

Our Voyage Together

How IMO's technical cooperation supports sustainable development



IMO's work is essential to the world

Our mission: safe, secure, clean and sustainable shipping

We are the United Nations agency that makes the global rules on how ships are built, operated and disposed of – and, through technical cooperation, we support governments and others to apply these rules. Each day, around 50,000 merchant ships deliver the things people need and want – from food, to clothes, fuel, raw materials, electronics, medication and more. Our rules apply to all ships, regardless of where they operate, who owns them, or which country they are registered in.



Kitack Lim,
IMO Secretary-General

“Maritime activity is essential for economic growth and, through our technical cooperation programme, developing countries can build the resources and capacity they need to participate in it. So join IMO and our network of donors and partners - working together for sustainable development.”



We save lives

Keeping people at sea safe and secure is IMO's number one priority. Crews, passengers and everyone who comes into contact with ships need to be protected. IMO measures cover the full life cycle of ships – from design, to construction, equipment, crewing, operation and disposal. Our flagship Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Convention, which arose from the Titanic disaster of 1912, deals with virtually every area of ship safety. Special codes, guidelines and other treaties also cover topics such as collisions, seafarer standards, search and rescue, maritime security and many more.

Today, shipping is safer and more secure than ever before – and IMO regulations are key to this success story.



Find out how we can work together to make the maritime industry safer and more secure (see *partnerships* section)

We protect the environment

IMO strives to reduce shipping's negative impact on the planet. Shipping is the most environment-friendly method for transporting large quantities of goods, but it must continue adjusting to global society's changing expectations on environmental performance. Strict IMO rules prevent or limit pollution from ships by oil, chemicals, sewage, garbage, harmful emissions and dumping waste – covered by IMO's main conventions on prevention of pollution by ships, MARPOL, and the London Protocol.

Measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the sulphur content of ship's fuel, and special measures for shipping in polar waters are recent examples of how IMO is responding to the emerging challenges of environmental stewardship and sustainability. This approach may also drive changes in the global fleet, encouraging older vessels to be phased out, promoting new and more efficient ship designs and technology, and streamlining vessel operations. IMO's measures also protect marine ecosystems, biodiversity and human health around the world, through IMO instruments such as the Ballast Water Management Convention and the Biofouling Guidelines. Projects then support the implementation of such instruments.



Find out how you can work with IMO to protect the environment (see *partnerships* section)

We support the flow of trade

Shipping forms the backbone of world trade, transporting around 80% of global trade by volume. No other method of mass transportation is as cost-effective or fuel-efficient.

The maritime sector, which includes shipping, ports and the people that operate them, can and should play a significant role in creating conditions for increased employment, prosperity and stability – to enhance economic development.

Our Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic (FAL Convention) sets out internationally-agreed measures to facilitate international maritime traffic. It is a powerful tool for streamlining administrative processes. There is a clear link between reducing red tape and competitiveness.

By enhancing the free flow of maritime trade and ensuring this key international industry can thrive, IMO measures directly contribute to eradicating poverty.



Safe, clean and efficient maritime trade



Sustainable economic development



**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**

Supporting 17 goals to transform our world

In 2015, 193 countries adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets.

This Agenda calls for action by all countries to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development by 2030 world-wide – and the SDGs are seen as an opportunity to transform the world for the better and leave no one behind.

As part of the United Nations family, IMO is actively working towards these goals. Indeed, most of the elements of the 2030 Agenda will only be realized with a sustainable transport sector supporting world trade and facilitating global economy. IMO's Technical Cooperation Committee has formally approved linkages between the Organization's technical assistance work and the SDGs.



IMO can help match donors and recipients to develop infrastructure (see *partnerships* section)



Our Strengths

Becoming our partner means sharing our strengths and advantages



We make the rules

IMO is where governments come to make and amend the vital rules governing international merchant shipping. For 70 years, we have been driving improvements in shipping to achieve a better world today. Our proud record includes adopting more than 50 international instruments, conventions and protocols, and over 1,000 codes and recommendations, which, together, help make shipping safe, secure, clean and sustainable.

The Organization enjoys the respect, authority and responsibility to continue this work and address future challenges brought on by new technologies and changing global expectations about safety, environmental protection and social responsibility.

An extensive global network

Our network spans the entire maritime community and relevant stakeholders, including:

174 Member States and three Associate Members

79 Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs)

64 Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)



50 years' experience in technical cooperation

IMO has built up expert knowledge and experience in providing the technical cooperation required by our member countries. We match their needs with the resources available from our donors and partners. As part of the UN family, we treasure values of impartiality and universality, and have global operational outreach through UN Resident Coordinators and regional organizations in all developing countries. This helps to support rapid and flexible country-driven assistance.

