

# Mid-year review 2021



GIWACAF

For more information on GI WACAF, please  
visit: [www.giwacaf.net](http://www.giwacaf.net)

# Contents

About the Project .....	5
2021 midyear review of the GI WACAF Project .....	6
Calendar of events 2021 .....	8
2021 review of GI WACAF activities .....	9
Remote assistance activities and online workshops .....	10
Critical review of the draft Coastal and Marine Sensitivity Map – Liberia.....	10
Critical review of the draft Shoreline Response Plan – Senegal .....	11
Launch of preparatory study for the development of a subregional agreement for oil spill preparedness and response in Central Africa – Angola, Congo, DRC .....	12
Online training on liability and compensation in case of an oil spill – The Gambia .....	14
Joint industry-government national IMS 300 training and exercise – Namibia .....	15
GI WACAF second webinar series on oil spill preparedness and response .....	16
Webinar #1 – The NOSCP and its annexes – 14 April 2021 .....	17
Webinar #2 – Waste management in case of an oil spill – 26 May 2021 .....	17
Webinar #3 – The use of dispersants in case of an oil spill in the marine environment – 21 June 2021 .....	18
Webinar #4 – Wildlife response in case of an oil spill – 13 July 2021 .....	18
Participation in the MOOC on the environmental management of offshore oil & gas activities in West Africa coordinated by PRCM – online .....	19

Overview of external events and projects in which the Project has been involved .....	20
CRIMSON virtual Coordination Meeting - International Maritime Partners in the Gulf of Guinea, 17-18 March 2021 .....	20
DMISA Disaster Risk Reduction (DDR) Webinar, 17-18 March 2021 .....	21
Closing ceremony of the MOOC on environmental management of offshore oil & gas activities in West Africa, 12 July 2021 .....	22
Virtual meeting to launch phase #2 of the “Sustainable management of oil & gas activities in West Africa” project (COBIA initiative), 15 April 2021 .....	23
Oil Spill Group meeting, 21 April 2021 .....	24
Oil Spill Group meeting, 15 July 2021 .....	24
Virtual International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC), 10-14 May 2021 .....	26
Cooperation with international stakeholders .....	27
GI WACAF communication .....	29
Future activities for 2021 .....	31





# 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 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 organises 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 organisations 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 seven oil company members of IPIECA, namely BP, Chevron, ExxonMobil, Eni, Shell, TotalEnergies and Woodside.



For more information on GI WACAF, please visit: [www.giwacaf.net](http://www.giwacaf.net)



# 2021 midyear review of the GI WACAF Project

For the second year in a row, the COVID-19 pandemic and associated travel restrictions strongly challenged the implementation of the GI WACAF work program and brought the GI WACAF Secretariat to innovate and strategically rethink the way the Project supports the region.

Since March 2020, the Project's way to operate is based on three main pillars, and has been made possible with the constant and constructive support from the Project's members and stakeholders:

- 1.** Remote assistance on technical and policy aspects;
- 2.** Online training; and
- 3.** Networking and partnership.

Even if the GI WACAF Secretariat hopes to be back as soon as possible in the region and deliver face-to-face activities again, this reorganisation has allowed for the continuation of the journey towards better oil spill preparedness and response capacities in the region.

However, the GI WACAF Secretariat has been able to adapt to this situation and several online activities were implemented, such as a workshop on liability and compensation in case of oil spill pollution with The Gambia, and a joint industry-government national IMS 300 training and exercise with Namibia. Furthermore, a second webinar series on oil spill preparedness and response was launched in April and several countries benefited from remote reviews of their draft sensitivity maps or National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP).

At the same time, the Project continued to take part in external initiatives dedicated to oil spill preparedness and response in the region. Recognized as a key regional player, the GI WACAF Project was contacted by the PRCM (Regional Partnership for the Conservation of the Coastal and Marine Area in West Africa) to contribute to a MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) on the environmental management of offshore oil and gas activities and the launch of phase 2 of the COBIA initiative.



