

CAPACITY BUILDING: THE FRENCH ANSWER

NIOHC 7th Conference - Capacity Building

Pattaya - 1st of March 2007



One vocation

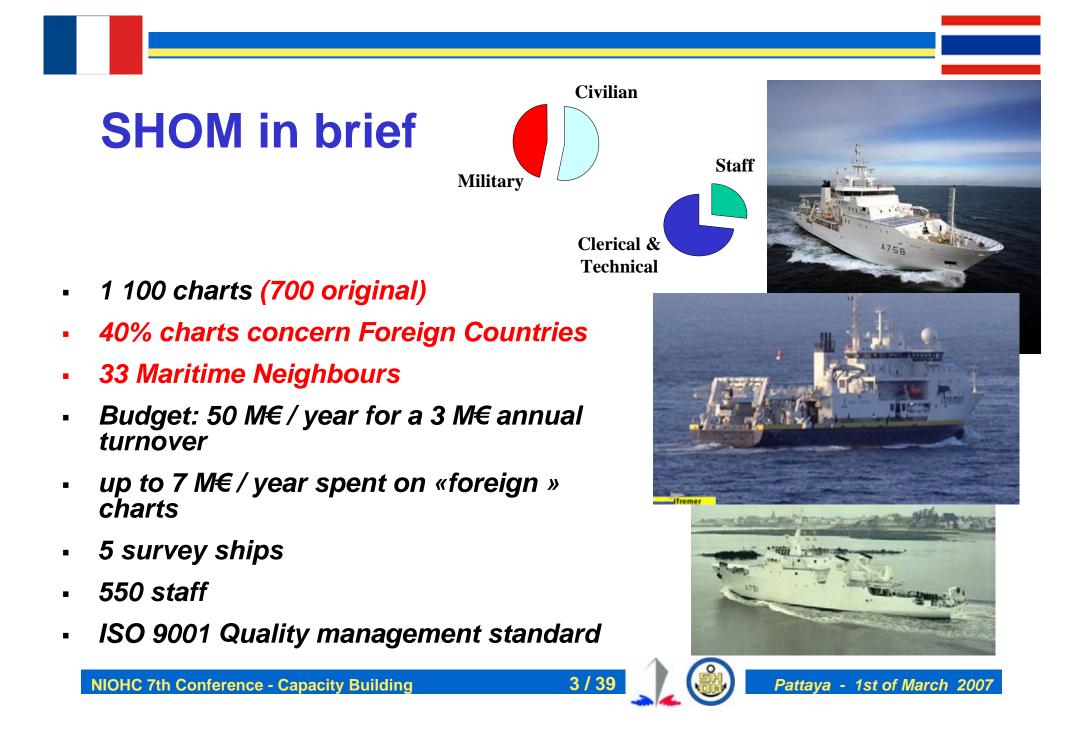
Subscription of the quality and availability of information pertinent to describing the physical maritime, coastal and ocean environment and manage its conservation and dissemination in order to meet public requirements, both civilian and military, at the lowest possible cost.

Two traditional missions ...

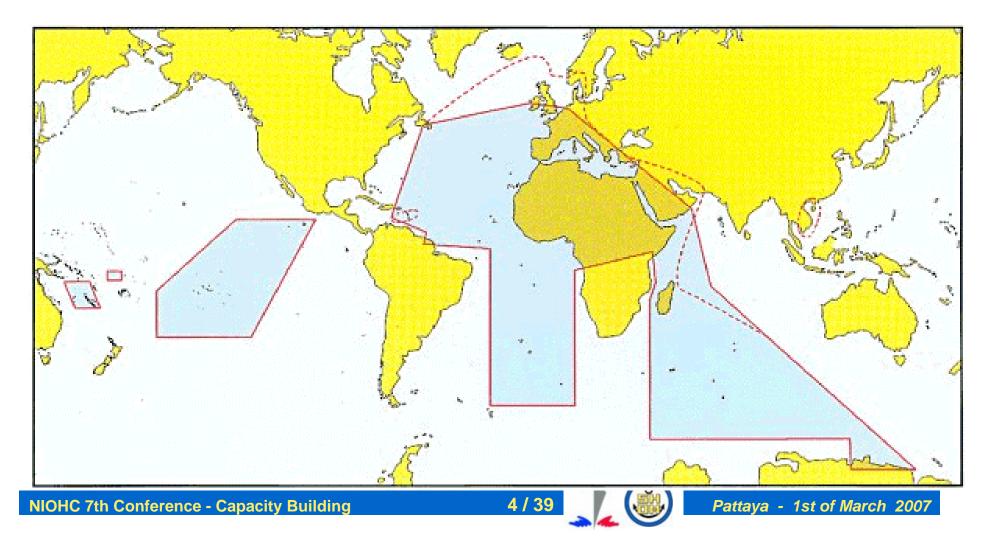
- Public Service with a view to assure the safety of navigation in compliance with the international agreements signed by France, namely:
- The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
- The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)
 - > Defence Support
- and one moral duty ...
 - Support friendly Countries (finish the job properly.....)



