



GOBIERNO  
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MINISTERIO  
PARA LA TRANSICIÓN ECOLÓGICA

# RIBERA PLANA



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## PREAMBLE

The National Response System (SNR) to marine pollution is approved in application of the international regulations ratified by Spain and in accordance with assignments that the Spanish Constitution confers to the State, by means of the **Royal Decree 1695/2012**, of 21<sup>st</sup> December 2012.

The SNR is based on two subsystems: the maritime and the coastal subsystems, which apply to the field of marine waters and the coast respectively. The coastal subsystem is integrated by the **State plan for Shoreline Protection** against pollution (RIBERA PLAN), the Territorial Plans of the Regional Governments (CCAA) and the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla, and the Local Plans of the Coastal Entities for Shoreline Protection against pollution.

The **RIBERA PLAN** has been developed and approved by the Ministry for the Ecological Transition (MITECO), prior report of the Environment Sectoral Conference, the Environment Advisory Council and the National Commission of Civil Protection, as established in article 4.2 of Royal Decree 1695/2012.

# ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

<b>AEMET</b>	State Meteorological Agency
<b>AGE</b>	General Government Administration
<b>AIS</b>	Automatic Identification System
<b>CCAA</b>	Regional Governments
<b>CCS</b>	Rescue Coordination Centre
<b>CE</b>	Spanish Constitution
<b>CEDEX</b>	Centre for Public Works Studies and Experimentation
<b>CECOP</b>	Operation Coordination Centre
<b>CNCS</b>	National Rescue Coordination Centre
<b>COP</b>	Persistent Organic Pollutants
<b>COSPAS-SARSAT</b>	Space Systema for Search of distress Vessels - Search and Rescue Satellite-Aided Tracking
<b>DG</b>	General Directorate
<b>DGMM</b>	General Directorate for Marine Merchant
<b>DGSCM</b>	Genera Directorate for the Sustainability of the Coast and the Sea
<b>e-FAOS</b>	e-Learning Fight Against Oil Spills
<b>DSN</b>	Department of Homeland Security
<b>GPS</b>	Global Positioning System
<b>INMARSAT</b>	Mobile Satellite Services
<b>LCC</b>	Fight Against Pollution
<b>MCTS</b>	Marine Communications and traffic Services
<b>MITECO</b>	Ministry for the Ecological Transition
<b>POLREP</b>	Marine Pollution Report
<b>POLREP-Costa</b>	Coastal Pollution Report
<b>REMPEC</b>	Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea
<b>SASEMAR</b>	Spanish Maritime Safety and Rescue Society
<b>SG</b>	Deputy General Directorate
<b>SGPM</b>	Deputy General Directorate for Sea Protection
<b>SNR</b>	National Response System
<b>ZEE</b>	Exclusive Economic Zone

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**EVENT OF MARINE POLLUTION.** An event or series of events of the same origin involving direct or indirect introduction into the marine environment of substances or energy which results or is likely to result in harmful effects (such as hazards to human health, harm to living resources and marine or coastal ecosystems, including loss of biodiversity, obstacles to maritime activities, specially fishing, tourism, and leisure activities and other legitimate uses of the sea, alteration of the quality of marine waters that limit their use and a reduction its recreational value, or in general terms, a detriment to the sustainable use of marine goods and services), and that requires emergency measures or other immediate response.

**COAST.** The sea shore and the estuaries, as defined in article 3 of the Coastal Law 22/1988, of 28<sup>th</sup> July, as well as those elements belonging to the maritime-terrestrial public domain likely to be affected by marine pollution (cliffs, islets, accessions, etc.), and which are established in article 4 of this Law.

**MARITIME INSTALLATIONS.** Enclosures or structures located in ports, in the coast or offshore, provided with the necessary means to carry out commercial or industrial activities with the risk of producing events of marine pollution from hydrocarbons or chemical products, as well as those others that, if applicable, determine the maritime administration.

**HANDLING TERMINAL FOR GOODS .** Maritime installation destined to carry out the transfer of goods between seaborne and land-based modes, or, within the seaborne mode, which may include annexed surfaces to deposit goods and transport elements.

**EMERGENCY MEASURES AND IMMEDIATE RESPONSE.** Decisions and actions aimed at enabling the prevention and avoidance of new damages and the repair of those that already exist.

