Empowering Women in Hydrography

CBSC20 Intersessional meeting
17 March 2022

Amandine Avenet - Project Assistant
BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

On February 2021, ‘Empowering Women in Hydrography’ is unanimously adopted as a new work item to the Work Programme of the IHO Capacity Building Sub Committee (CBSC). The goals are:

• More exposure, opportunity, interest, contribution and participation of women to IHO bodies;

• Greater understanding of the IHO and how it operates within the global context;

• Opportunity for the IHO and organizations to benefit from the knowledge and competencies already detained by women;

• Increase in leadership skills and competencies which provide access to promotion, and;

• Professional networking;
The project team is composed as follow:

- **Leonel Manteigas**, Project team lead
- **Sarah Jones-Couture**, Media relations contact
- **Evert Flier**, Chair of IHO Capacity Building Sub-Committee, to which the project belongs
- **Annie Biron**, Advisor for the project and acting Director for Fisheries and Ocean Canada
- **Amandine Avenet**, Project assistant
- **Sarah Jones-Couture**, Media relations contact

A dedicated webpage:
Created and recently renovated, all information related to the project can be found here:

https://iho.int/en/basic-cbse-ewh
• Kick-off meeting
  • involving 33 participants from 16 countries,
  • and the introduction of the call for actions from Member States: https://inho.int/uploads/user/Inter-Regional%20Coordination/CBSC/MISC/EWH/How_participate_in_EWH.pdf

• 4 internships associated with the EWH project are allocated:
  • one focusing on the outreach of the EWH project, in IHO office
  • and three related with the review process of submitted programmes to the IBSC, with the initial part about the standards by VTC and a in-person participation on the IBSC45 Meeting.

• 3 at-sea experiences are made available by NOAA.
FIRST YEAR ACHIEVEMENTS

- Submission to the ‘Call for Decade Actions No. 02/2021’ as part of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, to Weave UN’s SDGs:
  - #14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources
  - #5: Gender equality, Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life

- Webinar on Gender-balance and empowering leaders
  - 3 speakers:
    - Avivah Vittenberg-Cox, CEO of 20-first
    - Luigi Sinai, Director of IHO
    - Shelly Leighton, Chair for Ocean Mapping Program at the Marine Institute Memorial University, Canada
  - 201 registrations
FIRST YEAR ACHIEVEMENTS

• Women role-models:
  • interviews among volunteer women from all position in the hydrographic community (more than 10 women from 9 different HOs)
  • these inspiring portraits will be shared on IHO website.

• Mentoring programme:
  • Hydrographic Leaders programme initiated in SWPHC
  • Discussion ongoing with consultants and coach on the format for the programme led by IHO.

• Symposium cancelled due to covid19-pandemic.
SECOND YEAR WORK PLAN

• Implement the mentoring programme.
• Continue the preparation of articles and women role-models to share on social media and IHO website.

• Integration with other IHO activities (e.g. education), where possible and practical.
• Support internships at the IHO Secretariat, at other hydrographic offices, or at-sea tours for operational experience.

• Integration with other IHO activities (e.g. education), where possible and practical.
• Teaming up with other events in the ocean science or maritime domain with gender-equity themes.

• Webinar with experts about gender-balance theme and hydrographic leaders.
• Virtual workshops with leaders from hydrographic offices to gather their initiatives and first lessons learned.