

BCSEA NEWSLETTER

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maritime safety, security
and marine environmental protection
in the black and caspian sea regions



TOOLS

16
MAKCS

16
RULECHECK



SERVICES

105
CLEANSEANET
IMAGES DELIVERED

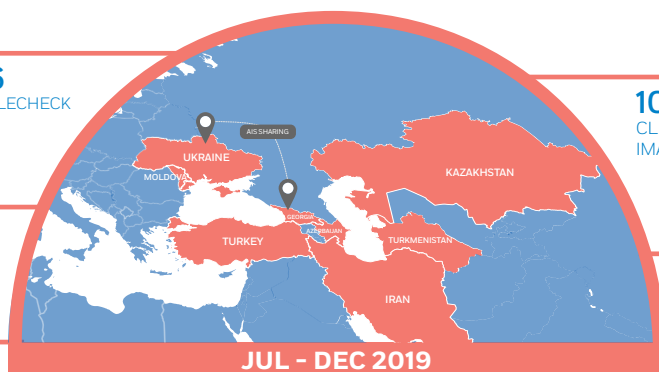
155
POSSIBLE OIL
SPILLS DETECTED

TRAINING COURSES

11
SESSIONS

PARTICIPANTS

185



TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

9
PREPARATORY IMSAS AUDITS
TECHNICAL SUPPORT
TECHNICAL MEETINGS



BCSEA
Project funded by
the European Union



REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

The technical activities organised by EMSA, which include seminars, workshops and training courses, amongst others, contribute to further enhancing the technical capacity and skills of the BCSEA beneficiary countries as well as to foster fruitful exchange of knowledge between the maritime administrations' officials.

FLAG STATE IMPLEMENTATION

The activities under this component aim at supporting the beneficiaries' maritime administrations to implement and enforce international legislation and to establish national procedures on the matter. The main objective is to enable the Beneficiary Countries to effectively perform their obligations, and to exercise an effective Flag State jurisdiction in accordance with the relevant instruments, thus contributing to the overall objective of the project to improve maritime safety, security and marine pollution prevention.

ACHIEVEMENTS

EMSA hosted and organised in collaboration with the International Maritime Organization a training course for IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) Auditors for Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Ukraine. The participants were given the opportunity to simulate an audit under the IMO Scheme and to participate in numerous exercises.

ACTIVITIES

21-25/10/2019 - Training for auditors under IMSAS



21-25/10/2019 - Training for auditors under IMSAS

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 BCSEA project addresses the human element with the aim to continue achieving an effective enhancement of the maritime safety standards.

ACHIEVEMENTS

A training course for Maritime Labour Convention (MLC), 2006 inspectors was held at EMSA premises in Lisbon, aiming at achieving a high level of understanding of the Articles, Regulations and the Code of the Convention. The participants were guided by the EMSA lecturer through a simulated inspection on board a vessel to check the MLC, 2006 ship and seafarers' related documents and to inspect also the living and working conditions for seafarers.

A seminar on Search and Rescue activities was a result of the collaboration between the EMSA, the Hellenic Coast Guard, the Spanish Salvamento Maritimo and the German Maritime Search and Rescue Service. Participants from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Turkey and Ukraine participated in the event which aimed at providing an overview of the international legal framework on Search and Rescue, the various levels of coordination, notion of planning and coordination of SAR operations and the technologies available for decision-making.

ACTIVITIES

2-3/07/2019 - Training for MLC, 2006 Inspectors

25-26/09/2019 - Project Seminar on Search and Rescue



2-3/07/2019 - Training for MLC, 2006 Inspectors



SECURITY OF SHIPS AND PORT FACILITIES

This activity aims to improve the implementation of the mandatory SOLAS maritime security requirements for ships and ports, together with a progressive alignment of the beneficiaries' national performances to EU standards by focussing on two main pillars: awareness and knowledge.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The basis of the role of the Flag State and its responsibilities towards the implementation of the international maritime security framework was the subject of the Training on Maritime Security organised at EMSA premises in Lisbon. This training enabled project beneficiary countries' representatives to access additional knowledge and expertise to conduct inspections on national flagged vessels or on foreign flags either when they exercise their duties as Duly Authorised Officers or under their port state obligations.

ACTIVITIES

16-17/07/2019 - Training on ISPS



16-17/07/2019 - Training on ISPS

COMMUNICATION

This component, through newsletters and the publication of all material and news about the project on the EMSA website and other relevant websites as indicated by the Contracting Authority, ensures the required publicity and visibility to the project and the achieved results.

ACHIEVEMENTS

15th Session of the Black Sea SAR Conference

The conference hosted by the Georgian Maritime Transport Agency was attended by more than 40 delegates.

