Strategic thinking across the EU through the eyes of SHIPSAN

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Maritime transport

- Ships move from country to country
- Trans-national transmission of diseases and vectors
- CBRN agents release on ships
- Passenger ships – floating communities

Public health issues on ships

- GI outbreaks
- Varicella outbreaks in crew
- Respiratory outbreaks
- Legionnaires’ disease
- Tuberculosis
- Meningitis outbreaks
- Measles outbreaks

Health threats on ships need to be addressed based on common standards
1. To develop a strategy for safeguarding the health of travelers and crew on ships and preventing cross-border spread of diseases.

2. To facilitate the implementation of legislation:
   - WHO International Health Regulations-2005
   - Decision Nº 1082/2013/EU on serious cross-border threats to health

Focused on

- Prevention
- Identification
- Assessment

Coordinated response

Communicable diseases

Chemical events

Radiological agents
EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action
Purpose and origins

Situation analysis and needs assessment in Europe

Lack of common procedures

Development of tools for PASSENGER ships inspections and response to BIOLOGICAL events

Joint Action for all types of threats in maritime sector:
- Cargo ships
- Ch&R
- Inland navigation vessels
- Fishing vessels

2006 - 2008

2008 - 2011

2013 - 2016
The partnership

33 institutions from 26 countries were designated by their Ministries of Health

1. Austria    13. Italy
2. Belgium    14. Lithuania
3. Bulgaria   15. Malta
5. Cyprus     17. Norway
6. Denmark    18. Poland
8. France     20. Romania
9. Germany    21. Slovakia
10. Greece    22. Slovenia
11. Iceland   23. Spain
12. Ireland   24. United Kingdom

Advisory Board
- DG SANCO
- CHAFEA
- ECDC
- WHO
- CDC-VSP

- General Assembly
- Coordination group
- Sustainability working group

2 Non EU collaborating partners
- Turkey Ministry of Health
- Taiwan CDC
The four pillars of EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action

**Research**
- State of the Art Report
- Epidemiological studies

**Guideline development**
- European Manual for Hygiene Standards and Communicable Diseases Control on passenger ships
- Guidelines for chemical and radiological incidents on ships
- Ad-hoc for PHEIC

**Training**
- Face to face; European and national
- E-learning
- On the job
- Program for the industry

**Practice**
- Integrated Inspection Program for passengers ships
- EU SHIPSAN ACT Information System (SIS)
- Web-based risk assessment tool for cargo ships
# EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action

**The implementation object**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WP1: Coordination (UTH, Greece)</th>
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<th>WP2: Dissemination (UTH, Greece - APHA, UK)</th>
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<th>WP3: Evaluation (MoH &amp; Instituto Superiore di Sanita, Italy)</th>
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<th>WP4: State of the Art covering sea and inland water vessels</th>
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<td>WP leader: National Institute of Public Health, Carlos III, Spain</td>
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<th>WP5: SHIPSAN ACT integrated inspection programme</th>
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<td>WP leader: University of Thessaly, Greece</td>
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<th>WP6: Chemical and radiological incidents on ships risk assessment and management</th>
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<td>WP leader: Public Health England, UK</td>
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<th>WP7: SHIPSAN ACT information system (SIS)</th>
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<th>WP8: Training</th>
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<td>WP leader: National Institute of Public Health, Slovenia</td>
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<th>WP9: Occupational health and hygiene in maritime transport</th>
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<tr>
<td>WP leader: Institute for Occupational and Maritime Medicine (ZfAM), Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Public Health Centre Klaipeda Department, Lithuania</td>
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1.- State of the Art report

Part A
- Infectious diseases

Part B
- Chemical and radiological incidents

Part C
- Fishing vessels

Part D
- Core capacities at points of entry-ports

Part E
- Inland waterways

Communicable diseases outbreaks 1990-2013
2.- Guideline development

**European Manual:**
- Common standards for ship inspections
- Guidelines to respond to PHE on board

**Benefits and added value:**
- Support planning, preparedness and response at ports

**Guidelines** on risk assessment and response to chemical / radiological events

**Ad-hoc Guidelines**
- Consultation on infectious diseases
- Development of Water Safety Plans for cruise ship companies
- Participation in research protocols
- Outbreak investigation on cruise ship

