

2014

A year in review



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About the GI WACAF

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 countries to prepare for and respond to marine oil spills.

A key innovative feature is to emphasise the promotion of public/private partnership for effective oil spill response. The GI WACAF Project is jointly funded by the International Maritime Organization and 9 oil companies.



The Project area covers 22 West, Central and Southern African countries. The scope is to organise workshops, training, seminars and deployment exercises in collaboration with national authorities in charge of oil spill response and in partnership with local business units.

GI WACAF Work Biennium 2014-2015

At the GI WACAF Regional Conference (Namibia, November 2013), Government and Industry Focal Points outlined their **priority goals** for the next biennium 2014-2015. The recommendations provided by delegates served as the foundation of the GI WACAF Strategic Plan. Delegates agreed that GI WACAF activities for the new biennium should be organised around 3 broad categories:

1. National level activities focused upon the core elements of the OPRC 90 Convention
2. Regional and Sub-regional activities
3. Specialised topics

At the **national level**, GI WACAF will prioritise its continued support of **practical exercises** that test the National Oil Spill Contingency Plans (NOSCPs), and where needed will continue to support the development and updating of NOSCPs through workshops.

At the **regional and sub-regional level**, there will be an increased focus upon **trans-boundary cooperation** between neighbouring countries that share common oil spill risks. Particular emphasis will be placed upon trans-boundary **exercises**.

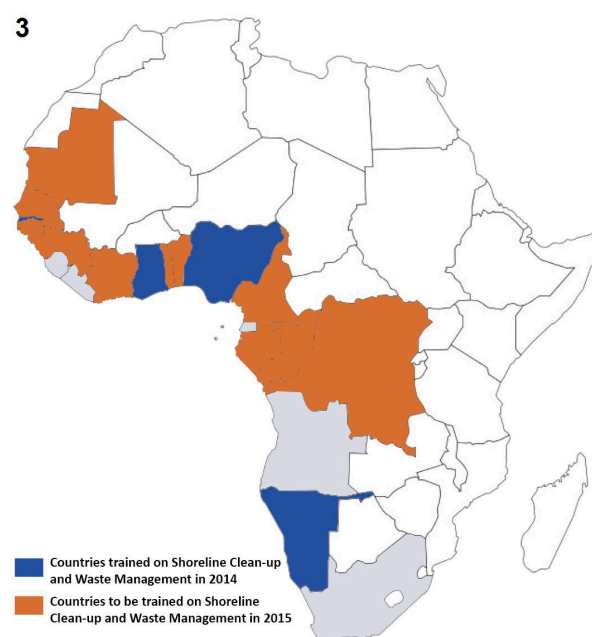
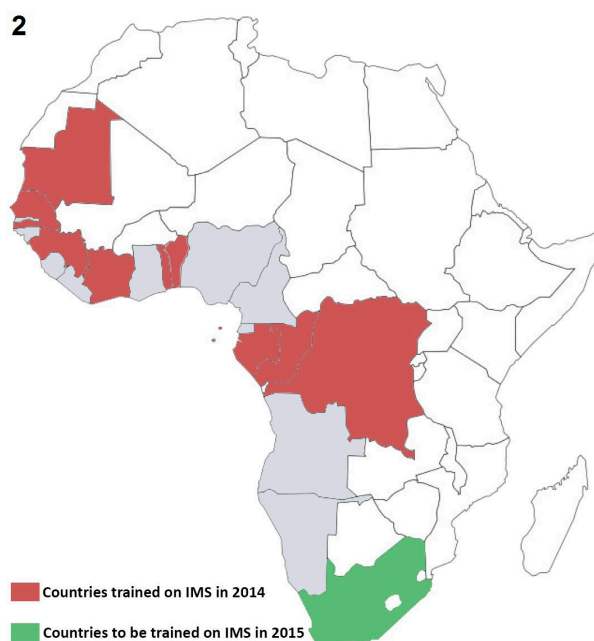
For **specialised topics**, in addition to existing GI WACAF key topics (such as sensitivity mapping, dispersant policy, liability and compensation), focus will also be placed upon developing: Incident Management System, Effective Exercising, Shoreline Cleanup, and Waste Management Plans ([GI WACAF Conference Report 2013](#)).

