



## SAFETY IN THE AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT

The Safe Water Sports ([www.safewatersports.com](http://www.safewatersports.com)) non-profit organization has been active since 2015 with the main goal of preventing accidents and drowning incidents taking place at sea. The actions of the Organization, in cooperation with the Private and Public sector, aim at enhancing safety in the aquatic environment as well as informing and raising awareness among the public, especially children and young people, on issues related to their safety in the water, the sea, the water sports and other water activities. Greece ranks 11th globally in the list of countries with the largest coastline (13,676 km). In our country every year, on average, **350** people lose their lives at sea. 50,000 European citizens are injured while participating in water sports and / or boat activities. Drowning is the second leading cause of death for infants up to 14 years of age.

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## COAST GUARD INFORMATION SYSTEM

Safe Water Sports has developed and granted to the Coast Guard, at absolutely no cost to the Greek State, an Integrated Pan-Hellenic Information System of Controls & Inspections concerning a wide range of activities carried out at sea.

Through the system, which currently operates in all port authorities of the country as well as in the central service (Ministry - Coast Guard Headquarters), both in Greece and in Cyprus, the port authorities now manage electronically:

- All permits issued to water sports and leisure companies and other professional sea-based activities
- The lifeguard coverage of the beaches.
- The controls and inspections that take place at sea (by vessels of the Coast Guard), or in land.
- The violations and the fines imposed.
- The performance of the port authorities and possible gaps in controls across the country.
- The availability of lifeguards on

the beaches where their presence is mandatory.

### Information System Modules

#### ► Professional permits for maritime activities

- Beach lifeguard coverage
- Water sports & leisure companies
- Diving services companies
- Small speedboat rental companies
- Day cruises and day trips

#### ► Registers

- Beaches
- Port authorities
- Marina & fishing shelters
- Shipwrecks

#### ► Control system and inspections

- Water sports & leisure activities professionals
- Private yachts

#### ► Sea Accident Observatory

#### ► Legislation

#### ► Dashboard - Statistics

The processing of information is done in real time, on a 24/7 basis, completely decentralized, without the need for any communication or document between the Central Service and the regional port authorities.

In February 2018, Safe Water Sports signed an agreement with the Port Police of Cyprus to extend the action on the island, so that the safety net of the Organization's initiatives can be extended beyond the Greek borders. The Information System also includes the Accident Observatory, where from 2017 until today, all drowning incidents and other accidents that take place in the Greek seas are recorded in detail. The Organization has undertaken the study and processing of the data of the Observatory in order to draw up a national policy to strengthen prevention.

<https://vimeo.com/675877173>

## DIGITAL PORT POLICE SURVEILLANCE FOR LEISURE ACTIVITIES AT THE SEA

In 2020 the Information System acquired new operational capabilities related to the control of companies, professionals and individuals, using special software developed and provided by the Organization.

The controls on lifeguards, water sports companies, motor boat and small boat rental companies, diving service providers, but also on private yachts, are carried out using portable devices (tablets) and special software that is part of the Safe Water Sports Information System.

The special software enables the port authorities the quick, safe, efficient and, above all, on-site inspection of the companies and professionals they control, by formulating the control report electronically on the spot, entering its findings at the time of the inspection and not upon their return at the office. In this way the inspection regarding the observance of the foreseen security measures is digital, direct, as the port police on the beach or at the sea has online access to all the information needed to complete it, while any infringements are also recorded in real time.

Thus, the software monitors the inspections performed throughout the country, identifies potential gaps and facilitates the planning



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of the audit process for each port authority.

This Information System dramatically upgrades the operational efficiency of the controls carried out by the port authorities, while the on-site registration of the inspection sheets frees up valuable administrative time and saves significant resources

*The digital inspection software was developed courtesy of Alpha Bank.*



### CREATION OF A PREVENTION ACTIONS COORDINATION OFFICE

The Office of Digital Management of Activities and Safety at the sea, a special office within the Port Police Directorate of the Ministry of Shipping was created and staffed to support the increased requirements of operation and operational support

of the Port Authority Information System (provided by Safe Water Sports) and the information actions implemented by the port authorities throughout the country (at schools, municipalities, etc.) in cooperation with the Organization.

## LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

Safe Water Sports proposes, participates and contributes systematically to issues of modernization of the wider institutional framework related to aquatic safety. To date, the Organization has contributed and actively participated in the following important legislative and regulatory initiatives:

► **PD 71/2020** of the Ministry of Shipping and Island Policy (as well as the older Presidential Decree 30/2020) for the operation of lifeguard schools and lifeguard coverage on the beaches

► **General Port Regulation no. 20 "Speedboats (high-speed) and other sea-based recreational vehicles"** of 2018 and 2022 of the Ministry of Shipping and Island Policy

► **Law 4688/2020 "Special forms of tourism, provisions for tourism development and other provisions"** of the Ministry of Tourism

► **Law 4597 / 28-2-2019** of the Ministry of Shipping and Island Policy for **the establishment of the National Day for the Prevention of Accidents and Drowning Incidents at Sea.**

Important points of Regulations, PDs and laws that came into force:

**PD 30/2018, PD 71/2020 Lifeguard Schools, lifeguard licensing, compulsory recruitment of lifeguards on organized or unorganized beaches.**

- Compulsory lifeguard Coverage for all busy beaches regardless of whether or not they are exploited for financial purposes.
- The characterization of a beach as crowded takes place in the 1st fortnight of August, after an autopsy by a special committee. The committee shall decide whether a beach is crowded, taking into account, as an example, the average daily attendance of at least three hundred (300) bathers,

along the coastline up to one km (as well as for each corresponding, after the first kilometer, length of coastline) during peak periods, any accidents that have occurred in the past, reasons that are related to the particularities and peculiarities of each area. If the beach is over 400 meters long and is busy, then a second lifeguard is required. If it is more than 800 meters, then the addition of a third lifeguard is required and so on. The special three-member committee includes the representative of the local port authority, the representative of the relevant Health District and the representative of the Municipality

- Compulsory lifeguard coverage on beaches changed from three months to four months, that is, from June 1st to September 30th each year.

- Each lifeguard controls the shoreline within a radius of 200 meters on either side of the stand where they are located

- The lifeguard coverage of the beaches was extended by one hour, (from 10.30-17.30 - 7 hours to 10: 00- 18:00 - 8 hours), with a parallel provision for the competent local authorities to have the possibility of further extension of the hours.

- The training program for lifeguards from the schools has been upgraded

- The equipment available to lifeguards on the beaches for rescues and the provision of first aid has been upgraded and enriched.

- Large fines were imposed in cases of non-placement of lifeguards provided by law on the beaches.



**General Port Regulation no. 20 "Speedboats and other sea-based recreational facilities" (years 2018, 2022)**

- Mandatory presence of a 2nd person (observer) in all sea-based recreational activities that involve pulling by a speedboat
- Increased professional experience requirements for the issuance of a water sports business permit
- Prohibition of water sports and recreational facilities under certain weather conditions (wind intensity)
- Definition of specific specifications for lifebuoys, pulled inflatable sea-based recreational means, technical characteristics of speedboats that pull, engines, etc.
- Large fines were imposed in cases of serious breaches of safety regulations.

**Law 4688/2020 "Special forms of tourism, provisions for tourism development and other provisions" of the Ministry of Tourism**

- For hotels with more than fifty (50) beds and with a swimming pool of more than 1.5 meters deep, the pool lifeguard must, during its opening hours, be on standby at the pool and not perform any other service.

- The training program for pool lifeguards has been upgraded by the schools

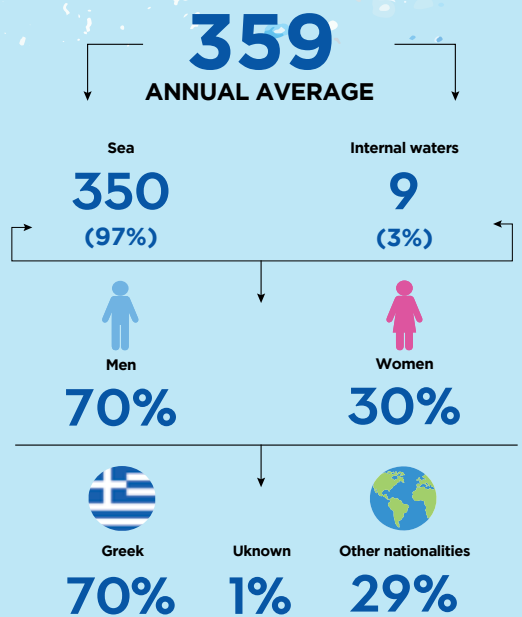
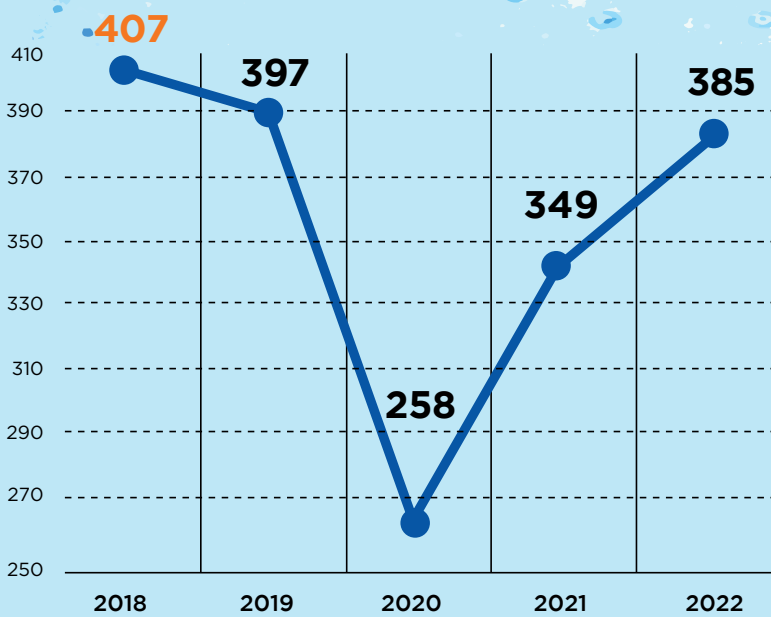
- The equipment of the lifeguards in the swimming pools of hotels for rescue and the provision of first aid has been upgraded and enriched.

