

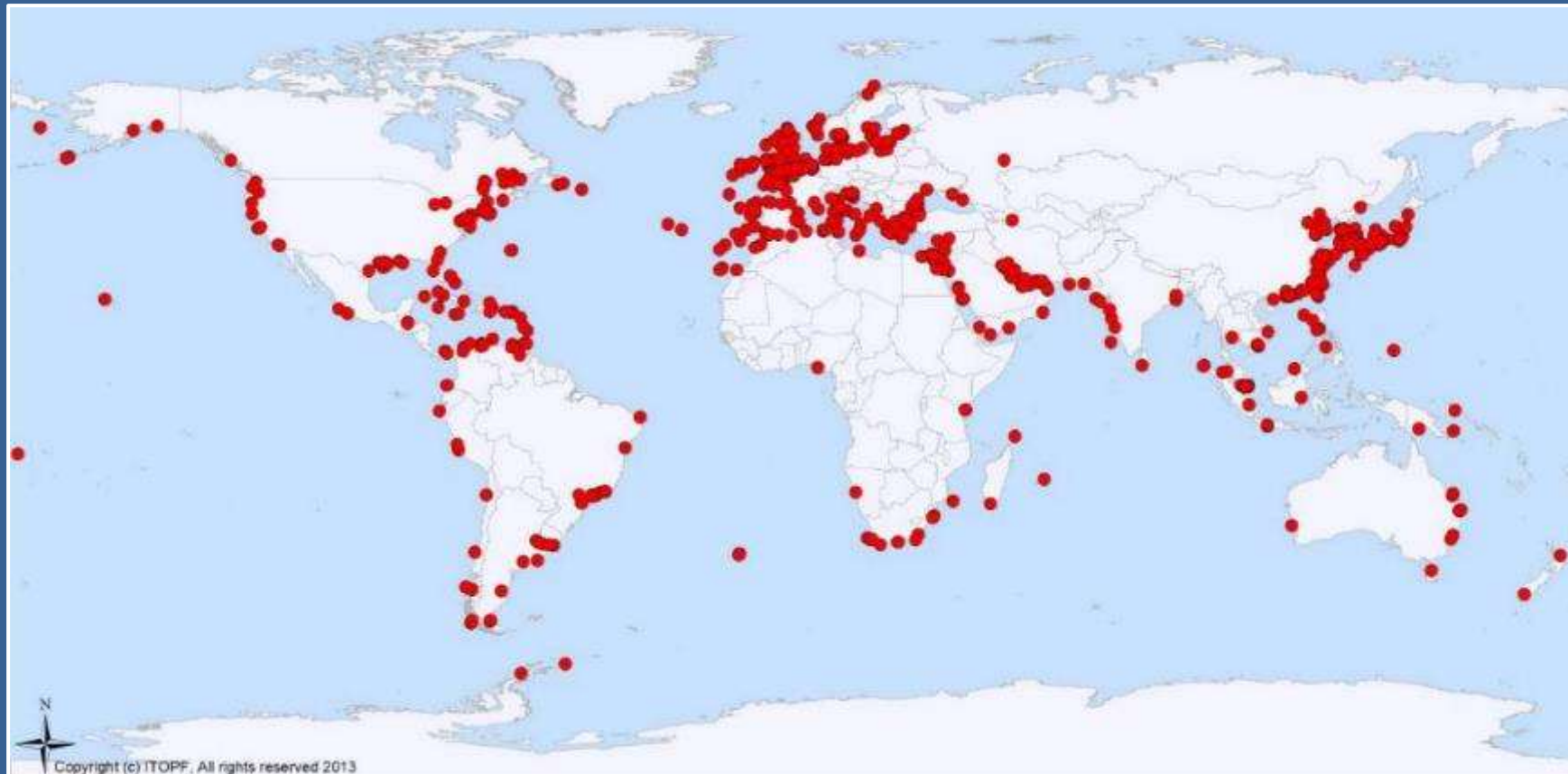
# Large scale oil spill response: global best practice



*ADRIATIC 2017- 2<sup>nd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> October , Split, Croatia*