**DANGER.** Intrinsic property of a substance or potentiality of an event of marine pollution to cause, directly or indirectly, damage to people, material damage and deterioration of the environment.

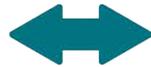
**ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE AREA.** Area which, due to its natural values, geographical location, or general interests susceptible to be protected, requires a special degree of protection and thus, it is classified in the Territorial Plan of the corresponding CCAA or the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla, or in the RIBERA Plan (or in the State Plan for Shoreline Protection).



# RIBERA PLAN ORIGIN



The SNR establishes a general framework of action to achieve a unified response to a marine pollution event such as oil and/or hazardous and noxious substances.



It establishes the means and the relationship systems that guarantee reciprocal information, technical homogeneity and joint action among the various public administrations competent authorities (national, regional and local), as well as other public and private organizations related to the maritime sector.



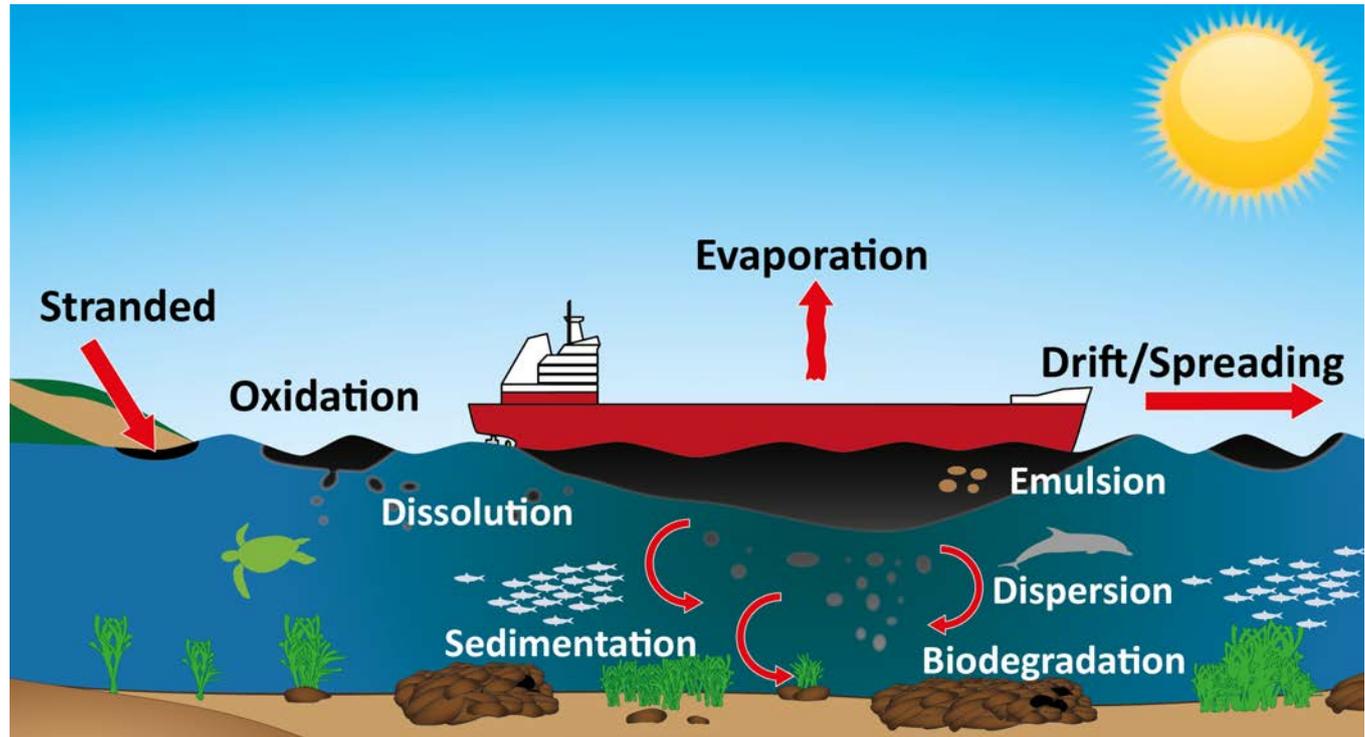
## SCOPE OF SNR

*"Everyone has the right to enjoy an adequate environment for the development of the individual, as well as the duty to preserve it. Public authorities will ensure the rational use of all natural resources, in order to protect and improve the quality of life and defend and restore the environment, relying on the indispensable collective solidarity. Spanish Constitution (Article 45)."*

