GI WACAF Annual Review 2012

The GI WACAF Project in brief

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 emphasis the promotion of public/private partnership for effective oil spill response making use of existing industry expertise and resources.

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.

Introduction to 2012 Annual Review

At the end of 2012 the GI WACAF Project reached midway through the 2012/2013 biennium. The main objectives set at the start of the biennium included the development, testing and update to oil spill contingency plans. This was achieved through the cooperation between key partners from the government and private sectors and the delivery of national and regional events such as conferences, seminars, workshops and exercises. This report provides a review of some of the key highlights.
Another productive year in terms of activity delivery

Nine activities were delivered in 2012 including 4 national workshops, 2 national exercises to test and update the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (Gabon and Cameroon), and 2 sub-regional events in Senegal and Namibia.

The workshops organised in 2012 were mainly focused on the development and testing of national oil spill contingency plans (NOSCPs) with a specific emphasis on their effective implementation in the light of the new IMO guidelines on Incident Management Systems (IMS) and through the organisation of exercises. The report for each of the GI WACAF activities is available from our website: http://www.giwacaf.org/

More delegates trained in 2012

A total of 457 delegates have attended GI WACAF activities in 2012. This shows the increased commitment of government and industry focal points in the preparation and delivery of GI WACAF activities in the region.
18 national oil spill contingency plans further developed

To date, out of the 22 countries of the GI WACAF Project, 18 have developed a national oil spill contingency plan and 5 were tested in cooperation with the GI WACAF Project. This is a significant achievement but there is a lot still to be done in order to make these plans operational notably through testing and exercising.
More oil spill sensitivity maps developed

At the launch of the project in 2006, the development of oil spill sensitivity maps was identified as a gap in preparedness. In 2007, a regional approach was launched for the harmonised development of oil spill sensitivity maps. Since then, the GI WACAF Project has conducted a series of workshops on this topic that resulted in the production of a total of 8 oil spill sensitivity maps. 6 other countries are in the process of producing those maps by the end of the biennium in cooperation with the GI WACAF Project.

The maps are regularly uploaded on the GI WACAF website in a uniformed and standardised format, and are available for consultation under: [http://www.giwacaf.org/](http://www.giwacaf.org/)

8 countries have completed the development of oil spill sensitivity maps and 6 other countries are progressing toward their realisation.
2012 activity snapshots

Côte d'Ivoire, 7-10 February 2012 - National Workshop for the development of oil spill sensitivity maps

Participants from both public and private sectors attended this workshop in which participants designed a sensitivity mapping methodology specific to Côte d'Ivoire, completed the existing GIS data and defined a detailed action plan to finalise the atlas.

Gabon, March 2012 – National Exercise to test and update the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan

The GI WACAF project jointly with the DGEPN, organised a National Exercise to test and update the NOSCP of Gabon, from 19 to 23 March 2012 in Libreville and Port-Gentil. 121 participants took part in a workshop on oil spill preparedness and response, a tabletop exercise and a deployment exercise.

Gambia, 3-6 July 2012 - National workshop on the development of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP) and oil spill sensitivity maps

The objectives of this Workshop was to provide the delegates with the background knowledge on oil spill preparedness, response and co-operation taking into consideration that Gambia has now officially approved its National Contingency Plan. Gambia has also recently awarded an offshore oil exploration block to a company which will start exploration drilling in the near future, which makes this workshop timely.

Senegal, 16-18 July 2012, Sub-regional GI WACAF Conference on Claims and Compensations

The GI WACAF Project responded to a request from the IOPC Funds to organize a sub-regional meeting, gathering representatives from 10 French speaking countries of the Region. Our Focal Point from Senegal, Commandant Babacar Ba, acted as our local coordinator for the organisation of this activity.
Guinea-Bissau, 04-07 September 2012, National workshop for the development of a draft National Oil Spill Contingency Plan and an atlas of sensitivity maps

Several recommendations emerged from the workshop such as the ratification of the main conventions related to prevention (MAPROL73/78), preparedness (OPRC 90 and OPRC/HNS200) and compensation (CLC 92 and Fund 92), the designation of a National Competent Authority in charge of oil spill response and preparedness, the designation of a national committee in charge of developing the NOSCP, and finally, the implementation of a sustaining mechanism for the development of the NOSCP and the increase of the response capabilities. The workshop also highlighted the specific environmental issues concerning Guinea-Bissau.

Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, 02-05 October 2012, National Workshop

The main objective of this workshop was to discuss a cooperation framework agreement between the National Authorities (including Ministries of Environment, Petroleum and Transport) and private operators involved in the production, transport or storage of oil and hazardous and noxious substances. As a result of these discussions, the Group adopted a Project Protocol of Agreement, to be signed by the Directors-General of National Operators and the Ministers of Environment, Petroleum and Transport. One of provisions of this agreement is to create a Permanent consultation Group formed of government and operators representatives, in order to coordinate the actions toward the finalisation of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan; such as: the finalisation of the atlas of sensitivity maps, the development of a national dispersant policy and a list of approved dispersants and the preparation of a level 2 exercise.

Namibia, 22-24 October 2012, Regional Workshop on Oil Spill Risk Assessment and Cooperation

The Namibian authorities hosted this Sub-Regional Conference that brought together delegates from Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola, South Africa and Namibia. The Conference addressed the different aspects of Cooperation, i.e. mutual assistance agreements between local business units at the national level, cooperation agreements between countries at the regional level and public/private partnerships between national authorities and business units for the building of national capacity. The basic principles of Incident Management Systems (IMS) were also presented and a practical exercise allowed delegates to put into practice the concepts presented in the technical sessions. In addition, we are working with the Benguela Current Commission (BCC) toward the development of
an Oil Spill Risk Assessment Programme in the countries covered by the BCC. This Conference was the opportunity to present this project to the main regional stakeholders.

Yaoundé, Douala and Kribi, Cameroon, 30 October – 01 November 2012, National exercise for the test of the National Contingency Plan

Cameroon’s Société Nationale des Hydrocarbures (SNH), with the support of IPIECA and IMO, held an oil spill response exercise to test and validate its National Oil Spill Contingency Plan. This exercise was comprised of two parts: 1) an alert and mobilisation exercise to validate the notification procedure of the NOSCP and test the mobilisation time of the various agencies and 2) a spill management exercise to test the decision-making process, the management structure and communications between the various agencies. This workshop was well appreciated by the participants and will contribute to improving Cameroon’s response capacity for oil spills at sea.

The report for each of the GI WACAF activities is available from our website: http://www.giwacaf.org/
A network of Focal Points trained and committed to the project

The GI WACAF Project relies on a network of Focal Points from the governments and the industry that ensure the effective implementation of the Project’s Action Plan at the national level. In 2012, the involvement of our Focal Points was again critical to the successful delivery of our programme of activities. The following Focal Points were particularly active in 2012:

**Mr. Pinehas Auene**  
*Government Focal Point, Ministry of Works and Transport, Namibia*  
Mr. Auene is actively involved in the delivery of the 2012/2013 GI WACAF action plan. The Ministry of Works and Transport of Namibia, hosted the sub-regional workshop on effective exercising and the implementation of IMS in the sub-region that was held in Walvis Bay in October 2012 and accepted to host the sub-regional workshop on claims and compensation (Walvis Bay, October 2013) and the GI WACAF Regional Conference 2013 that will be held in Swakopmund from the 4th to the 8th November 2013.

**Mr. Louis-Léandre Ebobola Tsibah**  
*Government Focal Point, Ministère de l’Environnement, de la Protection de la Nature, de la Recherche et de la Technologie, Gabon*  
The national exercise organised in March 2012 in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment, Protection of Nature, Research and Technology and the industry was one of the highlights of 2012. Mr. Ebobola Tsibah was the main driver during the preparation and delivery of this exercise and promoted the cooperation between the private and public sectors in Gabon through the creation of a dynamic “GI WACAF group” composed of key industry and government stakeholders.