**Guidance on Zika virus disease on maritime transport**

**Ebola Virus Disease for maritime transport**
Chemical and radiological incidents

**Deliverables/Outcomes**

- **Guidelines** on risk assessment and response to chemical/radiological events
- **Training material**
- **Table top exercise**
- **Training course**

**Target audience**

- National, central and port health authorities

**Benefits and added value**

- Support consistent planning, preparedness and response at ports, facilitating IHR implementation
Integrated Inspection Program (IIP)

- **European Manual** for Hygiene Standards and Communicable Disease Surveillance
- Common inspection procedures
- Agreed annual EU inspection plan
- Inspectors competency
- Equipment purchased

**Target audience**
- National central and port level authorities
- Passenger shipping industry

**Benefits and added value**
- Coordinated Passenger ship inspection program
- Inspections are conducted using common standards
- Improves harmonised inspection process across Europe
- Improves planning, preparedness and response at ports
EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action
The implementation object

EU SHIPSAN ACT Information System (SIS)

The EU SHIPSAN ACT is a European Joint Action funded by the European Commission under the Health Programme (2008-2013) where 32 partners from 24 European countries participate. The EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action deals with the impact on maritime transport of health threats due to biological, chemical and radiological agents, including communicable diseases and supports the implementation of International Health Regulations 2005.

EU SHIPSAN ACT Information System (SIS) consists of:

a) Communication Network platform facilitating ship-to-port, port-to-port and port-to-national authority communication.
b) Information system for recording and issuing Ship Sanitation Certificates under the International Health Regulations 2005 for all types of ships sailing in European Union.
c) Database for recording inspections conducted according to the European Manual for Hygiene Standards and Communicable Disease Surveillance on Passenger Ships.

MEMBERS AREA

Username: 
Password: 

REGISTER

Registration Form for new SSC Inspectors (IHR 2005) HERE:
REGISTRATION APPLIES ONLY FOR SSC Inspector (IHR 2005)
*Note: Once your application has been submitted, the SIS Administrator will be notified and your application will be subjected to a screening procedure. Your application will be evaluated and you will receive notification of your access to the SIS Platform.

https://sis.shipsan.eu
EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action
The implementation object

SIS. 4 components

- Communication platform
- Recording and issuing SSC based on IHR
- Recording SHIPSAN inspections (IIP)
- Storing the MDH

Benefits and added value
- Event detection and response
- Facilitates risk assessment
- Sharing information avoiding duplication of actions
- Data analysis
EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action
The implementation object

Training

To improve competencies of PHO and crew

90 trainers from 20 countries

Face to face

European level
National level

E-learning

• 11 webinars 1300 enrolled
• E-learning training course for PHO
• E-learning training course for seafarers
EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action
The implementation object

Occupational health

Deliverables/Outcomes

- Web-based risk assessment tool
- Training course
- Model Memorandum of Understanding PHA-OHA.
- Public health risks according to the type of ship.
- Survey on the implementation of ILO 2006 Labour Convention

Target audience

- PHA & OHA
- Maritime industry

Benefits and added value

- Supports seafarers in developing and documenting risk assessments
Advice to international travelers

While on board the ship

Guidelines for swimming pool and spa users on board

Good hygiene practices are essential to maintain the cleanliness of the pool and spa environment. By practicing healthy swimming behavior and by following the rules and regulations for pool users, passengers can ensure the normal operation of the pool without that you share the water with everyone else in the pool. For example, someone with obstructions or conditions that might cause a risk to others, there is a high risk of them. Although chlorine kills viruses, it takes time and without individual precautions, diseases may spread before they have been completely eliminated.

Hand washing

While on board the ship continued

10 responses for all bathers

1. Use of hand sanitizer is required.
2. Sanitize your hands when you have a cold or flu symptoms.
3. Wear gloves when you have an open wound.
4. Avoid touching your face.
5. Use soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
6. Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.
7. Disinfect your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
8. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water.
9. Use hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
10. Avoid touching your face.

5 responses for your safety

1. Stay in the water for a maximum of 15 minutes.
2. Avoid swimming if you have a cold or flu symptoms.
3. Use sunscreen with a high SPF.
4. Avoid swimming in the pool if you have a cold or flu symptoms.
5. Use a swimming cap.

