

**INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION  
EASTERN ATLANTIC HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION  
(EAthC)**



**CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN FOR 2019-2021**

**1. INTRODUCTION 1.1. Background information on the IHO capacity building programme**

See for further information:

[https://www.iho.int/srv1/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=399&Itemid=407&lang=en](https://www.iho.int/srv1/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=399&Itemid=407&lang=en)

With respect to issues related to the safety of maritime navigation in the sub-region, it is crucial that SOLAS contracting Governments undertake hydrographic surveys as and when required, that they arrange for the compilation and publication of hydrographic data, the dissemination and keeping up to date of all nautical information necessary for safe navigation.

The IHO Capacity Building Strategy classifies the development of hydrographic services into three phases:

- Those which are in Phase 1: Collection and circulation of nautical information, necessary to maintain existing charts and publications up to date;
- Those which are in Phase 2: Creation of a surveying capability to conduct coastal and offshore projects; and
- Those which are in Phase 3: Produce paper charts, ENC and publications independently.

In accordance with the IHO Capacity Building Strategy, **funding of Non Member States is generally limited to technical visits and Phase 1 projects** (this will include an overall assessment of the status of hydrography and information of relevant authorities). Exceptions to this have to be reflected against the resources provided, the expected output and the situation in the country.

Coastal States have certain treaty obligations under the IMO Convention on Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) and the IHO/EAtHC Capacity Building Plan aims at directing the efforts to assist States in meeting these obligations. To achieve this a national understanding and coordination effort is required noting that:

- i. resources (human, time, finance etc.) are limited, consequently prioritization is a fundamental issue;
- ii. planning must be realistic; and
- iii. commitment from coastal States in working with the IHO/EAtHC is a key.

**1.2. Capacity building challenges in the EAtHC region**

The Eastern Atlantic (EAtHC) region comprises 26 coastal States: six (6) are IHO and EAtHC members, nine (9) are EAtHC associated members and eleven (11) are observers.

The African part of the region is especially concerned by capacity building issues. This report deals only with this sub-region.

A few coastal States have started to develop hydrographic organizations. They mainly consist in hydrographic cells under the main port authority. They may include well trained people, although in small numbers, and, in a few cases, have recent, adapted and properly maintained equipment. However, the existing organizations are suitable for limited survey works and may not be sufficient to meet the increasing needs of port development and do not allow the necessary hydrographic services to be provided at the national level to cover all the maritime basins of the sub-regions.

At last, too few coastal States have managed to set up an organization for collecting and disseminating marine safety information.

Since 2002, and in accordance with the 2001 extraordinary Conference of the EAHC Commission decision to form an expert team, named the Western African Action Team (WAAT, composed of representatives from all countries having charting responsibilities in the region (France, United Kingdom and Portugal) and from the United States of America), a particular attention has been paid by the IHO and the Member States to support the development of hydrographic capabilities in the sub-region. This specific effort has mainly included:

- technical visits: most of the coastal States have been visited since 2002, some of them twice;
- awareness or technical workshops on maritime safety information (MSI), maritime spatial data infrastructure (MSDI), hydrography and charting;
- category B and A training (separately funded).

Awareness has increased, including at the highest political level, as reflected in the 2007 Abuja declaration, in which the African ministers responsible for maritime transport,

*“Concerned by ... the lack of ... modern hydrographic surveys, up-to-date nautical charts and maritime safety information in a number of African countries ... undertake to ... promote and encourage appropriate structures and measures for the improvement of ... hydrographic survey, nautical cartography and maritime safety information”.*

As a consequence, the 2050 Africa’s Integrated Maritime Strategy has included in 2012 in its framework for strategic action:

*“The African Union shall make an assertive call to concerned Member States to become members of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), World Meteorology Organisation (WMO) and UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanography Commission (IOC) so as to advance maritime safety, efficiency and the protection and sustainable use of the marine environment. This will help create a global environment in which AU coastal Member States provide adequate and timely hydrographic data, products and services and ensure their widest possible use.”*

However, slow progress is noted in hydrographic capacity, including nautical information.

