



## WP6 – Dealing with chemical and radiological incidents on ships: guidelines for port health authorities

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### INTRODUCTION

The strengthening of health security in Europe as well as at a global level is of paramount importance. The International Health Regulation 2005 (IHR) and European (EU) legislation, provide a public health framework that enables countries to better prevent, prepare and respond to public health events and emergencies, including those of potential international concern. Guidance and training material has been developed to assist public health professionals, port health officers and other relevant agencies that may be notified of an incident of public health concern involving chemicals or radiation.

### METHODS

The project team has:

- Engaged with stakeholders at meetings, training days and conferences
- Prepared a **Guidance document** designed to signpost users to available information and resources
- Developed **training materials** related to chemical and radiological incidents on ships and at port (including lectures, case studies, and a table-top exercise)
- Delivered training** to port health officers in Slovenia, June 2015 and presented on the SHIPSAN Joint Action in Tenerife, Oct 2015
- Contributed to the **SHIPSAN webinar** series
- Prepared articles for the **SHIPSAN newsletter** on chemicals and radiological issues.

### CONCLUSIONS

The guidance and associated training material developed for the SHIPSAN Joint Action provides the means to increase awareness of the planning, notification and response procedures in the event of a chemical or radiological incident. This material also considers the requirements set out in the International Health Regulations, EU decision on serious cross-border health threats (Dec 1082/2013/EU) and EURATOM treaty.

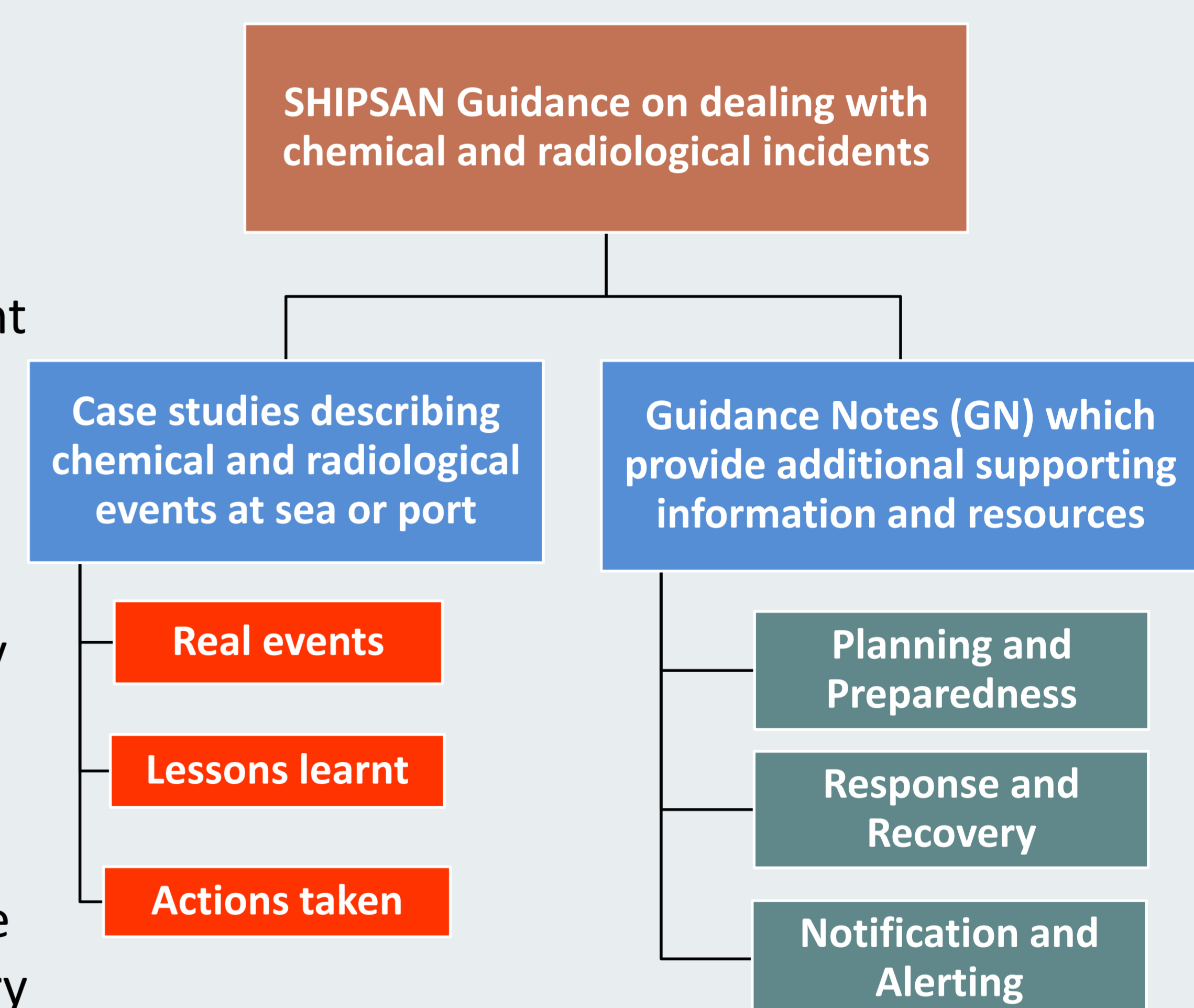
### RESULTS

#### SHIPSAN Guidance

SHIPSAN Joint action project has prepared guidance on dealing with radiological and chemical incidents on ships and at port, which aims to strengthen safeguarding of the health of travellers and crew of passenger and cargo ships, prevent cross-border health threats and improve health security. It is intended to complement existing arrangements within EU Member States by generating awareness and promoting communication amongst port health officers, public health authorities and other relevant agencies who might be involved in an planning, preparing and responding to an incident.

