



GIWACAF

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



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ABOUT THE PROJECT

Launched in 2006, the Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa (GI WACAF) Project is a collaboration between the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and IPIECA, the global oil and gas industry association for advancing environmental and social performance, to enhance the capacity of partner countries to prepare for and respond to marine oil spills.

The mission is to strengthen the capability for preparedness and response to an oil spill in 22 West, Central and Southern African countries in accordance with the provisions set out in the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation, 1990 (OPRC 90).

To achieve its mission, the GI WACAF Project organizes and delivers workshops, seminars and exercises, that aim to communicate good practice in all aspects of spill preparedness and response, drawing on expertise and experience from within

governments, industry and other organizations working in this specialized field. The Project's activities are supported and facilitated by its network of dedicated government and industry focal points. Promoting cooperation amongst all relevant government agencies, oil industry business units and stakeholders nationally, regionally and internationally is a major objective of the Project.

GI WACAF is supported and funded by IMO and seven oil company members of IPIECA, namely BP, Chevron, ExxonMobil, Eni, Shell, Total and Woodside. More information is available on the Project's website.



More information is available on the Project's website: <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/>



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2018-2019: THE 8TH WORK BIENNIUM OF THE GI WACAF PROJECT

The end of 2019 marks the completion of the 2018-2019 biennium. The Project Secretariat has continued implementing the strategic action plan

drawn up following the objectives set out during the 7th Regional Conference held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, in 2017:

1.

National preparedness and response systems

- Transposing and implementing IMO conventions;
- Promoting a cross-cutting and inclusive approach of contingency planning / Updating and testing NOSCPs; and
- Developing IMS use.

2.

Policies, processes and tools

- Supporting the development of dispersant use policies;
- Developing shoreline response strategies; and
- Promoting technologies for preparedness and response.

3.

Cross-cutting aspects

- Promoting transboundary cooperation and plurilateral agreements;
- Promoting industry-government cooperation;
- Proposing new ad hoc forms of support; and
- Enhancing the cooperation between the Project and other regional initiatives.

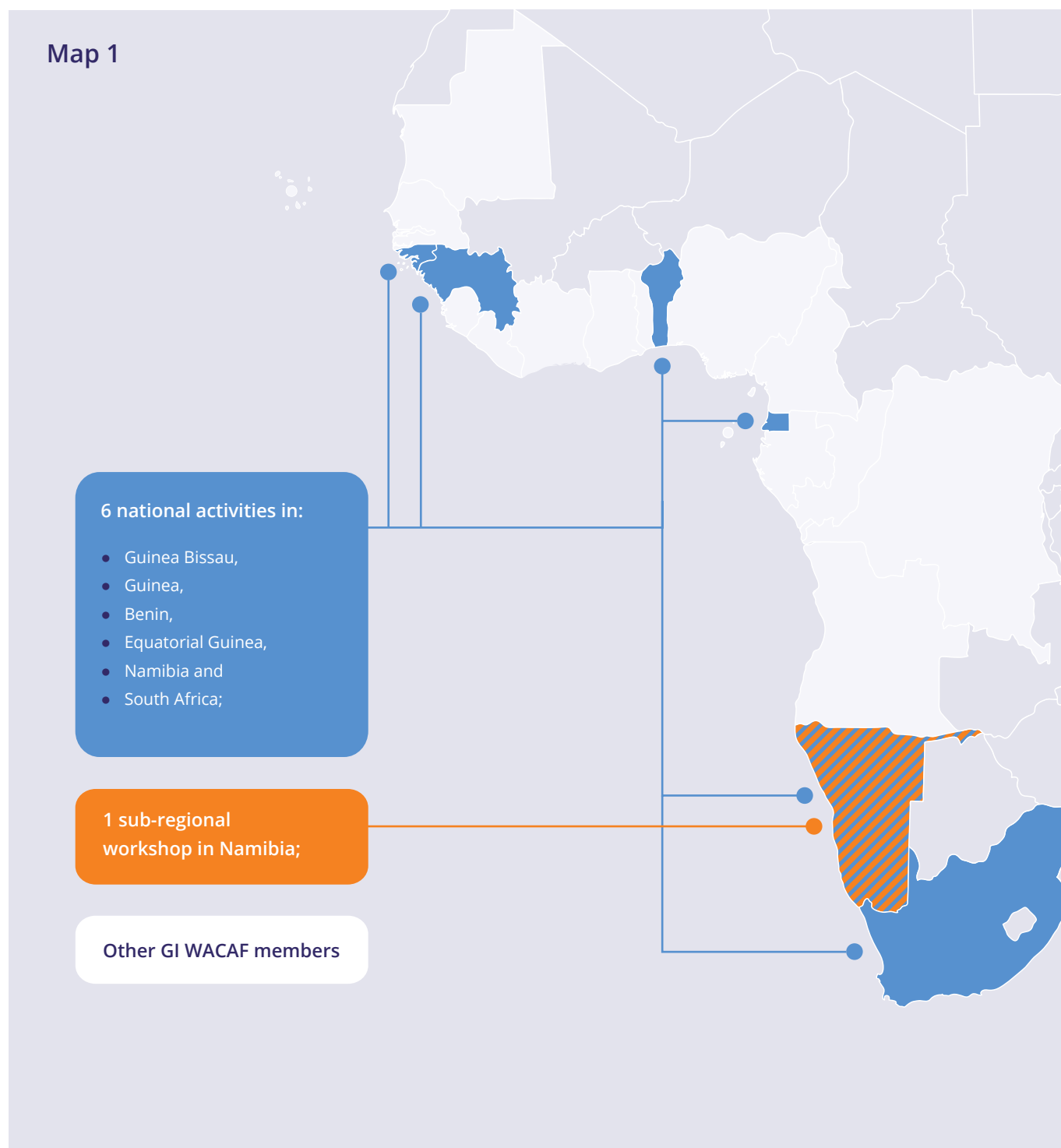
The purpose of this report is not only to highlight the Projects activities in 2019, but also to provide an overview of the biennium and to outline progress against the above objectives. For more information pertaining to 2018, please consult the 2018 Annual Report.

During the biennium, the Project organised 18 activities to address the priorities established during the 2017 Conference, with 11 national workshops, 2 exercises, 2 sub-regional workshops, 1 transboundary activity and 1 regional conference.

2018 REVIEW OF GI WACAF ACTIVITIES

In total, 7 activities have been organised in 2018 in 6 countries:

- 6 national activities in Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Benin, Equatorial Guinea, Namibia and South Africa;
- 1 sub-regional workshop in Namibia.

