



Global International Waters Assessment

Dear GIWA friends,

A number of GIWA regional reports are in their final production phase. During this spring we will publish our reports on regions such as South China Sea, Russian Arctic, Yellow Sea, Canary Current as well as other waters. Each has its specific issues, yet they all provide strategic guidance for actions on the problems.

Also our Global Report is soon to be published. Our bottom-up approach has created a strong foundation for transboundary ecosystem-based management. In almost every region, local experts led each regional assessment, with a scientific core team providing coordination and support. This regional emphasis has built strong local ownership of the assessments and fostered trust among scientists and policy-makers from neighbouring countries. The Global Report will conclude the findings and highlight some issues of special importance.

In this issue of our newsletter we publish a compiled version of the regional assessments, sorted by continents. It indicates the severe problems facing different parts of the world. It gives guidance to the GEF and the international community, as well as to regional and national institutions, when making priorities for the future.

Dag Daler,
Scientific Director

Global Report Coming Soon

The production of the GIWA Global Report is in its final stage. It will summarise this truly global GEF project that has had a considerable impact in building greater understanding of the driving forces and causal relationships behind environmental pressures on transboundary waters.

Around 1500 regional experts prepared a large number of reports assessing the state of the water bodies and their resources, as well as identifying priorities, impacts and root causes of water issues. This process has helped build national environment and social assessment capacity in many regions. Perhaps more importantly, GIWA has already been an essential catalyst to the implementation of ecosystem-based policies and management. The majority of the GIWA re-

ports have only been published in the last few months, but they have already had tangible impacts on water related policies in several GEF-eligible regions.

The GIWA Global Report will conclude the assessment and its bottom-up and multidisciplinary process. It will highlight the findings and the root causes identified. The report aims to inspire actions to obtain global food security and ecosystem health in international waters.



Discussions on the final version of the GIWA Global Report: David Moffat, Dag Daler, Sanna Mels and Elina Rautalahti-Miettinen.

Youth Learn About GIWA

GIWA has participated in high school activities in the Kalmar region during the spring semester. The Model UN of Stagnelius school was a three day event, attracting high school students from Sweden, Lithuania, Latvia and Italy this year. GIWA Information Officer Elisabet Idermark gave the opening speech and the water issues were discussed by several of the delegates.



Model UN delegates Gustaf and Carl learned about GIWA...

In the Torsås high school the students focused their studies on the Baltic Sea. They produced and performed a play on the threats to the environment. During a panel discussion they demanded answers from representatives of authorities and organisations, including GIWA. The GIWA regional assessment on the Baltic

Sea was welcomed as a contribution for the advice on actions to the future.



...as did student actors Linn and Rebecka, here with GIWA intern Anne Gydesen at left.

