



# imaros<sub>2</sub>

## Project Background and Objectives

Final Conference

Silje Berger

18 November 2025, Malta



# Project partners



Rijkswaterstaat  
Ministry of Infrastructure  
and Water Management



KYSTVERKET  
NORWEGIAN COASTAL ADMINISTRATION



Transport Malta



RAJAVARTIOLAITOS  
GRÄNSBEVAKNINGSVÄSENDET  
FINNISH BORDER GUARD



KUSTBEVAKNINGEN



Associated partner:



Oil Spill Response



KYSTVERKET  
NORWEGIAN COASTAL ADMINISTRATION





**IM**pacts **A**nd **R**esponse **O**ptions regarding low sulphur marine fuel oil **S**pills

**Duration:** 1. 1.2024 - 31.12.2025

**Web:** <https://civil-protection-knowledge-network.europa.eu/projects/imaros-2>

**Call / project number:** UCPM-2023-KAPP /101140015



# Background

- Previous tests and observations – incidents
- IMAROS project



# IMAROS Conclusions

- Great variability in the physico-chemical properties of LSFO
  - LSFO spills may show very different behavior and impacts in the environment.
  - The tested aquatic ecotoxicity is within the range observed in traditional fuel oils.
- Oil spill responders will need to be prepared for spills with a wide range of different characteristics.
  - Sticky behaviour or highly viscous oil can be encountered
  - High pourpoint and solidification of the oil is a main challenge for mechanical recovery related to some of the tested samples.
  - Penetration of some oils into the bedrock might affect shoreline clean-up.

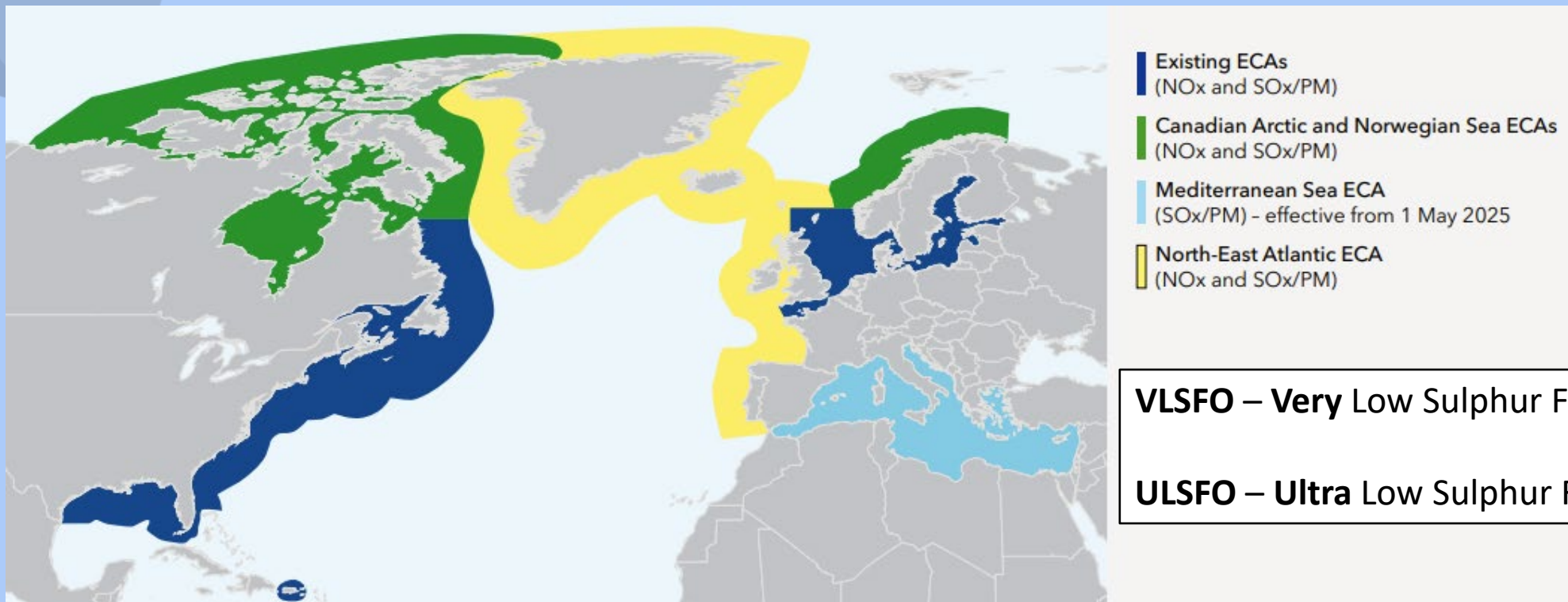
# IMAROS Research needs

- Efficient mechanical recovery of oils with high pour point
- Investigate further the link between the pourpoint, elasticity and wax
- Penetration of some of the oils into rocks has not been observed before, why this is happening is unknown. Consequences for shoreline clean-up?
- Further following up on the changing market trends and resulting risk picture
- Biofuels in-mix – and other additives ?
- Visco-elastic and brittle rheologies to simulate spreading and cracking of oil slicks for VLSFO with high pour point





