



**21ST MEETING OF THE CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE
(CBSC-21)
Tokyo, Japan, 7 – 9 June**

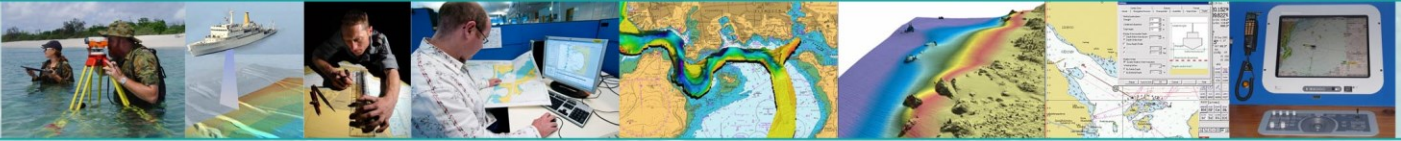
Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2023	
Task 3.3.1	Organize, prepare, and report annual meetings of CBSC

The 21st meeting of the Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC) was held in Tokyo, Japan, from 7 to 9 June 2023, hosted by the Japan Coast Guard Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department (JHOD). The meeting was chaired by Mr Evert Flier (Norway) and attended by 21 participants in person from 10 Member States. The IHO Secretariat was represented by Director Luigi Sinapi and Assistant Director Leonel Manteigas.

Dr Masayuki Fujita, Director of JHOD, welcomed the participants and expressed gratitude for the participants' support and highlighted the importance of Capacity Building in the International Hydrographic Community, expressing the wish that the meeting could provide an important contribution to the safety of navigation. He also mentioned that Japan has a long history of cooperation through the Nippon Foundation and the hydrographic course Cat B provided by JICA (Japanese International Cooperation Agency) attracting many foreign students. Director Luigi Sinapi thanked JHOD for hosting the meeting, highlighting that the meeting represents a unique opportunity after the 3rd Session of the IHO Assembly, to start a new three-year cycle until the next IHO Assembly of 2026, in which to implement the new Revised Capacity Building Strategy recently approved and adopted by A-3, to actively contribute to search for new forms of funding through the creation of a Project Team to be activated by the IRCC, and to intensify the cooperation within and between the Regional Hydrographic Commissions to search for new forms of support for the IHO capacity building programme.



Participants at CBSC21



The Sub-Committee recognized that also in 2023 the CB Fund received the regular contribution from the IHO budget and donations made by governments, other international organizations, funding agencies, public or private institutions and associations or private individuals in support of IHO Capacity Building initiatives, particularly from the Republic of Korea, Nippon Foundation, Japan and Canada. In 2023, ROK assured an additional contribution of 40K€ for the non-earmarked activities of the CBWP2024.

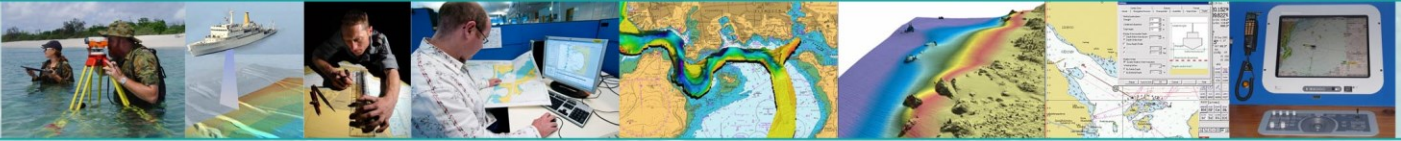
The CB Fund does not include the in-kind contribution or support from MSs or organizations that can be among others on the provision of facilities, trainers, other personnel, advice, etc. The CB programme depends on these contributions as this additional support helps to build wider capacity building in hydrography. To improve the visibility of the contribution from MS outside the CB Fund and to harmonize the efforts even better, MS were requested to inform CBSC on their other relevant CB activities that are self-funded. CB Coordinators were requested to inform on the activities delivered remotely that can be attended by participants of other regions so that they can be included in the IHO CB Calendar.

The CBSC 2023 Work Plan was updated during the CBSC21 Inter-sessional Meeting. It is expected that several activities will not be completed due to the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and the number of activities that have been carried over from previous work-plans. The CB Coordinators will seek delivery of CB activities by alternative methods where possible to assist in their completion. It was agreed that funded activities from the 2023 plan that are not completed will be carried over into CB 2024WP. Those not funded will be cancelled. It was also agreed that funded activities in the 2024WP that are not completed will not be carried over into the 2025WP as was previously the case prior to COVID-19.

The submissions from the RHCs were prioritized based on Procedure 4 and adjusted according to Procedure 11 at CBSC21. Funding of all submissions would require funds of 603,610 € whilst the funds allocated to the CB 2024WP currently stand at 126,890 €.