SANTA CRUZ  
MONROVIA

HAMBURG SÜD



# Calendar of events 2021

**Legend:** external engagements attended, GI WACAF activities implemented, GI WACAF webinars

Initial date	Location	Type of activity	Topic
January	Liberia – online	Remote assistance activity	Critical review of the draft Coastal and Marine Sensitivity Map of Liberia
February	Senegal – online	Remote assistance activity	Critical review of the draft Shoreline Response Plan
February	Angola, Congo, DRC – online	Remote assistance activity	Launch of a study on transboundary oil spill contingency planning in Central Africa
March	Online	External engagement	CRIMSON virtual Coordination Meeting - International Maritime Partners in the Gulf of Guinea
March	Online	External engagement	DMISA Disaster Risk Reduction (DDR) Webinar 2021
April	Online	Webinar	GI WACAF webinar #1 (season #2) on the NOSCP and its annexes
April	Online	External engagement	Launch of the MOOC on the environmental management of offshore oil & gas activities in West Africa
April	Online	External engagement	Virtual meeting to launch phase #2 of the "Sustainable management of oil&gas activities in West Africa" project (COBIA initiative)
April	Online	External engagement	Oil Spill Group meeting
May	Online	External engagement	2021 Virtual International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC)
May	Online	Webinar	GI WACAF webinar #2 (season #2) on waste management in case of an oil spill
June	Online	Webinar	GI WACAF webinar #3 (season #2) on the use of dispersants in case of an oil spill in the marine environment
June	The Gambia – online	National workshop	Training on liability and compensation in case of oil spill pollution
July	Online	External engagement	Closing ceremony of the MOOC on environmental management of offshore oil & gas activities in West Africa
July	Online	Webinar	GI WACAF webinar #4 (season #2) on wildlife response in case of an oil spill
July	Online	External engagement	Oil Spill Group meeting
July	Namibia – online	National workshop	Joint industry-government national IMS 300 training and exercise



# 2021 review of GI WACAF activities

**So far, 5 activities have been organised  
in 2021 with 7 countries:**

2 countries have benefited from a remote critical review of annexes to their NOSCP:



Liberia



Senegal

2 countries have benefited from online workshops and trainings:



The Gambia



Namibia

3 countries have benefited from the launch of a study on transboundary oil spill contingency planning in Central Africa:



Angola



Congo



DRC

# Remote assistance activities and online workshops

## Critical review of the draft Coastal and Marine Sensitivity Map – Liberia



Following a request made by the Liberian authorities, GI WACAF agreed to provide support to constructively review and comment the draft Coastal and Marine Sensitivity Map of Liberia. The GI WACAF team was supported during this endeavour by international experts who provided high-level and specific comments in the form of a separate document. The GI WACAF team also reviewed and commented the main document.

The objectives of this remote assistance activity were to:

- 1.** Assist policy makers and national authorities, responsible for oil spill preparedness and response in Liberia; and
- 2.** Provide the policy makers and national authorities with comments made by experts well versed in the field of oil spill preparedness and response, and oil spill sensitivity mapping, in order to support the policy makers and national authorities during the review process of the sensitivity map.

Both the experts and the GI WACAF team presented their findings during a virtual meeting organised by the GI WACAF Project team in January 2021. Following this, the Liberia Maritime Authority will finalize the draft Coastal and Marine Sensitivity Map by Q3 2021.

## Critical review of the draft Shoreline Response Plan – Senegal

National authorities in Senegal are currently updating and improving their national preparedness and response system in view of the rapid development of offshore oil and gas activities. In this framework, the leading authority in Senegal in preparedness and response aspects (HASSMAR) followed recommendations made by GI WACAF following the SAMAREX 2019 deployment exercise held in Dakar (cf. [the activity report drafted by GI WACAF](#)). These recommendations highlighted the need for Senegal to strengthen its at-sea response / shoreline response interface and to develop a national shoreline response plan.

HASSMAR relied on national expertise to develop such a plan and sent a request to GI WACAF to support the final development stages of this shoreline response plan, namely:

- 1.** Provide specific comments; including on the integration of the draft shoreline plan with the at-sea national contingency plan; and
- 2.** Provide an overview of the analysis as well as recommendations during a national workshop dedicated to the finalization of this plan, which will be held in Q3 2021.





## Launch of preparatory study for the development of a subregional agreement for oil spill preparedness and response in Central Africa – Angola, Congo, DRC

In line with the recommendations made during the 8<sup>th</sup> GI WACAF Regional Conference and upon request from Angola, Congo, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the GI WACAF Project to assist in the development of a transboundary agreement on oil spill preparedness and response, a sub-regional workshop on the matter had been planned in 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was decided to postpone the physical workshop. However, alternative means were explored to keep the momentum and work on developing the basis of a sub-regional agreement for oil spill preparedness and response in Central Africa, such as initiating a preparatory study carried out remotely.

The overall objective of the study is to propose an effective and detailed approach to developing a tailored multilateral agreement between these three countries, and possibly an approach to develop a multilateral oil spill preparedness and response plan.

The findings of the study will be used to develop a framework to fully assist the three countries on this particular aspect, during a sub-regional activity bringing together representatives from Angola, Congo and DRC, organised with the support of the GI WACAF Project.

