

# POSOW

Preparedness for Oil-polluted Shoreline  
cleanup and Oiled Wildlife interventions



# TECHNICAL REPORT

A Union Civil Protection Mechanism Project

AGREEMENT NUMBER - ECHO/SUB/2014/694291



Cedre



ISPRA  
International Centre for  
Environmental and Forestry Research



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## Project Background

Due to increasing oil traffic and offshore activities, the risk of oil spills in the Mediterranean region exists. When reaching the coast, oil pollution can affect natural and human coastal resources, and become a threat to wildlife. The level of preparedness and the management of human resources, as well as the choice of techniques, equipment and facilities are one of the key elements for an effective oil spill response.



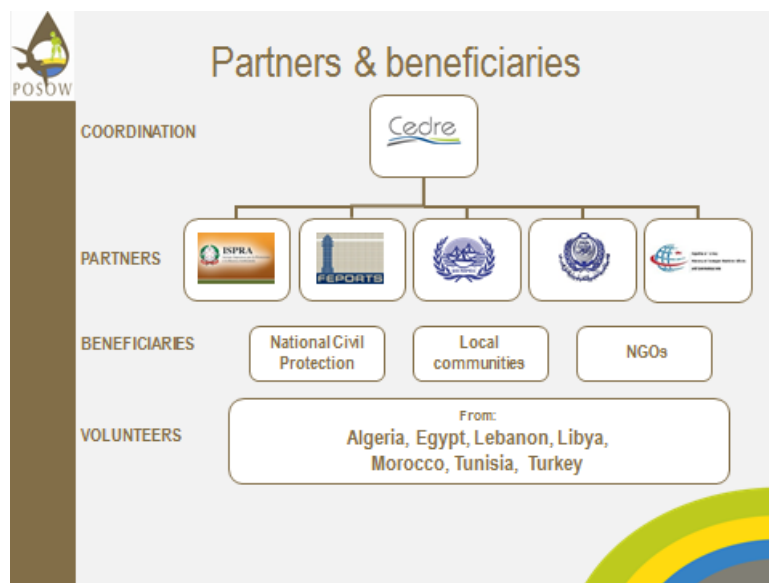
In 2012-2013, the project “Preparedness for Oil-polluted Shoreline clean-up and Oiled Wildlife interventions – POSOW” (hereinafter referred to as POSOW I) helped establish regional cooperation synergies in the field of marine pollution through the enhancement of knowledge and capacities of professional and volunteer operators working in civil protection services, in municipalities and in NGOs, in some European Union coastal Countries of the Mediterranean Sea, namely Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Slovenia and Spain. 4 training material packages (volunteer management, oiled shoreline assessment, oiled shoreline clean-up and oiled wildlife response) were developed in English. Posters and Power-Point presentations were translated in the 6 languages used in the targeted countries. Two Train the Trainers courses (TtT courses) and 9 National Pilot Training Courses (NPTC) were held in 2013 and 276 people trained were recorded in a database.

The POSOW II project aimed at expanding the achievements of POSOW I to some targeted Mediterranean European Neighbourhood Policy Countries and EU candidate Countries and potential candidates not participating in the Mechanism (referred to as Mediterranean European Neighbourhood Policy Countries and Enlargement Countries) to improve the oil spill response preparedness of the national civil protection in these countries, their mutual cooperation, as well as facilitate the support of the European Civil Protection Mechanism in case of request for assistance from one or more of these countries, namely: Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey.



POSOW II is a co-financed by EU under the Civil Protection Financial Instrument implemented by the Centre of Documentation, Research and Experimentation on Accidental Water Pollution (Cedre, France) and its partners:

- the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC, Malta),
- the Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale (ISPRA Italy),
- the Instituto Portuario de Estudios y Cooperacion de la Comunidad Valenciana (FEPORTS, Spain),
- the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport, (AASTMT, Egypt)
- the General Directorate of Maritime and Inland Waters (DG-MARINWA, Turkey).



By providing training courses and material to civil protection professionals and volunteers, in cooperation with local competent authorities, the project aims at improving the effectiveness of emergency response to shoreline pollution following an oil spill in the Mediterranean Sea.

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#### KEY POINTS

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**24 months** duration

**6** partners

Target: **National and local authorities & NGOs**

Total budget : **578 000 €**

EC Contribution (71%): **410 000 €**

7 Mediterranean European Neighbourhood Policy Countries and Enlargement Countries: **Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey.**

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## Objectives & Activities

### Objectives

The POSOW project's activities aim at:

- Improving the effectiveness of emergency response by enhancing the preparedness and awareness of civil protection professionals and volunteers in the targeted countries,
- Facilitating reinforced cooperation between the participating countries in preparedness for civil protection and marine pollution,
- Facilitating the support of the European Civil Protection Mechanism in case of request for assistance from one or more of these countries,
- expanding the achievements of POSOW 1.