The GIWA Scoring Matrix by continent

		POLLUTION				FRESHWATER				FISHERIES				HABITAT				GLOBAL CHANGE			
		ISSUES		IMPACTS		ISSUES		IMPACTS		ISSUES		IMPACTS		ISSUES		IMPACTS		ISSUES		IMPACTS	
		Suspended solids		Eutrophication		Modification of stream flow		Pollution of existing supplies		Overexploitation		Excessive by-catch and discards		Modification of ecosystems		Loss of ecosystems		Changes in the hydrological cycle		Sea level change	
		Microbiological pollution		Solid wastes		Pollution of existing supplies		Changes in the water table		Destructive fishing practices		Decreased viability of stock		Environmental		Environmental		Increased UV-B radiation		Changes in ocean CO ₂ source/sink function	
		Chemical spills		Radiological		Environmental		Economic		Impact on biological and genetic diversity		Health		Economic		Economic		Environmental		Environmental	
		Thermal		Other social and community		Environmental		Other social and community		Other social and community		Health		Other social and community		Other social and community		Health		Other social and community	
						OVERALL SCORE				OVERALL SCORE				OVERALL SCORE				OVERALL SCORE			
Arctic Rim	1aa Arctic Russian Sector (Kara Sea)																				
	1ab Arctic Russian Sector (Laptev Sea, East Siberian Sea)																				
	1b Arctic Greenland																				
	11 Barents Sea																				
	13 Faroe plateau																				
	15 East Greenland Shelf																				
	16 West Greenland Shelf																				
	28a East Bering Sea																				
28b West Bering Sea																					
Europe & Central Asia	17 Baltic Sea																				
	22 Black Sea																				
	23 Caspian Sea																				
	24 Aral Sea																				
Central America	2a Gulf of Mexico (Mississippi River)																				
	2b Gulf of Mexico (Rio Grande/Rio Bravo)																				
	2c Gulf of Mexico (Usumacinta/Grijalva)																				
	2d Gulf of Mexico (Rio Hondo/Chetumal Bay)																				
	3a Caribbean Sea (Small Islands)																				
	3b Caribbean Sea (Orinoco, Magdalena, Catatumbo)																				
	3c Caribbean Sea (Central America/Mexico)																				
	4 Caribbean Islands																				
	27 Gulf of California																				
	65a Eastern Equatorial Pacific (Southwest Mexico)																				
65b Eastern Equatorial Pacific (Central Equatorial Pacific)																					
65c Eastern Equatorial Pacific (Pacific Colombian)																					
South America	38a Patagonian Shelf (La Plata River Basin)																				
	38b Patagonian Shelf (South Atlantic Drainage Basin)																				
	39a Brazil Current (South/Southeast Atlantic Basin)																				
	39b Brazil Current (East Atlantic Basins)																				
	39c Brazil Current (São Francisco River Basin)																				
	40a Northeast Brazil Shelf																				
	40b Amazon																				
	64 Humboldt Current																				
Sub-Saharan Africa	41a Canary Current (North)																				
	41b Canary Current (South)																				
	42a Guinea Current (Comoe Basin)																				
	42b Guinea Current (Volta Basin)																				
	42c Guinea Current (Niger Basin)																				
	42d Guinea Current (Congo Basin)																				
	42e Guinea Current LME																				
	43 Lake Chad																				
	44 Benguela Current																				
	45b Indian Ocean Islands																				
	46a Somali Coastal Current (Juba-Shebeli)																				
	46b Somali Coastal Current (Tana-Athi-Sabaki)																				
	46c Somali Coastal Current (Wami-Ruvu-Pangani)																				
	46d Somali Coastal Current (Rufiji-Ruvuma River)																				
	46e Somali Coastal Current (Lake Jipe-Chala)																				
47a East African Rift Valley Lakes (Lake Turkana)																					
47b East African Rift Valley Lakes (Lake Victoria)																					
47c East African Rift Valley Lakes (Lake Tanganyika)																					
47d East African Rift Valley Lakes (Lake Malawi)																					
North Africa & Middle East	21 North Africa and Nile River Basin																				
	49 Red Sea and Gulf of Aden																				
	51 Jordan																				
Northeast Asia	30 Sea of Okhotsk																				
	31 Oyashio Current																				
	33 Sea of Japan																				
	34a Yellow Sea																				
	34b Yellow Sea (Bohai Sea)																				
36a East-China Sea																					
Southeast Asia	53 Bay of Bengal																				
	54 South China Sea																				
	55 Mekong River																				
	56 Sulu-Celebes Sea																				
	57a Indonesian Sea (Sunda)																				
	57b Indonesian Sea (Wallacea)																				
57c Indonesian Sea (Sahul)																					
Australia & Pacific Islands	58a North Australian Shelf (Wet Tropics)																				
	58b North Australian Shelf (Dry Tropics)																				
	59a Coral Sea Basin (South PNG and Papua)																				
	59b Coral Sea Basin (Coral Sea)																				
	60 Great Barrier Reef																				
	61a Great Australian Bight																				
	61b Great Australian Bight (Murray Darling Basin)																				
	62 Pacific Islands																				
	63 Tasman Sea																				