

IALA COUNCIL
3rd session



8-12 December 2025
Mumbai, India

11 – IALA World-Wide Academy

11.1.1 – WWA - Progress Report

World-Wide Academy Progress Report

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Academy continues to develop and pursue its strategic goals through its “Enlighten, Educate and Engage” methodology.

In 2025, the Academy assisted seven accredited training organizations from four continents in delivering the Level 1.1 Aids to Navigation Manager course. Risk assessment remains a tremendous topic with the successful Level 1.3. Risk Management IALA toolbox delivered by the Academy in four countries from India to Canarias Island, together with the successful seminar held at IALA HQ. Other courses, at the cutting-edge (S200 data production in Republic of Korea) or dedicated to high level management (Level 1.2. Master of AtoN in Chile and China) are being delivered as well by the Academy.

Furthermore, 6 technical needs assessment missions and reviews have been carried out, including in Irak (April 2025). The Academy has now conducted more than 60 such missions since its inception in 2012. Moreover, the year was punctuated by numerous events the Academy arranged (2 other seminars) or attended: 5 seminars and 3 regional hydrographic commissions.

Finally, in terms of research, the six-month internship about AIS data management was renewed for a second year; first results were presented during the above-mentioned Risk management seminar held at IALA HQ.

The new composed and elected Advisory board met for its two first sessions on 9th of April and 8th of October 2025.

2 THE COUNCIL IS INVITED TO

Note the World-Wide Academy Progress Report provided in Appendix 1, and note the Action Plan 2026 in Appendix 2.



APPENDIX 1

WORLD-WIDE ACADEMY PROGRESS REPORT

INTRODUCTION

This paper contains a summary of internal reports and the executive summaries of technical cooperation visit reports. The information contained is not within the public domain and has been prepared for internal use only.

Council members will recall that the IALA World-Wide Academy (the Academy) aims to ensure that all coastal States can fulfil the obligations related to Marine Aids to Navigation placed upon them in Chapter V of the SOLAS Convention, and that all coastal States can claim conformance with the relevant IALA standards. Notably, the Academy focusses on facilitating the effective implementation of the IALA standards, recommendations, guidelines, and model courses by coastal States through capacity building: education, training and technical assistance, thereby underpinning the second strategic goal of IALA.

1. OPERATIONS

The Academy articulates three simple means by which its aims and goals may be achieved: Enlighten, Educate and Engage.

1.1. ENLIGHTENING – RAISING AWARENESS

Since the second IALA Council (June 2025), the following operations are to be highlighted.

Participation in Regional Hydrographic Commissions

SAIHC – La Réunion, France (15-18 September 2025)

The 21st Meeting of the Southern African and Islands Hydrographic Commission together with a preceding Capacity Building program “Raising Awareness in Hydrography” was hosted by SHOM in La Reunion. This was also a great opportunity to meet specifically delegates from 4 countries including Kenya (see below) and representatives from the Maritime Organization for Eastern, Southern and Northern Africa (MOESNA) to review the outcome and progress made after the Lake Victoria WWA’s technical mission, last year.

Second Latin American Seminar on Aids to Navigation, Buenos Aires (21-23 May 2025)

Organised by the World-Wide Academy (IALA), the Naval Hydrographic Service and the Accredited Training Organisation (ATO) Academia Hidrovia de Capacitación en Ayudas a la Navegación, this seminar was attended by 43 participants from 9 different countries and 23 organisations.

Among the main topics addressed were the Committees work and WWA activities, the implementation of Calculation Software for AtoN Design, examples of simulation, anchoring, energy and alignment calculations and an update on the document translation programme into Spanish.

IALA Risk management Seminar (18–20 June 2025)

This event gathered maritime professionals, researchers, regulators, and industry experts to exchange knowledge, showcase new research, and explore innovations in navigational risk assessment. The seminar served as an important capacity-building platform in line with IALA’s mission.

Participants engaged with presentations and discussions that covered a broad spectrum of topics central to the IALA Risk Management Toolbox: risk management in the international context with alignment to conventions and IALA guidance, technological innovations such as decision-support systems, AI-driven modelling, and smart mooring, and practical applications through case studies on offshore wind farms. Sessions also highlighted tool development, including updates on IWRAP Mk2, the introduction of OMRAT as an open alternative, and new methods for handling non-route-following



vessels. Future-oriented risk assessments were also explored, with adaptations for autonomous shipping, environmental risk modelling, and data pipeline optimization. Contributions came from a wide range of international institutions.

