



EUROPEAN  
COAST GUARD FUNCTIONS  
TRAINING NETWORK

## ECGFA NET project: a tool for cooperation



Saint Germain en Laye, 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2019



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### AGENDA

#### ❖ THE ECGFA NET PROJECT BACKGROUND

#### ❖ THE OBJECTS:

- The Net
- The training portal
- The exchange programme
- The Sectorial Qualification Framework

#### ❖ THE CGFSQF

#### ❖ THE PILOT TRAINING COURSE: Improving efficiency through VHF Communication



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## ECGFA NET project: a tool for cooperation



- ◆ Voluntary initiative
- ◆ Bottom up approach
- ◆ Cross-sectoral and cross-function (10 CGFs)



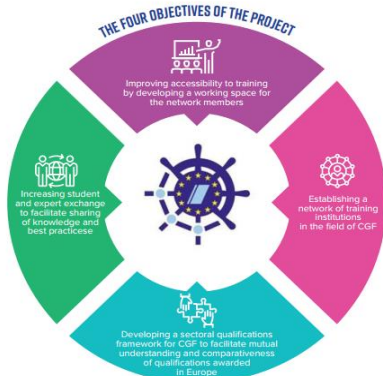
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## ECGFA NET project: a tool for cooperation

### ECGFA NET IN A NUTSHELL

The goal of the **European Coast Guard Functions Academy Network** project was to enhance educational cooperation between European authorities involved in training and education in the field of coast guard functions (CGF). The project set out to achieve this objective through four inter-connected work strands:



Work was divided into three project phases taking place from 2015 to 2019. The project was co-funded by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund with a total of 1.5 M, and was led by the Finnish Border Guard with the support of work package leaders, the Italian Coast Guard and the Spanish Maritime Safety and Rescue Agency.

European Coast Guard Functions Forum (ECGFF) was an important background for cooperation throughout the project.



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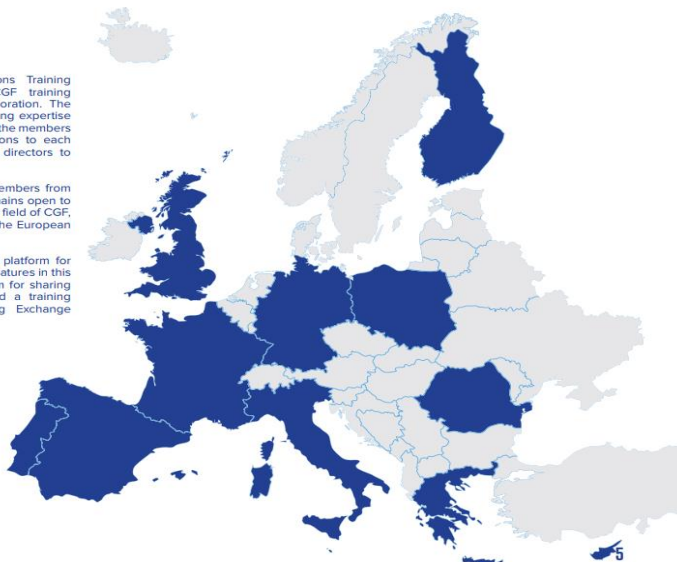
## ECGFA NET project: a tool for cooperation

### 1. ECGF TRAINING NETWORK

The European Coast Guard Functions Training Network was established by 18 CGF training institutions to improve practical collaboration. The Network assembles cross-sectoral training expertise and represents all CGFs. Over the years, the members have built close professional connections to each other on several levels, ranging from directors to operational staff.

Today the Network comprises of 30 members from 12 European countries. Membership remains open to all recognised institutions working in the field of CGF, in a country that has representation in the European Coast Guard Functions Forum.

The Network has created a functional platform for training cooperation in CGF. Two main features in this cooperation have been its own platform for sharing information (ECGF Training Portal) and a training exchange programme (ECGF Training Exchange Programme).

