

# SAFEMED IV NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3 / February 2020

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



## INTRODUCTION TO SAFEMED

Since March 2017, EMSA has been implementing the EuroMed Maritime Safety project, funded by the European Commission (DG NEAR) and commonly known as Safemed IV. This project aims at fostering regional cooperation among Mediterranean riparian states, while at the same time providing technical assistance to enhance maritime safety, pollution prevention, security and labour conditions on board ships.

TOOLS 

18  
MAKCS

10  
RULECHECK



SERVICES

435  
CLEANSEANET  
IMAGES DELIVERED

140  
POSSIBLE OIL  
SPILLS DETECTED

TRAINING COURSES 

8  
SESSIONS

PARTICIPANTS 

189



 TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

11

- PRF STUDIES
- PROCEDURES FOR THE OVERSIGHT OF RO
- PARTICIPATION IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE MED MOU
- SAFEMED IV 3<sup>RD</sup> STEERING COMMITTEE
- TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO ALGERIA ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF PROCEDURES FOR THE OVERSIGHT OF RO



SAFEMED IV  
Project funded by  
the European Union



## REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

The regional technical activities organised by the Agency, which include seminars, workshops and training, among others, contribute to further enhance the technical capacity and skills of the SAFEMED IV participants as well as to foster a fruitful exchange of knowledge between the maritime administration officials in the Mediterranean basin.

## PORT STATE CONTROL

The activities under this component are directed towards the implementation of the technical requirements, criteria and standards applicable in the Med MoU through practical training for the PSC officers. In addition, the component aims at further enhancing the coordination and harmonisation between the Med MoU members.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester of 2020 greatly focused on the development of the new information system for the Med MoU on Port State Control, namely THETIS-Med. The new system will support Port State Control Officers to target, report inspections and perform statistics as of 1 February 2020.

As part of EMSA's efforts to deliver an effective maritime transport system, the first seminar on THETIS-Med was held in Lisbon, CIMED and the Med MoU Secretariat participated in the meeting. The course focussed on functionalities and features of the new inspection database.

The Med MoU PSC Seminar was hosted at EMSA highlighting the importance of cooperation among the signatory parties in the Mediterranean region and fostering the implementation of the Med MoU procedures. This was achieved through different scenarios covering the various PSC inspection procedures from pre-boarding to disembarking.

### ACTIVITIES

**18-21/6/2019** – Med MoU PSC Seminar

**29-30/10/2019** – Participation in the 21<sup>th</sup> Med MoU Committee Meeting

**11-15/11/2019** – Training on THETIS-Med



11-15/11/2019 – Participants in the Training on THETIS-Med

## VESSEL TRAFFIC MONITORING AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The establishment of a regional VTMS in the Mediterranean Sea regions greatly supplements and enhances the national capacity for vessel traffic monitoring, PSC, and maritime pollution preparedness and response by allowing data exchange and thereby creating a better overall picture of maritime traffic (improving maritime domain awareness). It will enable the individual States to forecast the dangers and the risks, to be in a position of knowing the circumstances outside the areas of responsibility of specific VTS and to perform risk analysis.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

Besides the acquisition of the skills and knowledge about the administrative functions of a VTS and the methods of responding to emergency situations, the training for VTS Supervisors organised in Turku, Finland, covered: the principles of a Vessel Traffic Service, the services that a VTS centre can provide to shipping, and the resources and means of providing those services. Discussions on the sharing of AIS information between beneficiary countries and selected EU member states are currently ongoing.

### ACTIVITIES

**26/8-10/9/2019** – Training on VTS Supervisors



26/8-10/9/2019 – Participants in the Training for VTS Supervisors



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

## PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT

The activities under this component focus on two main matters:

- Raising awareness on the need of the Beneficiaries to accede to and implement those international conventions to which they are still not parties, to fully implement those to which they are already parties, and to enact legislation with approximation to EU law and to provide them with the necessary technical assistance and support in the process;
- To provide the beneficiaries with operational support in the area of marine environmental protection.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

EMSA delivered a two-day training course on the implementation and enforcement of the IMO's Ballast Water Management Convention. This course had the objective of promoting effective management of ballast water on board ships as well as to ensure a coherent approach for the protection of the marine environment and the atmosphere from any harmful impacts of shipping. In October 2019, Libya joined the pool of countries which are receiving CleanSeaNet images through the SAFEMED IV project.

### ACTIVITIES

29-30/10/2019 – Training on Ballast Water Management

## 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 ship crews, shore-based management, regulatory bodies and others. 80% of maritime accidents can be attributed in some way to human element failures. The project will address the human element with the aim to continue achieving an effective enhancement of the maritime safety standards.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

The seminar on 'Enhancing your knowledge on STCW' was an opportunity to support the effective implementation of the Convention in compliance with the "post-Manila amendments scenario". The training is a result of continuing cooperation in improving harmonisation of practices which allowed the signatory parties in the Mediterranean region to compare approaches.