- Large fines were also imposed in cases of non-placement of lifeguards

## ACCIDENT OBSERVATORY

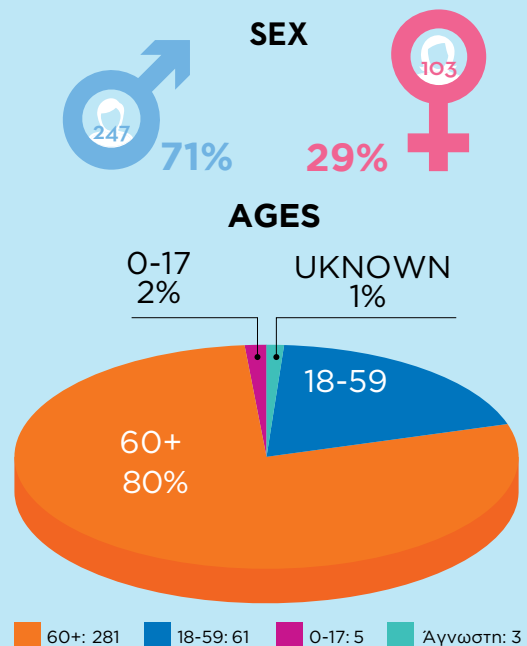
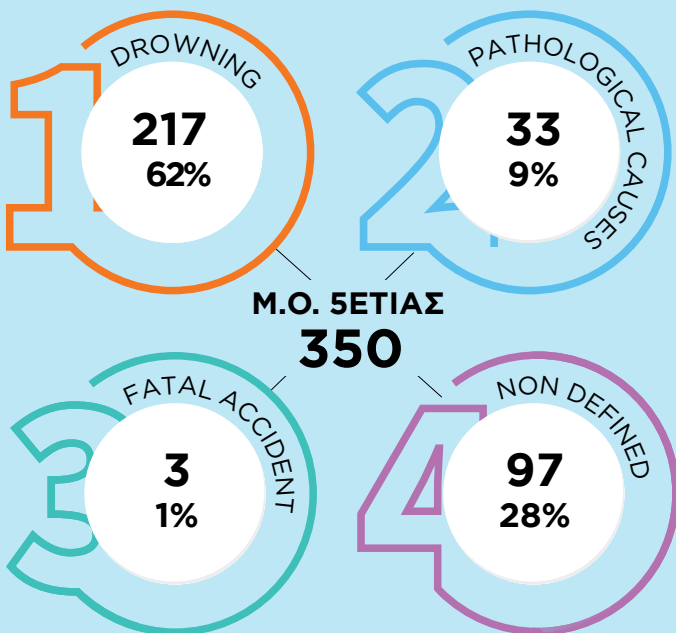
Safe Water Sports has developed and operates in cooperation with the Coast Guard and the Hellenic Police, the "ACCIDENT OBSERVATORY", which collects, processes and analyzes data related to incidents of casualties and injury in the aquatic environment of the country (sea and inland waters).

### ACCIDENTS IN INTERNAL WATERS 2018- 2022



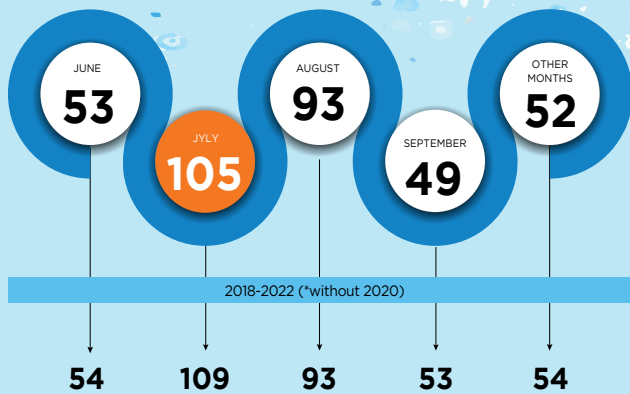
### ACCIDENTS AT SEA: RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Type of fatal accident



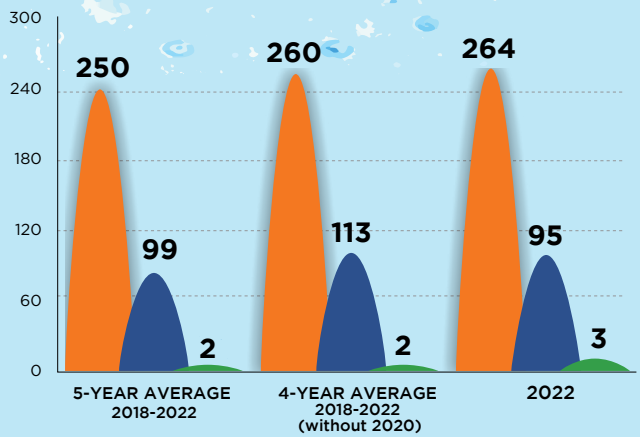
The Organization has undertaken the statistical processing of the data as well as the annual publication of the Observatory Report on the basis of which the national policy is drawn up, which aims at the strengthening of the prevention and the reduction of the fatal and non-fatal accidents.