The last Eastern Atlantic Hydrographic Commission conferences have highlighted the continuing challenges of capacity development in the sub-region:

- awareness, at all levels, and in particular at high political level, of the need for hydrographic services, for safer maritime navigation but also more generally for knowledge of the maritime environment in order to strengthen environmental protection, support economic development (*blue economy*), prevent coastal erosion, and

better anticipate and adapt to climate change, remains to be strengthened for a better governance of the maritime space;

- collection and dissemination of maritime safety information, a fundamental component of hydrographic services, remains a problem in the sub-region with very little information disseminated locally and reported to the NAVAREA coordinator;
- where hydrographic data exist, they are generally not referenced or easily available to those who need them. Data availability should be enhanced for the benefit of national planning or for other applications, such as marine disasters prevention;
- when hydrographic organisations emerge, their sustainability is not ensured, in the absence of a long-term strategy, and due to a lack of trained personnel and difficulties in keeping equipment in working order;
- training needs are still largely unsatisfied, particularly because of the limited availability of local training adapted to the needs of coastal States;
- difficulty, in some cases, to put into practice the training received, due to the lack of equipment.

### **1.3. Aims and objectives**

The aims of this Plan are:

- a) to ensure a basic level of MSI is established in all coastal States to produce Local/Coastal/NAVAREA Warnings, communicate effectively with the charting authority and implement the MSI elements of GMDSS;
- b) to promote the establishment of Hydrographic Services (HS) and to support the strengthening of the established ones;
- c) to train staff, at various levels, to ensure a much needed capability on hydrography and nautical cartography, including after natural disaster or other incidents which could affect water depths in harbors and approaches;
- d) to instruct staff in the region on the methods of carrying out hydrographic surveys, to improve safety of navigation through enhanced navigational products;
- e) to comply with the IHO resolutions and guidelines regarding hydrographic and nautical cartographic activities; and
- f) to ensure that hydrographic data and information are available to support the sustainable use of marine resources.

### **1.4. Priorities**

Despite the breadth of need existing in the region, for the period of 2019 to 2021, priorities should be set in the sequence of the following list, the first of which are the highest:

- 0 - activities which may promote awareness of national hydrographic obligations;
- 1 - activities which may improve the capacity of existing HS in Phase 1;
- 2 - activities which may improve the capacity of existing HS in Phase 2;

3 - activities which may improve the capability of existing HS in Phase 3; and

4 - activities which go beyond Phase 3.

Note the link between the training activities listed in paragraph “2. Activities” below and priorities 0 to 4 listed above and CB Phases listed above (§1.1).

The current hydrographic capacity status of coastal States in the region is in **Annex A** and the assessment is made in accordance with the CB Procedure 11:

[https://www.iho.int/mtg\\_docs/CB/CBM/Procedures/PDF/Procedure11.pdf](https://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/CB/CBM/Procedures/PDF/Procedure11.pdf)

### **1.5. Methodology and Procedures**

This Plan sets the goals for the period 2019 to 2021 and will be reviewed each year, and adjustments made as necessary. Each year the EAthC will decide responsibilities for the programmed events of the subsequent year and will consider the plans and proposals from other RHCs to identify synergies that could benefit developing countries in the region.

The EAthC Capacity Building Coordinator will send to the Chair, no later than January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year details of all planned projects.

Projects supported by IHO CB Fund must follow the IHO CBSC procedures published at the IHO website

The Chair will check the proposed projects and, if requesting IHO CB Fund support, will send them to the IHO CBSC Chair and Secretary no later than March 15th, otherwise, will take the appropriate action.

## 2. ACTIVITIES

\* Phase 2 and Phase 3 activities reserved for IHO Member States except in some cases (in accordance with the IHO CB strategy).

