


Country profile 2019 – Liberia

Part 1. General information

1. Country information

| | | |
|--|---------------------------------|---|
|  | Full name of the country | Liberia |
| | Capital | Monrovia |
| | Official language(s) | English |
| | Main ports | Port of Monrovia, Port of Buchanan, Port of Greenville and Port of Harper |
| | Coastline (km) | 580 |

2. Contacts

GI WACAF Focal point

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Name | Daniel Tarr |
| Ministry/ Department / Agency | Liberia Maritime Authority |
| Job title | Director-Marine Environmental Protection |
| Address | P. O. Box 9042, Sinkor, 20 th Street, Monrovia, Liberia |
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| Email | ditar2003@yahoo.com |

IMO Focal point

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Name | Cllr. Charles Abel Gono, Jr |
| Ministry/ Department / Agency | Liberia Maritime Authority |
| Job title | Deputy Commissioner-Vessels Registration and Safety |
| Address | P. O. Box 9042, Sinkor, 20 th Street, Monrovia, Liberia |
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National representatives completing this document

| Name | Job title | Organisation | Country | Email | Telephone |
|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|----------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Daniel Tarr | Director-Marine Environmental Protection | Liberia Maritime Authority | Liberia | ditar2003@yahoo.com | +231886562227 |
| Cllr. Charles A. Gono, Jr | Deputy Commissioner | Liberia Maritime Authority | Liberia | gblolay@yahoo.com | +231886525718 |
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3. Industry

| Industry presence in the country | |
|---|--|
| Which industry partners from the <i>Oil & Gas</i> sector are present and operating in your country? | None |
| Cooperation with the industry | |
| Is there working group/platform that brings together government and industry to address issues related to oil spill preparedness and response? If yes, please provide the name. | Yes, the Environmental Sector Working Group and the Technical Working Group on the National Contingency Plan |
| Is there sharing of human resources and equipment between industry and government during exercises and/or training? | Yes |
| Please list any other aspects relevant to cooperation between industry and government. | Training |

Part 2. Updating the Country Profile, identification of level of preparedness and priority actions

1. Institutional and legal context

1. Designation of responsible authority(ies)

| Competent national authorities responsible for oil spill preparedness and response | |
|---|---|
| <i>Response at sea</i> | |
| Ministry/Department/Agency | Liberia Maritime Authority |
| Contact person responsible for oil spills at sea | Dr. James F. Kollie, Commissioner/CEO of the Liberia Maritime Authority |
| Address | P. O. Box 9042, 20 th Street, Sinkor, Monrovia, Liberia |
| Telephone | +231886439759 |
| Mobile | |
| Email | jfkollie@gmail.com |
| <i>Shoreline response</i> | |
| Ministry/Department/Agency | Environmental Protection Agency |
| Contact person responsible for shoreline oil spills | Dr. Nathaniel Blama |
| Address | 4th Street, Sinkor, P.O. Box 4024, Monrovia, Liberia |
| Telephone | +231 88 689 7256 |
| Mobile | +231 88 651 8635 |
| Email | nblama@epa.gov.lr |
| <i>Authority(ies) responsible for implementation of IMO conventions</i> | |
| Ministry/Department/Agency | Liberia Maritime Authority |
| Contact person | Cllr. Charles A. Gono, Jr |
| Address | Liberia Maritime Authority |

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2. Ratification of international conventions and national legislation

| Ratification of international IMO conventions (related to oil spill prevention, preparedness and response, and to civil liability and compensation) and their transposition into national legislation | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|
| | Status of ratification | National legislation that incorporates the Convention | Status of implementation | Observations/specific actions needed |
| Prevention | | | | |
| MARPOL 73-78 | ratified | Environmental Protection and Management Law of Liberia, Liberia Maritime Authority 2010 Act | Being Implemented | A comprehensive and holistic marine pollution law needs to be developed and enacted |
| Preparedness and response | | | | |
| OPRC 90 | ratified | Environmental Protection and Management Law of Liberia, Liberia Maritime Authority 2010 Act | Being Implemented | National Oil Spill Contingency Plan needs to be enacted into law |
| OPRC-HNS Protocol | ratified | Environmental Protection and Management Law of Liberia, Liberia Maritime Authority 2010 Act | Being Implemented | National Oil Spill Contingency Plan needs to capture HNS sessions |
| Liability and compensation | | | | |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| CLC 69 | ratified | Self-executing, Marine Notices | Being Implemented | A comprehensive and holistic marine pollution law needs to be developed and enacted |
| CLC 92 | ratified | Self-executing, Marine Notices | Being Implemented | A comprehensive and holistic marine pollution law needs to be developed and enacted |
| Fund 92 | ratified | Self-executing, Marine Notices | Being Implemented | A comprehensive and holistic marine pollution law needs to be developed and enacted |
| Fund Prot. (2003) | nil | nil | nil | Needs to further investigation |
| Bunker Oil (BUNKER 2001) | ratified | Self-executing, Marine Notices | Being Implemented | A comprehensive and holistic marine pollution law needs to be developed and enacted |
| LLMC 76 | ratified | Self-executing, Marine Notices | Being Implemented | A comprehensive and holistic marine pollution law needs to be developed and enacted |
| LLMC 96 | ratified | Self-executing, Marine Notices | Being Implemented | A comprehensive and holistic marine pollution law needs to be developed and enacted |
| HNS 2010 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |

| National legislation | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|---|
| Maritime policies and regulatory framework | Do maritime policies or strategies exist? What is the responsible entity? | Yes, Liberia Maritime Authority | |
| Ratification of IMO conventions | What are the main challenges/obstacles to ratification? | Lack of coordination | ✓ |
| | | Lack of priority | |
| | | Lack of legal expertise | ✓ |
| | | Lack of technical expertise | ✓ |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Lack of financial resources | ✓ |
| Incorporation of IMO conventions | What is the procedure for incorporating IMO Conventions related to safety, marine pollution, and liability and compensation, into national legislation? | Once Liberia ratifies or accedes to a Convention, the national legislature accepts it, sends it to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for printing into handbills and that convention thereafter automatically becomes part of the Laws of Liberia. Sections of the Conventions that needs domestication for some obvious reasons are then domesticated accordingly by the National Legislature. | |
| Incorporation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1992 Fund Convention • Supplementary Fund Protocol | Does the related law identify the national authority responsible for the submission of oil reports? | Yes, the Liberia Petroleum Refining Company is tasked with that responsibility | |

II. National Oil Spill Contingency Plan

1. Development of a National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP)

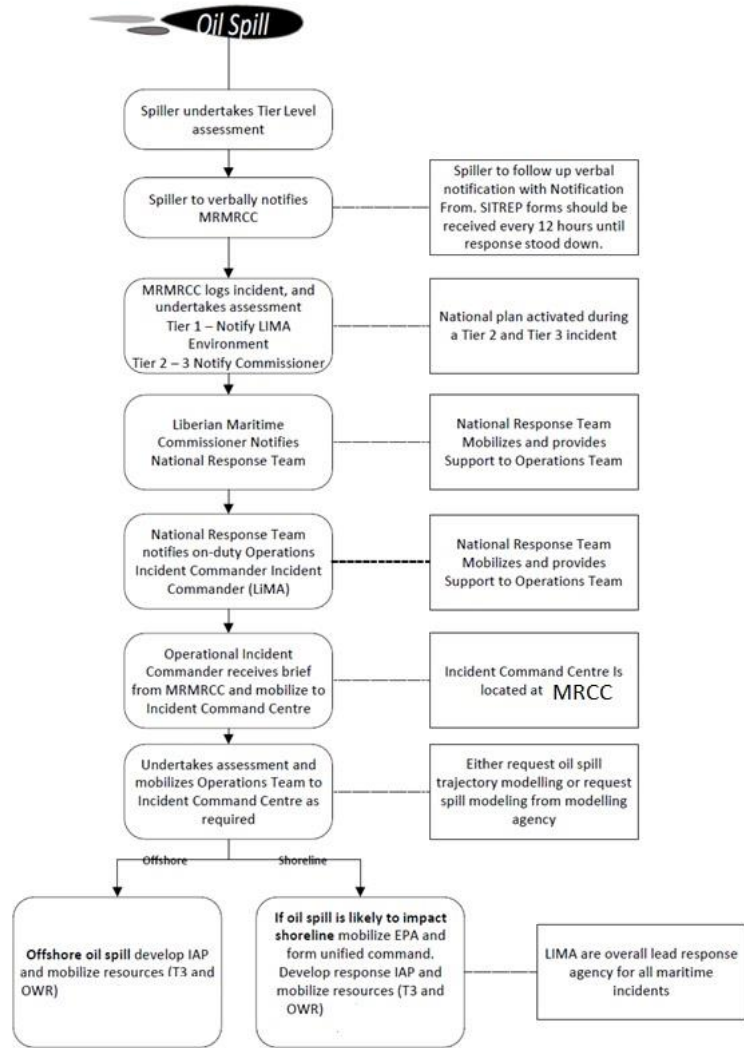
| Document | |
|---|--|
| Name of NOSCP | Liberia National Oil Spill Contingency Plan |
| Status of NOSCP | Completed, A Coastal Sensitivity Map is being developed |
| Administrative act of initial approval – Number and date | Not yet validated |
| Date of last approved update | May 2019 |
| Committee/working group responsible | Technical Working Group on National Oil Spill Contingency Plan |
| Has the NOSCP been tested? Date and main comments | Not Yet |