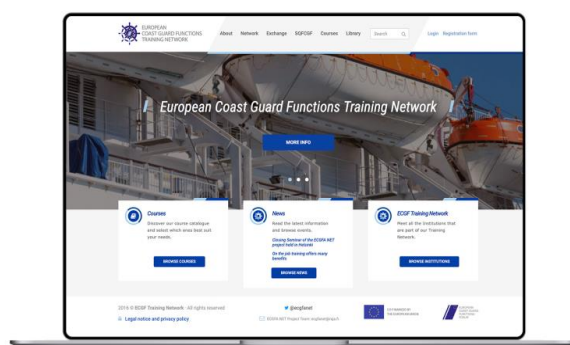


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### 2. ECGF TRAINING PORTAL

[ecgf-trainingportal.efca.europa.eu](http://ecgf-trainingportal.efca.europa.eu)

ECGF Training Portal is a platform that facilitates the sharing of information through several features. It hosts a selection of courses that are open for all members of the Network. Members of the Network may browse the selection to fulfil their training needs, and advertise courses of their own. This improves access to training.

The Portal contains information on all institutions that are part of the Network. These institutions pages, along with the course selection, are maintained by the members themselves. Each institution and course has a point of contact to which interested members can reach out.

The Training Portal has originally been developed under the coordination of the Spanish Maritime Safety and Rescue Agency. Essentially, the Portal is a platform of the members, by the members and for the members.



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### 3. ECGF TRAINING EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

In order to increase student and expert exchange and to enable an efficient sharing of best practices, skills and knowledge, the ECGF Training Exchange Programme was developed. The programme is targeted to members of the Network but has also reached experts from the EU's neighbouring countries.

On the job training is in the core of the programme. It is an efficient way to ensure learning by doing and to observe different practices, methods and even use of technology. Knowledge gained from the exchange is cascaded to others, which brings benefits on a broader scale. The programme has prompted ambitious cascading activities, comprising of presentations focusing on lessons learned and even comprehensive reports, full of recommendations for the home organisation to develop practices and capabilities based on what the expert has observed and tested during their exchange period. Furthermore, dialogic connections between organisations have continued even after the exchange period.

The ECGF Training Exchange ran in two editions, first in 2017 and then in 2019. The 1st edition was executed by the Finnish Border Guard whereas SASEMAR coordinated the 2nd edition. In total 57 experts from 15 organisations underwent training in the two editions of the programme, which offered 33 on-the-job trainings and courses.



The ECGF Training Exchange Programme has developed rapidly and demand for it has grown significantly. In its second running, 86 candidates were nominated to take part in the programme, over a double compared to the 42 places available in the programme. Candidates could apply up to 3 hosting offers, which resulted in 207 applications in the 2nd edition. That is over 10 times more than in the 1st edition of the programme. In 2019, the first training course developed purely within the framework of the ECGF Training Network and its exchange programme saw light of day. This CGF course focused on traffic management with the aim of improving efficiency through VHF communications. The course was co-planned and co-instructed by SASEMAR and the Italian Coast Guard. It served as a cross-sectoral training opportunity that also involved participating experts from Lebanon and Morocco. The CGF course was planned using a draft of Sectoral Qualifications Framework for Coast Guard Functions.



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## Improving efficiency through VHF communications

### EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

- Expert Exchange Programme for the members of the Network
- Practical on-the-job training or training courses
  - ✓ Sharing of best practices and information
  - ✓ Training in different conditions
  - ✓ Building connections between organisations
  - ✓ Promoting mobility and facilitating interoperability

Pilot phase (2017)	2nd phase (2019)
Hosts: 7	Hosts: 10
Hosting offers: 11	Hosting offers: 21
Applicants: 16	Applicants: 83
Applications: 18	Applications: 201



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### 4. SECTORAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK FOR COAST GUARD FUNCTIONS

The Sectoral Qualifications Framework for Coast Guard Functions (SQFCGF) is a result of multi-year collaboration in the project. It is a voluntary framework that describes learning outcomes for 10 coast guard functions, excluding maritime border control that is covered by the SQF for Border Guarding developed by Frontex.



Learning outcomes are descriptions of essential knowledge, skills, and responsibility and autonomy that learner has achieved at the end of a training. They are abstract statements that don't refer to any specific qualifications, making them universally applicable. The SQFCGF describes the contents of qualifications in a common language, facilitating comprehension and comparability of different qualifications both internationally and nationally.

The SQFCGF is an outstanding achievement that ties back to the ECGF Training Exchange Programme and training cooperation in general. The framework builds the foundation for Erasmus-like training programmes that enable sharing of training resources and exchange of knowledge on a whole new level.

The SQFCGF encompasses 4 levels of qualifications that are in line with the European Qualifications Framework. In addition to the benefits for training and operational activities, the SQFCGF is an achievement that implements principles of Bologna and Copenhagen processes.