*This map is destined for technical use and does not reflect official boundaries with neighboring states.*

# HYDROCARBONS IMPACT ON MARINE ENVIRONMENT

## LAND-BASED AND MARINE POLLUTION



# THE NATIONAL RESPONSE SYSTEM

The SNR will be applicable in all those cases of accidental or deliberate marine pollution, whatever its origin or nature, which affects or may affect marine waters under Spanish sovereignty and jurisdiction, as well as the Spanish coast.

Responds to marine pollution events



Coordinates all the agents that have means to fight against pollution

Protects marine biodiversity



Restores ecosystems

## MARITIME SUBSYSTEM

National Maritime Plan (Ministry of Public Works and Transport)

Site Maritime Plan

Ports

Handling terminals of goods

Exploration and exploitation offshore platforms

Maritime installations

## COASTAL SUBSYSTEM

**The State Plan for Shoreline Protection (RIBERA PLAN)**

Territorial Plans of the Regional Governments and the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla

Local Plans of Coastal Entities

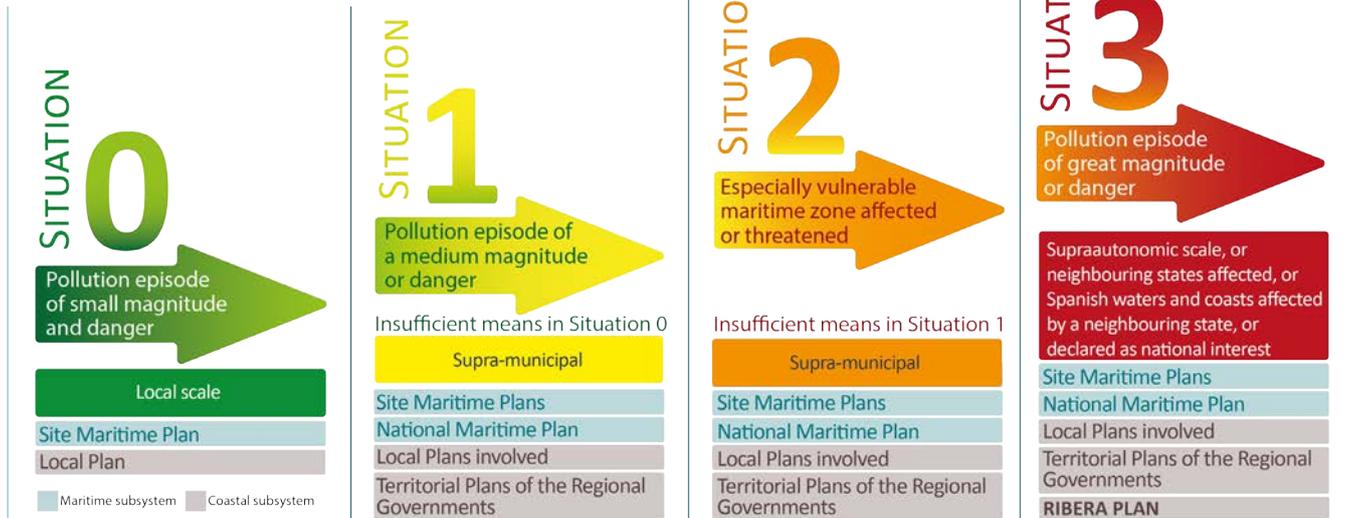
# ALERT AND EMERGENCY PHASES IN A MARINE POLLUTION EVENT

## ALERT PHASE

It will imply the willingness to mobilise emergency means and resources, according to the scope of the plan or plans concerned and with the suitable degree of response depending on the characteristics of the possible event.

## EMERGENCY PHASE

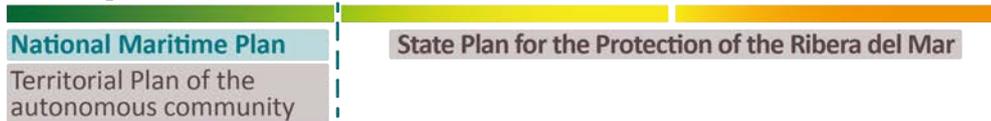
It requires the mobilisation of means and resources and of one or more plans of those that make up the National Response System.



