



RIO+20

United Nations Conference
on Sustainable Development

IMO – the International Maritime Organization – is the United Nations specialized agency with responsibility for the safety and security of shipping and the prevention of marine pollution by ships. International shipping is the principal carrier of world trade, transporting around 90% of global commerce.

Renewing IMO's commitment to sustainable maritime development

What is Sustainable Maritime Development?

Through IMO, its Member States, civil society and the shipping industry are working together to ensure a continued and strengthened contribution towards a green economy and growth within a sustainable development.

This is achieved through:

- The development and implementation of **Global Standards** for green and sustainable shipping covering safety, environmental protection, security and facilitation, adopted at IMO as a contribution to the institutional framework for sustainable development;
- Technical and operational measures to increase **Energy Efficiency**, for efficient fuel consumption based on the basic recognition that fossil energy resources are not infinite and every effort must be made to save energy resources and on the need to limit and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from ships for the purpose of abatement of global warming and climate change;
- Promotion of **New Technology** for safety, environmental protection, security, clean energy and efficient operation of shipping to meet present and future challenges;
- Support for **Education and Training** to ensure a continuous supply of quality seafarers and maritime experts required for all aspects of the maritime industries including shipbuilding and marine equipment manufacturing industries;
- Improved **Maritime Security**, covering the application of international measures for maritime security, anti-piracy measures and law enforcement mechanisms for maritime zone security and supply chain security;
- Enhancement of **Maritime Traffic Management** in straits and sea areas of significant importance for maritime navigation, covering co-operative mechanisms of littoral States, public-private partnership for future maritime traffic management systems and realization of the Marine Electronic Highway concept; and
- Improvement of **Maritime Infrastructure** including aids to navigation, search and rescue, port facilities and technical co-operation to ensure availability of proper maritime infrastructure in all parts of the world.



INTERNATIONAL
MARITIME
ORGANIZATION



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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Shipping's contribution to the three pillars

SUSTAINABLE MARITIME DEVELOPMENT

Global Standards

Energy Efficiency

New Technology

Education and Training

Maritime Security

Maritime Traffic Management

Maritime Infrastructure

ECONOMIC

Safe, secure, efficient shipping:

- operate well-run merchant and fishing fleets
- facilitate the movement of around 90% of global trade
- improve turnaround of ships/port throughput
- increase world commerce
- improve balance of payments
- create wealth/prosperity of nations and peoples

SOCIAL

Livelihoods:

- employment of 1.5 million seafarers, the majority of whom are from developing countries
- foreign exchange remittances
- direct impact on local communities and economies including land-based workers
- advancement of women in the maritime sector
- promoting Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

ENVIRONMENT

Protection of the marine and atmospheric environments:

- reduced discharges into sea and air emissions
- cleaner waters, coasts and air
- improved human health
- protected marine areas (routing measures, Special Areas and Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas)
- safeguarding biodiversity
- sustainable growth in tourism
- integrated coastal zone management and marine spatial planning



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