Marine Biological Association

DASSH and the NBN: Enhancing Two-Way Marine Data Integration

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Senior Data Officer

Who are DASSH?

The UK Archive for Marine Species and Habitats Data

- Accredited UK Data Archive centre (DAC) based at the Marine Biological Association (MBA)
- Facilitate data sharing from individuals and projects to global systems
- Provide data tools and services
- Promote Marine data standards, best practice and FAIR Data Principles
- iNaturalistUK partners

OBIS OCEAN BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION SYSTEM

iNaturalistUK

CORE TRUST SEAL

WORLD DATA SYSTEM

unesco Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

MEDIN marine environmental data & information network

Data Exchange

DASSH & The NBN





Data Exchange

DASSH & The NBN

Complications

	NBN Trust Making data work for nature	DASSH Marine Biological Association
		MEDIN
Darwin Core	Occurrence core	Event core
Controlled vocabularies	BRC, UKSI	WoRMS, MSBIAS

Data Exchange

DASSH & The NBN

Data Flow (DASSH > NBN)

Funded by:
Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

NBN download CSV file of DASSH datasets

Create a data resource in the NBN Atlas

Establish a link to the latest version in DASSH

Data conversions: Script transforms Event Core to Occurrence Core

Data Flow (NBN > DASSH)

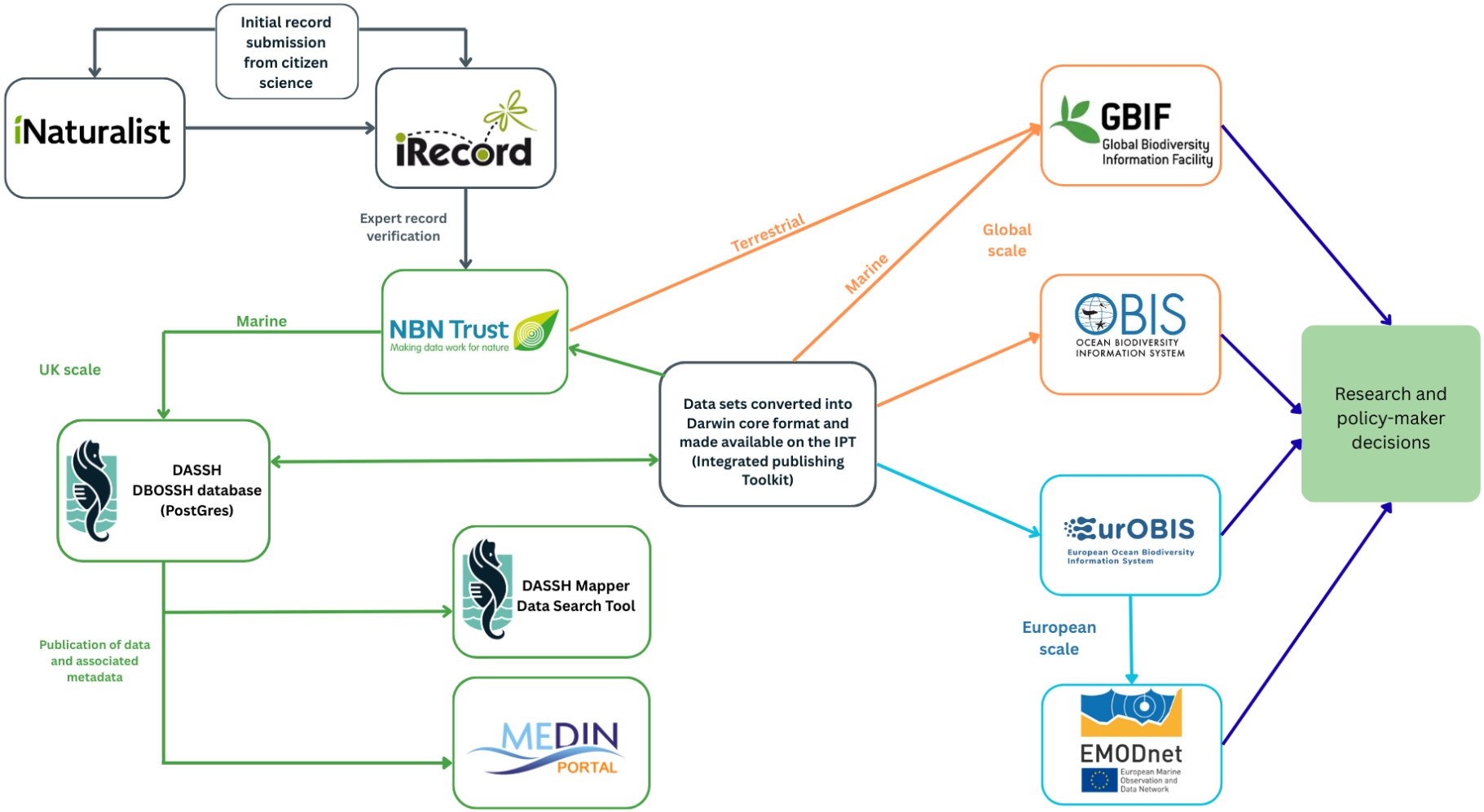
Marine data is filtered from the NBN

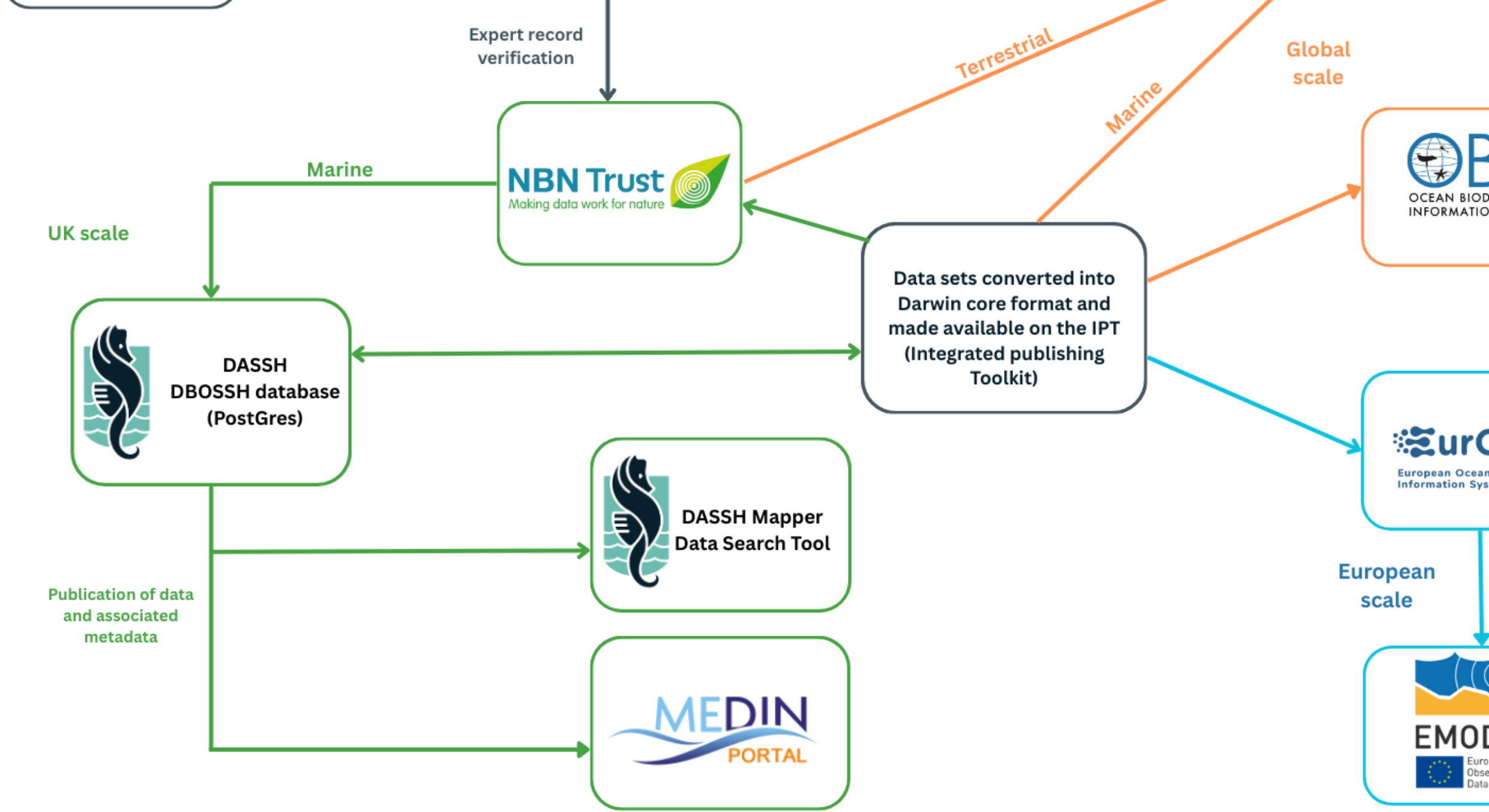
Occurrence Core Converted to Event Core

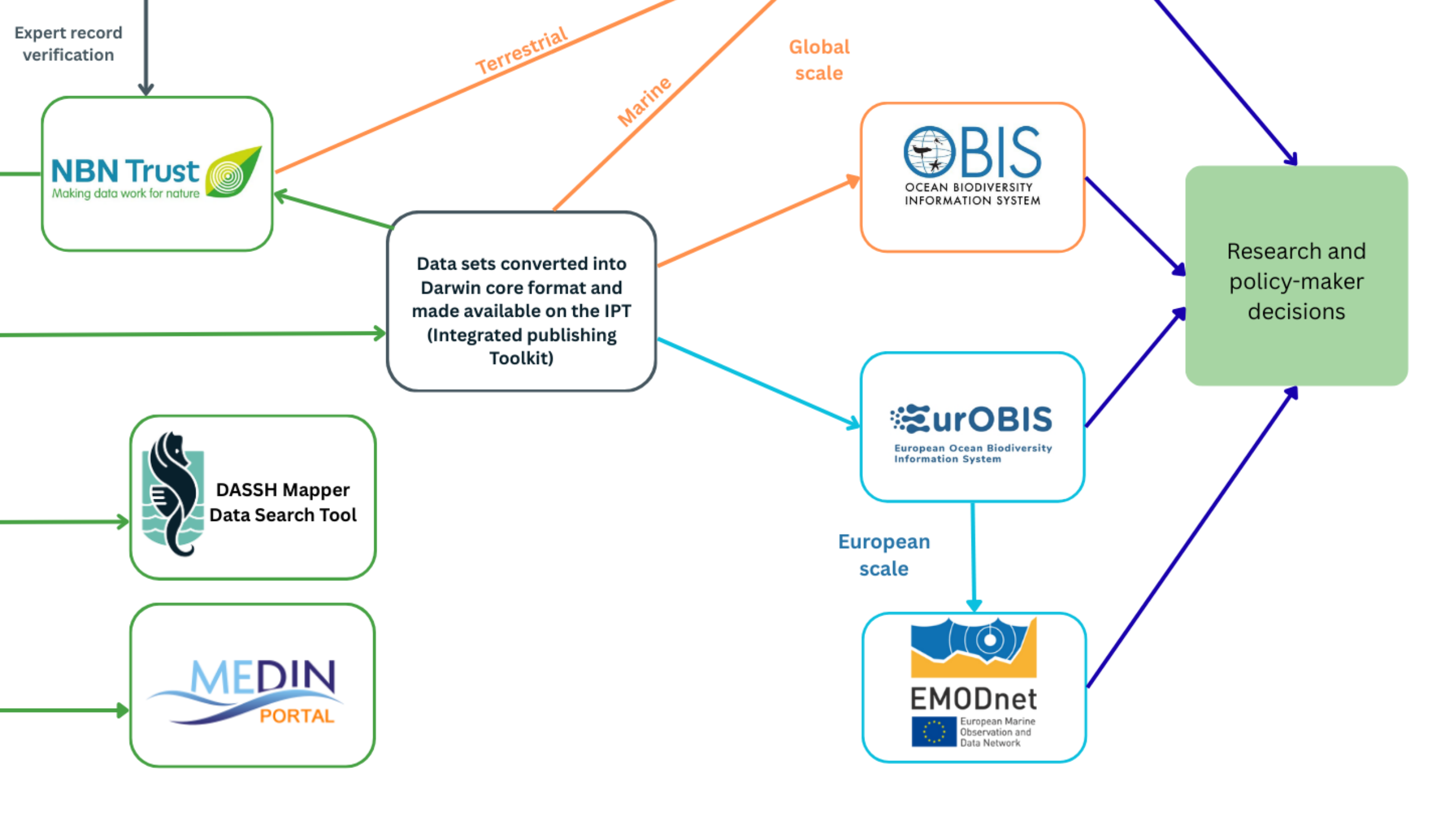
Subsets are added to the DASSH database and made available through DASSH

