

Global Initiative Southeast Asia

UPDATES FROM THE REGION

OCT 2021

Upcoming Oil Spill Preparedness Activities

Activities in the presental format are postponed until further notice.

The IMO encourages Member States and stakeholders to stay abreast of the latest, and comprehensive, COVID-19 guidance provided on the [IMO Website](#).

Our Vision

A trusted and visible partner to ASEAN Member States in oil spill preparedness and response, jointly steered by governments and Industry.

Our Mission

Improve the regional capability in Southeast Asia, by assisting in the development of national capacities in oil spill preparedness and response, through government and industry cooperation.

For more information, visit our website at <http://www.gisea.org>

Highlights from Quarter 3 2021

While the COVID-19 Pandemic continues to bring uncertainties, Q3 saw an uptick in activities, conducted either under the auspices of GISEA, or in collaboration with our partners; this contrasts positively with the preceding quarters.

GISEA notes the lag in capacity-building effort to strengthen oil spill preparedness and response across the region, brought about by unprecedented disruptions. We remain encouraged by the readiness of ASEAN Member States to resume activities, albeit in remote and virtual formats.

As we leverage the use of technology to facilitate programme delivery and engagement of our stakeholders, GISEA seeks to continue the momentum into the next quarter. The Project remains committed to support the efforts of our partner countries to enhance national, sub-regional and regional capabilities in oil spill preparedness and response.

Update: Remote Legal Assistance

To recap, the success of a pilot activity to provide **remote legal assistance to 4 beneficiary countries within the remit of GIWACAF** demonstrates the value of extending technical assistance on legal, regulatory and policy matters through the GI programme. GISEA, with the assistance of the IMO and key technical partners, seeks to leverage the experience of GIWACAF and adapt the effort to benefit its partner countries.

Following several delays, a **kick-off meeting and workshop** was held on 20 Oct to launch the 'Remote Legal Assistance to ASEAN Member States on the Effective Implementation of IMO Conventions Relating to Oil Pollution and Liability and Compensation'. Two international consultants, each representing the administration and academia, will provide their expertise and experience to support the legal review for 8 participating ASEAN Member States.

GISEA would like to once again express our appreciation to the National Focal Points for their patience and continued interest. For further information, please contact us at gisea.manager@ipieca.org; updates will be provided as the activity progresses.



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The oil and gas industry remains committed to ensuring the wellbeing of the communities where they operate, and the health and safety of their workers, as they continue to provide the world with the power it needs.

Good practice and guidance on oil spill preparedness and response during the pandemic can be found on the [IPIECA Website](#).



Series of events/ technical sessions leading up to the East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress 2021 (Refer to the [2021 EAS Congress Website](#) for details and information relating to oil spill preparedness)

Interspill 2022: Call for Papers
Submission deadline: 31 Oct (extended)

For more information, visit our website at <http://www.gisea.org>

2021 East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress: Pre-congress Event - Training workshop on NEBA/ SIMA

Due to disruptions caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic, the 2021 EAS Congress will be held virtually, in a scaled-down format featuring a Plenary hosted by the Royal Government of Cambodia on 1-2 Dec and series of pre-congress 'collabs' (technical and public-oriented discussions, workshops, and training) to be organised by PEMSEA's partners and networks, and other organisations.

Working with the [PEMSEA Resource Facility](#), GISEA jointly delivered a remote workshop with Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL) on 9 Sep; titled '[Net Environmental Benefit Analysis \(NEBA\) And Spill Impact Mitigation Assessment \(SIMA\): Engaging Key Local Stakeholders Effectively To Prepare And Respond To An Oil Spill Incident](#)', the 3.5-hour session, led by OSRL, focussed the application of NEBA/SIMA to engage different local stakeholders to prepare for, and respond to an oil spill incident.

While the audience comprised participants from countries in the [Gulf of Thailand Cooperation](#), GISEA added to the discussions, the context for regional integration and need for a common approach to NEBA to strengthen mutual assistance in oil spill preparedness and response; this supports the implementation of the [ASEAN MoU and Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan \(ROSCP\)](#).

Cambodia National Oil Spill Contingency Planning Workshop

The [Gulf of Thailand Cooperation](#), through PEMSEA, engaged Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL) to deliver a workshop on oil spill contingency planning, targeted at stakeholders across multiple agencies; GISEA collaborated in the effort, in line with our commitment to assist with capacity building in our partner countries.

This remote event took place on 16-17 Sep. It built upon the ongoing effort to support the development of a National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP) for Cambodia, and provided GISEA the opportunity to revisit findings and observations from previous [engagements](#). Some 20 participants from government agencies and industry were represented.

Specific objectives of workshop are listed as follows:

1. Provide participants an understanding on the international framework for oil spill preparedness and response;
2. Provide participants the base knowledge in oil spill preparedness and response; and
3. Support the development of sustainable actions plan to finalise and implement the NOSCP.



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Remote Legal Assistance to Participating ASEAN Member States, Oct 2021 - Feb 2022

Remote Focal Group Discussion on oil pollution preparedness, Indonesia, 16 Nov 2021

Remote Workshop on Incident Management, Philippines, TBC



IPIECA Oil Spill Group Meeting, 9 Dec 2021 (Remote/ Hybrid format)

41st ASEAN MTWG Meeting

The 41st ASEAN Maritime Transport Working Group (MTWG) Meeting, held virtually on 4 Oct, was hosted by the Marine Department of Thailand, and coordinated by the ASEAN Secretariat. GISEA normally attends the MTWG meeting as a Dialogue Partner under the IMO-ASEAN Partnership.

The IMO Regional Coordinator, on behalf of GISEA, provided updates on planned 2021 activities to the Meeting. A call was made to the ASEAN Member States to inform and update GISEA on:

1. Requests for assistance on capacity building; and
2. National or regional activities on oil spill preparedness, to allow consideration for areas that benefit from technical support, collaboration and publicity.

Spotlight: Regional Arrangements - Pollution Reporting (POLREP)

In the last issue of the Quarterly Newsletter, the spotlight was centred on the [Memorandum of Understanding on ASEAN Cooperation Mechanism for Joint Oil Spill Preparedness and Response \(ASEAN MoU\)](#). This issue further elaborates the [Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan \(ROSCP\)](#), developed under the ASEAN MoU. The ROSCP was formally adopted at the 24th ASEAN Transport Ministers (ATM) Meeting, held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 8 Nov 2018. It provides a mechanism whereby ASEAN Member States can request for, and provide mutual support in response to oil spills, to the extent allowed by their resources.

In this regard, the Pollution Reporting (POLREP) System agreed for use within the context of the ASEAN ROSCP is key to the exchange of information between Parties, and coordination of requests for assistance, including the mobilisation of resources. Modelled after existing contingency plans, the POLREP is divided into 3 parts:

1. Part I (POLWARN): Initial notice of a pollution incident
2. Part II (POLINF): Detailed supplementary report to Part 1
3. Part III (POLFAC): Request for assistance from other Parties and define operational matters related to the assistance

Persons who require guidance to complete the POLREP can refer to a video resource (produced by Mr. Peter Taylor) available through this [link](#). Using a scenario based in the Gulf of Thailand, the 'walk through' highlights standard terminology and notation of information to facilitate effective communication between senders and receivers of a notification.

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