

SECTION 6: ATTACHMENT TO THE STRATEGIC REPORT

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EEA FINANCIAL MECHANISM PROGRAMME 2009-14

INFORMATION ON THE DONOR PARTNERSHIP PROJECT	
Project Reference and Title	MT02/2 - Oil/HNS spill response capacity building for the protection of Malta's seas
Programme Area 7	Adaptation to Climate Change
Project Promoter	Authority for Transport in Malta
Donor Project Partner	Norwegian Coastal Administration (Kystverket/ NCA)
Number of partnership projects	1
Signature of Partnership Agreement	27 November 2013
Proportion of partnership projects	33% of the entire EEA Financial Mechanism Programme

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

This project compliments the project carried out by the EEA Financial Mechanism 2004-09 and can be considered as a continuation of what has been achieved so far with respect to oil/HNS pollution preparedness and response at national level. Malta's capacity to respond to oil/HNS spills will be taken a step further through the actions undertaken as part of this project. The project specific objectives are to:

- Address training requirements at national level in case of Tier 2 or Tier 3 spills;
- Establish a training programme once the training needs have been identified;
- Address pollution from oil offshore drilling operations within and outside of Malta's territorial waters following recent concerns in this sector.

With respect to identifying training needs and embarking upon them, a training gap analysis and proposals to address this gap are necessary. The training requirements for the twenty-five roles identified in the National Maritime Pollution Contingency Plan (NMPCP) 2009 as requiring specialised or refresher training, as well as the deployment of additional personnel including volunteers and their coordinators, will be addressed. Training courses will be provided. The project will also establish which equipment would be required for immediate and sustainable long-term training and also includes study visits.

In order to address risks from offshore drilling, the project will also deliver studies addressing potential pollution from offshore oil drilling operations. The results of these studies will then be incorporated as an appendix to the approved NMPCP 2009, thereby addressing this risk in line with national requirements and International Conventions such as OPRC90.