To start with, the Project organised one kick-off online meeting per participating country, to help identify the specific sensitivities, risks, needs and requirements, of the three countries. Based on questionnaires completed by representatives from each country and meetings with the national Focal Points and on the review of the current regional and transboundary oil spill response arrangements existing in the GI WACAF region and in the world, international experts then drafted a report proposing possible ways forward for the countries to develop a sub-regional agreement or plan. The next step will be for the GI WACAF Project to organise trilateral discussions for all stakeholders to discuss the findings of the study and define an action plan.







# Online training on liability and compensation in case of an oil spill

## – The Gambia

This fully online workshop was the first of a kind to be delivered by the GI WACAF Project, proving the Project's and partner countries' efforts to adapt to the international travel restrictions linked to the global pandemic.

In the context of current and future oil and gas activities off the coast of West Africa and subsequent growing risks of incident in the neighbouring countries, the GI WACAF Project and international experts have developed an online 3-half day training course allowing 25 delegates from various governmental agencies in The Gambia to gain knowledge on the liability and compensation key issues in case of an oil spill.

Building upon the 2020 remote legal assistance activity provided to the Republic of The Gambia, the training programme has been adapted to consider the specificities of a remote activity: special efforts have been made to provide participants with the most constructive and beneficial training experience possible, including presentations by experts and trainers as well as exercises.

The main objectives of this online workshop were to:

- 1.** Train the authorities on the scope and implementation of the IMO Conventions relating to liability and compensation in the event of marine oil pollution, in particular through case studies and exercises (evaluation and settlement procedure, cost calculation, etc.); and
- 2.** Train the authorities on the practical aspects of liability and compensation, such as how to raise a claim, and detailing the claim assessment process.

The experience proved to be very interactive, with experts answering many questions and offering quizzes and case studies that were highly appreciated by the audience. The final report is available on the [dedicated activity webpage](#).





# Joint industry-government national IMS 300 training and exercise – Namibia

In preparation for the upcoming exploration campaigns off the coast of Namibia, a joint industry / government activity was set up to foster coordination between all stakeholders in case of an emergency. The activity organised by GI WACAF was hosted by the Ministry of Works and Transport of Namibia. While the 3-day IMS 300 training was delivered by international experts, Shell and TotalEnergies facilitated the exercise on the last day.

Due to travel restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic the training programme has been adapted to consider the specificities of a remote activity: special efforts have been made to provide participants with the most constructive and beneficial training experience possible, including presentations by experts and trainers as well as exercises.

The main objectives of this joint industry-government training and exercise were to:

- 1.** Train the participants who might be involved with incident management to be fully conversant with the process of developing action plans for a complex incident;
- 2.** Test the communication links between all stakeholders;
- 3.** Test companies' contingency plans in accordance with Namibia's NOSCP in case of an oil spill incident; and
- 4.** Expose participants to the key issues related to spill incidents.

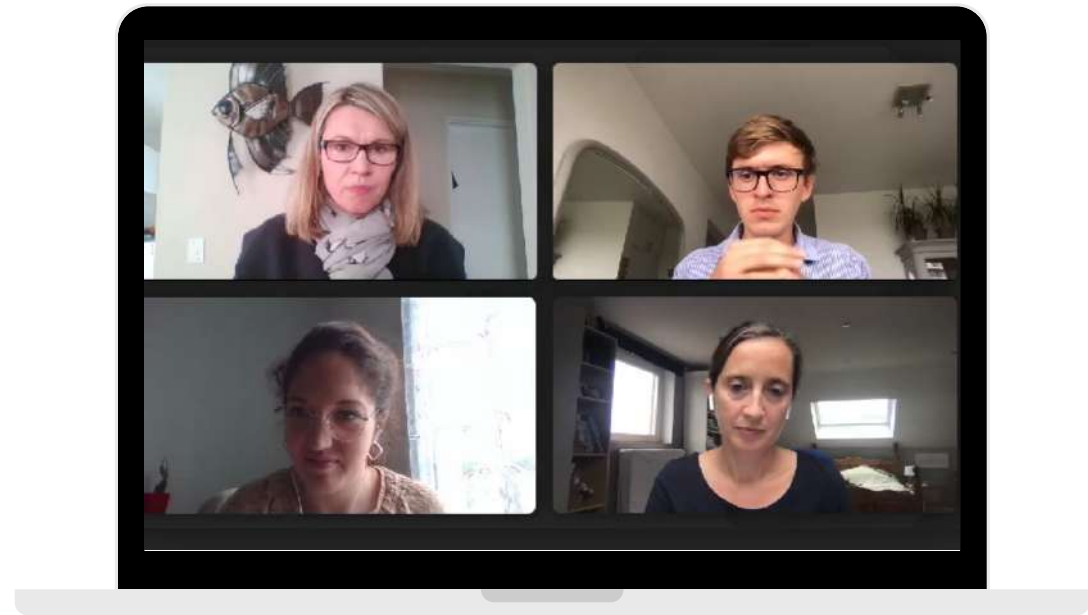
Once available, the final report will be published on the [dedicated activity webpage](#).



