

2016

Mid-Year 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 partnerships 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 exercises in collaboration with national authorities in charge of oil spill response and in partnership with local business units.

GI WACAF Mid-Year Review 2016

2016 constitutes the beginning of a new biennium for the Project. During the first months of the year, the GI WACAF Secretariat focused on strategic planning with the production of the work programme for 2016 and 2017, based on the recommendations received from the delegates during the Regional Conference in November 2015. The Secretariat also reflected on past activities with the publication of the [2015 Annual Review](#).

The implementation phase started in March with national workshops and exercises delivered in West, Central and Southern Africa. One of the highlights was the workshop in Sao Tome and Principe which aimed to develop national legislation and processes related to oil spill preparedness and response.

The Project was also delighted to welcome South Africa as a full member of the Initiative in February. A national workshop on contingency planning was organised in June to strengthen this new cooperation.

Finally, the Project will celebrate its 10th anniversary this year. A special publication will be prepared to reflect on the progress made in the region over the past decade and to look back on the important milestones.

2016 Activities Timeline [click on to read the report](#)

March		Sao Tome and Principe	National workshop to develop a system for the prevention of, preparedness for and response to oil spills 
		United States	IPIECA Oil Spill Working Group meeting
May		Cabo Verde	National workshop on Contingency Planning and Liability and Compensation in case of an oil spill 
		Guinea	National workshop to finalise the system for the prevention of, preparedness for and response to oil spills 
June		Sierra Leone	National workshop and Exercise on Contingency Planning and Incident Management System (IMS) 
		South Africa	National workshop to review the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan 
August		Liberia	National workshop on Contingency Planning and Sensitivity Mapping
September		Namibia	Sub-regional workshop on the use of Incident Management System and Net Environmental Benefit Analysis in oil spill response and preparedness
		United Kingdom	IPIECA Oil Spill Working Group meeting
October		Nigeria	National workshop on Oil Spill Modelling
November		Côte d'Ivoire	National workshop on Liability and Compensation and Deployment exercise to test the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan
December		Senegal	Sub-regional workshop on Dispersant and the use of Net Environmental Benefit Analysis (NEBA) in oil spill response and preparedness



In-region activities



External engagement



Upcoming activities
(subject to change)

2016 Activities Snapshots



March - Sao Tome and Principe - National workshop to develop a system for the prevention of, preparedness for and response to oil spills

Around 41 participants attended the workshop. The specific objectives were to set up the legal and organisational framework and to draft a National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP). In order to achieve these objectives, three dedicated working groups were established. Participants were able to draft an inter-ministerial decision establishing roles and responsibilities, a draft national law on the prevention of, preparedness for and response to oil spills and draft ratification tools to be sent to IMO. More details on this activity on page 6.

March - United States - IPIECA Oil Spill Working Group meeting

The Oil Spill Working Group meeting organised in Houston 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 outlined the work programme for the next biennium 2016-2017. Participants also discussed international conferences and workshops on oil spill response organised in 2016.

IPIECA



May - Cabo Verde - National workshop on Contingency Planning and Liability and Compensation in case of an oil spill

The national workshop was organised in Mindelo by the Maritime and Port Agency. It gathered 46 delegates from different ministries, agencies and universities as well as representatives of shipping and oil and gas companies to review the NOSCP and to provide guidance on IMO Conventions related to liability and compensation. The main recommendations that came out of the workshop were to ratify the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage, finalise the risk assessment process as well as the identification of response options for Cabo Verde and develop provisions on waste management.



May - Guinea - National workshop to finalise the system for the prevention of, preparedness for and response to oil spills

The workshop aimed to assist in the consolidation of a national system for the prevention of, preparedness for and response to oil spills. Around 24 participants attended the workshop. The main recommendations that were identified were to finalise and approve the documents drafted during the workshop (a draft inter-ministerial decision establishing roles and responsibilities, and a draft NOSCP), to organise the first meeting of the Commission in charge of finalising the National Plan, to ratify relevant international Conventions and to develop sensitivity maps.



June - Sierra Leone - National workshop and Exercise on Contingency Planning and Incident Management System (IMS)

The objectives of the workshop were to test the NOSCP and to train participants on the efficient implementation of an IMS. Around 37 participants attended the workshop. Participants were guided through three days of presentations, case studies and working group sessions. The fourth day was dedicated to a table-top exercise. Based on the discussions and the outcomes of the exercise, participants identified important recommendations such as the necessity to clarify roles and responsibilities, the development of a programme of training and exercises



June - South Africa - National workshop to review the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan

Held in Cape Town and hosted by the Department of Transport, the workshop gathered 55 delegates from different ministries and agencies as well as representatives from the private sector. During the workshop, delegates drafted a bill for new laws and regulations as well as amendments to existing laws and regulations aiming at incorporating into the legal system the main provisions of the relevant international conventions, clarifying and specifying the responsibilities in the field of prevention, preparedness and response. In addition, the workshop commenced an update of the NOSCP and developed a framework for a guidance document for the completion of industry Oil Spill Contingency Plans.