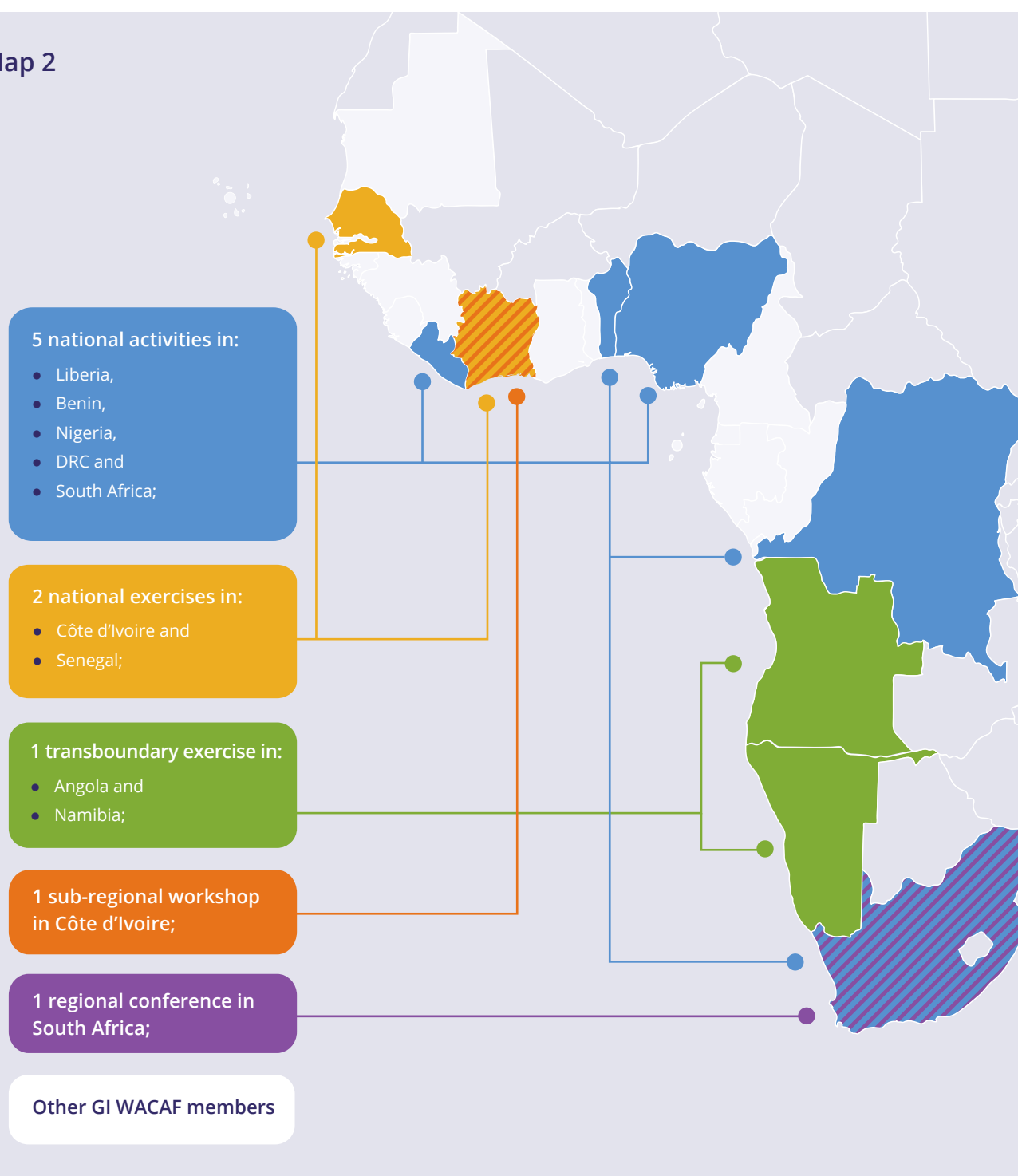


2019 REVIEW OF GI WACAF ACTIVITIES






In total, 11 activities have been organised in 2019 in 9 countries:

- 5 national activities in Liberia, Benin, DRC, Nigeria and South Africa;
- 2 national exercises in Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal;
- 1 transboundary exercise in Angola and Namibia;
- 1 sub-regional workshop in Côte d'Ivoire;
- 1 regional conference in South Africa.

Map 2



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2019

January		Azerbaijan	OSPRI annual meeting
March		Côte d'Ivoire	Sub-regional workshop on the transposition of relevant IMO conventions in national law
March		Senegal	GoGIN Project advisory committee
March		United States	IPIECA week
April - May		Liberia	National workshop on IMS
June		Côte d'Ivoire	National exercise to test the NOSCP
June - July		Benin	Joint national training and exercise with GoGIN
July		Democratic Republic of the Congo	National workshop on contingency planning and update of the NOSCP
August		Namibia	Transboundary oil spill response training and exercise
August		Angola	Transboundary oil spill response training and exercise
September		Nigeria	National workshop on liability and compensation
September		Gabon	Abidjan Convention workshop on the preparation of national consultations on the Offshore Protocol
October		South Africa	8 th Regional conference
November		South Africa	IMS training and exercise
December		Senegal	National exercise to test the NOSCP

GI WACAF activities in region

Participation in external events
or conferences

Joint activities

2019 GI WACAF ACTIVITIES OVERVIEW (IN REGION)

MARCH – CÔTE D'IVOIRE

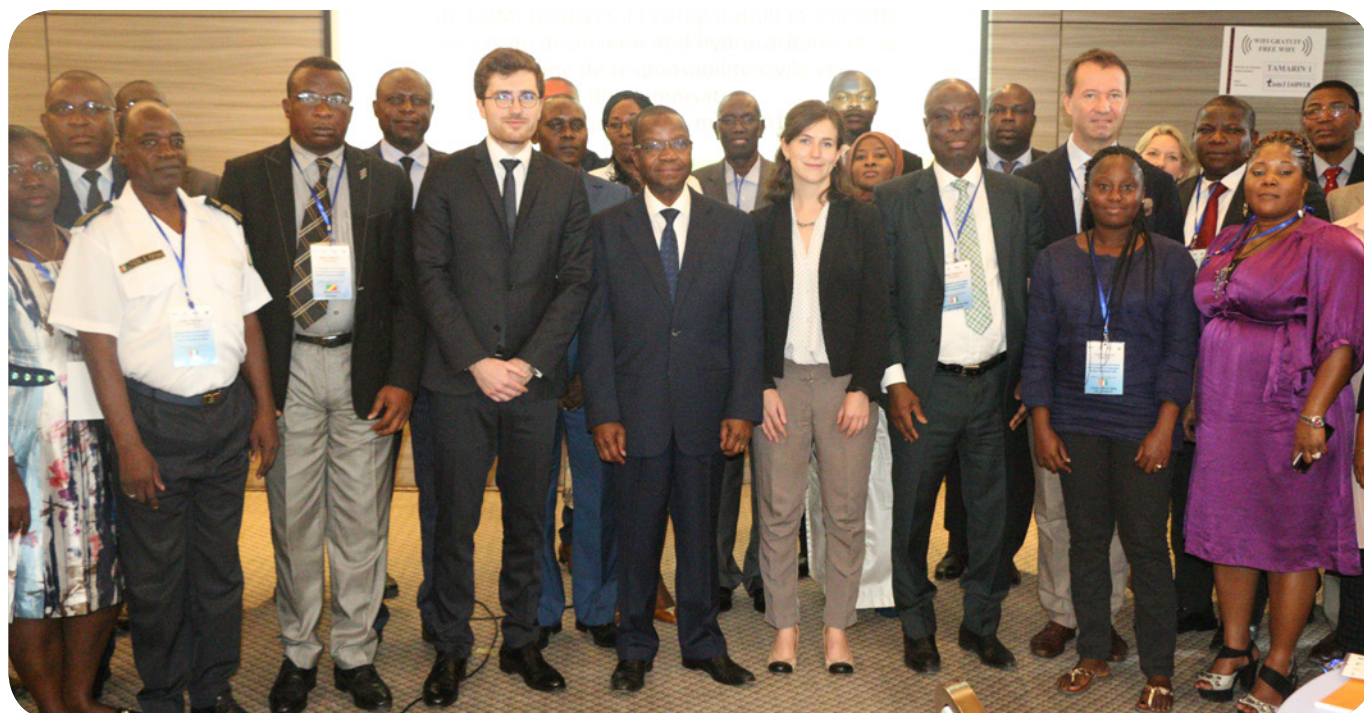
Sub-regional workshop on the transposition and effective implementation of conventions relating to preparedness, response, liability and compensation in the event of oil spillage

