Development of the dispersant use regulation

Banjul, The Gambia
8 - 11 September 2025

Activity report

Global Initiative for Western, Central and Southern Africa

With the collaboration of:

The Gambia Maritime Administration

NOTE

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Contents

Executive Summary

Organized by: Gambia maritime Administration (GMA)

Supported by: GI WACAF (IMO / IPIECA)

Type of event: National Workshop

Date: 8 – 11 September 2025

Number of participants: 14 from multiple government agencies invited by the Gambia Maritime Administration (GMA) were present.

Location: Metzy hotel

Summary:

GI WACAF organised and led a workshop to develop a national policy on the use of chemical dispersants in the event of an oil spill. Through a combination of presentations, facilitated discussions and group exercises, key stakeholders, supported by GI WACAF personnel and consultant collaboratively developed the policy. The four-day workshop resulted in a framed a draft national policy.

Presentation of the GI-WACAF Project

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

The mission is to strengthen the national system for preparedness and response in case of 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 aspect of spill preparedness and response, drawing on expertise and experience from within governments, industry and other organizations working in this specialized field. To prepare and implement these activities, the Project relies on the Project's network of dedicated government and industry focal points. Promoting cooperation amongst all relevant government agencies, oil industry business units and stakeholders both nationally, regionally and internationally is a major objective of the Project during these activities.

GI WACAF operates and delivers activities with contributions from both the IMO and eight oil company members of IPIECA, namely Azule Energy, BP, Chevron, ExxonMobil, Eni, Renaissance Africa Energy Company, Shell, TotalEnergies.

More information is available on the Project's website.

Acronyms and abbreviations

EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
GFGRS	Gambia Fire and Rescue Service
GMA	The Gambia Maritime Administration
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IPIECA	International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association
IOGP	International Association of Oil and Gas Producers
NDMA	National Disaster Agency
NEA	National Environment Agency
NM	Nautical Mile
NOSCP	National Oil Spill Contingency Plan
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme

1 Context

This national workshop is carried out within the framework of the Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa (GI WACAF), a partnership between IMO and IPIECA, with the principal aim of enhancing the capacity of GI WACAF countries to prepare for and respond to marine oil spills. The geographical remit of the GI WACAF (hereafter referred to as "the GI WACAF region") includes 22 countries in West, Central and Southern Africa.

In order to create mechanisms and conditions for the protection and conservation of biodiversity and marine and coastal resources against oil pollution, the Republic of The Gambia has been working hard recently to strengthen national capacities in the field of marine pollution preparedness and response and to develop the National Contingency Plan (NSCP).

Tto establish a mechanism for the use of dispersant, the Gambia requested assistance to the GI WACAF Project to assist with the development of the national dispersant use regulation in collaboration with key government agencies involved in responding to oil pollution incidents

2 Objectives and achievements

GI WACAF organised and led a workshop to develop a national policy on the use of chemical dispersants in the event of an oil spill. Through a combination of presentations, facilitated discussions and group exercises, key stakeholders, supported by GI WACAF personnel and consultant collaboratively developed the policy. The four-day workshop resulted in a framed a draft national policy.

3 Location, Dates & participants

This event took take place from 8th to 11th September 2025 at Metzy Hotel, Banjul, The Gambia.

The work sessions gathered 14 participants from key institutions. Participants are listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1 List of participants

	Last Name	First Name	Institution	Position
1	Touray	Salifu K	GFRS	Divisional Fire Officer
2	Darboe	Mustapha	NDMA (regional office KM)	Data entry clerk
3	Njie	Mam Marie	NEA	Senior Program Officer, C&ME
4	Bah	Sainey	GMA	Ag. Director of Legal Affairs
5	Gindeh	Eliman	GMA	MARINE SURVEYOR
6	Darboe	Lamin Y	NDA	Program Officer
7	Camara	Bintou	NEA	Program Assistant
8	Kinteh	Sambou L. S.	GPA	Environment Manager
9	Sanneh	Mbassi	NDMA	Program officer
10	Jallow	Dawda	DPWM	Assist. Park Manager TWNP
11	Joof	Awa	DPWM	Wildlife Ranger
12	Komma	Lamin	NEA	Program Manager and Head of Coastal and Marine Environment
13	Sonko	Jainaba	GMA	Assistant marine trainee
14	Saidyleigh	Wandifa	GMA	

4 Key considerations on the draft

The aims of the workshop were to provide technical support to The Gambia Maritime Administration and other stakeholders in the development of a draft policy. As such, its style, format and terminology may require editing before being adopted as a national policy document. The draft text is provided in the following section.