Amongst the major projects currently under the IHO CB programme are the funding of students from IHO Member States for the Category "A" Hydrographic Survey Program at USM, the alumni Seminar and the Category "B" Nautical Cartography Program held at KHOA, Busan, ROK. Japan continues to provide its important contribution through the Nippon Foundation (NF) by funding CB training projects. Replacing the former NF-IHO CHART project, the new MoU between NF and IHO implemented the Nippon Foundation-IHO Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography (GEOMAC) Project. This project was renewed for a further three years starting in 2023. The next GEOMAC course will start in July and end in December of 2023. For October 2023 it is also planned for an alumnae seminar to be organized in London.

The Empowering Women in Hydrography (EWH) work item, that aims to contribute to more women participate equitably in the field of hydrography and assume leadership roles within the hydrographic community, was presented and discussed. The project has entered the final year of the 3-year work-plan and will see the continuation of the mentoring programme and a secondment to IC-ENC. Dependent upon available funding it is hoped that this project will become a long-term programme supported by the IHO Members States. It was agreed that



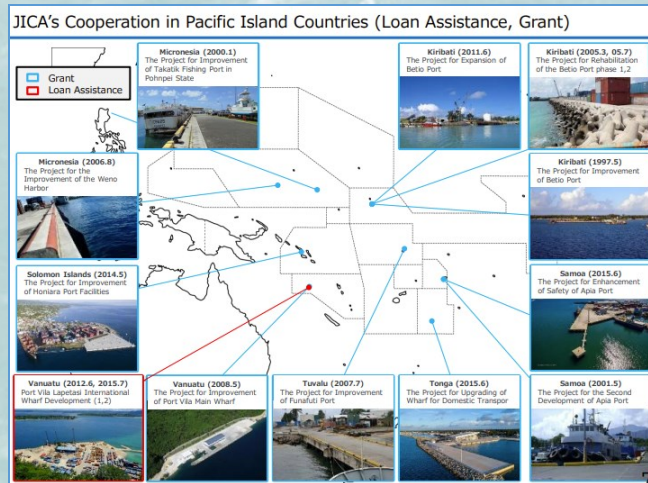
EWH will for now be a standing agenda item at CBSC. Following on from IHO CL26/2022, baseline information has been collected for percentage of female employees and percentage of females in leadership roles in MS Hydrographic Offices. It was agreed to repeat this survey every three years to monitor the status and progress of gender balance.

The IHO eLearning Center was discussed as the Project Team have completed their work. The Project Team Chair presented the Guidelines for the e-Learning Center that were endorsed by CBSC, and proposed the composition of the Steering Committee (SC) as follows, IHO Director, CBSC Chair, Secretary (from CBSC), 1 member of IBSC and 6 other members. A Center Support Team will be provided by the Republic of Korea to maintain the system. The continued support from the ROK was greatly appreciated, as it ensures that IHO Members and Non-Members will be able to access important learning opportunities. Once the SC is established, the IHO e-Learning Center will go live officially and it will be announced via IHO Circular Letter.

The C-55 Project Team (PT) reported to CBSC21 on the progress of improving C-55, with particular attention to MSI, as WWNWS has developed a geospatial solution for the status of MSI reporting by Coastal States on their website. This solution can function for C-55 reporting on MSI, to the Status of Hydrographic Surveying – Safety of Navigation, as the previous C-55 PT developed a solution for survey status in countries based on CATZOC provided via the RENCS directly to the IHO Secretariat, and then to the Status of Hydrographic Surveying for non-navigational purposes. In this regard, data from Seabed2030 can support annual regional and global reporting, including Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ). In the future, it is expected that C-55 reporting will be based on a GIS solution, using a data format aligned with S-100 development.

CBSC welcomed proposal 3.5 to the 3rd Session of IHO Assembly (Establishment of a Taskforce to explore the potential merits, structures, and options for alternate fund generation to support Capacity Building and other IHO initiatives), identified the need for the taskforce to be resourced by relevant specialists (for example proposal writing skills), discussed the potential for funding generation through a modest increase of ENC wholesale price where member states will maintain price setting responsibility, and finally expressed the intention to be represented on the task force.

Finally, JICA presented their work and informed on the procedure to apply for relevant JICA funded courses. CBSC Secretary reported on the work undertaken by the internship of a Student of the University of Tokyo at the IHO Secretariat. He sent out a survey to all recipients of IHO CB funded activities in the last decade to evaluate impact of the courses on their career, organisation, and country. The results confirmed the importance of CB activities for Member States. The CBSC encouraged that this assessment be conducted tri-annually.



JICA cooperation and activities

The next CBSC meeting is planned to be held on 5-7 June 2024 in the Galapagos (Ecuador). Following meetings will be held in Nigeria (May/June 2025), Peru (May/June 2026) and Australia or New Zealand (May/June 2027 – Venue TBD).