This workshop focused on the transposition and effective implementation of various IMO Conventions relevant to preparedness, response, liability and compensation in the event of oil spills and gathered around 30 delegates from 6 French-speaking countries. In addition to the technical staff who usually attend, the workshop was also attended by legal specialists from the different administrations. The workshop proved to be very useful to enhance their knowledge of the IMO instruments, and enabled them to reflect that knowledge when drafting domestic legislation. The workshop also addressed the importance of ensuring a follow-up to adopted amendments to IMO instruments in domestic legislation, as well as the key role of the judiciary in ensuring enforcement of IMO instruments.

The participants identified underlying causes representing a barrier to implementation and effective enforcement of the different IMO conventions, and produced an action plan with recommendations. This action plan is annexed to the full activity's report.



This action plan is annexed to the full activity's report: <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/our/activities/sub-regional-workshop-on-the-ratification-and-effective-implementation-of-imo-conventions-relating-to-oil-spill-response>

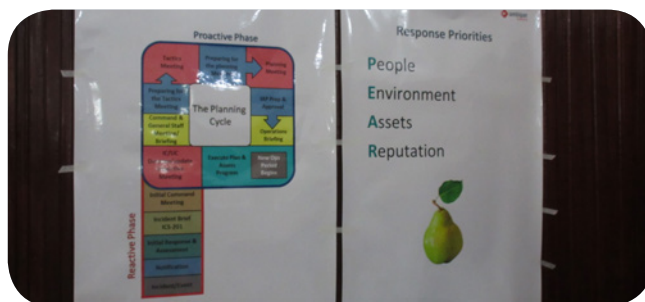


APRIL – LIBERIA

National training workshop on Incident management system 300 (IMS 300)

The event brought together around 45 participants: keystakeholders that have been instrumental in the development of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan as well as representatives from government, agencies, non-government organisations, private sector and industry who could be called upon to form an Incident Management Team in the event of a disaster in Liberian maritime waters. The aim of the IMS 300 Course was to introduce delegates to a system that enables the effective management of an unforeseen escalating oil spill incident. It focused on how the Command and Management component supports the management of expanding incidents and on the implementation of the incident management process on a simulated incident through a table-top exercise.

The course was mainly theory based with interactive sessions and exercises to assist in the learning process. This mixture of activities allowed for dialogue, discussion, enthusiasm and the sharing of knowledge from within the group.



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The report is available on the GI WACAF website: <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/our/activities/national-training-workshop-on-incident-management-system>

JUNE – CÔTE D'IVOIRE

National exercise to test the NOSCP

For several years, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Côte d'Ivoire has been organizing an annual exercise to test this plan and ensure it is up to date. In 2019, the scenario involved an oil pollution incident following a collision between an oil tanker and a container carrier off San Pedro. The exercise was prepared and led by CIAPOL.

During this exercise, the national organization was set out of Abidjan to assess the possible articulation between the National Crisis Cell of the POLLUMAR Plan (name of the NOSCP) and the organization of the regional ORSEC Plan in a coastal locality. Altogether more than 80 persons participated in the exercise.

At CIAPOL's request, the GI WACAF project sent a team of observers to evaluate the exercise and make recommendations on how to improve.



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These recommendations are included in the full report available on the GI WACAF website: <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/our/activities/national-exercise-to-test-the-noscp-of-cote-divoire>

JUNE - BENIN

Joint national training and exercise with GoGIN

This 3-day training was the first joint event organised by GI WACAF in cooperation with the Gulf of Guinea Interregional Network (see below). It sought to foster the ongoing update of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP) of Benin and the organisation on the following days of a simulation exercise aimed at managing an incident of illegal release of hydrocarbons at sea planned on the following week. Topics covered during the workshop included: general information on marine oil pollution; organization and management of oil spill response operations; response techniques at sea and onshore; aerial observation and characterization of oil spills at sea; identification, collection and preservation of evidence and samples; and international compensation regime for accidental spills. It gathered around 25 Beninese participants and

thanks to GoGIN, 4 Togolese delegates could participate in this training.

Following the presentations and group discussions a number of recommendations were identified regarding the ongoing development of the NOSCP and the implementation of the provisions of liability and compensation conventions and the development of mechanisms to control illegal discharges at sea.



You can download the report of the 3-day training here: <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/our/activities/training-on-the-key-elements-of-pollution-response-in-the-case-of-oil-spill>



JULY - DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

National workshop on contingency planning and on the update of the NOSCP

The overall objective of the workshop was to review and update the national marine oil spill response plan, named nationally the "POLMARC plan". In order to do that effectively, precise objectives were set: first train national authorities on oil spill response management and strategies; then carry out a table top exercise to review and test DRC's POLMARC plan; and following the exercise, discuss and identify recommendations for the improvement of the POLMARC plan.

The active participation and the expertise of all the 30 delegates were greatly appreciated and were key to the success of this workshop.



The report is available online: <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/our/activities/national-workshop-on-contingency-planning-and-on-the-update-of-the-noscp>



AUGUST - ANGOLA AND NAMIBIA

Transboundary oil spill response training and exercise

A 2-day training followed by a transboundary table-top exercise between Angola and Namibia was organised by GI WACAF in cooperation with national authorities in charge of oil spill preparedness and response in Angola (Ministério dos Recursos Minerais e Petróleos) and Namibia (Ministry of Works and Transport).

It was held simultaneously in Luanda and Walvis Bay to test the communication links between Angola and Namibia, test each NOSCPs in case of a transboundary oil spill incident and the

cooperation mechanisms in the sub-region. Thanks to the participation of the BCC ([Benguela Current Commission](#)), 3 South African delegates were invited as Observers.



See below for more detailed information and read the full reports for both countries that you can download on the Project website: <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/our/activities>

SEPTEMBER - NIGERIA

National workshop on liability and compensation in case of oil spill

A national workshop on oil spill liability and compensation was organized in Lagos, Nigeria, from Tuesday 10th to Thursday 12th September 2019. The event was co-hosted by the two national agencies with responsibilities in oil spill preparedness and response, the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) and the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) and brought together around 100 participants. By co-hosting this event together, NIMASA and NOSDRA demonstrated that they are working hand-in-hand to better protect the sea and coastal environment of Nigeria against the potential negative effects of an oil spill.

The main objective of the workshop was to present and provide training to relevant national authorities on the scope and implementation of IMO Conventions related to liability and compensation in case of an oil spill from a ship through case studies and table-top exercises. International experts from ITOPF and the

International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds) facilitated the exercise.