The SQFCGF has been developed under the leadership of the Italian Coast Guard. A dedicated group of experts from several project partners was compiled to draft the tables for 10 CGFs, while the three relevant Agencies EFCA, EMSA and Frontex provided their support as active observers. CIMEA (Information Centre on Academic Mobility and Equivalence) was procured as an external expert to support the work and three independent assessors evaluated the entire process.

The SQFCGF is available as publication and visual tool. The visual tool is available at the Training Portal.



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### Sectoral Qualifications Framework



A SQFCGF is intended to be a useful tool to facilitate comprehension and interaction among different training systems and thus to increase employability, mobility and lifelong learning

*"Instrument for the development and classification of qualifications, which relates and compares qualifications using a hierarchy of levels of learning outcomes, usually of increasing complexity as a learner progresses up the levels. A sectoral qualification framework refers to one specific sectors"*  
(ETF -2011)

### Learning Outcome Approach

*L.O.s are statement describing significant and essential learning that learners have achieved at the end of a training.*

### Shift of Training Paradigm

*From what trainers have to teach to what trainees need to learn to perform CGF*

*New approach to design training courses tailored on operational needs*



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10 functions  
4 levels  
22 learning areas  
Learning outcomes  
<https://ecgff-trainingportal.eu>

- 1 • Maritime safety, including VTS
- 2 • Maritime ship and port security
- 3 • Maritime customs activities
- 4 • Prevention and suppression of trafficking and smuggling and Law Enforcement
- 5 • Maritime monitoring and surveillance
- 6 • Maritime environmental protection and response
- 7 • Maritime search and rescue
- 8 • Ship casualty and maritime assistance service
- 9 • Maritime accident and disaster response
- 10 • Fisheries inspection and control

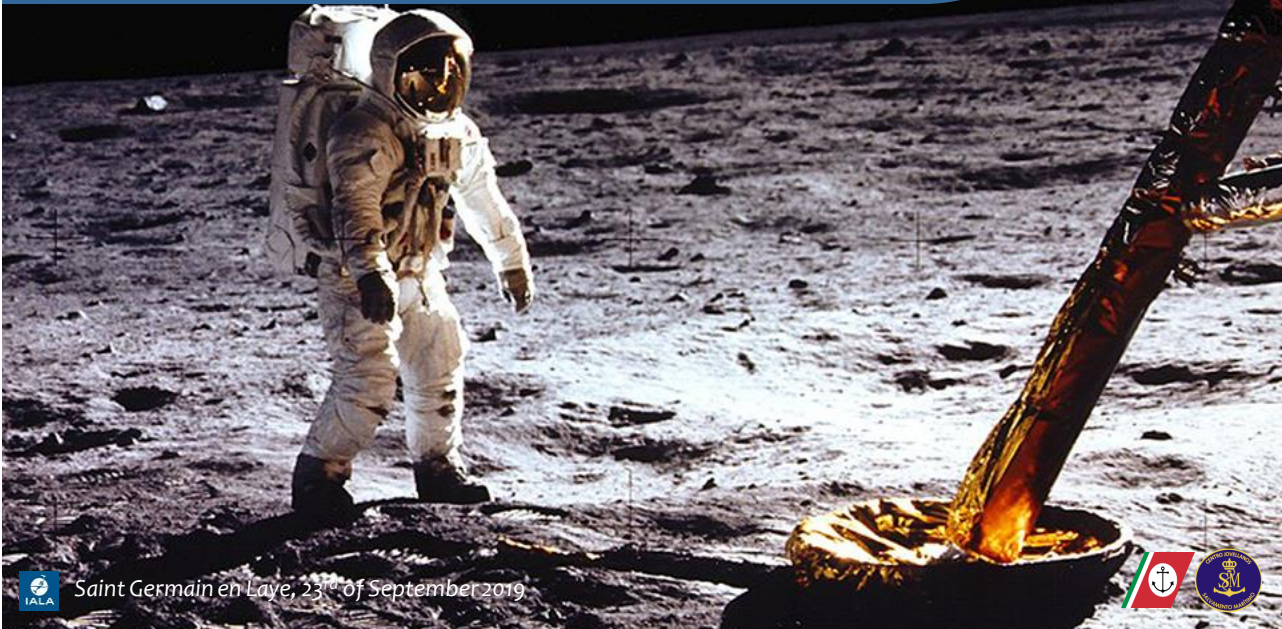


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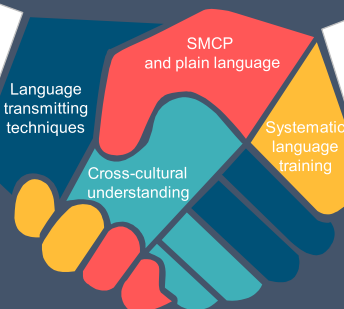
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Speakers  
with  
a **higher** level  
of English  
language  
proficiency