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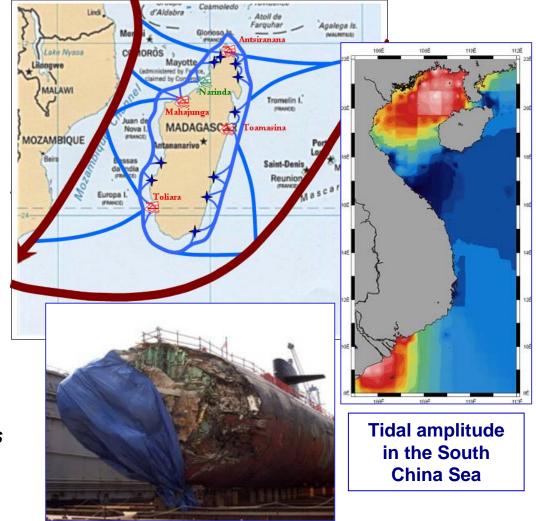
Areas of interest : French EEZ (11 million sq. km), areas placed under French responsibility and other areas of historical responsibility (these are in the process of being formalised by the way of bilateral agreements)



International co-operation: an unfinished adventure

An ancient tradition ...

- 1921 : creation of the International Hydrographic Bureau
- ... however, there is still much to be done
- Develop a Pilot scheme to improve our knowlege of the Ocean bottom (GEBCO)
- Create safe maritime highways (heavy traffic areas, waterways for dangerous cargo ships, etc.)
- Contribution to the protection of the environnement and risk prevention against major disasters
- Increasing precise positioning (Galiléo) against less precise or even obsolete cartographic geodetic references
- Availability and coverage of official ENCs





THE 3 PHASES OF CAPACITY BUILDING

- Phase 1: Collect and disseminate nautical information
- Phase 2: Develop National Hydrographic Capacity or Learn to challenge contractors ⇒ Needs training
- Phase 3: Produce your own charts & books

or

Enter bilateral agreement with friendly HO



TRAINING À LA FRANÇAISE (1/2)

- FIG/IHO/ICA Level B: Minimum 2 years
 Prerequisite: Robust scientific background (French course starts 4 years after A Level)
- FIG/IHO/ICA Level B: 18 months
 Prerequisite: A Level (Maths)
-and of course **TUITION IN FRENCH**



TRAINING À LA FRANÇAISE (2/2)

NEW TREND: Propose Short Specific Modules in English for qualified operators:

- > ENC
- Space charts (satellite + lidar)
- > MBES
- > Delineations
- Military support (oceanography, « special » charts...)
- > Etc.....

and try to develop « Harbour assistant » courses in French to supplement our demanding cat A and B regular courses



FUNDING ASPECTS

The French paradox: SHOM is funded but has no resources

- Co-operation can either be funded (commercial contract with Navy Proxy such as NAVFCO, similar to UK DESO),
- >or be fully subsidised (political decision),
- ➤or both (political decision + MOU)
- ⇒ In all cases, Diplomatic support is essential

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A sorry state of affairs

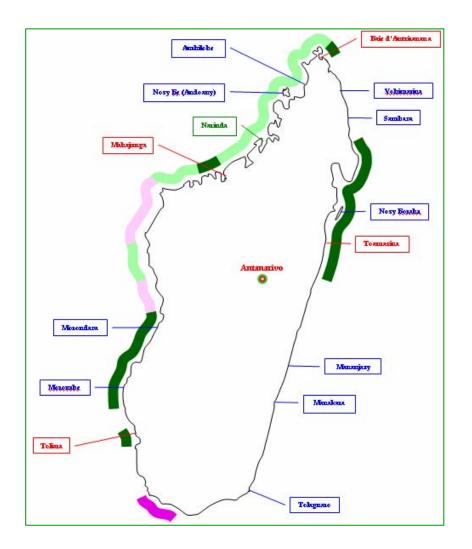
Less than 15% of depths lesser than 200 m have been adequately surveyed

≻18% of existing surveys must be resurveyed

≻67% of the area have never been surveyed ….

➤Local geodetic system...

➢No real-time water level measuring system (tsunami)....





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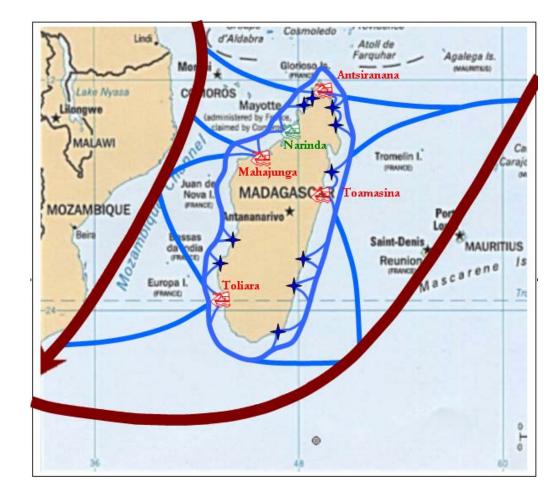
What SHOM has in mind

Seek backing from IHO and international organisations (IOC...)

Join a larger INT project (India Ocean Marine Highways?)

➢Find international partners (RSA? Norway? Anybody interested...)

➤Team up to handle funding issues (French co-operation funds, UE, World Bank, etc.)







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Thank you for your attention

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