Prior to adoption, the wording of Section 8 may warrant further discussion between the National Environment Agency and The Gambia Maritime Administration. my opinion is that the wording of Section 8 as it stands is appropriate and compliant, as chemical dispersants do not belong to a group that requires registration or approval from the national environment agency. This opinion is informally provided, should be treated with caution and should not be definitive, but is offered as a stimulus for further discussion between the two agencies:

- Chemical dispersants belong to a group of commercial products classified under the Harmonised Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonised System) as "**Organic Surface-active Agents (other Than Soap), Surface-active Preparations, Washing Preparations (including Auxiliary Washing Preparations) And Cleaning Preparations, Whether Or Not Containing Soap, Other Than Those Of Heading 3401".** They fall under the HS code 3402.
- These are not listed under the Stockholm or Rotterdam Conventions, nor are their components.
- Soap and soap solutions are listed as unrestricted in the current 1999 Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides Regulations. Soap and soap solutions is likely an older term for the category described above.
- Without environmental quality regulations on what can be *intentionally* and acutely applied to marine waters as a treatment product, my view is under current legislation, the only regulator is The Gambia Maritime Administration. In due course, ensuring that chemical dispersants do not affect water quality and developing appropriate standards to ensure quality (Section 9 of the policy) may be a task under the 1999 Environmental Quality Standards Regulations, but based on my reading, there is no requirement at present for this.

5 Recommendations for future work on NOSCP

Throughout the dispersants workshop, and the GMA-funded SCAT training which took place the following week, there were ongoing discussions on the next step of training and preparedness-related needs. These discussions are summarised as key recommendations below.

1. Agencies with oversight of completing procedures, guidelines and plans as per the Appendices of the Strategic document of the NOSCP to start development of these:

- GPA to prepare Tier 1 oil spill contingency plan as per Appendix 2
- Appendix 10 – Department of Fisheries
- Appendix 11 – National Environment Agency
- Appendix 12 – National Environment Agency

2. Update ESI shoreline categories: sensitivity mapping of the coastline was undertaken as part of the NOSCP development project funded by GI WACAF in 2023. Normally, the mapping of shoreline types is a laborious process that requires rigorous ground-truthing. The outputs provided as part of the NOSCP development project were intended to provide a foundation, but in-depth ground truthing fell outside the scope of the project. As such, NEA could start breaking down shoreline types into greater detail. This would be particularly relevant and beneficial along the coastline from Tamara Beach Club all the way around to Port of Banjul as there are multiple shoreline categories located along this portion of coastline with frequent changes between categories.

3. Further training and exercises:

    - Development of desk-top exercise to drill notification processes, initial assessment, interagency command and response coordination and incident information management / dissemination.
    - GMA-led training and sensitisation seminar for facilities that require Tier 1 contingency plan with statement and guidelines on material needs for Tier 1 readiness on the part of facilities and ports.
    - Ongoing sensitisation of NOSCP amongst national agencies and local government stakeholders.

6 Draft dispersant use policy

NATIONAL DISPERSANT USE POLICY

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

DRAFT DOCUMENT

Status of present document: XXX XXX

Issue date	Prepared by	Supported by	Approved by	Enforced
Xx/ XX/ XXXX	XXX XXX	GI WACAF and Marittima	XXX XXX	XX/XX/XXXX

Table of contents

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1. Preamble and scope

This policy establishes the conditions under which chemical dispersants may be applied in The Gambia's waters, including the: territorial, Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and inland waters of The Gambia and is to be used in conjunction with the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP).

Chemical dispersion aims to reduce the impact of oil pollution by breaking oil down into small droplets, which are then dispersed and diluted throughout the water column, enhancing biodegradation processes. The objective of using dispersants offshore is to reduce the amount of oil reaching the coastline or areas of environmental or socioeconomic significance.

Chemical dispersion is one of a range of options for responding to oil spills at sea. The geographical and environmental conditions of The Gambia, dominated by extensive mangrove stands and mudflats along the River Gambia. This, coupled with the properties of oil that make up the spill risk profile for the country mean that the use of chemical dispersant application as an offshore response option will rarely be appropriate, and where it is, will need to be carefully considered. Options, restrictions and procedures relating to the use of chemical dispersants are described in this document.

The presence of borders with Senegal at both the north and south of the country necessitates the need to address risks and bilateral communication and technical cooperation mechanisms in this policy.

The competent authority responsible for this policy and its implementation is The Gambia Maritime Administration, with technical assistance and consultation provided by multiagency stakeholders that comprise the Technical Committee as defined in the NOSCP.

2. Legal and institutional basis

This policy is affected by the following Acts and Instruments:

- Marine Pollution Act, 2013
- Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides Act, 1994
- Hazardous Chemicals Regulations, 1999
- National Disaster Management Act, 2008

3. Oil types and dispersibility

The main types of hydrocarbons products frequently transported within or around Gambian waters or regularly imported into the country have been considered in the NOSCP "risk assessment" chapter.

Amongst these products, and considering the warm sea surface temperature, the following are considered potentially and initially dispersible if spilled at sea, grouped by oil groups:

	Persistent oil	**Oil types present in The Gambia where chemical dispersion may be considered if technically, environmentally and logistically feasible**
Group 1 (e.g. gasoline, kerosene)	No	Not applicable
Group 2 (e.g. light crude & refined products, gas oil marine diesel)	Yes	No – natural evaporation and dispersion preferred measure
Group 3 (e.g. most crude & refined products IFO 180)	Yes	Yes
Group 4 (e.g. heavy crude & refined products IFO 380)	Yes	Yes

Additional studies may be conducted (by the authorities and/ or private sector) on these oils to assess their windows of opportunity for dispersion (time delay during which the oil remains dispersible):

- weathering study using modelling;
- lab tests to assess dispersibility and dispersibility time-frame.

