

**15th MEETING OF THE IHO INTER-REGIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
IHO-IRCC15
Tokyo, Japan 12-14 June 2023**

Report of the Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC)

Submitted by:	Chair CBSC
Related Documents:	/(CBSC21-08.2 –Annex E-learning Center Guidelines)
Related Projects:	/

Chair:	Evert FLIER, Norway
Vice-Chair:	Lucy FIELDHOUSE, UK
Secretary:	Leonel MANTEIGAS, IHO Secretariat
Member States:	Brazil, Chile, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Latvia, Mexico, Mozambique, Nigeria, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Spain, South Africa, Turkey, UK and USA, several of them are representing RHCs as CB-Coordinators.
Expert Contributors:	/
<i>see Annex for full details</i>	

1. Meetings Held During Reporting Period

CBSC21 Intersessional	13 March, VTC.
CBSC20	1 – 3 June 2022, Hybrid, Denpasar, Indonesia

Next meetings:

CBSC22 Intersessional	7 February 2024, VTC (TBC)
CBSC22	5-7 June 2024, Ecuador (TBC)
CBSC23	May/June 2025, Nigeria
CBSC24	May/ June 2026, Peru

2. Work Program

Details of the Capacity Building Work Programme are available at the IHO website (www.iho.int/cbsc). This report provides a summary.

Capacity Building Fund

The Capacity Building Fund receives regular contribution from two sources:

- IHO budget (both regular annual contributions and eventual contributions from budget surplus).
- Donations made by governments, other international organizations, funding agencies, public or private institutions, associations or private individuals in support of IHO Capacity Building initiatives.

The financial situation for 2023, considering the executed and the planned projects is shown in the following table, including in the IHO column the contribution of 40 K€ from ROK to the CBWP non earmarked projects.

Finance Report - 2023				
	IHO	ROK	Nippon	Total
Balance 2022	378,316.79	368,444.27	0.00	746,761.06
Income 2023	65,000.00	518,549.89	409,493.00	993,042.89
Expected Surplus from IHO budget				0.00
Contribute from ROK (non earmarked)	40,000.00			
Available for 2023	483,316.79	886,994.16	409,493.00	1,779,803.95
Earmarked 2023	0.00	0.00	409,493.00	-409,493.00
Regular CBWP 2023	415,354.00	886,994.16	0.00	1,302,348.16
Projects not funded at 2023 CBWP	586,985.00			

Expected balance of the CB Fund available for the 2024 CBWP

	IHO	ROK	Nippon	Total
Expected Balance 2023	67,962.79			67,962.79
Expected Income 2024	60,000.00	*	*	60,000.00
Expected Surplus from IHO budget				0
Available for 2024	127,962.79	*	*	127,962.79

Proposal PRO-1.4 approved by A-3 established the following contribution from the IHO budget to the CB Fund to the 2024, 2025 and 2026 CBWP:

IHO Contribution (euros)		
2024	2025	2026
60 000	60 000	60 000

The CB Fund does not include the direct contributions from MSs or other organizations. Their significant support either direct or through contributions to the CBWP is a very important part of CB not reflected in the CB Fund, except those from Republic of Korea and Nippon Foundation.

Contribution from Republic of Korea

The Republic of Korea contributes significantly to the CB Work plan. In 2023 ROK maintained the level of the contribution and provided more than 294, 486 € for the CBWP. The Programme Management Board (PMB), consisting of representatives from the Republic of Korea (RoK), the IHO Secretariat and the CBSC Chair, coordinated the Korean contribution under the current MoU. Almost all of the contribution is earmarked for designated projects but, in 2023 an

additional contribution of 40K€ was made to the non-earmarked activities of the CBWP2024. The major projects currently are the funding of students from IHO Member States for the Category "A" Hydrographic Survey Program at USM, the alumni Seminar and the Category "B" Nautical Cartography Program held at KHOA, Busan, ROK. The programme is being reviewed regularly.

Contribution of Japan through the Nippon Foundation

Japan continues to provide its important contribution through the Nippon Foundation (NF) by funding CB training projects. Replacing the former NF-IHO CHART project, in 2020 a new MoU between NF and IHO was signed, to implement the Nippon Foundation-IHO Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography (GEOMAC) Project. This project was renovated for more three years starting in 2023. The next GEOMAC course will start in July and end in December of 2023. For October 2023 it is also planned an alumnae seminar to be organized in London.