This project contributes to the harmonization of procedures and tools useful to respond to shoreline pollution following an accidental or operational spill at sea. A training package and manuals were developed for the essential preparation of NGOs and volunteers to work promptly and safely to support authorities in charge of the response operations in case of a spill.

### Themes

The project addresses two topics to which common approaches will facilitate cooperation and response:



This package aims at helping teams of volunteers to understand oil spill waste management challenges and be able to participate efficiently in the first steps of the waste management process where good practices may have significant effects on the rest of an oil spill response.

This package aims to provide fishermen and other sea professionals with guidance on how their expertise, fishing vessels and gear can be used in order to respond to oil pollution events affecting the coast and nearby waters

These packages complete the four packages developed during POSOW 1:



## Activities

The main targets groups of the activities were operators (professionals and volunteers) working in the national civil protection services, in municipalities (local community) and in well-established NGOs along the coasts of the Mediterranean Sea. The following activities were carried out under the project:

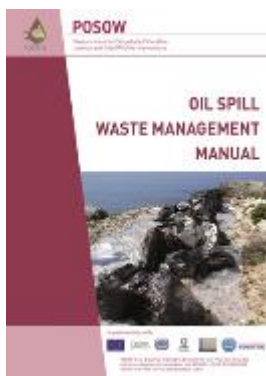
- Manual Publication
- Development of training material
- Training and Capacity Building
- Information Dissemination

These activities were implemented in the three languages of the project: Arabic, English and Turkish.

## Results & Achievements

### Manual Publication

Two Manuals were developed based on the partners' knowledge and existing material, and published by the POSOW II Project. Those manuals serve as guidelines on the two topics of the project and provide to the professional and volunteer operators with the basic knowledge needed during an emergency situation with particular emphasize on safety related issues.



#### Oil spill waste management manual

The manual is divided in three parts:

- Part 1: brief overview of waste management challenges, steps and key points, jobs for volunteers
- Part 2: Practical data sheets
- Part 3: Further information

The manual is designed for all responders involved in oil spill response.

#### Fishermen's support in oil spill response manual

This manual is also divided in three parts:

- Part 1: general principles of the involvement of local fishermen in oil spill response
- Part 2: Practical data sheets for fishermen
- Part 3: Further information.

The manual is designed for volunteers involved in oil spill response in coastline waters.



The manuals are available for download in the documentation section of the POSOW Website.

## Development of training material

In order to build oil spill response capacity of national and local Mediterranean operators, the project developed a set of training material and courses on the two topics of the project. Power Point Presentations, Instructor Manuals and Posters were published in the three languages of the project.

### Presentations

As part of the training material developed under the POSOW project, presentations were prepared by the partners on the two themes of the project. The presentations underline the most important aspects of oil spill waste management and fishermen's support.



### Posters

Five posters on the two themes of the project were developed. The posters were designed for their use in the field. They summarize and illustrate key messages to be considered by response operators when responding to an oil spill.



### Instructors manuals

One Instructor manuals (power point presentation with comments) was prepared for each theme to help trainers to prepare the course delivery by providing comments for each slide.



## Translation in Arabic and Turkish

All the training material developed during POSOW I and POSOW II were translated In Arabic and Turkish. The six manuals, sixteen posters, seventeen Power-Point presentations and six Instructor manuals are available on the posow website.



Turkish version of the 6 POSOW manuals



Arabic version of the 6 POSOW manuals

## Training and capacity building

### Train the Trainer Courses

Two four-days Train the Trainers courses were held in Cedre from the 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> April then from 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> April 2016. The objective of these two 4-days Train the Trainers courses organized was to provide participants with the necessary knowledge to duplicate the training course at national and local levels in their own country. The aim was that each targeted country participated through teams composed of individuals trained and experienced in one or more of the following six main topics: Volunteer management, Shoreline assessment, Shoreline clean-up, Wildlife response, Role of fishermen, Waste management. The presentations, posters and manuals were used during the courses.

A total of 32 trainers from the 7 targeted countries (Algeria (5), Egypt (4), Lebanon (6), Libya (1), Morocco (4), Tunisia (6), Turkey (6) and 2 trainers from Portugal were trained. Each country was provided with a set of training material in local language to duplicate the training courses.