# ALERT AND EMERGENCY PHASES IN AN EVENT OF MARINE POLLUTION



Alert phase: Available means

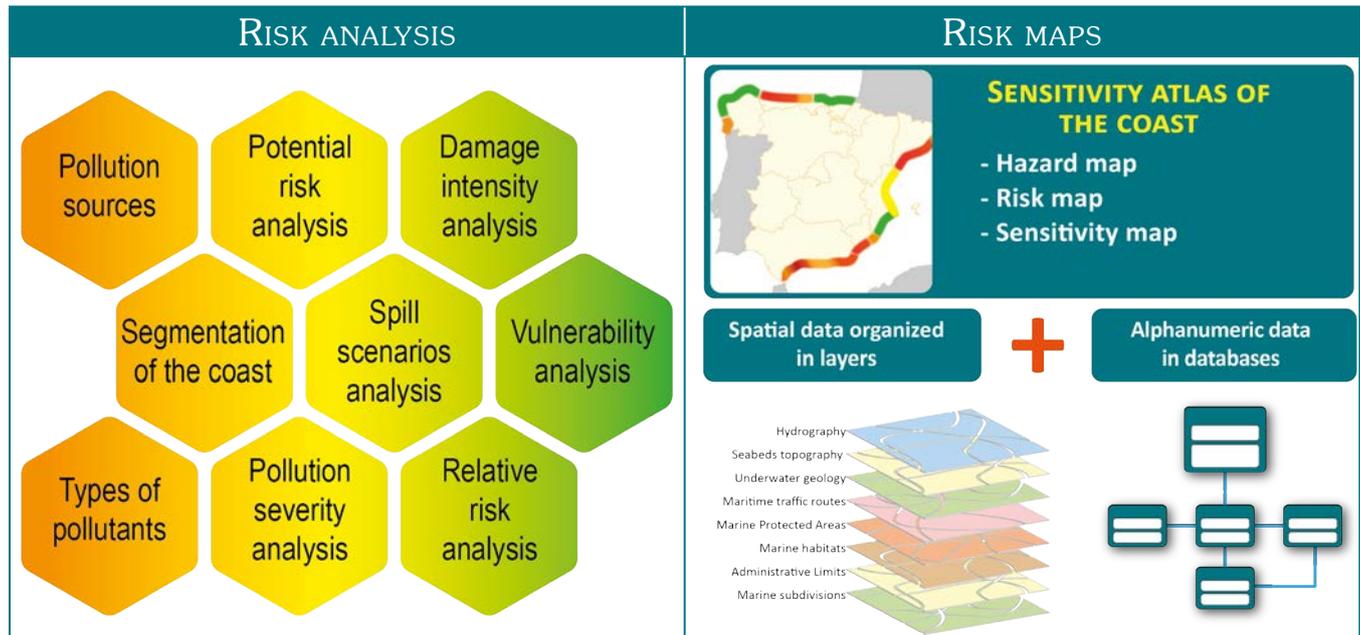


Emergency phase: Mobilisation of means

Situation 0	Situation 1	Situation 2	Situation 3
Site Maritime Plan	Site Maritime Plans	Site Maritime Plans	Site Maritime Plans
Local Plan	National Maritime Plan	National Maritime Plan	National Maritime Plan
	Local Plans involved	Local Plans involved	Affected Local Plans
	Territorial Plans of the Regional Government	Territorial Plans of the Regional Government	Territorial Plans of the Regional Government
		<i>*Mobilisation of means of the Ribera plan under request of Regional governments</i>	<b>State Plan for the Protection of the Ribera del Mar</b>

# RIBERA PLAN RISKS AND VULNERABLE AREAS ANALYSIS

Risks levels (ecological and socioeconomic) corresponding to different coastal sections are identified in order to promote, if necessary, an adequate response. For that purpose, spatial management tools of the actions to be carried out during a marine pollution event are available, notably, for risk dynamic analysis to be carried out in those circumstances.