### 2.1. Assessment and Awareness: Visits and Seminars

Priorities / CB Phase	Activity	Project Objective	Target Audience
0.1 / Phase 1	<u>High-level visits</u> High level visit to governmental authorities	To raise government awareness of their SOLAS treaty obligations	Related Ministries and Heads of national agencies, particularly governmental decision makers
0.2 / Phase 1	<u>Technical visits</u> Technical assessment and advice visit	Provide advice to identify how coastal states meet their hydrographic and MSI responsibilities	Maritime sector, national agencies, stakeholders and decision makers
0.3 / Phase 1	<u>Technical implementation visits</u> A follow up visit to the types 0.1 and 0.2 listed above	To audit the state of recommendations made as a result of previous technical visits and support further development	Maritime sector, national agencies, stakeholders and decision makers
0.4 / Phase 1	<u>Seminar on Raising Awareness of Hydrography</u>	Seminars to promote and raise awareness on the importance of Hydrography as part of the national economic infrastructure and key element for social development.	Maritime sector, national agencies, stakeholders and decision makers
	This type of seminar, backed up by the plenary conference, <b>has proved to be very effective</b> in mobilising actors from the region		

### 2.2. Short courses

Priorities / CB Phase	Activity	Project Objective	Target Audience
1.1 / Phase 1	<u>MSI Course (3 days)</u> Training on establishment of MSI structure and basic MSI procedures	To establish a core group of trained persons to deal with MSI	MSI Practitioners
1.2 / Phase 1	<u>Phase 1 Skills (5 days)</u> An introduction to the assessment and promulgation of navigationally significant data	To provide a core group with the skills and knowledge to assess and promulgate navigationally significant information to the wider maritime community (this course supports the MSI course)	MSI Practitioners
1.3 / Phase 1	<u>MSI Workshop (3 days)</u> Assessment and implementation of effective measures to establish MSI infrastructure.	To provide a core group with the skills and knowledge to assess and implement effective measures to establish MSI infrastructures, following formal MSI Courses.	MSI Practitioners



2.1 / Phase 2*	<u>Basic Hydrographic Survey Course (10 days)</u>	To provide awareness of national hydrography, hydrographic surveying and nautical cartography, and skills to specify contract support.	Maritime Sector Decision Makers
2.2 / Phase 2*	<u>Port and Shallow Water Survey Course (5 days)</u>	A workshop to aid exchange of information and ideas about the challenges faced by port and shallow water surveyors in the region	Port Surveyors
2.3 / Phase 2*	<u>MBES Processing (5 days)</u>	To train a group of hydrographic surveyors the techniques required to post-process MBES data	Hydrographic Practitioners
2.4 / Phase 2*	<u>MSDI and Data Management (5 days)</u>	To give participants an understanding of spatial data infrastructures (SDI) for the provision of basic geospatial data	Government Planners
2.5 / Phase 2*	<u>Tides and Water Level Workshop (5 days)</u>	To provide fundamental knowledge and understanding of tides and water level, and their applications for hydrographic surveying and mapping activities	Hydrographic Practitioners
2.6 / Phase 2*	<u>Seabed Classification Workshop (5 days)</u>	To provide a group of professionals with the skill and knowledge to use acoustic techniques to map extensive seabed surfaces and to determine the products of seabed mapping	Hydrographic Practitioners
3.1 / Phase 3*	<u>Basic ENC and ENC Production course (10 days)</u>	To train a group of professionals with a practical introduction to S-57 data	Cartographic Practitioners
3.2 / Phase 3*	<u>ENC Production and QA (5 days)</u>	To train a group of professionals to verify and validate S-57 data	Cartographic Practitioners
3.3 / Phase 3*	<u>MSDI and Data Assessment (5 days)</u>	To give participants an understanding of spatial data infrastructures (SDI) for data assessment and cartographic production	Government Planners
4.1 / Beyond Phase 3*	<u>Law of the Sea Workshop (5 days)</u>	To teach participants the basic technical principles applicable to maritime boundary delimitation. The delegates should be from technical hydrographic or cartographic backgrounds	Maritime Sector Decision Makers
4.2 / Beyond Phase 3*	<u>Tsunami inundation mapping workshop (5 days)</u>	To improve the modelling and presentation of regional tsunami inundation maps	Maritime Sector and emergency planning

