



# MID-YEAR REVIEW 2018



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**ExxonMobil**

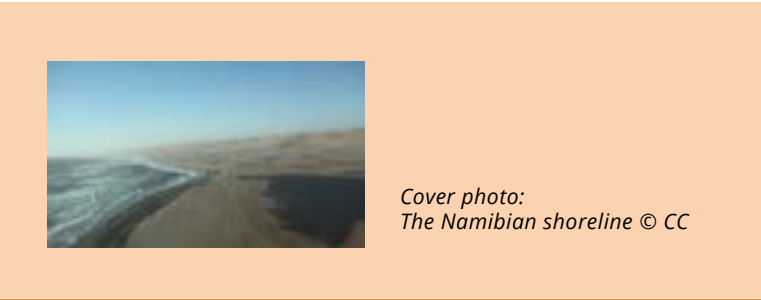


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ABOUT THE PROJECT

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 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 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](#).





# 2016-2017: THE 6<sup>TH</sup> WORK BIENNIUM OF THE GI WACAF PROJECT

The 2016-2017 biennium culminated with the Regional Conference, which took place in November 2017 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. The objectives of the Regional Conference were to review the progress achieved through the 2016-2017 biennium and to determine priority actions for the next cycle in view to enhancing oil spill preparedness and response in the region. These priority actions were summarized in recommendations put forward by the national delegates from the GI WACAF partner countries and are all presented in [the Report of the GI WACAF Regional Conference 2017](#).

Based on the recommendations, the Project Secretariat prepared a strategic action plan and a work programme for the 2018-2019 biennium, which were both approved by the Project's Steering Committee.

The implementation phase started in March with a national workshop in South Africa, followed by several activities delivered in west, central and southern Africa. One of them was a sub-regional workshop for English-speaking countries held in Namibia to address the issue of shoreline response. At the same time, the Project is taking part in external

initiatives dedicated to oil spill preparedness and response in the region. Recognized as a key regional player in strengthening oil spill preparedness and response capacities, the GI WACAF Project was invited by the MAVA Foundation to contribute to the design, approval and subsequent implementation of one of its projects. With a principle aim to improve the management of environmental risks related to the offshore oil and gas industry in West Africa, this project, named the MAVA/IDDRI Project, covers 4 partner countries of the GI WACAF: Mauritania, Senegal, Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone. Among other duties, the GI WACAF sits on the steering committee of Strategy 3 of the MAVA/IDDRI Project, devoted to contingency planning in the region. More information is available on the [following link](#).

Therefore, the implementation of the work programme by the GI WACAF Secretariat is well underway since the start of the new biennium in January 2018.

## Annual Report 2017

The GI WACAF Project published its Annual Report 2017. This includes details of activities organised in the region, as well as external undertakings with which the Project was involved throughout the year. This publication focuses on the GI WACAF Regional Conference organised in Côte d'Ivoire in November 2017. [French](#) and [English](#) versions of this document are available on the website.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2018

(CLICK ON TO DOWNLOAD THE REPORT)

February		Kazakhstan	OSPRI Annual Meeting	
February		Senegal	Steering Committee of the MAVA/IDDRI project on environmental management of offshore gas and oil activities in West Africa	
March		South Africa	National workshop and training on Incident Management System (300)	
March		Senegal	Work programme development workshop to improve response capacities to pollution risks posed by offshore gas and oil activities in West Africa (MAVA/IDDRI Project)	
March		United Kingdom	IPIECA Oil Spill Group	
March		United Kingdom	Interspill	
May		Equatorial Guinea	Preparatory mission and national workshop on contingency planning	
May		Namibia	National OPRC level II training course	
June		Namibia	Sub-regional workshop on shoreline response to oil spills	
June		Guinea-Bissau	National workshop for the development of a national system for preparedness and response to oil spills	

- IN REGION ACTIVITIES
- EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENTS



# ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

## MARCH, SOUTH AFRICA

### National workshop and training on Incident Management System (300)

Some thirty participants took part in this workshop. The key objective was to provide the delegates with a comprehensive knowledge of incident management systems to efficiently manage incidents or events that are ‘expanding’ beyond the capabilities of localized resources. In order to address the objectives of the workshop, participants were guided through three days of presentations, working group sessions, discussions, before undertaking a table top exercise. A debrief was organised following the exercise. Feedbacks and recommendations made during the workshop are available [in the online report](#).



