



MTCC LATIN AMERICA  
Maritime Technology Cooperation Centre



**REPORT**

# REGIONAL VIRTUAL WORKSHOP OF THE GMN II PROJECT

## MTCC LATIN AMERICA LEADING THE SUSTAINABLE MARITIME TRANSITION OF LATIN AMERICA TOWARD 2026

10 December 2025



Funded by  
the European Union



INTERNATIONAL  
MARITIME  
ORGANIZATION



## First Latin American Regional Virtual Workshop 2025 – Executive Summary

The Maritime Technology Cooperation Center for Latin America (**MTCC-LA**), within the framework of the GMN Project (Global Network of Maritime Technology Cooperation Centers), Phase II, an initiative implemented by the International Maritime Organization (**IMO**) and funded by the European Union (**EU**) through the **Global Gateway** initiative and in collaboration with the International Maritime University of Panama (**UMIP**), held the First Latin American Virtual Regional Workshop 2025 entitled “**Leading Latin America Sustainable Maritime Transition towards 2026.**”, the workshop took place virtually on December 10, 2025.

The event brought together a total of **188** participants from various countries in the region, including representatives from maritime administrations, port authorities, ministries of energy, transport and environment, the private sector, technology companies, maritime academies, universities, international organizations, financial institutions and non-governmental organizations, consolidating itself as a high-level regional space for technical and strategic dialogue.

### Objectives of the Workshop

The workshop was designed to:

- ✓ Promote regional cooperation and knowledge exchange on maritime decarbonization.
- ✓ Facilitate dialogue on alternative fuels, energy efficiency, and port decarbonization pathways.
- ✓ Strengthen institutional and technical capacities across participating countries.
- ✓ Encourage public-private collaboration to accelerate the maritime energy transition.
- ✓ Integrate gender equality considerations into maritime decarbonization strategies.

### Topics and Key Areas Addressed

The workshop featured technical presentations and panel discussions focused on the following strategic pillars:

- Sustainable maritime transition and regional perspectives towards 2026.
- Maritime safety and security in the context of sectoral modernization and digitalization.
- Technological innovation applied to energy efficiency and emissions reduction.
- Regional cooperation and strategic partnerships between government, industry, and academia.
- Synergies between sustainability, competitiveness, and resilience in maritime transport.

## Main achievements of the Regional Virtual Workshop

The key outcomes of the Virtual Regional Workshop include:

- ✓ **Strengthening regional cooperation** by promoting a coordinated approach among Latin American countries to advance the sustainable maritime transition.
- ✓ **Exchanging best practices and experiences** regarding maritime safety, security, digitalization, and sustainability.
- ✓ **Identifying common challenges and regional opportunities** for implementing technical, operational, and technological measures focused on energy efficiency and GHG reduction.
- ✓ **Fostering multisectoral dialogue** by integrating authorities, the private sector, academia, and international organizations as key stakeholders in the maritime sector's transformation process.
- ✓ **Promoted inclusive participation** and integration of gender equality considerations across technical discussions.

*MTCC-LA – 2025 Achievements Table*

GMN II Result Area	Activity / Output	2025 Scope	Key Outcome
Capacity Building	Regional in-person workshop (Panama)	18+ participating countries	Regional strengthening and strategic alignment
	National workshops (Honduras, Colombia, Guatemala)	National maritime and port authorities	Strengthened technical capacities and national commitments
Gender Equality	Gender mainstreaming in workshops and MoU with WISTA Panama	High female participation	Progress in empowerment and technical leadership
Pilot Projects	EoI Call – Technology	11 countries, 16 proposals	Strong regional demand and foundation for replicability
Technology and Efficiency	Strategic framework for Green Ports	Pilot countries in the region	Practical tool for port transition
Academia and Training	Academic modules on decarbonization	Maritime universities and training centres	Curriculum updates and knowledge transfer
Innovation and Data	Maritime emissions monitoring (Panama)	Operational pilot project	Evidence base for policy and planning
Regional Cooperation	Green maritime corridors	Binational and regional initiatives	Technical foundation for alternative fuels
Strategic Partnerships	Industry–public sector engagement	Growing number of partners	More effective and sustainable implementation