### TIME PERIOD (MONTH)



### NATIONALITY

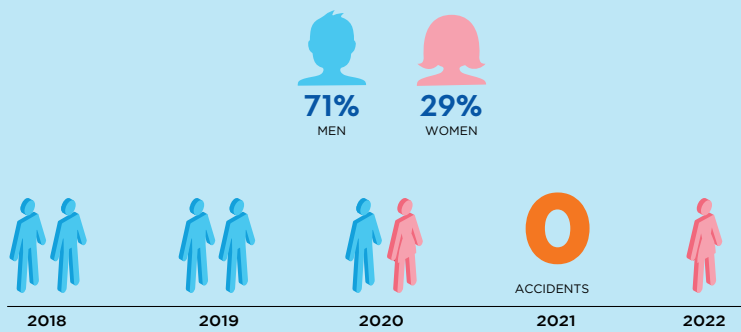
GREEK FOREIGN UNKNOWN



### WATER SPORTS

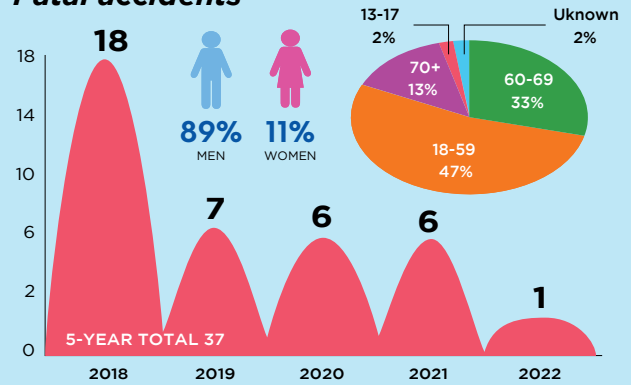
5-YEAR AVERAGE 1,5

5-YEAR TOTAL 7

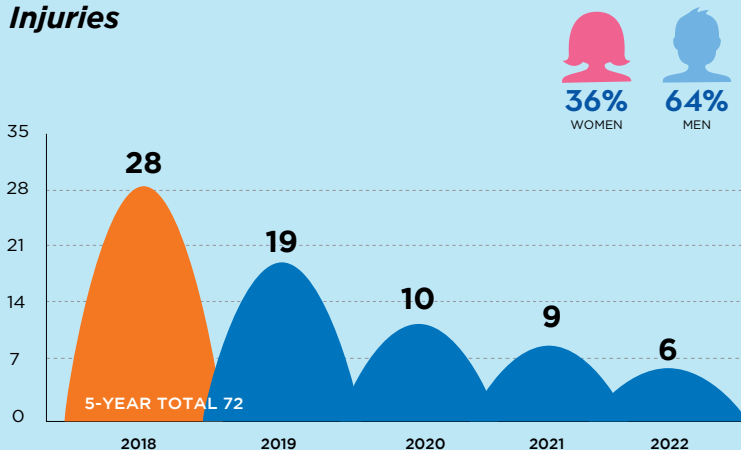


### INVOLVING A SPEED BOAT

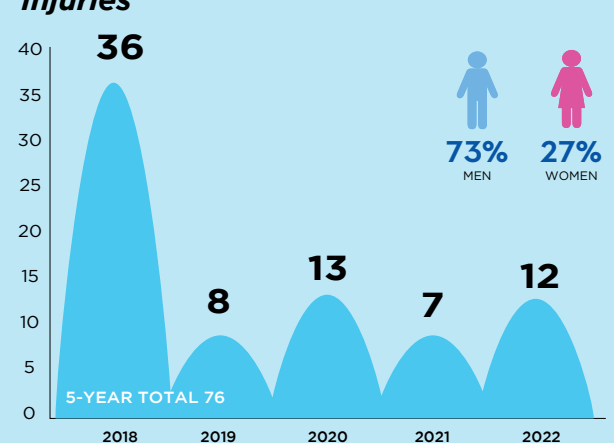
#### Fatal accidents



#### Injuries

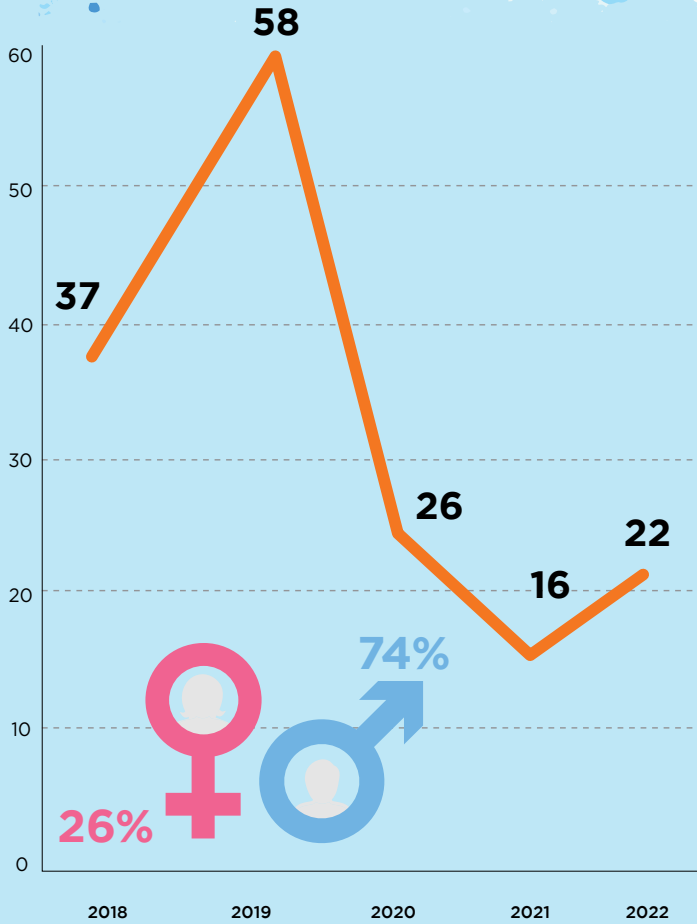


#### Injuries

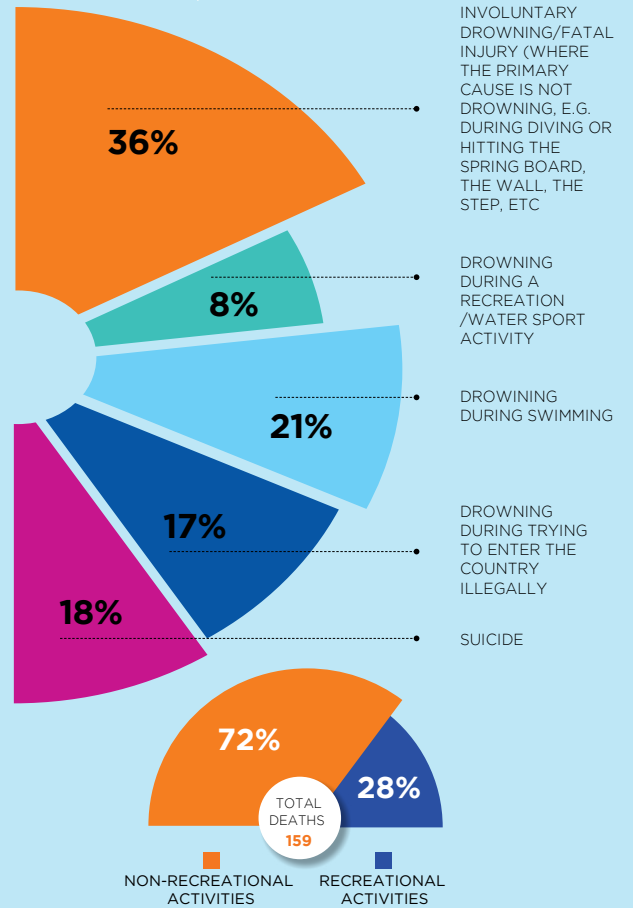


## ACCIDENTS IN INTERNAL WATERS 2018- 2022

### DEATHS

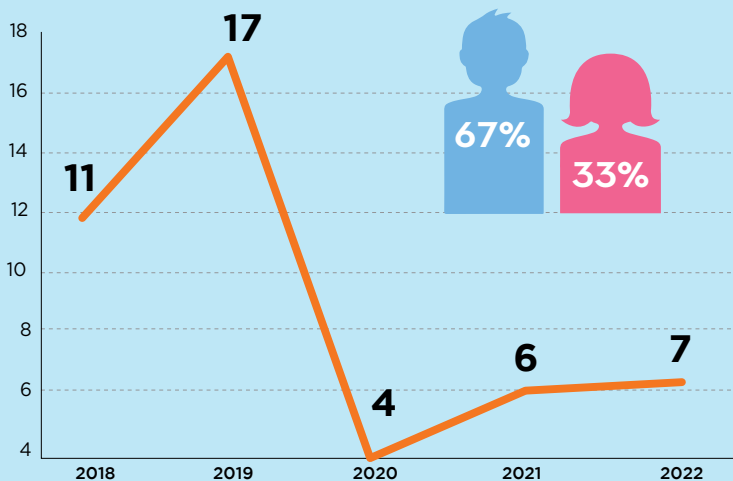


### TYPE OF ACCIDENT

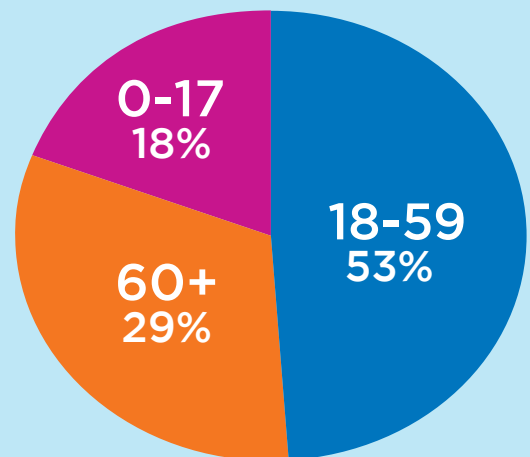


## RECREATION ACTIVITIES

### DEATHS IN RECREATION ACTIVITIES

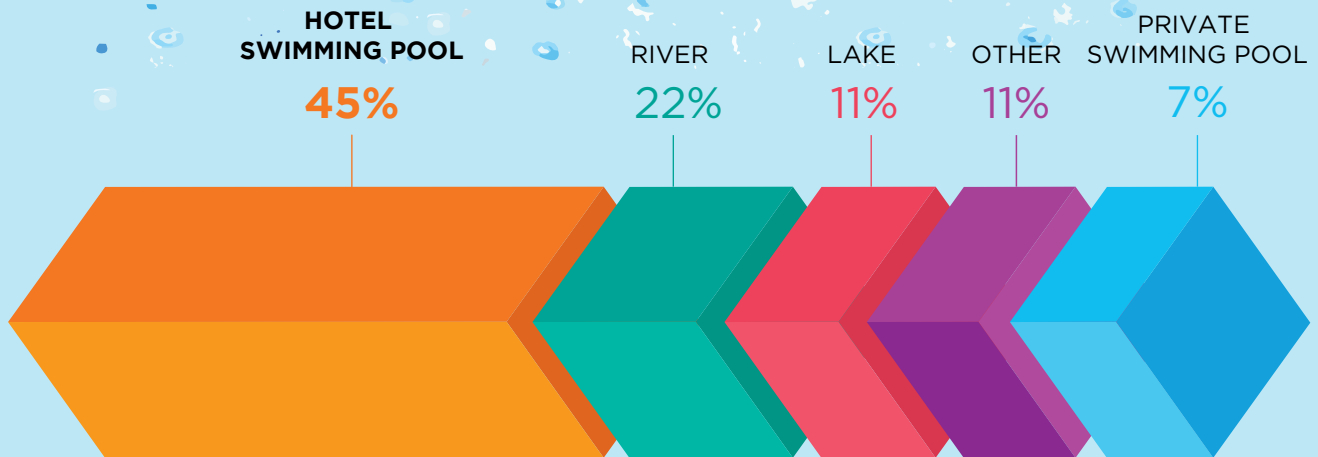


### AGES

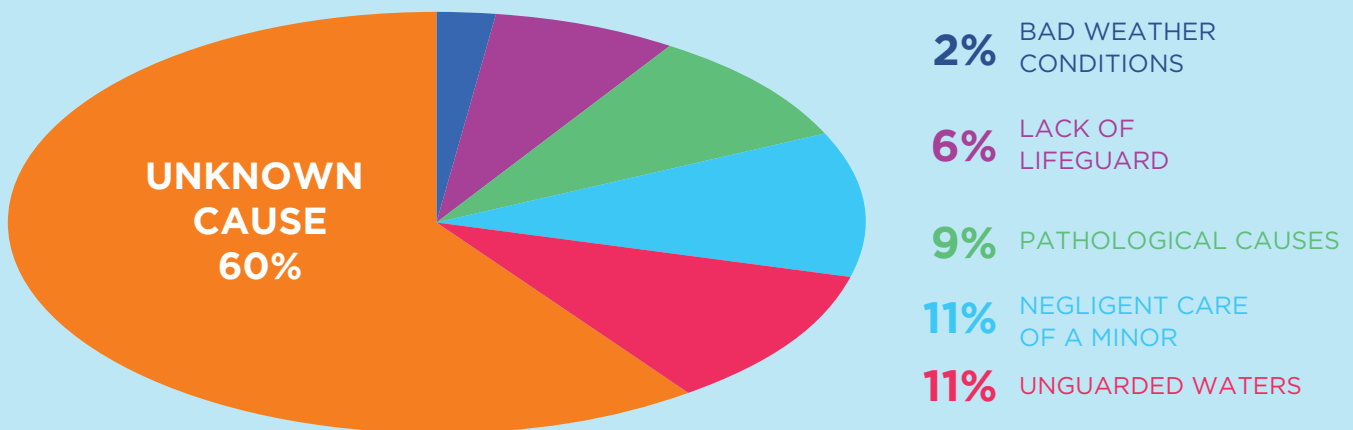




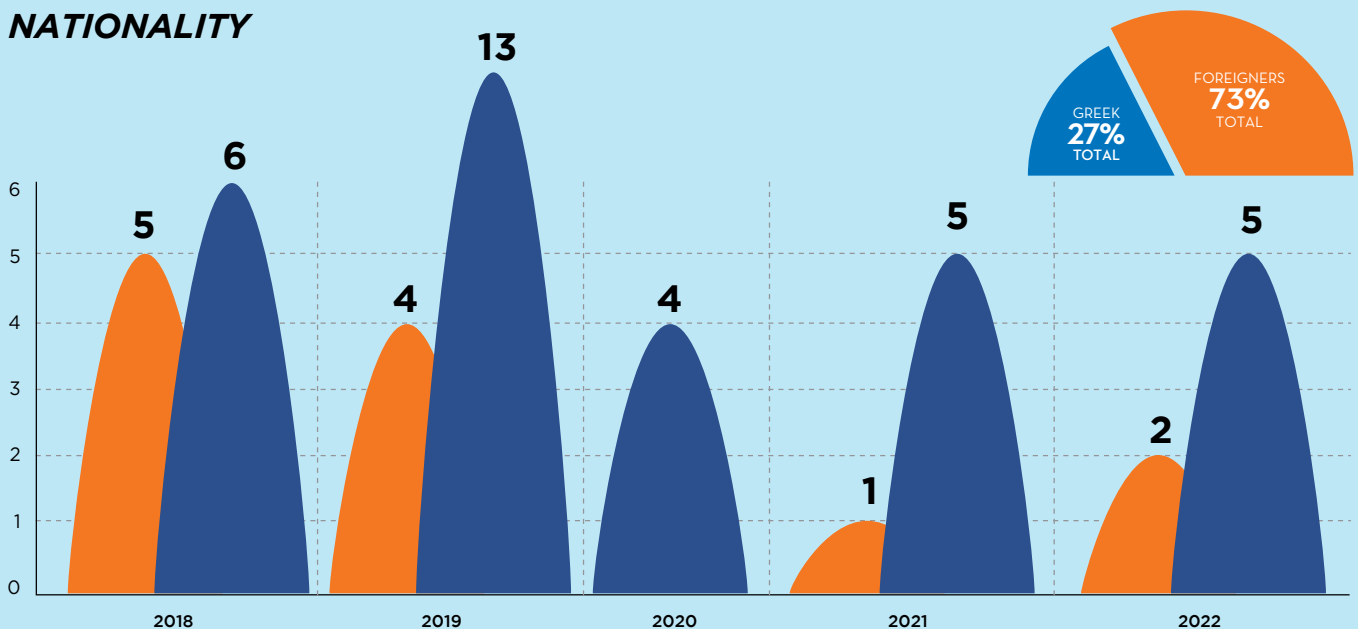
## LOCATION



## CAUSES OF THE INCIDENT



## NATIONALITY





## LIFEGUARD RESCUE MOBILE APP

The Safe Water Sports (SWS) non-profit organization and the Hellenic Lifeguard Schools Association, joined forces to record and monitor the rescues and cases of first aid provided by lifeguards on Greek beaches. The project, which is a global innovation, was designed to take advantage of the modern tools offered today by technology and informatics.

Safe Water Sports has developed a software for mobile devices that enables the easy and immediate recording and sending of rescue and first aid data by lifeguards.

Each portable lifeguard device with pre-installed software (Lifeguard Rescue app) records the basic data related to rescue and first aid events such as time, location, medium used for rescue, medical equipment used for first aid, if transported to hospital / Health Center, etc.

The port authorities and the Headquarters have access to this information, which is complementary to the Accident Observatory, which is already operational and contributes significantly to the effort to reduce the number of accidents that occur every year in the Greek seas.

*The Lifeguard Rescue mobile app was implemented courtesy of Cosmote*

## Safe Water Sports mobile app

Safe Water Sports has developed an online citizen information platform, which is currently available on the Internet (via the Organization's website: [www.safewatersports.com](http://www.safewatersports.com)), but mainly via applications (apps) for all mobile phones, which are offered completely free of charge. With this platform, which is available in Greek, English and French, the citizen can easily, with the push of a button, find useful information about Greece and Cyprus, such as:

- 】 ALL and ONLY the licensed water sports centers (waterski, scuba diving, tubes, kitesurf, etc.).
- 】 The 3,350+ accessible beaches that the Organization has jointly mapped with the Coast Guard, in which citizens can swim as well as their characteristics in terms of safety (i.e., if they have a lifeguard, deep / shallow waters, the type of beach - e.g. sandy, with pebbles, etc.-, the length of the beach, if it is organized with sunbeds and umbrellas, if there is access for the disabled, food service establishments, parking, etc.), an indicative photo, their location and other useful information.
- 】 All hospitals and health centers with full contact info.
- 】 The port authorities located throughout the country with contact details.
- 】 The marinas and in general the locations where the mooring of boats is allowed as well as the services they offer.
- 】 Boat rental companies of all types, for recreational purposes.