You can find the full report on the GI WACAF website: <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/our/activities/national-workshop-on-liability-and-compensation-in-case-of-oil-spill>



OCTOBER – SOUTH AFRICA

8th GI WACAF Regional Conference

The eighth Regional Conference of the Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa (GI WACAF), took place in Cape Town, South Africa (28 to 31 October). The Conference was organized by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and IPIECA, the global oil and gas industry association for advancing environmental and social performance, in close collaboration with the Government of the Republic of South Africa, particularly the Department of Transport and its agency, the South African Maritime Safety Agency (SAMSA). It brought together 120 participants, key industry and government representatives from 21 of the 22 African partner countries of the GI WACAF project. The main objectives were to facilitate information sharing and lessons learned in the region; review the progresses achieved since the last regional conference; and determine priority actions for the coming biennium 2020-2021.

More detailed information on the programme, objectives and recommendations is available below.



You can also read the detailed report on the Project's website: <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/our/activities/8th-gi-wacaf-regional-conference>



NOVEMBER – SOUTH AFRICA

Incident Management System (IMS 300) training and 3rd industry – government joint exercise

Following the 2nd Joint Industry and Government Exercise conducted in 2018 in Port Elizabeth, the recent IMS 300 training continued the positive collaboration between South Africa and GI WACAF and enabled knowledge transfer between the interested parties. The purpose of the training was to focus on the planning aspects of the IMS and how this may be implemented during a major event in South Africa. The following two-day table-top exercise was conducted to confirm the learnings from the previous two days of training and enable the participants to experience the Planning Cycle based on a given realistic scenario. Evaluators were identified to assess and measure the performance of Sections against defined assessment criterion developed specifically for this exercise.



The full report including the evaluation and recommendations is available online on GI WACAF website: <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/our/activities/ims-300-training-and-3rd-joint-industry-government-exercise>



DECEMBER – SENEGAL

National exercise “SAMAREX 2019”

The “SAMAREX 2019” oil spill deployment exercise was organised by the Senegalese authorities with the objective to test their National Oil Spill Contingency Plan in line with the recommendations edited by the International Maritime Organization. This real scale exercise gathered all the Senegalese authorities involved in oil spill preparedness and response, and more generally with responsibilities in maritime affairs. The leading authority, which invited the GI WACAF to attend as observer and evaluator, is the « Haute Autorité chargée de la Coordination, de la Sécurité maritime, de la Sûreté maritime, et de la Protection de l'Environnement marin » (HASSMAR).

The main objectives were to test in real life situation the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan of Senegal, analyse all the evaluation report and update the NOSCP accordingly and to train local and national authorities involved in the NOSCP.



The report including the evaluation and recommendations is available online: <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/our/activities/real-scale-exercise-in-senegal-samarex-2019>



2019 HIGHLIGHTS

FEEDBACK ON THE SUB-REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE TRANSPOSITION AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF CONVENTIONS RELATING TO PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION IN THE EVENT OF OIL SPILLAGE, MARCH – CÔTE D'IVOIRE

This sub-regional activity aimed to respond to a request made at the 7th GI WACAF regional conference in 2017. The States in the region had specifically asked for assistance relating to the domestication of IMO conventions in national law. This is a key stage that is vital for ensuring that the conventions are fully implemented and enforced.

This workshop was a first for GI WACAF as it was organised with the support of both the Marine Environment Division and the Legal Affairs Office of the IMO Secretariat, as well as the IOPC Funds. It was held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, from 18 to 22 March 2019 and gathered delegates from 6

French-speaking countries: Benin, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon and Senegal.

The global and local maritime traffic in these countries as well as the number of offshore oil exploration projects in the region are increasing rapidly. These developments underline the importance of fully implementing the provisions of the IMO conventions covered during the workshop and to which States are parties in order to adequately protect their marine environment and coastline.

The conventions covered during the workshop were the following:

- International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation, 1990;
- International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1992;
- International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage;
- Bunkers Convention 2001; and
- Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims, 1976, amended by the Protocol of 1996.

The workshop brought together for the first time legal specialist administrators from the invited States in addition to the technical administrators usually invited. The presence of legal specialist administrators enriched the discussions by providing a complementary perspective.

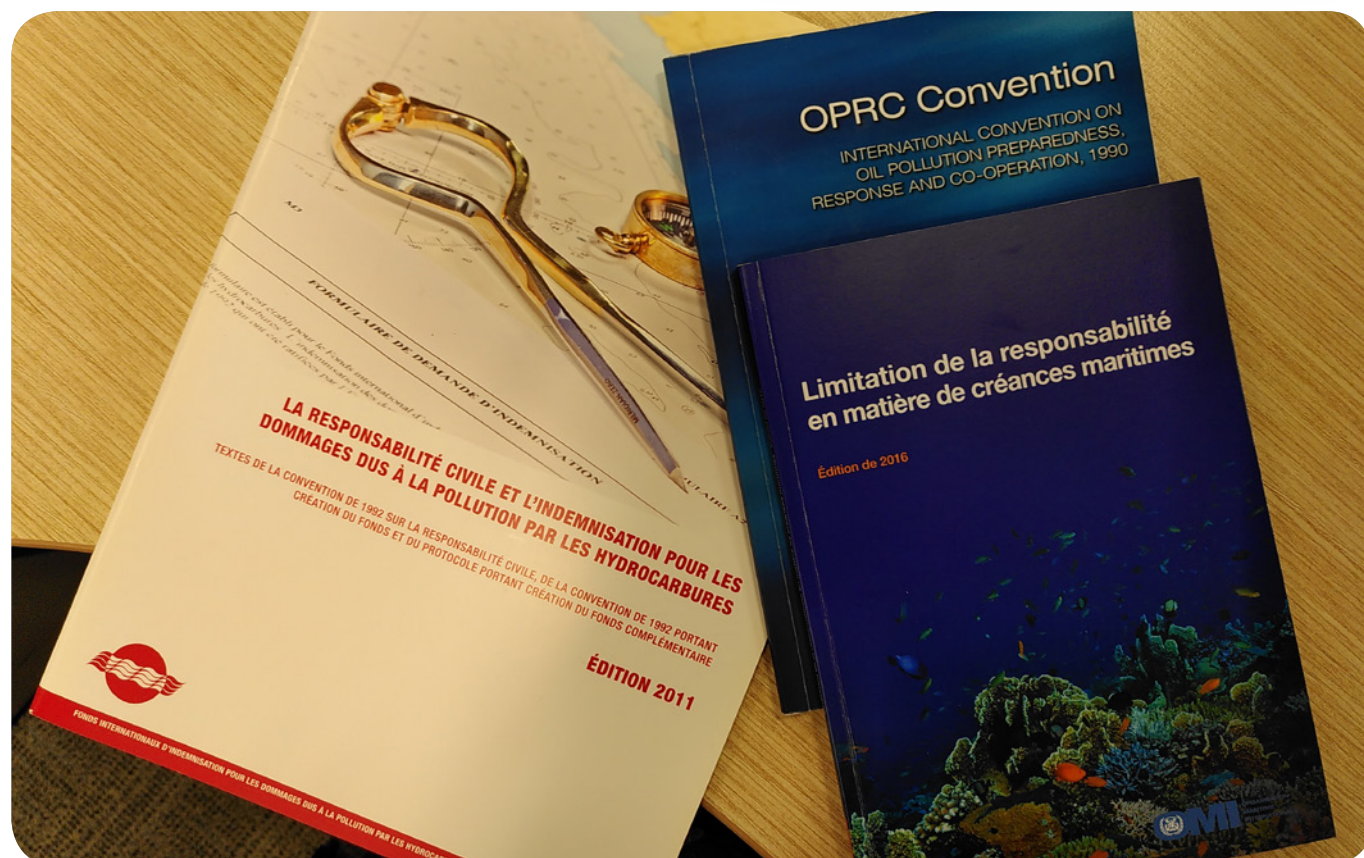
The training of jurists and drafters of legal texts, which seems to be the missing link in the current

system of cooperation, is important in enabling those actors to improve their knowledge of IMO instruments, the drafting of them and the procedures for amending them, as well as of the methods for transposing them effectively into domestic legislation.

