



Workshop on The Use of Chemical Dispersants for Oil Spills and Oil Spill Contingency Planning at The Sub- Regional Level



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National Law, Policies and Regulations related to Dispersant use

- Draft of National Policy and Guideline on the Use of Dispersants in Cambodia.
 - These guidelines are designated to facilitate and document rapid defensible and decision for dispersant use during an oil spill
 - They are structured around the dispersant use Flowchart which summaries the key aspects to be considered during the decision making process. The decision-maker should use the flowchart to guide dispersant use decisions.



Statement of Policy

- It is the declared policy of the Ministry of Environment of Cambodia to support sustainable development of the country's marine and coastal resources through the application of appropriate response strategies during oil spill incidents including the use of chemical dispersants as an important option to combat pollution at sea.
- No marine oil spill response option should be ruled out or limited in advance. Chemical dispersants are an important option which should always be considered in the most effective “first stage” of a response strategy.



Challenges and Difficulties

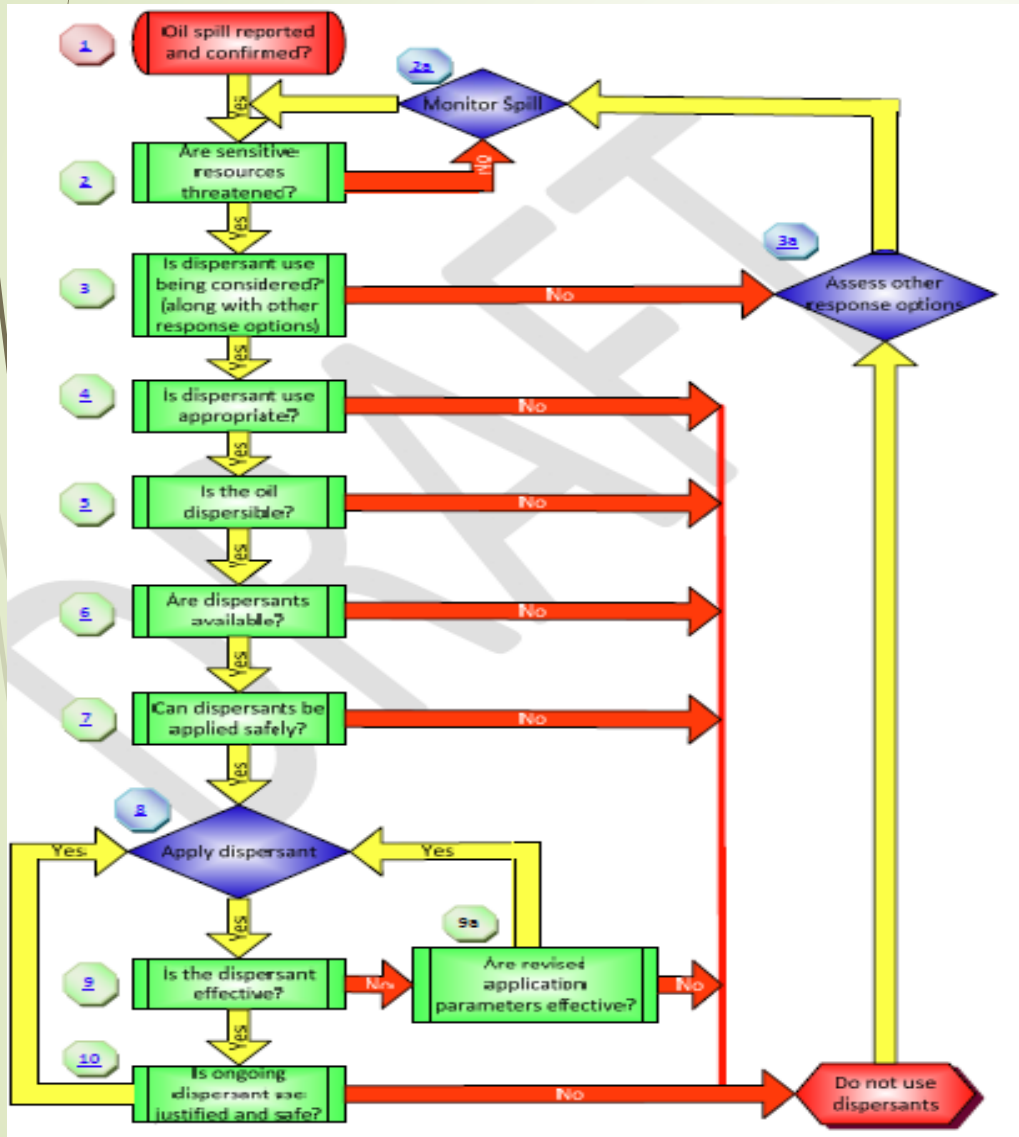
- ▶ We need time to have National Policy and Guideline's Meeting with Inter-Ministries.
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Lead Authority responsible for issuing a decision on the use of dispersants