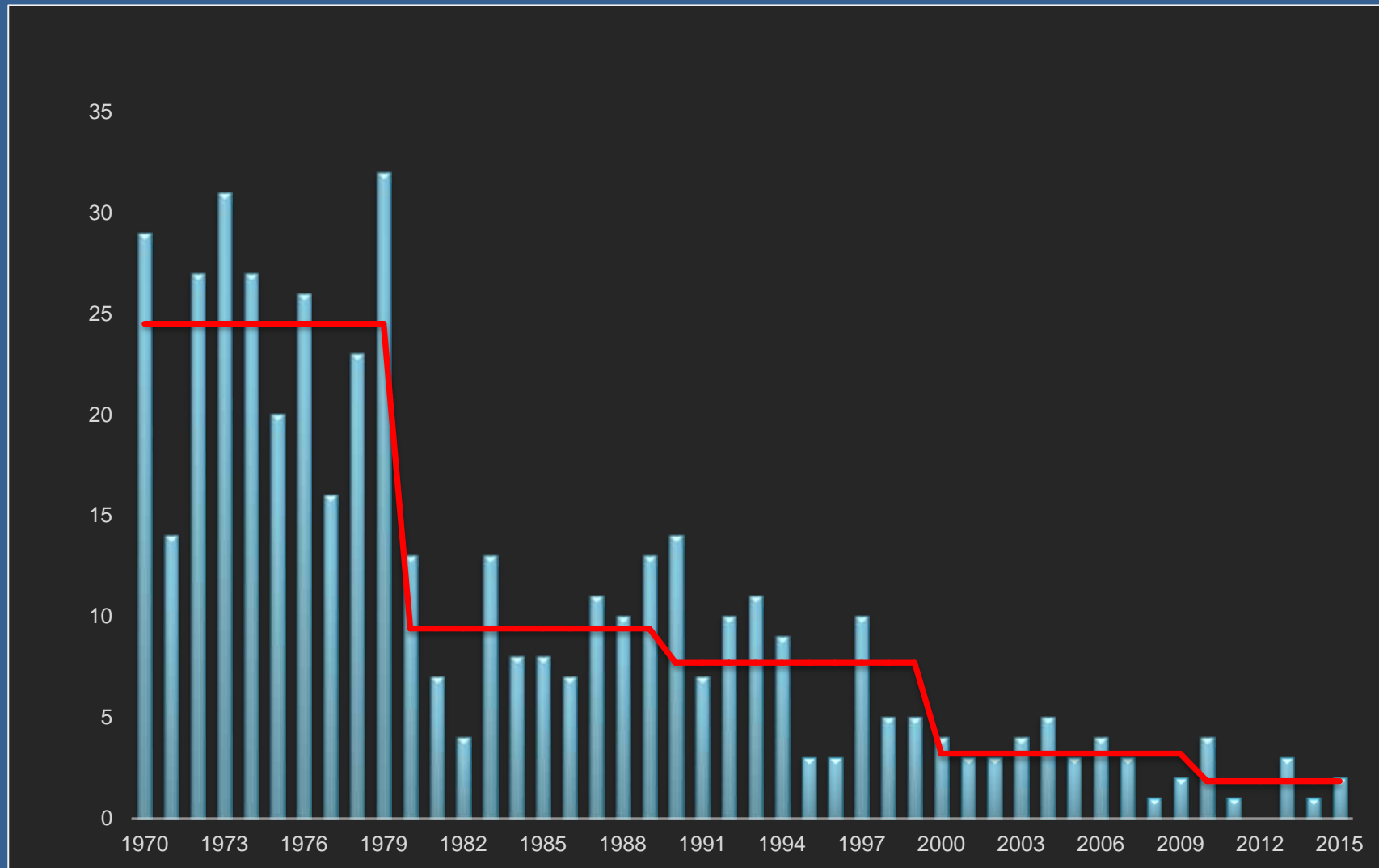
# Introduction to ITOPF

- To promote effective response to oil spills
- Technical team with 12 responders
- Over 750 spills in 100 countries
- In-house database and other information services