In accordance with its main objective the workshop produced a set of conclusions and recommendations, as well as a strategy presenting the priority actions which should be undertaken at the national, regional and international levels in order to meet needs in domains identified as priority.



The full report including the Action plan in annex is available on the GI WACAF website: <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/our/activities/sub-regional-workshop-on-the-ratification-and-effective-implementation-of-imo-conventions-relating-to-oil-spill-response>



FEEDBACK ON THE TRANSBOUNDARY OIL SPILL RESPONSE TRAINING AND EXERCISE BETWEEN ANGOLA AND NAMIBIA, AUGUST – ANGOLA / NAMIBIA

A workshop followed by tabletop exercise were held simultaneously in Luanda and Walvis Bay from 6th to 9th August 2019, in recognition of the risk of a major marine oil spill in the region with the potential to affect two or more countries. The intention was to test key issues related to trans-boundary spill incidents such as communication between Angola and Namibia, assistance mechanisms, the mobilization of international resources and the provisions of respective national plans that would be activated in the case trans-boundary oil spill incidents.

It was hosted by the Ministry of Works and Transport (MWT) of Namibia and the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Petroleum (MIREMPET) of Angola. Thanks to the participation of the BCC ([Benguela Current Commission](#)), 3 South African delegates were invited as Observers.

The first 2 days consisted in a training to provide the participants with reminders on the national systems in place, the national organisation for the management of oil spill preparedness and

response, technical aspects of oil spill response, compensation systems in place as well as applicable cooperation mechanisms.

The last 2 days were dedicated to the transboundary tabletop exercise between Angola and Namibia. The specific objectives of the exercise were discussed between the authorities of both countries and the GI WACAF Project and were formulated as follows:

- Expose participants to the key issues related to trans-boundary spill incidents
- Train the participants on the existing transboundary arrangements and on topics related to the exercise;
- Test the communication links between Angola and Namibia;
- Test assistance mechanisms and mobilization of international resources;
- Test the National Plans of the two countries in the case of a trans-boundary oil spill incident



The tabletop exercise was based on a scenario involving a ship-source oil spill. It allowed the participants to put into practice the elements developed during the training, with a special emphasis on the implementation of cooperation mechanisms between both countries, from the initial notification of the incident to the development and implementation of a joint response strategy.

Both the training and the exercise went well and generated numerous questions and discussions. Specific recommendations for each country were developed for the improvement of: 1) international cooperation, 2) national response framework, 3) response organization, 4) response strategies and 5) preparedness: training, exercises and response resources.

Of particular interest was the mention of exploring what could be the role of BCC for the improvement of cooperation in the region:

- Role during the preparedness: development bilateral agreement, organisation of transboundary exercises, routine check emergency contacts, regional oil spill equipment database, regional spill specialist database, etc.
- Role during response operations: mobilisation of international expertise, technical support for protection of sensitive environmental and biological resources.



The recommendations are included in the full reports available on the GI WACAF website:

Angola - <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/our/activities/transboundary-oil-spill-response-exercise-between-namibia-and-angola>,

Namibia - <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/our/activities/transboundary-oil-spill-response-exercise-between-angola-and-namibia>

FEEDBACK ON THE 8TH GI WACAF REGIONAL CONFERENCE, OCTOBER – SOUTH AFRICA

The eighth Regional Conference of the Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa (GI WACAF), took place in Cape Town, South Africa (28 to 31 October). Organized every two years at the end of the biennial cycle, the GI WACAF Regional Conference forms an integral part of the management of the GI WACAF Project. The event gathers industry and government focal points from across the region with the objective to exchange experiences, review progress achieved, and prioritize project goals for the next biennium.

Around 120 participants, key industry and government representatives from 21 of the 22 African partner countries of the GI WACAF project, attended the Conference.

The objectives of the Regional Conference were to:

1. Address the challenges of oil spill preparedness and response within the region;

2. Review the progress achieved since the last regional conference in 2017 in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire;
3. Facilitate information sharing and lessons learned;
4. Strengthen the network of government delegates involved in oil spill preparedness and response in the region;
5. Highlight the benefits of the GI WACAF Project; and
6. Determine priority actions for the coming biennium 2020-2021 to enhance oil spill preparedness and response in the region.

The program was purposely designed to fulfil the objectives of the Regional Conference. The first day started with the opening ceremony in the presence of the Honourable Ms. Tsepiso Taoana-Mashiloane,

Director of Maritime Industry Development and Economic Regulation, Department of Transport, South Africa. During the afternoon several national delegates gave presentations on their achievements over the two years of the biennium. The second day was focused on technical sessions and Working groups (one in French and one in English run in parallel) to discuss different topics related to legislation, shoreline response and waste management, and transboundary cooperation. Each group appointed one rapporteur to capture and

present the outcomes of the discussions during the plenary report session of the afternoon. On Day 3, participants had the opportunity to choose between two field visits: The visit of the SANCCOB Seabird Rehabilitation Centre; or an Oil spill response demonstration focused on shoreline protection and clean-up by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) of South Africa. These two visits brought a practical aspect to numerous presentations of the conference.



The last day of the Conference was dedicated to the completion of the national reviews as well as the presentation of the recommendations for the 2020-2021 biennium. At the end of the Regional Conference, based on discussions and conclusions of the working groups, high-level recommendations for the biennium 2020-2021 were drafted. Agreed by the delegates, these recommendations are promoting a systemic approach to oil spill response and preparedness.

The objectives of the GI WACAF Regional Conference 2019 were successfully met, and the expected outcomes were delivered. This Regional Conference presented once again a great opportunity to

reflect on the past achievements and propose improvements for the future. The event also proved to be an excellent platform for the exchange and dissemination of knowledge with the aim of strengthening oil spill response capability in West, Central and Southern Africa. Whilst the participants acknowledged and celebrated the milestones achieved, they remained conscious of the work ahead. The fruitful discussions and exchange helped confirm the Project was evolving in the right direction and continued to successfully progress towards fulfilling its mandate. This successful approach will only be possible with the continuous support of all the stakeholders, most notably that from the Government and Industry Focal Points.

Recommendations

The GI WACAF project team has compiled a number of recommendations based on the conclusions of the working groups and on the information provided by the countries during these 4 days. These recommendations will serve as basis for developing the Project's strategic action plan for the 2020-2021 biennium and are disclosed below.

