

**20<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE IHO CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE**

Bali, Indonesia + VTC (Hybrid Meeting), 1-3 June 2022

**Paper for the Consideration by CBSC20****MBSHC Report**

<b>Submitted by</b>	:	MBSHC CB Coordinator
<b>Executive Summary</b>	:	This document provides a summary report of the CB activities at MBSHC.
<b>Related Documents</b>	:	None.
<b>Related Projects</b>	:	None.

**1. Introduction / Background**

A three-year plan for Capacity Building activities at the MBSHC region was approved by the member states during MBSHC22. The plans concerning the years 2023 & 2024 are still under review. This process takes place annually to ensure the draft plans still meet regional requirements and to adopt any changes when deemed necessary. It is based on assessing the development phase of each of the coastal states at the MBSHC region (*in line with IHO's three-phase CB approach*) and arranging training activities to build the necessary capabilities to meet SOLAS treaty obligations and to fulfill the needs of Hydrographic Offices with respect to the obligations of both today and the future.

**2. Assessment of Capacity Building Phase Stage of Coastal States**

The Assessment of CB Phase Stage of MBSHC Coastal States, in accordance with the CB Procedure 11, is provided in the Annex.

**3. Activities completed since CBSC19**

All the remote Capacity Building activities that were planned for 2021 and funded by CBSC were carried out successfully. The only face-to-face training was postponed to 2022 due to the pandemic and measures taken against it.

Another Capacity Building opportunity, which was the virtual trainings carried out by UKHO comprised of Understanding ENC's, Introduction to S-57 and Compiling for Navigational Safety., took place earlier this year and was brought to the attention of the Member States.

Two Satellite-derived Bathymetry Webinars were organized by MBSHC and were carried out globally with an attendance of more than 500. No funds were asked from the CBSC for these webinars. They were sponsored by the industry leaders in the field.

#	Activity	Fund	Type	Status
1	Cartographic Data Management	Granted	Face-to-face	Carryover to 2022
2	Transition to S-1xx-based Products	Granted	Remote	Carried out
3	Airborne Lidar Bathymetry	Granted	Remote	Carried out
4	AI as a Sonar Noise Classifier	Not Needed	Remote	Carried out
5	Satellite-derived Bathymetry	Not Needed	Remote	Carried out

#### 4. Activities planned for 2022

One out of three activities planned for 2022 is funded by the CBSC. As stated above, one of the funded activities is carried over to 2022 from 2021. An additional webinar is planned to be performed by the help academia without any need of funds from the CBSC. The only session that has not been funded yet is also planned to be carried out by the help of a sponsor from the industry.

Spain collaborates with other Regional Hydrographic Commissions through seminars, courses and workshops delivered in Spanish. Spain, also, carries out CAT-B & CAT-A Hydrographic Courses for Spanish-speaking foreign students at the Hydrographic School of IHM (*a.k.a. Alejandro Malaspina*). The applications are through the Spanish Defense Attaché Offices.

Italy continues supporting Lebanon, the newest member of our region, concerning surveying and charting responsibilities. Turkey also is in talks with Lebanon Authorities regarding their national capacity building needs.

#	Activity	Fund	Type
1	Implementation of LoTS	Not Granted	Remote
2	MSDI Implementation	Granted	Remote
3	Optical Bathymetry	Not Needed	Remote
4	Cartographic Data Management	Granted (2021)	Face-to-face

#### 5. Challenges faced in the region

MBSHC Capacity Building Activities have contributed to the effort of compensating for the gap between the Member States, in terms of both technology and experience. Yet, there still is a need for continued capacity building, and consequently for capacity building funds.

The lack of funds of CBSC to cover evergrowing Capacity Building needs of all the RHCs highlight the need to develop e-learning capabilities which in turn will enable capacity building activities to reach a wider audience in a more cost effective way.

#### 6. Achievements and lessons learned

Lebanon has steadily improved its capabilities in Hydrography and Cartography, with the support of the MemberStates and IHO CB programmes. Those efforts had led Lebanon to be a full member of the IHO in 2021.

#### 7. Conclusions

MBSHC Region countries benefit significantly from CB Activities, and lately, focus and requirements have drifted to long courses, mostly CAT-B hydrography and CAT-B cartography. The remaining requests, on the other hand, have switched to the activities related with the upcoming S-100 era.

**8. Actions required of CBSC**

The CBSC is invited to:

- a. note the report.
- b. take any action consider appropriate.



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Annex: Assessment of Capacity Building Phase Stage of Coastal States.