Train the trainer course n°1



Train the trainer course n°2



## National Pilot Training Courses

Six courses were organized from September to December 2016 and 139 people were trained:

Country	Date	Number of trainees
Lebanon	21-23 September 2016	31
Tunisia	11-13 October 2016	32
Turkey	11-13 October 2016	23
Libya (relocated in Tunisia)	22-24 November 2016	9
Egypt	27-29 November 2016	23
Morocco	21-22 December 2016	21
Algeria	No course organised	



*NPTC Lebanon*



*NPTC Tunisia*



*NPTC Turkey*



*NPTC Egypt*



*NPTC Libya*



*NPTC Morocco*

## The POSOW Online Volunteers Database

To ensure the availability and prompt response of volunteers in case of an oil spill, a database gathering data on trainers and volunteers within the Mediterranean region was developed during POSOW I. This database was updated during POSOW II by registration of all trainers and volunteers trained POSOW II (173 people).

This database provides information about the availability, the previous experiences and trainings, as well as the specific skills of the registered volunteers, which allows the decision makers to reinforce their response teams, in case of major incident requiring important human resources.

Regional users corresponding to the regional authorities or NGO involved in the local shoreline response can directly contact the volunteers to be part of the response team when needed.

## Information dissemination

To ensure that information about the project is made available and to promote the project during relevant events, a set of dissemination tools used to reach the concerned public.

### POSOW website [www.posow.org](http://www.posow.org)

All the material developed under the POSOW I and POSOW II projects is made available through its website [www.posow.org](http://www.posow.org)



- The documentation section gathers the manuals, posters and presentations, together with the training reports freely downloadable,
- Information on the project and its topics are available,
- The section news was regularly updated with events, trainings and recent publication,
- Volunteers and professionals are invited to register in the POSOW Volunteers Database, and can visualise the current pool of available volunteers in the Mediterranean regions through the Map of Volunteers and Map of Trainers.

## Social Networking

In addition to the Project website, a Facebook Page and Twitter Account were created to enable volunteers and stakeholders to share their views on the Project and its activities. Pictures of the training and live information were communicated through the POSOW II social networks.



Twitter



Facebook



Google +



Linked In

## Brochure and Video

To promote the POSOW project in various events and during the Train the Trainer Courses and National Pilot trainings, a brochure (Arabic, English and Turkish) and a video summarizing the objectives and outcome of the Project were published and widely disseminated.



Arabic brochure



English brochure



Turkish brochure

## Achievements and future

By improving awareness and knowledge on oil spill shoreline response in the Mediterranean, the POSOW II Project identified future key actions, which could be implemented in the Mediterranean region to continue enhancing the level of preparedness and response:

- Communication on the project and its material will continue at the end of the project.
- The organisers of the National Pilot courses expressed their willingness and interest in replicating the training to extend the pool of trained volunteers available in their region. Regional stakeholders involved in the project will continue using and promoting the Volunteers Database.
- The Translation of training material: some material will be translated in other languages: for example the wildlife manual and the shoreline cleanup manual will be translated in French in 2017 and will be uploaded on the POSOW website.
- Gaps in national and regional Emergency Plans were underlined during the National Pilot Trainings:
  - Each beneficiary country response system is different and the competent authority for shoreline response is not always the civil protection,
  - Some competent authorities do not have sufficient means to respond to shoreline pollution,
  - National legislation does not always reflect the role and responsibilities for shoreline response and in some cases do not assign the roles to any national authority,
  - The interaction between shoreline response plans when it exists and at sea response require further integration and co-operation amongst the concerned authorities.

This could be capitalized through another POSOW project with the aim to:

- Train the last countries of the Mediterranean coastline: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Israel, Montenegro, Syrian Arab Republic,
- Translate training materials in new languages,
- Organize regional Training Courses (northern & southern Mediterranean) to ensure the harmonization in knowledge and equipment and not only national courses. These courses would be a good refresh training activity (the first people were trained in 2013 during POSOW I),
- Investigate in the countries trained in 2013 with particular attention to their oil spill response maintenance within the last 4-5 years,
- Maintain and promote the Volunteers Database and the POSOW website,
- Prepare new packages.

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### KEY FIGURES OF THE PROJECT

POSOW II	POSOW I + POSOW II
6 partners involved	8 different partners involved
2 themes tackled	6 themes tackled
2 manuals, 5 posters, 2 power-point presentations	6 manuals, 16 posters, 17 power-point presentations
8 training courses	19 training courses
139 (trainers and volunteers trained), 8 countries	390 people trained, 16 countries
7 Mediterranean countries + Portugal	15 Mediterranean countries + Portugal
3 languages	Presentations and posters in 8 languages, manuals in 3 languages

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