This was the opportunity for EMSA to present the tools to assist SAR Authorities, which provide a full maritime picture to improve the effectiveness of the SAR activities. The conference highlighted the importance of SAR cooperation between national authorities of the Black Sea.



11-12/09/2019 - 15th Black Sea SAR Conference

BCSEA project 3rd Steering Committee meeting

Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Turkmenistan, Turkey and Ukraine, DG NEAR, as well as the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution participated in the Black and Caspian Sea regions project 3rd Steering Committee at EMSA premises in Lisbon. It was the opportunity to provide their priorities and expectations for bilateral and regional activities for the timeframe 2020 - 2021 and these were reflected in the project's Action plan subsequently approved by the Steering Committee.



18/09/2019 - 3rd Steering Committee meeting

ACTIVITIES

11-12/09/2019 - 15th Black Sea SAR Conference

18/09/2019 - 3rd Steering Committee meeting

BILATERAL ACTIVITIES

Bilateral actions are the means to yield tailor-made assistance to project beneficiaries and provide them with an effective support which contributes to the implementation of the internal maritime regulatory framework.

Among others, support has been provided as relevant to prepare the maritime administrations to undergo IMSAS audit, to prepare Corrective Action Plans (CAP) for IMSAS audit, to draft Professional Development Scheme for ship inspectors, to draft procedures for monitoring the performance of fleets and recognised organisations.

All bilateral actions are key to provide structural support to the beneficiaries and lay the foundation of a stronger cooperation with the EU.

ACHIEVEMENTS

A training course 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 Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) of the Islamic Republic of Iran from 7 to 8 July 2019 in Tehran. The 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, and sampling and type approval of BWM systems.



29-30/10/2019 – Participants in the training course on Ballast Water Management

On the request of Turkey’s national maritime administration, a Core Skill Course for Accident investigators was carried out in Ankara. It introduced all relevant stages in the process of conducting a marine casualty safety investigation and raised the technical capacity of the Turkish accident investigators.



9-13/09/2019 – Turkey: Core Skills for accident investigators

Two EMSA auditors carried out the preparatory audit at the Naval Agency of Moldova (NARM) premises from 1 to 3 October 2019. Since the Republic of Moldova is not a coastal State, the audit was limited to the Flag and Port State activity.

IMO OPRC training courses provided the opportunity for Georgia’s both Incident Command System and Emergency Response team members to reinforce their knowledge and skills in the oil spill response and preparedness mechanism. During the IMO OPRC Level 1 training, participants had the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the available oil spill response techniques and equipment by introducing guidelines for their use and the limitations, practice their response equipment, as well as comprehend the main health and safety hazards and precautions.



7-10/10/2019– Georgia: IMO model course on OPRC level 1



The IMO OPRC Level 2 training course was mainly focused on the principles of the incident command system, the efficient implementation of contingency planning appraising spill impacts and environmental sensitivity, the main guidelines for safe and effective execution of oil spill response operations as well as the legal and compensation regimes.



14-17/10/2019– Georgia: IMO model course on OPRC level 2

A two-day LRIT training session was organised in cooperation with the Maritime Transport Agency of Georgia (MTA) and took place in the premises of the Maritime Academy and in the MRCC Batumi, Georgia. The session presented the general architecture and functioning of the LRIT system and explained how to maintain the flag fleet data updated in the LRIT Ship DB (creation, update and deletion of ships). The participants also became familiar with the EU LRIT CDC User Web Interface, understood the costs elements and felt comfortable when making all possible LRIT requests and consulting their results.

A 5-day Core Skills Course on Accident Investigation was carried out in Odesa, Ukraine on the request of the national authorities involved in conducting marine casualty safety investigations. It introduced all relevant stages in the process of conducting a marine casualty safety investigation as well as the relevant principles and tools to support the conduct of witness interviewing, analysis of human factor and underlying conditions, safety recommendations, follow up and dealing with investigation reports.

A practical approach to auditing techniques was conducted in Baku by EMSA during the training on the International Safety Management requested by Azerbaijan’s Maritime Administration. In this way, the 14 participants became familiar with the evolution of management systems and the ISM Code, the general requirements, types and scopes of flag state audits, the performance of flag State audits in office and in particular on board ships – preparation and planning, conducting and following-up, the formalities and reporting procedures covering

the flag State audits, the implementation of corrective or preventive actions as a result of flag State audits, the certification process, as well as the role and qualification of flag State auditors.



18/09/2019 - 3rd Steering Committee meeting

EMSA’s staff carried out a mission to Ukraine on to support their Maritime Administration to enhance flag State performance through the provision of guidance of the flag State oversight of ROs and procedures for putting in place an efficient system of monitoring the flag State performance.

