

**16<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE IHO INTER-REGIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
IHO-IRCC16  
Santa Cruz, Galapagos 10-12 June 2024**

**Report of the Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC)**

<b>Submitted by:</b>	Chair CBSC
<b>Related Documents:</b>	/
<b>Related Projects:</b>	/

<b>Chair:</b>	Evert FLIER, Norway
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Lucy FIELDHOUSE, UK
<b>Secretary:</b>	Leonel MANTEIGAS, IHO Secretariat
<b>Member States:</b>	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, Türkiye, UK and USA, several of them are representing RHCs as CB-Coordinators.
<b>Expert Contributors:</b>	/
<i>see Annex for full details</i>	

### 1. Meetings Held During Reporting Period

CBSC21	7-9 June 2023, Tokyo, Japan
CBSC22 Intersessional	7 February 2024 VTC

Next meetings:

CBSC23 Intersessional	February 2025, VTC
CBSC23	May/June 2025, Monaco
CBSC24	May/June 2026, Peru
CBSC25	May/ June 2027, Nigeria
CBSC26	May/June 2028, Australia/New Zealand
CBSC27	May/June 2029, Denmark (tbc)

### 2. Work Program

Details of the Capacity Building Work Programme are available at the IHO website ([www.iho.int/cbcs](http://www.iho.int/cbcs)). 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 2024, 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.

For the Finance Report - 2024

	IHO-ROK	ROK	Nippon	Total
Balance 2023	357,326.75	886,994.16	0.00	1,244,320.91
Income 2024	65,000.00	656,213.00	436,077.00	1,157,290.00
Expected Surplus from IHO budget				0.00
Contribute from ROK (non earmarked)	60,000.00			
Available for 2024	482,326.75	1,543,207.16	436,077.00	2,461,610.91
Earmarked 2024	0.00	0.00	-436,077.00	-436,077.00
Regular CBWP 2024	-293,265.00	1,543,207.16	0.00	1,249,942.16
Expected Balance in 31/12/2024	<b>189,061.75</b>			
Projects not funded at 2024 CBWP	476,720.00			

Expected balance of the CB Fund available for the 2025 CBWP

	IHO	ROK	Nippon	Total
Expected Balance end 2024	64,061.75			64,061.75
Expected Income from IHO 2024	65,000.00	*	*	65,000.00
Expected Income from ROK 2024	60,000.00	*	*	60,000.00
Expected Surplus from IHO budget				0
<b>Available for 2025</b>	<b>189,061.75</b>	*	*	<b>189,061.75</b>

The above values will be used in the 2025 CB Management Plan (CBMP, doc. CBSC22-09.3) that will be the source for the 2025 CB Work Programme (CBWP, doc. CBSC22-09.4). The cell marked with \* depend on the funds approved by IHO Nippon Foundation and ROK for 2025.

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 2024 ROK maintained the level of the contribution and provided more than 656,200€ 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 2024 an additional contribution of 60K€ was made to the non-earmarked activities of the CBWP2025. 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 Hydrographic Surveying 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. Significant events were held in 2023:

In August 2023 an alumni seminar was hosted in Tokyo for the Nippon Foundation-GEBCO UNH Training Program Alumni more than 78 of 113 Alumni participated.

In October 2023 an alumni seminar for the was hosted in London for Nippon Foundation-IHO Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography (GEOMAC) Project which saw 48 Fellows (from the total of 92) from 32 countries meet. Additionally, the 15<sup>th</sup> cohort who were undertaking the GEOMAC course in the UK were able to also meet with the Fellows to share knowledge and experiences.

The next course of Nippon Foundation-IHO Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography (GEOMAC) Project will start in July and end in December of 2024.

### **Empowering Women in Hydrography**

The Empowering Women in Hydrography (EWH) work item aims to contribute to more women participating equitably in the field of hydrography and assuming leadership roles within the hydrographic community. Due to additional and continued support from Member States (Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Norway and UK) the project continues as supported by the decision of the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council. Events since IRCC15 include:

- Continuation of the Mentoring Programme.
- 2 opportunities from SHOM (France) training in hydrography (HYDRO-3 / AFHy)
- 3 opportunities to participate in hydrographic and oceanographic survey activities aboard two SHOM research vessels
- Webinar 8 March with the World Maritime University

Current and future activities include:

- NOAA's (USA) offered three opportunities for an at-sea experience/advanced training on NOAA hydrographic survey vessels for 2024, associated with the EWH project

- Secondment to IC-ENC on eLearning Creation
- Hiring an EWH assistant
- Continuation of the Mentoring Programme supported by UKHO
- Internships / Secondments
- Funding support via UK Gender Balance Fund

### **IHO eLearning Center**

Since IRCC15 the IHO eLearning Centre Steering Committee (SC) has formed and met virtually 3 times. The composition of the Steering Committee (SC) is as follows: IHO Director, CBSC Chair, Vice Chair (USA), Secretary (CBSC Vice Chair), 1 member of IBSC and 6 other members. In the absence of a General Manager a General Manager Group has formed from the SC who in collaboration with the System Manager will assess any submitted material (for suitability and technical compatibility), share it with the appropriate IHO WG, facilitate its uploading and make the SC aware of the material. A System Manager is 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. The SC continue to seek eLearning Material from Member States and partner organisations to be added to the eLearning Centre Platform.

