



LIMASSOL MUNICIPALITY



Frederick University



# New Coastal Governance Scheme to Strengthen Marine Pollution Monitoring

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**A) Frederick Risk Assessment Study (2022) –  
Key Findings/ Challenges and Recommendations**



# Blue Limassol Risk Assessment Study (Frederick University 2022) – Key Findings/ Challenges and Recommendations

The **2022 Frederick Risk Assessment Study** (formally known as the *Blue Limassol Environmental Risk Assessment*) is the first holistic study evaluating developmental and operational risks to the Limassol coastal and marine environment. Commissioned by the Limassol Municipality and led by Frederick University, it involved over 30 specialists and 110 stakeholders to investigate environmental pressures.

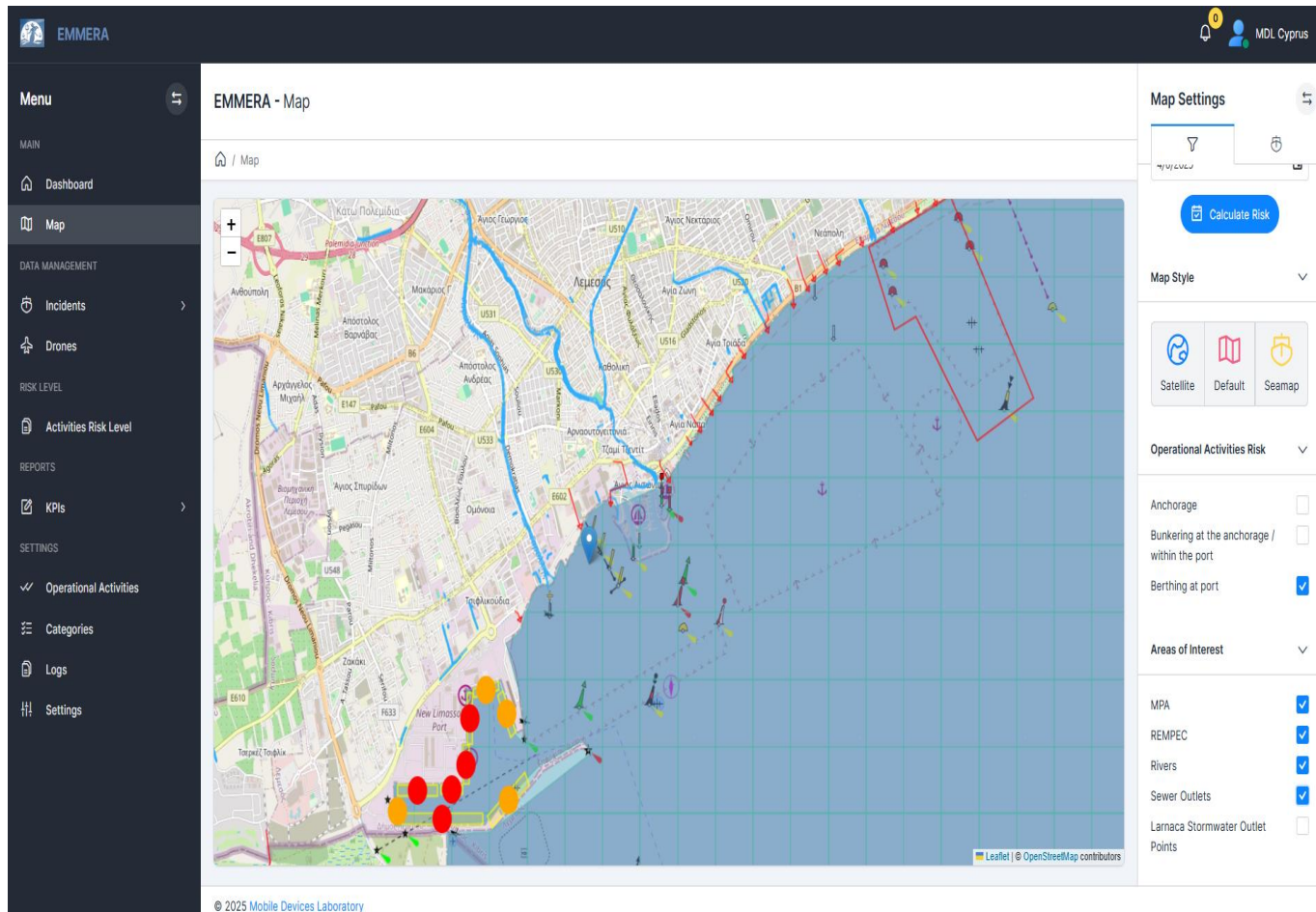
## Core Focus Areas

The study evaluated the cumulative impacts of key economic sectors in the Limassol coastal zone, specifically:

- Commercial Shipping (Port)
- Marinas & Yachts
- Oil & Gas Exploration
- Energy and Aquaculture/Fisheries
- Coastal Construction, Sewage, and Marine Litter