# General trends

- Decline in spills as well as average volume spilled/ incident





# Recent work

- 18 new mobilisations over the last 12 months
- 3 incidents involving tankers





# What makes a “large scale” response?





# What makes a “large scale” response?

Position	Shipname	Year	Location	Spill size (ton)
1	ATLANTIC EMPRESS	1979	Off Tobago, West Indies	287,000
2	ABT SUMMER	1991	700 nautical miles off Angola	260,000
3	CASTILLO DE BELLVER	1983	Off Saldanha Bay, South Africa	252,000
4	AMOCO CADIZ	1978	Off Brittany, France	223,000
5	HAVEN	1991	Genoa, Italy	144,000
6	ODYSSEY	1988	700 nautical miles off Nova Scotia, Canada	132,000
7	TORREY CANYON	1967	Scilly Isles, UK	119,000
8	SEA STAR	1972	Gulf of Oman	115,000
9	IRENES SERENADE	1980	Navarino Bay, Greece	100,000
10	URQUIOLA	1976	La Coruna, Spain	100,000
11	HAWAIIAN PATRIOT	1977	300 nautical miles off Honolulu	95,000
12	INDEPENDENTA	1979	Bosphorus, Turkey	94,000
13	JAKOB MAERSK	1975	Oporto, Portugal	88,000
14	<b>BRAER</b>	1993	Shetland Islands, UK	85,000
15	AEGEAN SEA	1992	La Coruna, Spain	74,000
16	SEA EMPRESS	1996	Milford Haven, UK	72,000
17	KHARK 5	1989	120 nautical miles off Atlantic coast of Morocco	70,000
18	NOVA	1985	Off Kharg Island, Gulf of Iran	70,000
19	KATINA P	1992	Off Maputo, Mozambique	67,000
20	PRESTIGE	2002	Off Galicia, Spain	63,000
35	EXXON VALDEZ	1989	Prince William Sound, Alaska, USA	37,000
131	HEBEI SPIRIT	2007	Taeon, Republic of Korea	11,000