If there is uncertainty on the chemical dispersibility of an oil, this should be tested *in situ* as some oils may remain dispersible longer than concluded by modelling tools or historical studies.

4. Geographical limits for dispersant use

In sheltered or shallow environments where dilution potential is low, the toxicity of chemically dispersed oil may affect marine fauna and flora. Hence chemical dispersion is not advantageous at all locations. Chemical dispersant is not generally applied near ecologically vulnerable or sensitive areas or where the renewal and mixing of water do not offer conditions for rapid dilution of the dispersed oil. If used in very shallow water, the dispersion process may contribute to the penetration of oil into the sediments (if surface oil enters a shallow water environment, natural sedimentation processes will occur, with or without the addition of dispersant).

The use of dispersants is pre-authorised in areas that would result in widespread and rapid dilution of dispersed oil. This has been defined as:

- Marine waters –1 NM offshore from mean low water line

Based on their sensitivity, the use of dispersant is prohibited in the following areas (Figure 1):

- Tanbi Wetland Complex
- Niumi National Park
- Tanji Bird Reserve
- Jokadu National Park
- Baobolon Wetland Reserve

- Kiang West National Park

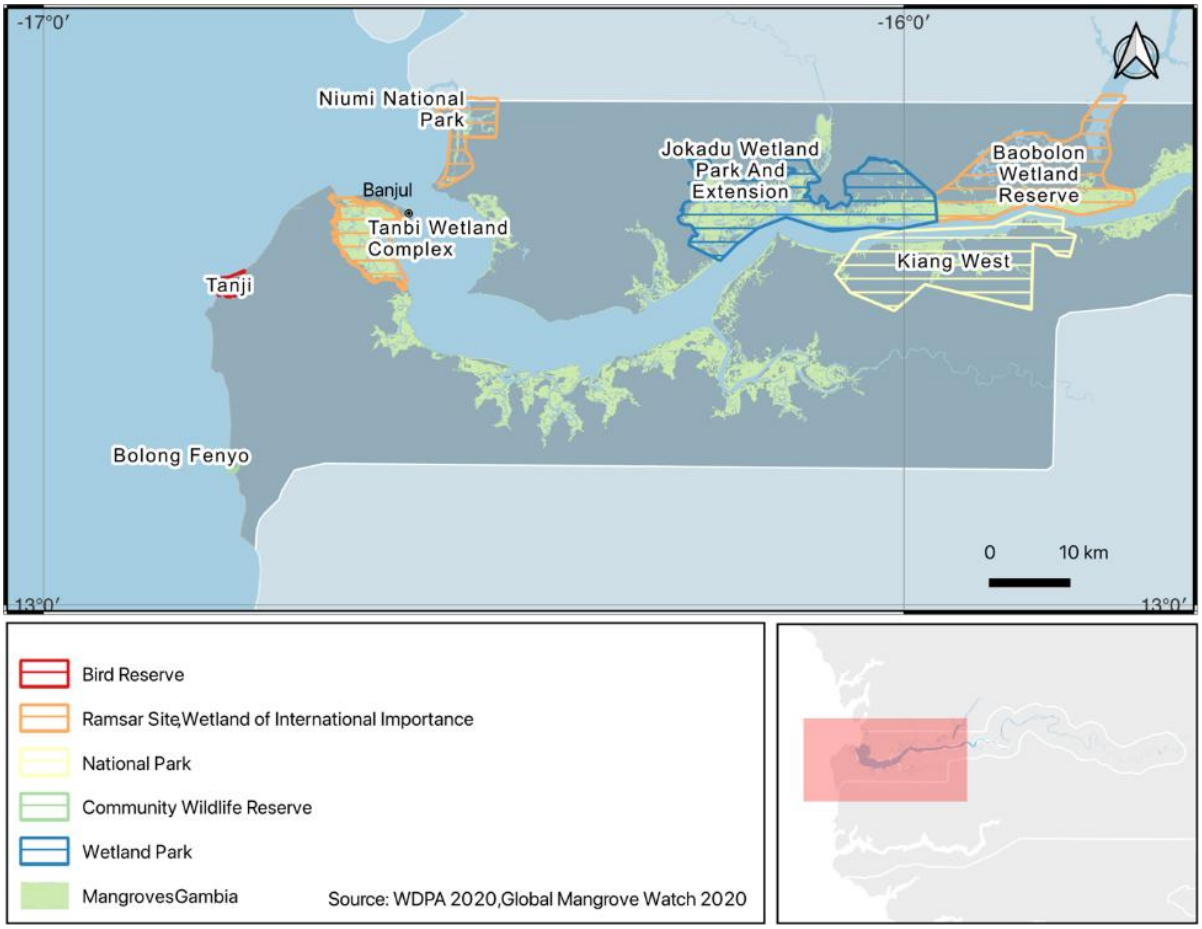


Figure 1 Protected areas where the use of chemical dispersants is not permitted.

Under exceptional circumstances, and where the benefit to the environment would be considered to outweigh the risks and potential impacts, the use of dispersants may be exceptionally considered in marine waters within 1 NM from the coastline, or within inland waters. Such an exception shall be subject to approval by The Gambia Maritime Administration, based on the technical advice of Department of Parks and Wildlife Management, National Environment Agency and Department of Fisheries as necessary.