## GI WACAF second webinar series on oil spill preparedness and response – online

As a result of its adaptation process to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent international travel restrictions, the GI WACAF Project launched its webinar series on oil spill preparedness and response in June 2020 to continue to pursue its capacity building objective remotely and reach a worldwide audience. This first season was composed of 5 episodes and addressed the key aspects (technical, legal and institutional) of oil spill preparedness and response, from the regulatory international framework to the shoreline or at-sea response techniques as well as the importance of contingency planning. With more than 1000 participants worldwide, the first season was a real success and the GI WACAF team consequently prepared a new webinar series covering more specific topics.

Building on the basics delivered by the 2020 GI WACAF webinar series, the new season aims at covering more specific topics of oil spill preparedness and response, including waste management, the use of dispersants, wildlife response and liability and compensation in case of an oil spill. As last year, each webinar is composed of two sessions: one in French and one in English. More information on this webinar series as well as the replays of previous sessions are available on the dedicated [Project's website area](#).



## Webinar #1 – The NOSCP and its annexes – 14 April 2021

In this first session, experts from ITOPF and OTRA presented both the development process (including its scope, stakeholders, risk assessment, and institutional environment) and the content of a NOSCP, including some of its annexes, and the importance of its effective implementation.

The poster features a background image of several oil tankers at sea. At the top left is the GIWACAF logo, a stylized globe with blue, green, and yellow segments. To its right, the text 'GIWACAF' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the logo, the text 'GI WACAF webinar series - Season #2' is displayed. The main title 'Webinar #1: the NOSCP and its annexes' is in a large, bold, black font. Below the title, the date and time '14 April 2021 at 2:00 pm (GMT+1)' are listed. A small text box on the left states 'Also available in French, same date, at 10:00 am GMT+1'. A dark blue button with white text says 'REGISTER NOW' with a smaller link 'Link in description' below it. On the right side, under the heading 'Speakers:', there is a list of two speakers: Lindsay Page-Jones, Technical Adviser, OTRA, and Andrew Le Masurier, Technical Adviser, ITOPF. Below this, under the heading 'Facilitation by:', it lists Emilie Canova, GI WACAF Project Manager.

GI WACAF webinar series - Season #2

**Webinar #1: the NOSCP and its annexes**

14 April 2021 at 2:00 pm (GMT+1)

Also available in French, same date, at 10:00 am GMT+1

**REGISTER NOW**  
Link in description

Speakers:

- Lindsay Page-Jones, Technical Adviser, OTRA
- Andrew Le Masurier, Technical Adviser, ITOPF

Facilitation by:  
Emilie Canova, GI WACAF Project Manager

## Webinar #2 – Waste management in case of an oil spill – 26 May 2021

In this second session, experts from DEMERI (for the French-speaking session) and TRIOX Environmental Emergencies (for the English-speaking session) presented the different types of waste, the whole cycle (including the different phases) of waste management following a marine oil spill; and the importance of planning and inclusion of a waste management policy and strategy in place beforehand as a vital component of any oil spill contingency plan.