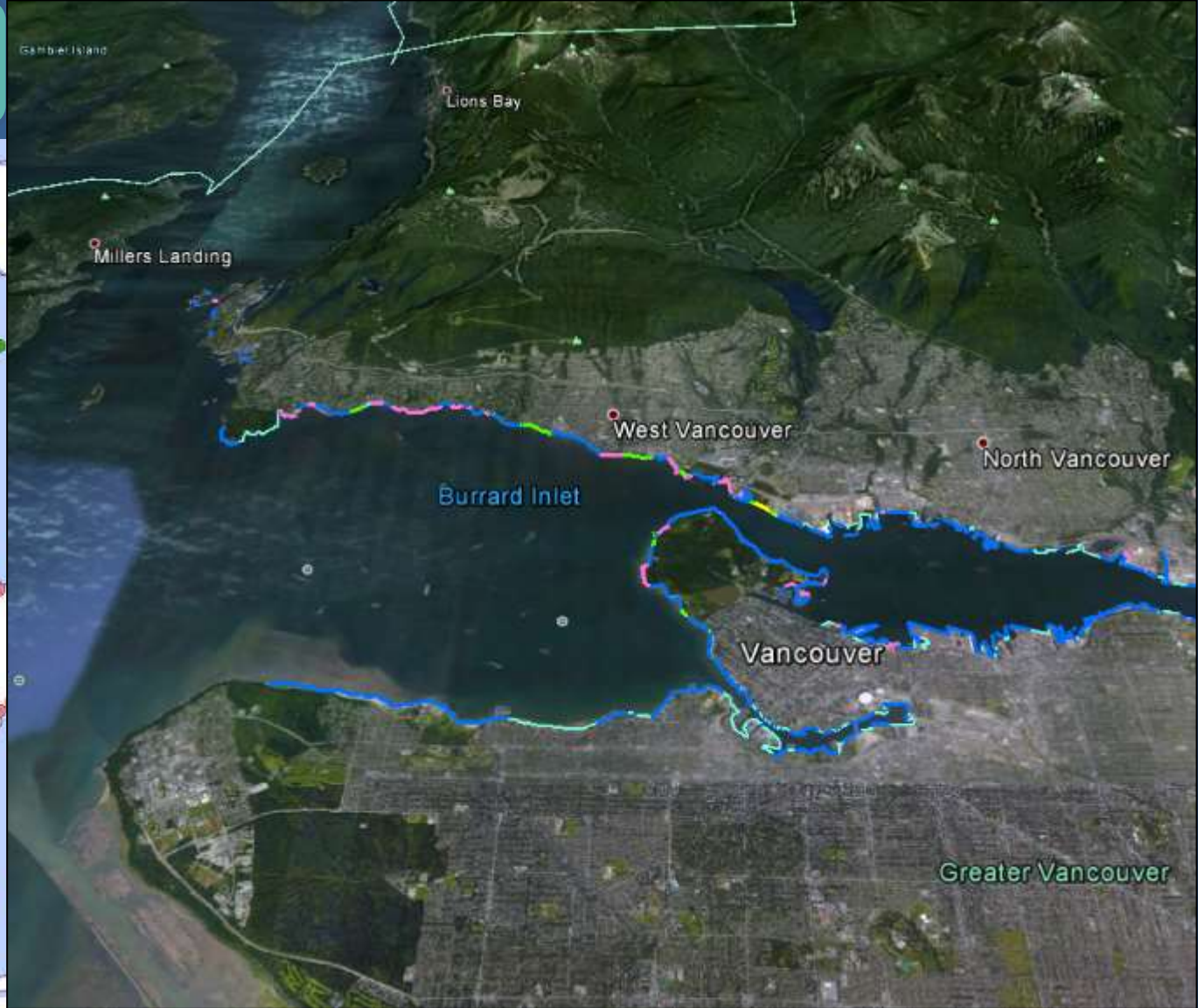


# Other factors?

Proximity to coast – visibility of incident



peninsulanewsreview.com



ITOPF attended incidents outside 10nm of land



# Other factors?



Sensitivities in the area

- Fisheries & aquaculture
- Seabirds & other wildlife
- Sensitive habitats
- Culturally sensitive sites

- Population centres
- Amenity & tourist beaches
- Recreation areas (marinas)
- Power & desalination plants



# Other factors?

How the incident compares with the prevailing risk profile in a country?