| | |
|--|------------|
| <p>What is the procedure for updating the NOSCP? Does the updated NOSCP have to be formalised through an administrative act (e.g. decree, law ...) for it to be applicable?</p> | <p>Yes</p> |
|--|------------|

1. Coordination, notification policies and organisation of response

| <p style="text-align: center;">Organisation of response</p> | |
|---|------------|
| <p>Does the NOSCP utilise concepts from the <i>Incident Management System (IMS)</i>?</p> | <p>yes</p> |
| <p>Is each defined role assigned to a person/function?</p> | <p>yes</p> |
| <p>Are the contact details of the responsible persons contained in an annex?</p> | <p>yes</p> |
| <p>Does the NOSCP incorporate the different preparedness levels (Tiers 1, 2, 3)?</p> | <p>yes</p> |
| <p>Organisation chart:</p> | |

Oil Spill Notification and Mobilization Procedure



| Notification and reporting procedures | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Are the emergency, notification and follow-up procedures (reports, etc.) well defined? Do they include a template as well as an updated contact list? | yes |
| Can the NOSCP be activated in case of an oil spill caused by a non-ship source (e.g. offshore platform, pipeline, etc.)? | Yes |
| Coordination with local plans and the industry | |
| Are the local plans (port, terminal, etc.) referenced and integrated in the NOSCP? | Yes |
| Are the contingency plans of oil and gas industry facilities referenced and integrated in the NOSCP? | Not yet |
| Involving the local communities | |
| Is the involvement of local communities in case of oil spills and during exercises planned? | Not yet |
| Follow-up and archive; compensation | |
| Is there a follow-up plan and archiving system that allows evidence to be stored? | Not Yet |
| Are compensation and the procedures for requesting compensation defined and integrated? | Yes, but improvement is required. |

2. Components of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan

| Policy on use of dispersants | | |
|---|--|--|
| Status of the policy on the use of dispersants | Completed | |
| The use of dispersants is considered as (first/second/last option/not an option). | Last option | |
| State the name of the administrative act which details the policy on use of dispersants. | EPA Dispersant Policy | |
| Is there a list of approved dispersants? If yes, is it public? | Yes | |
| Is there an approval procedure? If yes, which authority is responsible for this? | Yes, The Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia | |
| Is the same authority responsible for authorising the use of dispersants in emergency situations? | Yes | |
| Is the policy on the use of dispersants included in the NOSCP? | Yes | |
| What are the geographic and bathymetric limits for use of dispersants? | The Dispersant Policy from the EPA states that Oil dispersants are not recommended for use in enclosed regions of the sea with a low water exchange rate (inlets, lagoons), in shallow waters. | |
| Is there a stock of dispersants? | Yes | |
| Location of the storage sites | Monrovia Regional Maritime Rescue Coordination Center | |
| Name | Owner | Quantity |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slickgone Dispersants | Government of Liberia | (1000 ltr in IBC tanks) supplied in standard 10 ft certified offshore containers – 20 containers |
| Sensitivity mapping and risk evaluation | | |
| <i>Sensitivity maps</i> | | |
| Status of sensitivity maps | Ongoing | |
| Responsible working group/committee | Technical Working Group | |
| Are sensitivity maps included in the NOSCP? | Not Yet | |

