

GUINEA CURRENT LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM PROJECT



REPORT OF THE FINAL MEETING OF THE REGIONAL TRANSBOUNDARY DIAGNOSTIC ANALYSIS (TDA) WORKING GROUP

ACCRA, GHANA, 3 - 7 OCTOBER, 2005



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1. INTRODUCTION

The update and finalization of the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), as well as the definition and adoption of the relevant indicators, are the two significant objectives of the first year of implementation of the GCLME Project. The TDA constitutes the basis for the formulation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP), and the indicators, which include the process, stress reduction and environmental status indicators. These are essential for the Monitoring and Evaluation Processes (M and E) which are to be adopted by the Member States as tools for long-term implementation of the SAP.

The Final Meeting of the TDA Regional Working Group, which took place at the Regional Coordination Unit of the GCLME Project, from 03 - 07 October, 2005, constituted the final step towards the achievement of the above mentioned objectives.

2. PARTICIPANTS

The Workshop was attended by about 36 participants from 15 of the 16 GCLME Project countries (List of participants as Annex 2). It was chaired by Prof. Babajide Alo, Director of the FMEnv/UNILAG Linkage Center for Environmental Human Resources Development, Nigeria. Prof. Alo also chaired all the sessions for the drafting of the GCLME TDA during the PDF phase and TDA updating activities.

3. OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of the Workshop were:

- To review and further update the TDA document;
- To review and finalize the set of developed Indicators (process, stress reduction and environmental status);
- To finally review the Log Frame Matrix;

4. OUTPUT

1. Updated TDA document;
2. Updated sets of indicators (process, stress reduction and environment status) for the Monitoring and Evaluation Process for inclusion in the design of the Strategic Action Programme;
3. Work plan to realize the expected outputs 1 and 2 before the end of year 1 of project implementation.

5. OPENING CEREMONY

The Workshop was opened on 3rd October at 9:30 am, at the Conference room of the GCLME Regional Coordination Unit. The opening ceremony was performed by the Hon. Minister for Harbours and Railways, Prof. Christopher Ameyaw Akumfi and chaired by Prof. Alfred Oteng Yeboah, Deputy Director- General, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). In attendance were representatives of Cooperating Agencies, UN and non-UN Systems and other stakeholders.

In his welcome address, Prof. Chidi Ibe, Regional Director of the GCLME, thanked the Hon. Minister for the honour of his presence and the members of the TDA Working Group for their incessant support to the Project. He stated that the members of the Working Group were present because of their expertise / knowledge and potential contribution to the success of the finalization of the TDA, which he stressed, was crucial to the development of the SAP. He thanked Prof. Babajide Alo for steering the TDA process and wished the participants successful deliberations.

The Hon. Minister for Harbours and Railways, Prof. Christopher Ameyaw Akumfi, congratulated the Working Group for the progress made on the TDA document, which formed the basis for the identification of root causes and impacts of environmental resource management problems, mostly in the regional, socio-economic, political and institutional context within which they occurred. He briefly outlined efforts being made by the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority, to reduce pollution due to discharge of waste oil into the ocean. He said with the

introduction of a waste oil receptacle at the main Tema Harbour, an intervention has been made to facilitate the recovery and recycling of waste oil which is a component of the Ghana Country Demonstration Project.

6. TECHNICAL SESSIONS

6.1 Organization of the session

The organization of the technical session started with the appointment of rapporteurs. Prof. Babajide Alo was the chairman for the sessions. Participants were introduced to the agenda which was unanimously adopted.

6.2 Summary of Presentations

A: Topic: Combating Living Resources Depletion and Coastal Area Degradation through Ecosystem-based Regional Actions

Presenter: Prof. Chidi Ibe, Regional Director, GCLME

In his presentation, Prof. Ibe highlighted the following:

- Major Perceived Problems and Issues in the GCLME
- Overall development Goals of the project
- Major Components
- Demonstration Projects (6 National and 4 Regional)
- Major expected results
- Modules to assess LME sustainability
- Key Governance Mechanisms

He informed all participants that the TDA document when completed will be an open access document, which could be obtained on the GCLME website, in French and English.

B: Topic: Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem Project, Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)

Presenter: Prof. Babajide Alo

The following components of the TDA document were highlighted:

- Background and Introduction
- Physical and Biogeochemical Setting
- Socio-Economic and Development Setting
- Policy, Legal, Regulatory and Institutional Setting
- Major Perceived Transboundary Problems and Issues
- Analysis of Root Causes of the Identified Problems
- Priority Areas of Future Interventions
- Ecosystem Quality Objectives

C: Topic: Socioeconomic and Development Settings of the GCLME TDA

Presenter: Prof. Oluwatayo O. Fakiyesi

Prof. Fakiyesi pointed out gaps in the information presented in the TDA and gave suggestions for amendments and additions. He also indicated sources of literature which could be consulted such as, the UNIDO Industrial Development Reports, OPEC Bulletins, ADB fact sheets, Statistical Digest, Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers from the World Bank website and the Bureau of Statistics of respective countries, to update the socioeconomic information in the TDA document.

6.3 Working Group and Plenary Sessions

Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning were devoted to Working Group Sessions. The Groups were tasked to review the Major Perceived Transboundary Problems and Issues, identified in chapter five of the TDA document, to ascertain whether corrections made at the April 2005 Workshop on the TDA and Indicators had been effected.