### ACTIVITIES

7-10/10/2019 – Enhancing your knowledge on STCW



7-10/10/2019 – Participants in 'Enhancing your knowledge on STCW'

## 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 performance to EU standards by focussing on two main pillars: awareness and knowledge.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

The course on Port Facility Security focussed on SOLAS Chapter XI-2 and the ISPS Code, both integral parts of the role of the Flag State and its responsibilities towards the implementation of the International Maritime Security framework. Participants were provided with additional knowledge and expertise to implement their obligations both as port state and as flag state and to monitor the activity performed by Recognised Security Organisations on their behalf.

### ACTIVITIES

**19-21/11/2019** – Training on ISPS (Port)



19-21/11/2019 – Participants in the Training on ISPS (Port)

## 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

Various entities involved in the Mediterranean basin took part in the 3rd SAFEMED IV Steering Committee in Lisbon. EMSA presented the activities conducted from October 2018 to September 2019 with a specific focus on the actions performed in each of the technical components. It was the opportunity to present the new activities and endorse the Action Plan for 2020-2021 at the end of the meeting.

EMSA participated on the UfM Working Group on Maritime Transport & Logistics in Brussels in order to provide inputs on the latest evaluation report on the progress made in the implementation of the objectives set in the Regional Transport Action Plan (RTAP) 2014-2020.

### ACTIVITIES

**3-4/9/2019** – 3rd Steering Committee

**6-7/11/2019** – UfM Meetings



3-4/9/2019 – Group Picture of the 3rd Steering Committee

## BILATERAL ACTIONS

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 ships 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

Israeli Maritime Administration was trained on the MARPOL Annex VI on issues related to nitrogen oxides, sulphur, ozone depleting substances in order to facilitate the ratification process and bring Israel in full compliance with the MARPOL Annex VI provisions.

The EMSA lecturers provided an overview of the various PSC phases, from pre-boarding to disembarking, in the training on Port State Control in Morocco. This activity allowed a direct contact between the Moroccan Merchant Marine Directorate and EMSA staff aiming at improving technical capabilities as well as on-the-job skills.

EMSA has provided technical assistance to Algeria on the development of procedures for the oversight and monitoring of Recognised Organisations (RO). Participants received detailed information about the implementation of the III Code which covers flag, coastal and port state obligations.

Moreover, a study on Port Reception Facilities was scheduled to support the development of a Waste Reception and Handling Plan that adequately meets the requirements of international, regional and European law in Lebanon.

### ACTIVITIES

**August 2019** – Algeria: Development of procedures for the oversight of Recognised Organisations

**16-17/7/2019** – Israel: Training on MARPOL Annex VI

**July 2019** – Lebanon: Study on Port Reception Facilities

**7-11/10/2019** – Morocco: Training on PSC

**8-9/10/2019** – Algeria: MARPOL Annex VI and EU Legislation

**November 2019** – Algeria: Study on Port Reception Facilities



16-17/7/2019 – Participants in the Training on MARPOL Annex VI in Haifa, Israel

As part of the EU funded SAFEMED IV and BCSEA projects, EMSA has made available the e-learning module “Concentrated Inspection Campaign on Emergency Systems and Procedures” through the Agency’s Maritime Knowledge Centre (MaKCs) Platform. The main objective of the e-learning module is to provide guidance prior to the inspection to Port State Control officers of the Med MoU and Black Sea MoU to verify normal operation of the main emergency equipment (e.g. emergency fire pumps, emergency generators, steering gear, etc.).

