

## N° 312 E – News from May 2022

### Emergency response

During May, Cedre was mobilised by the **Oise authorities** following a deliberate release of what was believed to be waste engine oil into a watercourse. An engineer was sent on site at the request of the authorities. She carried out several field surveys, in particular with the Oise and Val d'Oise fire brigades, then established the response plan, ensuring action was taken prior to the expected rise in water level due to the storms forecast for the following days. She also monitored clean-up operations. We received enquiries as part of two exercises: a MAR-ICE exercise organised by our Portuguese colleagues and a European civil protection exercise, DOMINO. We also provided assistance to a municipality in Var that notified us of small-scale oil deposits on its coastline. We were called upon following a spill of iron oxide in the southern harbour basin at **Fos-sur-Mer**. Finally, several MRCCs and a local authority called on us to interpret photos of possible pollution.

### In short

#### Dates for the diary

- ▶ 14th June: Meeting of Cedre's Board of Governors
- ▶ 21st to 23rd June 2022, **Interspill** in Amsterdam, Netherlands
- ▶ 30th June & 1<sup>st</sup> July: national event "Plastiques, Changement de cap !" at Brest Arena

#### Visits and presentations

- ▶ 28th to 30th June: **Euromaritime 2022**

#### Training courses

- ▶ 14th and 15th June: POLMAR 22 training and exercise, Bréhat island, organised by **DDTM 22** and **PNE POLMAR-Terre**
- ▶ 21st and 22nd June: "Oil spill response in inland waters" training course at Cedre
- ▶ 20th to 24th June: training course for **ISMI**, marine and shoreline pollution in the Indian Ocean

### MOIG regional workshop in Tunisia

On 10th and 11th May 2022 in Hammamet, Cedre led a regional workshop on the role of volunteers in coastal pollution response, based on the educational materials developed through the European POSOW projects co-funded by DG-ECHO. The event was attended by 40 participants from the Libyan and Tunisian oil industries, the Tunisian administration and service companies. The main objectives of this workshop were to outline spill response strategies in coastal waters and on the shoreline, to understand the possible role of volunteers in the different phases of the response and to learn how to manage their involvement.

### Annual OTSOPA meeting in Belgium

The annual meeting of the **Bonn Agreement** OTSOPA working group was held in Gand, Belgium from 23rd to 25th May and was chaired by Ole Kristian Bjerke from the Norwegian Coastguard Administration. This year once again a large part of the meeting was devoted to the practical implementation of MARPOL Annex VI (exhaust gases from ships). Cedre presented the progress of the **European project MANIFESTS** and the new **IRA-MAR project** as well as the study in progress on pre-production plastic pellets.

### Dispersant toxicity and effectiveness for the German Federal Institute of Hydrology

Effectiveness and ecotoxicity tests were carried out on the 7 most common dispersants in the stockpiles of Germany's neighbouring countries, with a view to integrating the dispersant use strategy into their overall oil spill response strategy, at the request of the country's Federal Institute of Hydrology (BfG). These tests were performed according to the AFNOR standards developed at Cedre, using seawater taken from the Baltic Sea which has lower salinity. The effectiveness tests were conducted at two different salinity levels of 12 and 25 parts per thousand. The ecotoxicity tests, which consisted in evaluating the LC50 (the concentration that is lethal to 50% of organisms) for white shrimp, were carried out at a salinity of 25 parts per thousand. Based on the results of these tests, a ranking of the best-performing dispersants could be drawn up and any dispersants with high ecotoxicity could be rejected.

### Cedre attends various international marine litter meetings

In May, aquatic litter was on the agenda of several international meetings. From 16th to 20th May, Cedre was in Seville alongside the French delegation to take part in the biannual meeting of the **OSPAR Convention's** Intersessional Correspondence Group on Marine Litter (**ICG Marine Litter**) as well as a Marine Litter Best Practices meeting organised in the framework of the Barcelona Convention that brought together the different contracting parties. These meetings took place alongside the International Forum on Marine Litter And Circular Economy **MARLICE**, organised by Spain. On

31st May, Cedre also virtually attended the meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Marine Litter Monitoring (CORMON Marine Litter), during which the issue of monitoring litter inputs to the Mediterranean from rivers was addressed.