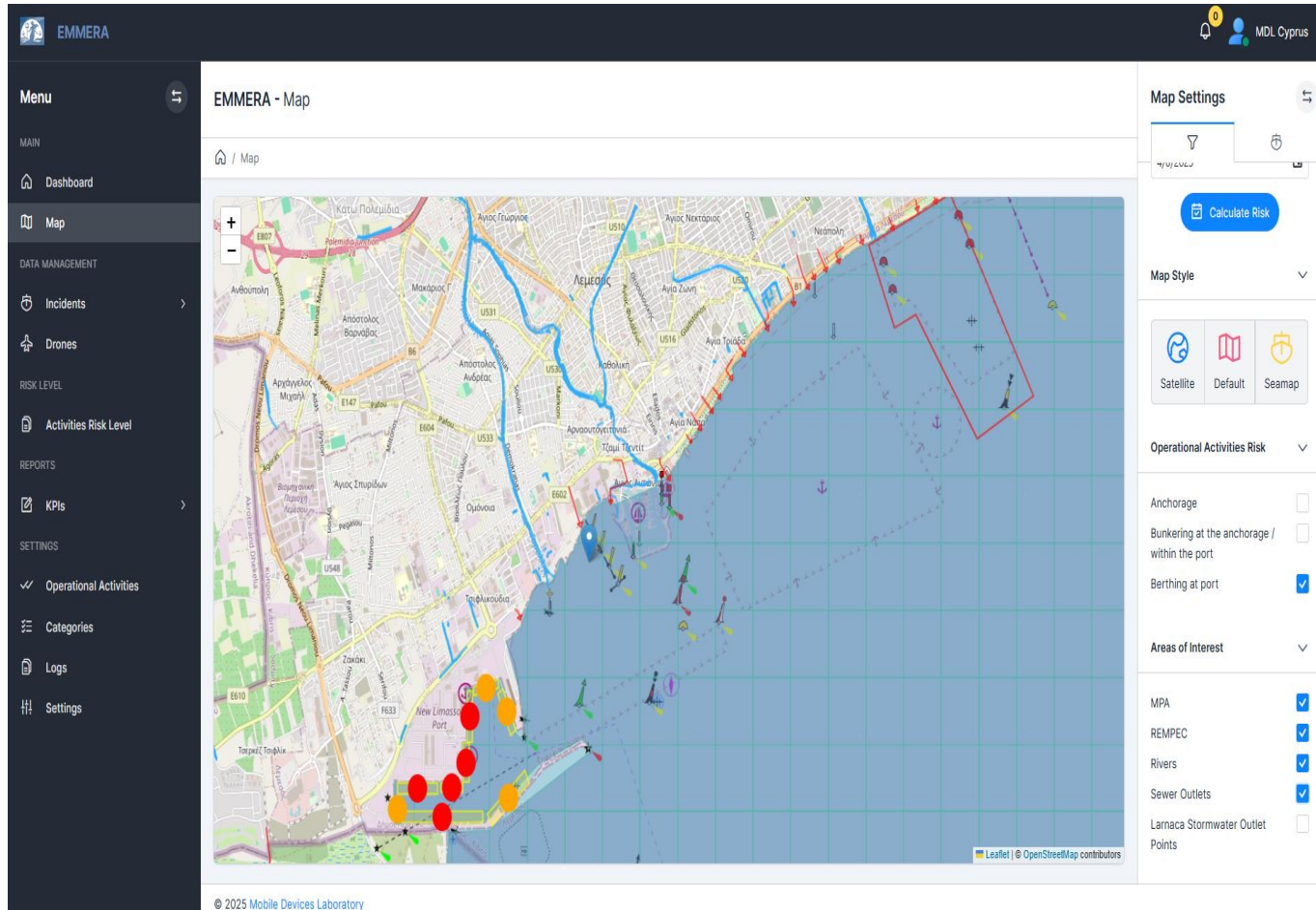
# Key Findings & Challenges of the Blue Limassol Risk Assessment Study



- **Cumulative Degradation:** While individual sectors were not assessed as presenting catastrophic risks in isolation, their combined activity combined with rapid population growth and urban expansion was identified as a major future factor for environmental degradation.
- **Regulatory Fragmentation:** The study highlighted a critical weakness in the governance system: the monitoring of economic sectors is highly fragmented, with dispersed responsibilities and a lack of integrated data sharing across authorities.



# Recommendations of the Blue Limassol Risk Assessment Study



To shift toward long-term sustainability and protect Limassol's coastal quality, the study proposed several actionable targets:

- **Central Coordinating Agency:** The creation of a single central supervisory authority made up of independent scientific professionals to streamline oversight and incident reporting.
- **Data Integration:** Developing a guiding strategy for data sharing and the heavy integration of technology to proactively monitor the coast.
- **Responsible Stewardship:** Evolving public awareness so that citizens play an active role in preventive behavior and transparent incident reporting.