- ▶ During an oil spill response, the Incident Commander may authorize the use of chemical dispersants. The decision to use dispersants should be made in consultation with the General Department of Environmental Protection of MOE. However, the Incident Commander may authorise the use of dispersants, without consultation, in order to reduce any threat to human life from fire or explosion.
- ▶ Authorization must be based on a reasonable belief that the application of dispersants will be effective and that there will be a net environmental benefit from their use.
- ▶ The decision to continue must be based on demonstrated effectiveness, either through visual confirmation or through field sampling programs.

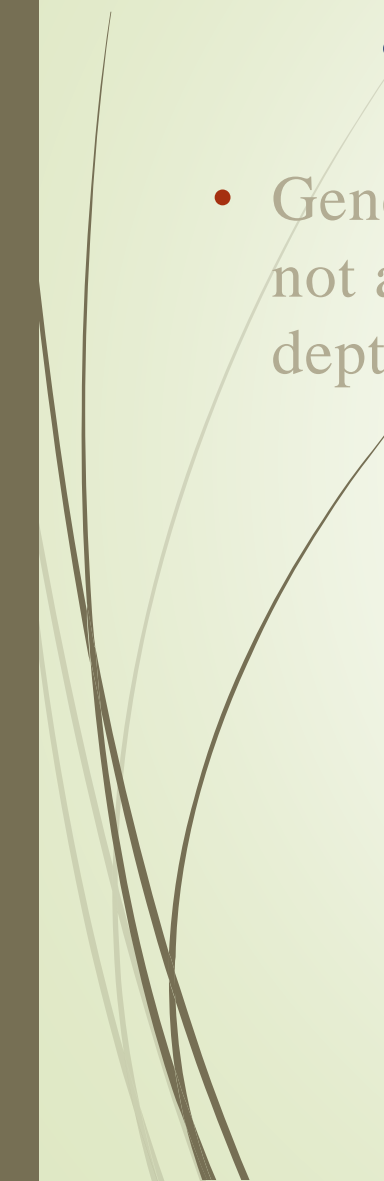
Procedure for the use of dispersant




- The flowchart identifies sequential actions to address during the decision making process. Action will be undertaken in parallel, and reference to the supporting documentation will not always be necessary.



Pre-approved zone for dispersant application

- Generally areas which contain resources where there is not a high responsibility to dispersed oil and have water depths of 10m or more.
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Identified areas that are sensitive to dispersants

- Areas that are sensitive to dispersants such as mangroves, coral reefs, bird nesting areas, various types of beaches, etc.- and man-made – such as water intakes, wharfs, tourist facilities, etc.



List of approved dispersants for use in the country

- This list has been compiled based on the list of approved dispersants in Thailand. As Thailand and Cambodia share the same waters within the Gulf of Thailand, the type of chemical dispersants that are deemed safe for usage in Thailand shall be adopted for this guideline.



Action to be taken

- Establish a mechanism for Oil Spill Preparedness and Response
- Adoption of Contingency Plan for Oil Spill Preparedness and Response
- Adoption of the use of the Chemical Dispersants.



Thank You.