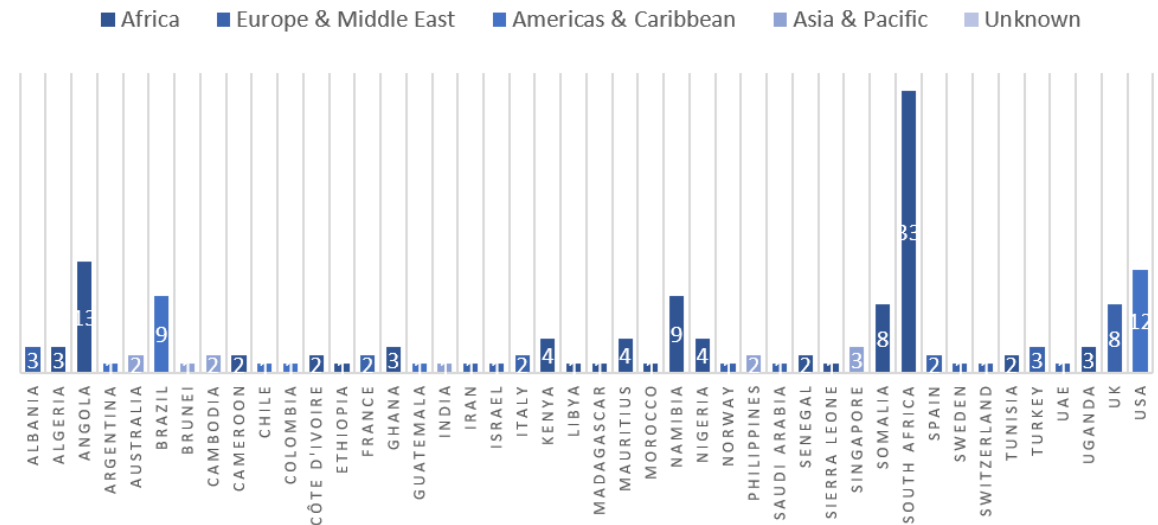
The interdependence between clean-up strategies and waste minimization and management, and the importance for decision makers and operational responders to plan in the early stages to control and manage waste during and after shoreline clean-up operations, were highlighted.



## Webinar #3 – The use of dispersants in case of an oil spill in the marine environment – 21 June 2021

In this third session, experts from OSRL, OSEC Shell and the Department of Environmental Affairs of South Africa shared their experience through case studies, and presented the necessary conditions (sea, weather and oil characteristics, environmental considerations and reactions with other response techniques) and the application methods of use of dispersants, their role in the event of an oil spill, as well as the importance of including a dedicated and clear policy in the NOSCP. The international audience was provided with a presentation of the mechanism of dispersion and an overview of the use and limitations of dispersants, as one of a range of available options in case of a marine oil spill.

## WEBINAR #4: COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF ATTENDEES



## Webinar #4 – Wildlife response in case of an oil spill – 13 July 2021

In this fourth session, experts from Sea Alarm and SANCCOB shared their experience through case studies, and presented the oiled wildlife response objectives and management, as well as the importance of including a dedicated policy in the NOSCP – thus providing the international audience with the key concepts and solutions in oiled wildlife response preparedness, as well as the various techniques, policies and operating procedures to protect and restore oiled wildlife.

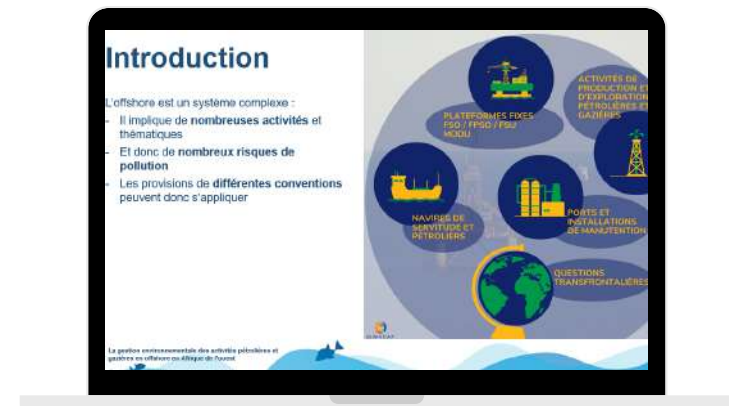
# Participation in the MOOC on the environmental management of offshore oil & gas activities in West Africa coordinated by PRCM – online

The PRCM has set up an online training platform in order to provide conservation actors with continuous training on the challenges of the West African coast and its resources. Recognized as a key regional player, the GI WACAF Project was invited by the PRCM to contribute to the first MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) of the platform dedicated to various aspects of the environmental management of offshore oil and gas activities.

This first MOOC led by the PRCM started on April 15<sup>th</sup> and lasted four weeks. It was designed to address the risks and potential impacts of oil and gas activities on marine ecosystems. While oil and gas exploration and production are increasing off the coast of some West African countries such as Senegal and Mauritania, it is essential to enhance stakeholders' capacities in the sub-region for a better understanding of the environmental challenges linked to the oil and gas sector.

The MOOC was composed of five modules detailing marine and coastal ecosystems, hydrocarbons' geopolitical issues, the typology of oil and gas activities, their environmental impacts, their regulatory frameworks and the tools for their environmental management. The GI WACAF team contributed to this course on the following topics as leading expert in the field of international cooperation on oil spill preparedness and response:

1. The international legal framework;
2. Multilateral cooperation frameworks; and
3. Oil spill preparedness and response at sea.