## OTHER ACTIONS

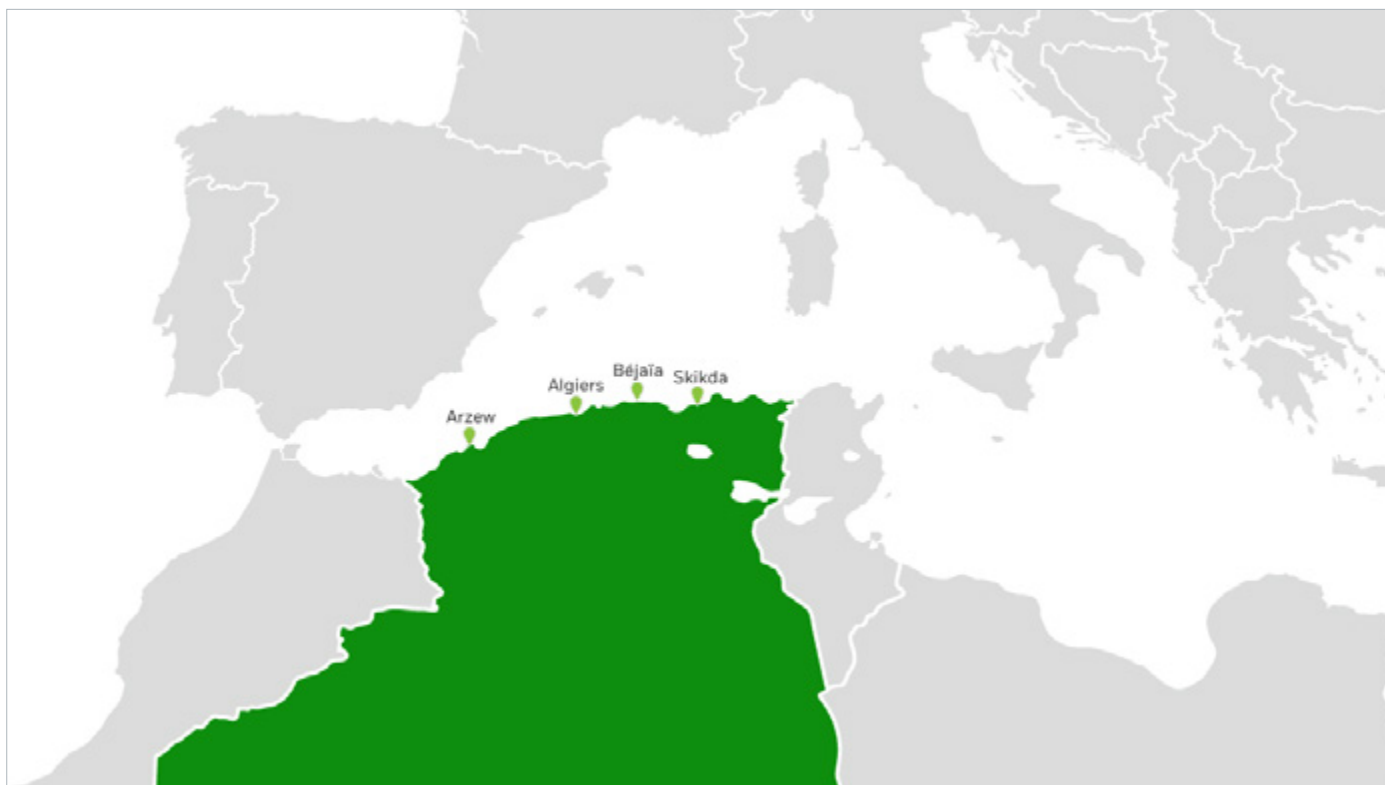
### CleanSeaNet: Libya as a service user

In October 2019, Libya joined the pool of countries which are receiving the CleanSeaNet images through the SAFEMED IV project. CleanSeaNet is the satellite-based oil spill monitoring and vessel detection service developed and operated by EMSA. This service analyses images mainly from synthetic aperture radar (SAR) but also from optical missions in order to detect possible oil on the sea surface, including illegal discharges of mineral oil, identify potential polluters, and monitor the spread of oil during maritime emergencies.

### Studies on Port Reception Facilities

Within the scope of maritime safety, maritime security and protection of the marine environment in the Mediterranean, the SAFEMED IV project conducted two studies on Port Reception Facilities. Ship waste does not only affect marine life, it also has serious social, environmental, economic and health issue worldwide. Therefore, there is an urgent need for proper handling of ship-generated waste with adequate Port Reception Facilities as requested by the MARPOL Convention.

In Algeria, DNV-GL was contracted to conduct a study on Waste Reception and Handling Assessment according to the Annexes of MARPOL for the ports of Arzew, Bejaia, Skikda (old and new ports) and Algiers. This activity was scheduled to support the review and/or development of a Waste Reception and Handling Plan that adequately meets the requirements of international, regional and to a larger extent European law.





During the study in Lebanon, DNV-GL was contracted to conduct a study on Waste Reception and Handling Assessment according to the Annexes of MARPOL for the ports of Tripoli, Beirut and Saida in Lebanon.

These studies highlight the importance of having an adequate Waste Reception and Handling Plan for ports, in particular to protect the natural environment by ensuring the establishment and the operation of a reception scheme for waste and cargo residues from ships and the adequacy of Port Reception Facilities.





## SAFEMED MEDITERRANEAN 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.

### SAFEMED IV 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: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Libya, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia

#### Project contacts

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[emsa.europa.eu/implementation-tasks/training-a-cooperation/safemed-iv.html](https://emsa.europa.eu/implementation-tasks/training-a-cooperation/safemed-iv.html)

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