

**Training Course: “Response to Chemical Pollution”
05.07.07 – 07.07.07, Bremen, Germany**

Background Information

The training course is carried out by the Institut für Kreislaufwirtschaft GmbH (Institute for Recycling and Environmental Protection) in cooperation with EMPA (Environmental & Marine Project Management Agency) Bremen, Germany. The action is co-funded by the European Commission, DG Environment within the framework of community cooperation against accidental or deliberate marine pollution.

Framework and objectives of the training course

The training course will give an overview on the methodology to respond to chemical pollution by HNS at sea and on the sea-bed. It was identified during contacts with experts on marine pollution (e.g. partners of the project HASREP and the Central Command for Maritime Emergencies Germany), that there is only a limited amount of knowledge on the various dangerous chemicals (HNS, Hazardous and Noxious Substances) transported by sea and especially how to react in case of an emergency as compared to the body of knowledge on oil pollution combating. Therefore the training course will be designed for personnel responsible for and trained in combating oil pollution having only limited experience in the field of chemical pollution. The background of participants can be administrative, nautical, technical or scientific. They should have some experience in fighting accidental marine pollution, especially from their work in the vicinity of high-risk areas.

The main objectives of the training course are:

- to familiarise the participants with methods of intervention which allow the minimisation of effects of chemical pollution and methods to recover or neutralise chemical substances
- to build up knowledge on how to minimise short-, medium- and long-term environmental damages associated with accidental releases of chemicals carried in bulk and packages to marine systems on the sea surface and the sea bed
- to promote the exchange of knowledge, experience and opinions among professionals working for local, regional or national institutions and organisations
- to increase the capability of the institutions mentioned above to manage maritime emergencies involving HNS, by training management and organisational skills
- to contribute to the formation of an European expert networks in this field in order to shorten communication times and paths in emergency situations and to promote implementation of necessary improvements

The training course will be divided into three thematic sessions:

- Thematic session 1: Effects of chemicals on the sea and the sea floor
- Thematic session 2: Detection of chemicals and assessment of environmental damage
- Thematic session 3: Combating chemical spills

The participants have the opportunity to actively contribute their professional expertise, experiences and lessons learned from the management of past oil and chemical spills in discussion sessions during the lectures. Furthermore there will be an excursion that involves practical aspects of chemical spill combating. On the last day of the workshop the participants are asked to get involved in a simulation exercise, which shall stimulate the discussion and provides training for the participants to increase their capabilities to manage maritime emergencies.

All relevant information on the training course, including practical information for participants, background information, the course programme and current information are provided on the web page www.marine-pollution.hs-bremen.de.