2014 Highlights

In total, **10 activities** were organised in 2014 in **7 countries**:

- 3 sub-regional workshops
- 6 national workshops
- 1 exercise.

A total of 5 countries received training on **Legislation** (see map 1). Representatives from 10 different countries were trained on **Incident Management System (IMS)** and another activity on the same topic will be organised in 2015 (see map 2). Finally the topics of **Shoreline Clean-up and Assessment Technique (SCAT)** and **Waste Management** were the focus of activities for 4 countries in 2014 and will be discussed by 12 other countries in 2015 (see map 3).



2014 in numbers

460

people trained on oil spill related topics

\$229,000

spent on activities










13

countries engaged in GI WACAF events

6

NOSCPs tested or updated

2014 activities timeline (click on the title to read the report)

January		Cameroon	National deployment exercise and national workshop on contingency planning
February		South Africa	Abidjan Convention Conference of Parties (COP) 11
March		United Kingdom	IPIECA Oil Spill Working Group (OSWG) meeting and Joint Industry Project (JIP) Communication session
April		Sao Tome and Principe	National workshop on contingency planning and sensitivity mapping
May		Ghana	National workshop on contingency planning
		United States	International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC)
June		Côte d'Ivoire	Sub-regional workshop on Incident Management System
July			
August		Angola	National workshop on dispersants and in-situ burning
September			
October		Guinea-Bissau	National workshop on contingency planning
November		Gabon	Sub-regional workshop on liability and compensation
December		Ghana	Sub-regional workshop on SCAT and Waste Management
		Côte d'Ivoire	National workshop on sensitivity mapping



In-region activities



External engagement

2014 in-region activities snapshots (click on the title to read the report)



January - Cameroon - National deployment exercise

The event was attended by more than 100 participants from both the public and the private sector. The scenario of the exercise was based on a major oil spill at the National Oil Refinery (SONARA) installations in Limbe in order to identify key recommendations for updating the NOSCP.



April - Sao Tome and Principe - National workshop on contingency planning and sensitivity mapping

During this activity, the system of coordination and control of the NOSCP was reviewed, the responsibilities of government agencies and oil companies were defined and the team in charge of finalising the draft of the National Plan was put in place.



May - Ghana - National workshop on contingency planning

The workshop focused upon reviewing the current version of the NOSCP. Other objectives were to create a steering committee in charge of the oversight of the Plan, to identify subject areas that require more discussion and to develop an action plan for the finalisation of the NOSCP including identification of responsible parties and deadlines.



June - Côte d'Ivoire - Sub-regional workshop on Incident Management System (IMS)

The event gathered Government and industry participants from 10 French-speaking countries of the region. Delegates acknowledged the importance of having an effective IMS as part of their NOSCPs and agreed to help support its implementation across the region.



August - Angola - National workshop on dispersants and in-situ burning

The objectives of this workshop were to improve the knowledge and share best practices on dispersants and in-situ burning, determine the priority actions to strengthen oil spill preparedness and response capability in Angola and create a draft action plan to achieve this.



October - Guinea Bissau - National workshop on contingency planning

The workshop gathered more than 50 participants from different ministries and government agencies. The main objectives of the workshop were to train participants on relevant international conventions and oil spill response strategies and to assist the government of Guinea Bissau in developing the NOSCP.



November - Gabon - Sub-regional workshop on liability and compensation

Around 45 Government and industry delegates from 5 French-speaking countries attended the workshop. The objective was to train participants on the principles of the international conventions on liability and compensation for damages caused by oil pollution. The key recommendations were to ratify and implement the relevant conventions into national law.



December - Côte d'Ivoire - National workshop on sensitivity mapping

The main objectives of the workshop were to train national delegates on sensitivity mapping, to identify missing sensitivities and include them on recently developed maps using a Geographic Information System. Around 40 participants from various ministries, agencies, oil industry, universities and Non-Governmental Organisations attended the workshop.



December - Ghana - Sub-regional workshop on Shoreline Clean-up and Assessment Technique (SCAT) and waste management

The sub-regional workshop gathered 23 Government and industry delegates coming from 4 English-speaking African countries. The main objective of this workshop was to provide delegates with the essential knowledge and skills to establish and manage effective shoreline clean-up and waste management operations within their respective countries.