This approval may be obtained through:

- During a spill or emergency situation: a specific request made to the Gambia Maritime Administration.
- A specific request for a pre-authorisation to the Gambia Maritime Administration for preparedness, formulated as part of the Oil Spill Contingency Plan or detailed in a separate document. It shall present a specific analysis of the risk of oil spill, of the potential behaviour of the spilled oil and an identification of the sensitive areas which may be affected and prove the benefit of dispersant use.

Despite being considered internal waters, the potential for using chemical dispersants at the mouth of the River Gambia around the Port of Banjul will be carefully examined upon request or considered in the event of an oil spill. Any pre-incident scenarios to evaluate this option should consider this in

terms of quantity and properties of oil, location characteristics, prevailing weather conditions, and potential for surface mixing.

The use of dispersants in inland waters differs from the open sea use: generally speaking, chemical dispersion is not appropriate to oil pollutions in inland waters. Reasons for this include:

- the volume of water is often limited and does not allow the same dilution potential in the open sea
- agitation is often too weak to promote the dispersion process
- oil spills in internal waters often involve lighter, refined products which do not require chemical dispersion

On the basis of the relative depth, large dilution potential, adequate wave conditions and surface mixing and dilution and the proximity of highly sensitive and extensive mangrove networks and protected areas located upriver in close proximity, scenarios should aim to evaluate the potential benefits of the use of chemical dispersant at the deepest part of these waters where other on-water response measures may be unavailable and the use of chemical dispersants in this location may potentially be the preferred option under certain circumstances.

5. Decision-making procedure

Following an incident, where pre-approval is in place, the following decision process will be used.

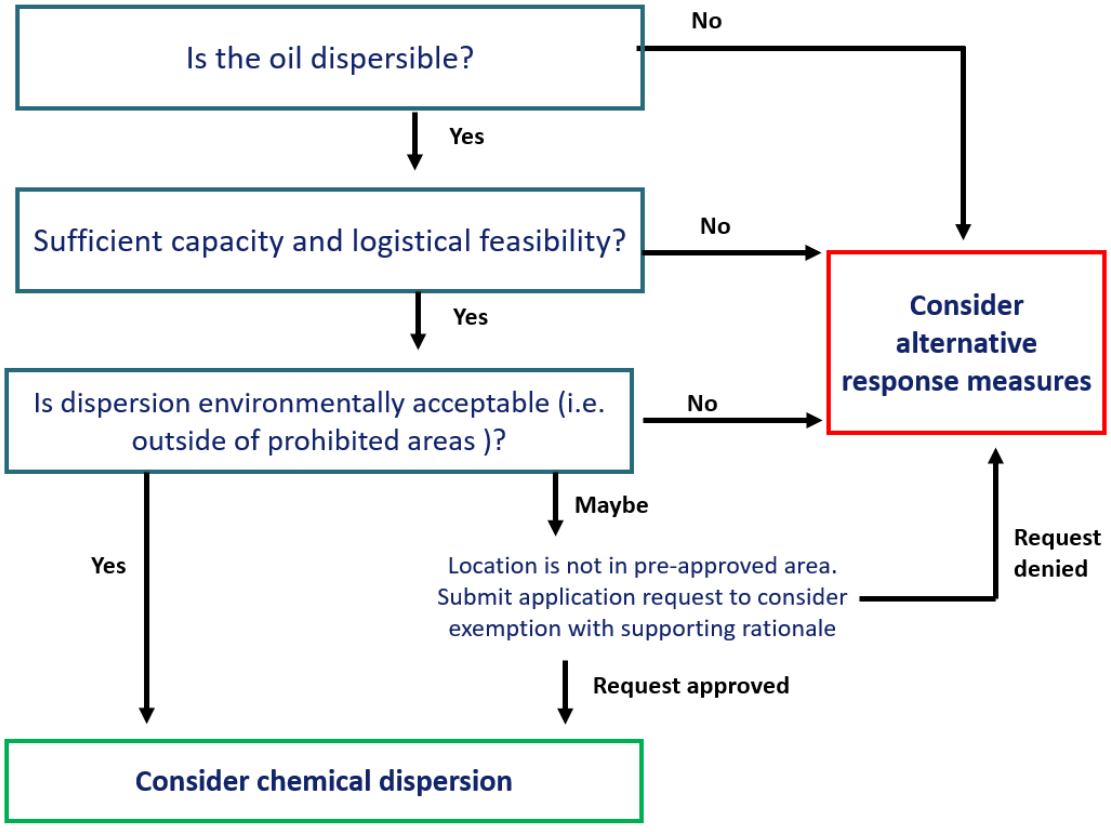


Figure 2 Overview of decision-making framework when considering use of chemical dispersants. Flow charts to guide assessment of dispersibility, capacity and environmental acceptability provided in Appendix 1.