**Participation and Regional Engagement**

The workshop brought together **188 duly registered attendees**, including maritime authorities, representatives from the private sector, academia, and international organizations. The sectoral distribution was as follows:

Sector	N. ° of Participants
Maritime Administrations	16
Shipping and logistics industry	18
Ports and Port Authorities	10
Academia and Research Centre's	71
Multilateral and financial organizations	64
Networks and NGOs (gender and sustainability)	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>188</b>

Participation was a total of **59% men** and **41% women**, coming close to the 1:1 target set in the 2025 Work Plan and the Gender Action Plan.

**Key Discussion Areas**

*MTCC-LA Key Discussion Areas Table*

Key Discussion Area	Main Focus	Key Elements Discussed	Strategic Implications
Maritime Decarbonization Pathways	Regional implementation of the IMO GHG Strategy	Coordinated policy frameworks, regional cooperation, fleet efficiency, digitalization, regulatory alignment, and investment in low-carbon infrastructure	Supports systemic transition toward low-emission maritime transport and strengthens regional policy alignment
Alternative Fuels and Infrastructure Readiness	Development of alternative maritime fuel ecosystems	Fuel production, storage and bunkering infrastructure, certification of fuel carbon intensity, cross-sector investment cooperation	Positions the region to participate competitively in the global alternative fuels market
Green Shipping Corridors	Regional cooperation for pilot	Feasibility studies, cross-border coordination, partnerships among ports,	Accelerates practical deployment of decarbonization



Key Discussion Area	Main Focus	Key Elements Discussed	Strategic Implications
	implementation of low-emission routes	shipping companies, and energy producers	solutions and demonstration projects
Capacity Building and Knowledge Transfer	Strengthening technical and institutional capacities	Training programs on energy efficiency implementation, emissions monitoring and reporting, digitalization, operational optimization, and alternative fuel readiness	Ensures workforce preparedness and supports long-term adoption of new technologies
Gender Equality and Inclusive Maritime Transition	Integration of SDG 5 (Gender Equality)	Women’s leadership development, technical participation, inclusive professional opportunities	Enhance innovation, institutional effectiveness, and inclusive sectoral growth
Public-Private Cooperation and Industry Engagement	Strengthening collaboration platforms such as RIALA	Government–industry–academia–finance dialogue, pilot initiatives, innovation partnerships	Facilitates investment mobilization and accelerates the maritime energy transition

### Regional Challenges

Participants recognized that, despite significant progress, structural challenges remain that require coordinated regional action, including:

- ✦ Limited availability of harmonized regulatory frameworks related to alternative fuels and carbon intensity certification.
- ✦ Infrastructure and financing gaps for clean fuel production, storage, and supply.
- ✦ Technical capacity gaps in the implementation of emerging technologies and digital solutions.
- ✦ The need for stronger regional coordination mechanisms to scale investments and avoid fragmented initiatives.
- ✦ The continued need to strengthen inclusive participation and gender equality across maritime institutions and projects.

Addressing these challenges will require sustained technical cooperation, strengthen partnerships, and coordinate engagement among governments, development partners, and industry stakeholders.