**Mr. Prosper Dzali**  
*Industry Focal Point, COTCO, Cameroon*  
The national exercise organised in Cameroon in November 2012 was another highlight of 2012; notably with the activation of COTCO’s contingency plan in conjunction with the NOSCP. This aspiring objective allowed the ambitious and successful exercise run from 3 different cities (Kribi, Yaoundé and Douala) and the test of cooperation mechanisms during oil spill incidents. Mr Dzali, was one of the key players in all aspects of the preparation and delivery of the exercise.

**Mr. Patrick Lagrange**  
*Industry Focal Point, PERENCO, Democratic Republic of Congo*  
The main objective of the national workshop held in Kinshasa in October 2010 was to discuss the terms of a Protocol of Agreement intended to set up a national committee composed of key national stakeholders in charge of the finalisation of the NOSCP. The active participation of Perenco and its representative, Mr Lagrange was determinant to the agreement on a final draft that will be signed in 2013.
Project Management Team

GI WACAF Steering Committee

The GI WACAF Steering Committee is formed of representatives of the 8 company members of the Project as well as the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and IPIECA, the global oil and gas industry association for environmental and social issues. The Steering Committee also benefits from the technical support of Oil Spill Response Ltd (OSRL). The main role of the Steering Committee is to give strategic objectives to the Project.

Dr. Micallef, Ms. Charlebois & Mr Matheickal (IMO)
Mr. Santner (Chairman, BP)
Mr. Nicoll (Project support, OSRL)
Mr. Rhodes (IPIECA)

GI WACAF Coordination

The coordination of GI WACAF activities is carried on by a Project Manager seconded by OSRL and a Project Consultant seconded by our company members and hosted by the IMO.

Romain Chancerel
Project Manager

Romain joined the Project in January 2011 after completing three-month training with OSRL to become oil spill response specialist. As GI WACAF Project Manager, Romain focuses on developing regional response arrangements with government agencies and local business units for the implementation of the OPRC90 in West, Central and Southern Africa.

Benjamin Jeanne
Project Consultant

Benjamin joined the GI WACAF Project in September 2012 and is now part of the Project Management Team and working on the implementation of the GI WACAF Action Plan 2012-2013. Benjamin is based at IMO Headquarters in London.
List of the GI WACAF activities in 2013

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<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<td>Preparatory mission prior to August exercise</td>
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<td>Equatorial Guinea</td>
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<td>Sensitivity mapping national workshop</td>
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<td>Cameroon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angola (to be confirmed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mauritania</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angola (to be confirmed)</td>
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<td>GI WACAF sub-regional conference organised in cooperation with IOPC Funds</td>
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<td>Namibia</td>
<td>GI WACAF Regional Conference 2013</td>
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GI WACAF is an IMO / IPIECA Partnership

www.giwacaf.org

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The Global Initiative

The Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa (GI WACAF) is a partnership between the International Maritime Organisation (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 emphasis the promotion of public/private partnership for effective oil spill response making use of existing industry expertise and resources.

The GI WACAF project

This is an eight year program jointly funded by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) eight Oil Companies members (BP, Chevron, ENI, ExxonMobil, Marathon, Perenco, Shell and Total) through IPIECA, the Global Oil and Gas Industry Association for Environmental and Social Issues.

Mission

To strengthen the national oil spill response capability in 22 West, Central and Southern African countries through the establishment of local partnership between the oil industries and the national authorities in charge of oil spill preparedness and response at the national level.

Scope of GI WACAF

The project area covers 22 West, Central and Southern African countries (See maps). The scope is to organise workshops, training, seminars and deployment exercises with national authorities in charge of oil spill response, in partnership with local business units. The GI WACAF project is based on an effective management system established for the six goals of preparedness and key performance indicators to enhance the capacity of countries to prepare for and respond to marine oil spills. These goals cover the requirements of the OPRC 90 convention:

- Goal 1: Legislation: Promote the ratification of the relevant international Convention
- Goal 2: Contingency plan: Have contingency plan for all the countries of the region
- Goal 3: Designation of authority: Get clarity in roles and responsibilities for oil spill response
- Goal 4: Regional agreement: promote exchange and mutual assistance for oil spill response
- Goal 5: Training: Ensure that training and exercise are developed in each countries on a regular basis
- Goal 6: National capabilities: support countries in developing their own national response system