If conditions are met, the following applies

- Can be immediate (for responder) if the situation is already identified in an Oil Spill Contingency Plan, dispersant use has been pre-approved by the Authorities and conditions are favourable. In other words, an entity has the authorization to initiate immediately dispersant spraying if the operation can be undertaken within the limits of the pre-approval. The entity informs the authorities immediately of the start of the spraying operations, and regularly about the results of the operations.
- Can be expedited by the authorities if there is no prior approval, but all above questions are positively answered.

In the event of uncertainty about the dispersibility of oil, chemical dispersion should be tested *in situ.* Oil may remain dispersible longer than modelling tools or studies suggest.

In all cases, The Gambia Maritime Administration shall be notified of any and all dispersant application operations

6. Transboundary cooperation

The National Coordinator as defined by the NOSCP:

- acts as the focal point for international cooperation with regards to response to oil spills at sea in general, including the use of dispersants;
- may initiate operational agreements with other countries with a view to collaboratively managing the response to transboundary marine pollution, particularly where the use of dispersants is concerned.

In the event of pollution in Gambian waters requiring the use of dispersants with the assistance of foreign or international resources, the provisions of this policy shall apply.

7. Dispersant use pre-approval procedure

Applications may be made by manufacturers, rebranders or an intended user considering dispersant as a response option. Applicants must submit a request for pre-approval to The Gambia Maritime Administration by email: info@gambiamaritime.com

The pre-approval application for surface spraying shall include the following details:

- Storage
    - location
    - facility
    - storage conditions
    - total stock and packaging
    - Nationally compliant disposal plan in the event of expiration
- Spraying equipment and platform (vessel or aircraft)
    - description of spraying system
    - capability of system (operating speed, swath, dispersant flow rate, nozzles, etc.)
    - description of vessel or aircraft
- Detailed operational procedures that comply with Section 10 of this document.

- Competent personnel (number, availability, position)
    - To deploy and operate the spraying equipment
    - To evaluate the effectiveness of the spraying
    - To command spraying operations on site
    - To coordinate overall spraying operations

The request shall be sent to the authorities no later than two months before the planned beginning of procurement or planned operations (e.g. oil and gas exploration). For entities already operating, the request should be sent as soon as practically possible.

Upon review and if successful, pre-approval will be granted in the form of an official letter from The Gambia Maritime Administration, valid for the duration of operations (e.g. drilling offshore) or for a maximum of 5 years.

The Application form is provided in Appendix 2.

8. Approved dispersant products

Dispersant products to be used in The Gambia's waters must be approved by The Gambia Maritime Administration. The National Environment Agency regulates the import, transport, storage, handling and disposal of chemical dispersants.

A domestic mechanism for the approval of chemical dispersants will be developed by The Gambia Maritime Administration and National Environment Agency.

Until such a time that a domestic mechanism is in place, the ability to obtain chemical dispersants in the event of necessity is recognised.

The Gambia authorises the use of dispersant products that are:

- Reasonably efficient;
- Of minimal toxicity;
- Significantly biodegradable.

Various standardised effectiveness, toxicity and biodegradability test methods are used by national authorities as part of the approval procedure for chemical dispersant products.

However, until a domestic approval procedure is implemented, The Gambia Maritime Administration approves dispersants products for use in The Gambia that are currently approved in at least two of the following countries: UK, France, and US which have a robust approval process underpinned by suitable testing procedures.

Based on the potential for the use of dispersant in The River Gambia around the river mouth, dispersant products approved by France for use in freshwater are also approved for use in The Gambia (Table 1). The list of dispersants currently (September 2025) approved for use in two or more countries as defined above are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 Dispersants designed for use in Freshwater and approved in France.

Product name	Manufacturer	Address	Telephone	Website
Dasic Freshwater Dispersant	Dasic International Ltd.		+44(0) 1794 512419	www.dasicinter.com
OD 4500	INNOSPEC Ltd.		+33(0)2 32 64 80 63 +44(0)151 355 3611	www.innospec.com

Table 3 Dispersants currently approved for use in at least two of the following countries: France, UK, USA.

Product name	Manufacturer	Address	Telephone	Website
COREXIT EC9500A	NALCO ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS LLC	7705 Highway 90-A Sugar Land, TX 77478 Texas, USA	+1 281 263 7709 +1 832 851 5164	http://www.nalcoesllc.com
COREXIT® EC9500B				
DASIC SLICKGONE NS	DASIC INTERNATIONAL Ltd	Winchester Hill Romsey Hamsphire SO51 7YD, UK	+44(0) 1794 512 419	http://www.dascinter.com
FINASOL OSR 51	INTERNATIONAL Ltd	24, cours Michelet La Défense 10 F-92069 PARIS LA DEFENSE Cedex PARIS, France	+33(0) 1 41 35 56 25 +33(0) 1 41 35 60 29	http://totalfluides.fr
FINASOL OSR 52	TOTAL FLUIDES			
OD 4000	INNOSPEC Ltd Innospec Manufacturing Park	Oil Sites Road Ellesmere Port Cheshire, CH65 4EY, UK	+44 (0)151 355 3611	http://innospecinc.com
	INNOSPEC Ltd Regional Sales & Marketing Management	17, route de Rouen F-27950 SAINT MARCEL France	+33(0)2 32 64 80 63	
SUPERDISPERSANT 25	OIL SLICK DISPERSANTS Limited	Beck Cottage – Main Street Elvington York Y041 4AG, UK	+44(0)1904 607910	http://www.oilslickdispersants.co.uk
SEACARE ECOSPERSE 52	WILHEMSEN CHEMICALS AS	Region Africa, Middle East and Black Sea FL21, Executive heights, tecom C Sheikh Zayed Road (East) P.O. Box 8612 Dubai United Arab Emirates	(+39) 010 614 2102 (+39) 335 7539245	http://www.wilhelmsenchemicals.com
SEACARE ECOSPERSE LT23				
RADIAGREEN OSD	OLEN N.V	Industriezone Ter Straten Vaartstraat 130 B-2520 Oelegem, Belgium	+32 (0)3 470 62 01	www.oleon.com