Legislation and institutional framework



Institutional aspects

1. Foster the creation/development of national forums, which would gather all the relevant stakeholders, to debate and discuss ratification and implementation of IMO Conventions. This would promote good cooperation and a “working together” spirit, and would reduce the risks of conflict or duplication of effort between ministries and agencies;
2. Increase the visibility and awareness of IMO Conventions related to oil spill preparedness and response, and liability and compensation, to high level government authorities; and
3. Advocate for a comprehensive national consultation ahead of ratifying a Convention, in order to give full effect to the Convention by having all the relevant stakeholders on board.



Legislative assistance

1. Reinforce the legislative assistance provided by the GI WACAF Project to countries in the transposition, domestication and full implementation of relevant IMO Conventions. This was recognised as an important obstacle faced by numerous States in the region. Francophone countries that attended the GI WACAF sub-regional workshop dedicated to that topic in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire in March 2019 highlighted the value of the assistance received at during that activity;
2. Advocate for the ratification and implementation of the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage (Bunkers 2001); and
3. Highlight the importance of monitoring amendments to Conventions and consequently updating relevant national legislation, and explore processes or information systems which could be used to help State Parties perform this task.



Legal capacity building

1. The conference recognised the lack of expertise for drafting legislation in numerous countries of the region and expressed the need to organize trainings that include the legal profession and legal drafters specifically

Policies and processes



1. Continue to provide assistance in the development, update and implementation of National Oil Spill Contingency Plans (NOSCP), which are recognized as the cornerstone of the oil spill preparedness and response system; and
2. The conference recognized the importance of having a comprehensive shoreline response strategy in place, which should include a waste management plan. There should be a strong focus on the development and implementation of this key dimension of the oil spill preparedness and response system, particularly where shoreline response and at-sea response fall under the responsibilities of two different entities.

Implementation tools

Amongst the tools discussed during the conference, three were considered as high priority for further development/implementation:



1. Sensitivity maps were recognised to be a very useful tool and their continued development was considered as key to effect preparedness and response. In this connection discussions took place between industry members and partner countries on how to collaborate to develop or update sensitivity maps of various sections of shoreline;
2. Countries recognized the Readiness Evaluation Tool for Oil Spills (RETOSTM) as a useful process to evaluate their preparedness and response capacities; and
3. Countries and industry members alike commended the progress of the new GI WACAF website, and recommended it should continue to develop as a platform to share relevant documentation and information related to oil spill preparedness and response in the region.

Multilateral cooperation



1. Coordinate more transboundary exercises and assist in the development of bi-lateral and sub-regional oil spill preparedness and response agreements and plans;
2. Support the attendance of observers during transboundary exercises, as with the exercise between Angola and Namibia in August 2019; and
3. Seek to foster working relationships with sub-regional or regional entities organisations and capacity building projects with similar objectives, for example the Benguela Current Commission (BCC)¹, the Gulf of Guinea Inter-regional Network (GoGIN)² and the Cobia Initiative³.

¹ <https://www.benguelacc.org/>

² <https://www.gogin.eu/en/>

³ <https://cobia-africa.com/en/>

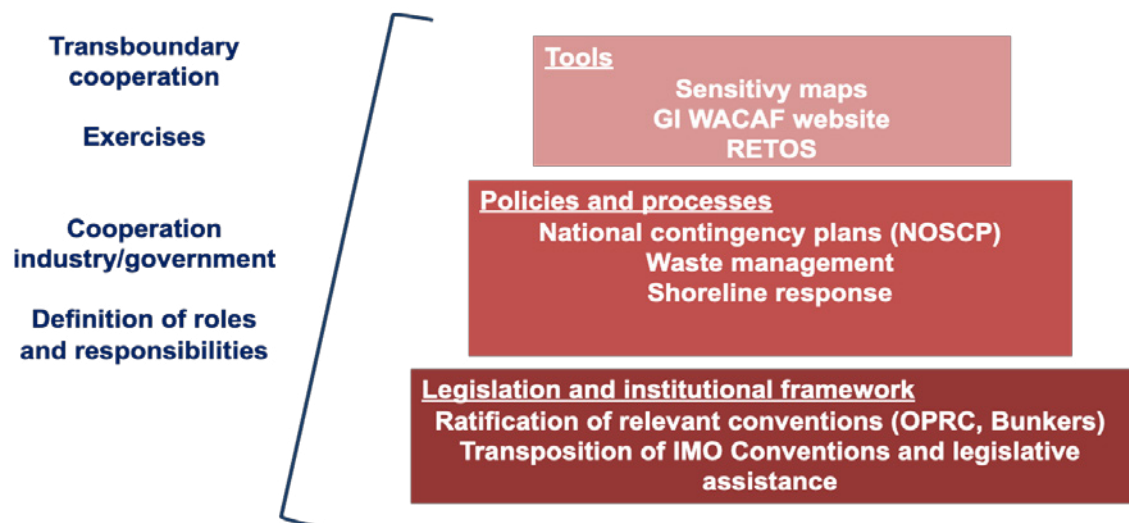


Figure 1. Schematic representation of recommendations from the 8th GI WACAF Regional Conference



EXTERNAL MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

JANUARY – AZERBAIJAN

OSPRI annual meeting

OSPRI is a partner organisation to GI WACAF, sharing the Global Initiative's aims of assisting countries in developing and strengthening their oil spill preparedness, response and cooperation capacities in the Black Sea and Caspian Sea regions. The GI WACAF Project Manager travelled to Baku, Azerbaijan to act as an observer to the OSPRI Annual Meeting. It featured a presentation of the activities organised in the various countries

of the region in 2018. The steering committee of the Project then reviewed and approved the project strategy. OSPRI Project Manager, Mr Taylor, is a regular participant to GI WACAF Regional Conferences. These inter-project exchanges are an ideal opportunity to share best practice and experiences with a view to achieving a common goal, namely improving the capacities of countries to prepare for and respond to oil spills.

MARCH – UNITED STATES

IPIECA Oil spill group

The Oil Spill Group meeting organised in Washington was an opportunity to exchange on activities of the different GI programmes. The GI WACAF Project Manager presented the outcomes of the Regional Conference and gave an update

on the work that was carried on during the biennium 2018-2019. Participants also discussed international conferences and workshops on oil spill response organised in 2019.

COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS

MARCH – SENEGAL

GoGIN Advisory Committee

GI WACAF attended the second GoGIN Advisory Committee, which was held in Dakar, Senegal on 9th - 10th April 2019. GoGIN – [the Gulf of Guinea Inter-regional Network](#) – aims to foster inter-regional cooperation from Senegal to Angola on maritime safety and security issues. This particular event was gathering all representatives from GoGIN partner countries, maritime centres, regional organisation and maritime international partners. The two days were dedicated to the presentation of what has been done so far by the project and to discuss what is foreseen in the months to come. It was also the occasion to

officially present the new orientations of GoGIN to all stakeholders. Following these new orientations, GI WACAF and GoGIN are seeking to cooperate on oil-spill related topics in the region. A first joint activity took place in Benin in June (see below).