**Summary of Results and Actions – RVW 2025**

Title of the Session	Results / Conclusions	Next Steps	Responsible(s) and Support	Timeline
1. Presentation of the GMN Phase II Project and IMO 2023 GHG Strategy	Enhanced understanding of the 2023 IMO GHG Strategy and strengthened the role of MTCC-LA in supporting Member States toward the 2050 net-zero target.	Continue providing technical assistance and capacity-building to align national frameworks with the 2023 IMO GHG Strategy.	MTCC-LA – IMO (GMN II PCU) support	2026 – Ongoing
2. Regional Progress on Maritime Decarbonization	Shared regional experiences and identification of gaps in technical capacity	Promote technical assistance and regional coordination mechanisms.	MTCC-LA – National Maritime Authorities – IMO	Q1–Q4 2026
3. Alternative Marine Fuels and Technological Solutions	Identification of viable fuel pathways for Latin America (methanol, LNG, ammonia, biofuels). Recognition of infrastructure and CAPEX barriers.	Develop regional studies on fuel availability and infrastructure readiness.	MTCC-LA – Industry Stakeholders – Technical Partners	Q2–Q4 2026
4. Regional Industry Alliance in Latin America (RIALA)	Increased stakeholder engagement and at least two expressions of interest to join RIALA. Strengthened public-private dialogue.	Finalize RIALA governance framework and roadmap.	MTCC-LA – Industry – IMO Support	Q2–Q3 2026
5. Climate Finance and Bankable Projects	Enhanced understanding of financing mechanisms and criteria for bankable maritime decarbonization projects.	Develop guidance documents for financial structuring of sustainable maritime projects.	MTCC-LA – Financial Institutions – Regional Banks	Q2–Q4 2026
6. Gender Equality and Maritime Energy Transition (SDG 5)	Achieved approximately 40–50% female participation. Identified need for stronger gender mainstreaming in maritime decarbonization initiatives.	Integrate gender indicators into GMN II activities and promote women leadership programs.	MTCC-LA – IMO Women in Maritime Programme – Regional Networks	2026 – Ongoing
7. Interactive Polls and Feedback Session	91% active participation in live polls. Overall satisfaction above KPI threshold ( $\geq 75\%$ ).	Incorporate participant feedback into future regional and national workshops.	MTCC-LA	Q1 2026
8. Capacity Building and Regional Cooperation	Reinforced regional cooperation and knowledge exchange among maritime administrations, academia, and industry.	Continuing regional and national workshops and technical capacity-building initiatives under GMN II.	MTCC-LA – IMO – Member States	2026 – 2027



**Way forward**

Following up on the results of the 2025 Latin American Virtual Regional Workshop, the following strategic lines of action have been identified to consolidate the progress achieved under the GMN II Project framework:

*MTCC-LA Next Steps towards 2026 Table*

<b>Strategic Line</b>	<b>Next Steps 2026</b>	<b>Expected Results</b>
Pilot project calls	Launch new regional EOI calls and strengthen industry participation through public-private partnerships	Greater number of demonstration projects implemented and increased private-sector engagement
Capacity building	Continue regional and national workshops and consolidate specialized technical training programs focused on the practical implementation of energy-efficiency and emissions-reduction measures	Increased regional technical capacities and practical implementation of decarbonization measures
Green ports	Develop strategies, harmonized regulatory frameworks in coordination with IMO and international bodies, and port energy-efficiency plans	Implementation of port energy-efficiency plans and facilitated adoption of clean technologies
Education and training	Expand decarbonization curriculum modules and integrate SDG 5 (Gender Equality) across training activities, ensuring equitable participation and strengthening women's leadership	Integration of content into maritime academies and strengthened women's leadership in the sector
Innovation and research	Implement emissions monitoring and data analysis projects, generating technical evidence to support public policies and carbon-intensity certification mechanisms	Generation of technical evidence for public policies and improved monitoring and reporting systems
Green shipping corridors	Conduct feasibility studies, promote green shipping corridors, and facilitate technical dialogue on alternative fuels, infrastructure, and certification mechanisms	Identification of priority routes and progress toward corridor implementation
Regional cooperation and strategic partnerships (cross-cutting)	Strengthening regional cooperation through continuous exchange of experiences and best practices among participating countries and expanding multi-sector collaboration	Greater regional alignment, strengthened cooperation networks, and accelerated sustainable maritime transition



## Conclusion

The 2025 Latin American Regional Virtual Workshop demonstrated strong regional commitment to advancing maritime decarbonization through cooperation, innovation, and capacity development. The constructive dialogue, high level of participation, and shared technical priorities identified during the event confirm the region's readiness to continue progressing toward a sustainable, competitive, and low-carbon maritime sector.

The outcomes of this workshop will serve as an important foundation for future regional and national activities under the GMN Phase II Project, reinforcing Latin America and the Caribbean's collective contribution to global maritime climate goals.