9. New product approval procedure

The Gambia is in the process of defining its own approval procedure. Approval for the import, storage, handling and disposal of chemical dispersants in The Gambia is the responsibility of the National Environment Agency. Approval for use in waters under The Gambia's jurisdiction is the responsibility of The Gambia Maritime Administration. A national process that defines the approval criteria and application process for new products in The Gambia will be developed in due course.

10. Operational procedures

The Gambia does not own or maintain spraying equipment or dispersant product at present (September 2025). Anyone wishing to apply dispersants in waters under The Gambia's jurisdiction must adhere to the following procedures.

6.1 Notification

Anyone wishing to undertake dispersant application operations shall notify the National Coordinator (The Gambia Maritime Administration) either by phone (+220 996 4530) or by VHF radio (channels: VHF12, VHF16 or VHF67) and shall supply the following information:

- Location (coordinates) of intended use;
- Name and contact details of responder;
- Proposed date and time of application activities:
- Quantity and type of dispersant used.

6.2 Application

Successful dispersant application is dependent on operations following correct procedures and taking place under the proper circumstances. Dispersant should be applied:

- on the thick parts of the slick (brown to black in colour) while ignoring the thinnest parts (iridescence, sheen);
- systematically, taking into account the wind; and
- in accordance with reference documents and industry good practice, for example:
    - the IMO/UNEP Guidelines on Oil Spill Dispersant Application, Including Environmental Considerations, Appendix 6 – "Dispersant application at sea: operational procedure" (IMO-UNEP, 1995);
    - the IPIECA-IOGP guidelines entitled Dispersants: Surface Application (IPIECA-IOGP, 2015b);
    - CEDRE guide Using Dispersant to Treat Oil Slicks at Sea (CEDRE, 2005); or
    - Part III of the IMO Guidelines on the use of dispersants for combatting oil pollution at sea.

Wherever possible, treatment operations should be guided by a spotter aircraft. This aircraft's purpose is to identify optimal treatment locations and guide dispersant application to the targeted area. When necessary, these target areas can be marked with buoys. The low height of visual perspective offered by vessel operations can make it challenging to determine the location of the thickest patches of oil. Nonetheless, it is recognised that aerial monitoring may not always be feasible

and therefore, visual monitoring from a vessel should be undertaken from the highest possible elevation on board.

It is the responsibility of anyone wishing to use chemical dispersants as a response option to set-up a system allowing efficient chemical dispersion. As part of this, the guidance documents cited above shall be studied carefully and implemented into internal procedures.

In summary, successful and efficient dispersant application operations rely on:

Personnel

Personnel must be trained and competent to operate the spraying equipment and to evaluate the effectiveness of spraying.

Aerial guidance

Aerial guidance is essential where possible to guide spraying vessels/ aircraft onto the thickest/ largest slicks.

Choice of application equipment

Application of dispersant (used for vessel or aerial application) uses specialised equipment that ensures a regular spraying and distribution of dispersant (diameter of dispersant droplets, rate of application, spraying pattern etc.).

All dispersant-application equipment should undergo regular maintenance and be periodically tested through exercises.

Vessel-based application systems

It is paramount that the vessel system allows spraying dispersant correctly to ensure good chemical dispersion. Therefore, the vessel spraying system should allow:

- the application of the correct amount of dispersant, depending on the approximate slick thickness (and consequently the volume of oil to treat), on the selected Dispersant to Oil Ratio DOR (e.g. usually between 1:10 and 1:40), and on vessel speed and swath (width of sea covered by both spraying arms and the vessel breadth).
- spray, when needed, dispersant should be applied undiluted;
- spray dispersant in a correct spraying pattern:
    - fully covering the slick area (i.e. with no gaps),
    - positioned to limit aerial dispersion of the droplets with the wind,
    - composed of microdroplets thin enough to deposit on the oil slick, without going directly into the water column, and not too thin to avoid being carried away by the wind.
    - have nozzles orientated towards the sea surface, and not too far above the sea surface (e.g. recommended no more than approximately 2 m above the sea surface, will vary depending on systems).
    - Ideally utilise a spraying system, flow rate, pressure and nozzles that delivers a spray of microdroplets (optimal recommended droplets size is between 400µm to 800µm).
- spray dispersant on oil slicks, before they are pushed away by the bow wave when the vessel is sailing at an operational speed for spraying (3 to 5 knots maximum).