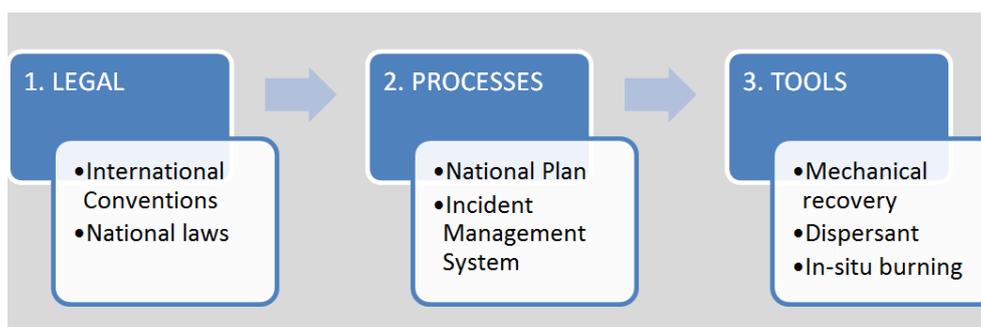
August - Liberia - National workshop on Contingency Planning and Sensitivity Mapping

This event took place in Monrovia from 1 to 4 August. The objectives were to provide training of relevant national authorities on contingency planning, to review the current version of the NOSCP and identify areas that may require amendment. It also aimed to provide training on the collection, processing and mapping of coastal sensitivity data, and on how to use the mapping information to ensure an effective response to marine oil spills.

Focus on the national workshop to develop a national system for the prevention of, preparedness for and response to oil spills in Sao Tome and Principe

Whilst strong progress in oil spill preparedness has been made at the regional level, the rate of oil spill response development has varied between countries. That is why one of the recommendations identified by delegates during the last Regional Conference held in Accra in November 2015 was to maintain focus on the implementation of the core elements of the OPRC 90 Convention. Based on these recommendations, the Project activities for 2016-2017 aimed to be tailored to the needs of individual countries.

The national workshop to develop a national system for the prevention of, preparedness for and response to oil spills was organised in Sao Tome from 21 to 24 March 2016. It gathered 41 delegates from different ministries and agencies as well as representatives from NGOs. It aimed to set up the legal and organisational framework and to draft a national contingency plan. This first step is of utmost importance and constitutes the basis for the development of policies, processes and tools related to oil spill preparedness and response.



The workshop took place at an important time for the development of Sao Tome and Principe: in 2015, Sao Tome and Principe was granted a loan by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund in support of the energy sector, the state budget and promoting economic growth. The Prime Minister, Patrice Trovoada, outlined his vision for the country in the “2030 Transformation Agenda”. Plans are underway to construct a deep sea port and to expand the international airport. There are also exploration activities in the Joint Development Zone between Sao Tome and Principe and Nigeria. Finally, the archipelago also faces risks related to the growing level of shipping activity in the region. In this context, national authorities acknowledged the importance of a national system for the prevention of, preparedness for and response to oil spills.



In order to address the workshop's objectives, three dedicated working groups were established to focus on:

- the legal and organisational framework
- the draft National Oil Spill Contingency Plan
- the annexes to the Plan

Side meetings were also organised between the GI WACAF Consultant, Ms Chloe Blais, and key stakeholders such as the Minister of Infrastructures, Natural Resources and Environment, the Ministry of Defense and Sea and the UNDP Permanent Representative.

This methodology enabled participants to produce the following draft documents :

- draft interministerial decision establishing roles and responsibilities of the different entities involved in the prevention of, preparedness for and response to oil spill
- draft national law on the prevention of, preparedness for and response to oil spill
- draft ratification tools to be sent to IMO for OPRC 90, CLC 92, FUND 92, BUNKER 2001 and INTERVENTION 69
- draft NOSCP
- draft annexes to the NOSCP

The main recommendations that came out of the workshop were to:

- finalise and approve, against an action plan that was decided by participants, the documents drafted during the workshop
- organise the first meeting of the Commission established by the interministerial decision which will be in charge of finalising the NOSCP

On 13 April 2016, following the workshop, the Government approved the draft ratification tools for CLC 92, FUND 92 and OPRC 90. The competent authorities contacted the Legal Division of the International Maritime Organization on 28 April to start the accession process to the Conventions.

Upcoming Activities (subject to change):

September - Namibia - Sub-regional workshop on the use of Incident Management System (IMS) and Net Environmental Benefit Analysis (NEBA) in oil spill response and preparedness

This workshop will be an opportunity to bring together delegates from 10 English-speaking or Portuguese-speaking countries of the region to discuss challenges related to oil spill preparedness and response in the WACAF region. The main objectives will be to provide training on the development and implementation of an efficient national IMS and on the use of NEBA in oil spill response and preparedness. It will be organised in Walvis Bay, Namibia, from 26 to 29 September 2016.

October - Nigeria - National workshop on Oil Spill Modelling

The two-day national workshop on oil spill modelling will be hosted by the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency of Nigeria. It will aimed to provide a detailed introduction to oil spill modelling and an outline of the basic requirements for establishing capability in Nigeria and the wider region.

November - Côte d'Ivoire - National workshop on Liability and Compensation and Deployment exercise to test the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan

This event will take place in Abidjan and will be hosted by CIAPOL, the Anti-Pollution Center of Côte d'Ivoire. The objectives will be to provide training of relevant national authorities on contingency planning and liability and compensation. A deployment exercise will also be organised to test the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan.

December - Senegal - Sub-regional workshop on Dispersant and the use of NEBA in oil spill response and preparedness

This sub-regional event will take place in Dakar in November. Participants from French-speaking countries of the region will discuss the use of dispersants in oil spill response.

Communications



2015 Annual Review

GI WACAF published the 2015 Annual Review. It includes details about in-region activities as well as external engagement organised during the year. It also provides an overview of the Project achievements during the 2014-2015 biennium. The publication focuses on the bilateral exercises as well as on the Regional Conference. Finally, it introduces the work programme for 2016 and 2017. The document is available on the website in [English](#) and in [French](#).

The Project Management Team

Strategic level	Industry Chair	Industry Vice-Chair	Industry Vice-Chair	IMO	
					
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The GI WACAF Project is an IMO / IPIECA Partnership