MEDIN Metadata created

DASSH DATA FLOW




Expert record verification
NBN Trust
Making data work for nature
Terrestrial
Marine
Global scale
Marine
UK scale
Data sets converted into Darwin core format and made available on the IPT (Integrated publishing Toolkit)
DASSH
DBOSSH database
(PostGres)
DASSH Mapper
Data Search Tool
Publication of data and associated metadata
MEDIN
PORTAL
European scale


Expert record verification
Terrestrial
Marine
Global scale
NBN Trust
Making data work for nature
OBIS
OCEAN BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION SYSTEM
Data sets converted into Darwin core format and made available on the IPT (Integrated publishing Toolkit)
Research and policy-maker decisions
DASSH Mapper Data Search Tool
EurOBIS
European Ocean Biodiversity Information System
European scale
MEDIN PORTAL
EMODnet
European Marine Observation and Data Network

Outcomes

Marine Recorder Online

MRO focusses on UK benthic data from many statutory agencies

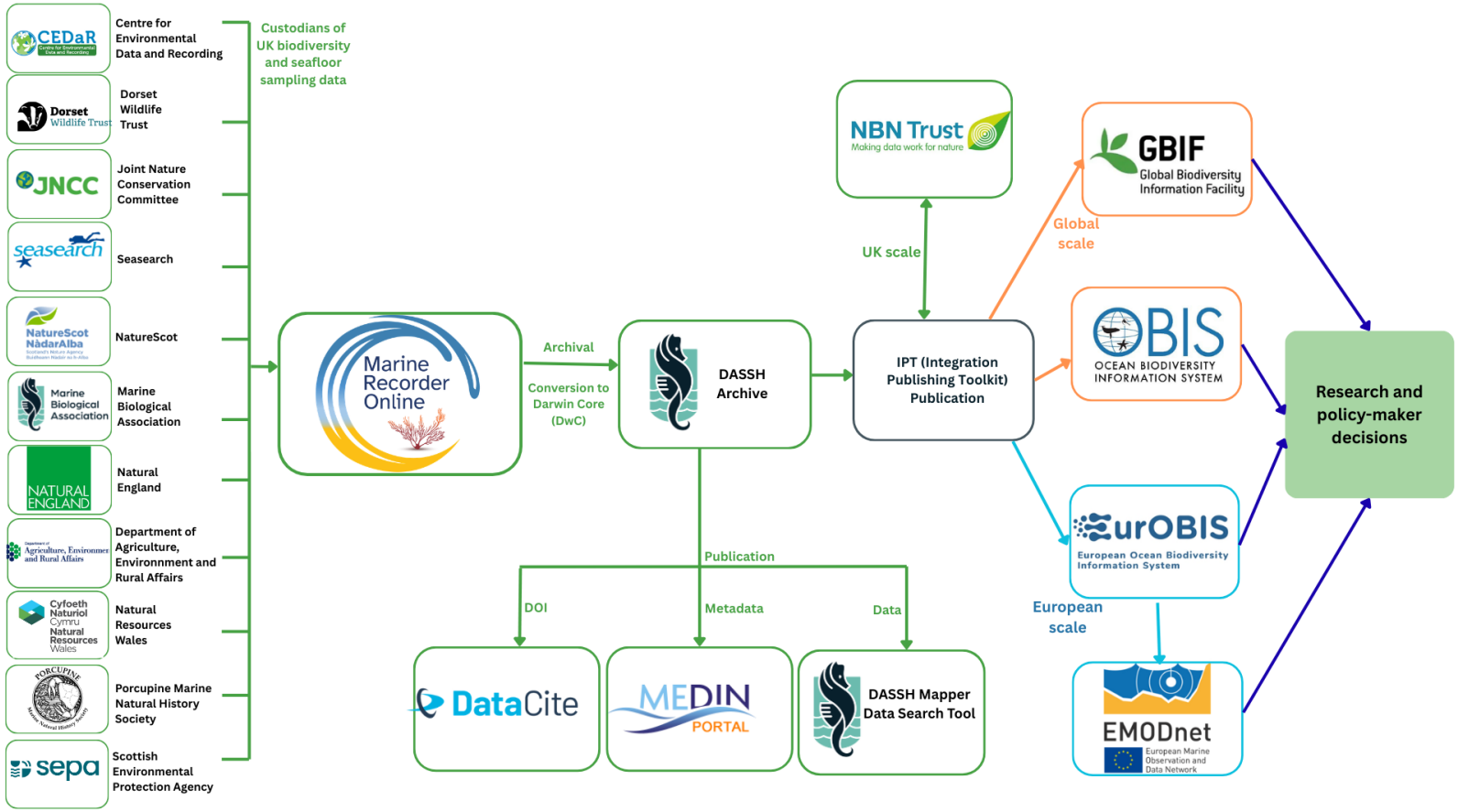
DASSH have developed a tool (Python) to convert MRO to a Darwin Core archive