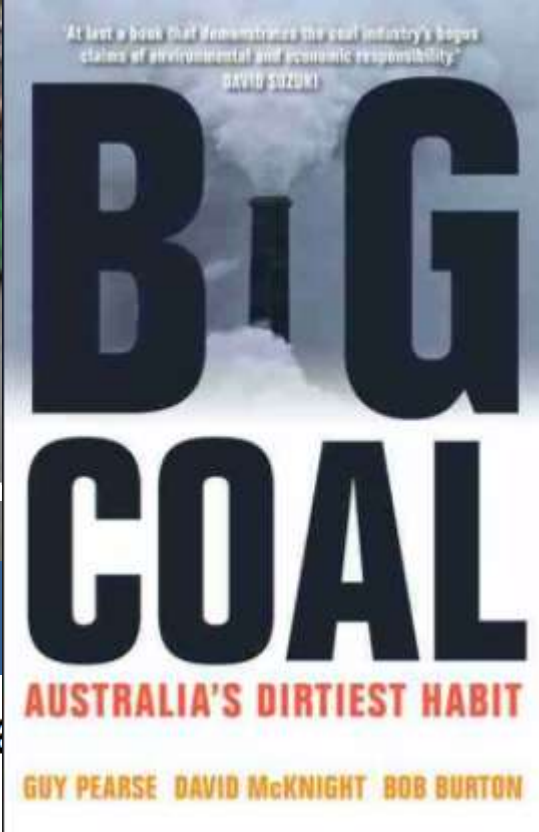
**LADY TUNA** Reefer Ship  
4,538 GT



# Other factors?



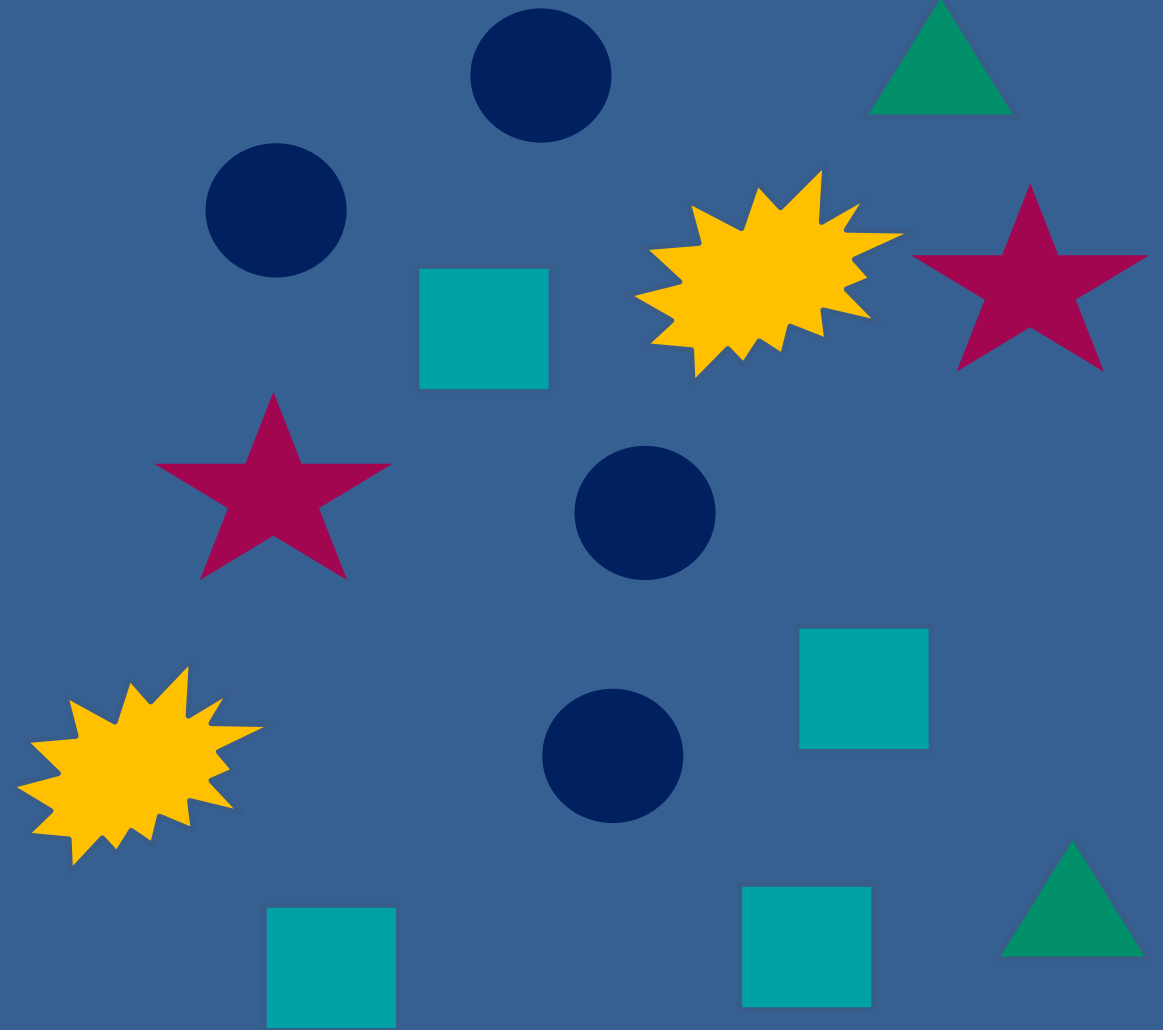
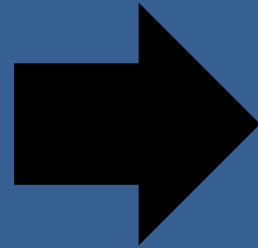
Pre-existing public-political issues



B.C. oil spill response times making ticking time bomb'

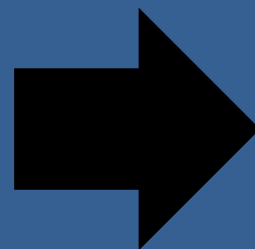


# Multiple factors leading to “large-scale”



The interplay of influencing factors can result in greater disorder than is usually the case in the immediate aftermath of an incident

