

# GCLME NEWSLETTER



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ANGOLA - BENIN - CAMEROON - CONGO - CÔTE D'IVOIRE - DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO - EQUATORIAL GUINEA - GABON - GHANA - GUINEA - GUINEA BISSAU - LIBERIA - NIGERIA - SAO TOME & PRINCIPE - SIERRA LEONE - TOGO

## FROM THE EDITOR :

Between 30 January and 4 February 2006, the GCLME project in partnership with International Maritime Organization organized a Regional Workshop on Ballast Water Management and Control in the GCLME Region. The Workshop attracted senior representatives from the Maritime Administrations and other relevant organizations in the 16 GCLME countries. In a bid to achieve its objectives which included the discussion of the issue of invasive species transferred in ship's ballast water, the Workshop was a forum for the representatives to evaluate the situation in each of the GCLME countries and to discuss a possible regional Strategic Action Plan to deal with aquatic invasive species in ships' ballast water in a concerted manner.

The Honourable Minister of Environment and Science, Ms Christine Churcher honoured the Opening Ceremony of the Workshop with her presence. Whilst the theme the Workshop referred to the dangers of ships' ballast water and sediments control and management, Honourable Churcher elaborated on the occurrence of waterweeds in the rivers of the countries with tributaries leading into lagoons, coastal wetlands and the marine ecosystem thus posing as one of the greatest environmental problems emerging in water management. She pointed out that the rapid rate at which exotic invasive species can spread is alarming and is affecting not only water transport, but health of the inhabitants of riparian communities.

The IMO Regional Coordinator, West & Central Africa (Anglophone), Captain Georgina Tackie introduced the International Maritime Organization as a specialized agency of the United Nations with the responsibility of ensuring the safety of shipping and the prevention of marine pollution by ships. With particular attention to the mission statement of IMO which is "Safe, Secure And Efficient Shipping And Clean Oceans", Captain Tackie outlined the main areas of focus of the IMO's technical assistance in the sub-region such as maritime safety administrations, prevention and control of ma-

## Regional Workshop on Ballast Water Management and Control in the GCLME Region, Accra, Ghana, 30 January - 04 February 2006.



L-R: Dr. Jose Matheical from Globallast, IMO, the Min. of Env. and Science, Hon. Christine Churcher, IMO Reg. Coord., West & Central Africa (Anglophone), Capt. Georgina

Tackie, GCLME Reg. Dir. Prof. Chidi Ibe and the Chief Dir., Min. of Env. and Sci., Mr. Edward Nsenkyire.

L-R: Mr. Harry Barnes Dabban of the Ghana Ports and Harbours, Mr. Joshua Ndubuisi - ICT Specialist, GCLME, Mr. Phillip Lukuley from Sierra Leone, Dr Emmanuel Ajao from NIOMR, Nigeria and M. Abdulai-Saiku from the Regional Maritime Academy, Accra, Ghana.



The participants watching an approaching vehicle getting ready to undergo the mandatory screening process at the Port.



rine pollution.

On 4 February, as part of the approaches to achieving the aim of the Workshop, the participants went on an excursion to the Ghana Ports and Harbours, Tema in Ghana where they were briefed on the roles of GPA in controlling movement of shipments and other activities at the Port. The participants witnessed the demonstration of some of the control facilities at the port like the Waste Oil Recovery Plant of the Tilbury Environmental Group, the scanning facilities of the Gateway Services Ltd which has the responsibility of screening all the shipments that come into the port.

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Following the Workshop on Ballast Water Management and Control was a Regional Training Workshop on "Coastal engineering for the Guinea Current region: process, measurement, and project design and implementation " in Accra, Ghana. The Workshop was organised by the GCLME project in collaboration with the Institute of Oceanography, University of Calabar, Nigeria, CURAT, University of Cocody and the US Army Engineer Research and Development Center. The official Opening Ceremony of the Workshop was attended by the Deputy Minister of Environment and Science, Dr. Gyesika Agambila.