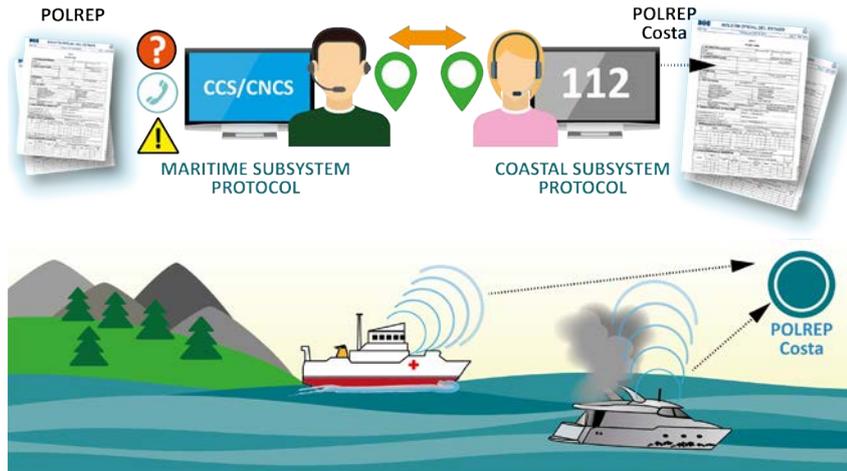


# COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

Any person or entity that is aware of a sea or coast pollution event, must report it to the local and/or port authorities by filling in the “POLREP” and “POLREP Costa” forms, respectively. These questionnaires assure that the authorities receive appropriate information to establish an effective response.

Emergency phases and situations and the subsequent activation of the Plan, with an appropriate level of response, are established based on:

- The magnitude and danger of a possible pollution event, as well as the agent and class of pollutant and the place where the contamination occurred.
- The area and vulnerability of the potentially affected regions.



- The type and characteristics of the technical and personal resources that should be alerted or mobilised.

Communications between the maritime and coastal subsystems are carried out through the usual emergency channels (Maritime Safety and Rescue Agency at the sea, and 112 emergency number of the affected autonomous community, at the coast).

# POLREP COSTA EVENT NOTIFICATION

This document must be completed by the observer of the event or by the organization or company that has been informed about it and be sent urgently to 112 emergency center of the affected Regional Government and the DGSCM of the MITECO, either directly (telephone, e-mail, emergency mailbox) or through its coastal peripheral services.

## LOCATION INFORMATION.

Date, weather, observer team data and location.

**COAST TYPE.** To specify shore characteristics that may be affected.

**OPERATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS.** To help authorities to carry out an initial evaluation.

**SURFACE POLLUTION.** Estimates of contaminated areas.

**UNDER SURFACE POLLUTION.** To be carried out in case of burial suspicion.

**GENERAL REMARKS.** To highlight specific issues of interest.

The taking of photographs, videos and elaboration of schemes are very useful tools to document the event of marine pollution.



For the adequate completion of POLREP Costa see “On-site Manual for the Evaluation of the Coast polluted by Hydrocarbons”, developed by MITECO ([www.miteco.es](http://www.miteco.es)).

The DGSCM will send the POLREP Costa to the DGMM, through the CNCS of SASEMAR, and to the Government Delegation in the CCAA and the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla for its communication to the authorities responsible for the activation of the corresponding Territorial and Local Plans.