# SECA and Sulphur Cap



**VLSFO** – **V**ery **L**ow Sulphur Fuel Oils –  $S < 0,5 \%$

**ULSFO** – **U**ltra **L**ow Sulphur Fuel Oils –  $S < 0,1 \%$

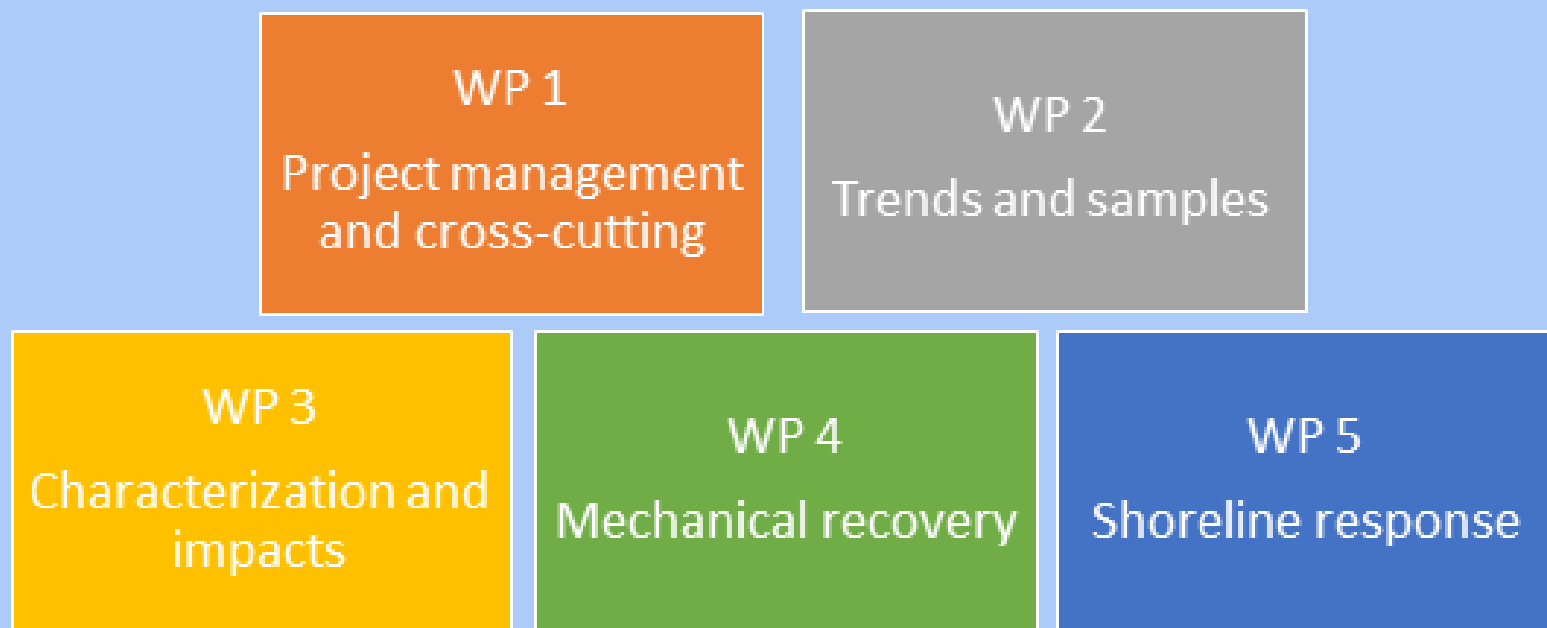
Source: <https://www.dnv.com/news/2025/new-ecas-for-the-canadian-arctic-norwegian-sea-and-north-east-atlantic-ocean/>

# Main objectives

- Improve understanding of oil spill behaviour of LSFOs, and consequently decision making on all levels of oil spill response operations
- Improve capacities of mechanical recovery and shoreline response



# Work packages



# Expert group

- Network beyond the project consortium
  - Learn from experiences worldwide
  - Feedback and advice
  - Raise awareness of the topic and communicate our approach
- Two virtual meetings with the expert group have resulted in valuable insights and heads-up



## IMAROS 2

IMpacts And Response Options regardin

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### Overview

#### Status

Ongoing

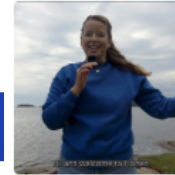
#### Type

EU contribution amount

Funding source

Geographic focus

Contact email



### How can we best handle spills of low-sulphur oils?

Film about work package 4 - Mechanical recovery.

10 November 2025



### Trends and samples - Work Package 2

Video explaining work package 2.

4 September 2025



### 🔔 Save the date 🔔

IMAROS 2 final conference

6 August 2025



### Chemical fingerprinting

Did you know that every oil has it own chemical fingerprint?

15 June 2025



### IMAROS Project Status Update

Update on the project as of April 7 2025.

7 April 2025



### What is IMAROS 2?

The project uses the insights gained from the first IMAROS-project.

18 April 2024



# Thank you for your attention

Visit IMAROS 2:

<https://civil-protection-knowledge-network.europa.eu/projects/imaros-2>

## Acknowledgements:

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