5 responses for those supervising children

1. Supervise children at all times.
2. Do not leave children unattended in the pool.
3. Keep children safe while using the pool.
4. Use of non-flammable products.
5. Use of hand sanitizer.

Don't rely on well-maintained pools to perform a healthy voyage.
EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action
The implementation object

Dissemination of activities

50 national conferences
24 European events
11 International meetings
15 press releases
17 websites in 11 EUMS

www.shipsan.eu
EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action
The implementation object

Dissemination of activities

- Leaflets & banners
- 22 e-Newsletters

- 4 scientific publications
- 9 in progress
EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action
Target population

1.- Passengers on cruise ships
2.- Crew members
3.- Inspectors

Indirect target: EU MS population
**EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action Implementers**

- **MEMBER STATES:**
  - National and local authorities responsible for prevention and response to health threats related to maritime transport;
  - The IHR authorized ports for SSC issuing;
  - Maritime medicine professionals;
  - Authorities responsible for security and customs.

- **EC** bodies dealing with cross-border health threats

- **Shipping industry** (cruise, inland, cargo and ferries)
EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action
Implementation strategies

European legislation (Directive, Regulations, Decision...)

Endorsement of Manual and SIS in national legal framework (Circulars)

- 9 EUMS (Belgium, Estonia, Greece, Germany, Malta, Spain, Cyprus, Lithuania and Slovakia)
- 8 EUMS in progress (Bulgaria, Croatia, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Romania and Slovenia)
EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action Impact, expected outcome

PHO, Inspectors

1. Using the Manual to inspect ships
   -> Similar inspections in Europe

2. Using the guidelines for PHE on ships
   -> Similar response to PHE in Europe

3. Using the SIS
   -> Sharing information, rapid communication
EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action

Impact, expected outcome

Shipping industry

Advise to companies to develop health and hygiene systems

Training Program for the Industry

Manual used by cruise ships companies

Better health conditions on board

High level of knowledge and training

Common standards, better prepared in advance
EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action
Implementation challenge

Mantainance and sustainability of SHIPSAN activities

- European legislation
- Fees for inspections
- Training courses for industry
Acknowledgements

Associated Partners
- Regional Health Inspection, Burgas, **Bulgaria**
- Regional Health Inspection, Varna, **Bulgaria**
- Institute for Occupational and Maritime Medicine, ZfAM, Hamburg State Department for Health and Consumer Protection, **Germany**
- Robert Koch-Institute, **Germany**
- Laboratory of Hygiene and Epidemiology, University of Thessaly, **Greece**
- National School of Public Health, **Greece**
- Directorate of Health, **Iceland**
- Health Service Executive, **Ireland**
- Ministry of Health, **Italy**
- Klaipeda Public Health Centre, **Lithuania**
- National Institute of Public Health, **Slovenia**
- National Institute of Public Health, Instituto de Salud Carlos III, **Spain**
- Association of Port Health Authorities, **United Kingdom**
- Public Health England, **United Kingdom**

Collaborating Partners
- Ministry of Health, **Austria**
- Federal Public Service of Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment, **Belgium**
- Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, **Croatia**
- Ministry of Health, **Cyprus**
- Centre of Maritime Health and Society, University of Southern, **Denmark**
- Health Board, Health Care Department, **Estonia**
- Ministry of Labour, Employment and Health, **France**
- Environmental Health Directorate, Port Health Services, **Malta**
- Municipal Health Services Rotterdam, **Netherlands**
- National Center for Hygiene and Safety (LCHV), **Norway**
- Medical University of Gdansk, **Poland**
- Ministry of Health, **Portugal**
- Ministry of Health, **Romania**
- Ministry of Health, **Spain**
- Public Health Authority of the Ministry of Transport, **Slovakia**

Advisory board
- DG SANTE
- CHAFEA
- ECDC
- WHO
- CDC-VSP

EU agencies & projects
- ECDC
- EU-OSHA
- AnNa project
- ECHEMNET project
- AIRSAN project
- MediPIET project

Non-EU Collaborations
- Ministry of Health, **Turkey**
- Taiwan Centres for Disease Control, **Taiwan**

International organizations
- WHO
- International Maritime Organization

Maritime industry
- Cruise Line Industry Association
- European Community Ship-owners Associations
Thank you for your attention