2014 external engagements



February - South Africa - Abidjan Convention Conference of Parties (COP) 11

The event served as an opportunity to outreach to relevant government organisations in the region on the topic of oil spill preparedness. Outcomes from the event included the establishment of a Regional Coordination Centre for Marine Pollution in Nigeria and the development of environmental standards for offshore exploration and exploitation activities.

March - United Kingdom - IPIECA Oil Spill Working Group meeting and JIP session

GI WACAF participated at both the IPIECA Oil Spill Working Group (OSWG) meeting, and the Joint Industry Project (OGP / IPIECA JIP) Communication session. The objective of the latter was to develop a strategy by which the various GI programmes could support JIP outreach within their respective regions.



May - United States - International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC)

GI WACAF presented the evolution of the project since its launch and outlined plans for its future development. Throughout the week, GI WACAF was present at the IPIECA exhibition booth, which provided an opportunity to engage with stakeholders on issues related to the project. It was also during IOSC that a video documentary outlining the role and the achievements of GI WACAF was launched. The [documentary](#) was produced in collaboration with IMO and is available on the GI WACAF website.



A network of trained and committed focal points across the region

The GI WACAF Project relies on a network of Focal Points from the governments and the industry that ensure the effective implementation of the Work Plan. Last year, the involvement of our Focal Points was again critical to the successful delivery of our programme. The following Focal Points were particularly active in 2014.



Mr Kojo Agbenor-Efunam - Ghana

Mr Agbenor-Efunam, Deputy Director Oil&Gas of the Environmental Protection Agency of Ghana, was one of the most active Government Focal Point with the organisation of a national workshop to update the NOSCP in May and a sub-regional workshop on Shoreline Clean-up and Waste Management in December.



Mr Louis-Léandre Ebobola Tsibah - Gabon

The sub-regional workshop on liability and compensation held in Libreville was one of the highlights of 2014. Mr. Ebobola Tsibah, Director of Environment, was the main driver during the preparation and delivery of this event. He also promotes the cooperation between the private and public sectors in Gabon through an active "GI WACAF National Committee" composed of key industry and government stakeholders.



Mr Samuel Minkeng - Cameroon

Mr Minkeng, Permanent Secretary of the Pipeline Steering and Monitoring Committee (PSMC) brought strong support in the organisation of the national deployment exercise organised in January 2014. Thanks to his involvement, more than 100 people from the public and private sector attended the exercise.



Mr Banjo Adeogba - Nigeria

Mr Adeogba, Manager of Emergency Response in Shell Nigeria, has been very active in the Industry Focal Points Group. He also attended in-region activities and provided technical expertise on oil spill response.

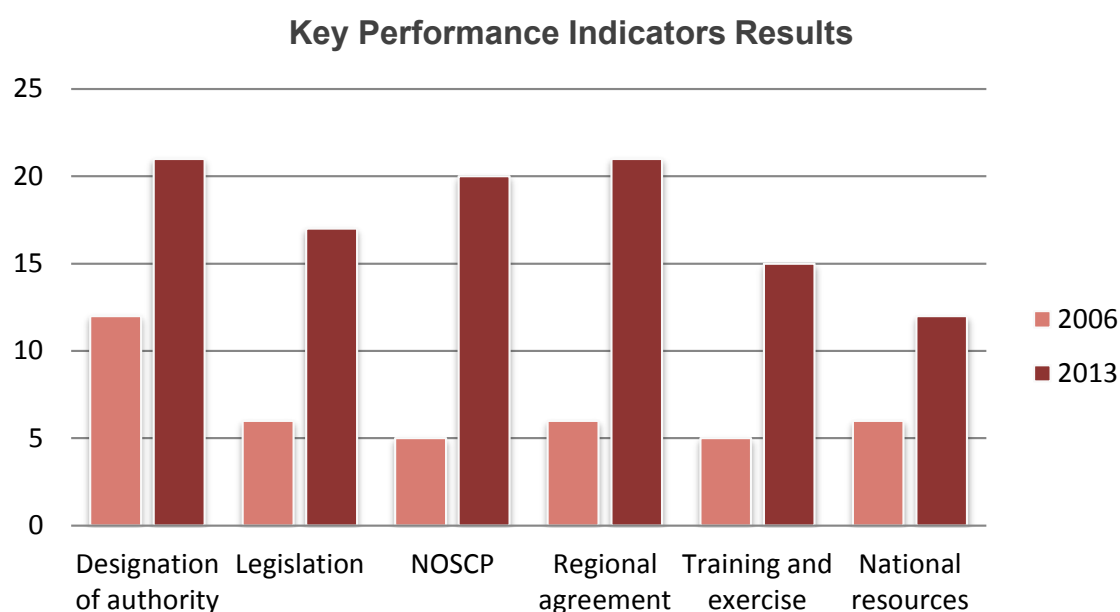
New Industry Focal Point Correspondance Group

