Work plan 2012 for the second programme of Community action in the field of health (2008-2013)

- 3.1.2.3. The Impact on Maritime Transport of health threats due to biological, chemical and radiological agents, including communicable diseases

**Acronym:** SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action

**Contract Number:** 20122103

**Duration:** 39 Months (January 2013 - April 2016)
The partnership

- **31 institutions** from **23 countries** were designated by their Ministries of Health

1. Austria
2. Belgium
3. Bulgaria
4. Croatia
5. Cyprus
6. Estonia
7. France
8. Germany
9. Greece
10. Iceland
11. Ireland
12. Italy
13. Lithuania
14. Malta
15. Netherlands
16. Norway
17. Poland
18. Portugal
19. Romania
20. Slovakia
21. Slovenia
22. Spain
23. United Kingdom
General Objective

To strengthen an integrated strategy and sustainable mechanisms at EU level for safeguarding the health of travelers and crew of passenger and cargo ships and preventing the cross-border spread of diseases.

Focus on: prevention, identification, assessment & link with existing mechanisms for response coordination to serious cross border threats to health caused by CBRN agents

Facilitate the implementation of the EU legislation:

- Decision 2119/98/EC on surveillance and response to communicable diseases by linking SIS with existing systems
- Directive 2010/65/EU on reporting formalities for ships arriving in and/or departing from ports of the Member States by supporting EMSA to implement MDH
- Directive 2009/13/EC based on ILO convention on occupational health by developing an outline of a risk assessment tool for occupational health on ships

Facilitate implementation of IHR:
Supporting core capacities Annex 1b by training, inspections, contingency planning guidance and IHR provisions for conveyances and conveyance operators including SSC
SHIPSAN ACT ACTIVITIES
WP1: Coordination
- Handbook
- Operations plan for permanent implementation
- Interim and final technical and financial reports

WP2: Dissemination
- Dissemination plan
- Website, newsletter
- Exit / Sustainability Plan

WP3: Evaluation
- Evaluation plan
- Interim and final evaluation reports
- Process and outcome indicators
Research: State of the Art report (WP4)

A five part report will be compiled, consisting of:

**Part A**
- Literature review on infectious diseases on all types of ships.

**Part B**
- Literature review and survey on chemical and radiological incidents in maritime transport.

**Part C**
- Survey on hygiene inspection practices on fishing vessels in EU.

**Part D**
- Survey on training needs related to core capacities at points of entry-ports in EU.

**Part E**
- Survey on practices & responsibilities of port health authorities along inland waterways in EU.
Integrated Inspection Programme (WP5)

• SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action will facilitate IHR implementation by:
  – Delivering European and national training courses focused on IHR (2005) and the issuance of Ship Sanitation Certificate (SSC) by using the WHO Learning Programme
  – Running the web based SHIPSAN ACT information system for recording and issuing Ship Sanitation Certificates

Inspections in all types of ships for SSCs

Standards:
WHO Handbook for inspection of ships and issuance of Ship Sanitation Certificates

Tools:
SHIPSAN ACT Information System for recording and issuing Ship Sanitation Certificates under the International Health Regulations 2005, for all types of ships sailing in EU. http://ssc.shipsan.eu
Integrated Inspection Programme (WP5)

- Aims to bring a **consistent and proportionate approach to ship inspections** of all ship types which will improve the quality of inspections by:
  - providing training (e-learning, face-to-face, on the job);
  - issuing an annual inspection schedule;
  - operating information tools for recording and sharing inspection results.

**Inspections of passenger ships**

**Standards:**
SHIPSAN Manual

**Tools:**
SHIPSAN ACT Information System & Manual
www.shipsan.eu/comnet

**2013-2014:** Announced inspections accompanied by a SHIPSAN ACT trainer

**2015:** Unannounced inspections by port health officers trained by SHIPSAN ACT
Chemical and radiological incidents on ships (WP6)

- **Guidelines** for competent authorities on risk assessment and response to chemical/radiological events (accidental/deliberate release)
  - in support to their risk assessment and response to chemical and radiological incidents on ships while the ship is at port.

- **Training material** will be developed on dealing with chemical and radiological incidents.

- **Table top exercises** will be used to pilot test the guidelines.

Guidelines will strengthen current approaches to safeguard the health of travellers and crew on passenger ships and cargo vessels.
Communication Network platform facilitating ship-to-port, port-to-ship, port-to-port and port-to-national authority communication.

