

EMSA IPA-ENP NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1 / February 2024



WELCOME

Welcome to the first edition of the EMSA IPA-ENP newsletter! Here you'll find news and updates on the three technical assistance projects managed by EMSA, which span 21 countries and thousands of kilometres of coastline, from the Atlantic to the eastern shores of the Caspian Sea.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

THROUGH THE BCSEA II, SAFEMED V, AND IPA III PROJECTS, EMSA DELIVERS A SERIES OF ACTIONS ACROSS FIVE PRIORITY AREAS: SUSTAINABILITY, SAFETY, SECURITY, SIMPLIFICATION AND SURVEILLANCE IN THE MARITIME DOMAIN. THE ACTIONS TAKE THE FORM OF TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES, TRAINING ACTIVITIES, AND THE PROVISION OF TOOLS AND SERVICES.

Strengthening environmental resilience and maritime safety for Black & Caspian Sea riparian states (BCSEA II) PROJECT

The BCSEA project is financed by DG NEAR under the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP). The project's beneficiary countries are Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Ukraine, Türkiye, and Turkmenistan. The project runs for 48 months, from 1 October 2022 to 31 September 2026. It has a budget of EUR 3 500 000. The first year of implementation followed the Action Plan 2022-2023 endorsed by the BCSEA II 1st Steering Committee meeting (SCM) and made significant advances towards achieving the project's goals.

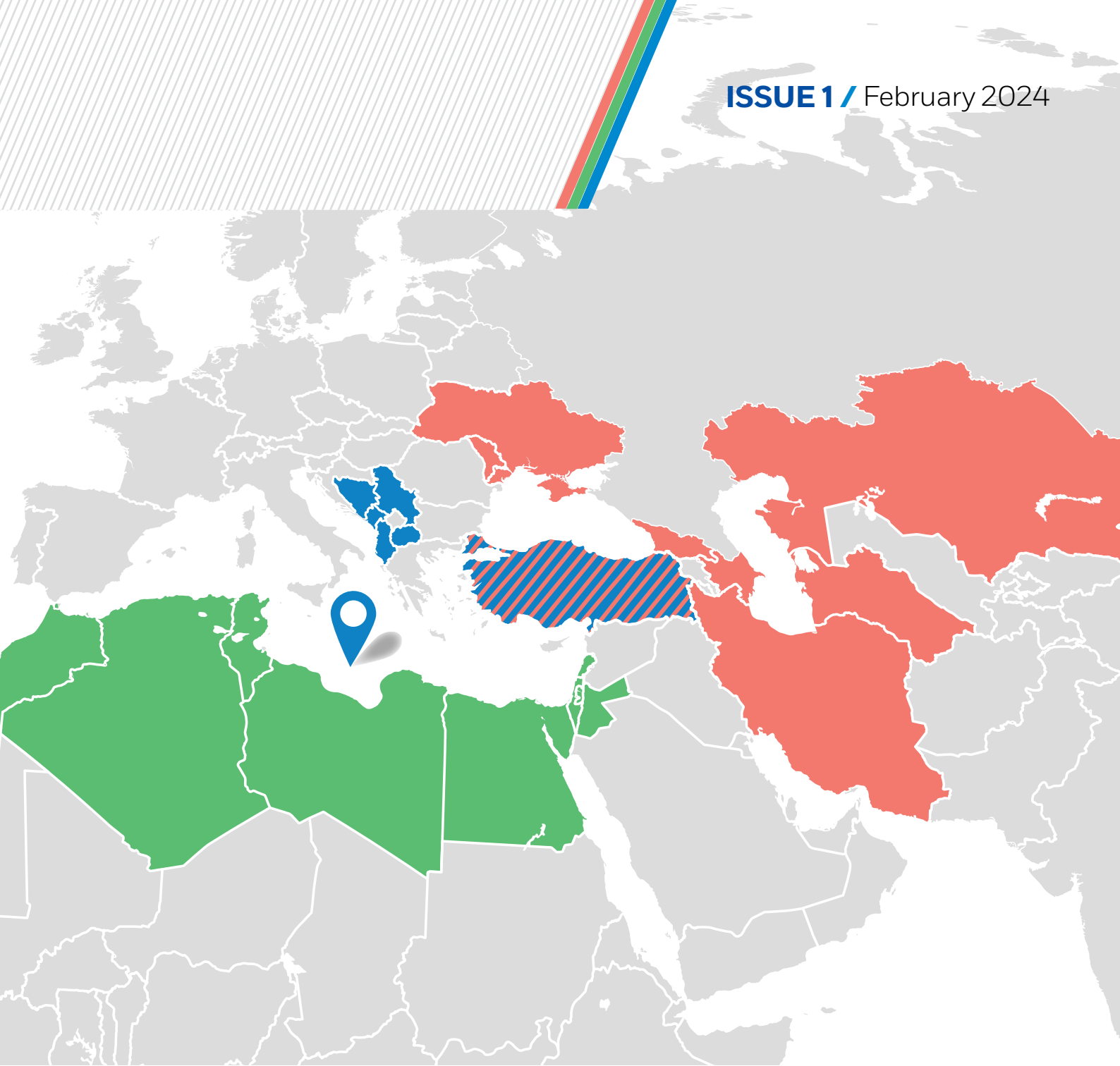
EuroMed Cooperation on Maritime Safety and Prevention of Pollution from Ships (SAFEMED V) PROJECT