6.3 Dispersant storage, maintenance, transport, disposal and testing

Until such a time that the competent authority (National Environment Agency) develops specific guidance, regulations and procedures, the management and testing of dispersants shall adhere to processes outlined in the "Dispersant storage, maintenance, transport and testing" IPIECA-IOGP technical guidance document: https://www.ipieca.org/resources/dispersant-storage-maintenance-transport-and-testing

11. Health, safety and security

Personnel involved in dispersant operations must be protected from exposure by PPE (e.g. mask, eye protection, impermeable clothes and gloves).

If spraying is carried out close to the shore, precautions must be taken to ensure that the public is not exposed to dispersant droplets. Wind direction should be considered when identifying treatment zones.

Solid surfaces (especially ship decks) that may be exposed to dispersant spray should be flushed with water to prevent slipping.

Material and equipment in contact with the dispersant should be flushed with water to avoid any deterioration of paint, rubber seals or similar materials.

Spraying equipment should be rinsed with fresh water after use.

Where aerial dispersant application is feasible, operations shall be subject to the approval of The Gambia Civil Aviation Authority and other authorities where relevant.

12. Preparedness

Personnel responsible for the operation of dispersant application equipment should undergo regular and specialized training. This training can be integrated with the general training plan in the NOSCP. The Gambia Maritime Administration coordinates and supervises the training.

13. Fisheries and seafood safety

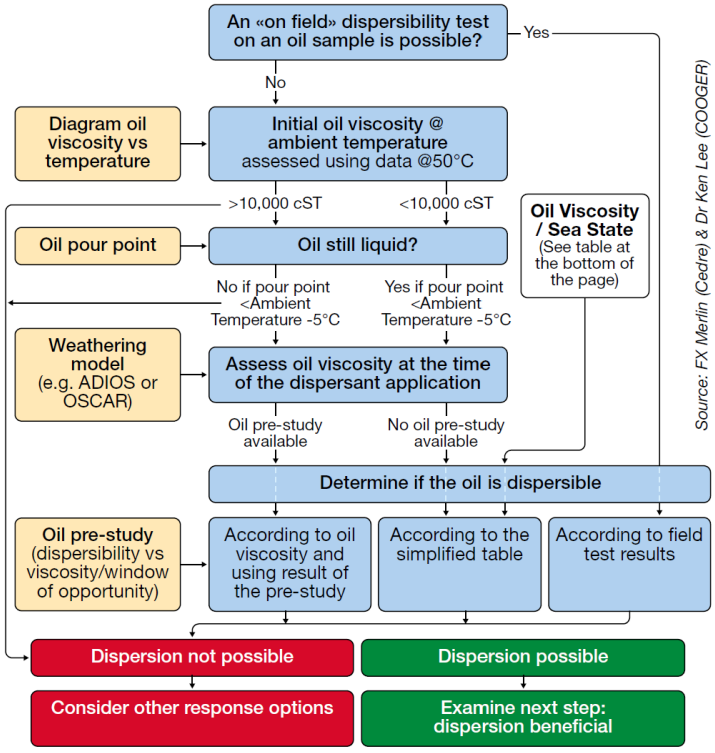
In some cases, chemical dispersion of significant volumes of oil may pose a greater risk of tainting and contamination of seafood. This can particularly be the case when dispersed oil migrates to sheltered, shallow environments. In some circumstances, and to ensure public safety, restrictions or closures of some fishing ground may be required. The need for restrictions and closures shall be determined by Department of Fisheries and Food Safety and Quality Authority, in consultation with the Technical Committee as defined by the NOSCP.

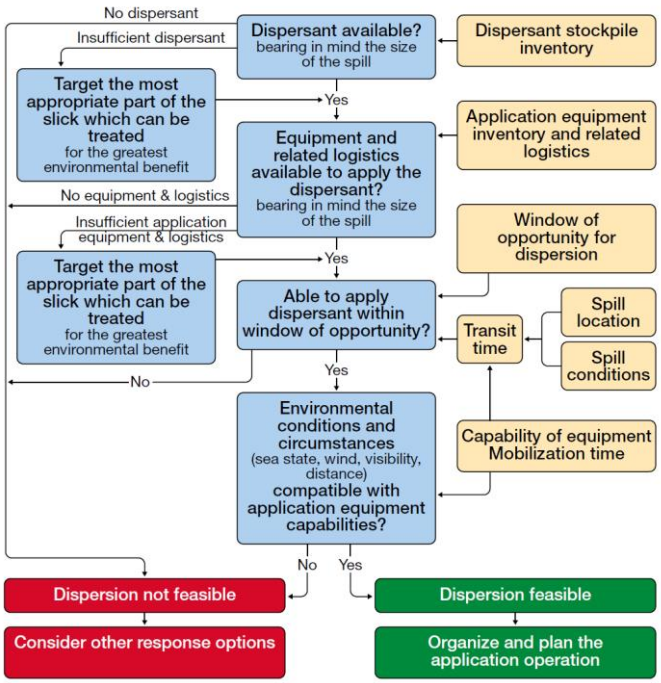
The removal of fishing restrictions shall adopt a Precautionary Principle approach and will adhere to the seafood safety and fisheries management guidelines in the NOSCP.