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## MAY, EQUATORIAL GUINEA

### Preparatory mission and national workshop on contingency planning

The Project conducted a preparatory mission and a national workshop in Equatorial Guinea in May. The intention was to strengthen a national system to prepare and respond to marine oil spills. This led the GI WACAF delegation to pursue two main objectives: to draft documents to ratify relevant IMO Conventions and transpose them into national law, and to complete the draft national oil spill contingency plan.

More than 30 participants coming from various government and private sector entities gathered during the four day workshop. Working groups were set up, and experts from the GI WACAF delegation facilitated the discussions. At the end of the workshop, the participants presented an administrative text and recommendations to high-level public authorities.

A report was drawn up by the Project and submitted to the competent authorities.



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## MAY, NAMIBIA

### National OPRC level II training course

The Namibian authorities are currently building their oil spill response capacities by setting up an operations team that would be responsible for conducting response operations in case of an oil spill. Following a request by the Namibian authorities, the GI WACAF organized a three day national training course based on IMO's OPRC level II model course. The main objectives were to provide delegates with essential knowledge and skills to be able to prepare for and respond to oil spills at an operational level, and thorough understanding of the common challenges and complexities in implementing an effective preparation and response system. Over 30 participants from the relevant national authorities attended the workshop. An activity report is available [online](#).



© Namibian ministry of works and transport

## JUNE, NAMIBIA

### Sub-regional workshop on shoreline response to oil spills

The topic of shoreline response was considered as paramount in many recommendations made by national delegations during the GI WACAF Regional Conference in November 2017. It was therefore decided to focus more on this aspect of preparation and response to oil spills during the current biennium 2018-2019.

This sub-regional workshop brought together 8 different countries from English-speaking GI WACAF partner countries as well as national representatives from the Namibian authorities. The overall aim of the workshop was to strengthen the national marine oil pollution preparedness and response strategy by focusing on developing and implementing national policies regarding shoreline response to oil spills.

In order to meet the objectives of the workshop, the participants were guided through 3 days of presentations, case studies and working group sessions. It was complemented with a full day



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exercise organized into the following phases: Working groups, field assessment and field work exercise. At the end of the workshops, facilitators seized this opportunity to put forward recommendations on what needs to be taken into consideration during the planning and response phases, as well as discussed possible ways to overcome potential barriers.

The final activity report is [available online](#), and is described in greater details hereinafter.

## JUNE, GUINEA-BISSAU

### National workshop for the development of a national system for preparedness and response to oil spills

The GI WACAF conducted a national workshop in Guinea-Bissau following a request from the country to develop its national system for preparedness and response to oil spills. In close ties with the governmental Focal Point, the Project team delivered a four day workshop. Two main objectives were pursued during this workshop: to draft documents to ratify relevant IMO Conventions and transpose them into national law, and to initiate the drafting of a national oil spill contingency plan.

At the end of the workshop, the participants presented an administrative text and recommendations on a possible way forward. This was compiled in a report submitted by the national GI WACAF focal point to public authorities at a ministerial level.

A more detailed report will shortly be available on the Project website.



© Secretary of state for environment and sustainable development – Guinea Bissau

## OVERVIEW OF EXTERNAL EVENTS IN WHICH THE PROJECT HAS BEEN INVOLVED

### FEBRUARY, KAZAKHSTAN 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, Kazakhstan 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

2017. 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.

## FEBRUARY, SENEGAL

### Steering Committee of the MAVA/IDDRI project on environmental management of offshore gas and oil activities in West Africa

The GI WACAF secretariat was invited by [IDDRI](#) and the MAVA foundation to take part in the first steering committee of the MAVA/IDDRI project on environmental management of offshore gas and oil activities in West Africa that took place in Dakar, Senegal. The objectives of this first steering committee were to gather all the stakeholders

involved in this project. Each Strategy and relevant expectations were presented by the respective leaders, so that participants could get a better grasp on the whole Project. A monitoring plan aiming at evaluating the progress and outcomes achieved by the project was also discussed, as well as the communication channels and reporting procedures.

## MARCH, UNITED KINGDOM IPIECA Oil Spill Group Meeting

The Oil Spill Group meeting organised in London 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 2018-2019. Participants also discussed international conferences and workshops on oil spill response organised in 2018.