JUNE – BENIN

First joint activity GI WACAF / GoGIN

GI WACAF organized the 3-day training course that preceded an operational training in Benin in the field of oil spill response organized by GoGIN. This training was the result of the first collaboration between the GI WACAF and GoGIN Projects. Its purpose was to prepare the simulation exercise aimed at managing an incident of illegal oil release at sea and its possible consequences.

The technical training took place from 25 to 27 June 2019 in Cotonou. It covered various aspects useful to participants in the following week's anti-pollution operation (emergency planning, recognition and characterization of oil spills at sea and the international regime of liability and compensation in the event of an oil spill). Recommendations were made on how to improve the NOSCP that is currently being drafted in Benin and on how to include the various aspects covered during the training in it. Four Togolese delegates participated in our workshop while 4 Beninese delegates were in Togo, where GoGIN was organizing a workshop on illegal fishing.

Working together with GoGIN has proved very fruitful for several reasons. First of all, GoGIN and GI WACAF have complementary fields of expertise. While GI WACAF is focusing on institutional and technical aspects of oil spill response and emergency planning, GoGIN's core theme is crisis management. This allowed the activity to have two different aspects. The lessons learned during the technical training could be directly put into practice and operationalized during the exercise.

Moreover, GoGIN is working with a different network of focal points in Africa and during the training all the Benin administrations involved in oil spill response at sea gathered and discussed their respective responsibilities. Working together thus prevented duplication of efforts and helped delivering consistent messages. This training was also the occasion for GI WACAF to be known by other key regional actors such as the Yaounde architecture that GoGIN is supporting in securing the Gulf of Guinea.



SEPTEMBER – GABON

Abidjan Convention workshop on the preparation of national consultations on the Offshore Protocol

In July 2019, the Conference of the Plenipotentiaries officially signed the additional protocol on the “Norms and Environmental Standards for offshore Oil and Gas activities”, named the Malabo Protocol. In parallel, the Abidjan Convention initiated the development of an Action Plans to define a post-signature roadmap for the implementation of this additional Protocol to the Abidjan Convention. The Action Plan presents a comprehensive list of activities to be implemented both at regional and national levels to ensure the proper operationalization of the Protocol.

In September, GI WACAF was invited to take part in a workshop set up by the Abidjan Convention to work on the preparation of national consultations on the Malabo Protocol. GI WACAF attended the workshop among governmental representatives from the member countries parties to the Abidjan

Convention, as well as representatives from NGOs, the private sector and other organisations. The specific objectives of the workshop were to develop for each of these 4 protocols:- An Action Plan for the implementation of the protocol and analyse the necessary synergies on national and sub-regional level; and- A roadmap for process of transposition of protocols into national laws. GI WACAF sat within the working group dedicated to the Offshore Protocol to provide advice and comments.

More generally, the GI WACAF supported the Abidjan Convention in the development of this protocol and its plan of action and will continue to support the Convention on this subject. Meeting documents can be downloaded from the following dedicated [webpage](#), page on which the report of the meeting will be uploaded at a later stage.



KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPIS)

One of the key questions for the Project is how to identify and monitor progress. Since 2006, using data submitted by each country in the WACAF region, it has been possible to gauge the level of national response capability across the region based on 6 core indicators:

1. Designation of authority: The country has in place a designated national authority to deal with oil spill related issues;
2. Legislation: The country has ratified the OPRC 90 Convention;
3. National Oil Spill Contingency Plan: The country has at least a draft NOSCP;
4. Regional agreement: The country has in place either a regional or a sub-regional agreement relating to oil spill response cooperation. For most of the countries this consists in being part to the Abidjan Convention;

5. Training and Exercise: The country is undertaking a national level oil spill training and exercise event at least once a year; and
6. National Resources: The country has equipment and resources to adequately carry out TIER 1 oil spill response operations.

During the last Regional Conference each country filled its country profile. The Project Secretariat then processed the data enabling the production of several figures including the following evolution of the 6 key performance indicators afore mentioned for the period 2006 -2019 (Figure 2).

Whilst the below testifies of an undeniable progress in the region, it should be kept in mind that these indicators are quantitative, and that qualitative aspects should be also taken in account to get a comprehensive view on the situation in the region.

GI WACAF Key Performance Indicators Results
(2006-2019)

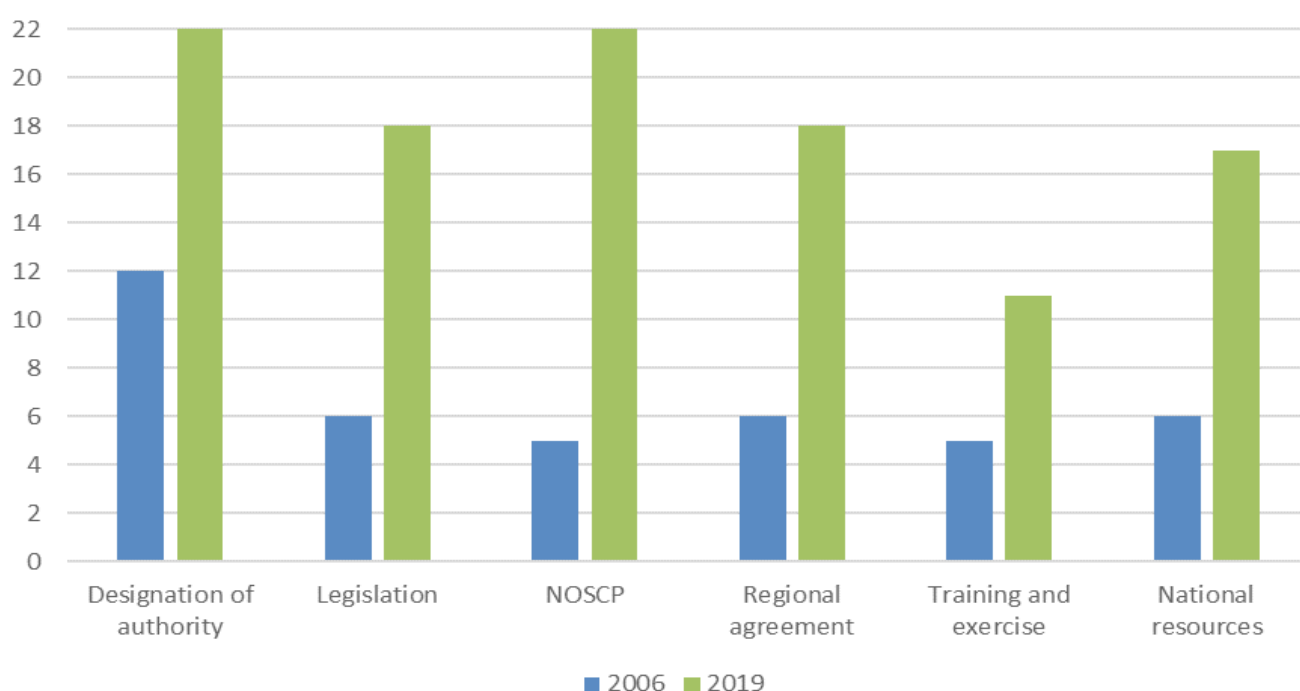


Figure 2. Evolution of the 6 key performance indicators for the period 2006 -2019

In any case, with the advancements of capabilities demonstrated by the countries, it became a necessity for the Project to adopt further measures of progress. The secondary indicators were thus adopted in 2015 and the Figure 3 represents their status on the basis of data submitted by countries at the 8th Regional Conference in October 2019. Whilst the portion of developed indicators shows room for improvement, it is encouraging to see that the portion of “under development” indicators is significant.