IMO – a United Nations agency

We are the specialized UN agency responsible for safe, secure, environmentally sound, efficient and sustainable shipping. Our Member States represent the vast majority of the global public, who depend on shipping for trade. As a member of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination of the United Nations, IMO is committed to the UN's work at the global, regional and country levels.



Our achievements in technical cooperation



Promoting global maritime leaders

IMO presides over two distinguished global maritime training institutions and runs a programme for promoting the representation of women – thereby helping to provide the maritime sector with the professionals it relies on.



The World Maritime University (WMU)

- The world's centre of excellence in postgraduate maritime and oceans education, professional training and research – educating the maritime leaders of tomorrow
- Over 4,600 graduates from 167 countries since 1983
- Many graduates now hold important positions in the maritime industry and beyond
- Based in Malmö, Sweden
- Find out more at www.wmu.se



Women in maritime

Through our gender and capacity-building programme “Women in Maritime”, IMO works to enhance the contribution of women as key maritime stakeholders. Over the last 30 years, IMO has supported the empowerment of maritime women, under the motto “training-visibility-recognition”, by establishing regional associations for women in the maritime sector, and encouraged IMO Member States to open the doors of their maritime institutions to enable women to train alongside men.

Achievements of the programme include:

- Seven Women in Maritime associations (WIMA) set up around the world
- Increased training opportunities through gender-specific fellowships
- Increased number of women graduating from maritime training institutions

The IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI)



- Globally recognized as the training centre for specialists in international maritime law – with courses in Master of Laws, Master of Humanities, research programmes and more
- Over 780 graduates from 137 countries and territories since 1988, helping to fill the gap between countries' maritime legal frameworks
- Many graduates now hold important positions in the maritime legal field at national level
- Located in Msida, Malta
- Find out more at www.imli.org

Get in touch to find out how to support these vital activities – including through scholarships



Partnerships and training

IMO's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP) runs and supports a wide variety of national and regional training courses, seminars and advisory missions all over the world. These events provide expert advice on how to implement and enforce IMO rules and standards – providing valuable technical assistance to countries working to improve their maritime sectors. These events are carried out by IMO staff and the Organization's extensive international network of experts and consultants, many of whom are WMU/IMLI graduates.



IMO in action

Supporting maritime transport policy for good governance

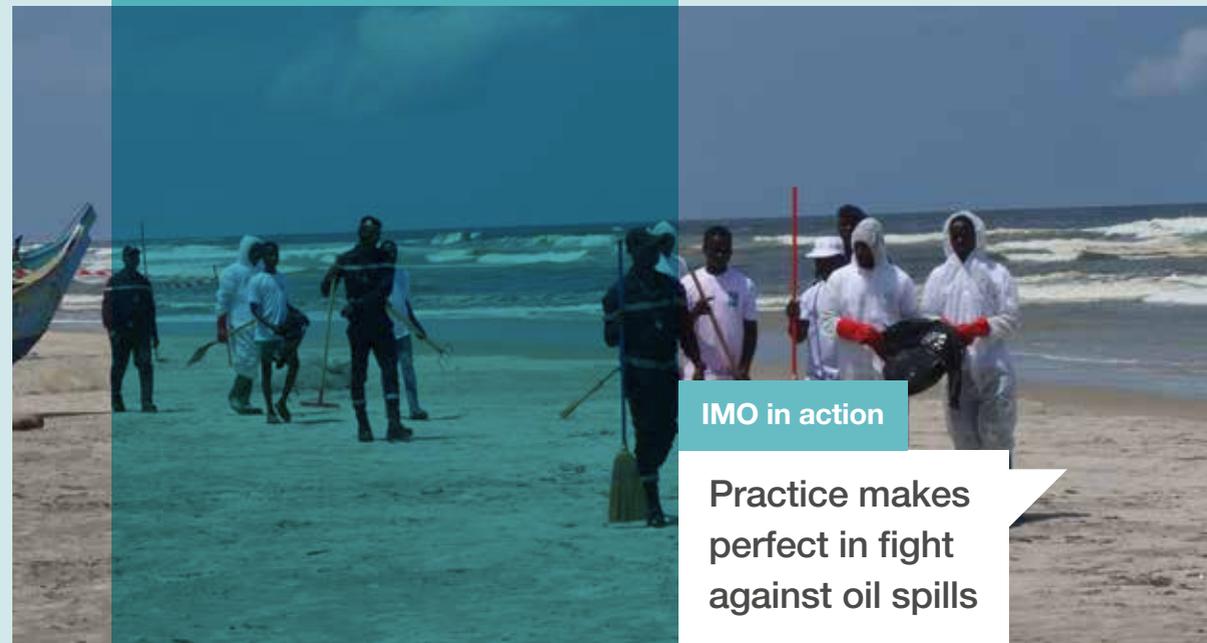
IMO in action

Getting to grips with ship safety inspections



Safe carriage of dangerous and hazardous cargoes

IMO in action



IMO in action

Practice makes perfect in fight against oil spills

IMO's regional presence



IMO has a regional presence in selected developing regions, which:

- Supports IMO's input into national and regional development policies
- Provides active field-level participation in the development, execution and coordination of IMO's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP)

Today IMO's regional presence includes:

- Regional Coordinator in Côte d'Ivoire for West and Central Africa (Francophone)
- Regional Coordinator in Ghana for West and Central Africa (Anglophone)
- Regional Coordinator in Kenya for Eastern and Southern Africa
- Regional Coordinator in Philippines for East Asia
- Regional Maritime Adviser in Trinidad and Tobago for the Caribbean
- IMO Technical Cooperation Officer, supported by IMO, based in the Pacific Community (SPC) Secretariat in Suva, Fiji, for the Pacific Islands

Maritime security programmes for sustainable development

Security is essential to maritime trade and sustainable development. IMO brings together countries at the regional level, as well as assisting individual countries to embrace a multi-agency approach to maritime security and law enforcement. This involves assistance in legislation, training, capacity building and information sharing.

Enhancing global maritime security

IMO's Global Maritime Security Capacity Building Programme supports countries in enhancing security measures to protect ships and ports from threats posed by terrorism, piracy and armed robbery, smuggling of arms, drugs, and illicit goods, as well as people trafficking.

The programme comprises a range of training courses and technical assistance aimed at helping countries assess and respond to threats to their maritime borders and the free flow of trade, including emerging threats such as cyber-security. The aim is to ensure full implementation of SOLAS chapter XI-2 and the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code as well as other IMO security and counter piracy instruments, to enhance maritime security globally, including all ports and key maritime routes used by international shipping.

Where needed, the programme is delivered with regional and UN partners, including through joint UN country assessment visits under the auspices of the UN Security Council's Counter Terrorism Committee: un.org/sc/ctc/

Counter-terrorism

IMO is helping countries in the Gulf of Guinea and in the western Indian Ocean and Gulf of Aden to develop and implement national and regional measures to address both the threat of piracy and armed robbery against ships as well as other interrelated illicit maritime activities.

Two special programmes are in place aimed at supporting implementation of regionally agreed frameworks of cooperation and capacity building:

- Support to the 2009 Djibouti Code of Conduct as amended by the Jeddah Amendments of 2017 for the Gulf of Aden and western Indian Ocean area through the Djibouti Code of Conduct Programme; and
- Support to the 2013 Yaoundé Code of Conduct for West and Central African coastal states through the West and Central Africa Maritime Security Programme.

Activities under the two programmes include nationally assigned legal and policy advice and assistance, followed up by targeted workshops, regional coast guard interdiction training and national table-top exercises promoting inter-agency cooperation and a whole-of-government approach to maritime security enhancement.



Projects protecting the environment and addressing climate change



The GloBallast Partnerships Programme (2008-2017) assisted developing countries to implement IMO's Ballast Water Management Convention – aimed at reducing the transfer of invasive species and pathogens in ships' ballast water. The Programme is an example of IMO working with partners to address a global threat to the health of the world's oceans, by further improving the environmental and socio-economic sustainability of shipping and reducing its negative impact on marine ecosystems. Find out more about this GEF-UNDP-IMO initiative: globallast.imo.org



The Global Maritime Energy Efficiency Partnerships Project (GloMEEP) assists developing countries to effectively implement IMO's energy efficiency measures for ships. Through the project's public-private partnership, the Global Industry Alliance to Support Low Carbon Shipping (GIA), maritime industry leaders are working together to catalyse innovations in ship energy efficiency and tackle the challenges of decarbonizing the shipping sector. Find out more about the GEF-UNDP-IMO Project at glomeep.imo.org



The Global MTCC Network (GMN) initiative unites technology centres – Maritime Technology Cooperation Centres – in targeted regions into a global network. Together, they are promoting technologies and operations to improve energy efficiency in the maritime sector and help navigate shipping into a low-carbon future. Developing countries and, in particular, Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States, are the main beneficiaries. Funded by the European Union and implemented by IMO. Find out more at gmn.imo.org



The Marine Environment Protection of the South-East Asian Seas (MEPSEAS) project assists participating developing countries to address high-priority marine environment issues related to ships and shipping. In particular, MEPSEAS provides support to implement four of IMO's key international environmental conventions, covering i) ballast water management, ii) anti-fouling systems, iii) prevention of pollution from ships, and iv) dumping of wastes at sea. Find out more about this Norad-funded project: mepseas.imo.org



Find out how to request assistance or make a donation (see back cover for contact details)



Partnership opportunities with IMO

How we work with partners

IMO provides skills, knowledge and networks in maritime matters. Our partners provide experience and expertise in investment and finance.

