



POSOW

Preparedness for oil-polluted
Shoreline cleanup and
Oiled Wildlife interventions



Report on the POSOW Malta National Pilot Training



4, 5 and 12 October 2013

POSOW is a project co-financed by EU under the [Civil Protection Financial Instrument](#) developed in cooperation with [ISPRA](#), [Cedre](#), [See Alarm](#) and [CPMR](#) and coordinated by [REMPEC](#) a regional Centre of the [Barcelona Convention](#).

Introduction

Nature Trust Malta, in collaboration with the Civil Protection of Malta and Transport Malta, organised a National Training Course on Oiled Shoreline Assessment and Cleanup, Volunteers Management and Wildlife Response on the 4, 5 and 12 October 2013 in its premises at Xrobb I-Għaġin Nature Park.

The training targeted representatives of the Civil Protection, local authorities and NGOs who could be involved, under the supervision of the competent authorities, on a voluntary basis, in oil spill response operations. The objective of the training was to provide knowledge on oiled shoreline assessment and cleanup as well as oiled wildlife response.

This training was organised with the framework of the POSOW Project co-financed by EU under the Civil Protection Financial Instrument developed in cooperation with the Centre of Documentation, Research and Experimentation on Accidental Water Pollution (*Cedre*), the Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA), Sea Alarm Foundation, and the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR), and coordinated by REMPEC a regional Centre of the Barcelona Convention.

Twenty-two (22) volunteers participated in the Training Course. The list of participants is attached to the present report in **Annex I**.

Mr Vincent Attard, CEO of Nature Trust Malta, welcomed the volunteers and thanked them for their participation, giving an overview on the programme of the 3 days training course, and introducing the organisation. The programme of the 3 day training course is reported in **Annex II**. Ms Souade Nasserri, Junior Programme Officer at REMPEC, took the floor to introduce the POSOW project.

Course Delivery

Day 1 - Friday 04 October 2013

National Response System of Malta

Ms Gabriele Galea, Port officer at Transport Malta, gave a presentation on the current National Response System in place, underlining the roles and responsibilities of key entities. She presented the National Contingency Plan and reminded the main entities involved in case of an oil spill: Army Forces of Malta, the Civil Protection, Malta Environment & Planning Authority, and Transport Malta.

Volunteer Management

Mr Oreste Azzopardi, Officer at the Civil Protection of Malta, gave a presentation on Volunteer Management giving the main logistical elements to take into account when becoming a volunteer, and highlighting the possible roles of volunteers in a shoreline response.

Day 2 - Saturday 05 October 2013

On the second day of the training, Mr Frédéric Hébert, Director of REMPEC, welcomed the participants and thanked them for their participation, strengthening the importance of volunteers in case of a major incident.

Shoreline Assessment and Cleanup

Mr Attard and Mr Azzopardi gave a presentation on shoreline assessment methodology and presented the worksite setup, health and safety aspects and cleanup techniques with Mr Azzopardi, through POSOW presentations and posters.

Day 3: Practical exercise - Saturday 12 October 2013

A practical exercise was conducted on the sandy beach of St George's bay, Birżebbuġa, Malta. The exercise was coordinated and supervised by the POSOW trainers Mr Oreste Azzopardi and Mr Vincent Attard.

Volunteers were given Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and briefed on Health and Safety prior starting the practical exercise which consisted in:

- A shoreline survey of the beach
- Manual Cleanup
- Equipment mobilisation and briefing: use of sorbents etc..
- Cleanup with Flushing
- Decontamination site
- Demobilisation of the worksite

The pollution was simulated through expired pop-corns offered by Eden Cinema spread on the sandy beach. A fire extinguisher from the Civil Protection was mobilised to allow volunteers testing the handling of a high pressure hose, thus confronting them to the flushing cleanup techniques.

Conclusion of the training**Evaluation of the training**

Following the exercise, participants were invited to fill-in an evaluation sheet to provide the POSOW partners with their feedback on the National Training Course. The following table summarizes the evaluation given by eighteen participants of the training. The rating is based on a scale from 1 to 5, 1 being bad and 5 excellent.

