

# ARGO National Report 2008 – The Netherlands

## 1) Status of implementation

The Dutch Argo program, run by the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI), started in 2004 when three floats were deployed between Spain and Ireland. Since then 17 more floats have been purchased and deployed, bringing the total to 20, two of which have stopped working.

KNMI is involved in EuroArgo.

## 2) Present level of (and future prospects for) national funding for Argo including summary of human resources devoted to Argo.

In their observation strategy adopted in 2006 KNMI has expressed the intention to sustain a fleet of approx. 30 floats. Given a lifetime of about 4 years for a float this means purchase of about eight floats per year, plus communication. However, funding for float procurement has to compete with investments in other observational programs. At the moment (31 Jan.) it is still open whether extra floats can be purchased in 2008.

One person (Andreas Sterl) is working on ARGO. He does so besides his other duties.

## 3) Summary of deployment plans (level of commitment, areas of float deployment) and for other commitments to Argo for the coming year (and beyond where possible).

At least four floats (see above) will be deployed in the North Atlantic.

## 4) Summary of national research and operational uses of Argo data

Nothing done yet.

## 5) Issues that your country wishes to be considered (and resolved) by AST regarding the international operation of Argo

Nothing.