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| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Date of validation and last update | NA |
| Does the map cover the whole shoreline? | NA |
| Are the sensitivity maps public? | NA |
| In what format are the sensitivity maps available? Print or digital? | NA |
| <i>Risk evaluation</i> | |
| Does the plan include drift patterns? | Yes |
| Does the NOSCP consider air surveillance in case of an incident (radar, satellite, aircraft, helicopter, etc.)? | Yes |
| Does the plan include a risk register and spill scenarios? | Yes |
| Is the Net Environmental Benefit Analysis (NEBA) included in the NOSCP? | Yes |
| Shoreline evaluation and response plan | |
| Status of the shoreline response plan | Completed |
| Which authority is responsible for shoreline response? | The EPA |
| Date of validation and last update | 2018 |
| Is the shoreline response plan part of the NOSCP? | Yes |
| Does the shoreline response plan incorporate the Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Technique (SCAT)? | Yes |
| Can volunteers participate in shoreline response? If yes, is there a volunteer management plan in case of oil spills? | Yes |
| Oiled waste management plan | |
| Status of the waste management plan | Completed |
| Responsible working group/committee | Technical Working Group |
| Date of validation and last update | 2018 |

| | |
|---|--|
| Is the waste management plan part of the NOSCP? | Yes |
| Does the waste management plan include transport, temporary storage and final disposal of waste? | Yes |
| Does the national legislation consider oiled waste as hazardous waste? | Yes |
| What legislative framework regulates waste management at the national level? | Environmental Protection and Management Law of Liberia |
| Contingency plan for the safety of oiled wildlife | |
| Status of the contingency plan for the protection of oiled wildlife | Completed |
| Responsible working group/committee | Technical Committee |
| Date of validation and last update | October 2018 |
| Is the contingency plan for the protection of oiled wildlife part of the NOSCP? | Yes |
| Are there national bodies responsible for this? If yes, which ones? | Yes, EPA and the Forestry Development Authority |
| Are there cooperation agreements with international specialised organisations? | Not Yet |
| <i>In-situ</i> burning policy | |
| Status of the <i>in-situ</i> burning policy | Completed |
| Responsible working group/committee | Technical Working Group |
| Date of validation and last update | 2018 |
| Does the <i>in-situ</i> burning policy form part of the NOSCP? | Yes |
| What is the authorization procedure in case of an incident? | It is done thru the EPA after a NEBA procedure |
| Other technical elements | |

| | |
|--|----|
| Does the NOSCP cover preparedness and response in the case of spills of hazardous and noxious substances (HNS)? | No |
|--|----|

III. cooperation

1. Transboundary cooperation and international assistance

| Regional agreements | |
|--|---|
| What bilateral and/or regional cooperation response mechanisms are included in the NOSCP? | None |
| Are transboundary exercises organised regularly? If yes, how often? | Not Yet |
| Date of the last transboundary exercise | NA |
| Transboundary transfer of expertise and equipment | |
| Are there specific customs and immigration procedures in place to facilitate the import of equipment and/or expertise? | Yes |
| If yes, what are the procedures? | Coordination must be done thru the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning |
| Assistance mechanisms | |
| Does your country participate in cooperation with projects/institutions aimed at improving preparedness and response? If yes, which ones? | Not Yet |

| | |
|--|---------|
| Is there mutual support between government and industry for the exchange of response equipment? | Not Yet |
| Are mechanisms for mobilisation and access to public and private international assistance in place? | No |

2. Training and exercises

| Training | |
|--|---------|
| <i>Courses</i> | |
| Does the country organise internal training for staff at all levels (based on the needs of the country and in accordance with international standards)? | Not Yet |
| <i>Exercises</i> | |
| Does the country organise national exercises (involving local and private sectors) at least once a year? | Not Yet |
| Education | |
| Does cooperation with universities to train future experts in environmental management and the management of industrial and environmental risks exist or is it planned? | Yes |

3. Equipment and national resources

| Response equipment | |
|---|------------------------|
| Government: | Private sector: |
| Centre for storage and maintenance of response equipment | Not yet |
| Planned acquisition of response equipment by the government | Not yet |
| Inventories of public and private response equipment (annexed to the NOSCP) | Yes |
| Procedure for the temporary loan of response equipment from the industry, in case of an incident | Not Yet |
| Crisis control centre (rooms for meetings and communication) | Yes |
| Centre for resources, training and documentation for oil spill preparedness and for response management | Yes |
| Capacity for intervention | |
| In case of TIER 1 ¹ oil spills, is there sufficient national oil spill response capacity to enact intervention measures? | Yes |

¹ The definition of tiers 1, 2, 3 varies by country

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|---|----|
| In case of TIER 2 oil spills, is there sufficient national oil spill response capacity to enact intervention measures? | No |
| In case of TIER 3 oil spills, is there sufficient national oil spill response capacity to enact intervention measures? | No |

4. Communication

| Communication with the media and the public | |
|--|---------|
| Are standard procedures in place for communication with the media during exercises and actual incidents? | yes |
| Is there a practical and strategic training programme on communicating with the media, for decision-makers and other response stakeholders? | Not yet |