ACTIVITIES

7-8/7/2019 – Iran: Training on BWM Convention

9-13/09/2019 – Turkey: Core Skills Course for Accident investigators

01-03/10/2019 – Moldova: Preparatory IMSAS

7-10/10/2019 – Georgia: IMO model course on OPRC level 1

14-17/10/2019 – Georgia: IMO model course on OPRC level 2

21-25/10/2019 – Ukraine: Core Skills Course for Accident investigators

6-7/11/2019 – Georgia: LRIT training

12-15/11/2019 – Azerbaijan: Training on ISM Code and auditing techniques

19-20/11/2019 – Ukraine: Support to enhance flag State performance

ON-BOARD TALKS



Osman Garajayev, Head of the Foreign Economic Relations Department in the Turkmenistan Maritime Administration, talks about his experience in the BCSEA project.

Turkmenistan is a BCSEA project beneficiary country. In your opinion, what benefits you, as staff of the maritime administration, and your country, are getting from the project's activities?

I sincerely thankful for remarkable inputs of EMSA in the efficient implementation of maritime conventions and providing outstanding support to Maritime Administration of Turkmenistan in many aspects within BCSEA project. Being a beneficiary country, that indicates we increasingly use and benefit from valuable opportunity which EMSA provides.

Moreover, the project itself is very helpful and solidifies the knowledge of our personnel in maritime affairs to grow personally and professionally within their positions. I think the existence of BCSEA project with its valuable well-structured scheme is essential and plays delicate role in providing technical assistance and the development and implementation various maritime conventions for beneficiary countries, including Turkmenistan among them.

What is the most effective support provided through the BCSEA project: provision of training, opportunity of sharing ideas with colleagues from other countries in the region, tools and services offered such as RuleCheck, eLearning platform, etc.?

It is worth emphasizing that every single training provided by BCSEA project is extraordinary in its way, particularly your expectations in provided training course are always met. Moreover, I personally enjoy EMSA's teaching style from which you can gain knowledge and also having a chance to share and learn from the state practice of other participating countries in the training.

There are also a range of distinctions to be made for EMSA's efforts to provide incentive material teaching platform such as MaKCs and RuleCheck. These teaching techniques are highly valuable in learning and implementing of IMO conventions in relation to maritime safety and security and marine protection.

I greatly thankful to EMSA for providing Turkmenistan with effectively mock audit support in preparation for the IMO Member State Audit which has been conducted from 15 to 24 June 2019. Besides that, during the actual audit conducted by IMO an EMSA's presence as an observer was there, and now days continuously ready to provide its support in the development of related documents as a result of audit outcomes. These supports through BCSEA project ensures the effective implementation of all IMO instruments to which Turkmenistan is party.

Notably, I can't go without mentioning dedicated efforts and professionalism of Mr. Russo Giuseppe, Ms. Kaitina Albena and Mr. Pirelli Fabrizio for their consistency in offering supports in relation to development of Turkmen Maritime Administration. Therefore, I really appreciate their willingness to assist.

According to your experience with the project's activities, what are the main results achieved so far? What do you expect from the project in the near-future?

Since our fruitful and close collaboration within BCSEA project the results we have reached guided us even far to develop our knowledge on maritime safety, security and marine pollution. It is safe to say that all the project activities in which we've participated continuously updates the knowledge of our personnel in order to meet objectives of Maritime Administration. And, on the other hand, it must be pointed out that these effective result-oriented achievements from this project were not only beneficial to our personnel but to the country as a whole. Furthermore, the positive influence of the project matches with the goals set for the development of maritime sector of Turkmenistan.



Towards the future expectations from the project, I'd like to emphasize the importance of EMSA's inputs towards the technical assistance for our personnel and I strongly believe that the project will build concrete results and enhance a strong knowledge to meet our target lines required by IMO instruments and strengthen Caspian Sea regional collaboration in the field of maritime broad co-operation, especially provision of assistance with the documented procedural process set in the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) as a result of IMO audit.

What would you change/modify in the project's structure?

I'm very honoured to thank EMSA who consistently provides support to Turkmenistan through BCSEA project. As it's known that by having a well-structured project such this, there is always a need for modification to make the project even better and effective in its way. On that respect, I'd like to draw an attention on combined theoretical and practical teaching approaches. Ultimately, "Practice makes perfect", therefore this combined teaching style for all trainings organised within BCSEA project will help even better understand and implement the IMO conventions. I think this minor change is necessary in order to meet all target objectives of the 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

EMSA is implementing a project for technical assistance bringing together national, European and international stakeholders with the aim of raising safety, security and protection of maritime environment standards.

Participant 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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