# COORDINATION OF THE EMERGENCY SITUATION

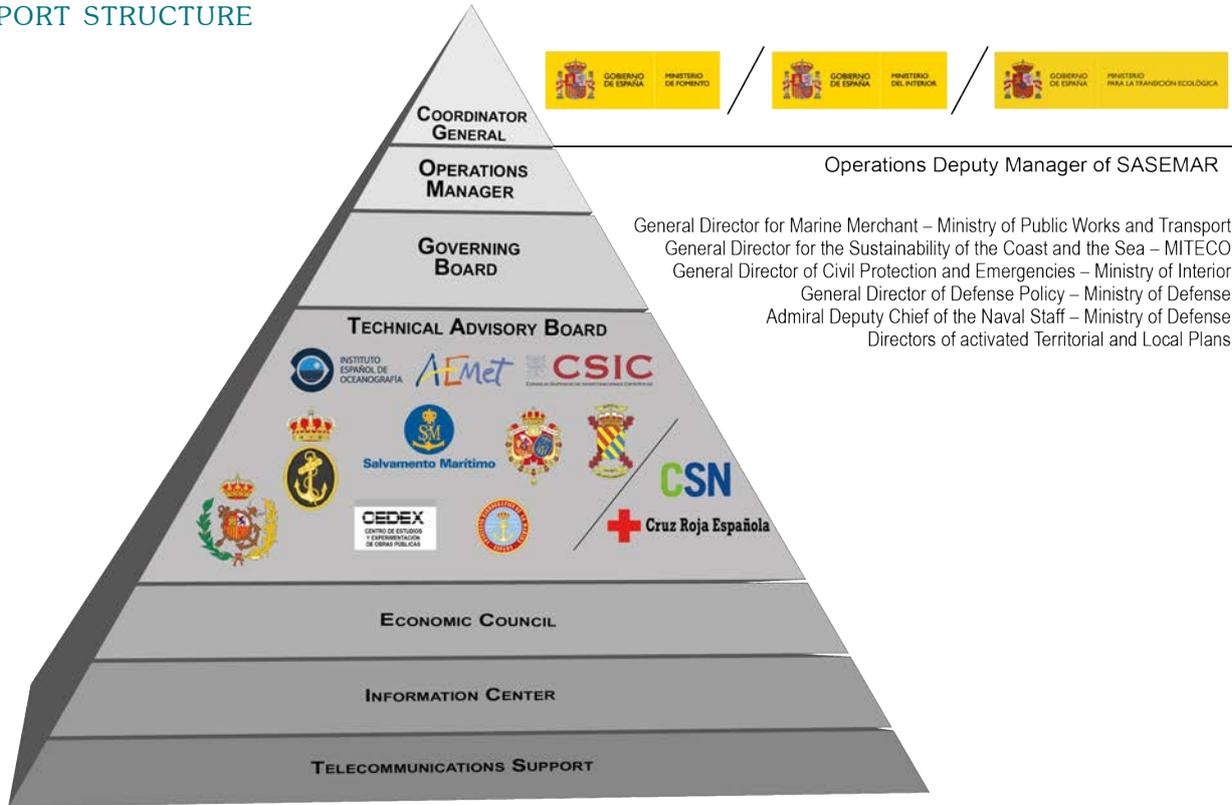
The support structure for an event of marine pollution depends on the emergency situation that is activated; this allows cooperation between different bodies. Likewise, it entails suitable assignment of roles and a specific preparation that is established through continuous training and education.



	Emergency phase			
	Situation 0	Situation 1	Situation 2	Situation 3
Plan Activation/Desactivation	Competent authority/Enterprise	Port Authority/ Maritime Captain	General Directorate for Marine Merchant	Ministry of Public Works and Transport/MITECO /Ministry of interior
Emergency management	Foreseen by the Site Maritime Plan	Maritime Captain / DGMM		General Emergency Coordinator
Support structure	Set out in the site Maritime Plan	Operations coordination Technical Advisory Committee Response Groups Logistics Support Groups Telecommunications support Public Relations Office		Operations Manager Governing Board Technical Advisory Board Economic Council Telecommunications support Information Center
End of the emergency		EMERGENCY MANAGER		GENERAL COORDINATOR FOR EMERGENCIES