The second quarter of 2014 saw the establishment of the Industry Focal Point Correspondance Group. The group consists of Focal Points from GI WACAF member companies based in the region. The objective is to keep these local members informed on the project progress and to give them the opportunity to engage in the programme activities taking place in their area. The group undertakes quarterly conference calls.

GI WACAF Key Performance Indicators

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. The data was first collected in 2006 to provide a benchmark, monitored since then and updated most recently in 2014 to confirm progress and improvements:

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 an approved NOSCP
4. **Regional agreement:** The country has in place either a regional, sub-regional, or bi-lateral agreement relating to oil spill response cooperation
5. **Training and Exercise:** The country has undertaken a national level oil spill training and exercise event
6. **National Resources:** The country has equipment and resources to adequately address oil spill risks



Source: Data taken from GI WACAF National Profiles, 2014.
Available on [GI WACAF website](#)

In comparison to 2006, the results from 2014 show a **significant increase** in the overall level of oil spill response capability across the region. For example, between 2006 and 2014 there was a significant increase in the number of countries that had ratified a regional, sub-regional, or bilateral agreement, and there was a similar increase in the number of countries that had undertaken training and exercises relating to oil spills. For the remaining key performance indicators there was a strong improvement; for example, there was a 20% increase in the number of countries which had ratified the OPRC 90 Convention.

Evolution of the GI WACAF Work Programme

The GI WACAF programme was launched with the broad aim of achieving tangible improvement in oil spill response preparedness and cooperation within the 22 countries of West, Central, and Southern Africa. During the launch, a broad picture of the state of preparedness and response capability in the region was created, with the information being provided by relevant government and industry representatives through a gap analysis study. The following six aspects of preparedness were focussed upon: Legislation, Planning, Training, Exercise, Equipment and capacity for implementation ([GI WACAF Annual Review](#), 2006).

The gap analysis results showed low levels of national preparedness and response capability across the region, and based upon these findings, GI WACAF prioritised the following activities as key to ensuring improvements:

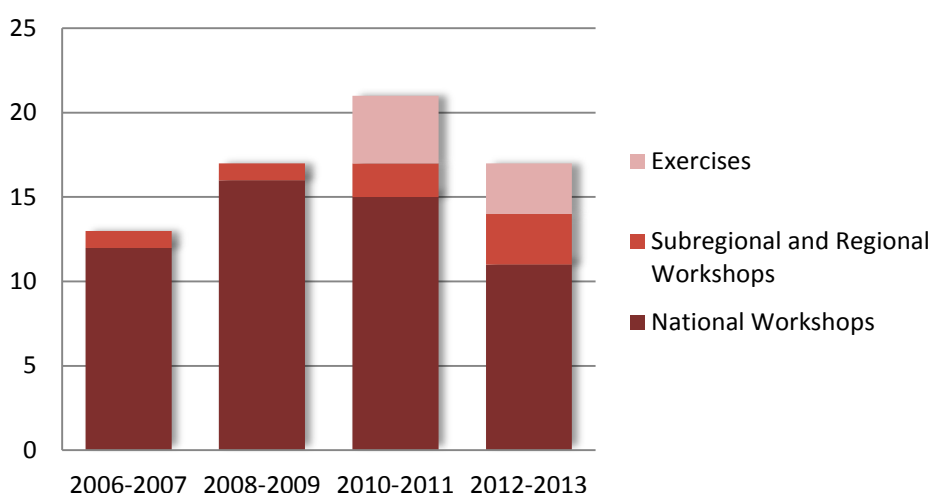
1. Gain a clear **commitment** in each country to:
 - Develop a national structure for oil spill response and preparedness
 - Ratify and implement Conventions including OPRC 90, CLC92 and Fund 92
2. Focus efforts in each country to implement an **oil spill national action plan**
3. Clarify **roles, responsibilities and resources** for preparedness and response within each country