- 】 The current safety regulations (legislation) for all water sports and activities at sea.
- 】 The weather in every area where water sports are offered.
- 】 The day-trip boats
- 】 Many other information that is directly or indirectly related to activities at sea and on the water.

Citizens can also use their mobile phones and the Safe Water Sports mobile app to:

- ✓ denounce, report any infringing or illegal activity at sea that endangers the safety and physical integrity of citizens, and through the electronic platform of the Organization, to inform the Coast Guard so that it intervenes where necessary.
- ✓ Comment and rate a water sports center, and, thus, reward excellent companies and help others improve by providing safe services for citizens.



The Safe Water Sports mobile app is available for FREE on the Apple Store and Google Play Store. To download the application on your mobile use the following links

**iPhone / iPad:** <http://apple.co/21rYZyx>

**Android:** <http://bit.ly/1UFT4kl>

Χρήστες	Περίοδοι σύνδεσης	Ποσοστό εγκατάλειψης	Διάρκεια περιόδου σύνδεσης
55 χιλ. ↑216,9%	63 χιλ. ↑204,4%	48,47% ↓16,9%	1 λ. 10 δ. ↑35,2%

In addition, the latest version of the Safe Water Sports mobile app includes a part of the educational material that has been developed with the donation of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation. The application includes a section (Greek and English) with the general title "LEARN / PLAY" in which children can be informed about the rules of safety at sea, beach and water sports and solve various quizzes based on what they have learned. Regarding the use of the website and the mobile app, for the period from June 1st to September 30th, 2021, users totaled 68,000 and logins totaled approximately 100,000.



**Απόλαυσε τη θάλασσα και τα σπορ με ασφάλεια!**

Καλοκαίρι, θάλασσα, παιχνίδια στην παραλία και στο νερό. Θαλάσσια σπορ, tubes, σκι, βόλτες με μηχανοκίνητα σκάφη, extreme sports με flyboards για όσους αναζητούν μοναδικές στιγμές με την αδρεναλίνη να χτυπάει κόκκινο ή χαλαρωτικές περιηγήσεις με θαλάσσια ποδήλατα, κανό, κλπ.

**Ξέρете όμως αν μια επιχείρηση ή σχολή είναι νόμιμη; Γνωρίζετε τους κανόνες ασφαλείας;**



Κατέβασε το app και βρες σε **Ελλάδα & Κύπρο...**  
Download the app and find in **Greece & Cyprus...**



**Enjoy the sea and watersports in Greece with safety!**

Summer, sea, fun beach games. Water sports, tubes, skiing, rides on speed boats, extreme sports with flyboards for those seeking unique moments with the adrenaline pounding red or a relaxing pastime with pedal sea bikes, canoes, etc.

**But do you know if a watersports centre is licensed? Are you aware of safety regulations?**



Every year, through informative actions aiming at safety at sea and water sports, the Safe Water Sports Organization achieves to inform:

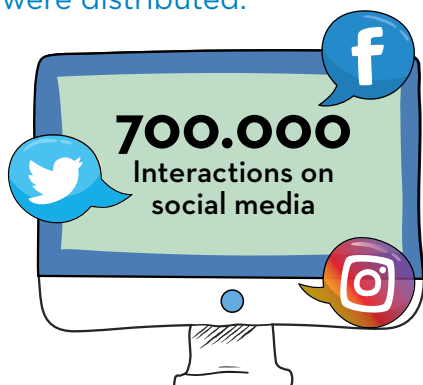


› 40,000 students all over Greece with the new Safe Water Sports educational program

› 100,000 new users through the Safe Water Sports app

› children and adults through 3.000 displays of TV awareness TV spots

› and finally, 200,000 citizens to whom the Safe Water Sports app brochures were distributed.



## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIONS

In 2018, Safe Water Sports signed a memorandum of cooperation with the Port Police of Cyprus with the aim of developing cooperation in areas that enhance safety at the sea. In the context of the memorandum, the Organization has donated an integrated Information System of audits and inspections to be used by the Port Police of Cyprus.

At the same time, in cooperation with the Cyprus Tourism Organization, the Safe Water Sports mobile app was enriched with information about the water sports centers of the island, the beaches, the marinas and many other useful elements that are of interest to the residents of Cyprus, but also to the tourists.

In cooperation with the French Embassy in Greece and the French Institute in Greece, Safe Water Sports is developing joint initiatives aimed at informing the French-speaking population living in or visiting Greece as well as developing cooperation and dialogue with institutions and organizations operating in France.

In fact, the latest version of Safe-Water Sports mobile app is now available in French as well, as the French Institute of Greece undertook and completed its translation.

In addition, in cooperation with the British Embassy in Greece, Safe Water Sports informs British citizens of our country as well as tourists about water safety through the official social networks of the Embassy. In July 2020, the British Embassy in cooperation with Safe Water Sports organized an online event in the presence of the Minister of Shipping and Island Policy, Mr Giannis Plakiotakis, where they discussed about joint actions for a safe summer in the Greek seas.

Finally, both the French and the British Embassy in Greece have included on the official website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of their country, the recommendation that the visitors of these countries should use the Safe Water Sports mobile app, during their stay in Greece, in order to enjoy the sea and water sports with safety.

## EUMED DROWNING PREVENTION INITIATIVE

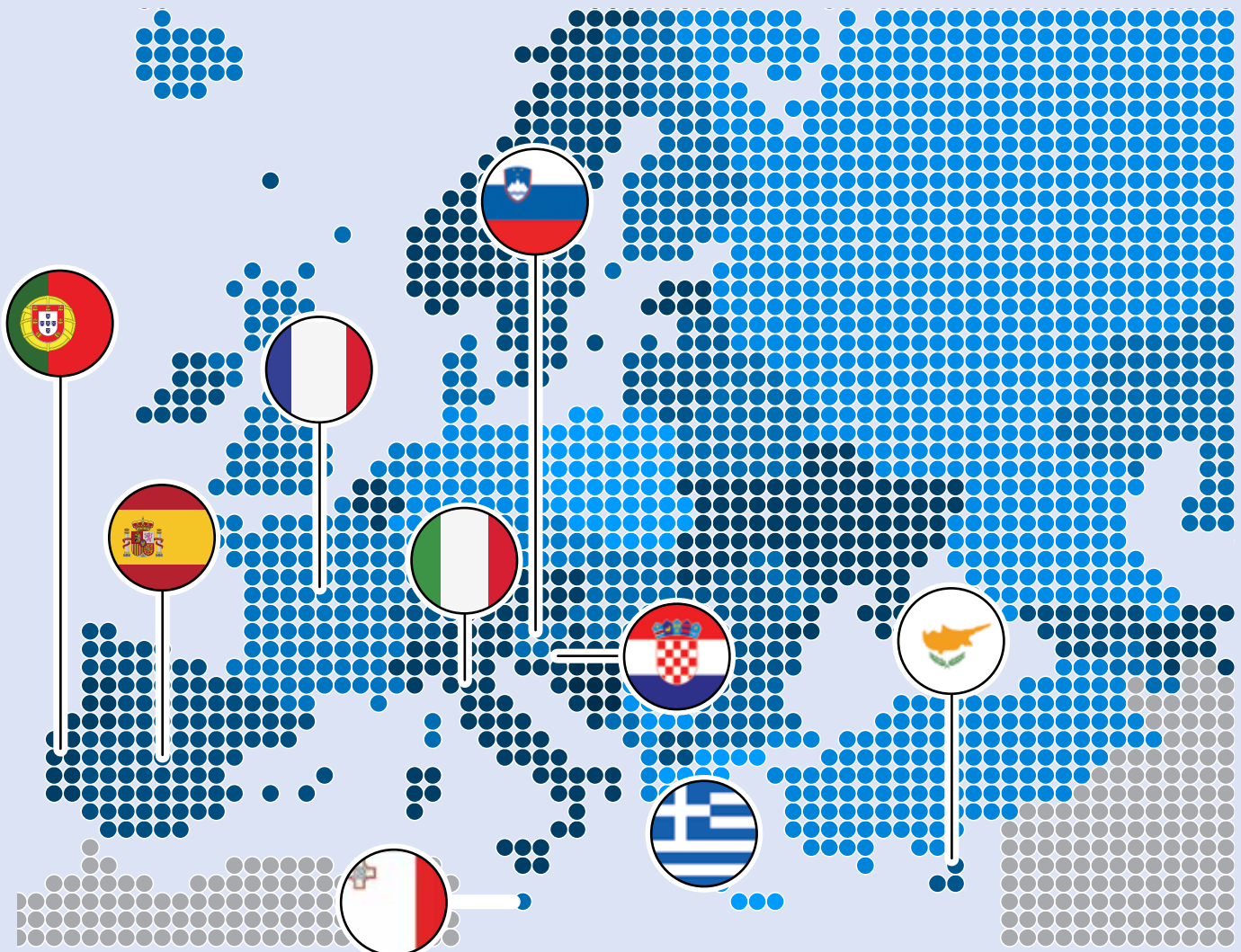
### INITIATIVES FOR THE PREVENTION OF DROWNING INCIDENTS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN EU COUNTRIES

Every year, about 360,000 people die from drowning around the world. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), more than half of these deaths involve people under the age of 22, of whom children under the age of 5 are most at risk. Drowning is the second leading cause of death worldwide for people aged 5 to 14. Despite these tragic events, drowning prevention receives relatively little attention with few resources. Given that the Mediterranean is by far the most touristic region in the world in terms

of international and domestic tourism, with at least 20% of tourists worldwide visiting it during their holidays, Safe Water Sports has launched the EUMedDrowningPrevention initiative. The initiative aims to target the coordination of a common reaction of the Mediterranean countries that belong to the European Union to the problem of drowning incidents and, in general, fatal accidents that occur in the aquatic environment. EUMedDrowningPrevention is an open initiative calling on public administrations, individuals, com-

munities and organizations to set more detailed and measurable targets regarding the reduction of drownings, and to regularly monitor the progress of this target.

In the framework of this initiative, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs, Mr C. Fragkogiannis, Safe Water Sports met with the Ambassadors of the Embassies of the EU Mediterranean countries in Greece (Cyprus, Italy, France, Spain, Croatia, Slovenia, Portugal, Malta) to present this initiative and its objectives.





## SAFE SWIMMING PROGRAM

The Organization has developed a unique swimming program for children with the support of the Deputy Ministry of Sports, Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs and under the auspices of the Hellenic Swimming Federation & the Pan-Hellenic Coaches Association of Physical Education, that has been included in the "Skill Labs" of the Ministry of Education in the section Live better - Live well --HEALTH: Self-care, Safety and Prevention, Road Safety, to ensure the quality of learning at swimming pools through the enjoyment of the water, with the hope to increase water confidence and water safety awareness. The safe swimming program combines the acquisition of basic technical knowledge of a variety of swimming styles, the development of psycho-emotional elements in order to enjoy water through education that

combines amusement & fun and at the same time the development of theoretical knowledge in order to raise children's awareness about their safety in the water.

### Swimming Program for schools

The Safe Swimming Program does not replace the swimming lessons that occur at schools. Also, the Safe Swimming Program will not be implemented by external bodies or partners of the Organization.

#### It addresses to:

- Schools that participate in the existing swimming program of the Ministry of Education that takes place usually at 3rd or 4th grade) and the existence of this program is to act as a complementary manual for



the swimming instructors.

- Schools that have a swimming pool.

