

MARITIME SECTOR COOPERATION BETWEEN GHANA & DENMARK

Annual report for 2018



Project description

The overall objective of the maritime strategic sector cooperation between Ghana and Denmark is to strengthen the framework conditions for the maritime sector in Ghana, through a Government-to-Government cooperation, between the maritime authorities in the two countries.

Signed in 2017, the Strategic Sector Cooperation (SSC) between Denmark and Ghana focuses on three main components supporting both a strengthening of framework conditions for sustainable growth in Ghana and the opportunities for Danish businesses operating in Ghana:

- A furthering of Ghana's implementation and enforcement of IMO standards.
- Supporting training and skill development of maritime pilots.
- Incorporating modern, context-appropriate technical solutions for the enhancement of maritime safety through a digital platform.

Key activities in 2018

- Follow-up on the Corrective Action Plan that was following the IMO audit in January 2017, a trial audit as well as a seminar on regulatory quality assessments were carried out.
- Workshop on ship inspections in Ghana comprising of inter alia ship measurement, inclining tests, and maritime safety issues on Lake Volta.
- Workshop and site visits in Denmark by Ghanaian ship inspectors focusing on safe design operations and classification of wooden and non-conventional vessels.

- Two pilots from Ghana have undergone pilotage-training courses in Denmark in terms of training in ship handling, bridge resource management, personal safety, and manned models training. A train-the-trainer approach ensured subsequent dissemination of their acquired skills to other Ghanaian pilots in The Port of Tema, Ghana.
- A context-appropriate e-Navigation tool for distribution of navigational warnings has been developed and introduced in Ghana.
- Preparing the succeeding second phase of the SSC running from 2019-2021.

Main achievements and lessons learned in 2018

The activities under the SSC were implemented as scheduled.

The training of the Ghanaian pilots has been a great success and is appreciated by ships calling the Port of Tema. A former captain noted, whilst being piloted in the port of Tema, particularly two pilots that were comfortable and extremely professional in their approach. The two pilots turned out to be the two Ghanaian pilots trained in the SSC project.

The proposed shipping legislation, that Denmark was able to engage in a positive dialogue with the maritime authorities in Ghana about, was passed through parliament in 2018. The new legislation ensures fair and free competition for Danish and other international ships operating in Ghana.

The SSC project has proven to be a good modality for promoting Danish strategic interests in the maritime sector in Ghana and in the region benefitting both Ghana and Denmark. It has provided a direct link with the relevant sector experts in the two countries, adding to the resources, sector knowledge, and networks of the Danish Maritime Authority and the Embassy of Denmark in Ghana.

Status: Full SSC project under implementation.

Partners: Ministry of Transport, Ghana Maritime Authority and Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority

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