

BCSEA PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Marine safety, security and marine
environmental protection in the Black
and Caspian Sea regions

ISSUE 4 / November 2020



BCSEA PROJECT AT A GLANCE

JAN - JUN 2020

TOOLS

- 4 | MAKCS
- 4 | Rulecheck

TRAINING COURSES

- 5 | Sessions

PARTICIPANTS

- 92 | Participants



SERVICES

- 129 | CleanSeaNet images delivered
- 130 | Possible oil spills detected



TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

- PRF Study
- Procedures for monitoring ROs
- Procedures to enhance Flag State performance
- International Workshop on the Implementation of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006



BCSEA
Project funded by
the European Union





INTRODUCTION

Due to the outbreak of COVID-19 and the uncertainties regarding its future evolution as well as the travel restrictions and limitations to organise meetings in place, the European Maritime Safety Agency in consultation with its Contracting Authority Directorate General “European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations” (DG NEAR) and the BCSEA Project beneficiaries, has amended the Project’s Action plan to adapt to the new reality.

In order to ensure continuity of the capacity building services offered to the beneficiary countries, the Agency started delivering training sessions on a live broadcasting mode.

Certain activities that were not possible to be delivered on-line, were postponed for 2021

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NEWSLETTER

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

The regional technical activities organised by EMSA, which include seminars, workshops and training sessions, amongst others, contribute to further enhance the technical capacity and skills of the BCSEA beneficiary countries as well as to foster a fruitful exchange of knowledge between the maritime administration officials.

Component 3

Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Information Systems

ACHIEVEMENTS

The major achievement under the Component Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Information Systems (VTMIS) has been the improvement of the regional cooperation on maritime traffic information and providing the possibility to both project's beneficiaries and riparian EU Members States of the Black Sea to share their maritime traffic information on reciprocal basis.

ACTIVITIES

In the context of the VTMIS component, EMSA is implementing a Pilot project on sharing of AIS information which consists of the following three phases:

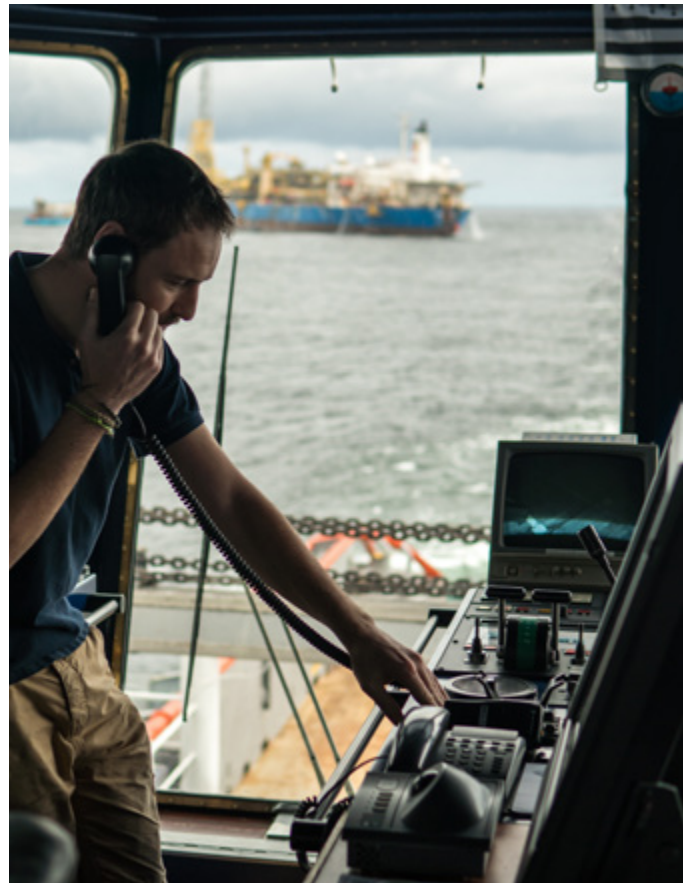
Phase 1: Exchange of T-AIS data between the BCSEA beneficiary countries which have signed the Service Level Agreement with EMSA and the Italian Coast Guard as manager of the SafeSeaNet (SSN) Mediterranean AIS Regional Server (MAREΣ);

Phase 2: Exchange of T-AIS data amongst BCSEA Beneficiaries and EU Member States participating in MAREΣ;

Phase 3: Involvement of BCSEA Beneficiaries in SafeSeaNet.