SAFEMED V is as well financed by DG NEAR under the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP). The project's beneficiary countries are Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Libya, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, and Tunisia. The project runs for 60 months, from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2028. It has a budget of EUR 8 000 000.

Preparatory measures for the future participation of candidate countries in the European Maritime Safety Agency (IPA III) PROJECT

The IPA III project is financed by DG NEAR under the Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA). The project's beneficiary countries are Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Türkiye. The project runs for 48 months, from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2027. It has a budget of EUR 800 000.





BCSEA II PROJECT

- Azerbaijan
- Georgia
- Iran
- Kazakhstan
- Moldova
- Ukraine
- Türkiye
- Turkmenistan

SAFEMED V

- Algeria
- Egypt
- Jordan
- Israel
- Libya
- Lebanon
- Morocco
- Palestine
- Tunisia

IPA III

- Albania
- Bosnia-Herzegovina
- The Republic of North Macedonia
- Montenegro
- Serbia
- Türkiye

BCSEA II PROJECT

BCSEA II PROJECT: YEAR 1

1 OCTOBER 2022 – 31 DECEMBER 2023

TOOLS

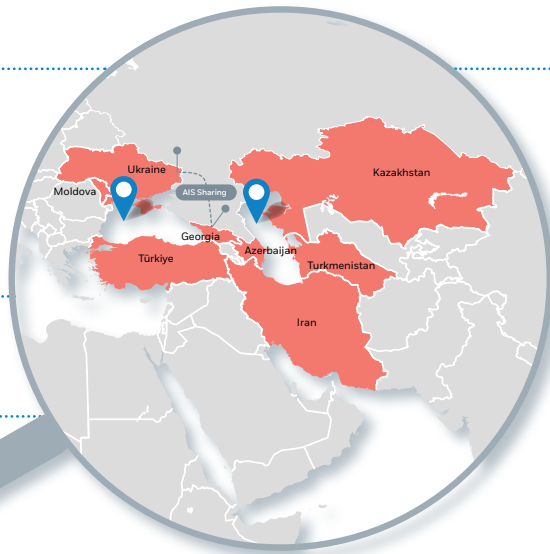
- 378** | RuleCheck - Flag State Users
- 353** | Port State Users
- 507** | E-Learning (MaKCs)

TRAINING COURSES

- 17** | Sessions and events

PARTICIPANTS

- 197** | Participants



SERVICES

- 178** | CleanSeaNet users
- 1132** | CleanSeaNet images delivered
- 167** | MAR-CIS users
- 182** | T-AIS sharing users





BCSEA II PROJECT: HIGHLIGHTS YEAR 1



The common core curriculum for Flag State Inspectors and the Part Time Course for Maritime Search and Rescue Coordinators developed by the EMSA Academy were offered to the beneficiaries. More learning services in various modalities (presential, on line synchronous and asynchronous as well as in blended mode) will further take place in the coming years covering also other job profiles such as Port State Control Officers, Accident investigators, Sulphur inspectors and Maritime auditors, amongst others.