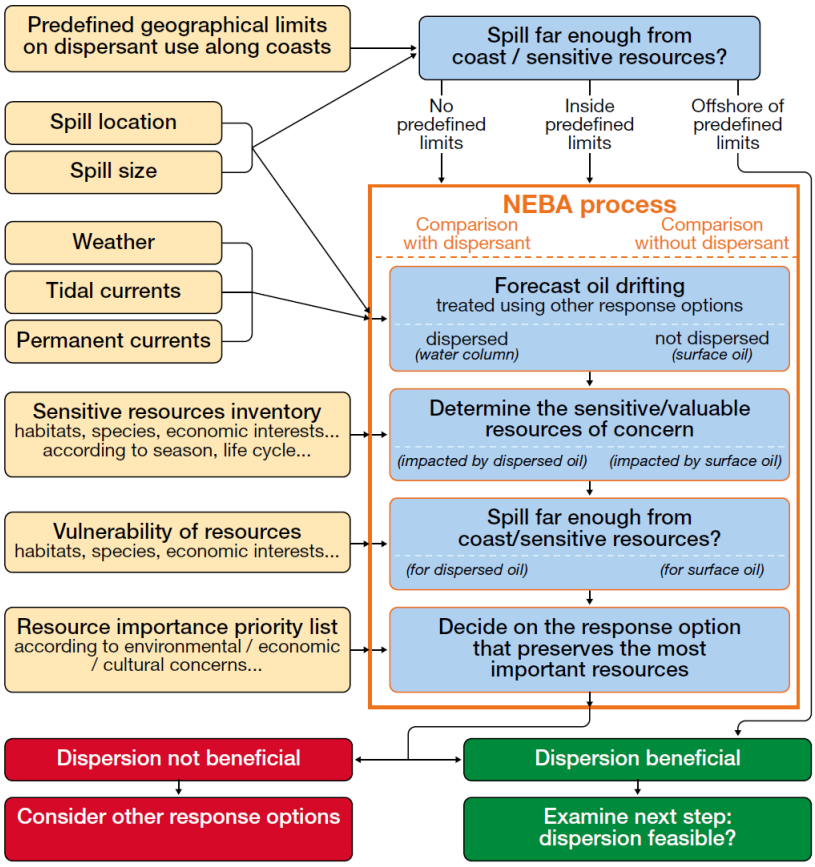
14. Environmental monitoring and impact assessment

Where there are concerns that the application of dispersant may have impacted environmentally sensitive habitats or species, post-incident monitoring may be required. In line with the NOSCP, this will be determined by the National Environment Agency and Department of Parks and Wildlife Management. Where a monitoring programme is deemed necessary, it will either be undertaken by them or where relevant, a polluter will be requested to do so.

7 Appendix 1 Guidance for determining dispersibility, capacity and environmental acceptability when considering dispersant use (source: IMO guidelines on






Predefined geographical limits on dispersant use along coasts
Spill far enough from coast / sensitive resources?
No predefined limits
Inside predefined limits
Offshore of predefined limits
Spill location
Spill size
Weather
Tidal currents
Permanent currents
NEBA process
Comparison with dispersant
Comparison without dispersant
Forecast oil drifting
treated using other response options
dispersed
(water column)
not dispersed
(surface oil)
Sensitive resources inventory
habitats, species, economic interests...
according to season, life cycle...
Determine the sensitive/valuable resources of concern
(impacted by dispersed oil)
(impacted by surface oil)
Vulnerability of resources
habitats, species, economic interests...
Spill far enough from coast/sensitive resources?
(for dispersed oil)
(for surface oil)
Resource importance priority list
according to environmental / economic / cultural concerns...
Decide on the response option that preserves the most important resources
Dispersion not beneficial
Dispersion beneficial
Consider other response options
Examine next step: dispersion feasible?

8 Appendix 2 Application form for Pre-Approval to Conduct Chemical Dispersant Surface Spraying

Applications may be made by manufacturers, rebranders, or intended users considering dispersant as a response option.Completed applications should be submitted by email to: info@gambiamaritime.com

8.1.1 Section 1: Applicant Information

Name of Applicant (organization/individual): _____

Contact Person: _____

Position/Title: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

8.1.2 Section 2: Storage

Item	Details
Location	
Facility	
Storage conditions	
Total stock and packaging	
Disposal plan in the event of expiration (must comply with national regulations)	

8.1.3

8.1.4

8.1.5 Section 3: Spraying Equipment and Platform (vessel or aircraft)

Item	Details
Description of spraying system	
Capability of system (operating speed, swath, dispersant flow rate, nozzles, etc.)	
Description of vessel or aircraft	

8.1.6 Section 4: Operational Procedures

Provide detailed operational procedures that comply with Section 10 of the guidance document.

_____

_____

_____

8.1.7 Section 5: Competent Personnel

Role	Number	Availability	Position/Title
To deploy and operate spraying equipment			
To evaluate effectiveness of spraying			
To command spraying operations on site			
To coordinate overall spraying operations			

8.1.8

8.1.9 Declaration

I hereby declare that the information provided in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Name: _____

Position/Title: _____

Signature: _____

4ur
Date: _____