Information system for recording and issuing Ship Sanitation Certificates under the International Health Regulations 2005 for all types of ships sailing in European Union.

Database for recording inspections conducted against the European standards as provided in the SHIPSAN Manual for Hygiene Standards and Communicable Diseases Surveillance on Passenger Ships.
Functions:

- maintaining **registries** (ports, ships, competent authorities and inspectors)
- sharing **epidemiological information** in a standardized and confidential way
- recording **information for risk assessment**
- exchanging **information** during an outbreak investigation
Facilitates the electronic transmission of the Maritime Declaration of Health
Information system for recording and issuing Ship Sanitation Certificates (SSC)

http://ssc.shipsan.eu
Functions

- Registries
  - Ships
  - Owners
  - Agents
  - Classification Societies
  - Ports
  - Other Organizations/Authorities
  - Port Health Authorities
  - Inspectors

- Overview page
- Inspection forms
- Messages Board
- News section
- Address Book
- Help tool
- Online user manual
- Advance Search
- Sitemap
Functions

- Generation of an empty checklist, under the IHR 2005
- Generation and print of official documents related with the inspections
  - Ship Sanitation Certificates (SSCC or SSCEC)
  - Evidence Report
Different users and user groups depending on the access level and authorization:

- System administrator
- Shipsan administrators
- Inspectors
- International Organizations
- National Authorities
A web-based system for port health officers or other public health worker conducting inspection for issuance of SSCs

To gain access visit [http://ssc.shipsan.eu/](http://ssc.shipsan.eu/) and complete an application form
The inspection results are shared among the partners through the database, in the secured password protected area.

Data recorded in the database regarding inspection results:
- information on the type of inspection
- deficiencies
- recommendations for each deficiency
- date of inspection
- the inspection report
- inspectors and employing authorities (authorisation)
- name of the competent (port health) authority if different from the above
- name of the port (coded)
Training (WP8)

SHIPSAN ACT training will:

• **increase port health staff and crew competencies** on prevention/risk assessment/response to chemical, biological and radiological threats
  - by training more than 5 trainers within each EUMS and by e-learning courses available to staff in all EUMS and companies operating in EU
Training Tools

Face to face training courses

On the job training

e-learning

EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action
Training Courses for port health officers

Courses focused on IHR (2005) and the issuance of Ship Sanitation Certificate (SSC) by using the WHO Learning Programme

- 1 training course for lead inspectors (EU level)
- 2 training courses on IHR and issuance of Ship Sanitation Certificates (National level) ([http://extranet.who.int/ihr/training](http://extranet.who.int/ihr/training))

Courses focused on the SHIPSAN Manual and the SHIPSAN ACT Information System

- 1 introductory course on the SHIPSAN Manual (EU level)
- 2 advanced courses focused on water safety (EU level)
- 4 introductory courses on the SHIPSAN Manual (National level)
Training Courses
for ship operators, officers and crew

1 introductory course on the SHIPSAN Manual

2 advanced training courses focused on water safety
• Risk assessment tool for occupational and public health risks per cargo ship type

  – The risk assessment tool will be developed using the Online Interactive Risk Assessment (OiRA) tool developed by the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA)

  – Opportunities for collaboration will be identified between port health and occupational health authorities.

  – Public health risks of international concern will be identified according to the type of cargo ship.
Important points to take home...

SHIPSAN ACT aims to:

• **Enhance core capacities** of port health authorities and facilitates IHR implementation through:
  
  - Establishing an *integrated inspection system* and conducting inspections on passenger ships by using the SHIPSAN Manual ([http://www.shipsan.eu/KeyResources.aspx](http://www.shipsan.eu/KeyResources.aspx))
  
  - Delivering **training courses** *(on the job / e-learning / face to face)*
    
    - Training courses focused on the SHIPSAN Manual at European and National level
    
    - Training courses focusing on the SHIPSAN Manual and SHIPSAN information system
...Important points to take home

- Developing **guidelines** for dealing with chemical and radiological incidents
- Updating **scientific evidence**

**SHIPSAN ACT Information tools (SIS)** will allow:
- risk assessment
- standard response
- rapid information sharing
- follow up of events related to maritime transport
EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action

The SHIPSAN ACT is a European Joint Action funded by the European Commission under the Health Programme (2008-2013) where 30 partners from 23 European countries participate.