The Safe Swimming Program includes an entity named, Blue Cap, which consists of three stages. Upon completion of all three stages, students have the opportunity to receive a specially designed diploma (certificate) that corresponds to the knowledge and skills that the child has acquired.

The aim of the swimming program for schools is to reassure that primary school students in Greece have accomplished the minimum required level of water



## ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΑΣΦΑΛΟΥΣ ΚΟΛΥΜΒΗΣΗΣ

safety skills and are able to apply basic self-rescue practices. In this way, the Physical Education course will provide ample opportunities for the development of skills in all students in the context of safe swimming, ensuring the basic level of swimming education and knowledge for healthy interaction with the aquatic environment.

After the completion of the Blue Cap entity each child should have

gained:

-Theoretical knowledge for the recognition and avoidance of a dangerous situation in different aquatic environments (such as

swimming pool, sea, etc.).

-Basic self-rescue skills  
-The ability to swim without an aid means for at least 25 meters using different ways of floating and advancing.

-Adaptation of the respiration rate in water and immersion ability for short underwater distances.

-The ability to actively participate in playful activities and develop psychosocial skills.



*Sponsors of the Safe Swimming Program: National Bank of Greece, Arena*

### SAFE SWIMMING PROGRAM FOR SWIMMING CLUBS/ACADEMIES, SWIMMING POOL CENTERS AND SWIMMING INSTRUCTORS

Additionally, Safe Water Sports has created a unique swimming program for children of 3 months old up to 12 years of age, in order to ensure the quality of learning at swimming pools through the enjoyment of the water, with the hope to increase water confidence and water safety awareness. The program offers a series of certificates that show children's progression through 12 stages.

Through the program, children learn about strokes and distances, basic safety rules in the aquatic environment and key lifesaving and water safety skills.

#### It addresses to:

- Swimming clubs/academies in Greece, swimming pool centers, swimming instructors

This swimming program

consists of 4 levels:

1. orange cap
2. purple cap
3. silver cap &
4. gold cap

The Safe Swimming Program is designed in cooperation with an expert group consisting of researchers, swimming instructors, Olympic winner athletes and the Association of Lifeguard Schools of Greece





## LAUNCH OF SAFE SWIMMING PROGRAM

The "Safe Swimming Program" that is created by Safe Water Sports and addresses children of 3 months old up to 12 years of age, was presented in collaboration with the Ministry of Sports, with the support of the Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs, OAKA (Olympic Athletic Center of Athens 'Spiros Louis') and under the auspices of the Hellenic Swimming Federation and the Pan-Hellenic Coaches Association of Physical Education.

The Deputy Minister of Sports Mr. L. Avgenakis stated that: "We work together to cultivate the appropriate swimming conscience and education so that the program is included in schools' swimming program and in all swimming clubs and associations in Greece next year."

The safe swimming program combines the acquisition of basic technical knowledge of a variety of swimming styles, the development of psycho-emotional elements in order to enjoy water through education that combines amusement & fun and

at the same time the development of theoretical knowledge in order to raise children's awareness about their safety in the water. The Safe Swimming Program is designed in cooperation with an expert group consisting of researchers, swimming instructors, Olympic winner athletes and the Association of Lifeguard Schools of Greece.

At the presentation there was the President of Safe Water Sports, Panagiotis Paschalakis, the Deputy Minister of Sports, Lefteris Avgenakis, the General Secretary of Primary, Secondary Education and Special Education of the Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs, the President of Hellenic Swimming Federation, Kyriakos Giannopoulos, the President of the Pan-Hellenic Coaches Association of Physical Education, Dimitris Grigoriadis and our emblematic Champions and Olympic winner athletes, Anna Doutounaki and Giannis Foundoulis.

L. Avgenakis stated that "at

the Ministry of Sports we work systematically to prevent and ensure the health and safety of athletes and those related with water sports. For this reason, on February 2020 we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Safe Water Sports, with the aim of raising public awareness and enhancing safety in the to water, sea and the aquatic recreational activities. It is inconceivable to record fatal accidents every year. It is criminal to remain inactive, leaving young people, our next generation to be lost unjustly, when we have the means and the knowledge to prevent this kind of situations. We have a lot of work ahead, especially in cultivating a good swimming conscience and education. Let everyone embrace the program that is presented today: teachers, schools, agents, coaches, the whole athletic family. After all, sports is the best way to develop our social consciousness.

*You can watch the event here:*  
<https://rb.gy/le5o5tAS05>



## AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FOR SAFETY AT SEA FOR THE ELDERLY



I always swim under the supervision of a lifeguard or with a friend, who's a good swimmer

I always swim horizontally to the shore, not vertically.

The safest thing is to swim only where you can touch bottom

Always use a flotation device in deep water

In the water I am at risk of hypothermia, Out of the water I am at risk of dehydration and heat stroke

I do not swim after eating or drinking

Listen to your heart. Do not overestimate it. If you have chronic problems always do consult your doctor

I have all the necessary information, in consultation with the doctor, if I am taking medicines that require special precautions or need to be modified

If you have dementia, Alzheimer or other neurological disorders, you should always be accompanied by someone else

I step in and step out into the sea gradually

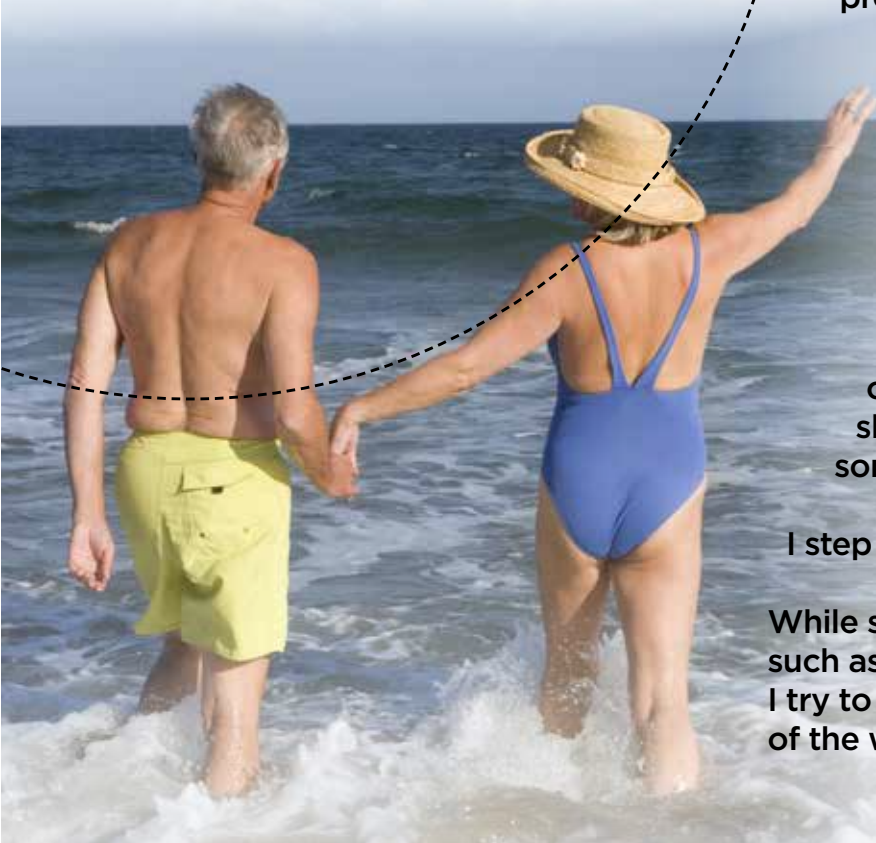
While swimming, if I feel any kind of symptom such as cramps or dizziness, I try to stay calm, I ask for help and I get out of the water slowly

Under the auspices of the Ministry of Shipping & Island Policy, of the Coast Guard, with the aid and support of the Ministry of Health, and, finally, with the kind support of the John S. Latsis Public Benefit Foundation and the Neraida Floating Museum, the campaign on safety at sea for the elderly organized by Safe Water Sports, consists of a series of tips & tv spots for safeswimming. In 2023, the organization's tv spots had more than **3,000 appearances** on prime zone. In details:

→ **61% of the audience saw the message at least once (this is the coverage R1+).**

→ **Overall, the appearances that aired yielded 781 GRPs to the 18-54-year-old audience.**

→ **The average message reception frequency was 12.8 times, which is considered high.**



## AWARENESS CAMPAIGN BETWEEN SWS-NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Safe Water Sports in collaboration with the National Public Health Organization (NPHO) participated in the joint online event "This summer stay safe", an awareness campaign for the safety of the elderly at sea, with the participation of more than 100 representatives of the Local Government, bodies of the Ministry of Health, the Hellenic Coast Guard, the Port Police Directorate and social organizations.

On June 17, 2022 the President of NPHO, Mr. Zaoutis, highlighting the main topic of the event, the safety of our elderly fellow citizens, who are the most frequent victims of drowning in Greece, underlined that "We consider extremely important to inform health professionals who offer services to Health Services and KAPI in Greece about precautionary instructions that should be followed so that everyone can enjoy the sea safely. The purpose of the event is to prevent accidents and drownings at sea, to strengthen safety with the contribution of NPHO, Safe Water Sports and all agencies that support us".

During the event, the President of SafeWaterSports Mr. Panagiotis Paschalakis presented the campaign followed by short speeches by the Director of the Port Police, Chief, Mr. Charalambos Maroulakis, representative of the Hellenic Coast Guard (Hellenic Coast Guard), and the President of Institutions

and Transparency of the Central Union of Municipalities of Greece (KEDE) -Mayor of Vari Voula Vouliagmeni Mr. Grigoris Konstandelos.

Mr. Paschalakis stated that "The creation of the awareness campaign in collaboration with the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy, the Hellenic

Coast Guard, the Ministry of Health and NPHO is an important pillar of information for the elderly in order to raise awareness through Municipalities and Centers for Open Protection of the Elderly (KAPI), as they concern a vulnerable social group. Prevention saves lives. Time to reduce water accidents and stay safe this summer."

**SAFE WATER SPORTS**

ΜΕ ΤΗΝ ΑΡΟΓΗ ΚΑΙ ΣΤΗΡΙΞΗ ΤΟΥ ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟΥ ΥΓΕΙΑΣ & ΝΑΥΤΙΛΙΑΣ & ΝΗΣΙΟΤΙΚΗΣ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΗΣ

- 1 Πάντα κολυμπάω μαζί με κάποιον άλλον ή σε παραλία με ναυαγοσώστη
- 2 Κολυμπάω πάντα παράλληλα με την ακτή και όχι μέχρι εξάντλησης
- 3 Δεν βγαίνω ή μπαίνω απότομα στο νερό, αλλά προοδευτικά και με στάσεις
- 4 Δεν κολυμπάω μετά από φαγητό ή ποτό
- 5 Εάν έχω χρόνια προβλήματα υγείας συμβουλευόμαι το γιατρό μου πριν κολυμπήσω.