**B) Council of Ministers Decisions towards  
Integrated Coastal Governance for  
addressing the problem of Marine Pollution**



# Marine Pollution Special Committee

Pursuant to its decision 95.968 (07/02/2024), the Council of Ministers approved the establishment of a Committee **for addressing the problem of Marine Pollution**. The Committee is chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the Shipping Deputy Ministry (SDM) and includes representatives from the following entities:

- Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works
- Deputy Ministry of Tourism
- Department of Fisheries and Marine Research
- Department of Environment
- Cyprus Ports Authority
- Port and Marine Police
- Air Operations Unit
- Union of Cyprus Municipalities.
- **Research institutions**



# Pollution Response Supervision and Coordination Team (OEΣAP)

Furthermore the Council of Ministers approved (5/2/2025) the establishment of a supervision and Coordination Team (OEΣAP) for the Prevention of Marine Pollution. The Coordination Team is chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the Shipping Deputy Ministry (SDM) with the following mandate:

- Submit proposals for the better implementation of the relevant legislation
- Rationalization of existing procedures
- Development of electronic means and services for both supervision and data recording and analysis
- Extraction of quantitative and qualitative conclusions
- Publication of results and the evaluation of progress through measurable performance indicators
- Coordination of actions between various services for the purposes of prevention & finding synergies
- A relevant digital platform will be developed
- The OEΣAP will utilize for the collection, consolidation and processing of relevant data
- The platform is being developed within the framework of the EMMERA joint project between Cyprus, Greece and Israel



## **C) Governance Committee in practice – Action Plan:**

**i) Short Term Actions**

**ii) Mid to Long Term Actions**



## **C) Governance committee in practice – Action Plan**

**“Short Term Actions”**

**(which are expected to be implemented  
before the current summer season)**





## **1. Strengthening of bathing waters monitoring**

**Action 1.** Strengthening of bathing water monitoring, by increasing the frequency of sampling (at least 2 times per month) at blue flag beaches and in sensitive areas, such as Deryneia – Agia Thekla, Moni – Akrotiri (Lady’s Mile) and Dhekelia – Mackenzie while in the other areas sampling will be carried out on a monthly basis.

Implementing authorities: Department of Environment, Public Health Service, State General Laboratory and Local Authorities.





## **2. Specialised services for monitoring and responding to marine pollution incidents**

**Action 2.** Purchase of specialised services for monitoring and responding to marine pollution incidents, in designated sensitive marine areas including port facilities.

Implementing authorities: Limassol Municipality, Amathounta Municipality, Larnaca Municipality, Paralimni-Deryneia Municipality and Ayia Napa Municipality.





### **3. Surveillance via unmanned aerial vehicles (drone) in selected maritime areas**

**Action 3.** Surveillance via unmanned aerial vehicles (drone) in selected maritime areas (Limassol, Larnaca, Famagusta, Paphos, Polis Chrysochous) during the period July – November.

Implementing authorities: Shipping Deputy Ministry in cooperation with EMSA and other involved authorities.





#### **4. Installation of monitoring systems (sensors)**

**Action 4.** Installation of monitoring systems (sensors) in selected maritime areas including port facilities, for the near real-time recording of pollution indicators and the immediate transmission of relevant data to the competent authorities through the Committee for the Prevention and Response to Marine Pollution.

Implementing authorities: Shipping Deputy Ministry in cooperation with other involved bodies.





## 5. Remediation of polluted areas

**Action 5.** Remediation of polluted areas (such as Akrotiri area, Agia Napa, etc.) and prevention measures not happening again

Implementing authorities: Local Authorities, Department of Environment, Fishery Department and Scientific Community.





## **6. Public information and awareness-raising**

**Action 6.** Public information and awareness-raising actions in coastal and port areas, in relation to marine pollution and the actions of the Committee for the Prevention and Response to Marine Pollution.

Implementing authorities: Shipping Deputy Ministry, Cyprus Ports Authority, Department of Fisheries and Marine Research, Deputy Ministry of Tourism, Local Authorities, NGOs, etc.





**7. Strict implementation and enforcement of the relevant legal framework – more frequent inspections**

**Action 7.** Strict implementation and enforcement of the relevant legal framework – more frequent inspections in all activities and/or facilities at risk to marine pollution.

Implementing authorities: Shipping Deputy Ministry, Cyprus Ports Authority, Department of Fisheries and Marine Research, Deputy Ministry of Tourism, Department of Environment and Local Authorities.



## **C) Governance committee in practice – Action Plan**

**“Mid – Long Term Actions”**

**(with an implementation horizon of up to eighteen (18) months)**



# Mid to Long Term Actions

In the medium to long-term time horizon, the following actions will be implemented:

- Additional legal arrangements and operational practices
- Technological measures design to reduce pollution from coastal vessels and maritime activities
- Heavy fines for pollution
- Mandatory reporting of pollution incidents
- Protected marine zones
- Development and operation of the digital informative platform



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