA) and MDNA&A personnel to get access to data from existing tide gauge.
Addressing the Gaps:

Collaboration:

- New tide station will be installed by UHSLC.
- Maintenance of station by UHSLC till 2012, afterwards by MDNA&A.
- Local technician will be trained by UHSLC and UPR technicians in instrument maintenance as well as data processing and QC.
- Data immediately available through GTS.
- Data available free of charge to the public, and permanently archived.
Standards:

- For realtime navigation information. Continuous measurement relative to Curaçao Sche Peil.
- Transducer translates movement into electric signals which is then recorded on a marigram.
- Data available in hard copy at the Harbor office (Marigram)
- Currently no QM in place, however in process (ISO 9001:2009 certification by end 2011).
Future developments include:

- Capacity building.
- Developing a national monitoring network for the N.A., i.e. stations for the other islands.
- Digitizing current marine data, and incorporating in MetDB.