Structured not only as a knowledge-sharing platform but also as a capacity-building exercise, the seminar encouraged collaboration between administrations, industry, and academia. It proved highly valuable for exchanging knowledge, harmonizing approaches, and fostering collaboration.

1.2. EDUCATING – DEVELOPING NEW OPPORTUNITIES

The Academy either helps coastal States in carrying out their training program through the training centers they have accredited under the IALA accreditation scheme, or delivers courses on its own, at IALA headquarter or in partnership with the host country. After an unprecedented year 2024 (281 trained individual), 2025 is on the same successful path: 282 participants including 44 sponsored.

Level 1.1 AtoN Manager course

The Academy has continued to assist the Accredited Training Organizations ATOs in delivering the Level 1.1 AtoN Manager course in accordance with the IALA model course, and to provide expertise in the AtoN provisions as needed.

This year, the Academy contributed to train 116 individuals (including 19 sponsored) to participate in the level 1.1 AtoN Manager course.

Since the IALA Council 02:

- STIP, Jakarta, Indonesia (July 2025): this session marked the third delivery of the L.1.1 course by STIP, with 14 participants this time, among whom seven participants were nominated by DGST, and one student from Oman.
- China MSA, China (September 2025): with the support of Jimey University and the Academy, China MSA conducted this session for 17 participants from 11 countries: Cambodia, Cape Verde, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Vietnam, Uganda, Zambia and China. 05 participants were sponsored by the Academy.
- MNTI, Kolkata, India (November 2025): 15 participants considered as of the drafting of this document, of whom 6 sponsored.

Level 1.2 Master AtoN Management

Delivered by the Academy and beneficial for high level or high potential AtoN managers, this training provides a valuable platform for shared reflection and exchange of knowledge on critical themes such as governance, policy-making, and strategic planning in Aids to Navigation (AtoN) organizations. This year 2025, still in the framework of the model course, emphasis has been placed on more public affairs prismus and more practical education.

- Valparaiso, Chile July-August 2025: the WWA was hosted by DIRECTEMAR (Navy) for this very first L1.2 session in Latin America which gathered 27 participants from Mexico, Argentina, Ecuador, Mozambique, Costa Rica, Venezuela, and the host country, Chile. One participant from Costa Rica was sponsored to attend this training.
- Whenzou, China, September 2025: hosted by China MSA, the WWA brought together 17 participants (5 of whom where sponsored) from 12 countries: China, Fiji, Indonesia, Iceland, Kenya, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua-New-Guinea, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Timor Leste, Vanuatu.

Level 1.3 Use of IALA Risk Management toolbox



Courses are being offered by the Academy to address the gap in understanding the importance of conducting risk assessments to ensure the safe management of waterways as specified by SOLAS Chapter V Regulations 12 and 13.

- The Use of IALA Risk Management training, Tenerife, Spain (22-25 April 2025): focused on the use of SIRA and IWRAP, this training was held at the Autoridad Portuaria de Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands. The course was initiated by IFAN to support the development of a risk assessment for the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the Canary Islands, which has been designated a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). Emphasis was placed on the context of Canarias. A total of fourteen students participated in the course.
- The Use of IALA Risk Management toolbox training, Livorno, Italy (May 2025): the course was organised at the request of the Italian Coast Guard, and attended by twenty-two participants.
- The Use of IALA Risk Management toolbox training, Lisbon, Portugal (June 2025): held at the office of the Hydrographic Institute in Lisbon (Navy), this session gathered eighteen participants including one sponsored by the Academy, from Guinea-Bissau.
- SIRA training, Kribi, Cameroun (July 2025): a Simplified Risk Assessment (SIRA) training session was held in Kribi, Cameroon. The course was attended by 24 navigation safety professionals from Cameroon (Ports of Kribi and Douala, and private industry) and Gabon.
- The Use of IALA Risk Management toolbox training, Kolkata, India (July 2025): organized for the first time in India, this full Level 1.3 session was held at the office of the Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships (DGLL), Kolkata, India, gathering 22 participants including four sponsored participants from from Indonesia, Timor Leste and Bangladesh.