# Overview of external events and projects in which the Project has been involved

## CRIMSON virtual Coordination Meeting - International Maritime Partners in the Gulf of Guinea, 17-18 March 2021

GI WACAF was invited to participate in the virtual Coordination Meeting - International Maritime Partners in the Gulf of Guinea. The goal of the “Coordination Meeting - International Maritime Partners in the Gulf of Guinea” was to gather partners who are currently conducting actions in and around the maritime security domain in the Gulf of Guinea and exchange visions, best practices and experiences.

This year CRIMSON, the Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism of the Critical Maritime Routes Programme (CMR), led the event, which constituted the occasion for participants to exchange on recent developments and respective plans of action in order to identify potential synergies and increase discussions.

These fruitful exchanges were key to build a better understanding of the maritime security-related projects, their outcomes and the situation in the Gulf of Guinea. Two roundtables on information sharing and critical infrastructure protections – ports were organised to discuss different approaches the partners have to address these two particular issues.

The GI WACAF team presented the activities implemented during the last 12 months, how it adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic and the 2021 action plan. Participating in this event allows for a better coordination of the various key stakeholders in the region.



# DMISA Disaster Risk Reduction (DDR) Webinar, 17-18 March 2021

GI WACAF was invited to the Disaster Management Institute of Southern Africa (DMISA) DRR Webinar 2021. This online event replaced the annual DMISA Conference that was planned for 2020, and which had to be postponed due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. It focused on past and future manifestations of disaster risk in Southern Africa and internationally, and on building consensus towards active disaster risk reduction, resilience and risk governance in both urban and rural settings.

Throughout this 2-day webinar, DMISA wanted to encourage innovate and forward-looking discourse that activates and encourages on a practical level. By enabling participation by a wider audience through the DRR Webinar 2021, DMISA provided opportunity for a diverse range of stakeholders in disaster management from across Africa and the world to gather and share skills, knowledge and experience in order to promote disaster risk reduction in Southern Africa and beyond.

During this webinar, the GI WACAF team presented the Project as well as activities conducted in South Africa on oil spill preparedness and response, notably those relating to the implementation of IMS (Incident Management System):

1. [National training on IMS, June 2015](#)
2. [National workshop and training on IMS 300, March 2018](#)
3. IMS 300 Training and 2nd Joint industry – government exercise, December 2018
4. [IMS 300 Training and 3rd Joint industry – government exercise, November 2019](#)

# Closing ceremony of the MOOC on environmental management of offshore oil & gas activities in West Africa, 12 July 2021

Launched by the PRCM in April, the MOOC on environmental management of offshore oil and gas activities ended with a virtual closing ceremony bringing together the first cohort and all the project stakeholders to evaluate this experience and identify future perspectives. As partner of the project, the GI WACAF was invited to participate in the closing ceremony.

This first certifying training, which was accessible on the PRCM e-learning platform, consisted of 5 modules and 16 sub-modules detailing the typology of oil and gas activities, their environmental impacts, as well as their regulatory frameworks. 700 people from 31 countries and with diverse socio-professional backgrounds (including journalists, students, members of civil society or governmental institutions) have registered on the platform, 67 learners validated the course and downloaded their certificate.

Among the next steps, the PRCM team is currently working on improving its educational offer, by first getting the MOOC on environmental management of offshore oil and gas activities translated into English and Portuguese, and then by developing other MOOCs. The full summary of the meeting is available [on the GI WACAF website](#).



# Virtual meeting to launch phase #2 of the “Sustainable management of oil & gas activities in West Africa” project (COBIA initiative), 15 April 2021

The objective of this virtual meeting was to define project stakeholders' responsibilities and to clarify the programme and planning of the activities that will be carried out until 2022 in the four countries involved: Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Senegal and Sierra Leone.

Considering the growing offshore exploration and exploitation activities in the region, the "Sustainable management of oil&gas activities in West Africa" project (COBIA initiative) aims at improving the management of environmental risks associated with offshore extractive industry in four West African countries.

Following the midterm evaluation meeting of the COBIA initiative, the PRCM was identified as a partner in charge of coordinating and implementing regional actions during the project's phase #2, which is structured around five strategies:

- 1.** Strengthening the Partnership;
- 2.** Improving knowledge and capacities for citizen mobilisation;
- 3.** Information system and pollution monitoring;
- 4.** Preparation and update of NOSCPs; and
- 5.** Strengthening and enforcing regulations.

GI WACAF has been involved in the COBIA Initiative since the inception. In this second phase, to avoid duplication of efforts, the GI WACAF Project has proudly been identified to implement the strategy #4 to support countries in developing or updating and testing their national response plans in the event of oil marine pollution. During the virtual phase #2 kick-off meeting, the GI WACAF team presented the Project, its mandate, and its biennial functioning, before emphasizing the support offered to countries according to different national situations.

