

**22nd MEETING OF THE IHO CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE
IHO-CBSC22
Galápagos – Ecuador 5 -7 June 2024**

Paper for the Consideration by CBSC22

SEPRHC Report

Submitted by:	SEPRHC CB Coordinator
Executive Summary:	This document provides a summary report of the CB activities at SEPRHC.
Related Documents:	SEPRHC 3y CB Plan – SEPRHC CBSC22 Report
Related Projects:	2023 CBWP P-10, P-15, P-19, P-22, P-23 2024 CBWP P-18. 2025 CBWP Project Submission.

1. Introduction / Background

The Southeast Pacific Regional Hydrographic Commission is integrated by: Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, in addition to the participation of Panama, as observer.

The Regional organization is based on the statutes of the Regional Commission and its objectives, published on the IHO website. The Commission aims to promote technical cooperation, extend hydrographic activity in the region and facilitate exchange of related technical information, among others purposes. In the context of capacity building, the Region has the vision of an integral and continuous development, accordingly to the technological needs of hydro-carto-oceanographic activity, in a relatively homogeneous way amongst the Hydrographic Services that comprise it, taking into account joint work, in a spirit of collaboration and coordination that allows the achievement of the common objectives that animate the Region.

In this way, such objectives are aligned with the principles and objectives set out in the IHO Capacity Building Strategy, to achieve comprehensive and coordinated development among the countries of the Region, following principles of realistic planning, constrained to the limitations of resources (Human, financial and time), and working in a coordinated and collaborative way with the Region and the IHO. Therefore, SEPRHC has designed its 3-year Capacity Building plan following these 3 main lines of development, consequent and consistently with IHO SP:

- a. Migration to the OHI S-100 standard and its derived standards.
- b. Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure, management, processing and quality control.
- c. Incorporation and use of new technologies in hydrographic surveys.

2. Assessment of Capacity Building Phase Stage of Coastal States

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

3. Activities completed since CBSC21

Regarding the projects submitted by the Region and according to the 2023 CBWP, CBSC provided no financial support for regional projects:

2023 CBWP

Nr.	PROJECT	BUDGET	RESOURCES
P-10	Workshop on MSDI implementation and development.	26 655 €	Not founded
P-15	Administration and production on bathymetric Data Bases.	23 150 €	Not founded
P-18	Workshop on QC and data processing.	26 665 €	Not founded
P-19	Workshop on AUV for Hydrographic and Topographic Surveys.	46 800 €	Not founded
P-22	S-101 and S-102 Workshop.	30 247 €	Not founded
P-23	Use of automated statistical filters for bathymetric data processing.	23 150 €	Not founded

Since CBSC21, the Region keeps developing its own capabilities with regular courses, internships and workshops. Thus, Region's States continue with their ICA-FIG-IHO Category "A" and "B" training programs, preparing and graduating hydrographers for their navies and foreign students.

GeoMAC Project Cat. "B" cartography training course, from July 17th to December 15th 2023:

C1 David FUENTES (Chile)

4. Activities planned for 2024

Regarding CBSC 2024 CBWP, SEPRHC submitted 1 project "Not yet founded":

2024 CBWP

Nr.	PROJECT	BUDGET	RESOURCES
P-18	S-101 and S-102 Workshop.	31 760 €	Not yet founded

Nevertheless, the Region keeps regular courses like ICA-FIG-IHO Category "A" and "B" training programs. Likewise, the Region will keep developing its own capabilities organizing internships, cruises and workshops supported by each State Hydrographic Office budgets, especially in the three main areas considered relevant to follow the IHO SP, such as MSDI national efforts, incorporation of new survey technologies and S-1XX trainings.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Region's States have applicants to invitations received from IHO to UKHO, Korea, University of New Hampshire, University of Southern Mississippi training programs.

5. Challenges faced in the region

In terms of technical challenges, during the period, as well as it has been the latest years, in line with IHO SP, the Region had faced:

- a. Migration of the current work structure to the IHO S-100 and S-1XX Universal Hydrographic Data Model.
- b. Surveying with new technologies likewise AUV's.
- c. Geomorphological identification of underwater features.

But the Region also has faced financial-administrative issues:

For public services and offices post-pandemic effects in budgeting still impact resources for Hydrographic Offices. Thus, HO's have been challenged to keep on track, optimizing resources in order to keep up to the level of products and production, accordingly with the demand and the quality of the cartographic products generated, fulfilling the permanent task of providing safety to navigation.

6. Achievements and lessons learned

Despite the budget issues and non-financed projects, the Region works hard to stay at the forefront with its capabilities. Either on the production line, training and capacity building.

The last couple of years allowed, encouraged and reinforced the necessity for development of virtual education, but in hydrography, practical teaching is definitively a must; particularly these days, where all the trends in technical and upper studies are applying and requiring higher competence in learning models, with students not only full of knowledge, but also with attitude and aptitudes to become complete professionals, therefore hydrography, cartography, data processing and so need to be taught face to face or "hands-on".

In this way, coordination and joint efforts have driven the Region to the decision in presenting only one project for CBWP 2024 and CBWP 2025.

7. Conclusions:

The Region acknowledges the CBSC effort to financially support the projects submitted, regarding the resources scarcity. Many challenges have been faced globally and by the region, against the odds, SEPRHC is committed to keep designing, proposing and carrying out Capacity Building activities according to IHO SP. However, regarding the lack of resources, the region keeps unfulfilled capacity building necessities.

8. Actions required of CBSC:

The CBSC is invited to Note the report and take any action consider appropriate.

Felipe Barrios Burnett
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