Phase 1 has been implemented with the participation of Georgia and Ukraine as beneficiaries of the BCSEA Project. Phase 2 got the greenlight from the MAREΣ Expert Working Group and by the SSN High Level Steering Group which in its 6th meeting held in Brussels on 20 January 2020 endorsed the Condition of Use (CoU) for participation to the 2nd phase. Georgia and Ukraine accepted the CoU which will increment the data sharing onward.

The overall objective of the Pilot project is to enhance maritime safety, maritime security and marine pollution prevention/response in the beneficiary countries by strengthening the cooperation on AIS matters in the region.





ACHIEVEMENTS

Under this component, project's beneficiaries have been supported to identify gaps, if any, of the port reception facilities in their ports and therefore enabled to track actions to fill them with the overall aim to minimize the pollution of the oceans and seas.

ACTIVITIES

A specific support in assessing the adequacy of the PRF according to the plan and further assessing whether the plan itself is adequately based on the requirements of international, regional, European Union and national legislation/guidance was launched in two ports in Ukraine – Port of Mykolaiv and Port of Pivdennyi. Recommendations following the study should be given to mitigate any shortfalls with respect of the PRF and/or the WRHP, with respect to these requirements. The study will be finalized once the travel restrictions due to the pandemic are lifted

Component 4

Protection of the marine environment

The activities under this component focus on three main objectives:

- raising awareness on the need to accede the international conventions to which the Beneficiaries are still not a Party with particular emphasis on MARPOL Annex VI;
- supporting the full implementation of the international conventions related to the protection of the marine environment to beneficiaries are Parties. Where agreed with the relevant Beneficiary support will be provided to approximate the national legislation to the EU acquis; providing the beneficiaries with operational support for what concerns the marine environmental protection.
- providing the beneficiaries with operational support for what concerns the marine environmental protection.



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5-6/02/2020 Training for MLC, 2006 Inspectors

Component 5

Human element

The human element is an important factor in maritime safety. It is a complex multi-dimensional issue that affects maritime safety, security and marine environmental protection involving the entire spectrum of human activities performed by ships' crews, shore-based management, regulatory bodies and others. 80% of maritime accidents can be attributed in some way to human element failures. The Project addresses the human element with the aim to continue achieving an effective enhancement of the maritime safety standards. A major achievement in the area of Human Element in maritime safety was the adoption of the ILO Maritime Labour Convention (MLC), 2006. Since its entry into force in 2013, it was clear that further work should be carried out to effectively ensure its implementation

ACHIEVEMENTS

During the first half of 2020, the BCSEA Project continued to contribute to the harmonization and uniformity on compliance and enforcement of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 by organising, also in cooperation with international and EU institutions, workshops and training sessions.

ACTIVITIES

An international Workshop on the implementation of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 was held on 19-20 February 2020 at EMSA premises with the main objective to facilitate the exchange of views and to promote cooperation amongst MLC-ratifying and non-ratifying countries.

The Workshop was a joint initiative of EMSA, the European Commission, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) and was attended by representatives from over 50 countries, shipowners' and seafarers' organisations, as well as from the Caribbean, Paris and Indian Ocean MoU Secretariats.

The workshop was structured in two-days session open to the ILO and IMO Member Government representatives dealing with compliance and enforcement issues related to the MLC, 2006 and in one-day session for social partners representatives.

The Black and Caspian Seas Project was presented at the Workshop with twelve participants. Thus, they were continuously provided with the opportunity for a deeper knowledge and better understanding of the specifics of the ILO instrument.



19-20/02/2020 International Workshop on the implementation on MLC, 2006

An additional activity implemented by the Agency in this field was the organisation of a Training course for MLC Inspectors, which took place from 5 to 6 February 2020 at EMSA premises. The overall objective of this training was to provide a thorough overview of the MLC including its amendments. 16 representatives of staff from the maritime administration involved in labour conditions on board ships attended the training.

Component 7

BILATERAL ACTIVITIES

ACHIEVEMENTS

Beneficiary countries have different characteristics. The length of their coastline, the size and composition of their fleets, their maritime industry and their administrations, the number of seafarers, and the number of international conventions on maritime safety ratified and implemented vary considerably from country to country. For this reason, they can have different priorities which are identified during an inception phase which includes an interactive dialogue. As a result, bilateral actions are set to address the

needs considering their relevance in achieving the goals and the commitment of each beneficiary to implement the reforms supported by the Project. These actions are identified by analysing the outcome of the regional actions implemented, as well as on the basis of specific requests coming from the beneficiaries. All identified needs are evaluated from a technical viewpoint by EMSA before being submitted for approval to the Contracting Authority together with an indication of the budget to be allocated.