## Oil Spill Group meeting, 21 April 2021

The Oil Spill Group is an IPIECA working group that aims to develop and disseminate good practices worldwide to enable industry and stakeholders to improve oil spill preparedness and response. The GI WACAF, as a Project involved in the dissemination of good practices, is invited to participate in the biannual meetings of this group in order to keep abreast of developments in the field (IOGP Subsea Well Response and Source Control Subcommittee Update, spill reports and case studies, etc.). The Oil Spill Group was held by videoconference due to the COVID-19 pandemic and featured different actors presenting on building mental resilience for responders and crisis managers under pressure, as well as experiences from the Bahamas oil spill incident and subsequent clean-up.

## Oil Spill Group meeting, 15 July 2021

This teleconference allowed for a review of progress on 2021 activities. Then, presenters initiated an interactive presentation to get participants' feedback regarding the organisation of webinars and learnings from hybrid exercises. Finally, the dispersant use cohort presented its latest updates.









# Virtual International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC), 10-14 May 2021

IOSC is a forum for professionals from the international spill response community, private sector, government, and non-governmental organisations to tackle current challenges with science, practical innovation, social engineering, and global research. IOSC is part of a triennial series of events including Interspill in Europe and Spillcon in Asia. With each of them being attended by 1000 participants or more, the rotating conferences provide a platform for the sharing of oil spill preparedness and response expertise worldwide.

This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, IOSC was fully virtually held from May 10 to 14, allowing for participants to access relevant information as well as an extensive network of people and companies from the oil spill preparedness and response sector. As co-author of the following papers:

1. Domestication of international regulation as a fundamental step to developing preparedness and response; and
  2. Measuring progress in oil spill preparedness,
- the GI WACAF team participated in IOSC 2021 during the session on “Response Community 10 year Progress Report”, along other GI projects.

Emilie Canova, GI WACAF Project Manager, presented the challenges of measuring progress in oil spill preparedness that have emerged over time, leading to the development of different tools and systems to monitor long-term developments. In her presentation, she first reviewed the metrics and tools used to assess the key elements of preparedness, focusing on regions where IMO - Industry Global Initiative has been active since 1996. Then she explained why the measures should apply both for evaluation and decision-making and explained why it is key to build more comprehensive and sustainable national preparedness systems. Finally, she discussed the need for an enhanced methodology to measure progress in preparedness, and its consistency with the risk exposure.

# Cooperation with international stakeholders

## World Bank

Since 2020 GI WACAF is cooperating with the World Bank, which is managing a program called WACA (West Africa Coastal Areas Management Program), to participate in the drafting of a report on marine and coastal pollution and pressures in West and Central Africa. This first cooperation with the World Bank and the WACA Program is promising and places the action of the GI WACAF within a broader perspective of protection of the marine and coastal environment, giving its full meaning to the Project.



## GoGIN

The Gulf of Guinea Inter-Regional Network (GoGIN) aims at enhancing inter-regional maritime safety and security cooperation, including accidental pollution of the marine environment, from Senegal to Angola through direct support to the implementation of the conclusions of the Yaoundé Summit and Code of Conduct. GoGIN and the GI WACAF are cooperating on oil spill related topics in the region since 2018 and successfully implemented a joint activity in Benin in 2019.





## The MAVA Foundation

The MAVA Foundation supports conservation that benefits people and nature through four formal Programmes, among them one in the Coastal West Africa. Under this programme, the action plan number 4 aims at promoting a sustainable management of oil and gas activities. This action plan is implemented by a project known as the COBIA project. Mauritania, Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, and Sierra Leone are the four countries benefiting from this initiative. Part of this project is devoted to oil spill contingency planning in the region., which is the precise aspect on which GI WACAF and MAVA collaborate.



## PRCM

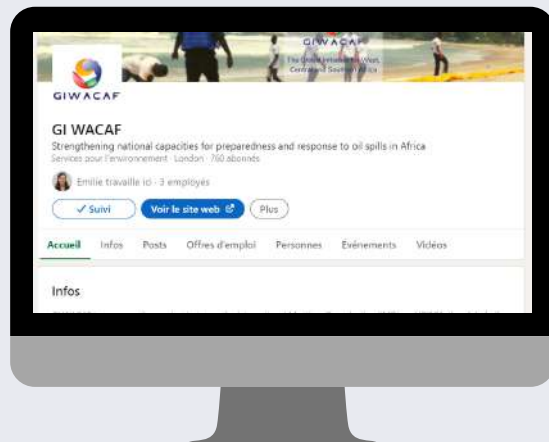
Following the midterm evaluation meeting of the COBIA initiative, the PRCM was identified as a partner in charge of coordinating and implementing regional actions during the project's phase #2 (see above). A new cooperation has been established between GI WACAF and the PRCM on oil spill contingency planning aspects. The dialogue has been fruitful and has enabled the integration of the priorities of GI WACAF within COBIA's work programmes to avoid duplication of efforts.



