

**21<sup>st</sup> MEETING OF THE IHO CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE**

Tokyo, Japan, 7-9 June 2023

**Paper for the Consideration by CBSC21****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 MBSHC23. The plan concerning 2025 is under discussion. 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 expectations 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 CBSC20**

All the Capacity Building activities that were planned for 2022 and funded by CBSC were carried out successfully.

#	Activity	Fund	Type	Status
1	Cartographic Data Management	Granted	Face-to-face	Carried out
2	MSDI Implementation	Granted	Face-to-face	Carried out
3	Optical Bathymetry	Not Needed	Remote	Postponed to 2023

**4. Activities planned for 2023**

There is only one CBSC-funded Capacity Building activity planned for 2023, which is Workshop on MSI Development & Implementation. The activity will be carried out as face-to-face towards the end of the year.

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. Türkiye also is in talks with Lebanon Authorities regarding their national capacity building needs.

#### **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 Member States 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 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.