### 2.3. Long courses

Long courses at Category "A" and Category "B" levels for both Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Cartography can be supported by the IHO and by other agencies. Coastal States

will be notified by the EAtHC CB Coordinator about opportunities. Developing countries in need of long courses are also indicated in the CB Programme as follows:

<b>Id.</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Countries in need</b>
HA	<u>Category "A" Hydrographic Programme</u>	All EAtHC African Coastal States. Particular need to have access to multi-language courses.
HB	<u>Category "B" Hydrographic Programme</u>	All EAtHC African Coastal States. Particular need to have access to multi-language courses.
CA	<u>Category "A" Nautical Cartography Programme</u>	All EAtHC African Coastal States. Particular need to have access to multi-language courses.
CB	<u>Category "B" Nautical Cartography Programme</u>	All EAtHC African Coastal States. Particular need to have access to multi-language courses.

The selection to these courses, due to their cost and level of requirement, is particularly rigorous. Countries wishing to propose a candidate should pay particular attention to the conditions of application. They concern in particular the trainee's opportunities at the end of the training: it is essential that he or she be able to put the newly acquired skills immediately and directly to the benefit of the beneficiary country.

#### **2.4. On-the-job and onboard trainings**

Opportunities for on-the-job and onboard trainings will be sought by the CB Coordinators in liaison with coastal States. States that have ships transiting in the region are invited to consider offering onboard training for developing countries in the region. Developing countries in need of on-the-job and onboard trainings are also indicated in the CB Programme as follows:

<b>Id.</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Countries in need</b>
OJ	<u>On-the-job training</u>	All African EAtHC coastal States.
OB	<u>Onboard training</u>	All African EAtHC coastal States.

### **3. Capacity Building Program**

The program of capacity building activities for the period 2019 – 2021 is detailed in **Annex B**.

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## Annex A to CB Plan

**EAtHC Counties/Territories Capacity Building Phase Stage**

Reference: CB Procedure 11 [https://www.iho.int/mtg\\_docs/CB/CBM/Procedures/PDF/Procedure11.pdf](https://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/CB/CBM/Procedures/PDF/Procedure11.pdf)

In case of disagreement with this evaluation, please inform the EAtHC CB coordinator:

[dmi-rex-d@shom.fr](mailto:dmi-rex-d@shom.fr)

N.	Country / Territory	NHC / NHCC	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Last TV	IMSAS
5	Angola	0	2	3	3	2008	2022
19	Benin	0	3	3	3	2003	2020
29	Cabo Verde	0	2	3	3	2003, 2017	May 2017
31	Cameroon	0	2	3	3	2011 2019 (training center visit)	2020
39	Congo	0	3	3	3	2003	2018
42	Côte d'Ivoire	0	2	3	3		Feb 2016
48	Democratic Republic of the Congo	0	2	3	3	2003	May 2017
56	Equatorial Guinea	0	2	1	3	2003	2018
62	France	2	4	4	4	N/R	2021
63	Gabon	0	1	1	3	2003, 2012 2019 (training center visit)	Apr 2017
64	Gambia	0	2	2	3	2017	Feb 2017
67	Ghana	2	3	1	3	2003 2019 (training center visit)	Jan 2017
71	Guinea	1	2	3	3	2003	Jul 2016
72	Guinea-Bissau	0	2	1	3	2003, 2012	NA (C113)
98	Liberia	0	2	1	3	2016	2020
110	Mauritania	0	2	3	3	2003	Apr 2016
117	Morocco	2	3	4	3		2022
127	Nigeria	1	2	4	3	2003 2018 (training center visit)	Jun 2016
139	Portugal	2	4	4	4	N/R	Apr 2016
151	Sao Tome and Principe	0	3	3	3		2018
153	Senegal	2	3	3	3	2003	Jul 2016
156	Sierra Leone	0	2	1	3	2003	2018
164	Spain	2	4	4	4	N/R	2020
177	Togo	2	3	3	3	2003	Feb 2016
187	United Kingdom	2	4	4	4	N/R	2020
189	United States of America	2	4	4	4	N/R	2021