The Groups were assigned the following thematic areas:

Group	Thematic Area
1	Decline in GCLME fish stocks and non-optimal harvesting of other living resources
2	Uncertainty regarding ecosystem status and yields in a highly variable environment including effects of global climate change
3	Deterioration in water quality (chronic and catastrophic), pollution from land and sea-based activities, eutrophication and harmful algal blooms
4	Habitat destruction and alteration, including modification of seabed and coastal zones, degradation of coasts capes and coastline erosion

The Groups met at a plenary session on Tuesday afternoon to present their reports.

The plenary session continued on Wednesday. Participants were given the task of validating information in the TDA pertaining to their respective countries. They were also asked to submit to the GCLME Regional Coordination Unit, accurate or omitted information during the Workshop or upon returning to their countries by the 15th of October, 2005. The necessary corrections (content, typographical and editorial,) were made to the whole document.

The Working Groups examined and updated the Logframe Matrix of the TDA the following day and met at a plenary session to present the Group Reports.

The last day was devoted to a review and validation of the supplementary information submitted by experts on their respective countries during the course of the Workshop. The participants also identified the particular pages the new inputs were to be introduced.

7. CLOSING CEREMONY

The Final Meeting of the Regional Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) Working Group was officially ended on Friday, 7th October, 2003, at 5:30 pm. with a short closing ceremony.

In his closing remarks, the chairman for the Workshop, Prof. Babajide Alo, gave a summary of the activities that had taken place during the Workshop and thanked participants for their input and diligence. He urged them to send inputs to the TDA as soon as possible for the finalisation of the document.

The Regional Director thanked participants for their commitment. He stating that the work done was phenomenal. He described the group assembled as the catalyst for the success of the project and solicited their continued collaboration, especially, as the project proceeded into the next phase, which is the development of a Strategic Action Programme. He saluted the chairman, Prof. Alo, for the good work done in motivating and guiding the process.

ANNEX 1: WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

PROGRAMME OF THE FINAL TDA WORKING GROUP, 3 -7 OCTOBER 2005

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8 :30-10 :00	Opening	TDA update (Working Groups)	TDA update (Working Groups)	Presentation of Log Frame Analysis/ M and E process	Working Groups
10 :00-10 :30	Coffee/tea break				
10 :30-11 :30	Presentation of TDA Document	TDA update (Working Groups)	TDA update (Working Groups Finalization.)	Indicators (Working Groups on Process Indicators/Stress Indicators/Environment status Indicators)	Working Groups Finalization
11 :30-12 :30	TDA update Plenary				
12 :30-13 :30	Lunch				
13 :30-15 :30	TDA update Plenary	TDA update (Working Groups)	TDA update (Plenary : Synthesis)	Indicators (Working Groups Continue)	Indicators Synthesis in Plenary
15 :30-16 :00	Coffee/tea break				
16 :00-18 :00	TDA update Plenary	TDA update (Working Groups)	TDA update (Synthesis and Conclusion)	Indicators (Working Groups Continue)	Indicator Synthesis in Plenary Conclusion and Closing

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ANNEX 3: KEYNOTE ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE HON. MINISTER FOR HARBOURS AND RAILWAYS, PROF. CHRISTOPOHER AMEYAW-AKUMFI

Mr. Chairman,
Regional Director, GCLME,
Distinguished Workshop Participants,
Members of the press,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am greatly honoured and privileged to be invited to open this very important Workshop – the Final Meeting of the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) Task Team.

I am reliably informed that the Task Team has already had general meetings including a Workshop on TDA and Indicators and a Training Workshop on Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and Strategic Action Programme (SAP).

This week you are gathered here, among other things, to:

- Review and further update the TDA document;
- Review and finalize the set of developed indicators;
- Review the Log Frame Matrix and fill any identified gaps in the TDA.

Distinguished participants, you have come a long way with the TDA document, which forms the basis for the identification of root causes and impacts of environmental resource management problems, mostly in the regional and the socio-economic, political and institutional context within which they occur. I congratulate the Task Team for a job well done.

As Minister in charge of Harbours and Railways, transboundary issues confront my Ministry and its Agencies, especially the harbours' authorities, frequently.

We have to deal with pollution problems due to discharge of waste oil into the ocean and also the movement of sediments from other countries into our territorial waters. I am

happy to inform you that the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority has solved part of the problem by introducing a waste oil receptacle at the main Tema Harbour and facilitated the recovery and recycling of waste oil. Incidentally this activity has been identified as the Ghana Country Demonstration project which will eventually be replicated in other countries of the GCLME region.

During a recent meeting with the Regional Director, Prof. Chidi Ibe, we discussed extensively, possible collaboration on oil spill contingency planning and the installation of reception facilities in the sub region. Further details of this plan were discussed with the Director General of the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority. I am also aware that the Regional Director inspected the recycling facilities at the Tema Harbour.

Mr. Chairman,

I have been reliably informed that later in the year, another survey will be undertaken to update data in tradable waste under the Waste Stock Exchange Management System (WSEMS) which will be climaxed by a roundtable with the private sector on WSEMS.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Participants, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, I have been monitoring the progress of activities under the GCLME project and I am proud to be associated with it. It is my wish and expectation that this Workshop will come out with the final details of the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis document which my Ministry and I would be very much interested in.

I wish you a successful meeting and hope that you will find time off your busy schedule to visit Tema Port and Tema Township and acquaint yourselves with the facilities there.

Thank you and enjoy your stay in Ghana.