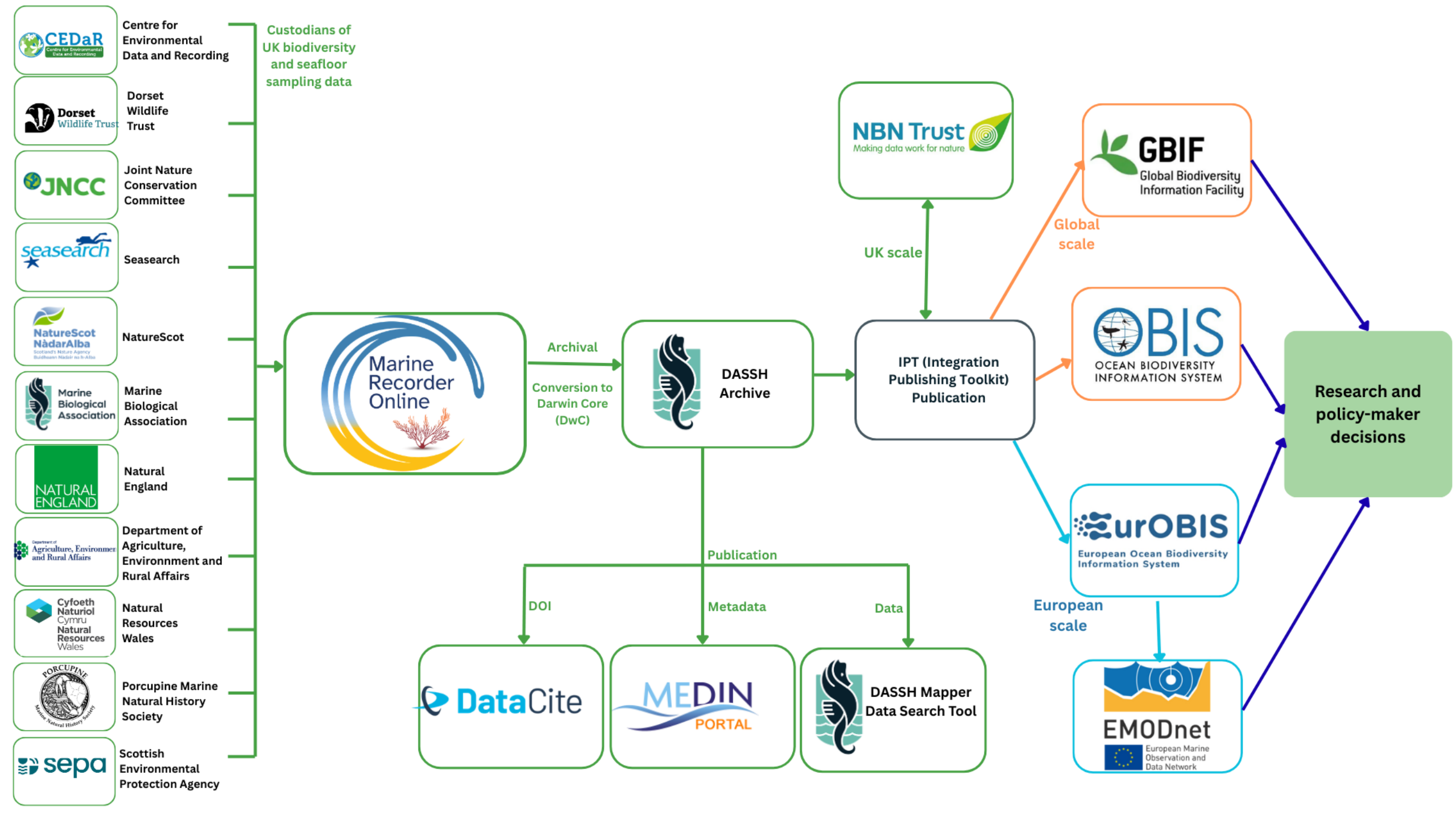
Weekly archive of MRO snapshot

DASSH create MEDIN metadata records if they don’t exist

Onward publication to the NBN

MRO Onward Publication




Centre for Environmental Data and Recording
Dorset Wildlife Trust
Joint Nature Conservation Committee
Seasearch
NatureScot
Marine Biological Association
Natural England
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
Natural Resources Wales
Porcupine Marine Natural History Society
Scottish Environmental Protection Agency
Custodians of UK biodiversity and seafloor sampling data
Marine Recorder Online
Archival
Conversion to Darwin Core (DwC)
DASSH Archive
NBN Trust
Making data work for nature
UK scale
IPT (Integration Publishing Toolkit) Publication
GBIF
Global Biodiversity Information Facility
Global scale
OBIS
OCEAN BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION SYSTEM
EurOBIS
European Ocean Biodiversity Information System
European scale
EMODnet
European Marine Observation and Data Network
Research and policy-maker decisions
Publication
DOI
Metadata
Data
DataCite
MEDIN PORTAL
DASSH Mapper Data Search Tool

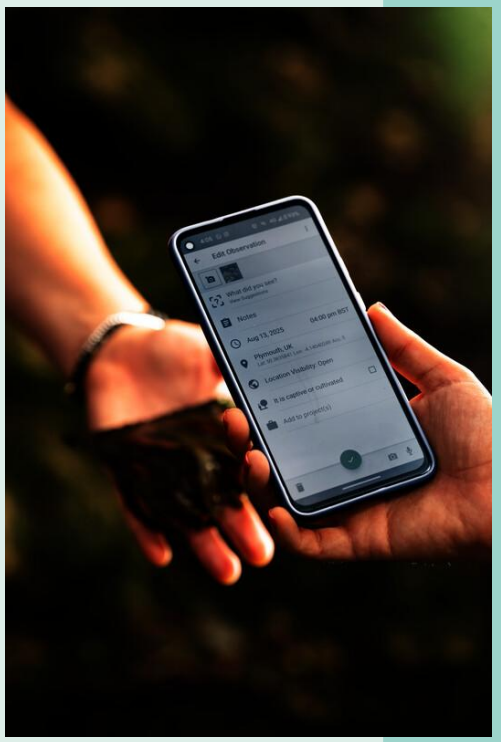
Outcome

Marine Citizen Science Network

Formed in September 2025
110 members from 60+ projects/organisations

Open to all with an interest in marine citizen science from all 4 UK nations and our international partners.

Covering all marine/ coastal/estuarine thematic areas who want to connect, share and collaborate



Outcome

Marine Citizen Science Network

Natural England and DASSH have secured 3.5 years * of funding to strengthen the Marine Citizen Science Network.

This work aims to:

Build capacity, infrastructure and collaboration

Strengthen links between citizen science evidence and policy

It will be delivered collaboratively by Natural England and DASSH

Launched October 2026

* Subject to annual funding confirmation

Do you lead, manage, or represent a marine citizen science project or initiative in the UK or Crown Dependencies?

Join the Marine Citizen Science Network

Mailing list

LinkedIn

Help us build the Marine Citizen Science Hub's Project Directory and Resources

Complete the questionnaire:

Contact:

Dassh.enquiries@mba.ac.uk
julbun@mba.ac.uk

BlueSky:

@dassh-at-the-mba bsky.social

Facebook:

@DASSH



Marine
Biological
Association