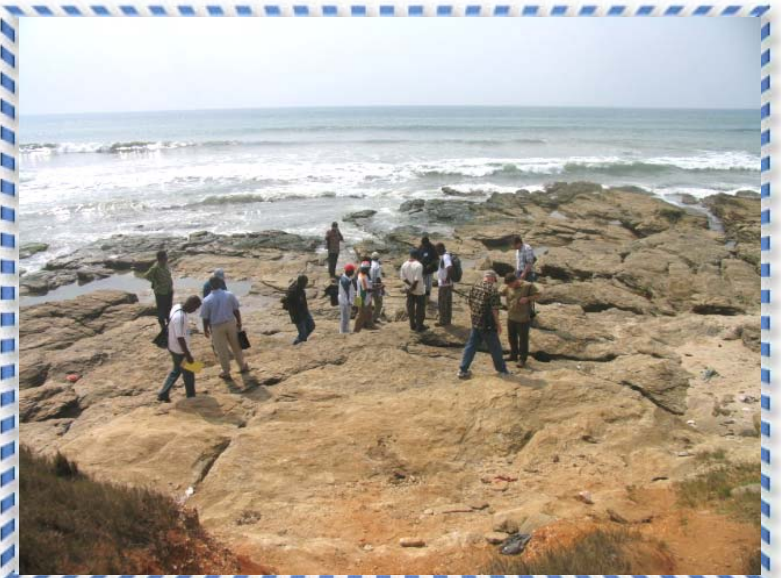
Dr. Agambila informed all that Ghana has had her fair share of challenges with coastal erosion, especially along the eastern coastline, and the recognition that the degree of erosion depends on the location and geology of the area concerned. Furthermore, he recalled that shore erosion over some decades caused losses to about 70 percent of the original buildings in the towns and the coastal roads between Keta and Havedzi, Ghana and on this note recounted some measures that have been taken to address these challenges in Ghana amongst which are direct investments in building of control structures such as the Keta Sea Defence Project and the use of Gabions and boulder revetments where important settlements and infrastructure are threatened.

The purpose of the Regional Training Workshop was to give a wider understanding of processes affecting local and regional coastal change, describe the engineering design process as it relates to coastal management, demonstrate the use of numerical tools that support the design process, and explore the merits of regional approaches to coastal restoration and management.

### Workshop on Coastal Engineering: Process, Measurement, And Project Design And Implementation: Accra, Ghana 6-10 February 2006



*L-R: Mr. David F. Njiki-Njiki- Executive Secretary of SENEPAD, Deputy Minister of Environment & Science, Honourable Dr. Gyesika Agambila, Prof. P.K. Ofori Danson of the University of Ghana, Prof. Chidi Ibe and Dr. Robert Kennedy of the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center.*



*A view of the participants to the Workshop on Coastal Engineering at the Labadi protected beach in Accra, Ghana.*



*Group Photograph of the Workshop participants.*

On 9 February, as part of the programmes for the Workshop, Engr. George Nai, the Regional Consultant on Coastal Erosion for the GCLME project led the Workshop participants on a field trip to the coastal protected beaches in Labadi, Accra and Tema, Ghana.

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From 20 - 24 February, a Regional Training Workshop on Alternative Livelihoods was organized by UNIDO Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem (GCLME) Project, in collaboration with the FAO/DFID Sustainable Fisheries Livelihoods Programme (SFLP). The Workshop was aimed at building the capacity of community development practitioners, on the methods of gender sensitive livelihoods analysis and participatory appraisal, to assist coastal communities in the identification of their alternative sustainable livelihoods, other than fishing which falls short of overexploitation of natural resources.

Participants were drawn from Non-governmental Organizations, Community based Organizations, Representatives of Artisanal Fisheries Syndicates and Officials of Fisheries Departments, who are facilitators of community change and project development, working in close collaboration with the populations and decision makers in the coastal areas of the Guinea Current Large marine Ecosystem. Also part of the participants were Assistant Team Leaders of the SFLP Pilot Projects in Congo, Gabon, Guinea and Mauritania.