ACTIVITIES

On 13-15 January 2020, on the request of Turkey, EMSA carried out a Training course on MARPOL Annex VI and EU Directive 2016/802 relating to a reduction in the sulphur content of certain liquid fuels for the Turkish Administration staff involved in environmental issues.

The course was held at Ulusal Deniz Emniyeti & Acil Müdahale Merkezi Dereağzı (UDEM) - the National Maritime Safety and Emergency Response Centre in Tekirdağ. It covered a wide range of topics encompassing air pollution from shipping, including SO_x, NO_x, Ozone Depleting Substances, Ship Energy Efficiency, the Energy Efficiency Design Index, GHG Issues, CO₂ Reporting,

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13-15/01/20– Turkey Training on MARPOL Annex VI

Alternative Fuels and the use of Emission Abatement Systems.

The course also included many practical exercises for the 32 participants and a trip to the MSC SAO PAOLO, a container vessel, to undertake a mock Port State Control Inspection and to demonstrate how fuel samples are taken.

A training seminar on the implementation and compliance with the requirements of the International Convention for

the control and management of ballast and sediment from ships, 2004 (BWM, 2004) was organised in co-operation with the Maritime Environment Department of Turkey from 20 to 21 February 2020 in Tekirdağ, Turkey.

Nineteen participants were provided with detailed information regarding the framework for Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement of the BWM Convention, an update on Ballast Water Treatment Technology, the PSC view of control, monitoring and enforcement of the BWM Convention, sampling and type approval of BWM systems.



13-15/01/20– Turkey Training on MARPOL Annex VI



20-21/2/2020 – Turkey: Training on Ballast Water Management Convention

A training program on Places of Refuge was designed and delivered by EMSA following a request on behalf of the Maritime Transport Agency of Georgia. The training was an introductory session on IMO and EU Operational Guidelines on Places of Refuge addressed to officials responsible for developing and implementing a national

plan on places of refuge on behalf of the Maritime Transport Agency of Georgia.

The training session provided an opportunity to the fifteen participants to get acquainted with the topic and the existing Guidelines at the introductory level as well as



4-5/3/2020 Georgia, Batumi: BCSEA Project in-country Training on Places of Refuge

to improve knowledge on various tools and applications developed or hosted by EMSA and to work on practical exercises.

Assistance for the establishment of a mechanism and procedures for the creation of an effective fleet and ROs monitoring system was provided to Ukraine in response

to a request on behalf of the beneficiary. The activity had as an outcome the elaboration of procedures for monitoring the Recognised organisations acting on behalf of the Flag State and procedures on Flag State self-assessment. Furthermore, an example of training course for ROs auditors was offered with the overall objective of enhancing the Flag State capacity of the beneficiary.

BCSEA PROJECT NEWSLETTER

13-15 January 2020

Turkey: Training on MARPOL Annex VI

20-21 February 2020

Turkey: Training on Ballast Water Management Convention

4-5 March 2020

Georgia: Training on Places of Refuge

June 2020

Ukraine: Assistance for the establishment of a mechanism and procedures for the creation of an effective fleet and ROs monitoring system

PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES

In the first half of 2020, various new procurement procedures have been launched in order to accommodate specific needs of the beneficiaries and to further enhance their capacities, covering the following topics:

- Design and delivery of training courses related to safety inspections foreseen by the MODU Code;
- Design and delivery of training courses related to the use of electronic evidence in accident investigation;
- Development of Quality Management Systems (QMS) and related implementing procedures for the maritime administrations;
- Identification of the gaps in national legislations and support to the transposition, implementation and enforcement of the international legal conventions following their ratification;
- Studies on the development of LNG bunkering facilities for the LNG fuelled ships.





BLACK & CASPIAN SEA PROJECT

ABOUT THE EUROPEAN MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY

The European Maritime Safety Agency is one of the European Union's decentralised agencies. Based in Lisbon, the Agency's mission is to ensure a high level of maritime safety, maritime security, prevention of and response to pollution from ships, as well as response to marine pollution from oil and gas installations. The overall purpose is to promote a safe, clean and economically viable maritime sector in the EU.

BCSEA PROJECT

As maritime safety, maritime security and protection of the marine environment is a common concerns of the EU MS and Non-EU countries bordering the Black and Caspian Sea, EMSA is implementing a project for technical assistance bringing together national, European and international stakeholders with the aim to raise the safety, security and protection of marine environment standards. Beneficiary countries: **Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Ukraine, Turkey and Turkmenistan.**

Project contacts

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emsa.europa.eu/implementation-tasks/training-a-cooperation/traceca-iii.html

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