The duration of the EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action is 39 months (February 2013-April 2016).

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. It aims to:

1. Produce a State of the Art report

2. Bring a consistent and proportionate approach to ship inspections in compliance with European Union legislation and International Health Regulations.

3. Produce guidance on risk assessment and response to chemical/radiological events (accidental/deliberate release) on ships, to be used as part of the International Health Regulations contingency planning at points of entry of European Union Member States.

4. Upgrade and run the SHIPSAN ACT Information System (SIS) consisting of:
   a) Communication Network platform facilitating ship-to-port, port-to-ship, 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 against the European standards as provided in the SHIPSAN Manual for Hygiene Standards and Communicable Diseases Surveillance on Passenger Ships.

For further information: www.shipsan.eu
www.shipsan.eu/comnet
- Communication Network Platform
- Database for recording inspections conducted using the SHIPSAN Manual

http://ssc.shipsan.eu
- SHIPSAN ACT Information System for recording and issuing Ship Sanitation Certificates

www.shipsan.eu
- Occupational health risk assessment tool for cargo ships

http://elearning.shipsan.eu/
- SHIPSAN ACT e-learning platform
In this issue...

News from the leadership
Thematic sections
- Chemical and radiological issues on ships
- Environmental health and hygiene on ships – Crew accommodation

Infectious diseases on ships
- Non-infective effects of mould in the indoor environment

Recent Publications
News and forthcoming dates
- EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action 3-day Working Group meeting, Madrid, Spain, 24-26 April 2013
- EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action 2-day Working Group meeting, Athens, Greece, 23-24 May 2013
- EU-OASHA site visit, Bilbao, Spain, 26 April 2013

What’s new on the website?
Quiz
Port in focus
- The port of Reykjavik – Service centre in the North-Atlantic

Editorial Mauro Dionisio, Ministry of Health, Italy

Dear friends, dear readers,

Welcome to the second issue of the new edition of our newsletter, refreshed with new sections and from today with a new graphic design too.

SHIPSAN ACT’s activities continue and the partnership is kept busy; last month the coordination group meeting was held in Madrid. I have just returned from Athens, where the working group on the SHIPSAN information system and the evaluation of the Joint Action have been held in a friendly atmosphere and with fruitful results.

The inspection program on board ships, in my opinion the ‘core activity’ of the Joint Action, has begun too. It was decided during the coordination meeting in Madrid, to perform in 2013 a total of 50-60 inspections on cruise ships and ferries. Starting from Malta, it will continue with scheduled inspections in Greek, Italian, Estonian, Dutch and Spanish ports throughout the whole summer. In the next months and till the end of the Joint Action, the inspection program will be extended to other European ports. For those of you wondering about the framework in which inspections are performed, I would like to clarify that we are performing scheduled announced inspections accompanied by a trainer during the first two years for didactic purposes. However, during the third year, inspections will be conducted unannounced and without the presence of a trainer. Finally, we have started preparing the training course for seafarers in Rome, which will be held in October 2013.

I hope you enjoy reading and I would like to welcome you on the next issue of the newsletter.

News from the leadership

Prof. Christos Hadjidoukoulou, SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action Coordinator
Dr Barbara Mouchtouri, SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action Manager

We are currently on the fifth month of the EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action. The last four months were quite busy for the partnership, since different activities of all nine work packages run in parallel.

Three working group meetings were held regarding the State of the Art, the Evaluation work package and the SHIPSAN Information System (SIIS). Details on the above meetings are presented in the “News and forthcoming meetings” section of the Newsletter.

The Dissemination plan of the SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action is currently being prepared. A concrete dissemination strategy will provide the basis for diffusing the Joint Action products and make provisions for reaching all levels of stakeholders (internal and external) with a focus on strengthening the adaptation, sustainability and transferability of the EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action outcomes. As part of the dissemination strategy, a total of 13 countries have identified the target groups in their country, and 12 countries have prepared National Dissemination Plans. Moreover, the contact details of the ports authorised to issue Ship Sanitation Certificates under International Health Regulations (IHR-2005) have been collected from 9 countries.

As part of the State of the Art report, four surveys and a literature review will be completed. The Working Group for the State of the Art has already prepared the methodology and the questionnaires, and in the forthcoming months the questionnaires will be pilot tested in five countries (Greece, Germany, Spain, Ireland, and England).

The methodologies have been prepared for preparing the guidelines for dealing with chemical and radiological