New development : the digital technologies and innovation

WWA arranged the first training session on Marine Aids to Navigation product specifications under the S100/S200 framework, in Busan, Republic of Korea (4-7 march 2025). 21 participants (of whom 2 were sponsored) from 15 countries came together for an in-depth course on Marine Aids to Navigation (AtoN) product specifications and their role in modern maritime data exchange.

Hosted by the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, Korea Research Institute of Ships & Ocean Engineering KRISO, and Korea Institute of Maritime and Fisheries Technology KIMFT, this training covered key elements of the Universal Hydrographic Data Model, IALA S-200 product specifications, and the IEC SECOM standard (IEC 63173-2). Together with experts from Korea Research Institute of Ships & Ocean Engineering KRISO and IALA, UK Hydrographic Office UKHO, PRIMAR, United States Coast Guard USCG and Canada Coast Guard CCG, attendees explored the following topics:

- S-100/200 framework and the benefits of data harmonization
- Developing Product Specifications and managing AtoN data
- Scope & content of S-201, S-125, and S-124 product specifications
- Testing & validation tools for S-200 series
- Technical maritime services for real-time data exchange

A sea trial, where participants witnessed real-world data exchange demonstration was organized by KRISO and MOF. This demonstration showcased how AtoN changes—generated from an information system aligned with the IALA S-201 data model—can be efficiently shared with end users.

Lecture at the IMLI, Malta (2-3 April 2025)



For a second year, the Academy was invited as external lecturer to the International Maritime Law Institute in Malta, so as to deliver a set of lectures entitled “Introduction to IALA”, “IALA Risk Management Toolbox” and “IMO Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services” to the IMLI Class of 2024-2025 and the Course Participants of the IMLI Course on the Law of Ports 2025.

1.3. ENGAGING – LONG TERM CAPACITY BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

The technical visits have furthered the cooperation and contributed to the improvement of AtoN provisions worldwide. During the first half of the year, missions in Indonesia and Iraq were significant. Since the last IALA Council, the following operations have been carried out.

Sri Lanka (24 – 28 June)

Invited to attend the World Hydrography Day celebration organized by the Sri Lanka and to present the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation (IALA) in this event, the World-Wide Academy (IALA WWA) took this opportunity to arrange high level meetings with public stakeholders of safety of navigation and foreign affairs.

Dominican Republic (14-20 July)

The IALA WWA was invited by the Navy (competent authority for AtoN) to conduct a technical assessment to the Dominican Republic. It was actually the resumption of the mission initiated last year but interrupted by the expert due to family difficulties. High level meetings and full mission on the field (11 ports visited) were carried out. Special attention has been paid to the coexistence of commercial vessels and non-SOLAS vessels, and to the contingency measures for extreme weather events.

Honduras (22-31 July)

Invited by the Direccion General Marina Mercante (DGMM) responsible for safety of navigation and marine aids to navigation in Honduras, the Academy conducted an assessment during a technical mission delivered jointly with the International Hydrographic Organization for which the US National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) provided the expert.

Lastly note the upcoming mission in **Costa Rica**, intended to be carried out in November 2025 at the time of writing this document.

Furthermore, in the framework of the “Deliver as one” concept developed by the United Nations, the WWA was honored to host in St-Germain-en-Laye the 14th session of the Joint Capacity Building Cooperation Group. Bringing together seven organisations, this annual event allows exchanges of experience and enables joint events to be planned for the benefit of in-need countries.

2. MANAGEMENT AND FINANCES

Independently funded, the World-Wide Academy is honored to rely on voluntary subvention and in-kind donors. We have been receiving financial sponsorship from the International Foundation for Aids to Navigation (IFAN), Malaysia, Singapore, Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom and France. Emphasis must be placed on the generosity of the minister for transportation of the United Kingdom which has granted an exceptional 232 000 € donation this year. The dedication of two in-kind sponsors, China and India, which meet the full cost of the students’ accommodation and meals, is to be underlined as well.

In terms of 2025 budget, total expenditures will amount to €1295000. This figure is lower than expected due to rigorous management but also due to a lower level of capacity building than in 2024.

Whereas the total of expected new revenues is €1185000 once considered registration fees to WWA trainings and the spreading of the UK donation over three years (MoU duration). With the reserves accumulated in recent years (€273,000), total resources amount to € 1458000. allowing at the end of the year a remaining reserve of €163000.



These figures still show that as an effective and successful player in capacity building, the academy is able to maintain its level of activity thanks to the financial reserves accumulated in previous years. So further resources are still to be gained.