As an example of the early GI WACAF work plan, between 2006 and 2009, the project undertook over 25 workshops across 16 different countries in the GI WACAF region, with over 90% of the workshops being undertaken at the national level, focusing predominantly on developing the foundational elements of oil spill response and preparedness.

From 2010, the GI WACAF work programme became more **diversified**. First, the programme began to focus on testing the NOSCPs of the countries through table top exercises and the actual deployment of response equipment. Secondly, the programme started to focus on specialised topics (i.e. topics which are sub-categories of the core elements of response and preparedness) such as sensitivity mapping and dispersant application. And thirdly, an increasing number of activities were undertaken at the regional and sub-regional level.

In effect, the GI WACAF began to evolve from a foundational work programme primarily on the core elements of response and preparedness at the national level, to a work programme that reinforces these foundational elements but focuses more on **regional and sub-regional activities**, supporting **exercises** to test capability, and increasingly varied in **specific technical work** tailored to support ongoing in-country developments.

Evolution of GI WACAF work programme



Source: Data taken from the [GI WACAF website](#)

The future development of the GI WACAF

For the second half of the 2014-2015 work biennium, the GI WACAF Project will continue working on the implementation of the recommendations from the last Regional Conference.

- At the **national level**, GI WACAF will continue to support practical exercises to test the NOSCPs.
- At the **sub-regional level**, the project will look to implement an ambitious programme of activities with the first transboundary exercise between Cameroon and Nigeria taking place in March. This event will be replicated between Congo and Gabon later in the year.
- The focus on the **specialised topics** identified in 2013 will also be maintained with national and sub-regional activities on Shoreline Clean-up, Waste Management, Effective exercising, Dispersant Policy, Incident Management System and Sensitivity Mapping.
- Finally, the **6th GI WACAF Regional Conference** will be organised in November 2015 in Ghana. The event will gather industry and government focal points from across the region whose primary objectives will be to review progress achieved and prioritise project goals for the next biennium.

List of 2015 activities (subject to change):

Senegal	March	National workshop and table-top exercise on Dispersants
Cameroon and Nigeria	March	Transboundary exercise to test the lines of communication in case of an oil spill
South Africa	April	National workshop on Incident Management System
The Gambia	May	National workshop on sensitivity mapping and Shoreline Clean-up
Ghana	May	National workshop on Contingency planning
Angola	June	HSSE Angola Conference
Namibia	June	National workshop on Waste Management
Togo	July	Sub-regional workshop on Shoreline Clean-up and Waste Management
Congo and Gabon	September	Transboundary exercise to test the lines of communication in case of an oil spill and sub-regional workshop on effective exercising
Angola	October	National workshop on Trans-boundary issues
Ghana	November	6th GI WACAF Regional Conference

The project management team

In August 2014, **Scott Smith** (CononoPhillips) succeeded Richard Santner (BP) as GI WACAF Chairman.

Philip Ruck became the new Oil Spill Working Group (OSWG) Project Manager at IPIECA in August 2014, replacing Elisabeth Bonneville.

Colleen O'Hagan was appointed as the new OPRC HNS Technical Officer, Sub-Division for Implementation of the Marine Environment Division at the IMO in September 2014.

Chloé Blais was appointed as the new GI WACAF Project Consultant, replacing Benjamin Jeanne, in September 2014.

Strategic level

Chair



**Scott
Smith**

IMO



**Jose
Matheickal**



**Colleen
O'Hagan**

IPIECA



**Philip
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Implementation



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Project Manager



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Project Consultant



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The GI WACAF Project is an IMO / IPIECA partnership