Contribution of Canada, Empowering Women in Hydrography

The Empowering Women in Hydrography (EWH) work item, that aims to contribute to more women participate equitably in the field of hydrography and assume leadership roles within the hydrographic community. The project has entered the final year of the 3year work plan.

Events since IRCC14 include:

- Event on 9 March in Monaco in person workshop with speakers from Monaco Government
- Webinar on Workplace Psychology, VTC 30 March
- Establishment of the EWH mentoring programme (11 mentors and 22 mentees)
- At sea experience offered by NOAA
- Letter of intent between IHO and WMU signed Mar 2023.
- Event on the 3rd Session of Assembly at Grimaldi Forum of Monaco (1 May 2023).
- Sponsored participation of 5 representatives to A-3

This year will see the continuation of the mentoring programme and a secondment to IC-ENC. It is hoped that this project will become a long-term programme supported by the IHO Members States and dependent upon available funding. EWH will be a standing agenda item at CBSC.

Following on from CL26/2022 baseline data has been established for percentage of female employees and percentage of females in leadership roles. To monitor status and progress of Gender balance it is proposed to repeat this survey tri-annually.

IHO eLearning Center

The IHO eLearning project Team have completed their work.

At CBSC21 the Project Team presented the Guidelines for the eLearning Center that were endorsed by CBSC and proposed the composition of the Steering Committee (SC) that is as follows: 10 People (IHO Director, CBSC Chair, Secretary (from CBSC), 1 member of IBSC and 6 other members). A Center Support Team will be provided by the Republic of Korea to

maintain the system. Their continued support is greatly appreciated and will ensure that IHO Members and Non-Members will be able to access important learning opportunities.

Once the SC is established the IHO eLearning Center will go officially live and be announced via Circular Letter.

Contribution from other MS

Several MS provide direct contribution or support for IHO CB activities. This can be among other the provision of facilities, trainers, other personnel, advice, etc.

The CB programme depends on these contributions to the CB programme. Other MS provide support on a bilateral or multilateral level outside the CB programme. This additional support helps to build wider capacity building in hydrography. To improve the visibility of the contribution from MS outside the CB fund and to harmonize the efforts even better, MS are requested to inform their relevant CB Coordinators or the CBSC Secretary about planned, ongoing or executed activities so that they can be included in the IHO CB Calendar.

IHO Capacity Building Strategy

The revised Capacity Building Strategy which is now aligned with IHO Strategic plan 2021-2026 was approved by Council 6 and adopted by Assembly 3.

Capacity Building Work Programme 2023

The WP for 2023 was updated in the CBSC21 Intersessional Meeting. It is expected that several activities will not be completed due to the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and the number of activities that have been carried over from previous workplans. To assist in their completion the CB Coordinators will seek delivery by alternative methods where possible. At CBSC21 it was agreed that funded activities from the 2023 plan that are not completed will be carried into CBWP24. Those not funded will be cancelled. Going forward it was agreed that funded activities in the 2024WP that are not completed will not be carried over into the 2025WP as was previously the case prior to COVID-19.

Capacity Building Work Programme 2024

The submissions from the RHCs have been prioritized based on procedure 4 and adjusted according to Procedure 11 at CBSC21. To meet the requirements of all submissions would require funds of 603,610 €. The funds allocated to the 2024 CB Work Programme currently stand at 126,890 €.

Publication C-55

C-55 is an important external IHO document, used by IMO as source for the status of survey and cartography worldwide in supporting the IMSAS programme. and is also a source of data in measuring the Strategic Performance Indicators (SPI) that measures progress against the IHO Strategic Plan 2021-2026. The PT reported to CBSC21 on the progress of improving C-55 in the following areas:

MSI: WWNWS has developed a Geospatial solution for the status of MSI reporting by Coastal States on their website. This solution can function for C-55 reporting on MSI and therefore does not require membership input. This solution will be demonstrated at IRCC15.