**ΘΑΛΑΣΣΑ ΚΑΙ ΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΑ**

Συμβουλές στους ανθρώπους της 3ης ηλικίας για την πρόληψη των πνιγμών στη θάλασσα

Το καλοκαίρι μένουμε ασφαλείς

**281**

άνθρωποι άνω των 60 ετών χάνουν τη ζωή τους κάθε χρόνο στη θάλασσα

ΥΠΟ ΤΗΝ ΑΙΓΙΔΑ

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ  
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΥΓΕΙΑΣ & ΝΑΥΤΙΛΙΑΣ & ΝΗΣΙΟΤΙΚΗΣ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΗΣ

## CITIZEN AWARENESS ACTIONS



**NIKOS KAKLAMANAKIS**  
Olympic Gold Medalist in Windsurfing



**SPYROS GIANNIOTIS**  
Olympic Silver Medalist in 10 km  
Open Water Swimming



**ANGELIKI KARAPATAKI**  
Olympic Silver Medalist in Water Polo



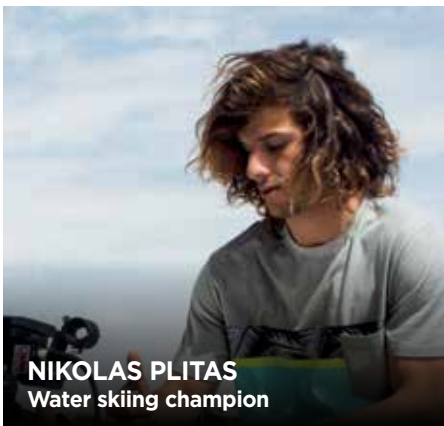
**SOFIA PAPAPOPOULOU**  
Olympic Bronze Medalist in Sailing



**CHRISTOS AFROUDAKIS**  
Olympic Medalist in Water Polo



**MALKOGEORGOU, TSOLA,  
PAPAZOGLU, PLATANIOTI,**  
Synchronized Swimming



**NIKOLAS PLITAS**  
Water skiing champion



**GIORGOS PANAGIOTAKIS**  
World Freediving Champion



**GIANNIS DRIMONAKOS**  
World Swimming Champion



**ANTONIS TSAPATAKIS**  
Paralympic Medalist in swimming

### INSPIRATIONAL VIDEO OF OLYMPIC CHAMPIONS

Courtesy of the Neraida Floating Museum of the John S. Latsis Public Benefit Foundation and the donation of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Safe Water Sports has created a special series of inspirational videos featuring top Greek Olympic medalists and champions.

This audiovisual material is part of the educational content used in the framework of the Safe Water Sports program approved by the Ministry of Education with optimal results and positive reviews.



### BEACH SIGNS

The marking of the beaches of our country is a means of informing citizens about their safety at sea and the activities carried out on it. Thus, Safe Water Sports created the Sea Code Behaviour with the aim of illustrating the basic safety rules.

Today the signs of Safe Water Sports are placed in: **3** beaches of the Municipality of Vari-Voula-Vouliagmeni, **7** beaches of the Municipality of Saronikos Attica (A. Nikolaos Lagonisiou, Galazia Akti, Saronida, Mavro Lithari, Alikes Anavyssos and Palea Fokaia), **16** of the Municipality of Mykonos (P. Gialos, Panormos, Elia, Super paradise, Paradise, Paraga, Ornos, Kalafatis, Agia Anna, Psarrou, Agios Ioannis, Agrari, Ftelia, Lia, Agios Sostis, Kalo Livadi) and **445** beaches of Central Greece.

### FERRY COMPANIES

Safe Water Sports works with ferry companies such as **Minoan, Hellenic Seaways, Blue Star Ferries and Seajets** with the aim of distributing brochures daily to ships of all lines. The promotion of the work and purpose of the Organization is also achieved through special features in the magazines of the compa-

nies, posts on the social networks and the projection of informative videos of the Organization on the screens of ferries etc.

### COOPERATION WITH INTERBUS

The Organization works with the outdoor advertising company, Interbus, to display information posters about the Safe Water Sports mobile app, indoors and outdoors at the Airport.

### COOPERATION WITH PATAKIS, DPAM RETAIL STORES

(placement of Safe Water Sports mobile app brochures), **Kotsovolos** (display of informative videos starring the renowned Greek athletes-ambassadors of the Organization), **Arena-Intersport** (placement of Safe Water Sports powered by Arena products in Intersport stores), **Korres** (creation of a series of products for pharmacies), **Moustakas** (Safe Water Sports products by Arena in Moustakas toy stores).



### AWARENESS BROCHURES

#### Aegean Airlines

Since the summer of 2019, Safe Water Sports "flies" with Aegean Airlines through the specially designed for children, entertainment-information booklet of activities, which includes a series of games for water and sea safety,

available in Greek & English, on domestic / international flights. Also, all passengers have the opportunity to be informed about the free Safe Water Sports mobile app through the Aegean magazine, which is available during the flights.

### COOPERATION WITH FRAPORT GREECE

In the summer of 2021, Safe Water Sports started its cooperation with Fraport Greece, informing all citizens and tourists through the 14 websites of the regional airports of Greece, about the Safe Water Sports mobile app.

### COOPERATION WITH REGIONAL ROADS

**GEFYRA LEITOURGIA SA.** (distribution of Water Sports mobile app brochures)

**OLYMPIA ODOS** (distribution of Safe Water Sports mobile app brochures to 11 Motorway Service Stations along the motorway)

### COOPERATION WITH ATHENS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT "ELEFTHERIOS VENIZELOS"

Since 2018, the Athens International Airport Eleftherios Venizelos enables the Organization to inform all tourists, Greeks and foreigners who visit Greek island, about the Safe Water Sports mobile app and its use. During the summer, specially trained volunteers of the Organization inform on a daily basis about the Safe Water Sports mobile app through brochures' distribution, but also through a mobile phone in real time, about the functions of the application and the useful information that it includes.

In support of this effort, Safe Water Sports is additionally promoted through the official website of the Airport, social networks, the airport screens and the Airport magazine, 2Board.

## DISTINCTIONS OF THE ORGANIZATION

The Safe Water Sports non-profit organization that aims to protect human life and reduce accidents and drowning incidents that occur in the aquatic environment, has been awarded with some remarkable and very honorable distinctions and awards for its action.



### HONORARY AWARD AT AMVER AWARDS 2021

On December 14, 2021, during the annual AMVER Awards organized by The International Propeller Club of the United States, International Port of Piraeus in cooperation with the US Embassy in Greece and the United States Coast Guard, Safe Water Sports and the President of it, Mr. Panagiotis-Michael Paschalakis was awarded for his action in the field of enhancing safety at sea.

### AWARD FROM THE ACADEMY OF ATHENS

On December 19, 2019, the President and Founder of Safe Water Sports, Mr. Panagiotis- Michael Paschalakis, was honored with the "Class of ethical and political sciences" award for his contribution to the society, by the President of the Academy of Athens, Mr. Vasileios Petrakos, at the annual Festive Session of the Academy of Athens, the highest spiritual institution of the country.



### PRESENTATION OF SAFE WATER SPORTS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC

The Safe Water Sports educational program was presented in 2018 under the auspices of the former President of the Republic, Mr. Prokopis Pavlopoulos at an event held at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center. Speeches by Undersecretaries, the Coast Guard and the Organization's Olympic ambassadors took place at the event.

### HONORARY AWARD AT THE MOBILE EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2018

At the Mobile Excellence Awards 2018 ceremony powered by DIS, organized by Bousias Communications and the "ELTRUN" Workshop of the Athens University of Economics and Business in cooperation with the Association of Mobile Application Companies of Greece, an award for the innovative Safe Water Sports mobile app was awarded to the President of the Organization, Mr. Panagiotis-Michael Paschalakis.



### GOLD AWARD AT THE EDUCATIONAL LEADERS AWARDS 2018

Safe Water Sports stood out in the Educational Leaders Awards powered by RDC Informatics and Bousias Communications that took place on Friday, May 18, 2018, winning the Gold Award for the creation of the Educational Program for safety at sea, the beach, water sports and the swimming pool.

## EDUCATIONAL VISITS

Safe Water Sports that aims to raise awareness on issues related to recreational activities at sea, with a particular emphasis on reinforcing safety in the aquatic environment and reducing the number of drownings and fatal accidents

each year, has constructed the **Ocean Lab**, a specially designed, digital, educational and interactive place, approved by the Ministry of Education & Religious Affairs.

The purpose of the visits is the education and information

of primary & secondary school students on topics related to safety at sea and water sports, through a series of specially designed games that capture the interest of children while providing the necessary knowledge.



## EDUCATION

### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM OF PRIMARY EDUCATION

Since September 2020, the Safe-WaterSports educational program "Safety at sea, water sports and swimming pool" has been included in the "Skills Labs" of the Ministry of Education which are part of the compulsory timetable of primary education and more precisely of the unit "I live better-Well-being (Primary school) - Self-care, Safety and Prevention, Road Safety", which is addressed to students of the 2nd - 6th grade of Primary School.

According to the Ministry of Education, Skills Labs, are implemented in all schools in Greece during the weekly timetable, utilizing methods of exploratory learning and with the main goal of providing students with life skills, soft skills, digital literacy, technology and science skills combined with the design of a modern program framework with a structure of Open, Live Curricula and Procedures.

The Skills Labs are an innovative didactic and educational action, that is proposed in the pilot addition of new thematic cycles in the Kinder-



garten and in the compulsory timetable of the Primary School.

Currently, the program of Safe Water Sports is official, it is communicated by the Ministry of Education to schools, and teachers attend seminars on how to teach this subject to their students, following the instructions of the Organization.

The necessary educational material derived from the specially designed platform of the Institute of Educational Policy, entitled "Plat-

form 21+" and includes educational material and / or teacher's manual, audiovisual educational material and / or worksheets, suggested school actions for the workshop and experiential approach of the subject, evaluation and self-evaluation sheets and, in some cases, information material for parents, appropriately graded by class.

<https://elearning.iep.edu.gr/study/course/view.php?id=2003>

### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

Since September 2021, the Safe Water Sports educational program is part of the "Skills Labs" of the Ministry of Education that is included in the compulsory timetable of secondary education in the section "Live better - Wellbeing (High School) -Self-care, Safety and Prevention, Road Safety" which is addressed to high school students.

The necessary educational material is drawn from the specially designed platform of the IEP, entitled "Platform 21+" and includes interactive educational and audio-

visual material accompanied by a teacher's manual. The Skills Labs can be carried out during the school hour and are based on a range of school classes such as I.T., Mathematics, Modern Greek Language, etc. with the aim of informing students about the rules of safety in the aquatic environment.

<https://elearning.iep.edu.gr/study/course/view.php?id=2003>





### INTERACTIVE GAMES

Safe Water Sports has designed a range of recreational and educational, interactive, digital games in order to capture children's interest in many different ways, taking advantage of the importance of technology and informatics. The interactive games are presented through the e-learning platform of the Organization where each user has the opportunity to choose the language he wants, the level of difficulty and to access an online world of games that aim to inform children about safety rules at sea, the swimming pool and water sports.