## MARCH, UNITED KINGDOM Interspill

[Interspill](#) is the industry leading oil spill conference and exhibition, which looks at potential issues to be raised from any future oil spills, including spill prevention, preparedness, response and restoration. Interspill provides a unique platform for oil spill professionals, academia and government to discuss and network. The GI WACAF Secretariat attended Interspill and seized this opportunity to meet with industry experts, consultants and GI WACAF country representatives gathered for the occasion.





MARCH, SENEGAL

Work programme development workshop to improve response capacities to pollution risks posed by offshore gas and oil activities in West Africa (MAVA/IDDRI Project)

The GI WACAF Project was invited by [IDDRI](#) and the MAVA foundation to take part in a workshop in Dakar, Senegal. The aim of this workshop was to consult stakeholders involved in the Strategy 3 of the MAVA/IDDRI Project dedicated to contingency planning and led by the Secretariat of the Abidjan Convention.

As a recognised stakeholder and part of the steering committee of this strategy, GI WACAF was able to share its expertise, as well as explore possible synergies thus avoiding any duplication of efforts in the region.

FEEDBACK ON THE SUB-REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON SHORELINE RESPONSE TO OIL SPILLS IN NAMIBIA

Developing shoreline response capability

During the GI WACAF 7<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference held in Cote d'Ivoire in November 2017, several countries expressed their wish to strengthen their shoreline response capabilities should an oil spill occur, as detailed in the [online report](#).

Following discussion with the Ministry of Works and Transport of Namibia, it was decided that Namibia would host this sub-regional activity on shoreline response to oil spills. All the non-francophone Focal Points of the GI WACAF Project were invited to attend this sub-regional workshop in Swakopmund, Namibia. National delegations came from, Angola, Cabo Verde, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, The Gambia, Sierra Leone and South Africa, in addition to Namibia as the host country.

Objectives of the workshop

The general objective of the workshop was to provide decision makers with a comprehensive knowledge of shoreline response at strategic,

tactical and operational levels. The audience of this workshop was composed of governmental representatives in charge of developing national systems for oil spill preparedness and response in their respective countries. In addition, some of the participants had more operational responsibilities, for example, leading the response and clean-up operations in case an oil spill occurs. Specifically tailored for this audience, the workshop had to cover all these aspects of shoreline response.

The workshop mostly focused on:

- 1. How to define shoreline clean-up strategies depending on the type of oil spilled, the type of shoreline and available equipment;
- 2. How to organize shoreline clean-up response and how to implement the different techniques;
- 3. How to decide when the shoreline clean-up response should end; and
- 4. How to take into account shoreline response considerations within a national system for preparedness and response to oil spills.

A methodology for decision makers with substantial considerations on practical aspects

In order to meet the objectives of the workshop, the participants were guided through 3 days of presentations, case studies and working group

sessions. A full day exercise complemented the programme. The said exercise was a practical application of the concepts of shoreline response presented by facilitators throughout the workshop. The goal of the exercise was to give the opportunity to stakeholders to put into practice their personal experience and technical knowledge acquired during the workshop.

The exercise was composed of five phases, each one representing different actions participants would have to face in case of a real oil spill:

PHASE 1	<b>Shoreline table-top exercise: strategic aspects</b>  Based on a hypothetical oil spill incident scenario, participants were divided in several working groups, and had to develop a shoreline management plan, detailing the oil clean-up response strategies they deemed most suitable.  By the end of phase 1, the participants had to have developed a shoreline response strategy.	
PHASE 2	<b>Shoreline visit – Reconnaissance</b>  Participants were invited to a field trip to visit the shoreline and identify the oil pollution, which had been simulated thanks to natural ingredients along the shore in front of the conference venue.  To do so, they received a dedicated form to fill in with their observations. This form had to be completed with care, as this was to be used extensively during the next steps of the shoreline practical.  The outcome of the shoreline visit served as a reconnaissance report which guided the actions of the participants during phase 3.	 <i>Participants estimating the oil coverage. Photo ©JF/GI WACAF.</i>
PHASE 3	<b>Field work organization</b>  This classroom-based session was dedicated to the theoretical organisation of the field work for the impacted site as observed in phase 2. To do so, participants had to plan the operational aspects of the response on the basis of the information gathered in phase 2.  The field work organization had to be as realistic as possible, given that participants had to implement the said field work organisation in the field during phase 4.	
PHASE 4	<b>Field work exercise</b>  Phase 4 was dedicated to the implementation of the operational plan developed during phase 3. Participants could choose to be either observers or responders. Guided by the facilitators, they initiated the setup of a work site with the equipment they were provided with.	 <i>Participants during the reconnaissance phase. Photo ©JF/GI WACAF.</i>
PHASE 5	<b>Exercise Debriefing</b>  A 'Hot Wash' debrief was conducted with all the delegates to capture their thoughts on the exercise for inclusion in the report organized into the following phases: Working groups, field assessment and field work exercises.	