Status of Hydrographic Surveying – Safety of Navigation: The previous C-55 PT developed a solution for survey status in countries based on CATZOC provided via the RENCS directly to the IHO Secretariat, therefore does not require membership input. This solution was proposed to IRCC11.

Status of Hydrographic Surveying – Non-navigational purposes: Data from Seabed2030 can support annual regional and global reporting including Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ), therefore does not require membership input.

Future requirements: It is expected that future C-55 reporting will be based on a GIS solution. This technical solution will need to be aligned with S-100 development.

Capacity Building Funding

Currently CB funding is at a critically low level severely hampering the strategic activities of the IHO. Therefore, CBSC welcomes proposal 3.5 to A-3 (*Establishment of a Taskforce to explore the potential merits, structures, and options for alternate fund generation to support Capacity Building and other IHO initiatives*). CBSC identified the need for the taskforce to be resourced by relevant specialists (for example proposal writing skills). CBSC discussed the potential for funding generation through a modest increase of ENC price where member states will maintain price setting responsibility. CBSC would like to be represented on the task force.

3. Progress on IRCC Action Items

No Actions from IRCC14 were allocated to CBSC.

4. Problems Encountered

CBSC Engagement

CB Coordinators from 3 Regional Hydrographic Commissions were unable to attend CBSC21 in person but delivered the presentations by VTC. Only 2 of the other CBSC Members, non CB Coordinators attended CBSC21. As we conducted many strategic discussions it is important that all regions are represented at the important work of the CB Sub-Committee.

Limited CB Fund

Capacity Building in Hydrography is a core strategic activity for the IHO. CB is executed on many different levels; by individual nations having their own CB program, through earmarked projects generously sponsored by the Republic of Korea and by the Nippon Foundation in Japan and through the activities funded by the IHO budget. The appeal of the CBSC to ascertain a minimum level of funds for this last category has led to a significant attention and fruitful

discussions on all levels of the IHO. The Taskforce to investigate funding opportunities will address these challenges.

Completion of CBWP

Due to impact of the aftermath of the COVID pandemic on the workplans of 2021 and 2022 a significant number of funded activities have been carried into the 2023 workplan. It is believed that some will remain uncompleted by the end of the year due to the pressures on resources and time and will need to be carried into workplan for 2024.

5. Any Other Items of Note

The Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) presented their work and informed on the procedure on how to apply for relevant JICA funded courses.

CBSC Secretary reported on the work undertaken by the internship of a Student of the University of Tokyo at the IHO Secretariat. He sent out a survey to all recipients of IHO CB funded activities in the last decade to evaluate impact of the courses on their career, organisation, and country. The results confirmed the importance of CB activities for Member States. The CBSC will help to further develop this survey and would encourage this assessment to be conducted tri-annually.

6. Conclusions and Recommended Actions

CBSC21 was a successful meeting where we have seen an increase in delivery and planning of CB activity within regions as the world is moving to a post pandemic phase.

Discussions at CBSC21 focussed on the development of C-55, the Empowering Women in Hydrography Project, the establishment of a taskforce to address CB funding levels and the realised benefits of IHO CB support.

7. Justification and Impacts

Detailed information and justifications for the proposed actions or recommendations are provided in the report under paragraph 2 and 4.

8. Action Required of IRCC

The IRCC is invited to:

- a. note the report,
- b. to approve the guidelines for the IHO eLearning Center and to establish a Steering Committee for the management of the eLearning Center.
- c. task CBSC to liaise with the RENCS and the IHO Secretariat to investigate which Member States are currently not contributing CATZOC data to the IHO Secretariat via the RENCS and to proceed with the proposed solution as given to IRCC11 (to populate C-55 Status of Survey for Safety of Navigation Purpose).

- d. ask IHO Secretariat to issue a questionnaire on gender balance via Circular Letter every 3 years.
- e. recommend RHCs to ensure representation of their region in the CBSC and encourage other IHO Member States to join in the work of the CBSC.
- f. note the significant effort from CB Coordinators to assess the needs in the region, to identify national and regional projects that may contribute to the CBWP and to coordinate the support for countries in need.
- g. recognise the contribution of Republic of Korea, Nippon Foundation of Japan and the Canadian Hydrographic Service to the Capacity Building Activities of the IHO.
- h. take any further action as seen appropriate.