The donation and delivery of oil pollution response equipment purchased during the first BCSEA project and earmarked for Georgia and Ukraine, together with the subsequent hands-on training sessions provided to representatives of staff of the two maritime administrations, was one of the highlights of the project's first year.



The action 'Transposition, Implementation and Enforcement, following the Ratification of International Conventions' saw the Transposition of Annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) and the drafting of the related national implementing procedures for Moldova.



The Assessment of the Ukrainian Register of Shipping, against the criteria set up by the IMO Code for Recognised Organisations, performed by an external expert was a significant result achieved in 2023 especially considering that it was completed against the backdrop of Russia's aggression against Ukraine.



The first Ukrainian student has successfully enrolled in the Master of Humanities in International Maritime Legislation degree programme for the Academic year 2023-2024 at the International Maritime Law Institute in Malta. The student's participation in the programme is supported by the BCSEA Project.



With the approval of the project's Action Plan for 2023-2024 from the 2nd SCM held in November 2023, the second year of the project implementation commenced. Almost 50 activities are envisaged for the project's second year of implementation, and we are looking forward to their successful completion with the cooperation and commitment of our beneficiaries.



SAFEMED V PROJECT

SAFEMED V PROJECT: YEAR 1

1 APRIL 2022 – 31 DECEMBER 2023

TOOLS



- 369** | ELearning – MaKCs users
- 329** | Rulecheck – Flag State and Port State users
- 146** | THETIS-Med - users

TRAINING COURSES AND EVENTS

- 18** | Sessions and events



SERVICES

- 89** | CleanSeaNet users
- 2558** | CleanSeaNet images delivered
- 20** | MAR-CIS users
- 81** | Sharing T-AIS Information users

PARTICIPANTS IN COURSES AND EVENTS

- 239** | Participants





SAFEMED V PROJECT: HIGHLIGHTS YEAR 1



Based on a request received by the Secretariat of the Mediterranean Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control, EMSA drafted a structured and detailed Training Policy for Port State Control Officers (PSCOs) which was adopted during the 25th Med MoU Committee Meeting held in Alexandria (Egypt) on 17-19 October 2023. The training policy outlines the guidelines and procedures for the training and development of PSCOs to enhance their knowledge, skills, and capabilities in conducting Port State Control inspections and enforcing international maritime standards. It is based on a common core curriculum for PSCOs developed by EMSA Academy.



CleanSeaNet is a European satellite-based oil spill and vessel detection service which aids participating States to identify oil pollution on the sea surface and detect the potential source of pollution (i.e., vessels and oil and gas installations). It is currently part of the support offered to the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) beneficiaries within SAFEMED (Southern Neighbourhood) and Black and Caspian Seas (Eastern Neighbourhood) project as well to the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance beneficiaries (IPA project). The success of the initiative is testified by the number of acceding Countries (7 of 9 in SAFEMED after the accession of Egypt - ratified in November 2023), 4 of 5 of those entitled in BCSEA, and 2 of 5 in IPA.



The 2nd Steering Committee meeting of the SAFEMED V Project was held on 22 November 2023 in a hybrid format facilitating both in-person and online attendance. The meeting was attended by participants from the Project's beneficiary countries – Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, and Palestine – as well as Türkiye as an observer. Following the discussion on the Project's action plan presented by EMSA, the Committee endorsed the revised action plan for 2023-2024 (until 31 December 2024), as well as possible new learning services to be developed by the EMSA Academy in 2025. All participants agreed that the successful implementation of the Project will need the full support and commitment of all actors.