The numerical grid below describes the status of the National Hydrographic Committee (NHC) / National Hydrographic Coordination Committee (NHCC):	
<b>-1</b>	No information available / <i>Pas d'information disponible</i>
<b>0</b>	The country does not have a NHC/NHCC / <i>Le pays n'a pas de CHN/CCHN</i>
<b>1</b>	The country is in the process to establish a NHC/NHCC / <i>Le pays est en cours de création d'un CHN/CCHN</i>
<b>2</b>	The country established a NHC/NHCC / <i>Le pays a mis en place un CHN/CCHN</i>
The numerical grid below applies to the Phases:	
<b>-1</b>	No information available / <i>Pas d'information disponible</i>
<b>0</b>	The country is unaware of its national obligations / <i>Le pays n'est pas conscient de ses obligations</i>
<b>1</b>	The country is aware of its national obligations but does not have the means to do it / <i>Le pays est conscient de ses obligations mais ne possède pas les moyens ad hoc</i>
<b>2</b>	The country has the ability to fulfil national obligations / <i>Le pays a la capacité de remplir ses obligations</i>
<b>3</b>	The country fulfils its national obligations through a third party / <i>Le pays remplit ses obligations via un tiers</i>
<b>4</b>	The country fulfils its national obligations in a sustainable manner / <i>Le pays remplit ses obligations de manière durable</i>

## Annex B to CB Plan

## Capacity Building Program for the period 2019 – 2021

## 2019

Activity	Beneficiaries Countries / Territories	Responsible	Period	Obs.
Regional training center visit	Cameroun	EAtHC CB Coordinator (Shom)	February	Done. Extended to a short technical visit.
Regional training center visit	Gabon	EAtHC CB Coordinator (Shom)	February	Done. Extended to a short technical visit.
Regional training center visit	Ghana	USM	March	Done.
Technical visit	Congo	EAtHC CB Coordinator (Shom)		To be postponed to 2020.
Technical visit	Gambia	UKHO		
Technical visit	Togo	EAtHC CB Coordinator (Shom)		
Hydrographic Risk Assessment / Survey Specifications Workshop	All EAtHC countries	EAtHC CB Coordinator (Shom) & IALA/AISM	October	

## 2020

Activity	Beneficiaries Countries / Territories	Responsible	Period	Obs.
Regional training center visit	Côte d'Ivoire	EAtHC CB Coordinator (Shom)		Extended to a short technical visit.
High level and Technical visit	Senegal	EAtHC CB Coordinator (Shom)		
Technical visit	Congo	EAtHC CB Coordinator (Shom)		Initially planned in 2019
Technical visit	Sierra Leone	UKHO		
MSI & MSDI Regional seminar	All EAtHC countries	EAtHC CB Coordinator (Shom)	September	Back to back with EAtHC 16 <sup>th</sup> conference
Data rescue promotion	All EAtHC countries	EAtHC CB Coordinator		

		(Shom)		
Evaluation of satellite image processing method for maritime detection	Cameroon Nigeria	EAtHC CB Coordinator (Shom)		

**2021**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Beneficiaries Countries / Territories</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Obs.</b>
Regional training center visit	For identified coastal states			To support the emergence of local training opportunities
Technical visit or Technical implementation visits	For identified coastal states			
Seminar	All EAtHC countries	EAtHC CB Coordinator (Shom)		Subject to be defined according to the needs
MSI Course	All EAtHC countries	EAtHC CB Coordinator (Shom)		