APPENDIX 2

ACTION PLAN 2026

The Action Plan is a list of possible activities, agreed with the board, which helps the Academy to prioritize its work. Whether an activity is progressed depends on the resource situation and whether the Academy receives an invitation from the country in question or not.

The Academy considers the following priorities, still on a voluntary base for coastal States:

- To support island and archipelagic States facing numerous challenges related to territorial continuity and third party maritime traffic.
- To deliver operations (training and/or technical missions) in coastal States facing fast increase or diversification of off shore activities.
- To prioritize good governance (procurement and level 1.2. Master of AtoN) and digitalization challenges addressing.
- To develop follow-up actions (review missions) so as to be long term effective.
- To support States in the implementation of PSSAs established under the auspices of IMO.
- To support States in the preparation of IMO's member States audit as regards SOLAS chapter V, Regulations 12 & 13.
- To Organize or participate in regional events (Latin America, Coastguard Fora, West Africa).

Furthermore, the WWA is to reply to new kind of needs expressed by countries, such as the design of training sessions that are not delivered by the academy (training engineering: identification of funders and providers, consolidation of needs): level 2 technician of AtoN in Oceania for instance. Practical cases of risk assessment arise as well, beyond our level 1.3 Model course, for which the Academy is requested as advisor or facilitator. In order to avoid competing with private consultancy, only workshops combining training and concrete local outcomes may be considered.

in 2026, the academy will benefit from an officer on secondment from Singapore for a period of one year, renewable once. She will be present 4 weeks at IALA HQ and then be based in the Singaporean office provided by Singapore MPA to the WWA. She will be participating actively in the review of the L1.1. Model course (see below) and regional tasks.

Finally, the Academy intends to deliver next year a Level 1.4 training session about Resilient PNT : the namely « GNSS and e-navigation » Model course is presently under revision through technical committees (ENG and DETC) and is expected to be approved by Council 4. The current strategic and geopolitical context, makes resilient PNT of paramount importance, and this course which has not been delivered since 2017, deserves to be offered again.

Level 1 Model courses

AtoN Manager courses (L1.1)	AtoN Master courses (L1.2)	Risk management (L1.3)
Help deliver several sessions spread around the world. Likely locations: United Kingdom, Abu Dhabi, Chile (Sp), China, Columbia (Sp), France, India, Indonesia, MENAS (Bahrein), Rep.Korea, Morocco (Fr)	Deliver up to three sessions. Likely locations : China, Columbia (alternative to L1.1), Turkiye	Deliver up to four sessions. Likely locations : Panama, Morocco, UK, Equator (IWRAP)
GNSS & e-nav (L1.4)		
Under revision : resilient PNT. One five-days session to be defined (Black Sea ?)		



Other courses

Planned activity
Procurement course : Gambia (January 2026)
S-200 Data production: IALA HQ (February 2026) and MACHC region (Meso America and Caribbean)
Level 2 AtoN Technician course to be designed and facilitated for Oceania (lecturers, host country and sponsor(s) to be identified).

Technical needs assessment and follow up missions

Planned activity	Status
Conduct missions as opportunities arise and where relevant as agreed with sponsors. Possible locations: Slovenia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Myanmar, Somalia, Tanzania, Timor Leste, Uganda, Cameroon, Vietnam, Philippines...	Confirmed: Gambia Under discussion: Guinea, Iraq, Philippines, Timor Leste.

Hydrographic commission meetings (awareness raising and lobbying)

Planned activity
Attend some of the hydrographic commission meetings (NOICH, MACHC, MBSHC, EAthC, RSAHC/ROPME, SAIHC, SWPHC...).

VTS related activities

Planned activity	Status
Assist when requested with developing and delivering and assessing VTS training worldwide. (possibly Philippines, Thailand, India, Malaysia, ASEAN VTS training, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assisting with VTS training in Malaysia (JANA & Matrain) Nov 2026, - Indonesia (support to a Training Organization accreditation renewal)

Other activities (not exhaustive list)

Planned activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminar on the L1.1 Manager of AtoN review • IMO TCC • Rep.Korea Maritime Week and CB workshop • Joint CB Group meeting n°15 • Lecturing at WMU/IMLI • APHoMSA 2026 (Asia Pacific Head of Maritime safety agencies) • Latin America Seminar (Mexico) • IALA French and Spanish Support Groups