# “Large scale” – challenges and best practice

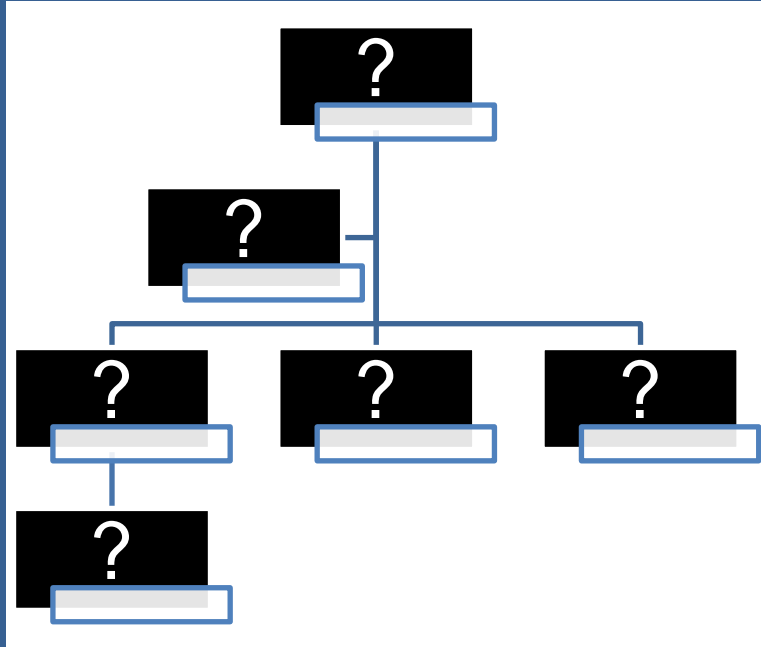


The aim is always to attempt to achieve a systematic approach as quickly as possible.



# Challenges: command and control

Number of local authority jurisdictions affected by spill



Military assistance for shoreline response

Contractors normally working in competition

Who's really in charge?

Military assistance for shoreline response

# Challenges: coordination of response assets





# Challenges: technical reasonableness vs. public and political pressure





## Financial and administrative

- Customs and immigration – establish agreements with relative authorities to facilitate entry of response equipment
- Establish and maintain an inventory, including dimensions



## Personnel

- Consider any communication barriers such as language, channels of communication etc.
- Define communication SOPs in regional or bilateral agreements



## Equipment

- If borrowing equipment, establish chain of responsibility
- Consider logistical aspects of equipment transfer (airport landing facilities, transport, packaging etc.)