Title of the conference/presentation/exercise	Content adequacy mark (from 1 to 5**)	Presentation mark (from 1 to 5**)	Observations
Friday 4 October 2013			
Volunteer Management	4.39	3.83	- Participants noted that the use of the manual as projection material during lectures could have been replaced by presentations
Saturday 5 October 2013			
Oiled shoreline assessment	4.5	4.5	- Some issue regarding decision making were repeated whilst it does not concern the volunteers
Oiled shoreline cleanup	4.72	4.61	- A full presentation on H& S should have been delivered
Oiled Wildlife Response	4.67	4.61	- more practice would have been appreciated
Saturday 12 October 2013			
Exercise	4.78	4.72	- More buckets were needed during the manual cleanup - In view of the hot weather, a shelter

			with shade should have been considered for lunch and breaks. - a beach already contaminated with oil could have been considered for the exercise - tasks distribution could be better organised
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It can be seen from the above responses that the participants appreciated and valued the training content, material and the facilitators. According to the participants, improvements should be made on the following points:

- Delivery of the course (length and more use of the POSOW material);
- Practical part on wildlife response;
- Some logistics aspect of the practical exercise (shelter, task distribution...).

Certificate Delivery and conclusion of the training

Mr Frédéric Hébert, Director of REMPEC, Mr Natalino Bezzina, Operation Manager at CPD, and Mr Carol Muscat, from the City Council of Birżebbuġa, joined the exercise beach for the delivery of POSOW certificates to the volunteers. They thanked the volunteers for their participation and highlighted the importance of their involvement in the response in case of a major incident.

Annex I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

NAME AND SURNAME	CERTIFICATE NUMBER	NAME AND SURNAME	CERTIFICATE NUMBER
Ms Alessandra CORTESI	Certificate No. 038	Mr John SALIBA	Certificate No.049
Mr Alex RIPARD	Certificate No. 039	Ms Krista FARRUGIA	Certificate No.050
Mr Andy GARLAND	Certificate No. 040	Ms Lindsay BILODEAU	Certificate No.051
Mr Antonio CASELLI	Certificate No. 041	Mr Mario SAMMUT	Certificate No.052
Ms Edel SHANAHAN	Certificate No. 042	Ms Michelle GRECH	Certificate No.053
Ms Elaine BAJADA	Certificate No.043	Mr Paul GALEA	Certificate No.054
Ms Graziella CAVLAN	Certificate No.044	Ms Sadihble NI MHURCHI	Certificate No.055
Ms Gwen WRIGHT	Certificate No.045	Ms Sara HAZZARD	Certificate No.056
Mr Hubert THEUMA	Certificate No.046	Mr Zach ENGERER	Certificate No.057
Ms Jackie LAFERLA	Certificate No.047		

Annex II

PROGRAMME



POSOW Training Course

The project for Preparedness for Oil-polluted Shoreline clean-up and Oiled Wildlife interventions – POSOW aims at establishing a regional cooperation synergy through the enhancement of knowledge and capacities of operators (professionals and volunteers) in the field of marine pollution, in European coastal countries of the Mediterranean Sea namely Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Slovenia and Spain. In order to create this regional synergy and build regional task forces of trainers, volunteers and professionals from each region will receive a dedicated training course on Volunteer management, Oiled Shoreline Assessment and Cleanup and Oiled Wildlife Response, as detailed in the programme below:

PROGRAMME

Friday 4 October—Training	Saturday 5 October— Training	Saturday 12 October - Exercise
	09.00– 10.00 : Oiled Shoreline Assessment	09.00—09.30: Health & safety briefing, PPE delivery
		09.30—10.00: Worksite organisation
	10.00—10.30 : Break	10.00-10.30: Break
	10.30—12.30: Oiled Shoreline Cleanup <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General principles of cleanup • Cleanup techniques • Worksite organisation 	10.30: 12.45: Team Practice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey • Shoreline Cleanup • Decontamination
	12.30– 13.30: Lunch Database registration	12.45-13.45: Lunch
	13.300—15.30: Wildlife Response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and safety • Set up/running a command centre • Search and collection, transport • Animal care (stabilization and pre-wash) • Facilities for oiled wildlife 	13.45-14.45: Equipment recovery
		14.45-16.00: Closure
16.00—16.30: Opening	15.30—16.00: Break	
16.30-17.00: National Response System		
17.00—19.00: Volunteer Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview—Volunteer Management • Logistics management • Chain of command • Expected roles and duties for volunteers 	16.00—17.00 : Presentation Rehabilitation Centre	

Venue:

Training: [Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre in Xrobb I-Ghagin near Marsascala](#) -

Exercise: [St. George's Bay, Birżebbuġa, Malta](#)

Registration: <http://www.posow.org/volunteersdb/allfrmEvent/xrobb-l-ghagin-malta-training-2013-10-04>

More information
on
www.posow.org



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