IMO looks forward to continued support for its technical cooperation activities. But we want to explore new ways and new areas of technical cooperation – under what we call “knowledge partnership”. We are seeking to broaden our partnerships with our Member States, Governments, other UN bodies, international organizations and the private sector. See how such partnership cooperation could work for you in the following pages.



Our knowledge partnership model

Through grant aid we can help build national capacity, for example through:

- Needs assessment
- Legal frameworks
- Administrative structures
- Education and training

The outcome? A significant boost to sustainable development through:

- A safer maritime world
- Better environmental protection
- Smoother flow of maritime trade

By arranging concessional loans we can help develop infrastructure, such as:

- Port reception facilities
- Aids to navigation
- Maritime rescue infrastructure
- Port development

Together, we support recipients to improve their maritime capacity or infrastructure. We have two ways to deliver.

1

IMO brings maritime expertise, knowledge and an unrivalled global network



2

Our partners bring investment and financial expertise and other resources

Contact us to see how you can participate in and benefit from our knowledge partnership model



Join us to make shipping safer and save lives



Search and rescue

IMO's Global Search and Rescue (SAR) Plan and Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) are designed to ensure that persons in distress at sea can be rescued no matter where an accident occurs. This is coordinated by national SAR organizations and, when necessary, through cooperation between neighbouring SAR organizations. However, there are still countries which lack the necessary facilities and equipment to provide SAR services or have yet to formulate a SAR plan. An IMO technical cooperation project could help fill these gaps.



Passenger ship safety

The large numbers of passengers and significant potential for environmental damage following an accident place passenger shipping at the forefront of maritime safety. Many developing nations rely on domestic passenger ships and IMO projects can help bring about much-needed safety improvements.



Ship recycling

Most ships are recycled when they reach the end of their service life. This usually takes place in developing countries. Through technical cooperation, IMO can help mitigate the environmental, occupational health and safety risks related to this important activity.



Maritime training and the human element

The safety and security of life at sea, protection of the marine environment and the safe delivery of over 80% of the world's trade depends on the professionalism and competence of seafarers. An IMO project could help nations to establish a robust maritime training system.



Maritime communications and navigation

Safety of navigation, maritime security, search and rescue, and the protection of the marine environment are all dependent on good maritime communication systems and navigation services. However, there are still many regions in the world which lack sufficient shore-based communication infrastructure to monitor ship movements and to provide information to ships. IMO can help.



Fishing vessel safety

The lives of fishers are frequently put at risk by poor living and operating conditions aboard fishing vessels, especially in developing countries. Enabling countries to implement IMO's fishing vessel safety regulations will greatly improve conditions.

Join us to protect the environment and address climate change



Port reception facilities

International regulations require ports to be equipped with facilities to receive and treat a range of operational wastes from ships. Lack of such facilities may be a threat to the marine environment and seafarers' hygiene. IMO projects can tackle these issues.



Maritime legislation

IMO can provide focused and specific technical assistance to countries needing to develop or update their maritime legislation to give full effect to IMO instruments. Many developing nations need this in order to participate fully in maritime activity and benefit from the economic stimulus that this can bring.



Reducing air pollution

Although international shipping is the most energy-efficient mode of mass transport, emissions of gases like carbon dioxide (CO₂) and sulphur oxide (SO_x) need to be managed and reduced. IMO technical cooperation projects can assist – for example, by developing facilities to provide electric power from shore to ships in port, which can significantly reduce air pollution.



Response to oil and chemical pollution

Technical assistance can be given to both prevent pollution and enhance the ability to respond to such pollution if an accident occurs. IMO can help build capacity in terms of developing contingency plans and providing training.

Join us to help trade flow and strengthen maritime legislation

Facilitation activities

All countries face challenges in dealing with the different administrative processes for clearance of ships, cargo, passengers and crew in ports. IMO can help reduce administrative burdens and improve facilitation in ports, including through training and capacity building to establish national facilitation committees. A maritime "single window" project can help countries establish a simple, effective electronic method to avoid unnecessary effort and duplication. The result? A streamlined interface and a stronger, more effective logistics chain – vital for economic development and sustainable growth.



Mechanisms for liability and compensation

IMO's comprehensive liability and compensation regime covering pollution incidents, wreck removal and the carriage of passengers and their luggage provides vital protection in the event of an incident. IMO can provide training to lawyers, maritime administrations, policy makers and legislative drafters as well as industry stakeholders to make sure they can benefit from these important international measures.





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