# Challenges: when it goes transboundary

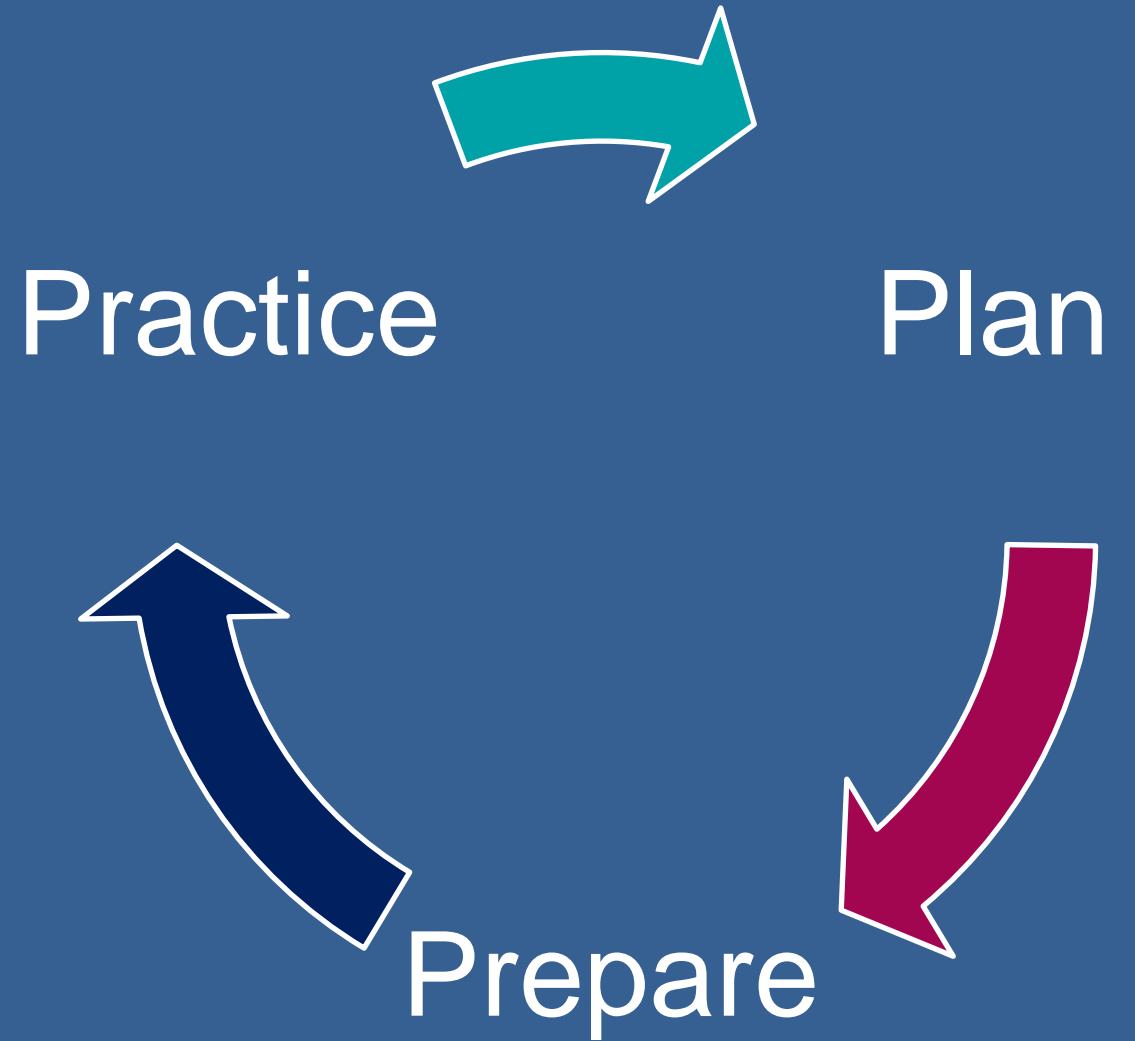
- Aerial surveillance and rapid access to airspace
- Notification procedures - POLREP (Pollution reporting system), when to notify a state?
- Command integration
- Operational and logistical coordination
- Place of refuge



