



**REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE / REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION
EMERGENCY, INFORMATION AND TRAINING CENTRE - WIDER CARIBBEAN REGION**

Country Profile 2015

COUNTRY	British Virgin Islands
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Introduction

Thank you for taking the time to complete this important questionnaire. The thorough and accurate information you provide will be used by RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe to:

1. fulfill the exchange of information requirements of the Cartagena Convention and the International Convention on Oil Pollution Prevention, Response and Cooperation, 1990 (OPRC 90),
2. determine your country's specific training and exercise expectations and needs,
3. determine the regional training and exercise needs within the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR),
4. inform the working group currently developing RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe's new, 10-year strategic plan,
5. share with other organizations like UNEP, IMO and ITOFF.

RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe has been serving the marine environmental training, communication and exercise needs of the Wider Caribbean Region for over 20 years. Completing the questionnaire below will ensure RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe meets your needs and expectations well into the future. Thank you.

Person responsible for this questionnaire

Last Name	DaBreo
First Name	Sharleen
Title/Position	Director of Disaster Management
Telephone	284-468-4200
E-mail	sdabreo@gov.vg

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1. Conventions and Agreements Ratified and/or Implemented

	Oil Spill Response			Prevention and Safety						Compensation						Other				
	OPRC 90	OPRC HNS	Cartagena Conv. Oil Spill Protocol	MARPOL 73/78, protocol 97 Annexes						CLC			Fund			HNS Conv	HNS Prot.	Anti fouling	Bunkers Conv.	Ballast water
				1	2	3	4	5	6	'69	'76	'92	'76	'92	'03	'96	'10	'01	'01	'04
Year of ratification																				
Year of implementation																				
Expect to Ratify (yes / no)																				Yes

1.1 What, if any, International Convention is your Country most likely to ratify next?

Ballast Water Management Convention of the International Maritime Organization

1.2 Additional Comments

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2. National Focal Points

2.1	MINISTRY OF LEAD AGENCY		POC: TEL: CELL: FAX: EMAIL:
		Address:	
2.2	LEAD AGENCY	Department of Disaster Management	POC: Sharleen DaBreo TEL: 284 468-4200 CELL:284 468-9121 FAX: 284 494-2024 EMAIL:bviddm@surfbvi.com
		Address: # 3 Wailing Road, MacNamara, Tortola, Address: VG1110	
2.3	SPILL NOTIFICATION POINT	Conservation & Fisheries Department	POC: Kelvin Penn TEL: 284 468-2700 CELL:284 468-9614 FAX:284 468 2781 EMAIL: kepenn@gov.vg
		Address: P.O Box 3323 Road Town, Tortola VG1110	
2.4	RESPONSE AGENCY	1. Conservation & Fisheries Department	POC: Kelvin Penn TEL: 284 468-2700 CELL:284 468-9614 FAX:284 468 2781 EMAIL: kepenn@gov.vg
		Address: P.O Box 3323 Road Town, Tortola VG1110	
		2. Royal Virgin Islands Police Force(Marine Unit)	POC: Insp. Calvin James TEL: 284 468-7400 CELL: 284 468-9112 FAX: EMAIL:babywilo@hotmail.com
		Address: P.O 64 Road Town, Tortola VG1110	
2.5	NATIONAL OPERATIONAL CONTACT FOR	Virgin Islands Shipping Registry	POC: Capt. Ananthoranman Balasubramanian TEL: 284 468-2902

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	MARPOL	Address: P.O Box 4751 Road Town, Tortola	CELL: 284 468-9499 FAX: 284 468-2913 EMAIL: rbala@gov.vg
2.6	NATIONAL OPERATIONAL CONTACT FOR BALLASTWATER	Virgin Islands Shipping Registry	POC: Capt. Ananthoranman Balasubramanian TEL: 284 468-2902
		Address: P.O Box 4751 Road Town, Tortola	CELL: 284 468-9499 FAX: 284 468-2913 EMAIL: rbala@gov.vg

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3. Risk Assessment

3.1	What is your Countries greatest risk for an oil spill?	Oil tankers at sea or in port
3.2	Date of last oil spill risk assessment?	
3.3	Topics covered?	
3.4	Geographic area?	USVI & BVI
3.5	What area is considered a priority?	Near shore and Reefs
3.6	Additional comments / Difficulties encountered?	

4. Sensitivity Maps

4.1	Sensitivity Maps exist?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (go to 4.5)
4.2	Date of map or last update?	2000. (Sensitivity of Coastal Environments and Wildlife to Spilled Oil, US and British Virgin Islands)
4.3	Geographic area covered?	BVI.
4.4	Format used: paper or electronic?	GIS (Electronic)
4.5	Additional comments/ Difficulties encountered?	-
4.6	Will you share with RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe data layers for your sensitivity maps if any?	