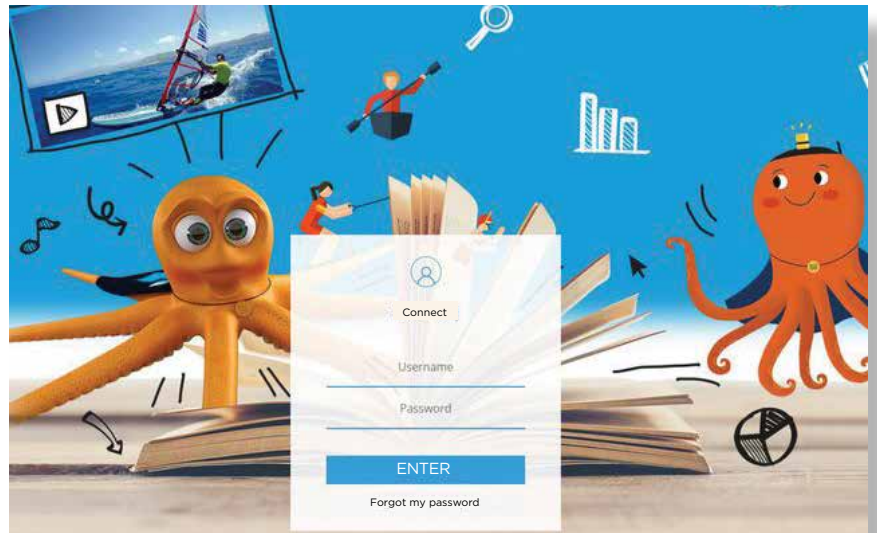


### ACADEMY (E-LEARNING)

Safe Water Sports has launched a remote online platform which includes information and educational programs specifically designed for children. Through the platform someone can access the educational program of the Organization for primary and secondary education, approved by the Ministry of Education as well as information material suitable for presentations and lectures in schools, camps, swimming pools or for personal use. The aim of these programs is to inform-educate children on safety issues in the swimming pool, the beach, water sports as well as recreational activities that take place in the sea and water.

Through these programs the child learns to respect and not be afraid, acquires knowledge and the right behavior towards the aquatic environment, which is vital for his protection throughout his life. This result is achieved through the use of technology, and a user-friendly, digital environment that includes illustrations, videos, quizzes, games, etc.

<http://e-learning.safewaterports.gr>



### WHAT IS SAFE WATER SPORTS ACADEMY?

Safe Water Sports is a non-profit organization that has created an online platform of education, which consists of informational and educational programs specially designed for children. Through this platform, someone can have access to our educational program, which is approved by the Ministry of Education and addresses the primary education, but also to all the informational material that is suitable for presentations and lectures in schools, camps, swimming pool centers or for personal use. The goal of these programs is the awareness - education of children on topics related to safety in swimming, the beach, water sports and water-related recreational activities. Through these programs, children learn to respect and not to be afraid; they obtain knowledge and learn how to behave while into the water and all these factors play an important role for children's protection for the rest of their life. Such result is attained by using high technology tools through a pleasant, digital environment that includes illustrations, videos, quizzes, games etc.

#### SCHOOL/ TRAINING ORGANIZATION

Schools (both public and private) are organizations with high sensitivity in the safety of their pupils. Safe Water Sports presents a new training program educating children and adolescents on safety issues while at the sea and/or participating in water sports through an innovative online e-learning platform.

#### INDIVIDUALS

Prevention and awareness is surely a personal case, an obligation we have towards ourselves, our families and children and the people around us. Safe Water Sports Academy is the ideal online platform for educating children and adolescents on their safety while at the sea and water sports.

#### HOTELS/CAMPS

There is a worldwide attraction for tourists and every year more and more visitors come to our country, mostly for the sea and sea-related activities. This fact alone should render us responsible for water safety issues. Safe Water Sports Academy is the ideal online platform for educating children and adolescents on their safety while at the sea and water sports.





## ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE SEA MUSKETEERS

Every year, on the first Saturday of October, the annual conference of Sea-Musketeers is organized in Athens, where 13 school groups participate, that is one school from each Prefecture of the country and one school from each region of Cyprus. The group of each Prefecture, whose travel

and subsistence expenses are covered by the Organization, comes from the school that implemented the highest number of the program activities the preceding year and consists of the Volunteer Teacher who was the Head of the Group and the leader of the Group (student) accompanied by his parents.

During the conference that lasts one day, the works of the students are presented, awards are given and opinions, experiences and best practices are exchanged between students and teachers from all over Greece and Cyprus, aiming at the constant improvement of the educational program.

## LECTURES IN SCHOOLS

In cooperation with the Coast Guard, the Port Police Department and the Ministry of Education, the Organization designed an informative lecture program in schools across the country called "Check-Learn-Care". This information, which has as its main object the presentation of the safety rules for sea and water sports, concerns the students of Primary and Secondary Schools and is usually carried out in the period March-June of the school year on a nationwide scale. To redesign the information program, the Safe Water Sports team volunteered and provided the Coast Guard with the rules it needed to present to children (depending on their age) for safety in the sea and water sports through, educational

videos, interactive power points, animations and quizzes, so that the information is effective and targeted.

In addition, part of the educational material is a series of inspirational videos created by the Organization, in which the following athletes participate: N. Kaklamanakis, S. Gianniotis, C. Afroudakis, S. Papadopoulou, A. Karapataki, N. Plytas, S. Malkogeorgou, E. Papazoglou, E. Platanioti, Ath. Tsola, G. Panagiotakis, I. Drymonakos and A. Tsapatakis.



Overall, in 2022 Safe Water Sports informed- educated 40,000 children, while since 2016 it has informed-educated 250,000 children in total.



**INTERACTIVE EDUCATIONAL SHORT-FILM FOR SAFETY IN WATER SPORTS**  
**Part of the secondary educational curriculum**

The Organization has created a comprehensive interactive film, part of the curriculum for secondary education, that concerns safety in water sports and enables students-spectators to shape the story of the film by themselves. At the end of each scene, there are questions that pop up and give students the opportunity to choose the right or wrong answer. In case the answer is correct, they watch the smooth development of the scenario, however in case the answer is incorrect they watch the scenario development including the risks involved. The aim is for students to understand experientially the rules of safety in water sports and recreation by actively participating in this interactive way of learning.

<https://bit.ly/3rllhWi>



**CHILDREN'S STORY AND CD**

Safe Water Sports, in order to reach more children and inform them about the rules of safety at sea, created a child hero as part of a story, who informs children through its stories.

In the implementation of this idea, the author V. Iliopoulos and the illustrator V. Karabatzia created the children's didactic story "The Octopus Safe and the three Sea-guards" from Patakis publications.

Finally, Safe Water Sports in cooperation with Minos Emi and the support of many artists such as: E. Paparizou, P. Mouzourakis, Tamta, A. Babali, T. Marantinis, P. Baltatzi and N. Kontogeorgi, contributed to the creation of the first music CD of the Organization, entitled "dive into the blue". The music is composed by D. Sougioul and the lyrics are written by B. Iliopoulos, because "we must love the sea" and because "water is joy"!





### EDUCATIONAL BAG

The interactive play, especially for young children, is the most effective means of education. For this reason, the Organization created an "educational bag" approved by the Ministry of Education, which includes games with Playmobil (representation of beach and sea-related activities), activity cards, illustrated cards with the rules of safety at sea, the pool and water sports, color books, story cubes (cubes that trigger children's imagination) bingo, memory game, unscramble the rules game, and much more, for the purpose of informing - educating children through games and fun. The educational bag is suitable for schools, summer camps, hotels, swimming pools, etc.



## INFORMATION - EDUCATIONAL CENTERS

Safe Water Sports in cooperation with the local government (municipalities) operates every summer information - educational centers on beaches with the aim of educating our little friends on issues related to their safety at sea and water sports, through play and entertainment. Since 2017, when this initiative started, four information-educational centers have been created on the beaches: Mikro Kavouri (Municipality of Varis - Voula - Vouliagmeni), Dilesi beach (Municipality of Tanagra), Kalo Livadi beach (Municipality of Mykonos) and Koukounaries beach (Municipality of Skiathos). At the information centers, which operate daily during the summer period from 11.00 to 18.00, children have the opportunity to participate in activities such as: goals game, music pillows, bracelets creation and constructions, painting, bingo, memory game, board games, the find the mistakes game, etc., always aiming at the understanding and consolidation of safety rules at sea and water sports.