# Best practice around the world: ITOPF's experience

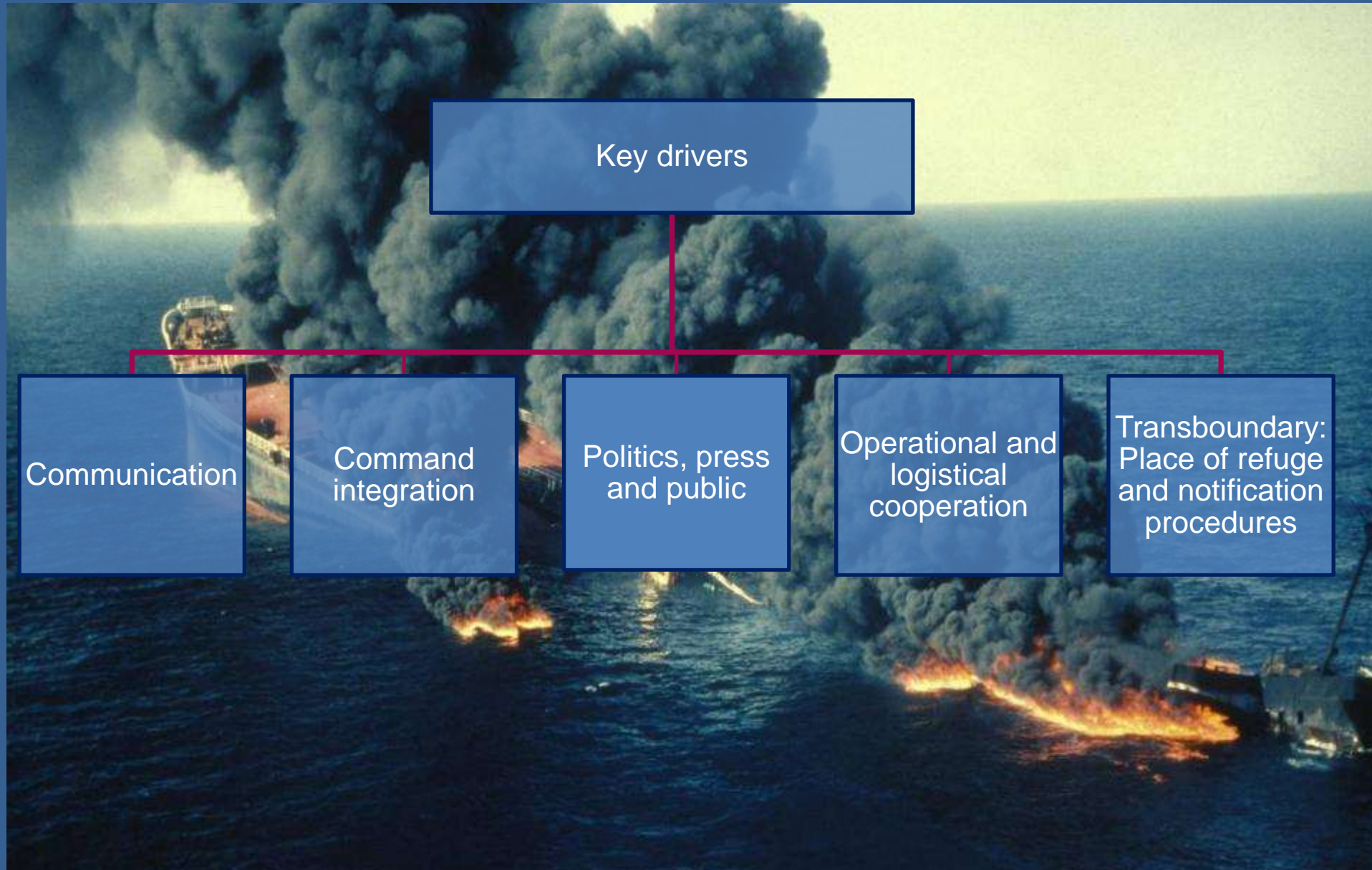


No. 1 = PREPAREDNESS





# Best practice around the world: ITOPF's experience





- Between command centres
- Between contractors usually in competition
- Transboundary – language



# Command and leadership



## Strong leadership

Clear and relevant objectives

Explicit chain of command and ownership procedure

Case-specific considerations

One individual (or entity in the form of unified command in the US) to take ultimate responsibility. SOSREP system in UK works well

# Politics, press and public



- Disseminate accurate information in a timely manner
- Have a strategy – it will not go away
- At a local level, political considerations may override the aims of central authorities' remit - elections?



# Operational and logistical cooperation



Success determined by integrated command

Explicitly state SOPs/ procedure

## Aerial Surveillance

Critical factor in ensuring an effective response. Minimising bureaucracy by establishing pre-agreed protocols can result in a more effective response, and minimise uncertainty/disputes as regards source of contamination

## Notification procedures

other authorities or organisations allows them to prepare, even if ultimately no action is required

## Communication

Regular **communication between command centres** as well as operational units will avoid use of incompatible response measures

**SOPs/operational document** for how to achieve this practically should be contained within the plan

Factor most able to be mitigated by appropriate planning and preparedness activities



# Summary – lessons for the future

No. 1 factor leading to success: PREPAREDNESS

BUT – for a large scale incident, be PREPARED to be flexible

Strong leadership

Eliminate competing elements

Acknowledge political, public and press related pressures

Streamline financial and administrative matters

Cooperation- not just in theory

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

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