5. National Contingency Plan

5.1a	National Contingency Plan exists?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No – Status of Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Draft <input type="checkbox"/> To be developed				
5.1b	Is there a National Contingency Plan for HNS incidents? (& if so, is this an extension of the oil spill contingency plan or a separate document?)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of the NCP <input type="checkbox"/> Separate document <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Draft (Hazmat Plan 2014 before cabinet for approval) <input type="checkbox"/> To be developed <p style="text-align: center;">Draft</p>				
5.2	Date Plan was developed or updated?	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">NCP</th> <th style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">NCP for HNS incidents</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2005</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Approved 2010 National Oil Spill Plan</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	NCP	NCP for HNS incidents	2005	Approved 2010 National Oil Spill Plan
NCP	NCP for HNS incidents					
2005	Approved 2010 National Oil Spill Plan					
5.3	Date approved?	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">2008</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">Developed in 2006 revised in 2009</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2008	Developed in 2006 revised in 2009		
2008	Developed in 2006 revised in 2009					
5.4	Is the Plan in electronic format?	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No </td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					
5.5	Date of the last evaluation with the assessment tool, the "Readiness Evaluation Tool for Oil Spills (RETOS™)"	The RETOS Tool has never been applied				
5.6	What is the National policy on dispersant use and in-situ burning?	No in-situ burning is permitted. A general policy for dispersants is that only dispersants that are environmentally safe should be used				
5.7	Agreements with other organizations for response? (Please provide details)	Agreement between the Government of the British Virgin Islands and the Government of the United States of America concerning assistance to be rendered during discharge of oil or other hazardous and noxious substances into waters of the British Virgin Islands				
5.8	Does the country have regulations for managing waste? (Please provide details)	An Oil Spill Prevention Bill is before cabinet for consideration				
5.9	Additional comments/ Difficulties encountered?					

6. Exercises / Training / Incidents

6.1	What is the national agency in charge of personnel training?	Human Resources Department, Training Division
6.2	Does a national center exist to train personnel?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (Please provide details) <input type="checkbox"/> No
6.3	Date of last national exercise?	
6.4	Has there been any experience of ship-source Oil pollution related incidents?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (Please provide details) MV Vagabond 2006, Island Seal 2006 <input type="checkbox"/> No
6.5	Has there been any experience of ship-source HNS related incidents?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Please provide details) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
6.6	Additional comments/ Difficulties encountered?	

7. Regional Cooperation

7.1	What are the bilateral or multilateral agreements for the country?	Agreement between the government of the British Virgin Islands and the government of the United States of America concerning assistance to be rendered during discharge of oil or other hazardous and noxious substances into waters of the British Virgin Islands
7.2	What are the opportunities in developing a regional exercise in the country?	Through national simulation Exercise programs
7.3	Is there a mechanism in place to facilitate the clearance of equipment through Customs in an emergency situation? What is the process?	Yes. Through the national emergency operations center
7.4	Additional comments?	

8. Equipment

8.1	Does your country maintain a list of oil spill cleanup equipment and materials?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (go to 8.4)
8.2	Is this equipment list in electronic format?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

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8.3	What equipment is available for Oil pollution incident response? (a general indication of the types and amounts of response equipment and materials available from both government agencies and private companies within the country).	15 pks oil spill absorbent pads 10 lengths of absorbent booms 20 bags of absorbent material 1 oil skimmer
8.4	What equipment is available for HNS incident response? (a general indication of the types and amounts of response equipment and materials available from both government agencies and private companies within the country).	Only HazMat Suits are available. These are kept by the BVI Fire & Rescue Service.
8.5	Are there agreements in place to facilitate additional support (i.e. aerial support, medical support, manpower, communications) (possibilities for deploying dispersants with planes or helicopters)?	Yes, through the UK Government, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency(CDEMA) and Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
8.6	Additional comments?	

FUTURE EXPECTATIONS

Expectations

Introduction

The objective of this part is to identify a country's needed support from various regional and international organizations (activities, manuals, guidelines, etc). This will allow RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe to update their strategic plan to meet the country's expectations and to further develop the Caribbean Island OPRC Plan. While RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe will consider all proposed recommendations, there may be cases where certain expectations will not be met due to financial constraints and/or other commitments.

9. Technical Support

9.1	With respect to the activities developed by	1. Training at level III for decision makers – Oil Spill Response
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	RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe, list three activities that are needed in order to improve your country's pollution response posture.	<p>2. HNS Capacity Building</p> <p>3. National Disaster Management Plan</p>	
9.2	What guidelines or technical manuals does your country use in regards to pollution response preparedness (title & author)?	National Disaster Management Plan	
9.3	What guidelines or technical manuals does your country use in regards to pollution response (title & author)?	Oil Spill Pan	
9.4	How does your country stay informed of the latest response guidelines or obtain updates to the technical manuals (seminars, internet, personal relationships)?	CRRT Membership	
9.5	How does your country access these updates (mail order, internet, seminars)?	Attendance at meetings	
9.6	Which of these topics would your country need more guidance on? <i>Note: Please be specific and add more comments if necessary.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Risk Assessment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sensitivity Maps <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response Techniques (conventional / alternative) <input type="checkbox"/> National Contingency Plan <input type="checkbox"/> MARPOL (specify Annex)	<input type="checkbox"/> Waste Management <input type="checkbox"/> Ballast Water Management <input type="checkbox"/> Anti-fouling Systems <input type="checkbox"/> International Cooperation <input type="checkbox"/> Research & Development <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ...
9.7		These topics cover our most pressing and practical issues as this time	

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	Why did you choose these topics?	
9.8	How would you like these topics to be presented (technically, practically, theoretically, etc.)?	A combination of theoretical and practical approaches
9.9	What are your expectations from the international technical groups?	
9.10	Additional comments?	

10. Expectations

10.1	During an actual oil spill situation, what are your response expectations at each of the below levels (i.e. initial intervention, organization, coordination, equipment, waste management, compensation, etc.)?	
	TIER 1	initial intervention, organization, coordination, equipment, waste management, compensation
	TIER 2	
	TIER 3	
10.2	What are your expectations in regards to bilateral or multilateral agreements?	Through bilateral or multilateral we expect resources (human and equipment)
10.3	What are your expectations in regards to the Caribbean Island OPRC Plan?	Same as above
10.4	Additional comments?	