The key guests to the official opening of the Workshop were the Deputy Minister for Fisheries, Hon Daniel Dugan, representing the Minister of Fisheries, Hon. Mrs. Gladys Asmah, the Deputy Minister for Local Government and Rural Development, Hon. Abraham Dwuma Odoom, Chief Director of the Ministry of Fisheries, Mr. E. M. Quaye, and Madam Yasuko Kusakari, Programme Officer in charge of Sustainable Livelihoods at the Poverty Reduction Unit, UNDP Ghana, representing the UNDP Resident Representative, Mr. Daouda Toure.

The Deputy Minister of Fisheries outlined the initiatives being undertaken by the Ministry of Fisheries and the Sustainable Fisheries livelihoods Programme to support the livelihoods of the coastal communities in Ghana.

On the other hand, the Deputy Minister for Local Government and Rural Development highlighted the role of District Assemblies which is a mandate to collaborate with the Department of Fisheries to facilitate fish

**Regional Training Workshop on Alternative Livelihoods, 20-24 February 2006, RCU Accra.**



*L-R Yasuko Kusakari from UNDP Ghana, Minister for Local Govt. & Rural Dev. Ghana - Hon. Abraham Dwuma Odoom, Dep. Min. of Fisheries, Ghana, - Honourable Daniel Dugan and Prof. Chidi Ibe at the opening Ceremony of the Workshop.*



*At Prampram, the villagers were educated on steps to identifying alternative livelihoods to supplement their fishing occupation.*



*Group photograph of participants to the Workshop on Alternative Livelihoods.*

ery resources management and monitor the implementation and impact of projects, thereby making them strategically placed to impact upon the livelihoods of fisheries communities.

on 22 February, as a means of exposing them to the practical application of sustainable livelihoods, approaches in Fishery communities using participatory approaches and methods reference to gender, the participants travelled to a village known as Prampram, (a fishing community about 60 Km East of Accra) where the villagers were introduced to sustainable means of livelihoods other than fishing.

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#### FUTURE EVENTS:

- 6 - 10 March, 2006: Regional Workshop on Methodology of Nutrient Monitoring/ Reduction Strategies.
- 20 - 24 March, 2006: Regional Seminar on Flag State Implementation and Port State Control.
- 27 - 29 March, 2006: Sub-regional Workshop on the Management of the Shared Stock of Sardinella sp. (Angola, Congo, RDC and Gabon).
- 30 March, 2006: National Coastal Profile Validation Workshop (Angola).
- 31 March, 2006: Launching of NPA of LBA (Angola).
- 18 - 22 April, 2006: Ecosystem based fisheries Management using EWE software.
- 26 - 28 April, 2006: Round table with private sector on WSEMS.
- April - May, 2006: Sea based training for sampling and measurement of contaminant levels and distribution.
- 10 - 14 April, 2006: Pollution/Ecosystem Health Working Group.

Kelechi Ihemeje

## FLASH BACKS!



*From right at the Opening Ceremony of the First Steering Committee of the GCLME project which was held at the Regional Coordination Unit, Accra from 25 - 27 April, 2005 are the Minister of Environment and Science, Ghana - Honourable Christine Churcher, Dr. Chika Ukwe, Industrial Development Officer, International Waters) as well as GCLME Project Manager, UNIDO and Dr Abdoulaye Ndiaye, UNDP/GEF Regional Coordinator, Biodiversity/Int'l Waters for West/Central Africa.*



*From right at the First Steering Committee Meeting of the GCLME project are: Dr. Kenneth Sherman - Director, United States Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Centre, USA, Dr. Robert Kennedy PhD of the European Research Office, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, London and Ms. Dora Blessich, Project Operations Officer, Marine Resources Service, Fisheries Department, FAO.*