### Cedre attends European Geosciences Union conference

On 23rd, Cedre attended the international, multidisciplinary conference organised by the [European Geosciences Union \(EGU\)](#), run as a virtual event. We presented the studies conducted on the upwelling of pollutants and their dissolution rates in the water column (Cedre Experimentation Column) as well as the initial results obtained on HNS evaporation kinetics ([MANIFESTS project](#)) through two oral presentations during the OS4 session on Marine Pollution, Monitoring, Modelling and Risk Mapping.

### BUNGE Brest visits Cedre

On 23rd May, Cedre's management received a delegation from the BUNGE site in Brest. The delegation included Plant Manager Joan Cardus Martinez, who was keen to show his commitment to participating in spill response preparedness by donating soybean oil to enable Cedre to conduct an experimental trial with this product which is classified under Annex II of the MARPOL Convention. The discussions held were productive and should lead to future collaboration.

### Inland waters training course

From 9th to 15th May, Cedre ran a training course on spill response in inland waters for 13 participants from private companies, [FOST](#) (TotalEnergies' Fast Oil Spill Team), [BSPP](#) and various fire and rescue services. This year once again, our trainees appreciated the alternation of theory lessons in our conference room or our showroom, and practical sessions, carried out at Cedre with the release of real oil or at natural sites with simulants. During these practical sessions, the trainees had the opportunity to deploy containment equipment, build custom-made booms, use recovery equipment and gain hand-on experience of worksite organisation. This type of course is transferable and adaptable for bespoke training courses (choice of site, number of participants, duration and topics covered).

### Exercise for Western Indian Ocean countries

The incidents involving the *MV Wakashio* in Mauritius in 2020 and the *MV X-press Pearl* in Sri Lanka in 2021 reminded us of the importance of being prepared for spills in the Indian Ocean. Against this backdrop, the [Indian Ocean Commission](#), with the support of the [MASE programme](#) and the [European CRIMARIO II project](#), organised a table-top exercise to test the level of preparedness of the Western Indian Ocean countries, to improve standard operating procedures at national level and to contribute to the drafting of the regional oil spill contingency plan, in accordance with international instruments, including the Nairobi Convention. This exercise, dubbed CRIMASREX, was organised for Comoros, Seychelles, Madagascar, Mauritius, the [Regional Maritime Information Fusion Center \(CRFIM\)](#) and the [Regional Operations Coordination Centre \(CRCO\)](#). Cedre gave two introductory conferences, as a virtual speaker, prior to the exercise, one on the international regulatory framework for spill preparedness and response and the other on response strategies. An engineer also helped to run the exercise from Madagascar from 16th to 20th May and was able to meet with the OLEP management team and stakeholders in Antananarivo on 16th May. The information exchange platform used for this exercise was the IORIS Maritime Coordination & Communications platform. On 20th May, a hot debrief was also held virtually with more than 30 participants from maritime safety and security centres (regional and national), the headquarters of forces that provided assets (air force, navy, coast guard and police) and pollution response organisations.

### “Plastique à la Loupe” annual conference

On 10th May, Cedre took part in two sessions to present the results of the “[Plastique à la Loupe](#)”, citizen science programme, led by the [Tara Océan Foundation](#) and in which Cedre is a scientific partner alongside [CNRS](#). The aim of these sessions was to present the results obtained in 2021/2022 to the participating classes. This year, nearly 3,300 students from 140 schools in mainland and overseas France were in attendance. The conference also provided an opportunity to interact with the students and answer their questions about plastic pollution.

### Cedre visits Saint-Brieuc Bay

In connection with the national litter monitoring networks, Cedre travelled to Saint-Brieuc Bay to meet the operators of the [Saint-Brieuc Bay Nature Reserve \(RNBSB\)](#). RNBSB is a long-standing operator within the French beach litter monitoring network. The reserve has been monitoring two sites since 2016: Grandville and Grève des courses. In 2020, RNBSB also became an operator within the French monitoring network for microplastics on the shoreline (RNS-mP-P). Cedre's visit provided the opportunity to discuss these different networks with the operators and to train them in the new protocol for sampling microplastics on beaches (RNS-mP-P). Samples were taken and will be analysed in Cedre's laboratory in the near future.

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