### **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.

### **Contribution from the RENCs**

During the last CBSC Intersessional meeting both RENCs presented plans for contributions to the CB Work Programme.

IC-ENC has started with an “opt in” initiative, which is expected to generate substantial funding opportunities. As a consequence, CB Coordinators were encouraged to submit relevant Phase 3 CB proposals. The first CB activity funded from this new fund was an ENC Quality Assessment & Conversion Course successfully organized by the MBSHC in Istanbul last May. The PRIMAR Advisory Committee will discuss a similar approach in November this year.

PRIMAR currently offers their full e-learning package for five Non-RENC Member States (MS), up to five persons per MS.

### **Crowdsourced Bathymetry**

Chair CBSC presented a presentation on Crowdsourced Bathymetry as a potential powerful tool for Capacity Building in regions with limited professional survey capabilities. The CB coordinators were tasked to reach out to the CSB/SB2030 coordinators in their region to discuss CSB opportunities.

### **Capacity Building Work Programme 2024**

The WP for 2024 was updated in the CBSC22 Intersessional Meeting. It is expected that several activities that were not completed due to the COVID-19 pandemic can now be completed and an increase in activities is evident. Due to this it was agreed that funded activities not completed would no longer be carried over into the following years workplan.

### **Capacity Building Work Programme 2025**

The submissions from the RHCs have been prioritized based on procedure 4 and adjusted according to Procedure 11 at CBSC22. To meet the requirements of all submissions would require funds of more than 577,000 €. The funds allocated to the 2025 CB Work Programme currently stand at 189,061 €.

### **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. At CBSC22 the Chair reported on the geospatial solution for MSI status of Coastal States on their website. This solution can function for C-55 reporting on MSI and therefore does not require membership input, as demonstrated at IRCC15.

### **Capacity Building Funding**

Currently CB funding is at a critically low level severely hampering the strategic activities of the IHO. Therefore, CBSC welcomes the establishment of a Project Team to explore the potential merits, structures, and options for alternate fund generation to support Capacity Building and other IHO initiatives (as per proposal 3.5 to A-3), the work of the IENWG to explore fields of cooperation with the EU and also the initiatives by the RENCs. CBSC discussed the potential challenges of scaling up CB activities with the current level of human resource if funds are increased.

### **3. Progress on IRCC Action Items**

IRCC15 Action 2: 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). - Completed

#### **4. Problems Encountered**

##### **CBSC Engagement**

CB Coordinators from 3 Regional Hydrographic Commissions were unable to attend CBSC22 in person. CBSC continues to seek wider membership in support of the strategic pillar of the IHO in times of likely increased budget and times of challenge for the RHCs.

##### **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. It is hoped that the formation of the Project Team, that will investigate funding opportunities will address these challenges. Along with the contributions from the RENCs and ROK for non-earmarked activities it is expected that the level CB activities will increase.

#### **5. Any Other Items of Note**

CBSC Chair presented on the topic of Crowd-sourced Bathymetry as a potential powerful tool to improve seabed knowledge for the regions. CB coordinators were encouraged to reach out to the regional CSB Coordinators.

Following CBSC21/decision 4, the 13th Joint IHO/IMO/WMO/IOC/IALA/IAEA/FIG/IMPA Capacity Building (CB) Coordination Meeting was held on 13 and 14 May 2014 at the headquarters of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) in Monaco. The meeting marked the restart of the joint CB coordination meetings after four years of interruption caused by the COVID Pandemic, bringing together 16 representatives from the eight organisations. The main objective of the meeting was to coordinate the efforts of international organizations for building and developing capacity in the maritime and marine sectors, in line with the United Nations concept of "Delivering as One". The organisations presented on their respective workplans and discussed how to cooperate having joint CB activities. Subsequent meetings have already been scheduled.

#### **6. Conclusions and Recommended Actions**

CBSC22 was a successful meeting which focussed much discussion on potential increased CB funding that will support the delivery of activities that relate to the production and conversion of S-10X products and services for Member States aligned with the current prioritisation of S-100 roadmap implementation.

## **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. 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.
- c. encourage Member States to contribute eLearning material to the IHO eLearning Centre
- d. 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.
- e. recognise the contribution of Republic of Korea, Nippon Foundation of Japan and other Member States to the Capacity Building Activities of the IHO.
- f. take any further action as seen appropriate.