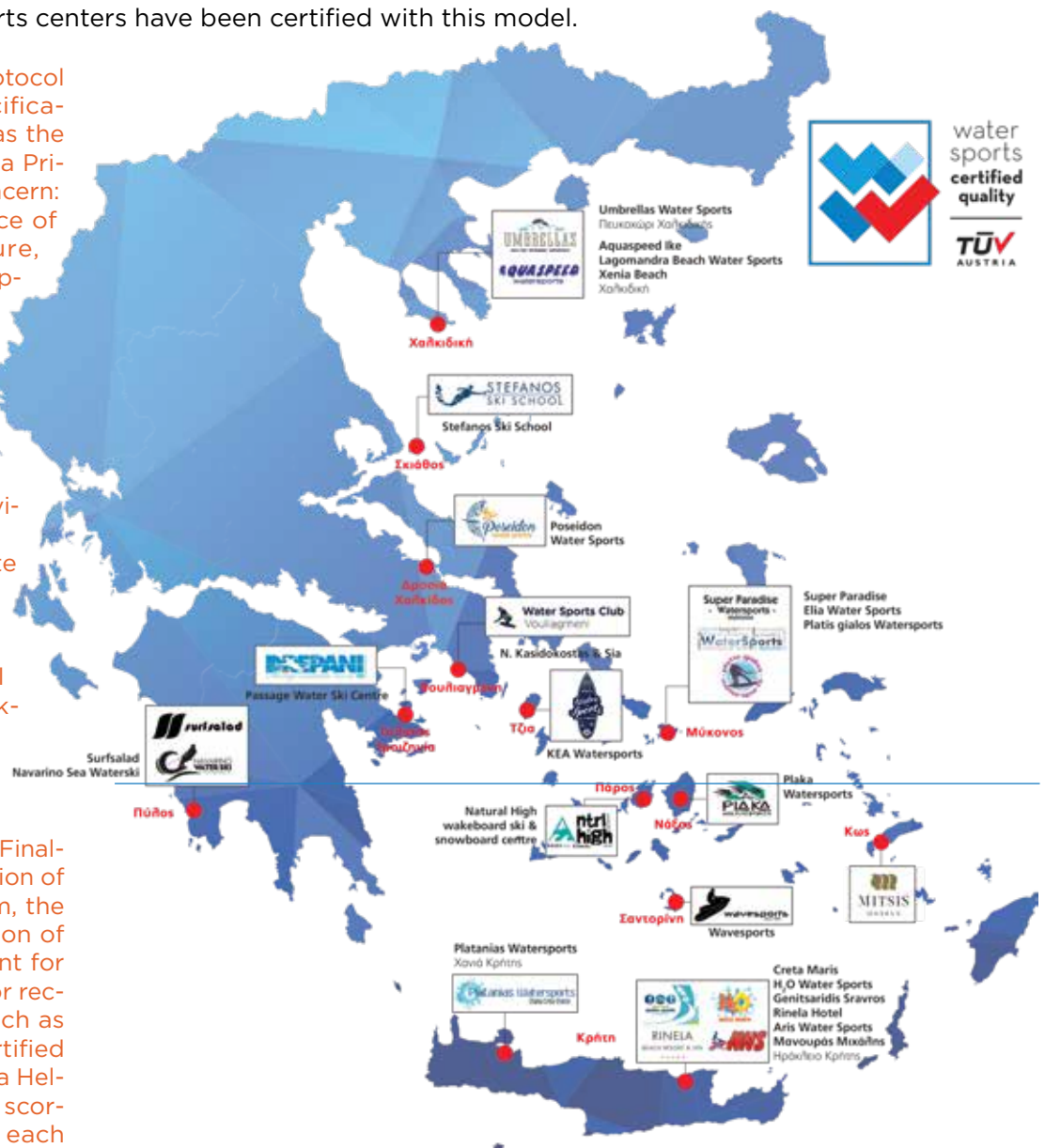


## CERTIFICATION MODEL FOR WATER SPORTS CENTERS

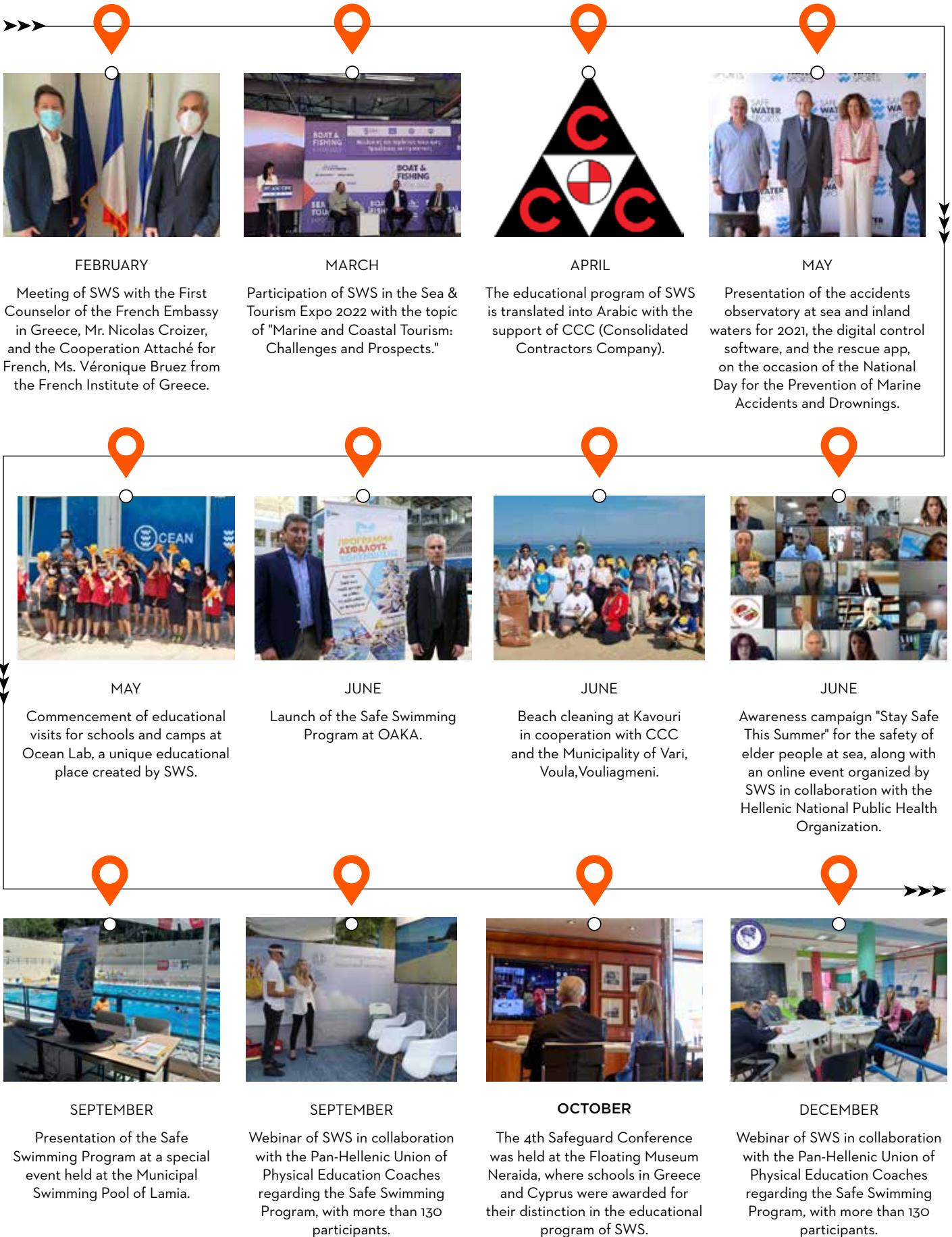
Safe Water Sports in cooperation with TÜV AUSTRIA HELLAS, an independent control and certification body, has joined forces with the main purpose of enhancing the safety of citizens in water sports. The two parties have established a Private Certification Standard for Water Sports centers, according to which the respective companies can be certified, provided they meet specific safety standards and receive the "Watersports Certified Quality" sign. The Watersports Certified Quality model emphasizes on the functional requirements for water sports centers and recreational activities, focusing on the quality of the services provided and the service of their customers.

In total, 22 water sports centers have been certified with this model.

The purpose of the protocol is to set out the specifications and conditions, as the basic requirements of a Private Protocol, that concern: Conditions of the place of activity, infrastructure, safety equipment, equipment and vehicles used for water sports and leisure, education, skills and training of staff for the use of equipment and the provision of services etc. The goal of the Private Protocol is to be the first and most specialized Greek Private Compliance Control Scheme for the Marking and Promotion of water sports centers that are approved and compliant with the relevant requirements. Finally, according to a decision of the Ministry of Tourism, the existence of certification of facilities and equipment for the leasing of means for recreational purposes, such as the "Water Sports Certified Quality" of TUV Austria Hellas, participates in the scoring for the ranking of each hotel based on the stars.



## THE COURSE OF THE ORGANIZATION 2021



## COOPERATION WITH MINISTRIES AND PUBLIC BODIES



### **SWS EVENT IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRIME MINISTER, MR KYRIAKOS MITSOTAKIS**

On June 12th, 2020, the event of the Ministry of Shipping & Island Policy was held with great success in cooperation with the Municipality of Vari, Voula, Vouliagmeni and the non-profit organization "Safe Water Sports" on "Education - Information - Prevention for safety at sea" at the Municipal Theater "Sofia Vembo" in the presence of the Prime Minister, Mr Kyriakos Mitsotakis, the Minister of Shipping and Island Policy, Mr Giannis Plakiotakis, the former Minister of Health, Mr Vassilis Kikilias, the former Minister of Tourism, Mr Haris Theocharis and the former Deputy Minister of Education, Mrs Sofia Zacharaki. During the event, the importance and magnitude of citizens' safety in the aquatic environment was highlighted. As the Prime Minister of Greece characteristically stated, "we need to treat the sea with the necessary respect, which must be shown not only by those who swim, but also by all companies that are active in the field of water sports and we will be extremely strict with those who violate the existing legislation regarding safety at the sea."

### **UNION OF LIFEGUARD SCHOOLS OF GREECE**

Safe Water Sports partners with the Union of Lifeguard Schools of Greece, which is responsible for the training of lifeguards in the seas and swimming pools as well as the provision of lifeguard services to municipalities. The cooperation concerns fields such as: joint legislative initiatives as well as the development of an innovative application (Lifeguard Rescue mobile app), which was developed by the Organization and records in real time all rescues and cases of first aid provision by lifeguards on all the beaches of our country. This information is an important aid in designing an even more effective nationwide lifeguard coverage in the years to come.



### **CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF GREECE**

A Memorandum of Cooperation has been signed with the Central Association of Municipalities of Greece and the Association of Lifeguard Schools of Greece which aims to develop joint actions to reduce drowning incidents and accidents at sea in cooperation with local authorities. The result of this cooperation is the development of a pilot study regarding the cost of lifeguard coverage throughout the country as well as the creation of a model contract and a proclamation for the supply of lifeguard services by local authorities. The bodies also cooperate on legislative initiatives to enhance safety in the aquatic environment.



### MINISTRY OF CIVIL PROTECTION

A memorandum of cooperation was signed in 2020 between Safe Water Sports and the Ministry of Civil Protection and the Greek Police with the aim of developing joint actions including: the recording of accidents occurring in inland water activities, the spreading of the know-how by the Organization in relation to international practices and regulations in the field of water safety and the implementation of joint actions to raise awareness and inform the public, prevent and enhance safety in water sports and recreational activities.

### MINISTRY OF SPORTS

In 2020, a memorandum of cooperation was signed between Safe Water Sports and the Ministry of Sports with the aim of developing joint actions that include: the spreading of know-how by the Organization in relation to international practices and regulations in the field of safety in water (aquatic centers and swimming pools), sea and water sports, the exchange of information data contained in the electronic platform of the Organization



and the services of the General Secretariat of Sports in order to capture the services offered in the field of water activities (sports and recreation), the implementation of joint actions to raise public awareness, prevent and enhance safety in water

sports activities. Safe Water Sports also participates in the action "Live an Athletic Life", where renowned athletes of Aquatic Sports inform and give their own advice on water safety and issues of education of students in schools. Also, in cooperation with the General Secretariat of Sports, the regular sending of information from the General Secretariat of Sports to the Ministry of Shipping (Safe Water Sports Information System) has been established, in order to make the inspections on the qualifications of the employed water ski coaches in water sports centers more effective.

### MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND ISLAND POLICY

In 2016, Safe Water Sports in cooperation with the Ministry of Shipping and Island Policy and the Hellenic Coast Guard signed a memorandum of cooperation in order to develop joint initiatives such as: the support of the Coast Guard through IT and technology for a more efficient management of permits and inspections of lifeguards and professionals / sea-based recreational activities companies, the modernization of the legislation on the safety of the citizens at sea, the implementation of educational - informative actions in schools, the awareness of the citizens in matters of safety at sea, the operation of the Accident Observatory, etc.





## COOPERATION WITH MINISTRIES AND PUBLIC BODIES

### MINISTRY OF TOURISM

A Memorandum of Cooperation between Safe Water Sports and the Ministry of Tourism was signed in 2019 with the aim of developing joint actions that include: the spreading of know-how from the Organization in relation to international practices and regulations in the field of water safety ( swimming pools, tourist ports, etc.), sea and water activities and recreational facilities, the use of the information contained in the electronic platform of the Organization (Safe Water Sports app / website) of maritime tourism, the implementation of information programs and actions for children and young people who live in our country or visit it, on the subject of safety at sea and



in water as well as the protection of the sea-based environment and the cultural resources of the country.

The adoption of the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations for Sustainable Development and, in particular, the Sustainable

Development Goals 14 "LIFE IN THE WATER" and 17 "COOPERATION FOR THE GOALS", are of primary importance as they are mentioned in combination with all aspects related to water life and the promotion of synergies between the State and Civil Society.



### GREEK NATIONAL TOURISM ORGANIZATION

A Memorandum of Cooperation between Safe Water Sports and Greek National Tourism Organization signed in 2021, for the undertaking of joint initiatives that include: the utilization of all information on the Safe Water Sports mobile app platform, on the GNTO website and social networks, the provision of

integrated maritime tourism services, but also the awareness of tourists, and the cooperation and participation in international exhibitions and events, in which GNTO participates, and, finally, the joint elaboration of promotional programs and actions in domestic and foreign tourism-related bodies (e.g., tour operators).

### COOPERATION WITH NPHO

Safe Water Sports and the National Public Health Organization have agreed on a number of joint initiatives to enhance safety in the aquatic environment and reduce drowning incidents and fatal accidents. The partnership of the two bodies creates the conditions for enhancing safety at sea and water, a safety that for the first time enters into a solid foundation through initiatives and many actions such as: controls and marking on beaches, strict rules in water sports companies, awareness of the public regarding the safety and morphology of all Greek beaches, epidemiological surveillance of accidents in water activities as well as an awareness campaign on the safety of the elderly at sea.



# NATIONAL DAY FOR THE PREVENTION OF WATER ACCIDENTS AND DROWNINGS

A joint initiative of the Ministry of Shipping and Safe Water Sports, as Greece is the first country to establish the "National Day for the Prevention of Accidents and Drowning Incidents at sea".



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