IPA III PROJECT

IPA III PROJECT: YEAR 1

1 SEPTEMBER 2022 – 31 DECEMBER 2023

TOOLS



279 | ELearning – MaKCs users

302 | Rulecheck – Flag State and Port State users

146 | THETIS-Med - users

TRAINING COURSES AND EVENTS

1 | Sessions and events



SERVICES

30 | CleanSeaNet users

124 | CleanSeaNet images delivered

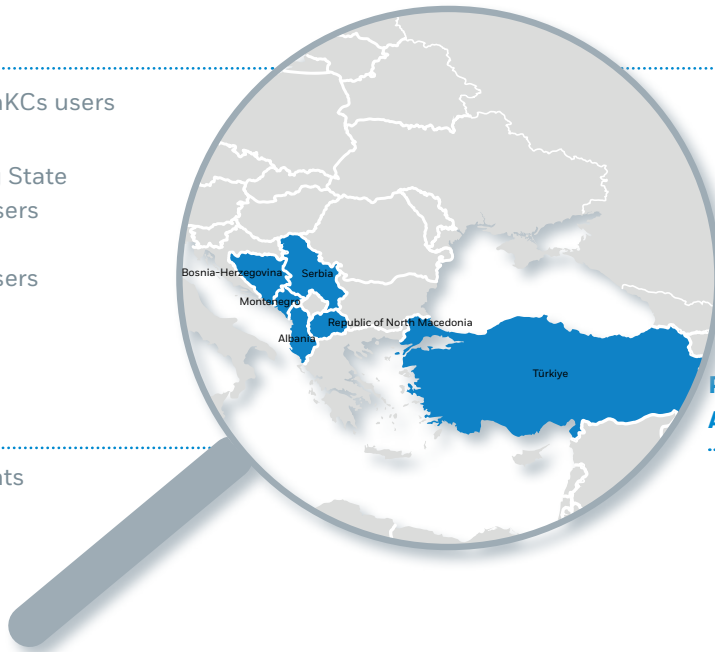
30 | MAR-CIS users

23 | Sharing T-AIS Information users

PARTICIPANTS IN COURSES AND EVENTS



31 | Participants





IPA III PROJECT: HIGHLIGHTS YEAR 1



During the previous IPA II Project cycle Albania together with Bosnia-Herzegovina agreed to connect their AIS stations to the SafeSeaNet (SSN) regional server for the Mediterranean. Albania received five AIS base stations and one central node while Bosnia-Herzegovina received one AIS base station. In 2023, supported by the IPA III project, Albania successfully established a connection with the regional sever MAREΣ and started exchanging AIS information with the other beneficiaries and EU Member States in the region.



Transposition of legislation into the national legislative systems of Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina is an activity which began under the previous project cycle of IPA. Through the TIE(R) Project (Ratification, Transposition, Implementation and Enforcement) EMSA will support the drafting and future transposition of the following EU and international legal instruments:

For Bosnia and Herzegovina:

- SAR convention
- Directive 70/97 (consolidated text)
- Regulation 392/2009 (consolidated text)

For Albania:

- Directive 45/2009 (recast consolidated)
- Regulation 391/2009 (recast consolidated) including Commission Regulation 788/2014
- Regulation 757/2015 (Consolidated text)

During the inception phase of the new Project, coordination meetings were organised in 2023 with all the project's beneficiaries to present the project and to identify actions considered appropriate for the implementation. An Action Plan for the project, approved by EMSA's Executive Director, was then shared with the Project's Beneficiaries.



Since 2021 EMSA has offered assistance to prepare for the audit to EU Member States and IPA/ENP Beneficiaries due to be audited under IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS). This service includes preparatory training and awareness sessions. Currently EMSA supports Beneficiaries both during pre and post audit period through mock audits and follow-up activities related to the corrective action plan. The latest session of the preparatory training took place in Albania's General Maritime Directorate in Durres, between 5th and 7th December 2023 involving thirty-one (31) members of its staff with responsibilities from the Flag State, Port and Coastal State domains.