#### The guidance provides:

- An introduction to chemical and radiological incidents with case studies of real events
- An overview of the public health framework in the context of IHR core capacities, relevant to chemical and radiological events. This includes an introduction to planning, surveillance and response
- An introduction to the basic concepts of chemical and radiological events, which may occur on ships or at port
- An outline of the public health risk assessment process
- A collection of guidance notes, short concise information sheets which provide a summary and signpost to additional information and tools.

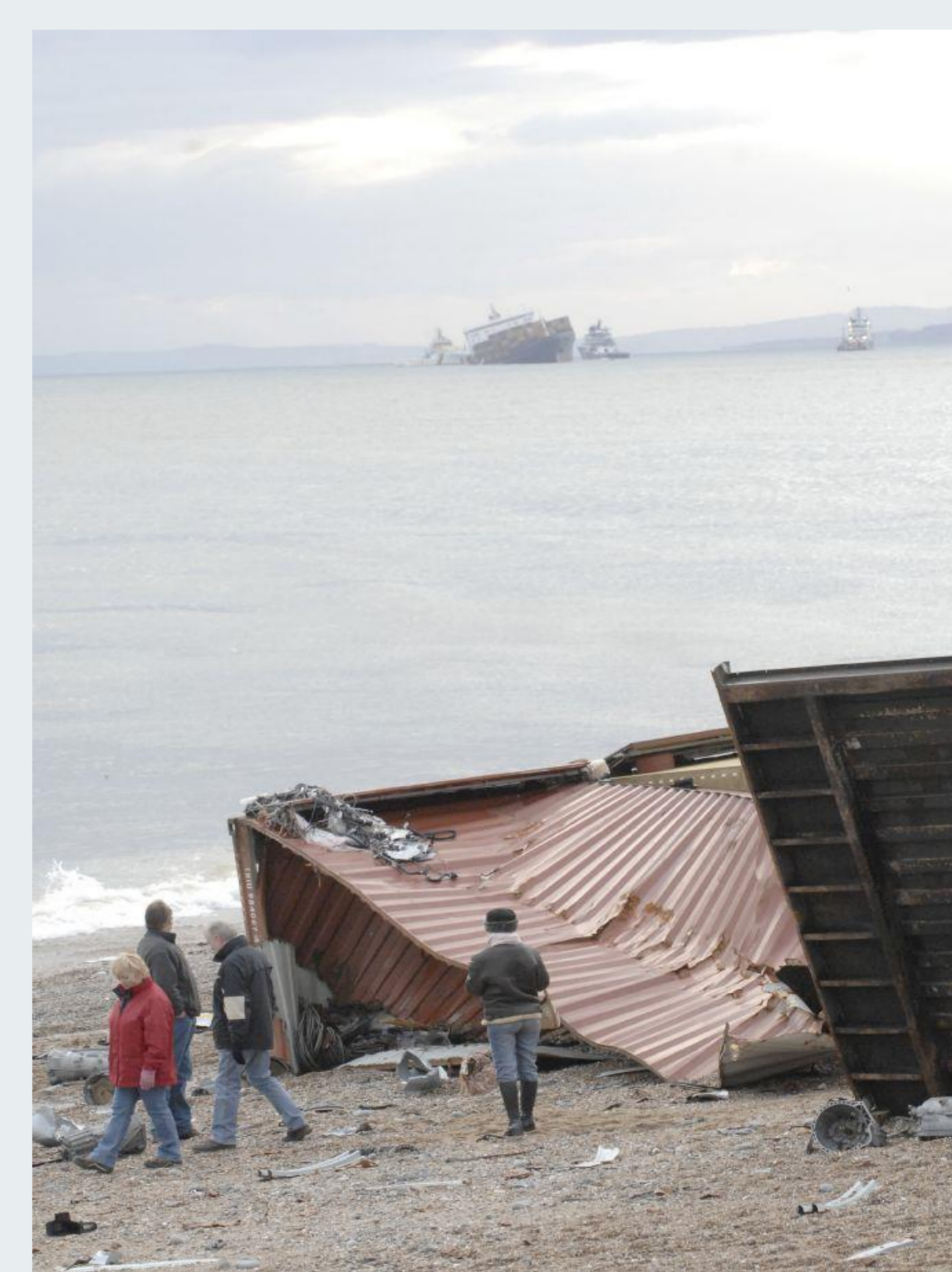


#### Training Materials

The training materials are intended to support coordinated actions for the response to health threats caused by chemical and radiological hazards, through improved understanding of the potential challenges of dealing with incidents involving these hazards on ships and at port.

#### These materials include:

- A selection of case studies that describe real events, to be used as teaching aids/resources to support the planning and response to chemical and radiological events
- PowerPoint slides that provide an introduction to chemical and radiological events on ships and at port
- Materials for conducting a Table-Top Exercise (TTE), including a scenario of a chemical exposure at port
- Instructions to support the organisation and delivery of training for relevant parties
- Links to further relevant resources and questions for the teaching materials



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