Recommendations

Discussions and exchanges were encouraged throughout the activity, notably through dedicated sessions. Discussions related to the establishment and status of shoreline response strategies at national level, and how to link such strategy with the national system for preparation and response to oil spills. The facilitators seized this opportunity to put forward recommendations on what needs to be taken into consideration during the planning and response phases, as well as discussed possible way to overcome potential barriers.

The main recommendations are summarized below:

- Develop and/or update sensitivity maps of the shoreline to identify the different types of substrate (sandy, rocky, muddy) detailing priorities in terms of clean-up response and specific areas to be protected in case of a pollution incident (environmental and economic resources);
- Following the definition of shoreline clean-up priorities, determine the most appropriate clean-up response techniques with the objective to be both efficient and minimise environmental impact;
- Set up and/or locate equipment stockpiles that could be used in case of an oil spill;
- Include and develop a specific organization in the national oil spill contingency plan detailing key personnel together with specific roles and responsibilities; and
- Develop specific procedures in the annexes of the national oil spill contingency plan to guide on site responders during the clean-up operations. These procedures should provide support to the response team on the following topics: How to assess a contaminated shoreline? How to set up a working site? How to manage health and safety? How to choose between the different clean-up techniques? How to manage waste? How to decide when to end the response?

The final activity report is [available online](#).



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FUTURE ACTIVITIES

October, Guinea  
National workshop on shoreline response to oil spills

This workshop organised in close collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Water resources will bring together private and public sector representatives. During four days, the overall aim of the workshop will be to strengthen the national marine oil pollution preparedness and response strategy by focusing on developing and implementing national policies regarding shoreline response to oil spills. The aim is to integrate a shoreline response strategy into Guinea's existing National Oil Spill Contingency Plan.

October, Benin  
National workshop for the update of the national oil spill contingency plan and the strengthening of the national system for preparation and response to oil spills

During this workshop to be held in Benin, participants and facilitators will use a new methodology developed under the framework of the GI WACAF Project to strengthen the national system for preparation and response to oil spills. Following the presentation of the national context and the current status of the NOSCP, a table top exercise will be conducted to test the NOSCP. Then, the participants, together with the facilitators, will put forward recommendations to update the plan.

November, The Gambia  
Support for the development of a national system for preparedness and response to oil spills

In line with the activities conducted in Equatorial Guinea and Guinea Bissau, GI WACAF will look at supporting the Gambia to develop a national system for preparedness and response to oil spills. The regulatory and institutional framework will be looked into, notably through the development of a national oil spill contingency plan.

November, Sao Tome and Principe  
National workshop on the strengthening of the national oil spill contingency plan and response to oil spills and shoreline response

This activity, in direct continuity with the activities previously carried out in Sao Tome and Principe by the GI WACAF Project, will follow up the development of the national system for oil spill preparedness and response and NOSCP. Participants, guided by the facilitators, will continue to improve the NOSCP currently under development. A special focus will also be put on the topic of shoreline response.

December, Togo  
National workshop on liability and compensation in case of an oil spill

The key objectives of this workshop organised by the GI WACAF shall be to train the authorities on the scope and implementation of IMO Conventions pertaining to liability and compensation from marine oil spills, develop national legislation in this area as well as present the role of organisations involved in international compensation regimes, such as IOPC Funds, ITOPF and P&I Clubs. The latter will be represented at the activity and will facilitate discussions.



THE GLOBAL OIL AND GAS  
INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION  
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL  
AND SOCIAL ISSUES

The GI WACAF Project is  
an IMO / IPIECA Cooperation