# COORDINATION OF THE EMERGENCY SITUATION 3

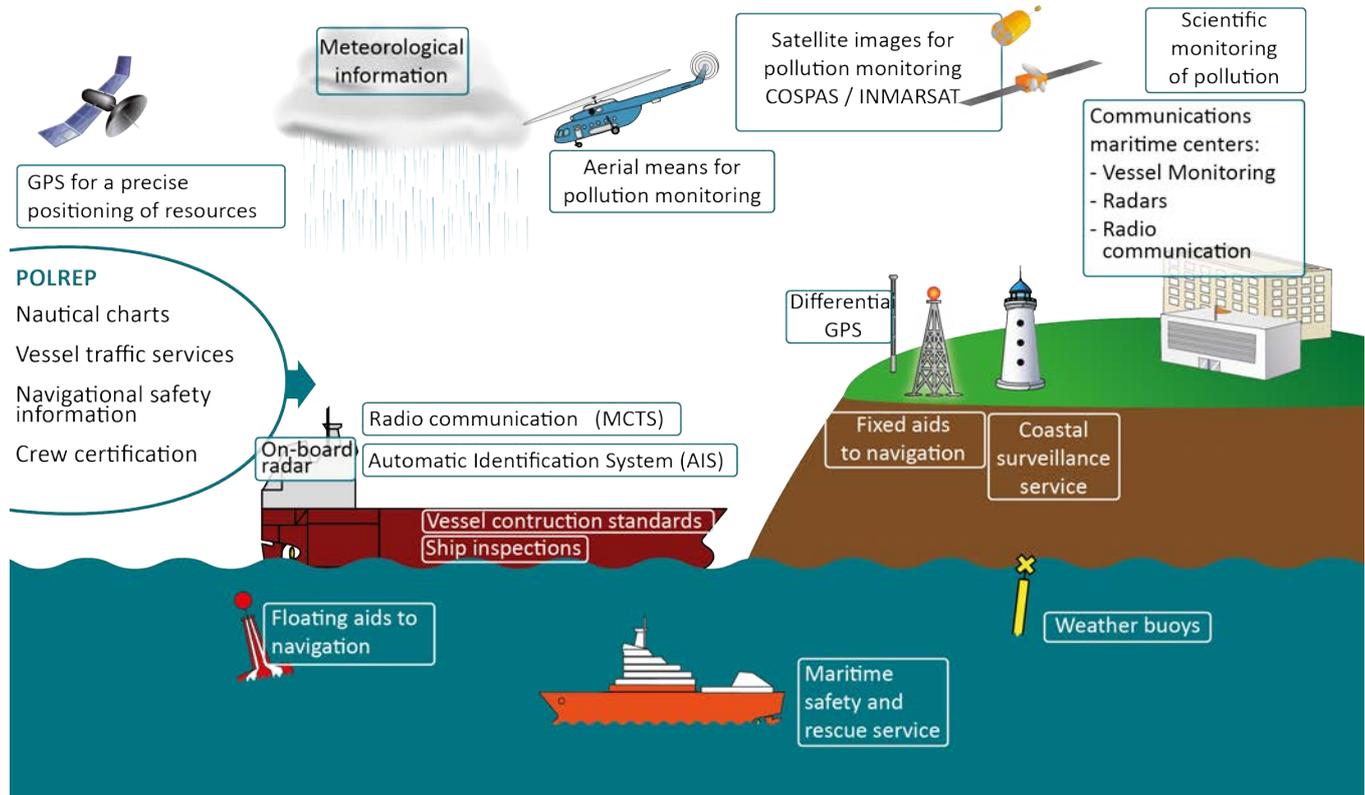
## SUPPORT STRUCTURE



# COASTAL ACTION PROTOCOL



# AVAILABLE MEANS IN MARITIME SUBSYSTEM



# RIBERA PLAN AVAILABLE RESOURCES

The DGSCM maintains a detailed inventory of all MITECO material resources assigned to the fight against pollution of the coast and, in turn, has a maintenance program for the resources assigned to the RIBERA PLAN, in accordance with the recommendations of the respective manufacturers.

At the end of an action to face an event of marine pollution or a practical exercise, the cleaning and detailed review, prior to storage, of reusable equipment must be carried out.



# TRAINING AND EXERCISES

Regular practical exercises are carried out so that the members of the response groups and the MITECO staff with responsibilities in the RIBERA PLAN become familiar with the handling of the equipment and the techniques to fight pollution. Theoretical exercises and periodic simulations are carried out to face the different situations that may arise.

## JOINT THEORETICAL EXERCISE

It consists in the theoretical activation (without mobilization of resources) of the RIBERA PLAN, the National Maritime Plan and the Territorial Plan of a Regional Government/s or autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla, raised on a supposed maritime accident, affecting both the sea and the coast, in order to assess the response capacity and coordination of the governing bodies of all plans.

## JOINT SIMULATION

The forces of the RIBERA PLAN are activated and the effective means of other plans are invited to participate, to the extent deemed appropriate: the National Maritime Plan and the Territorial Plan of a Regional Government/s.



# RIBERA PLAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE

The need to incorporate participatory processes in the management and conservation of our coast is accepted, and environmental volunteering is understood as one of the most active forms of participation to contribute to this.



The SGPM of the DGSCM (MITECO) has developed the e-FAOS web platform for online training and has published 2 manuals:

- Manual of functions and obligations of volunteer workers in emergencies to fight oil pollution.
- Health and safety for volunteers during oil pollution emergencies.



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