# GI WACAF communication

## LinkedIn page

The Project's [LinkedIn page](#) has now over 750 subscribers thanks to the GI WACAF team's efforts to implement a new content strategy and provide the followers with both regular and diversified updates. Among other new posts, the team decided to launch an animated weekly press review to gather the most recent news regarding the maritime sector, the oil and gas industry and the marine environment of the GI WACAF region. Building upon the Project's concept note, [animated infographics](#) in both French and English were regularly published on the LinkedIn page to welcome new followers and explain the purpose, geographical scope and objectives of the Project.



To sum up, the Project's LinkedIn page is a very useful tool to keep abreast with the Project's latest activities, including replays of the webinar sessions.

## Extended oil & gas exploration and production activities

8.7%

of global oil is produced in Africa

7.5%

of proven global oil reserves are in Africa

more than 50%

of the oil produced in Africa is located in the GI WACAF region

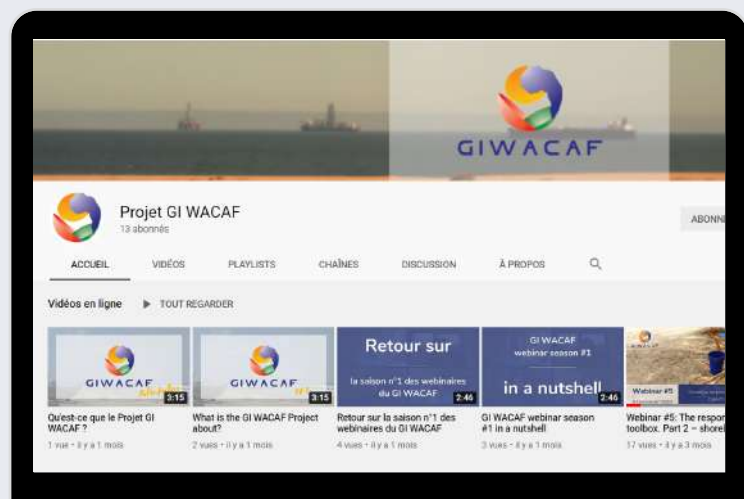
**Gulf of Guinea:**  
growing oil production & exploration activities in the last 20 years



Source: BP Statistical review 2018. Data for 2017.

## YouTube channel

GI WACAF also launched a [YouTube channel](#) to broadcast webinars' replay videos, as well as animated infographics to illustrate the activities carried out and the results obtained.



## 2020 Annual report

Early 2021, the GI WACAF published the Annual Report 2020. It includes details about the adaptation of the work program to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as remote assistance activities and external engagement organised during the year. The document is available on the website in [English](#) and in [French](#).





# Future activities for 2021

As current travel restrictions linked to the COVID-19 pandemic are challenging the implementation of the 2021 work program, the GI WACAF team keeps working on remote assistance activities, online training and partnerships while expecting to resume in-countries activities as soon as possible in safe conditions.

**Legend:** GI WACAF activities, Biennial regional conference

Tentative date	Type of activity	Participating countries	Topic
September	Webinar	Worldwide	GI WACAF webinar #5 (season #2) on liability and compensation in case of an oil spill (part 1)
October	Webinar	Worldwide	GI WACAF webinar #6 (season #2) on liability and compensation in case of an oil spill (part 2)
November	Webinar	22 GI WACAF partner countries	Closing ceremony of the 2020-2021 GI WACAF biennium
Q3	Tri-lateral consultations	DRC, Congo, Angola	Cooperation and definition of an action plan to address the issue of transboundary oil spills
Q3	National workshop	Sao Tome & Principe	National system for the prevention of, preparedness for and response to oil spills – Assistance to start the development of the NOSCP
Q4	Bi-national workshop	Mauritania, Senegal	Alignment of the dispersant policies of the two countries (or update of the NOSCP, TBC)
Q4	National workshop	Guinea-Bissau	Assistance to review and finalize draft NOSCP
Q4	National workshop	Sierra Leone	Development of the annexes of the NOSCP (waste management plan, dispersants use policy...)
December	National workshop	Togo	Development of terms of reference for the procurement of oil spill response equipment and subsequent training



# GI WACAF



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