According to the results, it seems that beneficiary countries of the region are focused on developing

policies such as dispersants use, shoreline clean-up and assessment, waste management or sensitivity mapping. Those policies will be included in the NOSCPs once fully developed and validated by the relevant authorities, improving the NOSCPs’ comprehensiveness and operational aspects.

The above translates the ongoing will and efforts from the countries, which should lead to an increasing number of indicators fully developed in the near future.

GI WACAF Supplementary Indicators Results (2019)

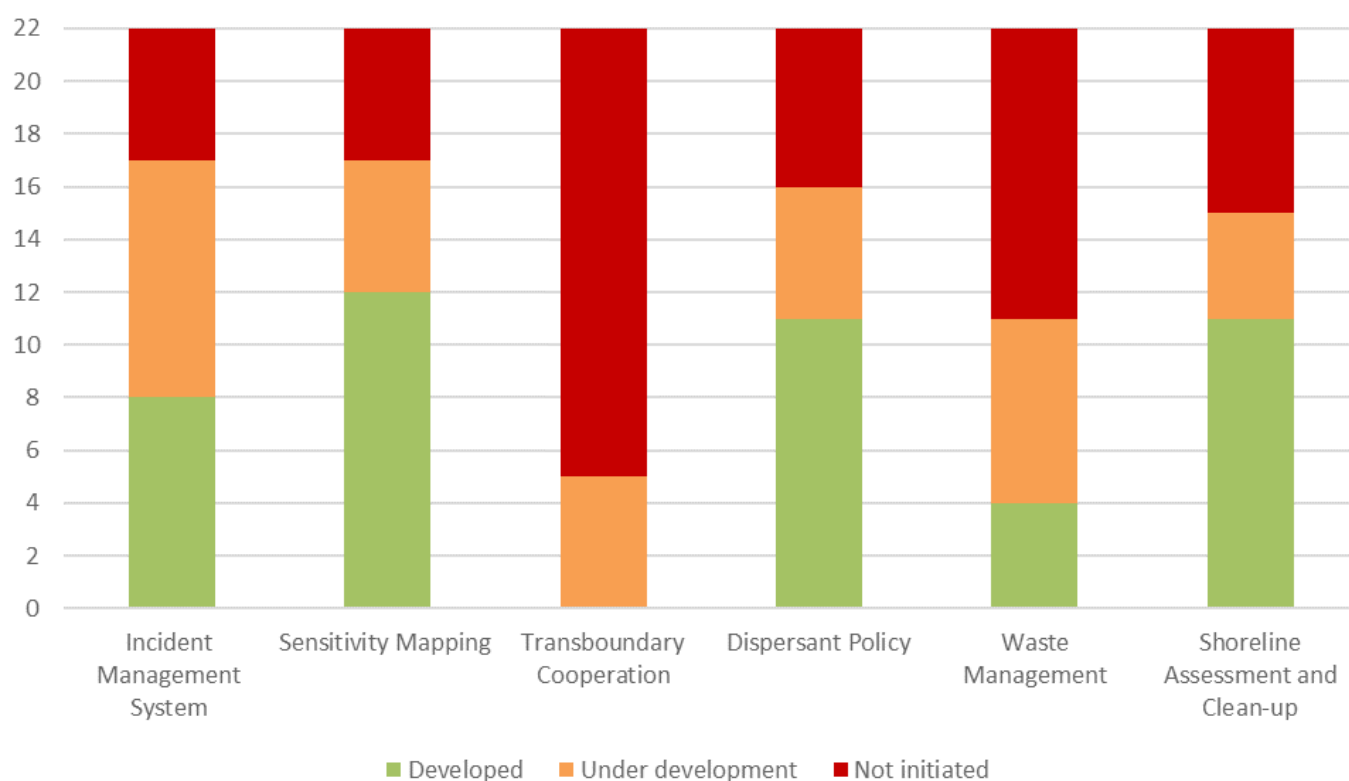


Figure 3. Status of the Secondary Indicators as of October 2019

A NETWORK OF TRAINED AND DEDICATED GI WACAF FOCAL POINTS ACROSS THE REGION



Captain Ravi Naicker – South Africa

Captain Ravi Naicker is currently working with the South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA) as a senior manager and participates in many national and international forums for matters relating to safety of navigation, maritime security and environment protection. He was instrumental in the organisation of the 8th GI WACAF Regional Conference held in Cape Town followed by the IMS 300 training and 3rd Joint industry – government exercise. He plays a key role in the Preparedness and response system to oil spill in South Africa.



Manuel Xavier Junior – Angola

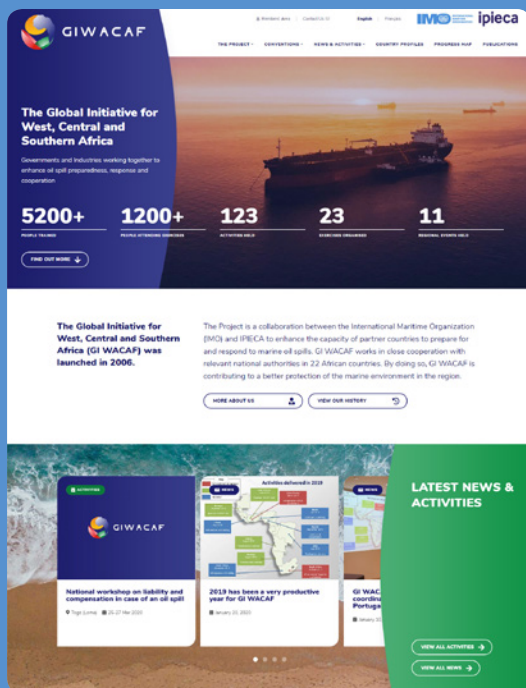
Manuel Xavier is the National Director of Safety, Quality, Emergencies and Environment at the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Petroleum of Angola. He has more than 25 years of experience in the oil sector in Angola. As GI WACAF Focal Point he was instrumental during the set-up and delivery of the transboundary exercise between Angola and Namibia in August 2019.



Jean-Marie Bope – Democratic Republic of Congo

Mr Bope is working for the Ministry of environment and sustainable development of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Amongst other responsibilities, he is in charge of marine pollution and is the coordinator of the national centre monitoring marine pollution. Thanks to Mr Bope's commitment, a national workshop was organised in Kinshasa to review and update the national marine oil spill response plan, named nationally the "POLMARC plan" with great success.

GI WACAF COMMUNICATION



Launch of the new website!

After more than 6 months of intense work carried out by the GI WACAF Team, we are very proud to present the new website of the Project. Please visit it at the following address <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/> to learn more about the Project and our activities.

LinkedIn page

You can now follow us and keep updated about our activities on LinkedIn. <https://www.linkedin.com/company/gi-wacaf/?viewAsMember=true>

New brochure on GI WACAF now available in French and English

In 2019, GI WACAF produced a new updated brochure. The new brochure is now available in English and in French on the Project website.



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