Seunghee Choi  
Eunkyu Brian Jag

Speakers  
with  
a **lower** level of  
English language  
proficiency



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Mr Thomas  
Southall:  
VTSOs are not  
paid per words!



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- SOLAS V
- GMDSS
- TSS
- Port areas
- G 1089
- G 1132




- Low density
- High density
- Emergency



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Centro de Seguridad Marítima Jovellanos





Simulation Design & Validation Documents

Traffic Management Course: improving efficiency through VHF communication.



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+	13. Route Monitoring & identification TOS management	Trainee should be able to identify, correctly interpret and handle vessels reports. TOS management.
	14. Routine & non-routine communications coordination.	Trainee should bear in mind Guideline G1132 VTS VHF Voice communication.
	15. Messages compilation, delivery & interpretation in emergencies.	Trainee should use appropriate techniques in accordance with G1132.
	16. Traffic interaction & conflict resolution in emergencies	Trainee should be able to interact and resolve successfully traffic complex situations.
	17. Ability to identify, correctly interpret data, maintain situational awareness & deal with 20 simulated vessels in emergency sit.	Trainee should be able to identify, correctly interpret data, maintain situational awareness & deal with 20 simulated vessels in emergency situations and MRO.
	18. Emergency & MRO communication co-ordination.	Trainee should be able to handle communications in emergencies (MRO).



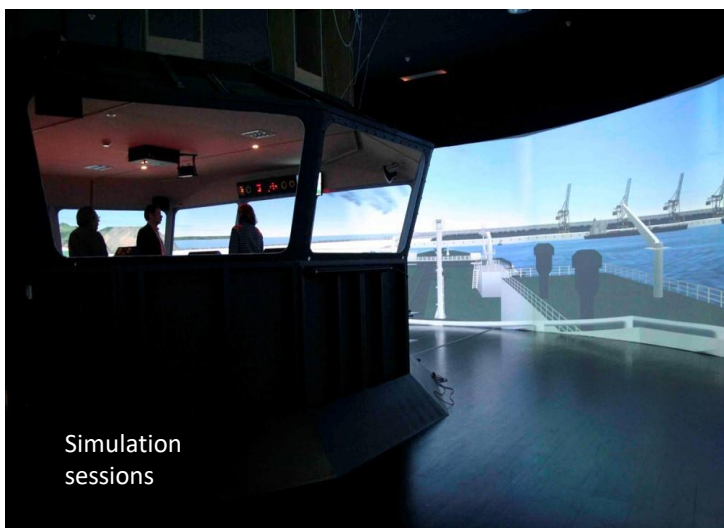
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PTT = Press To Think  
bottom?



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Let's continue sharing information!


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#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

##### European Commission

**Project leader:** Finnish Border Guard

**Work package leaders:** Italian Coast Guard and Spanish Maritime Safety and Rescue Agency

**Project contributors over the phases:** Armed Forces of Malta, Cyprus Police, French Customs, Guardia Nacional Republicana, Guardia Civil, German Federal Police, Hellenic Coast Guard, Portuguese National Maritime Authority, Portuguese Navy, Roma-nian Naval Academy, Spanish Customs, Spanish Navy, Swedish Coast Guard and UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency

##### Members of the ECGF Training Network

**SQF working group:** Italian Coast Guard, SASEMAR, Spanish Customs, Guardia Nacional Republicana, Finnish Border Guard, Hellenic Coast Guard, Maritime and Coastguard Agency (UK)

**External expert in SQFCGF:** CIMEA

**External assessors and validation of the SQFCGF:** Ms. Julie Norris, Ms. Bairbre Redmond, Ms. Manila Marcuccio

##### European Coast Guard Functions Forum

European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA), European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex), European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)



Photo credit: Finnish Border Guard.



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